



Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission
29 Park Avenue
Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922
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www.BH-EC.org

MEMO

August 19, 2020

TO: Planning Board

Subject: 528 Springfield Ave. , Block 612, Lot 4

The Environmental Commission stands by its original recommendations for this application and submits the results of a stormwater calculator in support of a rain garden.

The calculator creates a baseline, which includes the parameters of the site for impervious surface and assumes that no measures are taken. It then creates a comparison assuming that rain garden is created on a small portion of the site. The result is a decrease of six percent in stormwater runoff.

Recommendations:

- Applicant should consider installation of solar panels on roof. Information on financing solar panels is available at <https://www.energysage.com/solar/financing/>.
- At least half of the shrubs in the landscaping plan shall be native plants.
- Include a stormwater management plan to be approved by the township engineer.
- In light of the new DEP green infrastructure rules the applicant should be required to have the parking area slope toward the landscaped area to capture runoff from the parking area and use native plants that are suitable for a bioswale or rain garden. Information on rain gardens can be found at http://water.rutgers.edu/Rain_Gardens/RGWebsite/rginfo.html.