

1 March 2018

Our Ref: NP/PTR/Circular/2018/02

Dear Sir

## **REVISION TO PLANTING AREA PROVISION REQUIREMENTS WITHIN PREMISES**

### **Aim**

This circular informs developers, building owners, architects, engineers and relevant industry practitioners of the changes to the planting area provision requirements within premises.

### **Green Buffer – Alternative Configurations**

2 Currently, green buffer is provided along the front boundary of premises adjoining or abutting a public road at a uniform width of 3.0m or 5.0m.

3 Moving forward, there can be varying width of green buffer (minimum 2.0m), while keeping the total area of the green buffer along each side of the premises unchanged. The total area is calculated based on current guideline of 3.0m or 5.0m width multiplied by the length of the green buffer for that side of the premises.

### **Planting Area at Open Air Parking Area**

#### Alternative Configurations

4 Currently, planting area at open air parking area is either 2.0m or 4.0m wide, depending on the design and location of the parking lots.

5 Moving forward, there can be varying width (minimum 1.0m for turf/shrubs and 2.0m for trees) of planting area along and/or in-between parking lots, while keeping the total area of the planting area within each row of parking lots unchanged. In addition, the configuration of planting area should still allow for trees to be planted at not more than two lots' length (for parallel parking) or three lots' width (for angled parking) apart.



### Sheltered Parking Lots

6 When shelters are affixed directly to the building which is adjacent to the parking area, provision of planting area can be challenging and impractical.

7 Moving forward, when such shelters cover more than half (>50%) of the parking lots, green roof or trellis planting that are designed to cover the shelter completely will be accepted in lieu of the planting area.

### **Parking Lot Surface Treatment**

8 Currently, parking lots are to be laid using grass pavers if at least one quarter of its area is open to the sky.

9 Moving forward, grass pavers will only be required if at least half ( $\geq 50\%$ ) of the parking lot is open to sky. In addition, lush shrub planting within the planting areas can be accepted in lieu of grass pavers. The planting area for shrubs must also interspace the parking area at not more than four lots' length (for parallel parking) and seven lots' width (for angled parking).

### **More Types of Allowable Structures within Planting Area**

10 Permanent development signage, garden elements such as benches, trellis and small sculptures, and water features will be allowed within the planting areas<sup>1</sup>. With sensitive planning and design, these structures should be well-integrated with the landscaping and still allow for regularly-spaced planting of trees.

### **Effective Date**

11 This circular takes effect on 5 March 2018.

12 For more details, please refer to [Annex A](#) or NParks' handbook on "*Guidelines on Greenery Provision and Tree Conservation for Developments*" available at [www.nparks.gov.sg](http://www.nparks.gov.sg)

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<sup>1</sup> Please note the development would still need to comply with the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA)'s prevailing guidelines on height control for structures within the building setback.



### Clarifications

13 Kindly convey the contents of this circular to your members. For queries concerning this circular, please contact Ms Eunice Ong at 64717893 (email: [Eunice.ONG@nparks.gov.sg](mailto:Eunice.ONG@nparks.gov.sg)) or Ms Norhayati Rahmat at 64717357 (email: [Norhayati.RAHMAT@nparks.gov.sg](mailto:Norhayati.RAHMAT@nparks.gov.sg)).

Thank you.

Yours faithfully

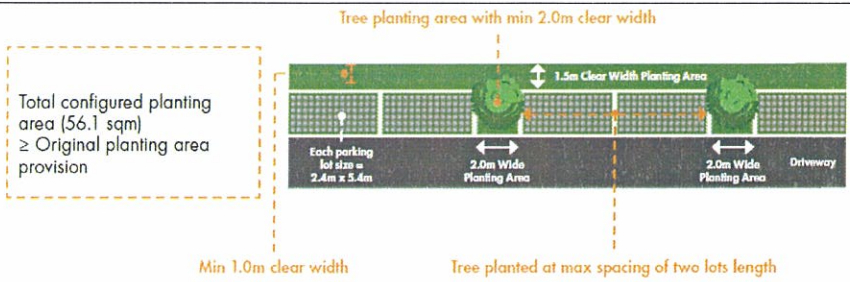
Ang Wei Ping (Ms)  
Group Director (Acting), Policy & Planning  
for Commissioner of Parks and Recreation  
National Parks Board

Encl.

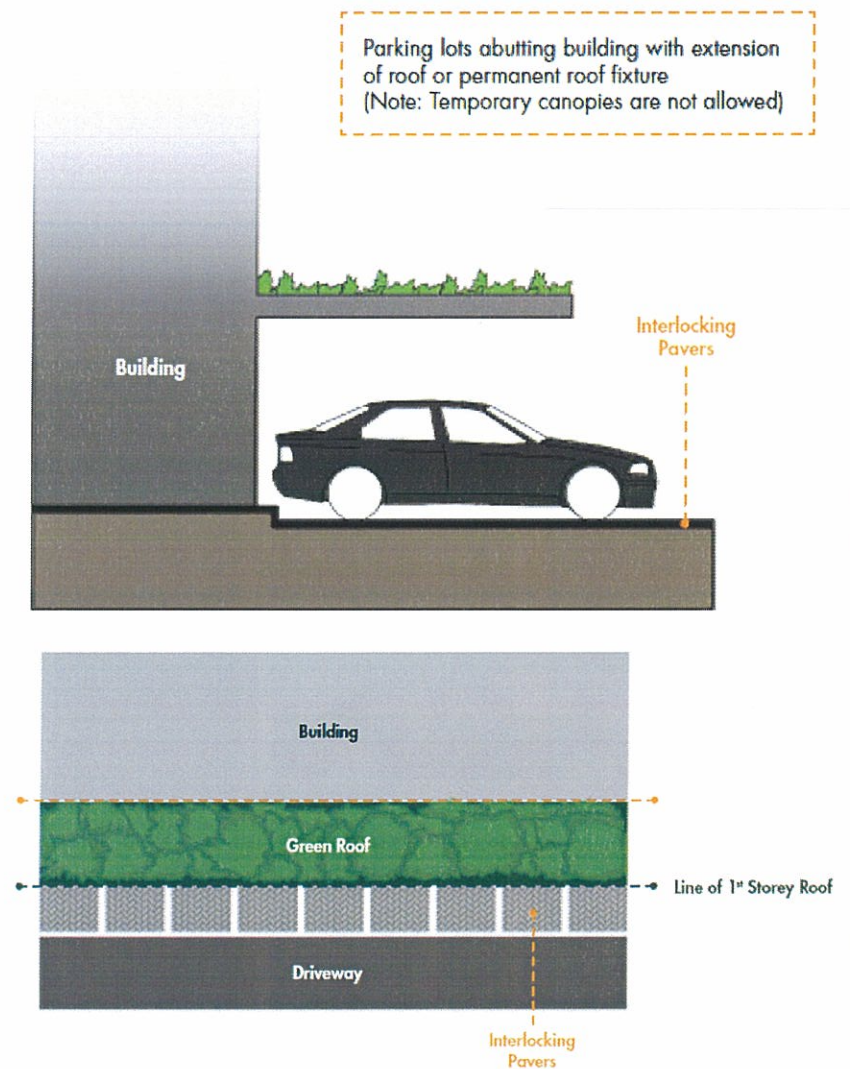


Parameter	Details and Examples
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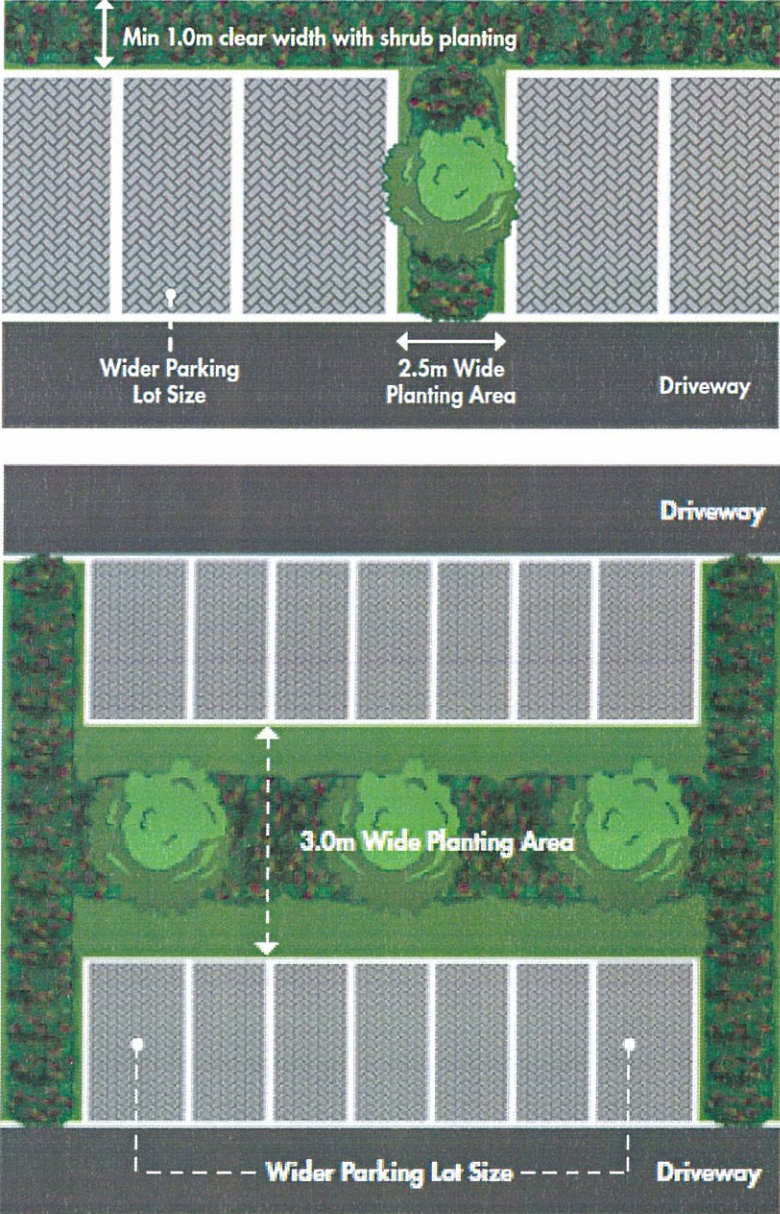
- All planting areas should have a minimum 1.0m clear width, except for those planting areas designated for tree planting must have a minimum 2.0m clear width



- Configuration of the planting area must allow for trees to be planted at a maximum spacing of two lots' length for parallel parking



- For parking area directly adjacent to a building, where there are shelters affixed directly to the building and cover

Parameter	Details and Examples
	<p>more than half (&gt;50%) of the parking lots, NParks would allow for green roof or trellis planting on the shelter in lieu of the planting area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The green roof or trellis planting should be designed to cover the shelter completely</li> </ul>
Alternative parking lot surface treatments	 <p>The diagrams illustrate two alternative parking lot surface treatments. The top diagram shows a row of parking lots with a 2.5m wide planting area between them, featuring a 'Min 1.0m clear width with shrub planting' and a 'Wider Parking Lot Size'. The bottom diagram shows a larger planting area of 3.0m width between two rows of parking lots, also with 'Wider Parking Lot Size' and 'Driveway' labels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shrub planting within the planting areas can now be accepted in lieu of grass pavers</li> <li>Planting area, of minimum 1.0m width, should be implemented at maximum spacing of seven lots width for angled parking and up to a maximum spacing of four lots length for parallel parking</li> </ul>