

**From:** [Taylor Earl](#)  
**To:** [George Burton](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Hedge Definition  
**Date:** Monday, September 26, 2016 6:58:29 PM

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I don't think we need to define shrub, but here is a slightly modified version, which incorporates elements from your definition and from the similar definition used by Tampa, Florida:

**Hedge: A close planting of shrubs in line which forms a compact, dense, living barrier that is eighty (80) percent opaque within twelve (12) months after planting and which protects, shields, separates, or demarcates an area from view.**

Since all we want to do is simply describe the traditional hedge we're trying to avoid, I think the above version of the definition gets us closer to that goal without being overly broad.

Also, I still have some concerns about the language "protects, shields, separates, or demarcates an area from view," which I'd like to discuss with the Commission. Does this phrase mean, "a close planting . . . which . . . protects an area from view, shields an area from view, separates an area from view, or demarcates an area from view?" Or does it mean "a close planting . . . which . . . protects, shields, separates, or which demarcates an area from view?"

Not sure if this makes sense or not. But if not, I can explain my thoughts over the phone.

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**From:** George Burton [mailto:gburton@paradisevalleyaz.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2016 1:47 PM  
**To:** Taylor Earl  
**Subject:** RE: Hedge Definition

Hi Taylor,

I apologize for the late response.

I believe the definition excludes trees and the opacity of a single plant since it identifies “any group of shrubs.....”

A definition of shrub may be in order; however, I will note your concern in the staff report and I will bring this issue up during the Commission meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 480-348-3525 to discuss.

Best Regards,  
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Town of Paradise Valley  
Planner  
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**From:** Taylor Earl [<mailto:tearl@ecllaw.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2016 5:43 PM  
**To:** George Burton  
**Subject:** Hedge Defintion

George,

The Planning Commission seemed partial to definition 3 of hedges:

Option 3. Any group of shrubs planted in line or in groups that form a compact, dense, living barrier that protects, shields, separates, or demarcates an area from view; **any similar plant material, which is eighty (80) percent opaque within twelve (12) months after planting.**

But as I re-read it more closely, I think it goes much further than they intended. In particular, the **last clause** would seem to include a tree with a dense canopy. That was clearly something the commission didn't want to see prohibited. It would also seem to include any singular plant you can't see through. Again, that's not something the Commission wanted to ban. They wanted to ban the hedge row, not a singular plant with a non-transparent nature. The first part of the definition would seem to cover what the Commission was after. Thoughts?

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