

Tracy Tolley

From: Bradley J Bergstrom <bergstrm@valdosta.edu>
Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2019 3:39 PM
To: Tracy Tolley
Subject: APP-2019.05 (Hogan's Pharmacy)

Dear Ms. Tolley:

I will be out of town the date of the July 2 hearing on the Hogan's Pharmacy setback variance request. If there are not going to be any trees lost to this project requiring a variance, then you can ignore this message. However, there are 3 significant, tall canopy trees of specimen size--1 pine, 1 red cedar, and 1 water oak--in the vicinity of the property line toward which the development proposes to extend (i.e., west). There have already been several large trees lost in this small office development area over the past 3 years, at least one of them to the Hogan's drive-through window, and there have been no trees of canopy species planted to replace them.

Since this request involves impervious surfaces, it should be noted that there is no more effective mitigation of flash flooding from rain storms than stemflow attributed to canopy trees, and the larger the tree, the more stemflow, and the less runoff reaching the ground shortly after the rain which can cause that flooding. So it is in the community's interest not to lose any more large trees in this area surrounded by parking lots. I am curious why an expansion of the pharmacy cannot be done to the south (rather than the west); it seems there is as much or more distance to the property line in that direction, and there is nothing but grass and concrete (no trees). If I were able to attend, I would ask that question.

Thank you.

Dr. Brad Bergstrom
2101 Michael Ter
Valdosta 31602