

COV – HMDAC January 11, 2022

Meeting Minutes

Present on the November 2, 2021 call for the City were Rick Navarro, Jason Lacey and James Olson, and **for HMDAC**, Byrne Conley, Chuck Cochongco, Bob Schussel, Ian Forsyth, and Laurie Foster. Landscape architect Brian Kilian also attended.

- We looked at the 65% completed landscape plans for the Parkway. The last phase after this it adding some details for the demolition and site planning.
- There is an issue re drainage from uphill onto the parkway from the adjacent cattle ranch. Brian can see 12 to 18 inches of soil erosion that comes from water runoff on the hillside. The area is on Sheet F in the plans. Aerial pictures show there are v ditches on the hillside in a pattern that likely dates back to the Parkway construction. One issue is whether Brian should design drainage going into the storm drain system to take care of the water runoff. We discussed who was responsible for maintaining, the v-ditches and Public Works staff is going to look into it further – whether maintenance falls on the adjacent owner or maybe flood control. It is likely there is an easement giving either the City or flood control district right to enter and maintain. The question arises whether a 4”-6” drainage pipe should be added to feed water into the storm water system. If so, it might be better to do it now as part of the landscaping project. But, Brian indicated, he is not taking on the engineering function of warranting that adding a drainage pipe would eliminate the problem. He has not surveyed the uphill surface water runoff, for example. It may be that a simple addition of another v-ditch or slight modification from current ditches would fix the problem. Or, maybe some cobblestone could be added to the surface area. Jason Lacey indicated Public Works would look into it further, before a decision is made whether to do anything in the Parkway plan.
- There will be cleanup of grapevines behind the entry fountain; meant to mimic wine grapes initially but now scraggly and not maintained. There was no objection to this; in fact committee members were not aware that was part of the original design since it has been overgrown so long.
- There is an area of wild wisteria. It is overgrown and gone wild. Brian would like to eliminate it and replace it. We noted that it is colorful, especially during wet season, and had no agenda to remove it, but after looking at Google Earth pictures, told Brian to go ahead with his plan to remove them and put in “patio trees” at 25’ intervals instead.
- The trellis over the HB sign which is in disrepair will be removed. The sign will be redone. 75% of the lawn at the front will be removed, except for a buffer strip along the roadway.
- Seasonal flowers will go in at the fountain, monument and miscellaneous areas on the median and Welcome Center. Seasonal colors by the WC.
- Any further comments to be brought back to the City by 1/18/2021.

- On the medians, cobbles will surround light poles, 3"-4" set on a concrete base, minimum 6" depth. Staff feels the ground is solid enough and high enough that this will not require any extensive soil work. Brian will test some areas to see if there are any grading issues.
- Staff will give Brian input on the drainage issue. Expect final documents and going to bid by early March.
- On the **Welcome Center repairs**, the contract was awarded to DMR Builders and is under \$100K but Jason needs to hear back from the City Attorney whether it needs Council approval, where DMR has another contract and there is a question whether it is under or over the threshold requiring a Council vote.
- We were advised that New Image had been awarded the annual maintenance contract.
- We decided to set up another call once final plans are in, and since that date is not known, we will wait and meet again in late February or early March.
- The parties had to break up for other calls so we had to put off discussing the HMD Budget for next fiscal year.