

Standard Planting Considerations

Species Selection – environmental, size, maintenance and aesthetic considerations

Nursery Production Method – field-grown vs. container-grown

Plant Quality – reject poor quality nursery stock

Drainage Alteration – install drainage, berm, plant high or change species

Compaction Remediation – soil replacement or amendment incorporation

Hole Size and Configuration – wide, shallow and sloped; bottom pedestal

“Unpackage” Root – remove or modify containers or ropes/wires basket/burlap

Modify Roots – prune or partially bare ball container-grown plants

Backfill - do not amend; backfill in stages, alternating with watering; do not tamp

Fertilize – low rate of slow release nitrogen (N)

Water – use drip irrigation or slow delivery devices

Mulch – limit depth; prevent trunk contact; include weed barriers and/or herbicides

Prune – limit to structural correction or dead/dying/diseased removal

Trunk Protection – if needed environmentally (wraps) or physically (guards)

Stake/Guy - only if top heavy, or if wind throw or vandalism possibility

Remove Tags/Labels – prevent potential trunk girdling

Additional New Planting Considerations

Field Ball Holding Methods – mulch, containerize, wrap

Hydrogels – water retention products (? Efficacy)

Biostimulants – organic (humic acid, etc.) transplant products (? Efficacy)

Biological organisms – bacterial and/or mycorrhizal fungal products (? Efficacy)

Landscape Plant Selection Considerations

“Right Plant/Right Location”

Environmental (*pre vs. post construction)

Soil – type, uniformity, depth, debris and contaminants, aeration, compaction, subsurface hardpans, pH, salinity, water and nutrients holding capacity

Water – soil (quantity, quality), precipitation, irrigation (quantity, quality), runoff

Light – intensity, duration

Temperature – cold vs. heat tolerance/hardiness (stem vs. roots; 2 zone maps); macro vs. microclimates, provenance

Air – movement and velocity (wind), gaseous and particulate materials

Topography – elevation, slope

Existing vegetation – root/canopy competition, allelopathy, indicator species

