

**City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department
Tierrasanta Maintenance Assessment District
Open Space Committee Meeting
7 PM Wednesday, February 7, 2013
10371 Matador Court, San Diego CA 92124**

The Tierrasanta MAD Open Space Committee may take action
On any of the following agenda items:

1. Call to Order – Deanna Spehn
2. Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes per person)
3. Report from Chair and Agenda Review – Deanna Spehn
4. Staff Report by Jan Eby, Tierrasanta MAD/Open Space Inspector
 - A. **Budget Status:** Everything is within budget projections.
 - B. **Treebeard Contract** – Routine maintenance continues per contract specifications. We are getting some good rain so controllers are mostly shut off. If we go a couple of weeks without rain and it gets warm, Treebeard is turning them back on based on necessity and newness of plant material and turf sites only. Purchasing has set a pre-bid date for the new contract on February 7. The closing date is February 25. The existing landscape contract with Treebeard expires on April 30. We hope to avoid ‘interims’ month after month, but typically there are protests, etc, and now that the Attorney’s office. Etc. has to evaluate everything before the award; these contracts have not always been awarded in a timely manner... I have also attached the PDF of the contract with this agenda/staff report. See pages 38-44 for Scope of Work, Sites and Service Frequencies. Specifications Unique to this Contract start on page 80. If you have questions about this contract, we can discuss at the meeting or I can get back to you before the meeting. There will be some changes to this version, based on any addendums made. The total hours estimated is listed incorrectly as 22,193. It should be 25,945 instead.
 - C. **Atlas Tree Contract** – Crews have been contacted to schedule Euc and other tree pruning on center medians and row’s on Tierrasanta Blvd. and Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
 - D. **Current and Proposed Special Projects within the Tierrasanta MAD** –
 1. I would like to propose we tackle the ‘turfed’ area behind the pool to improve/enhance that part of the Community Park. We have discussed the problems here with the turf in the past. It fails to grow and thrive despite an adequate irrigation system. Rabbit damage and roots from the euc trees most of the problem... I am proposing we combine the efforts by using both Treebeard and Jon Rynerson/Eagle Rock Environmental for this work. We have used Jon’s company when he was *San Diego Natives* and we hired him to work with Treebeard and rehabilitate the slope on

CMB from the erosion a few years back. The plan would be to: spray out the existing but sparse turf, cut it out after it has died, remove the sod and relocate the soil near the picnic tables to mound up near the trees. The mounds would be planted with Natives that attract wildlife, esp. birds and butterflies. We would delineate/separate the picnic area/tables from the planted area with a Trex header-board and bring in a thick layer of DG to spread in the picnic area, reducing water on the picnic tables and in the trash cans, mowing, weedwhipping, etc. The existing irrigation of the entire area would be revamped to remove the high use turf sprinklers and modified to use bubblers and low water use spray heads. There would be a huge water savings, yet the system would still provide adequate irrigation to the new CA Natives and existing shrubs and trees there. A few boulders and a large load of woodchips would be brought in to provide the finishing touches. We could probably start in March or sooner if I got the Purchase Orders in place and probably be done before the end of April. **2.** We are going to start mulching the center medians and shrub beds in the parks and other open space landscaped areas. **3.** We are installing a new electric pedestal off Santo Rd., near Porto. The old one was falling down. **4.** We will have repaired the large ‘sinkhole’ in the parking lot at the Rec. Center by the Bandstand by the time you are reading this. Treebeard prepped the area and had concrete poured on Thursday January 30. They are also repairing a lifted sidewalk on La Cuenta Drive, south of RoadRunner Park adjacent to one of our maintenance areas. **5.** The new *Dogs on Leash* signs should be ready from the City sign shop soon and we will install them at our parks. **6.** We will be installing 5 Ordnance signs at the direction of the InfoPro folks who are the contractors for the ‘recurring review’ of unexploded ordnance.

- E. **Current and Proposed Herbicide Usage in Tierrasanta MAD – Mike Kelly and team** spent a lot of time in the wetlands area on the westside of Santo Rd. treating the palms, Brazilian peppers and a few pampas grass clumps. More control is necessary in that area. Palms should be dying. Update on Herbicide Contract in New Business.
 - F. **San Diego County Water Authority Access to Mission Trails Regional Park construction site for pipeline work and Flow Regulatory Structure:** Nothing new to report.
 - G. **Update on Status of Current Grants for Work in Tierrasanta MAD:** Nothing new to report.
 - H. **Update on Fire Safe Council/Fire Wise Community Demonstration Garden and Consideration of Future Projects/Actions** Nothing new to report.
5. New Business/Old Business Revisited: Potential Action Items—
- A. **Maintenance of Tierrasanta Parks, Joint Use Sites, Center Islands, Street Rights-of-Way, Improved Open Space and Unimproved Open Space Areas** -- Ongoing per contract. **1.** Treebeard ordered and

brought in infield soil for 5 fields. Little League will spread it on their Feb. 2 workday.

- B. **Friends of Tierrasanta Canyons/SD Canyonlands Events/ Volunteers** - Report on Current Work Projects and Consideration of Future Projects/Actions – 5 owl boxes were installed. **Roberta with updates**
- C. **Tierrasanta Trails Maintenance Program** – Update and Consideration of Future Projects/Actions – **Jerry/Bob/Jan** The trails team is doing a lot of trail hiking and minor pruning and repairs as necessary. I have provided Joel with my preliminary ideas for the Scope of Work for the biologist consultant which includes re-routing existing trails that are not currently very sustainable or maintainable and should be re-aligned and new trails as requested behind Tambor Rd. and up to Cartulina Rd. and then from Cartulina Rd to Zagala/Rueda. I have requested the easement language for the property that intersects the existing trail below Viacha. We will send letters out. The other location that will be assessed is the La Cuenta south area. These trails re-routes or possible 'new' trails cannot violate MSCP or MHPA and biology always takes priority over recreation.
- D. **Neighborhood Code Compliance current and potential cases within the Tierrasanta MAD** – Nothing new to report
- E. **Other** –
 1. **Update on the Band Stand** – The sod, other ornamental plant material and the irrigation system were installed and have already been damaged from what looks to be a bicycle. The fence came down the first week in January. Treebeard applied the 2nd coat of sealer and installed most of the skate stops. Southbay Fence has given us a proposal for a railing. **Lee with more...**
 2. **'Greenbelt' signs** -- Update... I have given the sign guy the go ahead to proceed with the first part of the sign project. With everything going our way, we are hopeful we will have all 8 signs made and installed by end of March if not sooner.
 3. Villa Antigua HOA and Western Tree Service went onto their open space easement property via City property to do tree work to their trees. They did not notify us, accessed thru the gate, let themselves in, dumped chips in the private property drainage area, which could be a storm water pollution issue, left chips in the stream area, covered up Natives with chips, widened the sewer access road to some degree, etc. We are currently trying to ascertain exactly what the violations are and how to deal with this. Private property violations would be handled by NCC. They appear to be minimal. The HOA/Tree company will need to get a right of entry permit to go back in to clean up the mess they left, if we allow them to access City property again. We might make them take everything up the slope. We called them off before they could get it all cleaned up, so there is a lot of cut tree and large native shrub debris left behind. The Easement language on the subdivision maps is fairly specific, but some of it says 'No preservation of natural state' and some of uses language that 'preserves'. Easement

is private. Additionally, much of the language allows them to go in and do what they need to do for maintenance. We have a pretty rough idea of property lines, but I am recommending that we have a survey done in this area so there is no confusion in the future. We will be adding upright wooden posts to the sidewalk area to keep vehicles from jumping the curb. I will update you all with final decisions, etc.

4. The Tree Contract is still in limbo. We will continue using our PO with Atlas until someone tells us differently.
5. The Herbicide Contract work has been stopped and the City said NO! The open space division is going to hire an applicator for open space work and it will be shared 50/50 with the open space staff and the MAD staff who have open space. We will also continue to use Treebeard as we can and can use Kelly and Team until the end of the fiscal year. We can probably still probably use Mike Kelly in a sub-contractor capacity with the new Landscape Contract, as it was spelled out to list a certified, licensed and experienced Pesticide Contractor qualified to control exotic and non-native invasives.
6. A resident off of Collegio has complained about City trees across the street off Via Valarta are shading their solar panels. There a couple of Acts that dictate how this can be handled. Typically if the trees were there before the solar panels were installed, the trees can stay. But this will certainly be something to consider when we plant trees in the future. *If anyone wants the California Solar and Shading Acts, please let me know and I will e-mail the 1 page document to you.*
7. We are experiencing a terrible gopher problem up at Vista Grande. We have to trap them and cannot use poisons but will have to limit it to weekends unless we can put up a fence in the problematic area until control has been achieved. I believe San Unified is going to help. The Principal is not too happy with us killing them, but they are ruining the turf + causing a safety issue with the kids and other field users. The Rec Center staff has been made aware of the issue.
8. Other??

F. Adjournment

For Further Information Please Contact:

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Jan Eby, Grounds Maintenance Manager, Tierrasanta MAD @ 619-685-1354

Future/Tentative Advisory Committee Meeting Dates:

March 6, 2013

April 3, 2013

May 1, 2013

June 5, 2013