

September 16, 2025

Planning Board  
Township of Verona  
600 Bloomfield Avenue  
Verona, New Jersey 07044

Attention: Ms. Kathleen Miesch

Re: Wedgewood Gardens Condominium Association  
**Planning Board Application – Tree Removal and Replacement**  
Block 1712, Lot 1  
Township of Verona  
Our File No. VAES-202

Dear Board Members:

We have received copies of the following documents relative to the above referenced application:

- a. Plans (3 sheets) entitled, "Wedgewood Gardens Development, Inc., Wedgewood Drive, Township of Verona, Essex County, NJ", prepared by Root Landscape Architecture, dated 09-20-2024, last revised 08-20-2025.
- b. Preliminary Tree Preservation Report Revised prepared by Bartlett Tree Experts, dated August 14, 2025.
- c. Verona Environmental Commission Review dated September 12, 2025.

Based on our review of the above referenced documents, we offer the following comments:

1. The Applicant shall provide testimony and summarize all tree removal and replacement proposed. The tree removal plan has been revised to show a total of 17 trees to be removed.
2. Per the arborist report on Sheet 3, all trees to be removed are in fair condition except one (1) 20-inch honey locust tree (#34) which is in poor condition. However, the tree removals table shows this tree to be in fair condition. In addition, the environmental commission review indicates three (3) trees (#9, #34, and #37) to be in poor condition. The Applicant shall provide testimony regarding the discrepancy.
3. The arborist report does not recommend the existing 37-inch pine tree (#50) to be removed however, it is shown on plan to be removed. The Applicant shall clarify.
4. The Applicant shall provide testimony regarding the existing 15-inch honey locust tree (#8). It is recommended to be removed in the arborist report however, it is shown on the tree removal plan to be retained.
5. The Tree Removals table on the plans indicates the tree sizes. When compared to the plan survey information for the tree sizes, there are discrepancies. The Applicant is requested to correct the existing tree sizes within the chart. For example, tree #2 is indicated at 17 inches in size on the



survey, whereas in the arborist report, it is noted at 28 inches. With required tree replacement calculated from tree sizes for deciduous trees, this needs to be updated and corrected to accurately quantify the required tree replacement. The Applicant shall also confirm the height of existing 37-inch pine tree (#50) as tree replacement for coniferous trees is based on their height.

6. The Tree Removals table shows a total of 36 replacement trees required. The environmental commission review indicates a total of 43 replacement trees required without excluding the trees in poor condition from the replacement calculations. As per Section 493-28 B, dead and diseased trees do not require replacement.
7. Per the tree sizes in the tree removals table and assuming the existing pine tree is greater than 25 feet in height, our office calculates 36 replacement trees required. Please note this is based on tree ordinance Section 493-28 A, which outlines the required number of tree replacement per size of tree removed. This also excludes the three (3) trees in poor condition as identified by the Verona Forester.
8. The applicant is proposing the planting of 22 replacement trees; Armstrong red maple, white oak, pin oak, spirit oak, fastigiate beech, eastern redbud, and flowering dogwood. It should be noted that spirit oak and fastigiate beech are not included in the attachment for acceptable tree plantings as per Section 150-11.7 A.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Sarfeen Tanweer, P.E.

ST/da

Cc: Dee Dee Carpinelli- via email  
Peter C. Ten Kate, P.E. - via email  
Alvaro Gonzalez, Ph.D., P.E. - via email

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