

## Son, Joshua L. - PDR

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**From:** Joe Yates <joe@jfyarchitects.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 23, 2017 3:36 PM  
**To:** Pitts, Marianne G. - PDR  
**Subject:** Re: Comments on Allen Avenue Common Park

Marianne:

I know a lot of thought and effort has gone into this plan, so I do not want to downplay that. However, the plan seems to be overly elaborate. The "garden" at the other end of Allen going from Monument to Broad has a much more naturalistic design. I also question whether the under canopy plantings will do well given the amount of shade the larger trees provide. As I mentioned during the comment period I also have strong feelings that the area should be irrigated. Only two of the eight planting beds that surround the Lee Monument as part of the traffic calming work look good because the adjacent property owner takes care and waters those two beds. The rest are a disaster, due to a lack of care and no irrigation. The city has taken to mowing the weeds and liriop in these beds. So to summarize:

1. Plan seems overly elaborate particularly when compared to the plantings between Monument and Broad.
2. How well will the new plantings do given the shade of the existing trees.
3. The area should have an irrigation system like that on Monument.

Hope this helps.

Joe

On Wed, Aug 23, 2017 at 1:49 PM, Pitts, Marianne G. - PDR <[Marianne.Pitts@richmondgov.com](mailto:Marianne.Pitts@richmondgov.com)> wrote:

Commissioners,

Please provide your comments to me on the Allen Avenue Common Park by Friday. We will combine the comments and provide them back to you for review. We need to provide our final comments to the Planning Commission and UDC secretaries by COB next Tuesday. Details on the project can be found here: <https://richmondva.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3118144&GUID=5A3A34EB-926B-42D6-B4CE-A52FC20CAEE0&Options=&Search=>

Thank you,

Marianne

Marianne Pitts

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