

Santan Landscaping and Mitigation Community Working Group
November 6, 2001
Minutes

Attendance

CWG Members

Richard Andrews	Present
Michael Apergis	Absent, represented by Melissa Apergis
Mark Bauman	Absent, represented by Thomas Baird
Maggie Cathey	Present
Nan Dawson	Present
Marshall Green	Absent, represented by Mark Kwiat
Mark Kwiat	Present
Cathy LaTona	Present
Cathy Lopez	Present
Scott Morrison	Present
George Pettit	Present
Kimberly Pugh	Present

Other Attendees

Randy Dietrich (SRP)
Leah Manbeck (Ten Eyck Landscape Architects)
Mary Orton (The Mary Orton Company)
Dave Wilson (Ten Eyck Landscape Architects)

Audience Attendees

Becky Cooseboom
Dan Waters

Welcome

The eleventh meeting of the CWG was convened on the evening of November 6, 2001 in the Gilbert Municipal Building. Mary announced the proxies.

Approval of Today's Agenda

The CWG approved today's agenda, adding announcements by Randy and some comments on process by Mary.

Announcements

Rail deliveries: Randy reported that he has been informed there would be no rail deliveries at night because of safety issues. He noted that the train would only deliver large parts, and it might be 20 parts for Santan Generating Station.

Boxes on Warner: Randy announced that on the south side of Warner Road, SRP is putting underground a power line. To serve those underground lines, there will be some boxes on the south side of Warner close to the sidewalks that cannot be hidden by foliage or obstructed in any way. He reported that one had been planned to be built directly opposite Key Biscayne, but he succeeded in having it moved 10 feet away.

Circumventing the diesel ban with legislation: On an issue that was raised two meetings ago, Randy reported that he had spoken with both Kelly Barr, head of SRP regulatory affairs who is in frequent contact with the Arizona Corporation Commission

(ACC), and an SRP lobbyist at the State Legislature. He asked them about the concern that SRP was trying to overturn the ACC ban on burning diesel fuel at Santan through legislative action. Neither was aware of such an attempt. However, they did recall that in June this year, there was some concern of rotating blackouts both here and in California. SRP spoke with ACC staff and presented a hypothetical situation: if SRP suffers a natural gas curtailment, and is in a situation where the generators were required to be shut down, what actions did they want SRP to take? Options included seeking a waiver on the diesel fuel ban, cutting power, and simply alerting the regulators at the ACC. The response from ACC staff was that SRP should call them in that event to discuss the matter.

Oleanders on Warner Road: Randy reported that in conjunction with the street widening on Warner Road, the oleanders along the northern edge of SRP property will have to be removed earlier than the screening berm will be built: in January or February 2002. The group generated some ideas to address this problem. Dave said he would look into the idea of moving the temporary ponds behind the oleanders. Randy agreed to put fabric on the relocated fence to block some of the view.

Process Issues

Mary initiated a discussion of adherence to ground rules and the process the group was following. After discussion, the group agreed that if Randy or Dave were responding to a CWG or audience member's comments, they should be called on out of order. The group also agreed that, rather than interrupting a CWG member who has been talking for a long time, Mary should let her or him finish, but then perhaps not call on that person again soon. The group also agreed that they always wanted to have the minutes last on the agenda.

Landscaping Mitigation Plan

Warner Road Consensus/Approval: Dave initiated a discussion of trees along Warner Road. **After discussion, the group came to a consensus that the median trees on Warner Road would include Phoenix date palms, Blue palo verde, and Chinese pistache. They also agreed that there would be additional groupings of five Phoenix date palms within the median.**

Pedestrian Crossing: Dave reported that Gilbert Parks Department is requiring a pedestrian signal at Warner Road at the north end of the trail on the east side of the SRP property. After some discussion, the group agreed to postpone further discussion until Marshall Green, the Finley Farms South representative, could be present.

Landscaping Berm and Buffer: Dave reviewed the plans for the south side of Warner Road, and initiated a discussion of the plant palette for the area.

After discussion, the group agreed that the tree palette for the south side of Warner Road would be Blue palo verde or Palo brea, Mesquite, Chinese pistache, and Sweet acacia, with Aleppo and Mondel pines on top of the berm, and accent Phoenix date palms at the specialty feature across from Key Biscayne.

The CWG briefly discussed lighting on the median and the cost of the berm.

Shrubs and Groundcover for the Median: Dave initiated a discussion on shrubs on groundcover for the Warner Road median. **After discussion, the group agreed that the median shrubs and groundcover would include Gold and Purple lantana, Red yucca, Honeysuckle, Sage, and Jojoba.**

Decomposed Granite for the Median: **After discussion, the group agreed to use one-half inch minus decomposed granite for the Warner Road median, in a red-brown color range, with the CWG to choose the specific color.**

Terrace Walls on the Berm: Dave and Leah distributed boards showing ten different options for the terrace walls on the front of the berm.

After discussion, the group agreed that the terrace walls should not have the look of round rocks – that it should be a “ledgestone” look. The CWG also agreed that the specialty feature would consist of stacked stone or veneer.

The group agreed to discuss the walls outside of the specialty feature after Dave provides information about (a) the costs of the various options, and (b) what the gabions, veneer, and stacked stone would look like at 120 feet.

There was a brief discussion of the sizes of the trees desired by CWG members. Dave reminded the group that the sizes would depend on what is available at the time, regardless of what the group had put in the plan.

Agenda for the Next Meeting

The group agreed that the following items would be on the agenda for the meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 2001:

- Minutes from the 10/23 and 11/01 meetings, at the end of the agenda.
- Pedestrian signal crossing
- Species and sizes
- Terrace wall types
- Perimeter wall
- Waterfall
- DG color samples (early in the meeting)
- Special treatment areas

[Note: this meeting was later changed to November 26, 2001.]

The meeting adjourned.