

# **2023 Landscape and Maintenance Committee**

## **2023 Plan and 2024 – 2028 Five Year Plan**

Developed: September 2023

Adjustments due to Hurricane Ian

### **Executive Summary**

The Landscape and Property Maintenance Committee (the Committee) looks ahead to new and exciting challenges. The work done under our prior plans resulted in community landscaping that is functional, lush, and more beautiful than before. The wide range of projects accomplished helped buffer noise and screen undesirable views on all sides of our community and raised property values for all. This was accomplished with a close eye on the budget.

The sound barrier on west berm needs to be finished, as well as continuing recovery from the hurricane, replacing trees, replacing sod, replacement palms on the West Side as Queen palms die out.

### **Landscape and Maintenance Challenges**

Many challenges remain, and new ones have arisen. These are the foundational requirements on which we base our efforts going forward.

Existing Challenges are as follows:

- Heavy traffic on Veterans Highway
- Increased home building damage and traffic
- Issues with sight lines and noise on West Berm Buffer Zone

New Challenges:

- Continuing damages from the Hurricane
- Improve irrigation on the West Berm Buffer Zone
- Seek remedies for too much water in the Southeast Side Buffer Zone
- Lighting for monuments at corners
- Potential new developments around Cape Royal

### **Landscape Maintenance:**

Significant effort is required to manage the Landscape Maintenance contract to ensure that the work is done well and efficiently.

The ongoing maintenance efforts include:

- Mowing, trimming and treatments for hedges and trees in all common properties.
- Mulching all common areas.
- Irrigation maintenance and repair.
- Replacement of plants, trees and sod as needed.
- Trimming hedge on West Side to maintain a height of 8 feet.

## 2024 Work Plan

2024 is a year that will be focused on maintenance and general improvement of existing landscaping, continuing hurricane recover projects, and lend support to the Board’s projects.

The following efforts are in the plan for 2024:

- Landscape and Irrigation Maintenance activities
- Irrigation improvements on West Berm Buffer Zone
- Update Tree Inventory
- Update Pruning Guide
- Continue plan for plant replacements.
- Lighting for monuments
- Enhance plantings at 4-way
- Install concrete donuts around sprinkler heads on perimeter of Royal Tee Circle.

## 5-Year General Plan

The Committee is creating a new 5-Year Plan to guide our next steps. All activities are prioritized based on the challenges to our community. All plantings are selected based upon size and density (for maximum noise abatement and screening), tolerance of well-drained soil, cold tolerance, a history of success, and aesthetics for our residents.

In addition to the maintenance activities, there is a planned activity chart by year is outlined on the following pages:

2024		
Item	Description	Timing
Replace plants as needed		
3 West Berm Buffer Zones	We currently have 6 total remaining	
Replace Trees		
Ellison Way Project Support		
Install concrete sprinkler donuts along Royal Tee Circle		
Develop plan for re-sodding to begin in 2024		
2025		
Item	Description	Timing
Continue Tree Replacement		
Re-sod areas per plan		
3 West Berm Buffer Zone	This will finalize the sound barrier.	

<b>2026</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Timing</b>
Continue remaining tree replacements		
3 West Berm Buffer Zones	Finish any remaining west buffer zones	
South side Phase 2 plantings depending on development		
Re-sod per plan		
<b>2027</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Timing</b>
Re-sod per plan		
Princess Diana Court Cul de sac garden depending on 4 homes built	Depending on Burrowing Owls	
Continue tree planting		
<b>2028</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Timing</b>
Princess Diana Court Cul de sac garden depending on 4 homes built	Depending on Burrowing Owls	
Re-sod per plan		
Continue tree planting		

**Conclusion**

It is the goal of the Landscape and Property Maintenance Committee to provide functional and beautiful landscapes and monuments to the Cape Royal Community. This plan addresses traffic noise abatement, covering unsightly views, and general aesthetics to make our community even more beautiful and comfortable for our homeowners. It has the added advantage of raising the value of our properties.

The Landscape and Property Maintenance Committee believes this plan provides a realistic and financially paced approach to achieve the landscape design and maintenance we seek in this 5-year period. We will adjust our plan based on currently circumstances.