

# Landscape Committee

## February 2020 Report

**Members: Bill Giragos, Robert Kaplan and Nathan Greene**

### *Active Projects:*

**Wildfire prevention clearance** – The project encompasses all the association perimeter to comply with new Ventura County fire code.

Board approved in August meeting.

Cost: \$35,475.

Actual start date September 24, 2019. Actual completion December 2019.

January Update – Project started on September 24, 2019. The tree crew started clearing the East and south east property line. On 09/27/19, a first pass was completed which included removing some trees, shrubs and trimming ground cover in a mosaic pattern. A second pass was completed on 10/04/19 to ensure the clearing complies with the new fire code adopted by Ventura County Fire Department. The wild fire prevention performed left some bare areas behind the houses on Sunset Hills Blvd and Heavenly Ridge.

The project continued on the North side of the community behind Windridge and Willow Canyon. The Board approved additional clearing which was expanded to include tall dry grass area extending beyond 100' from defensible zone. The new fire code required clearing shrubs and ground cover in a mosaic pattern which left bare area where acacia ground cover is planted. These areas were planted with Rosemary ground cover and wattles were temporarily installed to prevent erosion.

Project completed. We are in process of scheduling the Ventura County Fire Marshall to inspect the community to ensure the wild-fire prevention was conducted according to the new fire code. The Board is also considering adding “Weed Clearing” at end of September to supplement the required end of May Weed Abatement to be ready for the fire season which starts end of October.

**Tree roots issues in parkways** -The roots of some of the mature trees planted in parkways are causing damage to sidewalks, irrigations systems, yard drainage and possible damage to city utilities.

All aspects of the project require City of Thousand Oaks Planning Department approval.

Cost: \$20,158.00.

Actual start date: December 2019. Actual completion date: January 2020.

January Update – The Board approved to phase this project and remove 3 trees at a time. The Arborist hired to plan the tree removal recommended this approach as being the most cost effective approach and the fastest way to remove hazardous trees which have lifted the concrete sidewalks where Oak trees were planted in parkways.

Phase-1 included securing a permit to remove 3 trees on Woodley Street. The application was submitted to City of Thousand Oaks Planning Department on 09/26/19. A typical time frame for approval and securing a permit is approximately 45 days. As of this date the Arborist identified 15 Oaks trees which are classified as hazardous. T.O. City Planning Department issued phase-1 permit on October 21, 2019.

Bids were collected and contractors were selected to remove the trees and repair sidewalks. The Board also approved grinding all raised sidewalks until a more permanent solution is implemented.

Project completed. Oak and Chinese Flame trees were removed. Tree stumps and all roots were removed. Lawn drains and sprinklers were repaired. Crepe Myrtle trees were planted. New sod was installed. Phase-2 will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

***Projects Under Discussion:***

**Heavenly Ridge landscaping** – The shrubs and ground cover in various places reached end of life and need to be replaced  
Requires Board approval

January Update –Proposal was submitted by Showscapes. Project feasibility will be discussed at the next Board meeting

**Willow Canyon landscaping** - The shrubs and ground cover in various places reached its end of life and need to be replaced  
Requires Board approval

January Update –Proposal was submitted by Showscapes. Project feasibility will be discussed at the next Board meeting

***Ongoing Maintenance:***

The LS committee has scheduled a bi-monthly meeting with Showscapes to discuss maintenance issues to ensure we maintain the aesthetics of our beautiful community. Issues are discussed and noted, upon completion of an item Showscapes will send us pictures as proof of completion.

January – The Landscape Committee continued to hold meetings with Showscapes personnel to discuss problem areas which need more attention.

If you have any landscape concerns, please email or call Dee Smith at Fidelity management.