



November 2006

Dear Members and Friends,

Have you checked out the College Street site? Like we warned you in the October letter, it has changed drastically. The construction area has been cleared leaving a nicely bermed boulevard along College Street to which the white pines identified earlier have been transplanted. Topsoil and vernal pond muck are safely stored on the western edge of our property surrounded by a silt fence to be utilized this spring. Two sizable black ash are harvested. A

fortunate discovery is that the hillside removed compacts like class five saving us the cost of importing soil to support driveway and structure.

Here are other recent highlights:

- The utility permitting process is underway. The city will extend the sewer line off Missouri Avenue half way up Chester Way. We are going to work with a neighbor to link up to it. It seems to be moving along.
- At a recent Task Force meeting we gave Steve Erban, the architect, permission to extend the social hall 12' by re-engineering parking level structural supports. This adds room for 50 more people, a storage area for chairs and tables, as well as a few additional underground parking spaces. We gain 1,600 sq. ft of additional space for approximately \$54,000. With this change, the total building yields 32,878 sq. ft.; the upper level, including the garden entry, is 17,352 sq. ft. and the lower level is 15,540 sq. ft.
- We are considering LEED (Leader in Energy Environmental Design) certification. Steve has attended seminars and has all the basic information on how to achieve this. We are already well on our way with underground parking, earth berming the building, including a greenroof and carefully placing the footprint to disturb as little as possible. We may end up doing everything necessary to get LEED certified short of paying the fees associated with obtaining the certificate.

These decisions to have a greenroof, interior landscape garden and ramp, 12' building extension and underground parking adhere to the vision the congregation outlined in the Architectural Program Statement but also impact building costs. Please be assured that your Task Force is diligently overseeing the budget and aware of the needs/wants each program submitted and is prioritizing what will get done right away, and what might wait until later.