



**THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
OPEN SPACE DIVISION
SCRIPPS-MIRAMAR RANCH MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT
APRIL 2013 STAFF REPORT**

Neighborhood Parks, Mini-Parks and Joint Use Areas:

- Cypress Canyon Neighborhood Park – Several of the newly planted trees are in bloom. The newly planted Coral tree was severely damaged by vandals. The turf was aerified and fertilized. Many thank to all that helped out with the park’s “Field Day” clean up. The bull pen was reconditioned.
- Jerabek Neighborhood Park – Much of the park’s vegetation is showing signs of frost damage. Staff is monitoring the plants which should make a comeback. The irrigation controllers were burned out due to an electrical surge and had to be replaced. Two new controllers were installed along with a new surge protection unit. The park was aerified and fertilized
- Jerabek Elementary Joint Use Area – The turf was fertilized.
- Lakeview Neighborhood Park – Thanks to a generous contribution of \$15,000 from Councilman Mark Kersey, the poured in place surfacing at the tot lot playgrounds was replaced. It looks GREAT! Pictures are provided in Attachment 1. The spiral slide was closed due to a crack in the slide surface. The replacement component has been ordered and staff will install it as soon as it arrives. The restroom was closed temporarily for repairs. The plumbers pulled a diaper out of the pump. The turf was aerified and fertilized.
- Hoyt Park – Staff has begun the permitting process with Scripps Ranch Symphony, Scripps Ranch Old Pros, and Scripps Ranch Civic Association (SRCA) for the 2013 community events. Staff along with members of the SRCA and the SR Old Pros met with the City’s Office of Special Events regarding the shared July 4th festivities. The park hosted a small Sunrise Easter Service on March 30. The park was aerified and fertilized.
- Hoyt Park Drainage – The environmental permit (Process 4, Project No. 241360, Site Development Permit No. 867411) required for construction of drainage improvements was heard and approved on consent at the May 31, 2012, Planning Commission meeting. On July 2, 2012, the City and its partners on the project (Helix Environmental and

Weston Solutions) were notified that the San Diego County Vector Habitat Remediation Program had tentatively approved the additional grant to fund construction of the proposed improvements. Staff is currently preparing a right of entry permit for Helix and Weston to enter the park and construct the improvements.

- Scripps-Miramar Ranch High School Joint Use Area – Southland Electric tested the electrical system and they discovered leakage in at least two conductors between the electrical room and the panel near the softball backstop several months ago. The distance between the electrical room and the panel near the softball backstop is approximately 1,000 feet. Replacement of the entire run of wire would have cost upward of \$40,000. Due to the cost, San Diego Unified School District tested the wire section by section (volt to volt) over the winter holidays to determine the exact area that was damaged. The repairs to the damaged section were completed on April 9, 2013. All turf areas were aerified and fertilized during the school district break.

Ponds:

- Evans Pond
 - Reclaimed Water Project – Engineering and Capital Projects Department provided Park and Recreation Department staff with a \$165,000 estimate for a capital project to add a reclaimed water connection to the pond. Staff submitted the “Project Intake Form,” which assigns the project and describes the intended outcome of the project. A project kick-off meeting between Engineering and Capital Projects and Park and Recreation staff is scheduled for April 16.
 - Several donated plants have been planted on the slopes of the Library.
 - The pond received a complimentary infusion of water from the County Water Authority of approximately 108,000 gallons.
- Hendrix Pond
 - The pond’s security lighting was reported to be out. Further investigation revealed that the copper wire was stolen. The repairs were completed on March 21.

Eucalyptus Woodlands and Open Space Areas:

- Campton HOA – Staff awaits a final decision from Cal-EMA/FEMA regarding whether funding can be received for the damage caused to the City-owned, open space slope between the Campton HOA homes and Spring Canyon Road.
- Olive Tree Groves – The Community Forest Advisory Board (CFAB) received an application from the SRCA and Scripps Ranch Planning Group (SRPG) to designate approximately 40 olive trees near Aviary Drive and Atrium Drive as Heritage Trees or as a Historic Grove.
 - Staff met with Bob Ilko, who represents the applicants on March 27 at the olive tree grove.
 - Staff hired Kurt Peacock, Registered Consulting Arborist, to evaluate the olives trees listed in the application. The cost for Mr. Peacock’s services for the initial

report is estimated between \$1,400-\$1,800 and is to be funded by the Scripps Ranch MAD.

- Scope of Work: Catalog, photograph, and appraise the value of each olive tree in Derenbaker Park and Aviary Park (and adjacent areas) as identified in the application documents submitted by SRPG/SRCA, including the following specific information for each tree:
 - General condition, overall health/vitality, and viability
 - Measurement of each tree's Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) along with explanation of how DBH is derived (multi-trunk vs. standard)
 - Measurement of each tree at ground level
 - Approximate estimated age
 - Picture (of each tree and/or grove)
 - Classification (i.e., standard, multi-trunk, bush, etc. along with whether the tree is established, sapling, volunteer, etc.)
 - Potential future maintenance requirements
 - Assessed value
- Staff provided the following background documentation to Mr. Peacock:
 - Tree preservation application, maps, and pictures submitted to CFAB
 - Council Policy 900-19 (available at http://docs.sandiego.gov/councilpolicies/cpd_900-19.pdf)
 - Preliminary map of the olive tree groves based on the application and updated by staff (see Attachment #2)
- Mr. Peacock's report is intended to be completed by April 19, and the report will be provided to applicants shortly thereafter
- A follow-up site visit will be scheduled during the week of April 22 to include staff, Mr. Peacock, applicants, and the applicants' arborist
- Staff will prepare and present a report on the olive trees in response to the application. This will include Mr. Peacock's arborist report. Staff intends to present this at the May CFAB meeting.

Budget and Contract Updates:

- Tree Contract – The bid process for a permanent tree contractor was rejected by Purchasing and Contracting Department on April 9 due to Charter Section 117(c) concerns. In the interim, Purchasing and Contracting Department approved a limited sole source contract with Atlas Environmental for interim, Citywide tree services including Scripps-Miramar Ranch MAD until the permanent contracts are awarded. At this time the MAD's ability to perform tree maintenance is limited and only safety tree work will be provided until the tree contract issue is resolved.

Miscellaneous:

- Tree Trimming – Limited tree work was completed by One Tripp Tree Trimming. Two trees were removed at Lakecrest Point. Both trees were reviewed by the MAD Certified Arborist.

- Rights-of-Way – The maintenance crews continue to make several enhancements including separation and installation of plant material, mulching and tree installations.

Attachments:

1. Photos of poured in place at Lakeview Park
2. Preliminary Map of Olive Tree Groves at Aviary Park, Derenbaker Park, and Adjacent Open Space Areas

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Rodriguez
Grounds Maintenance Manager

cc: Casey Smith, District Manager
Andy Field, Assistant Deputy Director



Olive Tree Locations Within Brush Zone

