



Lake Hodges Community Landscape Committee Meeting #3 Summary

Date: January 24, 2008
Time: 6:00p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Meeting Location: Del Dios Fire Station
20155 Elm Lane
Escondido, CA 92029

Attendance:

Committee Members Present

Suzette Amon, Del Dios community member
Dave Risoff, Lake Hodges Hills community member
Mike Kratz, Del Dios community member
Peter Jones, San Diego Windsurf Association
Joe Ferguson, Del Dios community member

Committee Members Absent

Georgie Birch, Lake Hodges Native Plant Club

Water Authority Staff

Randy Huber
Gina Molise
Scott Robinson
Kelly Rodgers
Nicola Kavanagh

Staff Resources

Dick Rol, Foothill Associates
Bob Hill, Photo Dark Room

Welcome and Review of Meeting Agenda:

Senior Public Affairs Representative Gina Molise welcomed everyone to the third Lake Hodges Community Landscape Committee meeting and reviewed the meeting agenda.

Review of September 27, 2007 Meeting

Molise reviewed the meeting summary from the second landscape committee meeting and asked for comments or questions. There were none. Molise also revisited a question asked at the prior committee meeting that was left for subsequent research by the project team. A committee member asked if it was possible to modify the yellow color of the crane on the Pump Station. Construction Administrator Randy Huber stated that the exact color of the crane will not be known until the contractor provides the required product data to the Water Authority prior to purchasing the crane. However, Huber clarified that his research with the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health indicates that it might be possible to alter the color of the crane to help blend it into the surrounding landscape.

Review of Landscape Committee's Purpose and Scope

Molise provided an overview of the landscape committee's purpose, the landscaping partners, and the three areas on the project site where landscaping will be installed. She also summarized the

committees' priorities that will aid the landscape architect to produce and design the landscape plan and asked for comments or questions. There were none.

Conceptual Landscape Design & Animation

Landscape Architect Dick Rol presented two 90-second computer-generated videos simulating the view of a person traveling along the Coast to Crest Trail and Lake Drive, within the Lake Hodges Projects construction site. The first video demonstrated the view of the project site without landscaping.

The second video featured a conceptual landscaping design of the project site and included landscaping established after a 10-year growth period and a 100-percent plant survival rate. Rol said that the conceptual landscape design incorporated 14 of 19 priority committee recommendations. He also provided an overview of where each recommendation was incorporated into the conceptual design and an explanation of why other recommendations were excluded from the conceptual design.

<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Priority Recommendations</u>	<u>Votes Received</u>	
1.	Focus on long term outcome instead of the short term results	2	✓
2.	Establish habitat for wildlife, including plants to create butterfly garden –aschlepia fascicularis	2	✓
3.	Focus on maximizing survival of landscaping instead of creating wildlife habitat	1	
4.	Return the parking lot areas to natives; use local species	1	✓
5.	Use minimal or no hydroseeding	1	
6.	Use plants no larger than five gallons to increase survival and reduce costs	1	✓
7.	Plant as many sycamores as possible for variety	1	✓
8.	Plant native beavertail cactus outside fence – use local species like opuntia littoralis	1	✓
9.	Leave room between the trees at the parking lot for windsurfing board to be carried to shore	1	✓
10.	Import Gorilla Hair mulch	1	
11.	Relocate security fence located along Lake Drive (to west side of berm)	2	✓
12.	Provide topsoil that can support plants	1	
13.	Provide access for vehicle and foot traffic from parking loop to upper parking area at windsurf area	1	
14.	Place trees in parking lot for shade	1	✓
15.	Place trees (sycamore recommended) near shore on both ends of riprap that will line shore in front of pump station inlet-outlet structure	1	✓
16.	Plant oaks as close together as possible along berm in front of pump station	1	✓
17.	Screen structures with coastal live oak—as many trees as possible to hide the buildings	2	✓
18.	Plant oaks along Lake Drive by pump station to create tree canopy, like along northern section of Lake Drive	3	✓
19.	Provide irrigation at parking lot (perhaps via quickcoupler connection to water supply at pump station to supply water truck, or solar-powered pump from lake	1	✓

Summary of Questions, & Answers

This section is a summary of the questions and answers presented during the meeting. Where noted and italicized, responses provided at the meeting are clarified.

1. Q. Why would the final landscape plan differ from the conceptual landscape design?

A. The city of San Diego, San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority, and the Water Authority's Operations and Maintenance Department are all partners supporting the landscape committee, and each provided input that was incorporated into the committee guidelines. They will review the final landscape plan to ensure committee recommendations meet their guidelines.
Note: The availability of plants and other resources, as well as rising costs, can also affect the design of the final landscape plan.
2. Q. What is the estimated height of the crane located at the pump station?

A. The five-ton jig crane will be 22 to 25 feet tall.
3. Q. Will the crane be located on top of the pump station building?

A. Yes.
4. Q. Are there any OSHA requirements for how bright the lights illuminating the project site will be?

A. There aren't any OSHA requirements for the 12 dusk-to-dawn lights that will be installed.
5. Q. Can motion detector lights be used instead of the dusk-to-dawn lights?

A. No. The lights need to be on continuously on from dusk to dawn to provide visibility for the security cameras protecting the facilities.
6. Q. Can the eucalyptus trees be stumped?

A. The eucalyptus trees can be stumped if they are located on the project site, however none are located on the project site.
7. Q. How effective is mimulus, a plant genus of herbs and shrubs frequently called monkey flowers, for erosion control?

A. Not bad, but not great either.
8. Q. Why is deer weed prevalent at the project site?

A. Deer weed grows quicker than most species in the hydroseed mix used at the Lake Hodges Projects. After the rest of the surrounding vegetation matures, the deer weed will blend in with them.
9. Q. Can the percentage of monkey flower or poppies in the hydroseed mix be increased?

A. Yes.

10. Q. Where is the native beavertail cactus located in the conceptual landscape plan?
- A. They are located between the berm and the fence line.
11. Q. What are the pink shrubs at the entrance of the parking lot in the conceptual landscape plan?
- A. They are clusters of buckwheat and mimulus.
12. Q. Can the inspection periods be customized to expedite the inspection intervals during the maintenance period to ensure the contractor replaces the dead plants as quickly as possible? Also, can we contact the contractor directly to inform him of any vegetation that is dying on site?
- A. The inspection intervals during the maintenance period will be specified to ensure the maximum survivability of the plants. Yearly monitoring reports can be made available upon request.
- Note: The Lake Hodges Projects toll free project information line (877) 426-2010 and email ESPinfo@sdewa.org will be available to submit inquiries. A representative from the project team will return the inquiry within one business day.*
13. Q. Why are one-gallon plants preferred over five-gallon plants?
- A. Generally, the smaller the plant is when planted, the more probability of success it has. Also, the cost of five-gallon plants is approximately twice the cost of one-gallon plants.

Follow-up Questions

This section contains questions from the third Lake Hodges Community Landscape Committee meeting the project team committed to research and answer.

1. Q. Are the lights illuminating the project site high-pressure sodium lights?
- A. The exterior pump station lights will not be high-pressure sodium lights. Low-pressure sodium, high-intensity discharge lights will be installed to illuminate the project site.
2. Q. Can oak trees be placed on both sides of Lake Drive?
- A. This option will be considered as the final landscape plan is developed.
3. Q. Can a black fabric be placed on the property fence line to help hide the project site?
- A. Black fabric cannot be placed on the fencing, however most of the fencing on the project site will be PVC coated with a color compatible with the surroundings. Posts, barbed wire, and other fence components will be hot dipped in a zinc-coated silver/grey color. The existing fence line surrounding the San Diego Gas & Electric Switchyard will remain in place without any further alterations.
4. Q. Can the 50-car parking lot that will be located near the Lake Hodges windsurfing area be altered to promote more traffic flow?
- A. Altering traffic flow at the parking lot is not feasible because these changes would impact the grading, site drainage, traffic circulation, and present safety concerns.

5. Q. Can walkways be incorporated from the parking lot to the lake?

A. Walkways have been incorporated into the draft landscape design and are defined by the placement of plants between the parking lot and the lake.

6. Q. Can fuchsia-colored indian paintbrush be planted at the parking lot area?

A. This option will be considered as the final landscape plan is developed.

7. Q. Can an irrigation system be placed on the northeast end of the project site?

A. This option will be considered as the final landscape plan is developed.

Conceptual Landscape Design Approval

Molise asked for the committee's consensus on the conceptual landscape design and the committee provided an overall "thumbs-up."

Next Steps

Molise explained that with the conclusion of the third and final Lake Hodges Community Landscape meeting, the landscape architect will start working on the final Lake Hodges Projects Landscape Plan. The project team will be presenting the conceptual landscape design at the next Del Dios Town Council meeting on Wednesday, February 20, 2008. She also stated that the final Lake Hodges Projects Landscape Plan will be presented to the community, once it is complete.

Thank You

Molise thanked everyone for their participation on the Lake Hodges Community Landscape Committee and provided each member with a native California water efficient plant, as a token of appreciation for their contributions and work on the committee.