

## **Santiago Hills Assessment District Landscape Update**

**January 29, 2019**

The comment period regarding the Trails End maintenance project ended on Monday, January 21. We appreciate the comments and questions sent in. The project will be moving forward.

With rain forecasted towards the end of the week, work will begin this week, prioritized to take advantage of natural rainfall. Anticipated completion is early April. As always, please continue to email [santiagohills@cityoforange.org](mailto:santiagohills@cityoforange.org) or call 714-744-7274 with any questions.

For details about the maintenance project, please visit the Trail's End January Update on the City's website at: <http://www.cityoforange.org/785/Santiago-Hills-Assessment-District>

**January, 7 2019**

Based on feedback received, a maintenance project is being planned to improve the entry way of Trails End to be more aesthetically pleasing and to enhance the neighborhood. The following is a list of proposed improvements that meet the state's water efficiency mandates.

We value your input. If you have questions or comments, please email [santiagohills@cityoforange.org](mailto:santiagohills@cityoforange.org) by January 21, 2019. After feedback has been reviewed, the plan is to schedule improvements to begin the last week of January or early February.

### **Corners of Chapman Ave and Trails End:**

- Plant additional shrubs, creating a fuller look in the open areas with similar plant materials that have successfully grown at Trails End and Skylark.
- Add a new functional element. In an effort to protect the landscape and prevent bicyclists from cutting across the plant material and inhibiting its growth, install lodge pole fencing along both corners of the sidewalk. Proposed fencing will be consistent with the fencing throughout the neighborhood, area and trails. It will be set back 3 feet from the sidewalk. Low growing, durable, green ground cover/shrubs such as Myoporum will be planted in the 3 foot buffer between the sidewalk and fence. Pedestrians will continue to have access to the grass via a 3-4 foot wide mulched pathway at the breaks in the fence line.
- Remove the existing meadow grass and replace with West Coaster tall fescue sod (the same turf at Skylark); footprint of turf will be reduced to allow for more plantings and reduce water use, but will remain accessible for pedestrians and dogs. Sod will be approximately 1,300 square feet at each corner.
- Replace the irrigation to support the new plantings and sod.

### **Sides Along Trails End and Corners of Trails End and White Oak Ridge:**

- Plant additional shrubs, creating a fuller look in the open areas with similar plant materials that have successfully grown at Trails End and Skylark.
- Top dress and overseed the existing meadow grass along parkways and the corners with fescue blend grass seed; once fully established, the turf area will resemble/imitate the West Coaster turf at Skylark and will adapt better to regular mowing (takes approximately 6 months).
- Replace pepper trees on the corners with strawberry trees, consistent with our ongoing tree replacement plan.
- The existing subsurface irrigation will remain.

### **Trails End Median**

- Replace meadow grass with low growing, durable, green ground cover/shrubs such as Myoporum. Mulch will be placed in the densely tree rooted sections that don't allow for plantings to grow successfully.
- The existing subsurface irrigation will remain.

The cost for the improvements is estimated at \$109,000. Labor will be completed under the current maintenance contract and supplies/materials and will be purchased with capital improvement funds.

### **Next Steps:**

Water usage data continues to be tracked across the district and in particular for Skylark. Once Skylark is fully established and water levels normalize, a recommendation to move forward with the next larger landscape renovation projects will be presented at a future community meeting. Until a recommendation can be made on the next large renovation projects, the City will continue to utilize email, the City's website and NextDoor to communicate landscape updates with residents.

All feedback continues to be encouraged and can be sent to [santiagohills@cityoforange.org](mailto:santiagohills@cityoforange.org).

To add an additional email address or be removed from this email list, please send notice to [santiagohills@cityoforange.org](mailto:santiagohills@cityoforange.org). If you would like to speak with staff directly, please call 714-744-7264.