NYC Parks

NYC PARKS

Street Tree Planting Standards for New York City 2026

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IMPORTANT NOTE:

All permit holders are expected to be familiar with and to plant in accordance with NYC Parks Standards. Detailed Parks approved specifications may be available. Ask your NYC Parks Forester for further details when applying for or requesting a permit. All permit requests must be made using the new Tree Work Permit and Plan Review Application found at the following link: nycgovparks.org/services/forestry/forestry-application

Introduction

The mission of Parks' Forestry unit is to protect, restore, expand and manage New York City's green spaces and natural areas to maximize the benefits for environmental and community health and resilience.

Overview

Street trees are important to our quality of life in the city. They are living elements of our street infrastructure. Located on the public right-of-way, they provide cooling shade, cleaner air, and more beautiful urban streetscapes. Trees confer important aesthetic and ecological benefits to city residents as well. Plants in the urban landscape, however, face a variety of environmental and physical stresses including pedestrian and vehicular traffic, soil compaction, air pollution, and drought. Some of the key factors to maximize long-term plant survival are proper handling, careful planting, and immediate and continued aftercare.

Generally, all trees planted on the public right-of-way are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks & Recreation as property of the City of New York. Entities other than Parks, such as private developers, other city agencies, or tree-loving-residents may plant trees within the right-of-way. In order to plant within the public right-of-way, a valid tree planting permit must be obtained and plantings must be done in accordance with the agency's current street tree planting standards. Any tree work improperly performed or otherwise not in accordance with these specifications may be subject to remedial work at the tree work entity's expense, and/or additional penalties.

Street Tree Planting Requirements for New Buildings

All new buildings and all enlargements exceeding 20 percent of the floor area must provide one new street tree for every 25 feet of building road frontage. These requirements must be satisfied for the builder to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy from the Department of Buildings (DOB). All jobs pre-filed with DOB after May 3, 2010, are required to undergo a Parks Plan Review before any permits or a tree fund invoice can be issued.

Street Tree Planting Requirements for Tree Replacement Obligations

Any healthy trees within the right of way that are approved and permitted by Parks for removal may incur a tree replacement obligation. Public or private entities that are permitted to remove existing trees in the right of way may be allowed to plant new street trees to make up for the canopy lost and meet a tree replacement obligation. Tree replacement planting also requires a valid Parks permit and is subject to all of Parks' tree replacement and restitution standards and protocols.

Design Requirements

SPACING REQUIREMENTS

The following guidelines should be followed when siting tree beds along sidewalks. These guidelines are informed by regulations of other agencies with jurisdiction or infrastructure within the public right-of-way. These guidelines are design and tree species dependent, unless specifically noted.

TREE SPACING, TREE BEDS, AND SIDEWALKS

1) PROWAG/ADA CLEARANCE/CLEAR PATH

a. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG), a **minimum of 48" clear pedestrian path must be maintained** between tree bed edges and adjacent obstructions, such as building walls, stoops, or railings, unless otherwise approved or designed in such a manner to maintain or expand the pedestrian path.

b. In accordance with NYC DOT's clear path guidelines, the width of a tree bed shall not take up more than 50% of the total sidewalk width (measured from the inside face of the curb to the nearest obstruction such as a stoop, railing, or wall) to not impede the circulation of pedestrians on the sidewalk, unless otherwise approved.

2) TREE SPACING

a. Minimum distance between trees (trunk to trunk) is **20 feet to 30 feet**, depending upon the tree species and other local conditions. Generally, smaller trees or groups of trees planted together may be spaced more closely. Trees with larger canopy spread at maturity should be spaced accordingly.

b. Trees should generally not be planted directly under the dripline/canopy of mature trees.

3) DOT MEDIANS

a. Trees shall not be planted in medians less than **8 feet** in width (as measured from the outside of a curb) when a standard NYCDOT curb is present; trees may be planted in medians **less than 8 feet if the curb is 12" or greater in height**, and/or other tree bed protection measures are in place, at the direction of Parks and NYCDOT.

TREE INFRASTRUCTURE

1) STREET INTERSECTIONS

a. Minimum distance from the corner of a street intersection to the tree trunk is **40 feet**, depending on the direction of oncoming traffic, such that visibility will not be impeded.

2) STOP SIGNS

a. Minimum distance from a stop sign to the tree trunk is **30 feet**.

3) DOT SIGNAGE/TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES

a. Non-traffic control signage, such as alternate side parking, no parking, and no standing, should be located outside of the tree bed. Non-traffic control signage may be relocated with permission from NYCDOT. If the tree is to be planted in a lawn ribbon, the distance from such signage shall be **4 feet** from the trunk.

b. Minimum distance from sign face of traffic control signage such as stop ahead and school crossing is **15 feet.**

4) NO STANDING ZONES

a. Do not plant **within** no standing zones which meet the following criteria:

i. Truck loading zone;
ii. Fire zone;
iii. Passenger loading zone;
iv. Hotel loading zone;
v. Senior Center

5) BUS STOPS (See Appendix G)

a. **At all bus stops, tree beds can be constructed off-set from curb under the following conditions**:

i. The edge of the tree bed will be at least **8 feet** from the curb for stops served by standard and articulated buses, or;
ii. The edge of the tree bed will be at least **10 feet** from the curb for stops served by express, intercity, or Access-A-Ride buses
iii. Clear path minimums shall always be maintained according to the Pedestrian Mobility Plan.

b. **Trees may be planted within near-side and mid-block bus stops under the following conditions:**

i. The tree bed is constructed along the curb and may be sited within the **rear 40 feet** of the stop.
I. For bus stops shorter than 80 feet, the closest edge of the tree bed must also be at least 40 feet from the bus stop pole.
ii. Trees shall not be planted along the curb within far-side bus stops.

6) CURB CUTS (DRIVEWAYS)

a. Minimum distance from a curb cut or driveway to the edge of the bed is **2 feet** and to the trunk is **7 feet**, depending on visibility and traffic direction, unless a waiver is granted by NYCDOT.

OTHER ABOVE-GROUND CONSIDERATIONS

1) STREET LIGHTING

a. Minimum distance from a streetlight to the tree trunk is **25 feet**, or **20 feet** for smaller tree species.

2) UTILITY POLES

a. Minimum distance from a utility pole to the tree trunk is **15 feet** if serviceable equipment is present, such as amplifiers or transformers, otherwise minimum distance to the tree trunk from the utility pole is **10 feet**.

3) FIRE HYDRANTS

a. Minimum distance from a fire hydrant to the edge of the bed is **3 feet**.

4) BIKE RACKS/BIKE SHARE STATION

a. Minimum distance from the edge of the tree bed to a NYCDOT bike rack is **5 feet**. Bike racks may be relocated with permission from NYCDOT.
b. Minimum distance from the edge of the tree bed to a bike share station is **6 feet** to ensure a clear pathway for pedestrians.

BELOW-GROUND INFRASTRUCTURE

1) UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE

a. Minimum distance from a marked gas, electric, or telecom line to the edge of the bed is **2 feet**, unless otherwise directed by the Agency to proceed with special care excavation, such as hand or pneumatic excavation.

i. Special considerations for distance from oil-insulated electric lines, gas mains, and steam piping shall be given, and may require communication with the utility operator to confirm feasibility of construction.

2) DEP INFRASTRUCTURE

a. Trees planted in proximity to DEP infrastructure shall meet the following conditions:
   i. **not less than 6 feet** center to center from distribution mains.
   ii. **not less than 8 feet** center to center from mains greater than 20 inches in diameter; or
   iii. **not less than 4 feet** from the sheeting area for sewers.
b. Variances from these requirements may be granted in cases where the minimum separation distances cannot be physically met. and, subject to DEP approval, where additional root protection systems are proposed. In no case may a tree be planted directly above a water main or a sewer. Note that water service lines and building sewer connections do not fall under the jurisdiction of NYCDEP.
c. Minimum distance from the edge of the tree bed to the edge of an infiltration basin (concrete or grass) shall be **2 feet.**
d. Minimum distance from the edge of the tree bed to the edge of a Right-of-Way Bioswale (ROWB) shall be 5 feet if only shrubs, grasses, or other herbaceous material is present; if a tree is present in the ROWB, tree spacing shall conform to the guidelines set forth in "TREE SPACING".

3) OIL FILL VALVES

a. Minimum distance from an oil fill pipe to the edge of the bed is **4 feet**.

4) UNDERGROUND TRANSIT INFRASTRUCTURE

a. Minimum distance from subway structures such as station entrances, emergency exits, or vent gratings, is **10 feet**; trees shall not be planted on top of subway roofing with less than 10 feet of soil cover, unless otherwise approved by Parks and the MTA.
b. For any work within 200 feet of MTA infrastructure, an application including drawings of scope of work must be submitted to the MTA External Partner Program, for each individual address. Drawings must be "stamped" by a licensed landscape architect or professional engineer. Drawings must be approved by the MTA prior to work.

Off-Set Plantings

An off-set planting is defined as any tree bed where the street edge of the bed is constructed away from the curb, typically one sidewalk flag or greater. Off-set plantings shall follow all of the guidelines/standards above, as with curbside plantings. Off-set plantings shall not significantly impede pedestrian flow or use of the sidewalk by businesses, such as for delivery and drop offs. ADA clearance shall be maintained, with special attention given to pedestrian "pinch points", ensuring that a clear path for pedestrians is maintained. Maintain 10 feet or more of a clear path around stairways, gates, or other building protrusions.

Tree Bed Dimensions

Tree beds should be as large as possible to allow for ample growing space for the tree's roots and to reduce the likelihood of future sidewalk lifting. The standard street tree bed size is 5 feet by 10 feet. The overall width of a sidewalk can limit the size of a tree bed. Where a 5 feet by 10 feet tree bed is not possible, alternate dimensions must be approved by the Forester.

The installation of continuous tree beds is encouraged whenever possible, and design proposals that call for continuous tree beds may be given more flexible spacing requirements by the Forester. Continuous beds may be required if tree planting is required to meet a street tree zoning requirement, see Article II, Chapter 6, Z26-41(a). Permit applicants should refer to NYC DOT Street Design Manual when designing continuous tree beds.

Grouped Plantings

Grouped plantings are sites where trees are planted closer than 20 feet from each other (trunk to trunk). Grouped plantings provide a number of environmental benefits which include increased shading, reduced evapotranspiration, reduced soil compaction, greater available soil volume, and reduced exposure to reflective heat for an individual tree. A grouped planting can be achieved in several types of sites: (1) a GreenStreet, such as a median or traffic triangle, with opportunity for a large planting bed; (2) a continuous tree bed, where two or more trees are planted in a single trench in the sidewalk (at least 20 feet long with 5 foot breaks of walkable space from the curb); or (3) a raised planting bed within a plaza or alongside a pedestrian passageway. Grouped plantings are not always the preferred method of planting and are subject to approval at the discretion of the Forester reviewing your proposal.

Species Selection

Growing conditions and microclimates can vary from location to location within a borough and across the City. Species selection should take into account site conditions, design goals, and diversity goals. In choosing a species, the mature height and spread shall be considered to ensure that it will not interfere with existing or proposed structures and overhead utilities. The final selection of the species is made by the Forester. Parks will not allow large trees to be planted under primary wires and discourages small trees in large open spaces. NYC Parks publishes a list of approved species for planting on the right-of-way. (Appendix A). Alternate species not found on the approved list may be considered on a case-by-case basis, however, NYC Parks retains the right to determine what species is planted on the right-of-way.

Structural Soils

NYC Parks encourages the use of structural soils where appropriate and may require its use where it is deemed necessary. Trees are not to be planted directly in structural soil, and structural soil is only to be used as a base material under hard surfaces such as concrete, permeable pavement, or permeable pavers. Exposed soil or grass covered surfaces should be excavated and replaced with fresh topsoil meeting DPR street tree planting specifications. NYC Parks has approved the use of CU and Swedish Structural Soils, and they must be installed in accordance with Parks' specifications (Appendix B). Structural soils can only be installed with the prior consent of the Parks Forester reviewing your application and the use of a licensed structural soil manufacturer is required.

SOIL CELLS (SILVA CELLS)

Soil cells such as Silva Cells, may be used where appropriate. They can only be installed with the prior consent of the Parks Forester reviewing your application and must be installed in accordance with Parks' specification (Appendix C).

PERMEABLE PAVEMENT OR PAVERS

NYC Parks encourages the use of permeable pavement or pavers where appropriate to increase the amount of water available to trees and to assist in storm water capture and management. All pavement or pavers must conform to Department of Transportation (DOT) standards (Refer to DOT for materials and specifications). Parks may approve or require the placement and use of permeable pavers or pavement around new and existing trees. The proposed use of permeable pavers or pavement should be noted in the permit application.

BIOSWALES/GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Bioswales installed on the right-of-way help collect and manage storm water runoff from streets and sidewalks by directing storm water to engineered systems that typically feature soils, stones, and vegetation. At this time, Parks does not issue permits for private installations or for the alteration of bioswales on the right-of-way without the consent of appropriate city agencies, and provisions for maintenance in place.

Plant Pest Control Requirements

Any planting on the public right-of-way is required to comply with all state and federal regulations for plant pest control. More information can be obtained from the appropriate state and federal pest control agencies.

Materials

PLANTS

Digging. All trees shall be dug immediately before moving unless otherwise specified. All trees shall be dug to retain as many fibrous roots as possible. Balled and burlapped trees shall have a solid ball of earth of the minimum specified size (32 inches), securely held in place by untreated burlap and stout rope (nylon rope is NOT acceptable). Oversize or exceptionally heavy trees are acceptable if the size of the ball or spread of roots is proportionally increased. Loose, broken, or manufactured balls are unacceptable. Size and grading standards shall conform to those of the *most updated version of ANSI Z60.2* unless otherwise specified.

Form and structure. All trees shall be typical of their species or cultivar. They shall have normal, well-developed branches and a fibrous root system. They shall be sound, healthy, vigorous trees, free from defects, disfiguring knots, sunscald, injuries, abrasions of the bark, plant diseases, insect eggs, borers and all forms of infestations. All trees shall have a single, straight trunk, with leader intact (not all species have a leader but one must be present in those that do) and be branched at least five feet from the ground unless otherwise specified or approved by the Forester.

Provenance and tree size. All trees shall be nursery grown in a USDA hardiness zone of 7B or lower (material collected from the wild is unacceptable), except with permission from Parks. Tree size shall be at least 2.5-inch caliper measured at 6 inches from the ground and no larger than 3.5 inches in caliper unless otherwise authorized by NYC Parks.

Plant names. Plant names shall agree with the nomenclature of "Standardized Plant Names" as adopted by the American Joint Committee on Horticultural Nomenclature 1942 edition. All tree cultivars, patented or otherwise, must be certified by the supplying nursery. All nurseries shall be required to have a registration certificate from the Division of Plant Industry of the New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets certifying that plant material is apparently free from injurious insect and plant diseases. A similar certificate shall be required from other states where plant material is obtained.

Species selection. Species shall be selected by Parks, and you may only plant the species indicated on the permit and must follow any terms and conditions described on the permit. Season, site conditions, and location will affect what species may be planted.

BACKFILL

Material shall consist of natural loam topsoil with the addition of humus only, and no other soil type, such as a sand or clay soil type, shall be accepted. Topsoil must be free from subsoil, obtained from an area which has never been stripped. It shall be removed to a depth of one foot or less if subsoil is encountered. Topsoil shall be of uniform quality, free from hard clods, stiff clay, hardpan, sods, particularly disintegrated stone, lime, cement, ashes, slag, concrete, tar residues, tarred paper, boards, chips, sticks or any other undesirable material. Topsoil shall meet the following requirements:

a. Organic Matter. Backfill shall contain between 3%-10% organic matter.

b. The pH shall be in the range of 5.5 to 7.2 inclusive, unless otherwise approved or specified by the Forester.

c. Soil Textural Analysis. Topsoil shall consist of the following percentages of sand, silt and clay. Any soil that does not meet the requirements below will be rejected and removed from the site.

Rocks, Stone and Gravel (>2.0 mm) <20%
Sand (0.05-2 mm) <70%
Silt (0.002-0.05 mm) <55%
Clay (<0.002 mm) 25% maximum

d. When the topsoil complies with the requirements of the specification but show a deficiency of not more than one percent in organic matter, it may be incorporated when and as permitted by the Forester.

e. Electrical conductivity shall be a maximum of .75. mmhos/cm. A higher level would indicate that the salt content is too high to be acceptable, and the soil must be removed from the site by the permit holder.

NYC Parks may require that soil be changed at the expense of the applicant and/or the tree work entity if the soil does not appear to meet Parks specifications. It is the applicant's responsibility to prove that the soil used meets Parks specifications. The applicant may provide a report from an approved lab showing a passing soil sample if they wish to show that their soil meets Parks specifications. The soil should be tested for the following: nutrients, pH, soluble salt level, organic matter content, percentages of sand/silt/clay, soil textural class, gravel content, + Extra Sieve ¼. The choice of lab must be approved in advance by the appropriate Parks Forester, and soil samples must be taken by a Parks Forester or their designate and delivered to the lab by the Forester or their designate. Only a passing sample acceptable to the Parks Forester will exempt the applicant from having to replace the soil.

MULCH

The applicant shall furnish and place Shredded Bark Mulch in accordance with the permit, plans, specifications and directions of the Forester. All mulching shall be done during planting operation.

Shredded Bark Mulch shall be a natural forest product composed of shredded bark or wood not exceeding 3 inches in length and 1 inch width. Mulch shall be derived from tree material, not from wood waste or by-products like sawdust, shredded palettes, or other debris. Mulch shall be natural in color and not dyed. It shall be of a uniform grade with no additives or any other treatment. Mulch with leaves, twigs, and/or debris shall not be acceptable.

Shredded Bark Mulch shall be applied as a ground cover to the surface of all planting beds at the time of planting, one year after planting when the tree stakes are removed, at the start of each watering season during the 1 year guarantee period and when the tree is watered when directed by the Forester. Shredded Bark Mulch shall be applied to a uniform depth of 3 inches and shall be so distributed as to create a smooth, level cover over the exposed soil. A gap of approximately 2 inches should be left between the Shredded Bark Mulch and the trunk of the tree to avoid mounding above the trunk flare.

WATER

Water used at the time of planting (described below) shall be free from oil, have a pH not less than 6.0 nor greater than 8.0 and shall be free from impurities injurious to vegetation. Water may be drawn from hydrants owned by or supplying water to the City of New York with a specific hydrant permit. Please contact DEP for an access permit. If conditions do not allow the use of New York City water sources, the applicant must obtain their own source of water.

Planting Specification

Planting shall consist of excavating all tree beds, planting, and maintaining new trees of the type and size designated on the approved list. All work shall be in accordance with these specifications (Appendix E) and to the satisfaction of the Parks Forester.

If any new tree beds have to be cut, a street opening permit for "Tree Pit" must first be obtained from NYCDOT. A permit shall be required for each block where the pavement is broken for a new bed. It is the responsibility of the applicant to notify all owners/operators of underground facilities (Code 753) and must be obtained before any work can begin. Owners/operators of underground facilities include but are not limited to Keyspan, Con Edison, National Grid, Verizon, and telephone authorities. Code 753 notifications are to be made using the NY 811 website.

No beds shall be dug until proposed locations have been marked on the ground with a white 'P' by a Parks Forester. Once work begins, the applicant takes full responsibility for the tree bed locations. All excavated materials shall be removed from the site and disposed of properly. The area is to be made safe and secure at the end of the workday.

Site characteristics, such as overhead power lines, existing vegetation, and infrastructure items, such as curbs and sidewalks, shall be considered. Trees that grow taller than 25 feet should not be planted directly under power lines. When possible, the tree leader shall be offset from power lines.

Where subsurface obstructions (vaults, utilities, sprinklers) are encountered during excavation and restrict the planting of a tree, the applicant shall restore the disturbed area to its original condition. If damage is done to an underground obstruction, it is the responsibility of the applicant to restore the site to its original condition. A new planting location will be designated if conditions permit.

Trees shall be transported and handled with utmost care to ensure adequate protection against injury and desiccation. When transported in closed vehicles, plants shall receive adequate ventilation to prevent sweating. When transported in open vehicles, plants shall be protected by tarpaulins or other suitable cover material. Balled and burlapped trees shall be set on the ground and balls covered with soil. Until planted, all materials shall be properly maintained and kept adequately watered. Applicants are liable for any damage to property caused by planting operations and related work. All disturbed areas shall be restored to their original condition.

Applicants are only permitted to occupy an 8-foot lane adjacent to the curb. Traffic shall not be blocked off at any time during planting operations. Work shall not be performed on opposite sides of the street at the same time. Existing parking regulations shall be complied within so far as "No Standing" rules apply for the time limits specified.

PLANTING SEASONS

Trees may be planted in the fall from October 1 through December 31st, and in the spring from March 1 through May 31st. Please be aware that planting permits must be requested at least two weeks prior to the planting season ending (by December 15th for Fall and by May 15th for Spring). No planting is permitted in the summer, without explicit approval from Parks. Please be aware of the DOT Construction Embargo from November 21 through January 2 and any other restrictions (streets may vary from year to year, please check DOT's website).

INSTALLATION

Remove all materials from the tree bed for the full length and width of the tree bed to the depth of the tree's root ball (Appendix E). For excavation of a lawn strip, excavate an area at least two to three times the diameter of the root ball in length by the width of the lawn strip (up to 3 times the diameter of the root ball), to the dimensions listed on the permit. Extreme care shall be taken to avoid excavation to a depth greater than required. The subgrade below the root ball shall be tamped slightly to prevent settlement. All ropes, stones, etc. shall be removed from the planting site before backfilling. All excavated materials shall be removed from the site and disposed of in an acceptable manner.

Place balled and burlapped material in the prepared planting bed by lifting and carrying it by the root ball so that the ball will not be loosened. Set the tree straight and in the center of the bed. All trees shall sit, after settlement, with the base of the trunk and the beginning of the roots, known as the "trunk flare", level with the sidewalk grade. If the top of the root ball is not consistent with this area, the depth of the planting site should be adjusted by adding or removing soil below the root ball to make the trunk flare level with the sidewalk grade.

Cut and remove rope and wire from the top 2/3 of the root ball. At least 2/3 of the burlap shall be removed from the tree bed. The remaining wires should be pulled back and the burlap adjusted to prevent the formation of air pockets. Backfilling mixture shall be loose and friable and not frozen. Soil shall be firmed at 6-to-8-inch intervals. All tree beds are to be filled with topsoil and made level with existing conditions.

Cultivate and rake over finished planting areas leaving them in an orderly condition. At no time should topsoil be mounded to cover the trunk of the tree. The trunk flare shall always be visible. Final soil level shall be flush with the surrounding sidewalk grade to prevent potential tripping hazard.

TREE WRAP

No tree trunks shall be wrapped. Remove all nursery tags and protective wrapping.

STAKING

All staking shall be done during the planting operation and shall be maintained throughout the guarantee period. After the first year, the stakes must be removed.

Stakes shall be of white cedar with bark attached and shall show no sign of cracking or decay. They shall have a maximum allowable deflection of ten percent (10%). Stakes shall be cut even so they are the same height. All trees shall be supported by 2 stakes; they shall be 8 feet long; the diameter at the middle shall be not less than 2 inches nor more than 2 ¾ inches and the diameter at the butt shall not exceed 3 inches. Stakes shall be placed outside of the rootball, driven 30 inches into the ground, and shall be fastened to the tree with a suitable length of ¾" wide, flat, woven polypropylene material such as Arbortie™ as manufactured by DeepRoot®, San Francisco, CA or approved equal that is knotted around the tree stakes (Appendix E).

Unless otherwise directed, trees shall be staked as shown on the plans and in accordance with these specifications. Stakes shall be set parallel to curbs. Trees shall stand plumb after staking. Stakes and Arbortie™ shall be removed at the end of guarantee period, unless directed otherwise by the Forester. At the time the stakes are removed any holes left by the stake shall be filled with topsoil of the same quality as that specified in Section B- Backfill.

PRUNING

Pruning shall be done in accordance with ANSI A300 Part 1 Standard Practices for structural pruning. When directed by the Forester, trees shall be pruned so the resulting crown retains the growth habit of the tree species. Any and all branches interfering with or hindering the healthy growth of the tree shall be removed. All diseased branches and all dead branches shall be removed. Any branch which may be partly dead yet has a healthy lateral branch at least one- third the diameter of the parent branch shall be removed beyond the healthy branch.

All stubs or improper cuts resulting from former pruning shall be removed. All cuts shall be cleanly made with sharp tools as close to the parent trunk or limb as possible without disturbing the branch bark ridge or callus collar. Any existing nails, spikes, wire, plastic or other materials found driven into or fastened to the trunk or branches shall be removed or if approved they shall be cut flush in a manner to permit complete healing over.

WATERING

At the time of planting, the soil around each tree shall be thoroughly saturated with at least thirty (30) gallons of water, or forty (40) gallons of water for trees 3.5" caliper or greater. Water shall not be applied in a manner which damages plants, stakes, or adjacent areas. Each tree bed shall be watered evenly in a manner which does not erode the soil or mulch. Watering shall not cause uprooting or exposure of plant roots to the air.

MULCHING

Bark Mulch shall be applied as a ground cover to the surface of all planting beds at the time of planting and again after the tree stakes have been removed, one year after planting. (See p.9 for Mulch specifications).

Mulch shall be applied to a uniform depth of 3 inches and shall be so distributed as to create a smooth, level cover over the exposed soil. A gap of approximately 2 inches should be left between the mulch and the trunk of the tree to avoid mounding above the trunk flare.

Seasonal Maintenance

WATERING

Trees shall be watered as frequently as possible throughout the watering season (late May through late September), no less than once per week. You may need to increase or reduce the frequency of watering based on weather conditions, resulting soil water content or other factors.

Water shall not be applied in a manner which damages plants, stakes, or adjacent areas. Each tree bed shall be watered evenly in a manner which does not erode soil or mulch. Watering shall not cause uprooting or exposure of plant's roots to the air.

Damages resulting from these operations shall be immediately repaired at the expense of the applicant.

OTHER MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

All newly planted trees shall be maintained by the tree work entity and/or applicant until 1 year after Parks signs off on the planting. The signoff document is issued after a final inspection is given by Parks and is concludes all planting is to Parks' standards.

Maintenance shall include weeding, cultivating, edging, pruning, adjustment and timely removal of stakes, and Arbortie™ (these must be removed after one year), repair of minor washouts, mulching, soil replacement and other horticultural operations necessary for the proper growth of all trees, and for keeping the entire area within the planting area neat in appearance.

All planting areas shall be cultivated and weeded with hoes or other approved tools within the period from May 15 to October 31, and such cultivating and weeding shall be repeated at least every 3 weeks. Under no conditions shall weeds be allowed to attain more than 6 inches of growth.

Tree bed pavement, if installed, shall be maintained flush with adjacent pavement during the guarantee period. At the expiration of the guarantee period, the area around the tree shall be cultivated and weed free.

Guarantee Period

All trees must be guaranteed for 1 year. The 1 year guarantee starts on the date listed on the Parks signoff document and/or substantial completion document. All applicants and tree work entities listed on a permit shall provide a guarantee for the trees planted. Applicants are advised to ensure that their tree work entity provides a guarantee otherwise they may be held liable under the permit for replacing the tree.

TREE REPLACEMENT

Any tree planted that is dead or, in the opinion of Parks, in an unhealthy or unsightly condition, and/or has lost its natural shape due to dead branches, excessive pruning, inadequate or improper maintenance, or other causes including vandalism, prior to final acceptance, shall be replaced in the next planting season. There shall be a 1-year guarantee on trees commencing after the final inspection of the permitted planting (sign-off date). The topsoil in the tree bed shall be changed when any replacement tree is planted.

Where dead trees have been identified, whether due to natural causes or vandalism, the dead material shall be removed, including stakes, and Arbortie™ within 30 days of notification. When necessary, topsoil, grass seed or appropriate paving material shall be added to the bed to eliminate potential tripping hazards at the time of removal. Photos must be submitted to Parks showing the proper removal of trees. A renewed permit must be obtained to replant during the planting season.

VANDALISM

Where vandalism or related causes are agreed as the cause for tree replacement, the applicant shall be responsible for all necessary replacements during the 1-year guarantee period as determined by the Forester.

Finishing

TREE BED GUARDS

Tree bed guards made of steel may be required by Parks. NYC Parks has standardized and approved designs which are encouraged for all tree guard installations (Appendix D). Alternative designs may be approved on a case-by-case basis and must be three-sided, approximately 18 inches tall, with no sharp points, installed on the outer perimeter of the tree bed, and positioned at least one foot short of the curb with the curbside open. Solid walls are not permissible. Water must be able to flow into the tree bed on all sides. The applicant takes full responsibility for maintaining the tree guard in a safe condition. If the condition of the tree guard is not maintained in a safe condition the tree guard will be removed by NYC Parks. Interested parties should apply for a permit to ‘Install Tree Guard’ before installing a tree guard. The permit is to ‘Install Tree Guard’.

TREE GRATES

Sidewalk-level tree grates are not permitted.

PAVERS

Pavers are also not to be used without written permission from Parks.

OTHER

Never plant Ivy or woody shrubs/plants in the tree bed as they compete with the tree for vital nutrients.

Appendix A: List of Approved Species

	Latin Name	Preferred Cultivar (if applicable)	Other Acceptable Cultivars/ Varieties
1	*Acer buergereanum*		
2	*Acer campestre*	'Evelyn'	
3	*Acer freemanii*	'Autumn Blaze'	
4	*Acer ginnala*	'Ruby Slippers'	
5	*Acer griseum*		
6	*Acer miyabe*	'State Street'	'Rugged Ridge'
7	*Acer nigrum*	'Green Column'	
8	*Acer rubrum*	'October Glory', 'Redpointe', 'Brandywine'	
9	*Acer tataricum*	'Flame'	
10	*Acer truncatum*		
11	*Aesculus flava*		A. glabra, A. octandra
12	*Aesculus hippocastanum*	'Baumanni'	'Fort McNair'
13	*Amelanchier laevis*	A. grandiflora	'Robin Hill'; 'Cumulus'
14	*Betula nigra*	'Duraheat'	'Heritage'
15	*Carpinus betulus*	Straight species	'Emerald Avenue'; 'Fastigiata'
16	*Carpinus caroliniana*	*C. japonica*	
17	*Catalpa bignonoides*		
18	*Celtis occidentalis*	'Magnifica'	*Celtis sinensis*
19	*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*	'Red Fochs'	
20	*Cercis canadensis*	var. Alba, 'The Rising Sun', Forest Pansy'	
21	*Chionanthus retusus*		
22	*Chionanthus virginicus*		
23	*Chitalpa tashkentensis*	'Strawberry Moon'	
24	*Cladrastis kentukea*	'Perkins Pink'	
25	*Cornus alternifolia*		
26	*Cornus florida*	'Cherokee Princess'	
27	*Cornus kousa*		
28	*Cornus mas*	'Spring Sun'	
29	*Corylus colurna*		
30	*Crataegus crusgalli var. inermis*		
31	*Diospyros virginiana*		
32	*Eucommia ulmoides*		
33	*Ginkgo biloba*	'Magyar', 'Presidential Gold', 'Autumn Gold', 'Princeton Sentry'	
34	*Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis*	'Skyline', 'Imperial'	'Streetkeeper'
35	*Gymnocladus dioicus*	'Espresso'	

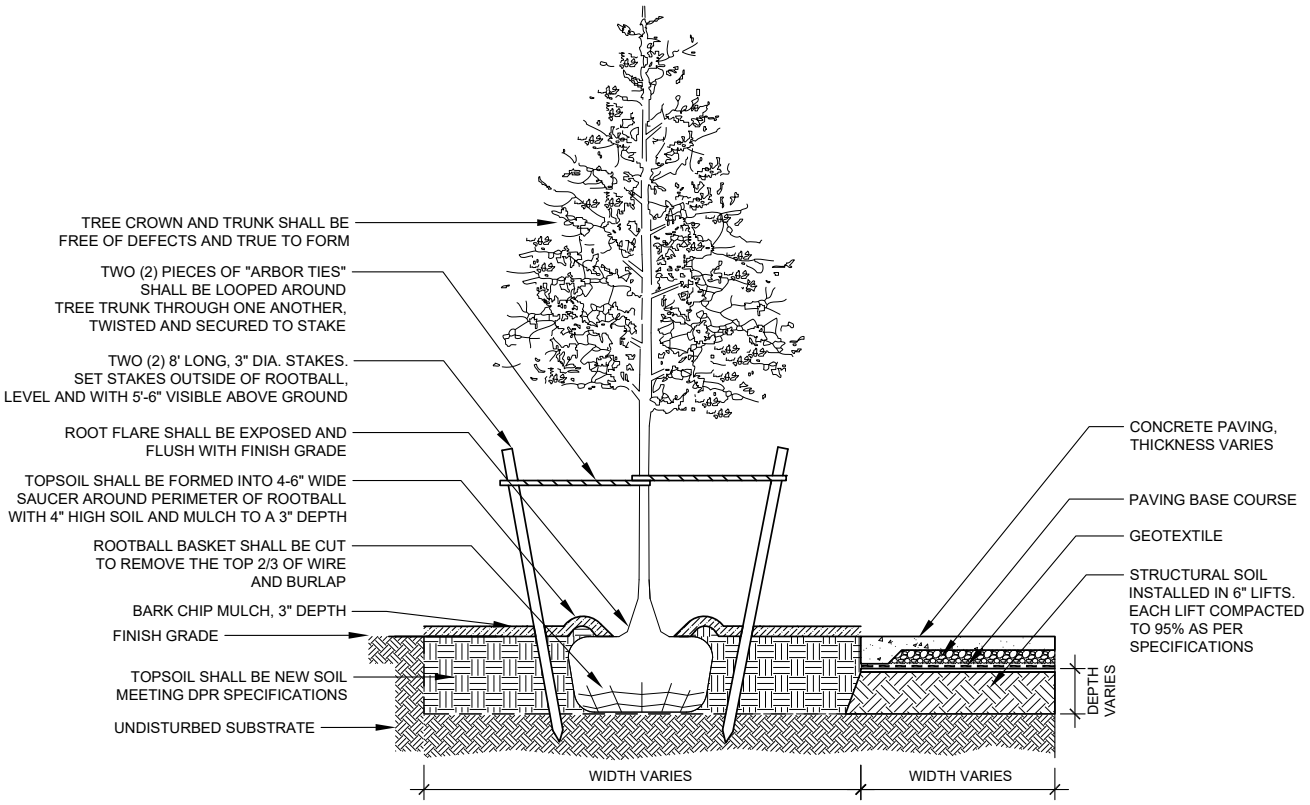
Appendix A: List of Approved Species

	Latin Name	Preferred Cultivar (if applicable)	Other Acceptable Cultivars/ Varieties
36	*Koelreuteria paniculata*	'Golden Candles'	'Summer Burst'
37	*Liquidambar styraciflua*	'Moraine', 'Happidaze', 'Worplesdon', 'Cherokee', Rotundiloba'	
38	*Maackia amurensis*	'Starburst'	
39	*Maclura pomifera*	'White Shield'	
40	*Magnolia acuminata*		
41	*Magnolia* hybrids	'Galaxy', 'Rustica Rubra', 'Elizabeth', 'Jane'	
42	*Magnolia virginiana*		
43	*Malus* hybrids	'Prariefire', 'Velvet Pillar', 'Sugartyme'	'Robinson'
44	*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*	'Gold Rush'	
45	*Nyssa sylvatica*	'Red Rage'; 'Afterburner';	'Wildfire'; 'Forum'
46	*Ostrya virginiana*		
47	*Oxydendrum arboreum*		
48	*Parrotia persica*	'Vanessa'; 'Spire'	'Ruby Vase'
49	*Pistache chinensis*		
50	*Platanus x acerifolia*	'Columbia', 'Exclamation'	'Bloodgood'
51	*Prunus* hybrids	'Snow Goose', 'Okame', 'Kwanzan', 'Autumnalis', 'Akebono', P. sargentii 'Columnaris'	
52	*Prunus serotina*		
53	*Quercus acutissima*		
54	*Quercus alba*		
55	*Quercus bicolor*		
56	*Quercus cerris*		
57	*Quercus coccinea*		
58	*Quercus ellipsodalis*		
59	*Quercus frainetto*		
60	*Quercus hemisphaerica*		
61	*Quercus ilicifolia*		
62	*Quercus imbricaria*		
63	*Quercus laevis*		
64	*Quercus lyrata*		
65	*Quercus macrocarpa*		
66	*Quercus muehlenbergii*		
67	*Quercus nutalli*		
68	*Quercus pagoda*		
69	*Quercus palustris*		

Appendix A: List of Approved Species

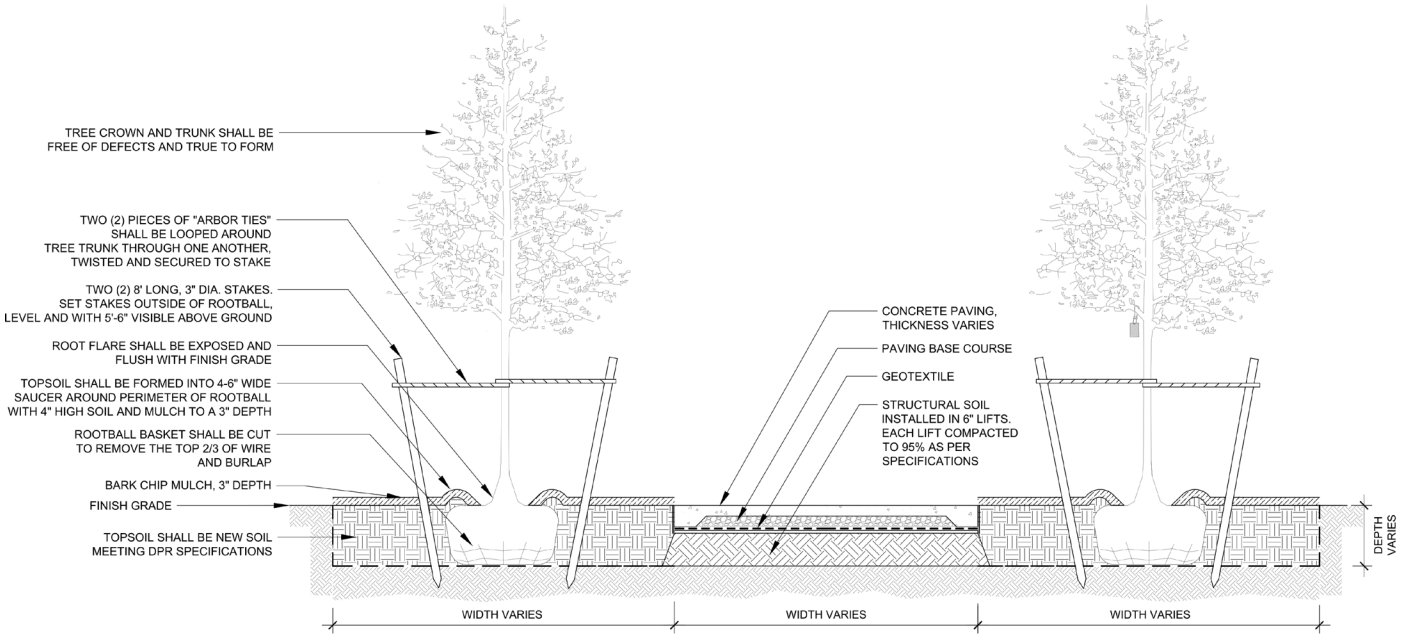
	Latin Name	Preferred Cultivar (if applicable)	Other Acceptable Cultivars/ Varieties
70	*Quercus phellos*		
71	*Quercus prinus*		
72	*Quercus rubra*		
73	*Quercus shumardii*		
74	*Quercus stellata*		
75	*Quercus velutina*		
76	*Quercus x comptonaie*		
77	*Quercus x ludoviciana*		
78	*Stewartia koreana*		
79	*Styrax japonica*		
80	*Styrax obbasia*		
81	*Syringa pekinensis*	'Summer Charm', 'China Snow', 'Beijing Gold'	
82	*Syringa reticulata*	'Ivory Silk'	
83	*Taxodium distichum*	'Shawnee Brave'	*Taxodium ascendens*
84	*Tilia americana*	'Redmond'; 'Boulevard';	'American Sentry'
85	*Tilia mongolica*	'Harvest Gold'	
86	*Tilia tomentosa*	'Sterling'; 'Green Mountain'; 'Silver Lining'	
87	*Tilia x euchlora*	'Laurelhurst'	
88	*Tilia x 'Glenlevyn'*		
89	*Ulmus americana*	'Jefferson'; 'New Harmony'; 'Princeton'	
90	*Ulmus x*	'Homestead', 'Frontier', 'Prospector', 'Patriot'	'Accolade'
91	*Ulmus parvifolia*	'Allee'	Dynasty, Everclear, Bosque, Central Park Splendor
92	*Zelkova serrata*	'Green Vase'	'Village Green'; 'Musashino'
93	*Zelkova serrata*	'Wireless'	'City Sprite'

Appendix B



TREE PLANTING & STRUCTURAL SOIL DETAIL

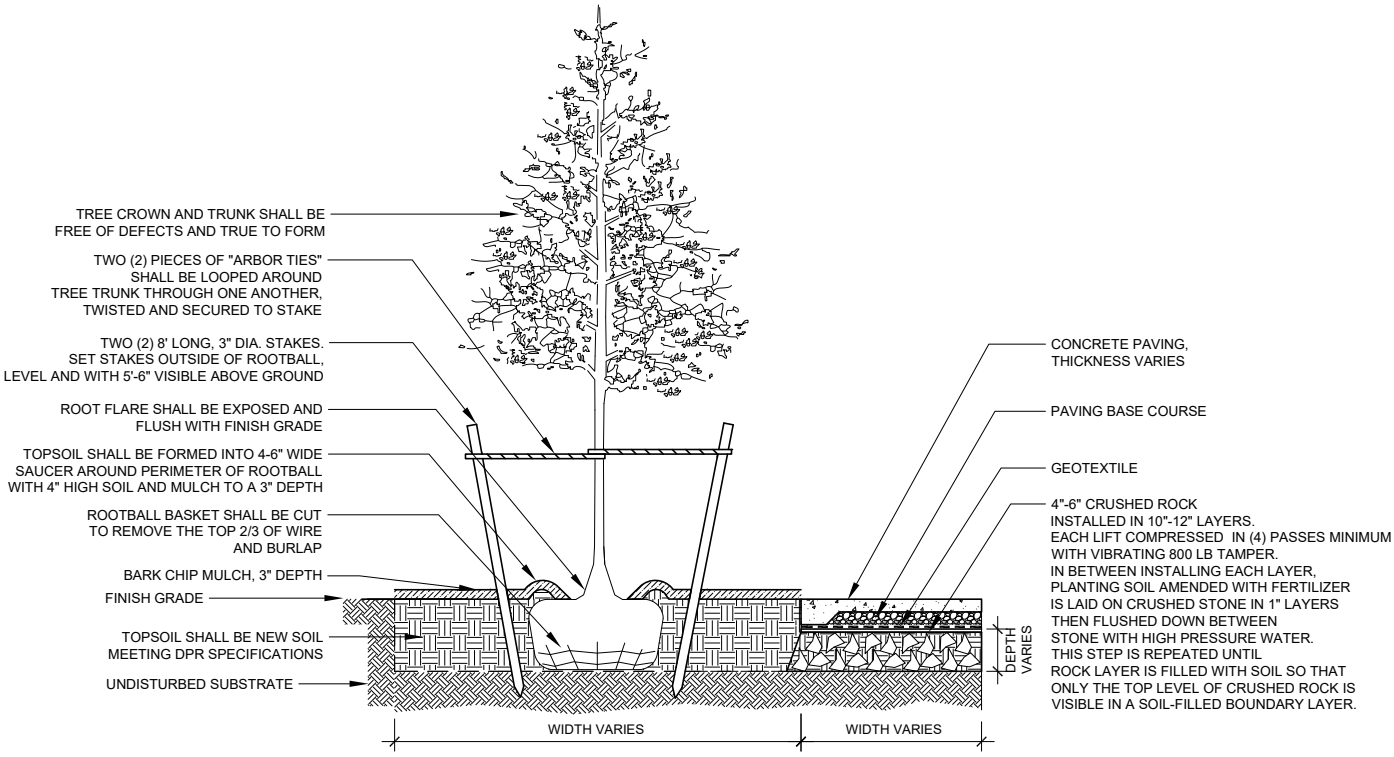
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TREE PLANTING & CONTINUOUS STRUCTURAL SOIL DETAIL

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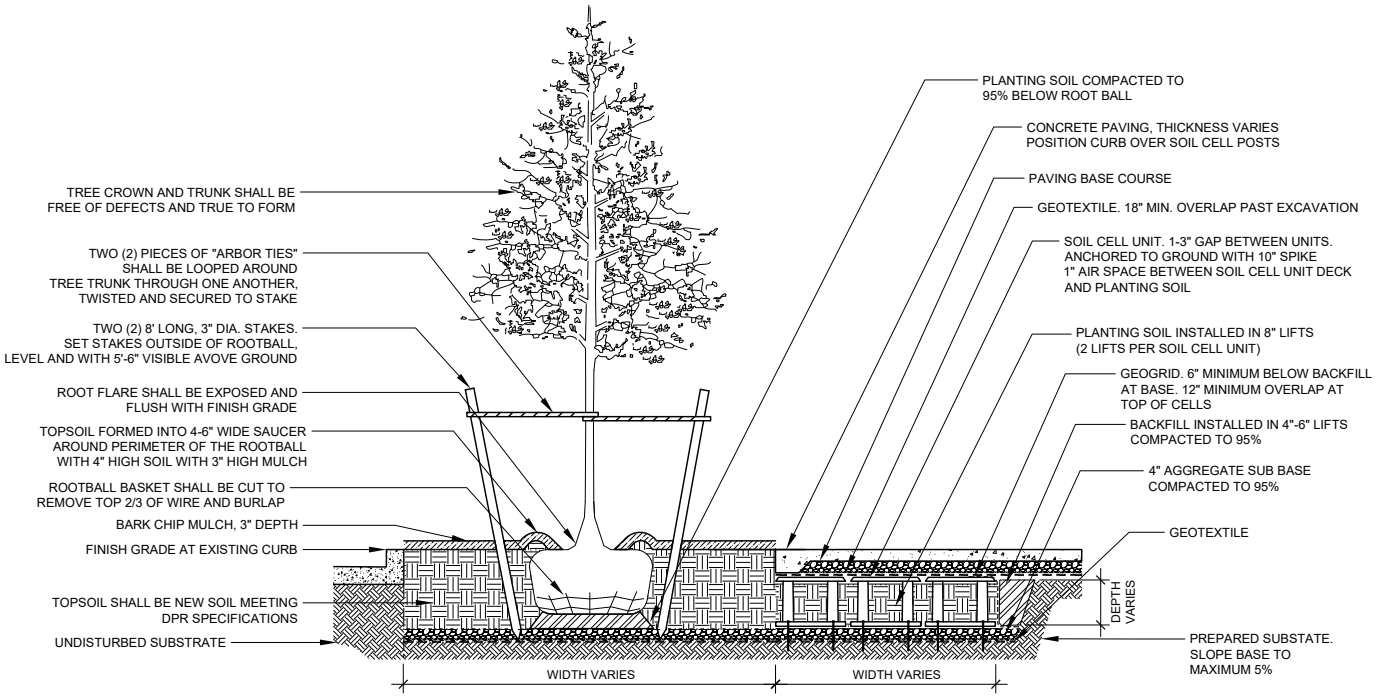
Appendix B



TREE PLANTING & SWEDISH STRUCTURAL SOIL DETAIL

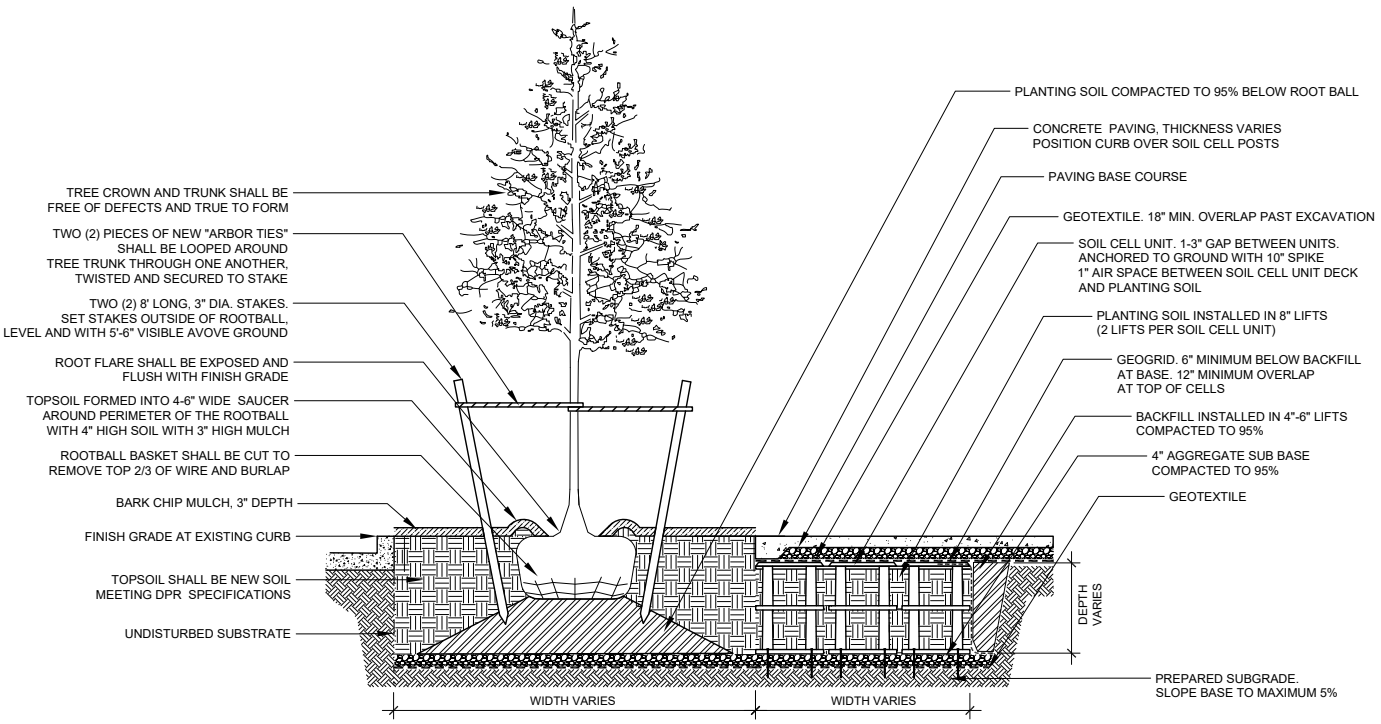
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Appendix C



TREE PLANTING & SOIL CELL UNIT IN SINGLE LAYER DETAIL

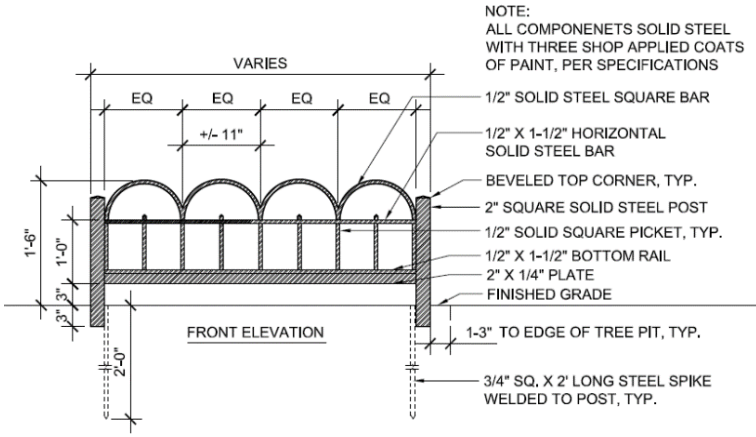
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TREE PLANTING & SOIL CELL UNIT IN DOUBLE LAYER DETAIL

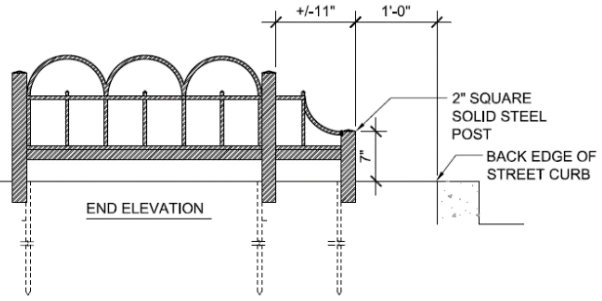
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Appendix D



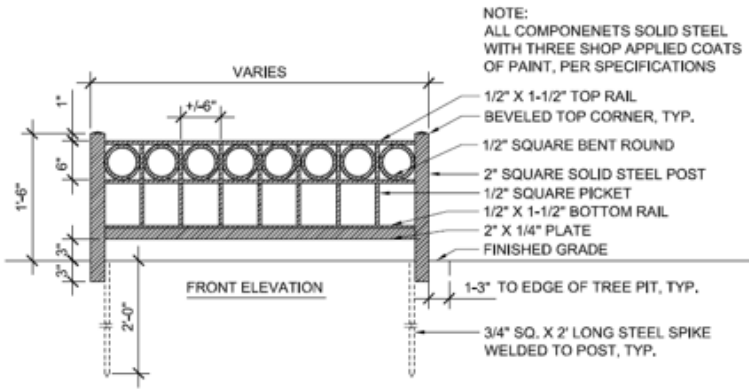
TREE PIT GUARD TYPE 'A'

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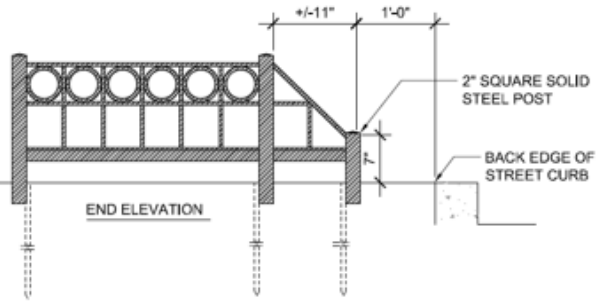
TYPE 'A' THREE-SIDED DESIGN

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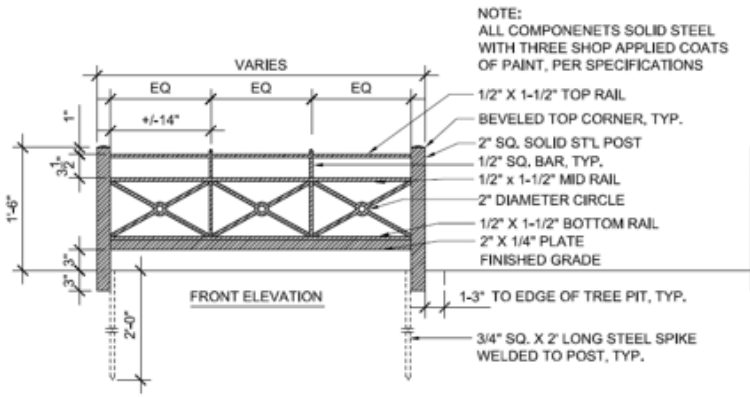
TREE PIT GUARD TYPE 'B'

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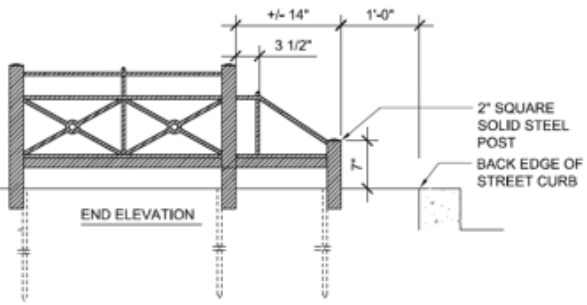
TYPE 'B' THREE-SIDED DESIGN

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TREE PIT GUARD TYPE 'C'

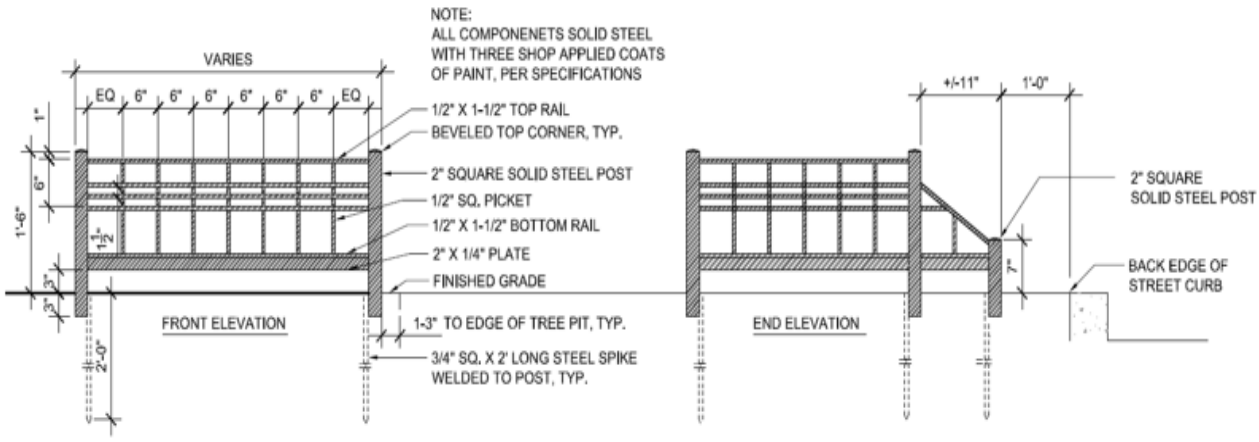
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TYPE 'C' THREE-SIDED DESIGN

NOT TO SCALE

Appendix D

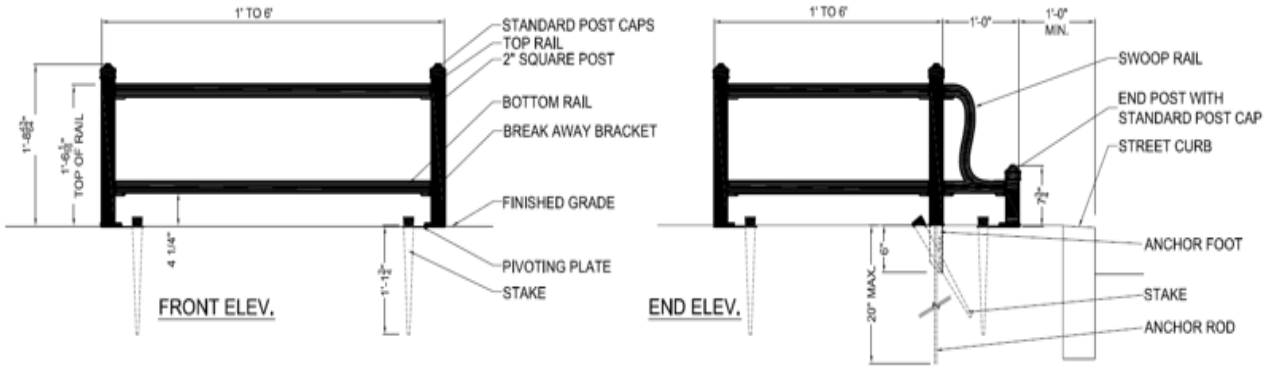


TREE PIT GUARD TYPE 'D'

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TYPE 'D' THREE-SIDED DESIGN

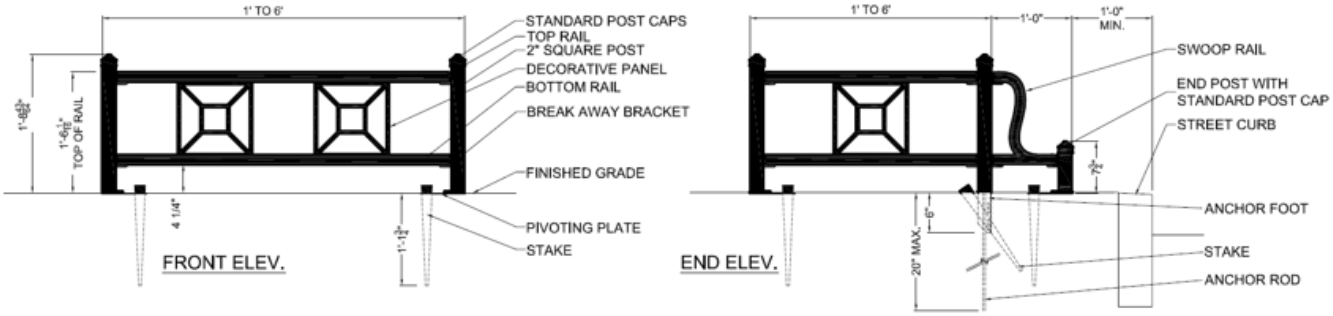
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TREE PIT GUARD TYPE 'E'

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TYPE 'E' THREE SIDED DESIGN

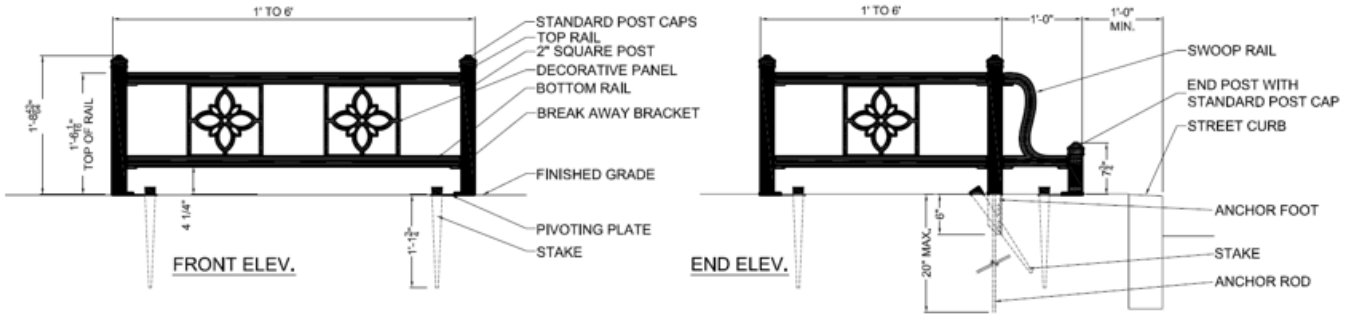


TREE PIT GUARD TYPE 'F'

SCALE: NTS

TYPE 'F' THREE SIDED DESIGN

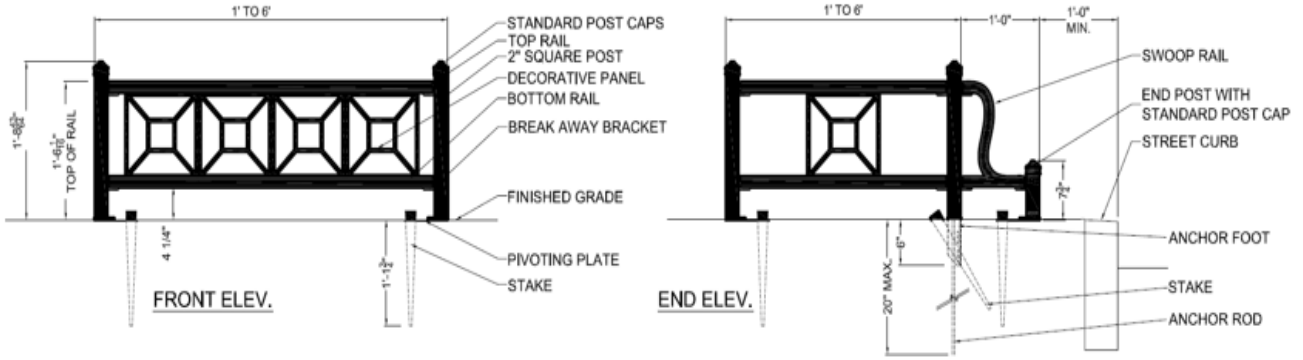
Appendix D



TREE PIT GUARD TYPE 'G'

SCALE: NTS

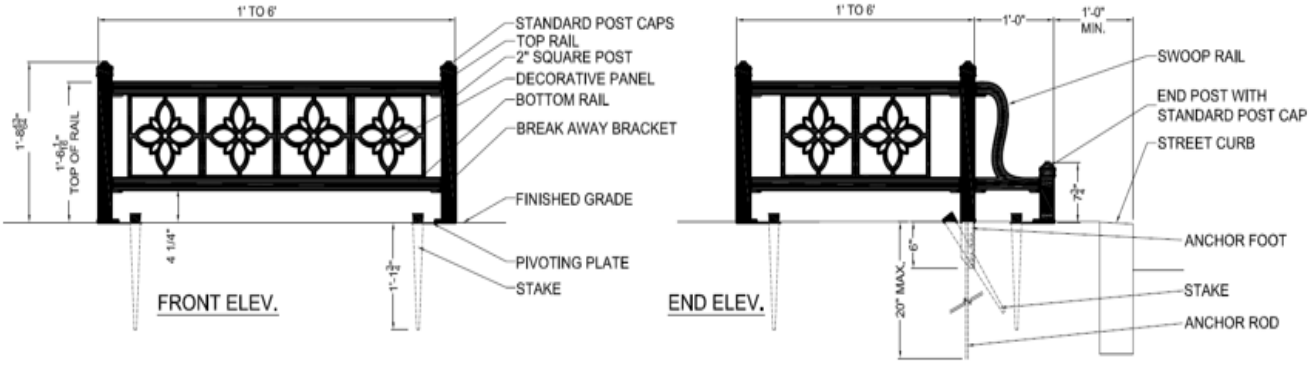
TYPE 'G' THREE SIDED DESIGN



TREE PIT GUARD TYPE 'H'

SCALE: NTS

TYPE 'H' THREE SIDED DESIGN

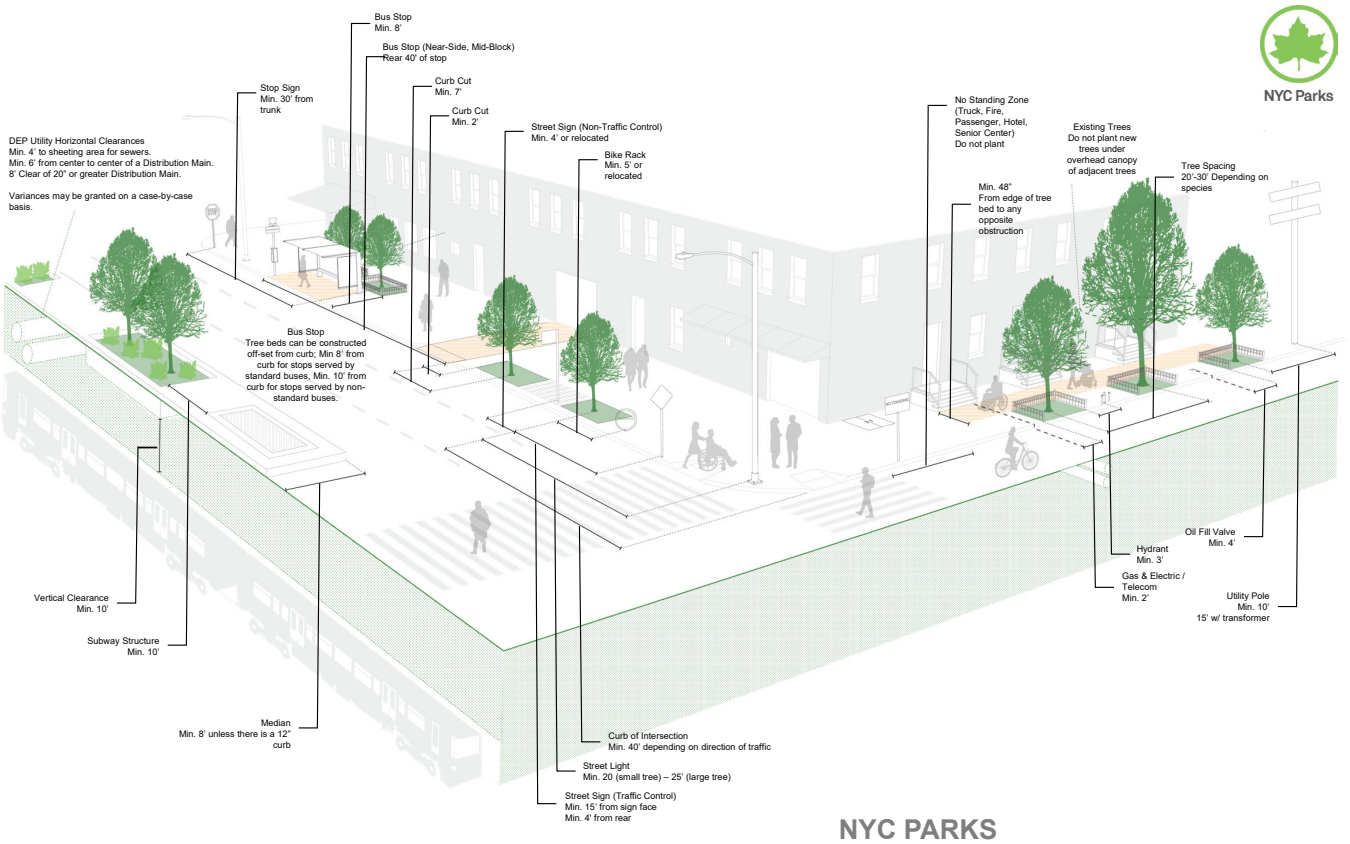


TREE PIT GUARD TYPE 'J'

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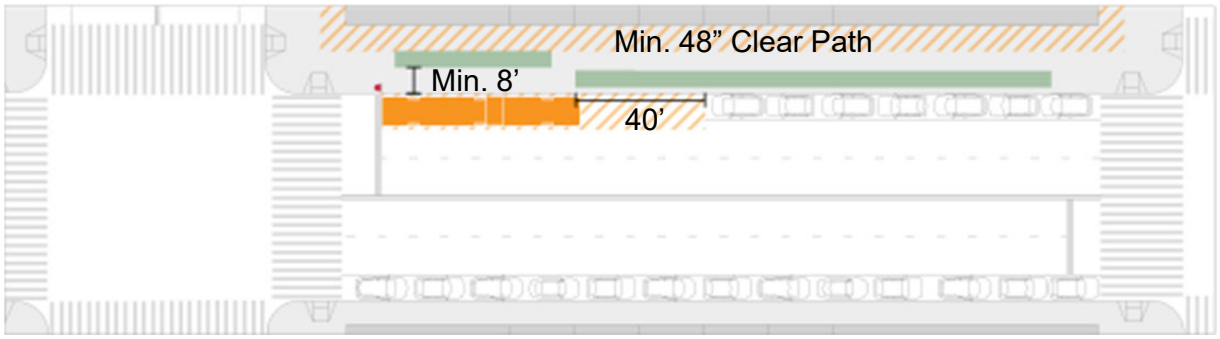
TYPE 'J' THREE SIDED DESIGN

Appendix E

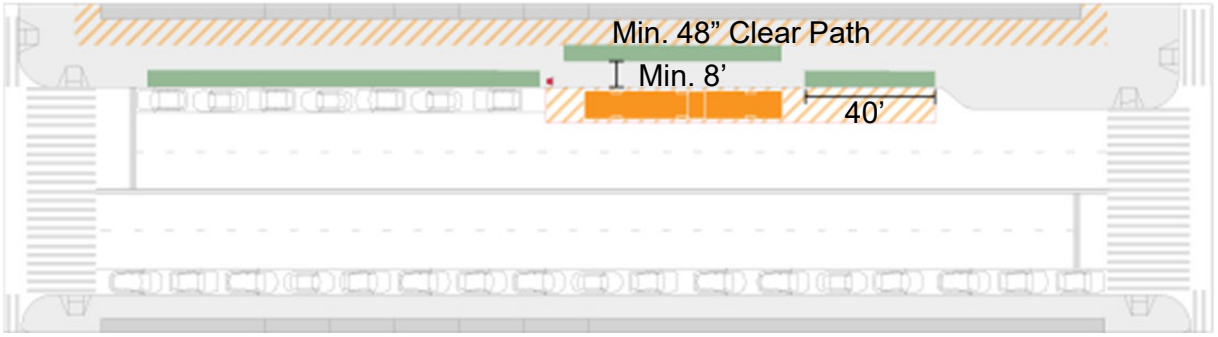


NYC PARKS
STREET TREE PLANTING GUIDELINES

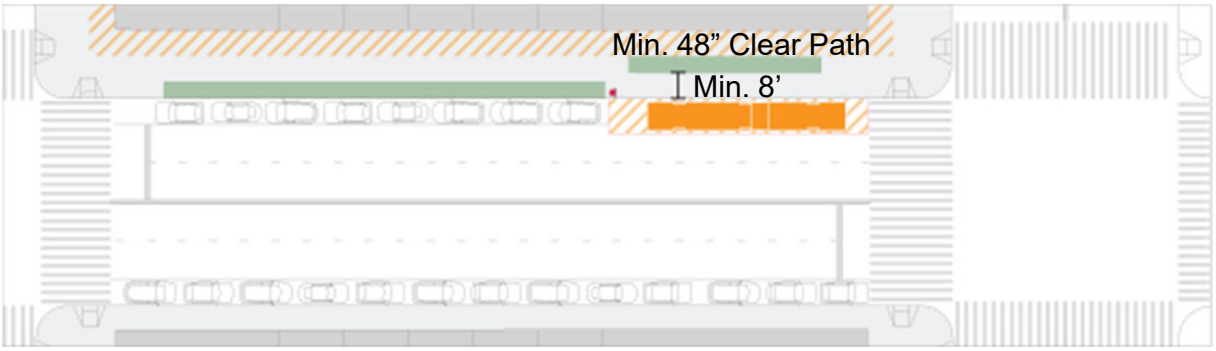
Appendix F



Near Side Bus Stop Tree Beds



Mid Block Bus Stop Tree Beds

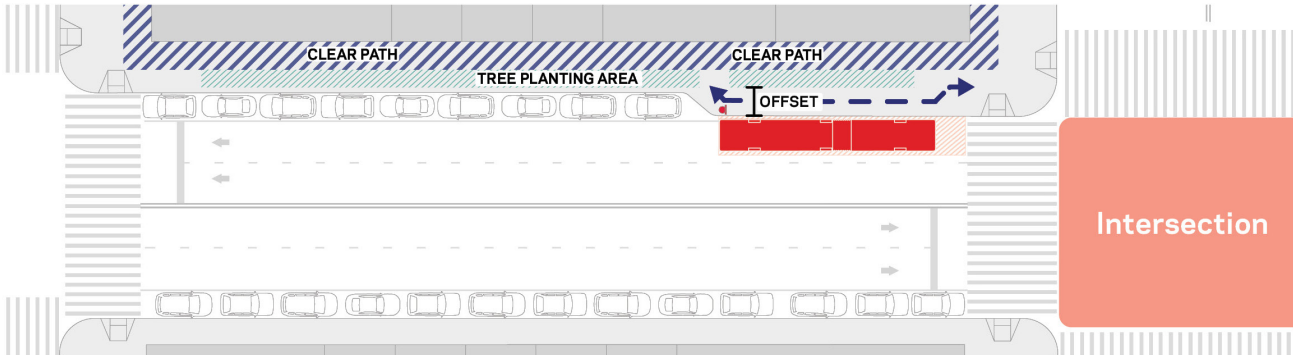


Far Side Bus Stop Tree Beds

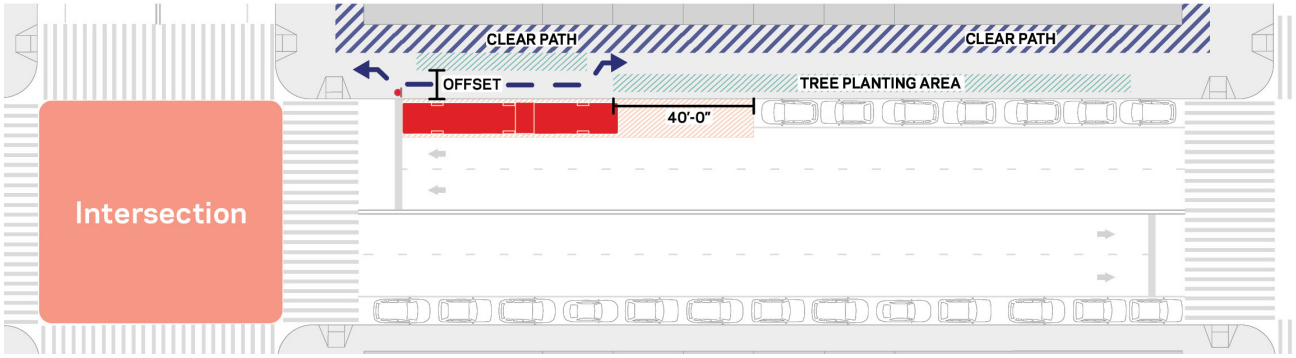
Appendix F

TREE PLANTING AT BUS STOP DIAGRAMS

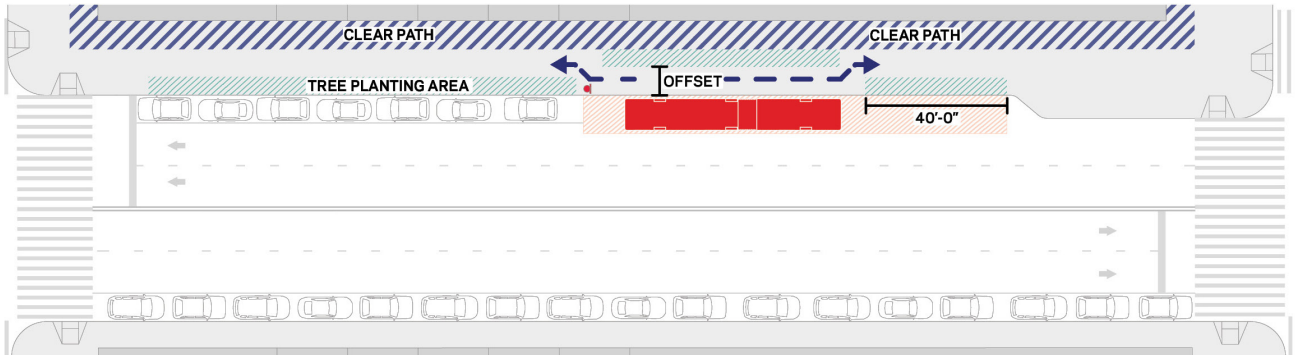
OFFSET PLANTING AT BUS STOP



NEAR SIDE BUS STOP PLANTING



MIDBLOCK BUS STOP PLANTING



FAR SIDE BUS STOP PLANTING

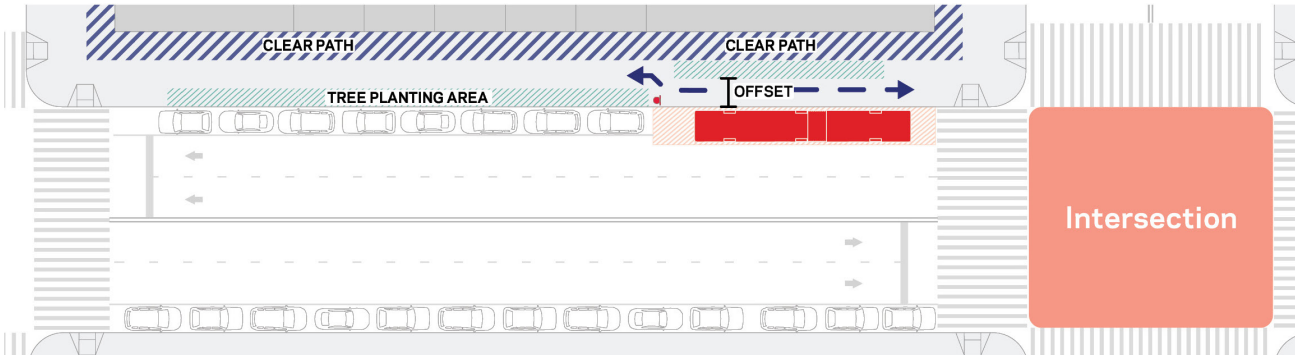
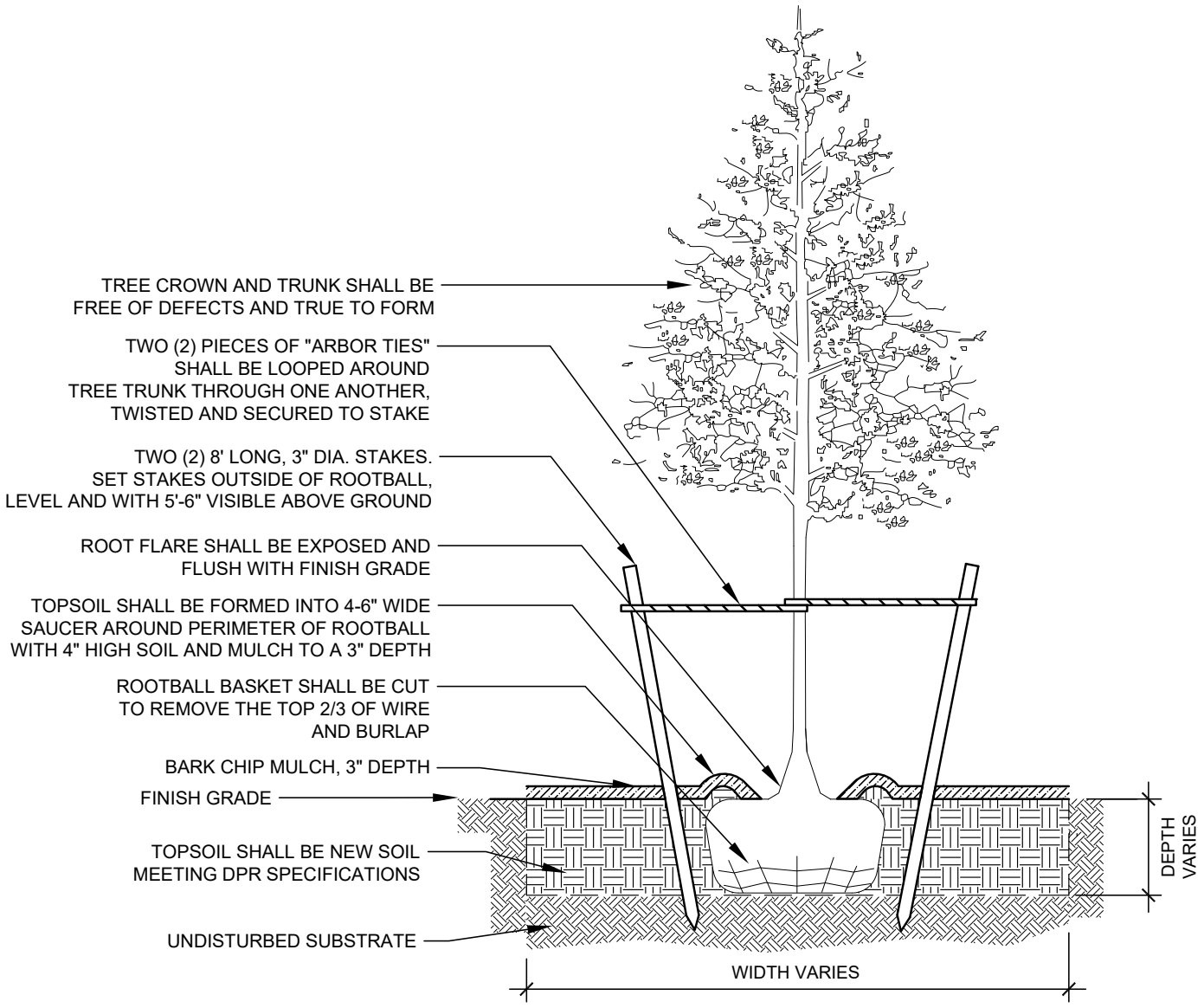


Diagram Source: NYCDOT

Appendix G



TREE PLANTING & STAKE DETAIL

NOT TO SCALE