

January 28, 2013

Mr. Robert Kosin  
Village Administrator  
Village of Barrington Hills  
112 Algonquin Road  
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-5199

RE: Village Hall Landscape Plan & Tree Replacement

Dear Bob:

After our conversation regarding the Village Hall Landscape Plan and the potential loss of the existing ash trees, I thought that it would be helpful to outline a strategy for the long-term management of the landscape. The management strategy should consider the historic landscape of the community, the hardiness of the plants, species diversity, and the maintenance needs of the plants.

The publication "[Keepers of the Land](#)" by The Garden Club of Barrington provides an insight into the flora and fauna of the historic landscape of the community. It is clear that the plants native to the region should provide the infrastructure for the Village Hall Landscape. A canopy of selected native tree species will adapt to a changing climate, provide for species diversity, require less maintenance over time, and have a longevity not found in many non-native species and some native species.

The current Village Hall landscape is based on a plan that was developed many years ago. Native species dominate the plan. Since the plan was developed, some of the selected species (elm and ash) have encountered serious insect and disease problems. The replacement of large canopy tree species should focus on the use of oak, hickory, hackberry, sugar maple, red maple, Kentucky coffee tree, and northern catalpa. The replacement of understory and ornamental trees should focus on redbud, serviceberry, ironwood, and pagoda dogwood. Other native and non native species can certainly be added to the landscape for interest such as color, habitat, or form. Species such as hawthorn, crabapple, northern white cedar, white pine, white fir, or Douglas fir are good examples.

Sincerely,  
URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT, INC.

Charles A. Stewart  
Vice President