

City of Biloxi Tree Committee

November 21, 2024

City of Biloxi Planning Commission

Subject: Case Number: TR-24-003 Dollar Tree, Poppo Ferry Road, Biloxi, MS
Matthew Kirkland, (a portion of Tax parcel 1309-01-002.003.)

Commission Members:

Our City of Biloxi Tree Committee members agree with the overall Dollar Tree Tree Site mitigation plan. We find that they have followed, in part, the tree mitigation rules for the city of Biloxi. They are removing 17 “protected trees” and leaving 2 “protected trees.” The trees being removed are due to parking, fire department access and the engineered retention pond requirements. The building and its required features are placed where they will be accessible and functional.

The developer intends to mitigate the 17 trees to be removed by planting 11 Live Oak trees (protected), 10 Bald Cypress (protected), and 26 Red Maple trees. Red Maples are indigenous to southern Mississippi, but are not “protected” trees.

The tree committee would like all the trees planted for tree mitigation to be “**Protected Trees**” and planted on the site, making sure they are planted and spaced correctly (there is some concern that the trees are planted too close to each other.) Based on site spacing, however, planting the Red Maples may be a reasonable alternative in lieu of mitigating with all “protected trees.”

We also suggest, if possible, to save Live Oak Trees 1, 3 and 18. It appears trees 1 & 3 could be saved if parking spaces were adjusted. Live Oak Tree 18 even with its roots compromised along the retention pond could be saved. It would soak up water in the retention pond area, and would keep the soil dryer along the pond.

Respectfully,

Susan Peterson
City of Biloxi Tree Chairperson/Secretary