

Attention to Chairman Marcus Gower

Reply and suggestions to Amended Landscaping Plan received 22 September 2021.

**Background:**

On 17<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021 we broke into a separate discussion regarding landscaping of our boundary between 109 and 111 Taylor Street Cambridge. We had not sighted the plan at this stage and we discussed magnolia trees being used as a privacy screen into our rear entertainment area.

We said we were partial to Magnolias being used, however the meeting had us at a distinct disadvantage, because we were unaware that the Magnolia Tree “Little Gem” that was being suggested was the one magnolia that we dislike intensely. This is because of its size it grows to over 4 metres and the heavy leaf that it drops constantly year round and we would never have it on a property. They grow nice in parks and areas with large spaces available to them.

But don’t take our word for it.

**Helpful Information:**

We are able to be constructive in our approach and in doing so we approached Andrew a gardening expert at Palmers Garden Centre Rotorua for advice on using “little Gem” and what other plants if any would be suitable.

His comments on “little Gem” is that the tree is totally unsuitable and would be a total disaster in the area proposed.

**Proposed Solution:**

Andrew immediately suggested two options, both of which were Camellia’s



This is “Sweet Jane”



This is "Spring Festival"

Both Trees are upright in habit and would not encroach on our property or onto the 109 driveway.

The trees come in at 1.8 metres to 2 metres in height and are evergreens.

They grow to a maximum of 3 metres with minimum pruning required. This height is acceptable to us as our entertainment area would again become private.

Both trees flower for 6 weeks nonstop in springtime. "Sweet jane" flowers first and "Spring Festival" immediately afterwards and Andrew says they make a fantastic show.

Can we please ask that where there is a grouping of "Little Gem" Trees ALL 8 trees in total along our boundary be replaced with groupings as follows.

The group of three at the side rear would be 3- Sweet Jane Trees and be allowed to grow to 2.5 to 3 metres for privacy.

The group of 5 Trees all be "Spring festival" and be allowed to grow to 2.5 to 3 metres as well.

Please can you take our information into account and thus resolve privacy issues and resolve this issue.

All our other concerns remain about the project. During the meeting several council staff expressed that it was in their opinion that the development goes ahead. It is not the job of council staff to hold opinions but rather to see whether or not the development complies with council by laws. They should deal with facts only and therefore the development must be rejected and should have been rejected from the outset and made to comply with ALL bylaws.

Murray and Adrienne Olsen