

## **SUMMARY OF MEETINGS BETWEEN JBAM AND TAMARACK TRAILS**

### **MEETING #1 – JANUARY 3, 2019 @ 9:30 AM, TAMARACK TRAILS CLUB HOUSE:**

- The Tamarack community leadership was notified of JBAM's intent to build a road by letter and email on 12/14/2019 (see attached letter).
  - The letter was posted in its Club House on 12/15/2018.
- Seven Tamarack members, representing their leadership and one employee were present.
- All had numerous opportunities to express opinions and request changes in the plan. We discussed several options including alternate driveway locations, different vegetation, timing, etc and made some accommodations when possible including, eventually, a detention pond and a driveway gate.
  - On 1/12/2019 all Tamarack residents on Tree Lane were provided the details of the updated plan.

### **MEETING #2 – JANUARY 28, 2019 @ 6:30 PM, TAMARACK TRAILS CLUB HOUSE:**

- This was a formal, public meeting.
- Notice was provided by email to Tamarack residents on 1/18/2019 at 4 PM (see attached meeting notice).
  - A meeting notice also was posted in the Tamarack Trails Club House.
  - A meeting notice also was sent to each resident in the Condo Newsletter.
- The weather that evening was fine. There had been a snowstorm over night that ended that morning. All roads in the neighborhood were clear. All the Tamarack driveways and walkways were clear. Jean MacCubbin notified the residents that the meeting was on.
- Seventeen Tamarack residents were in attendance. All had numerous opportunities to express opinions and request changes in the plan. We discussed several options including alternate driveway locations, different vegetation, timing, etc and made some accommodations when possible.
- Several came up afterward and expressed their appreciation for our transparency and willingness to accommodate their needs.

### **TAMARACK TRAILS COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION (TTCSA) PROJECT SUPPORT:**

- The TTCSA has provided a draft letter of support (see attached letter).
- This draft letter has been used with the permission of Jean MacCubbin, President of TTCSA. The letter is in draft form since TTCSA requires a board vote to place the letter on official letterhead. This vote is expected to take place on February 26, 2019.

# JBAM

## Jewish Burial Association of Madison

### Questions from Tamarack Condominium Association:

1. Are you OK with the way this project is intercepting and redirecting the surface water flows in a grass swale so this surface flow ends up crossing through the condo property in-between buildings?
  - a. The location where the surface drainage would be directed to pass through the condo property is where there is already a large grass swale draining north out of the cemetery (curve in the new driveway on the attached plans).
  - b. This gets to satisfying the drainage issue the condos had previously with flooding of some of the lower units, and allowing the City to let the project move forward.
2. Are you OK with a minor amount of grading taking place on their side of the property line with the cemetery?
  - a. This is to help smooth out match slopes for the grass swale behind the new curb and gutter. This is likely the area within about 5-feet of the property line.
3. Are you OK with the tree removals/trimming required along the northern property line of the cemetery?
  - a. These tree impacts are needed to create a clear space for vehicles to travel on the driveway, but some of the trees are on the condo side of the property line, so they will need to be OK with the impacts to their trees.

PROVIDING FOR THE BURIAL NEEDS OF THE GREATER MADISON JEWISH COMMUNITY.

Mailing Address: c/o Temple Beth El, 2702 Arbor Drive, Madison, WI 53711  
(608) 467-3493      info@jbamadison.org      www.jbamadison.org

JBAM Letter of Support DRAFT

**Add TTCSA Letterhead**

Date: February 26, 2019 DRAFT

To: Jim Stein, President, Jewish Burial Assoc. of Madison (JBAM)

Cc: Ald. Skidmore, Lori Zunker, TTCSA Property Manager

From: Tamarack Trails Community Services Assoc. (TTCSA) Board of Directors

Re: Letter of Support of JBAM Plans for Driveway Construction in Sunset Memory Gardens, south border of TTCSA

**Process:** At the first meeting held on Jan. 3, 2019, JBAM shared details of their driveway project. Invitees to that meeting included TTCSA Board members and various TTCSA Committee Chairs (Garden, Maintenance and Architectural Review Board) as well as our Grounds Superintendent and representatives of JBAM. At this meeting you shared an overview of the JBAM, their communications with Stonemor, owners of Sunset Memory Gardens, as well as the engineering work conducted by Edge. Various concerns by TTCSA were raised and hence on-going communication developed. This meeting gave us the opportunity to get our arms around the details and fully consider impacts at our southern boundary. By Jan. 12, TTCSA notified Tree Ln residents of your plans and a meeting was later scheduled inviting all TTCSA property owners; this meeting was held Jan. 28. In this same period, as we understand, you continued to meet with City staff and Ald. Skidmore on water issues and process, namely types of approvals necessary for you to move forward on this project and re-engineering of the handling of stormwater on and off the site. At this second meeting, we voiced our appreciation of the major changes regarding water issues, containment and reduced flow into TTCSA properties. As you know, this has been an on-going issue with the cemetery and these revised plans appear to be beneficial to handling runoff near some of our living units.

**Items Negotiated and Considered:** In the period from Jan. 3 to the all resident meeting on Jan. 28, TTCSA shared concerns of which JBAM negotiate or considered. These included:

1. Vegetative barrier and tree removal—
  - a. With respect to the planned vegetation along the TT gardens, I hope we can discuss alternatives that may meet our garden boundary plan and your budget, so that what may become a 'tall, full line of arbs', doesn't shade the garden area.
  - b. Regarding species selection, thank you for considering another option which is faster growing and still meets the privacy concerns of adjacent property owners. I have since learned that the mature canopy of this optional species will not work due to the width area for plantings and roadway overhang.
  - c. Again, we expect Angie Swan, Grounds Superintendent to inventory our trees with respect to tree life after a proposed 12-ft. pruning and possible root impacts from roadway construction.

**Items Outstanding/On-going Collaboration:**

1. Communication—We'd like to provide updates of your plans going forward, as well as changes, timelines, etc. either at the monthly TT Board meeting or Good Life newsletter, or both. I could work with your group on this.
2. Access—The addition of a gate has certainly helped reduce some resident concerns about after hour, or possible night time traffic; thank you for investigating this possibility before our resident meeting. I realize requesting a second gate at another entry point is more the responsibility of the cemetery and I would be willing to meet with you and them to discuss these concerns.
3. Border Inventory and Assessment—As noted previously our Grounds Superintendent's concerns about the health of some of the tree stock along our border which may reduce the life either through major pruning or

root impacts from roadway construction. I suggest we keep her, Angie Swan, and your engineer in contact so that TT knows of issues as they arise. Our communication about any changes will be of interest to adjacent property owners.

Again, we understand that this work will begin Spring 2019; we look forward to continuing communications and obtaining any final plans you can share to the TTCSA Board and its residents.

**In summary, please accept this communication as a Letter of Support for your project and we look forward to on-going communications as the timing of the project begins.**

# JBAM

## Jewish Burial Association of Madison

December 14, 2018

Dear Tamarack Trails Condominium Association,

The Jewish Burial Association owns 1272 grave plots along the North and West edges of Sunset Memory Gardens. The location of our plots and those we have buried in the cemetery makes it very challenging for mourners and visitors to get to the graves, as it requires them to walk a long distance on an irregular surface and around existing headstones. Also, in the Jewish religion, it is customary for mourners and visitors to enter a cemetery directly, rather than walking through a cemetery. We also are aware that our funerals and visitations sometimes create a nuisance for Tamarack residents, such as when people park in your private driveway off Tree Lane or walk across your property to enter the cemetery, sometimes in groups.

To address these issues, we have secured funding to build an access road that enters the cemetery from Westfield, along the northern property line between the cemetery and community garden. It heads west and then turns south to connect to an internal driveway that already exists at Sunset. This road will be for private cemetery use only, and will have markers designating the entry off Westfield Road. We also will plant trees or shrubs to create a natural barrier between the road and your property.

In addition to solving Tamarack and our access issues described above, it also solves the long-standing water drainage problem from Sunset Memory Gardens onto your property, which I understand has led to some flooding. The road will have gutters, a rain basin, and grading will be performed to the rain is directed towards an existing swale on your property, thus avoiding over flow onto your basement. Creating this road will require some minor grading on your side of the property line and trimming of trees. We might have to remove a tree, but will try to avoid that.

This road is so important to our mourners that we are paying for it, the extra engineering, and other needs to solve the water issues. We hope we can collaborate with you to make sure it meets your needs as well. Eve Siegel is trying to setup a meeting for all of us, but to get the project started, I have attached our engineering plans (courtesy of Edge Consulting) and the 3 questions we eventually will need you to answer in a letter or email.

I am happy to chat at anytime and look forward to meeting you. Thank you,

James Stein, MD  
President, JBAM  
608-827-5216

PROVIDING FOR THE BURIAL NEEDS OF THE GREATER MADISON JEWISH COMMUNITY.

Mailing Address: c/o Temple Beth El, 2702 Arbor Drive, Madison, WI 53711  
(608) 467-3493    info@jbamadison.org    www.jbamadison.org

**All Tamarack Trails Meeting—Proposed Cemetery Road**

**Monday January 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8:15 pm**

**Clubhouse**

The Jewish Burial Association of Madison (JBAM) owns nearly 1300 burial plots in the area of Sunset Gardens backing on Tamarack Property. It has proven difficult for mourners and visitors to access these graves, and parking along Westfield Road is now taken up by the nearby office building. Currently there is a proposal to install a one-lane, asphalt road along the northern border of their property running along the garden and westward past a number of buildings along Tree Ln. and turning south to meet up with an existing circular drive within Sunset Memory Gardens. JBAM is mindful of cemetery visitors making access from trails in Tamarack as well as parking on lawns, driveways and gardens.

Tamarack is aware of various issues that this project may impact residents—loss of mature trees, stormwater issues as well as changes that a roadway may bring near living units. At this meeting, proposed plans will be shared, timelines of city reviews, as well as an opportunity to have your questions answered.

Feel free to look at the engineering plans from Edge Consulting, the Jewish Burial Society letters, and the water questions posted on the TT Office lobby bulletin board.

2019-01-28 cemetery meeting notice