



# **City of Clayton**

**Trails and Landscape Committee**

**Annual Report 2012-2013**

**Message from the Chair:**

The Trails and Landscape Committee has some new faces for 2013. I'm pleased to announce the addition of three new members to the committee: Don Fitzgerald, Clayton Smith and Ted Sudderth and returning member Bob Steiner. We are only one member shy of the maximum allowed on the TLC. I'm pleased to see that the prior Chair's message for more Claytonians' to serve on this committee has worked!

The new members are eager to roll up their sleeves and provide meaningful contributions to the TLC. I would like to thank Bob Steiner for agreeing to serve another term on the TLC. Bob now holds the distinct honor of being the longest tenured member of the TLC. Bob's leadership has been instrumental in getting me up to speed in my new role as the Chair. We also have a new Vice Chair – Ryan Lowe. I also want to acknowledge Jake Pauline as he has been a significant contributor to the success of the TLC. His leadership will be sorely missed. I'm looking forward to working with the new and existing committee members along with Laura Hoffmeister and Mark Janney to ensure that we all execute on our commitments to the TLC going forward!

The following Annual Report is for the 2012 – 2013 fiscal year. This report contains a detailed account of the expenditures of revenues collected by Measure B. All revenue collected by this measure is used on the Landscape maintenance District (LMD). Measure B required the formation of a Citizen Oversight Board to assure that Measure B funds are being utilized for their intended purpose. The Citizen Oversight Committee is made up of citizens of Clayton that are appointed by the City Council to serve two year terms. The committee will advise the council on LMD projects and maintenance reports review & submit recommendations on future budgets and present an annual report for use by the Council and the citizens of Clayton.

There will be a renewed emphasis on the Adopt-A-Trail program beginning in FY 2013-2014, with new members Ted Sudderth and Don Fitzgerald volunteering to lead the program. This program is designed to attract sponsors (families, individuals or businesses) who either make an annual financial pledge and/or a commitment to supply a work group to augment the efforts of the maintenance staff with regard to trail maintenance on one of eleven (11) trail segments. Posted at the head of each adopted trail is a plaque bearing the name of both the financial and the work-group sponsor. The bi-annual financial sponsorship is \$1,000, while work group sponsorship is \$200 per year.

Regards,  
Larry Casagrande  
Chair

**LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE DISTRICT CELEBRATES ITS SIXTH YEAR:**

The Citywide Landscape Maintenance District (“District”) ended its Sixth year of operation on June 30, 2013. It operates and maintains the public roadway landscaping and its irrigation system, the trail system, and the “Clayton fountain.” It also provides weed abatement and fire breaks in the open spaces. The District does not include any of the city parks/sports fields, the City Hall and Library Landscape , or the downtown Grove Park which are funded by other taxes. Measure B, passed by voters in June 2007, established a Citizens’ Oversight Committee that is commonly known as the Trails and Landscaping Committee (“TLC”) which advises the City Council and staff on matters concerning the District budget, priorities, and responsibilities. The TLC consists of up to eleven 11 non-paid, volunteer citizens of Clayton and the Vice Mayor who serves as the City Council’s non-voting representative in an ex-officio liaison capacity. The TLC currently meets quarterly to oversee the operation of the District.

**2013-2014 TLC MEMBERS:**

Citizens and their respective terms who are currently serving as members of the TLC:

Hank Strafford	(Ex-Officio)
Howard Geller	(Ex-Officio-Alternate)
Larry Casagrande (Chair)	December 2011 - December 2013
Ryan Lowe (Vice Chair)	December 2012 - December 2014
Alyse Smith	December 2011 - December 2013
Robert Erich	December 2011-December 2013
Bob Steiner	June 2012 – December 2014
Anthony Chippero	June 2011 - December 2013
Don Fitzgerald	December 2012 – December 2014
Harun Simbirdi	June 2011 – December 2013
Clayton Smith	December 2012 – December 2014
Ted Sudderth	December 2012 – December 2014

### TLC Recommendations, Projects, and Work Product Review 2012-2013

- ✓ TLC regularly receives and reviews reports on maintenance staff activities see attached City Maintenance Quarterly Report Update covering the periods: 5/21/12-11/19/12, 11/19/12-3/25/13, and 3/25/13-5/20/13. Some of the more significant issues in the reports include, but were not limited to:
  - Acknowledged that the landscape project along the Clayton Road median from Mitchell Canyon Road to Oakhurst Drive is completed, as well as Daffodil hill.
  - Removal of trees in the open space that were causing damage or were a danger to residential property, in the areas of Stranahan, Mitchell Canyon and Bigelow.
  - The on-going management and repair of the entire irrigation system within the Landscape District.
  - A new four year contract with a private contractor for weed abatement and fire control.
  - Status report regarding the energy efficiency of the Clayton Fountain Water Feature pumps.
- ✓ Re-enforced the committee's commitment to expanding the Adopt-A-Trail program.
- ✓ Reviewed Incoming and outgoing correspondence between citizens and staff regarding various concerns and observations relating to landscaping and trail issues.
- ✓ Reviewed and approved the proposed landscape district budget for FY 2012-2013.
- ✓ Once again, complimented the City Maintenance staff for the commendable job they do in effectively managing the available water supply and the maintaining the entire irrigation system.

**ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM:**

The Adopt-a-Trail program continues to improve with TLC members working as volunteers to support the effort. The program aims to:

- Augment financing provided by Measure B
- Make the trails cleaner
- Celebrate the trails' sponsors and volunteers
- Foster civic pride through volunteerism, philanthropy, and cleanliness

The TLC has identified several trail segments for adopt. Each segment can have two adopters: a financial adopter and clean-up adopter.

*Please see the APPENDIX section of this report for a current listing of adopters.*

**TLC RECOMMENDS BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 TO CITY COUNCIL:**

The TLC submitted a proposed budget to the City Council, which was based on the existing FY 2012-2013 assessment, subject to adjustment by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), but capped to a 3% maximum increase per Measure B. Subsequently, the CPI was published at an increase of 2.1% and in July 2012, the City Council adopted a total annual assessment of \$955,711 encompassing all residential parcels or non-residential parcel acre. *A copy of the adopted budget and further explanation of Fund 210 is included in the APPENDIX section of this report.*

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH:**

Both the TLC and the District continue to reach out to the public to keep citizens informed of their activities in a variety of ways, which include:

- Inviting the public to attend quarterly TLC meetings
- Requesting comments and questions via email to [cityinfo@ci.clayton.ca.us](mailto:cityinfo@ci.clayton.ca.us)
- Posting meeting minutes at the City website at [www.ci.clayton.ca.us](http://www.ci.clayton.ca.us)
- Presenting summaries of TLC meetings at City Council meetings
- Publishing quarterly reports of maintenance staff activities
- Submitting articles about the District to the Clayton Pioneer newspaper

[Thanks to the Clayton Pioneer newspaper for publishing articles about the activities relating to Clayton's trails and landscaping. The articles, which appeared during the last fiscal year, are included in the *APPENDIX* section of this report].

**APPENDIX**

- 2012-2013 Budget
- City Wide Landscaping Maintenance District Fund No. 210
- City Maintenance Quarterly Report(s) - Trails and Landscaping
- Adopt a Trail Sponsors
- Articles published in the *Clayton Pioneer* during fiscal year 2012-2013
- Trails and Landscape Committee Informational brochure

City of Clayton  
 Landscape Mtn District CFD 2007-1 Fund 210  
 Estimated Budget 2012/13

Account Number	Account Name	2010-11 Actual 6/30/2011	2011-12 Adopted Budget	2011-12 Projected 6/30/2012	2012-13 Proposed Budget
7111	Salaries/Regular	192,088	162,632	162,632	162,632
7112	Temporary Help	67,947	94,150	94,150	94,150
7218	LTD Insurance	1,182	1,057	955	1,138
7220	PERS Retirement	38,167	95,592	95,592	96,888
7231	Workers Comp Insurance	6,827	2,679	2,879	9,966
7232	Unemployment Insurance	4,980	6,999	6,988	5,449
7233	FICA and Medicare	8,823	9,561	9,561	9,561
7246	Benefit Insurance	37,021	31,176	31,175	31,175
7311	General Supplies	33,441	40,000	40,000	43,000
7316	Landscape Replacement Material	-	20,000	20,000	20,000
7335	Gas & Electric Serv.	25,525	29,000	24,000	25,000
7338	Water Service	127,291	180,000	180,000	180,000
7342	Machinery/ Equip Maint.	14,807	9,000	9,000	9,500
7343	Vehicle Maintenance	8,331	8,334	12,464	12,000
7344	Vehicle Gas, Oil, and Supplic	12,140	9,000	10,000	10,500
7381	Property Tax Admin Cost	3,737	3,737	3,737	3,737
7412	Engineering Inspection	1,425	-	1,423	-
7418	Other Prof. Services	106,887	141,181	141,367	156,555
7486	CERF Charges/Depreciation	12,836	13,500	13,800	13,500
7620	Project/Program costs	277,702	330,000	478,111	-
7615	Property Taxes	2,332	2,370	2,388	2,398
8101	Transfer to General Fund	28,918	30,756	30,756	30,756
8111	Transfer to CIP Fund	-	50,000	50,000	-
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,011,865</b>	<b>1,210,723</b>	<b>1,358,508</b>	<b>857,885</b>

4604	Clayton LMD Assessment	910,571	936,064	936,064	855,711
5601	Interest	18,712	5,000	8,000	5,000
5606	Unrealized Inv Gain/Loss	(5,000)			
	<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>924,283</b>	<b>941,064</b>	<b>944,064</b>	<b>860,711</b>
	<b>Annual Balance (Shortfall)</b>	<b>(87,582)</b>	<b>(269,669)</b>	<b>(414,454)</b>	<b>102,826</b>
	<b>Beginning Fund Balance</b>	<b>617,163</b>	<b>529,581</b>	<b>529,581</b>	<b>115,127</b>
	<b>Ending Fund Balance</b>	<b>529,581</b>	<b>259,912</b>	<b>115,127</b>	<b>217,953</b>

Account Number	Account Name	2010-11 Actual 6/30/2011	2011-12 Adopted Budget	2011-12 Projected 6/30/2012	2012-13 Proposed Budget
7419	Wildland Resource Mgmt	46,550	1,600	1,600	1,600
	Envirotech Enterprises	44,708	53,416	53,416	53,416
	Warner Brothers -Tree trimming	15,300	15,000	15,000	15,000
	Warner Bros Svc 1 x per yr+2 x trails	30,385	35,000	35,000	35,000
	NBS Admin Fees+Dol letters	3,868	3,624	3,800	3,800
	Martel Water Systems	475	1,000	1,000	1,000
	Rodent Control	8,151	7,500	7,500	7,500
	Advertising for TEMP labor/Live Scene	146	1,000	1,000	2,000
	Sprayer Sales Company (w/ treatment)		2,241	2,241	2,241
	Water Feature Extra + repair contingency	1,157	5,000	5,000	5,000
	Water Feature \$850x12	7,800	7,800	7,800	7,800
	Sub Division/City Entry Signs	-	8,000	8,000	8,000
	Daffodil Hill Landscape Min Supplies/water	-	-	-	12,830
	EBRCSA-Radio Min PW radio's	-	-	-	1,368
	<b>Total</b>	<b>188,540</b>	<b>141,181</b>	<b>141,387</b>	<b>198,656</b>
7311	Herbicides		16,000	16,000	16,000
	Fertilizer		7,000	7,000	7,000
	Irrigation		15,000	15,000	15,000
	Misc Supplies		2,000	2,000	5,000
			<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>43,000</b>
7520	Reserve Projects				
	Trail Resurface - Bruce Lee Trail \$50k		50,000.00		
	Trail Crack sealing/repair \$10k		10,000.00		
	CL Rd Median/Roadway Re-Landscape \$328,011k		328,011.00		
	Irrigation Central Controller System \$30k		30,000.00		
	Tree Replacement Trimming \$10k		10,000.00		
	Jeffrey Ranch Re-landscaping \$2.5K		2,500.00		
	Keller Ridge Tree Replacement \$16.6K		16,600.00		
	Daffodil Hill \$29k		29,000.00		
			<b>476,111.00</b>		

Extra to run pump for fountain  
10 events (31 days @ \$100=\$4000.)  
Art n Wins, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Halloween Parade/Ghost Walk, Veterans Day, Xmas Tree Lighting,  
Presidents Day, Thanksgiving, Garden Tours, Oktoberfest



Citywide Landscape Maintenance District — Fund No. 210

In June 2007, Clayton voters approved a replacement real property special tax to continue funding the operation and maintenance of their citywide public landscaped areas. This annual tax is restricted to costs associated with: arterial and specified roadway medians and parkways, the trails system, the annual open space noxious weed abatement in Oakhurst hills, the annual open space and trails weed abatement for fire and public safety, landscape and turf irrigation and the monthly maintenance and special occasion operation of the "Clayton Fountain".

Maintenance of City Parks *is not* included as an authorized expense under the District's Act; park maintenance obligations fall to the City's General Fund. *Citywide public landscaping services have always been funded by a special revenue tax levied on private properties throughout the City.* The District is completing its 5th year of a 10-year approved operation (Measure B), and its citizens' oversight committee (Trails and Landscaping Committee, or TLC) meets periodically to ensure the promised maintenance standards and efficiencies are achieved with these special-purpose tax revenues.

Pursuant to the terms of voter-approved Measure B, the special tax rate may be modified annually by the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI; San Francisco —Bay Area) from April to April. In no event shall the tax rate be increased by more than 3% each year. The CPI change (from April 2011 to April 2012) posted at 2.1%. The District's revenue projection has been increased by that factor accordingly and is set at a total of \$955,711 for FY 2012-13, an annual increase of \$19,657. Adding the interest earnings of \$5,000 pushes the total revenue budget to \$960,711. Pursuant to its oversight charge, the citizens' TLC considered the CPI change and the District's budget at its meeting on May 21st and adopted a motion to recommend the City Council implement the 2.1% CPI annual rate adjustment.

The Landscape Maintenance District has aggressively been installing improvements to the City's roadway landscaping over the course of the past two (2) years. An accounting of the District's activities and improvements is listed below, which included appropriations from the District's reserves in May 2010 (\$260,000) and more recently to fund the Clayton Road Median Project, complete the beautification of Daffodil Hill, and install plants in the terraced walls west of the CVS Pharmacy:

a. Oakhurst Drive decorative pavers in narrow medians plus plants (done)	\$ 70,000
b. Tree replacements on Keller Ridge Drive (partially complete)	\$ 16,600
c. Deferred Tree Trimming (done)	\$ 20,000
d. Clayton Fountain renovation and replanting project (done)	\$ 70,000
e. Restore plants: Oakhurst Dr., old Marsh Creek Rd., Clayton Rd. (partia1)	\$ 45,000
f. Marsh Creek Circle replanting/headlight glare mitigation (done)	\$ 19,400
g. Replant Jeffry Ranch Court island (not done yet)	\$ 2,500
h. Clayton Road Median Re-Landscaping Project (under progress)	\$263,072
Completion of Daffodil Hill Beautification Project (under progress)	\$ 22,250

CVS Terrace Retaining Wall Landscaping (under progress)	\$ 27,640
i. Trail Resurfacing, remainder of Bruce Lee Trail (with Street Project)	\$50,000
l. Master Remote Computer Controller for all irrigation Systems (not yet)	\$ 30,000
m. Trail Crack-Sealing and Minor Repairs (with Street Project)	\$ 10,000
n. Tree Replacement and Trimming (in progress)	<u>\$ 10,000</u>
Total:	\$656,462

The installation and commencement of these significant landscape restoration and District improvement projects illustrate the success of the District in managing the voter's preference for a "pay-as-you-go" ballot tax measure. The defeated Measure "0" (2005) would have issued a revenue bond in its initial year to attack the public improvements sooner but conservative Clayton voters disliked the higher annual assessment and the bonded indebtedness of the District. Entering the District's 6th year of operation has allowed the accumulation of reserves to accomplish many of the same objectives, just slightly later than some might have wished.

Noteworthy expenses of the District include its annual weed abatement Citywide (\$35,000 before the fire season), and a huge expense of \$53,416 to abate noxious and exotic weeds in the Oakhurst Hills (a condition of project approval for the Oakhurst residential development). Metered water service is left at its historical expense of \$180,000 per year yet it can fluctuate wildly depending on seasonal climates and strange weather patterns. However, as landscaping improvements are installed they are accompanied by irrigation system upgrades and efficiencies in irrigation, which temper this expense allocation and cause operational savings.

Personnel services for this labor-intensive work accounts for 40% of the District's budget this year (\$350,939), up 10% from last year's portion of 30% caused by increases in employee pension system rates, workers' compensation rates, and the amount of time the crews spend on District tasks. Whenever possible, tasks within the District are assigned to temporary seasonal personnel that are less expensive labor (e.g. trimming), which shifts the permanent City Maintenance personnel (5) to activities requiring journeyman-level experiences (e.g. irrigation line and system repairs).

As approved by Measure "B" voters, the District's budget includes an annual expense of \$20,000 (Account 7316) for the purchase of replacement plants. The District also contributes its annual allocation of \$13,500 to the City's Capital Equipment Replacement Fund (CERF), from which Maintenance vehicles and equipment are purchased for use in maintaining the Landscape District. An expense of \$31,402 (3.6% of annual District revenue) is transferred to the City's General Fund to pay for administration and overhead activities of the City (e.g. telephones; payroll processing; accounts receivable and payable; District direction) attributable to the District's annual operations.

Consistent with the District's stated mission to maintain and improve the Landscape District, it is recommended we continue our aggressive program to further enhance the appearance and sustainability of the District's plants and landscaping. Given the magnitude of previously-assigned landscape improvement projects and tasks noted above that remain incomplete, no monies from the District are proposed for transfer this year to the City's Capital Improvement Project Budget. This fact should not be misconstrued that no additional projects or improvement ideas for the

District are forthcoming; rather, it is a tacit admission the District needs to finish previously-prioritized projects before undertaking new improvements.

With all of these actions, the District's ending fund balance on 30 June 2013 will still be a healthy \$217,307, which equates to a reserve of 23% of its annual tax revenue. The reserve status is confirmation the City does not siphon "surplus" monies of the District into its General Fund but uses the special tax revenues for its intended purposes.

-END-

## WORK UPDATE TRAILS & LANDSCAPING

5/21/12 to 11/19/12

- Spot spray herbicides and pull weeds in the Landscape District Citywide
- Turn off all irrigation systems in the Landscape District. Over the past summer made numerous repairs to the irrigation system within the Landscape District. The problems we're seeing are from maturing trees crushing pipes to parts failing because of an aging system. These problems will only get worse as time passes and will use up more man hours and resources to keep the systems operating.
- The Landscape project along Clayton Road median from Mitchell Canyon Road to Oakhurst Drive was completed along with Daffodil Hill.
- Had a major irrigation failure (a threaded ninety cracked at the control valve) at the Clayton Water Fountain at the beginning of July which flooded the pump vault. The water caused major damage to some of the relays and the filter pump that needed replacement. All in all it could have been much worse; we were able to dry out the majority of the electrical parts. Now all systems are up and working for the Water Fountain.
- The Clayton Entry signs were taken in to the original artist that constructed them and refurbished over the summer. They have been returned and rehung; he is now working on the informational signs that hang under the Entry signs. Also the City commissioned for him to make a spare entry sign in case one of the two get damaged beyond repair in the future.
- Continued our semi-annual trimming of the Landscape over the summer along Oakhurst Drive, Clayton Road, Marsh Creek Road, and along neighborhood streets. Still have the medians and part of Clayton Road to complete for a full trim cycle.
- Crack seal portions of the trail along El Molino Drive (Donner Creek)
- Removed trees in the open space that were causing damage or were a danger to resident property. The areas were Stranahan, Mitchell Canyon, and Bigelow



## QUARTERLY REPORT UPDATE TRAILS & LANDSCAPING 11/19/12 to 3/25/13

- Spot spray herbicides and pull weeds in the Landscape District Citywide. Also applied pre-emergent to the Landscape Citywide.
- Started to turn on Irrigation systems in the Landscape District over the past few weeks. Over the winter months made numerous repairs to the irrigation system within the Landscape District. The problem we continue to see is from maturing trees crushing pipes to parts like valves failing because of an age. These problems will only get worse as time passes and will use up more man hours and resources to keep the systems operating.
- Water Fountain had more electrical problems with the main panel needing replacement that feeds all the electricity to the Fountain. After this was repaired we found the Geyser Pump had failed so the pump motor was replaced with a higher energy efficient one. See staff report that was given to the Clayton City Council in your packet for more information on the pumps and their energy usage.
- The Clayton Entry signs now have the new and refurbished informational signs rehung underneath them, completing the entry signs.
- Continued our semi-annual trimming of the Landscape over the winter along Oakhurst Drive, Clayton Road, Center Street, and trimming some of the Crape Myrtle trees.
- Removed trees in the open space that were causing damage or were a danger to residential property on East Myrick Court. Also did sight trimming along Clayton Road at Mitchell Canyon Road for the signal.
- Lower the flood lights for the downtown informational signs so they will be less prone to vandalism.
- Replace the 8 tulip trees that had died in the Clayton Road median by the Westwood subdivision with 8 new Sycamore trees.



## **MAINTENANCE WORK UPDATE TRAILS & LANDSCAPING**

**March 25, 2013– May 20, 2013**

- Spot spray herbicides and pull weeds in the Landscape District Citywide.
- Continued to turn on Irrigation systems in the Landscape District. Crews are repairing the irrigation system from major replacement of valves to replacing sprinkler heads within the Landscape District.
- Continued our semi-annual trimming of the Landscape over the last month along Oakhurst Drive in the median, downtown area, and along Clayton Road by Westwood subdivision.
- Removed trees in the open space that were causing damage or were a danger to residential property on Stranahan Circle. Also did trimming along Eagle Peak Drive from Oakhurst Drive to Miwok Way of deadwood from the Ash trees and thinned the plum trees.
- Enter into a new four year contract for the Weed abatement (for fire) with Warner Bros. Tree Service. Work has started with a June 7 forecasted finish to all the abatement work. City crews have also started the Cities part of the weed abatement using the Cities tractor.
- The upgrades to a center irrigation system continued with the installation of a base radio at the Maintenance offices and upgrades to the field to the DX controllers.

Adopt a Trail updated as of 6/30/13

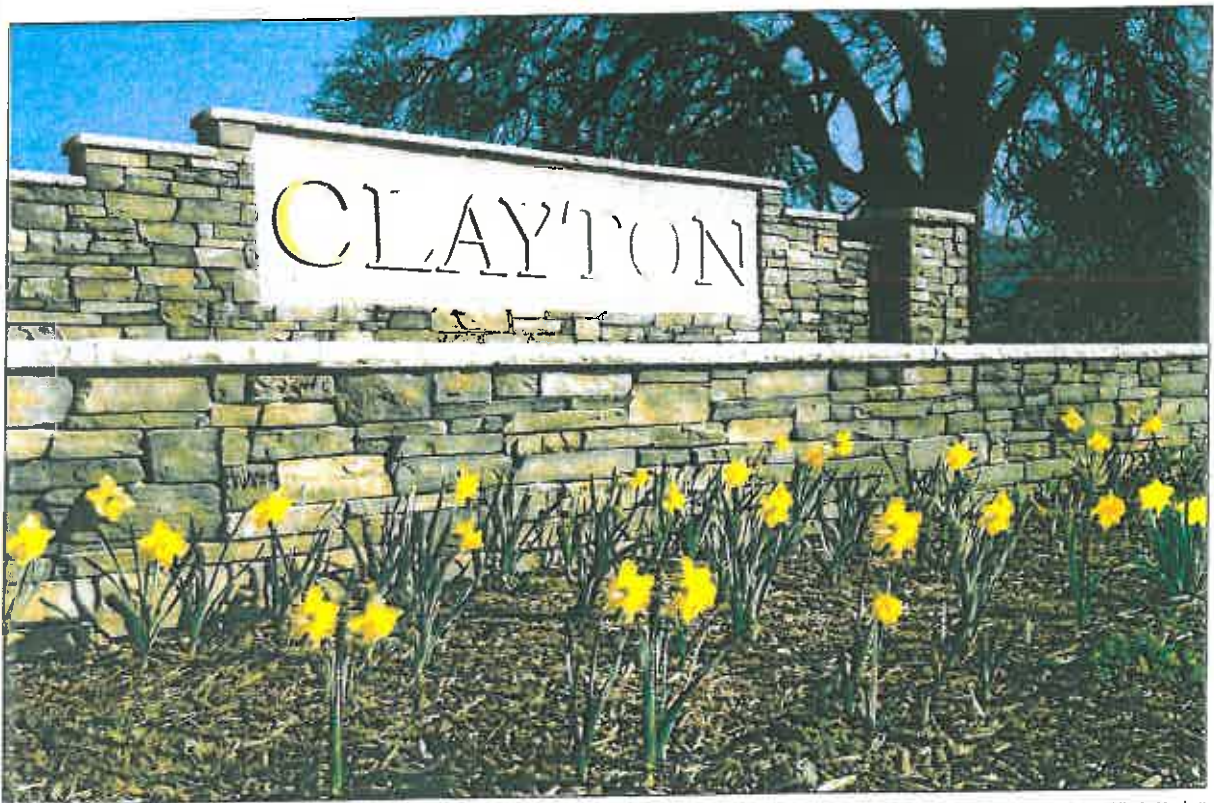
**Adopters/Revenues**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Sponsor Type</u>	<u>Trail Section</u>	<u>Amount Recvd</u>	<u>Date \$ Recvd</u>	<u>Ag. recvd</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>	<u>current status</u>
Pauline Family Black Diamond Electric	Volunteer Labor Financial	Cardinet Trail (Liberty - Lydia Ln Pk) Cardinet Trail (Liberty - Lydia Ln Pk)	\$200 \$1000	2/1/2011 2/1/2011	Yes	3/1/2011 3/1/2011	3/1/2012 3/1/2012	expired expired
Passport2Clayton (P2C) Passport2Clayton (P2C)	Volunteer Labor Financial Sponsor	Bruce Lee Trail (Upper Easley Trail) Bruce Lee Trail (Upper Easley Trail)	\$200 \$1000	2/1/2011 2/1/2011	Yes	3/1/2011 3/1/2011	3/1/2012 3/1/2012	expired expired
Employees of CD Federal Credit Union Discovery Builders	Volunteer Labor Financial Sponsor	Blue Oak Trail Blue Oak Trail	\$200 \$1000	2/9/2011 2/17/2011	Yes	3/1/2011 3/1/2011	3/1/2012 3/1/2012	expired expired
Siegel Family Diablo Ford	Volunteer Labor Financial Sponsor	Lower Easley Trail Lower Easley Trail	\$200 \$1000	2/1/2011 2/1/2011		3/1/2011 3/1/2011	3/1/2012 3/1/2012	expired expired
Dan Pauline Bammister Electric	Volunteer Labor Financial Sponsor	Cardinet Trail (Lydia Ln Pk - Westwood Pk) Cardinet Trail (Lydia Ln Pk - Westwood Pk)	\$200 (from CBCA) \$1000	2/1/2011 8/7/2009	Yes	3/1/2011 3/1/2011	3/1/2012 3/1/2012	expired expired

<u>Available</u> <u>Available</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>Adopt a Trail Expenses</b>	
Date	Amount
3/8/2009	\$219.00
4/17/2009	\$1527.34
6/23/2009	\$98.87
6/30/2009	\$289.51
8/9/2009	\$595.15
8/9/2009	\$10.93
5/14/2010	\$200.00
8/31/2011	\$10.82
8/31/2011	\$209.35
8/31/2011	\$1116.80
11/30/2011	\$3305.98
11/30/2011	\$437.00
12/30/2011	\$697.00
Total Expenses to date	\$8717.75
<b>Donations</b>	
Renewal and New as of 3/1/11	\$5050
Prior balance	\$4200
	\$9250

6/30/2013 Account Balance: \$9250-\$8715.75 = \$532.25

# Daffodil Hill blooms again



Nicole Hockett

**A COMMUNITY-WIDE LANDSCAPING EFFORT** of the city's gateway at Marsh Creek and Clayton Roads is paying off this month with the return of the daffodils – a sure sign that spring has arrived. The \$60,000 project nurtured by the Clayton Valley Garden Club and financed by the city of Clayton and a grant from the Clayton Business and Community Association was completed last fall when the Garden Club planted more than 200 daffodil bulbs, a tradition that began sometime around 2000 and gave the hill its nickname.



## Trails and Landscape Committee revs up Adopt-a-Trail program

This year, in addition to their regular responsibilities, the Trails and Landscape committee has agreed to place additional emphasis on the Adopt-a-Trail program. This program is designed to attract sponsors (families, individuals or businesses) who either make an annual financial pledge and/or a commitment to supply a work group to augment the efforts of the maintenance staff with regard to trail maintenance on one of our eleven (11) trail segments. Posted at the head of each adopted trail is a plaque bearing the name of both the financial and the work-group sponsor. The annual financial sponsorship is \$1,000, while work group sponsors pay \$250 per year.

### ADVISORS TO CITY COUNCIL

A provision of Measure B requires the city council to appoint an oversight committee to help the city implement the voter approved plan, and to manage the current and future needs of the LMD. The eleven person committee is directly responsible for compiling and submitting, annually, to the City Council, a report including, but not limited to, a review and comments on the district's annual operating budget, a review of the detailed Quarterly Maintenance Reports submitted by the City's maintenance staff, as well as any recommendations the committee believes are relevant, and in the best interest of the city's trails and landscaping activities.

The volunteers serving on this committee are appointed by, and serve as advisors to, the



**NEWLY APPOINTED MEMBERS** of the City of Clayton's Trails and Landscape Committee (Citizens Oversight Committee).  
Standing - Clayton Smith, Larry Casagrande (Chair), Ryan Lowe (Vice Chair), Ted Sudderth, Don Fitzgerald. Seated - Robert Erich, Bob Steiner, Alyse Smith, Anthony Chippero

City Council in matters relating to the activities covered by the public Landscaping and Maintenance District (LMD). The LMD was formed in 2007 by the passage of Measure B, and

is funded by a special 10-year parcel tax.

*Anyone interested in participating in the Adopt-a-Trail program please contact Chairperson, Larry Casagrande at (925) 693-0073.*

# CLAYTON PIONEER - July 26, 2013

## Letters to the Editor

Kudos to city

It occurred to me while I was walking on one of our fabulous trails that someone needs to be thanked for all the "mowing" of the weeds etc. that need constant maintenance. I was watching the guys who were trimming the trees along Clayton Road and wondering if they ever get the thanks they deserve. And a big shout-out to the people who drive the street sweepers and pick up our garbage! Thanks to all of you who make Clayton the best place in the world to live! You are appreciated!

Alexandria Lafferty

## CLAYTON'S TRAILS & LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE (TLC)

Formed by the Clayton City Council in August 2007.

Comprised of up to 11 volunteer members of the Clayton community.

Helps the city implement the voter-approved plan to manage the current and future needs of the citywide Landscape Maintenance District.

Helps to manage and support Clayton's Adopt-A-Trail program.



Serves as a financial oversight committee and provides short and long term implementation guidance to city staff and the City Council.

The Landscape Maintenance District consists of roadway edges and roadway median landscaping, trail maintenance, and fire abatement on trails and open space (city parks and the Clayton fountain operation are not included in the district).

Funds can only be used for spending within the Landscape Maintenance District.

## GET INVOLVED!

The Trails and Landscape Committee meets quarterly on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7pm at the Clayton Library.

Clayton residents are encouraged to attend these meetings to provide public opinion and ask questions.

Meeting agendas are posted online; City web site at [www.ci.clayton.ca.us](http://www.ci.clayton.ca.us)

Printed copies at:

City Hall, 9600 Heritage Trail,  
Clayton Library, 925 Clayton Road,  
Olm's Bulletin Board, 1026 Diablo St.

Please direct any questions or concerns to the City of Clayton via the website or address above.



## 2013 Trails & Landscape Committee Members

Larry Casagrande (chair)

A.J. Chipreux

Robert Elich

Don Fitzgerald

Ryan Lowe (Vice Chair)

Harun Sim Midl

Alayne Smith

Clayton Smith

Bob Stanger

and Spahrath



Trails & Landscape Committee  
2013

## THE LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE DISTRICT: CLAYTON'S "FRONT YARD"

- The Landscape Maintenance District covers:
- over 2 million square feet of landscape
  - 40,700 square feet of lawns and flowerbeds
  - Almost 3,000 city trees
  - 515 acres of open space
  - 7 miles of creek side trails
  - 20 miles of open space trails
  - Approximately 50 street islands and medians

The District uses the equivalent of only three full time staff along with seasonal and volunteer workers

### HOW IS THE DISTRICT FUNDED?

Measure B, a special 10-year special parcel tax, passed by Clayton voters in June 2007 funds the District

Measure B is the only source of funding for the Landscape District supplies, electricity, irrigation, water, and labor

Funds may only be used for voter approved Landscape District expenses

## Trails & Landscape Committee

### ADOPT-A-TRAIL

If you are one of the many Clayton residents that enjoy our trail system you can further help the Landscape Maintenance District and beautify Clayton's trails by adopting a Trail

This program aims to:

- Augment financing provided by Measure B
- Provide a venue for volunteers that help Clayton maintain and enhance its trail network
- Make the trails cleaner
- Celebrate the sponsors and volunteers that help Clayton keep the trail network one of the distinguishing characteristics of our community
- Foster civic pride through volunteerism, philanthropy, and cleanliness

If you are interested in participating in this program or would like additional information please contact Ted Sudderth at [tsd100@aol.com](mailto:tsd100@aol.com)



### TLC's STRATEGIC FOCUS

- Remove unwanted expenditures and control costs with strict oversight
- Create equity in the District
- Implement cost effective measures to improve irrigation and infrastructure
- Invest in modern equipment to increase maintenance efficiency and effectiveness
- Implement seasonal and situational based labor to minimize costs

### STANDARDS & PRIORITIES FOR THE DISTRICT

- Mandatory firebreaks
- Woods trimmed along major trails and creeks twice a year
- Trunks trimmed for safety purposes
- Irrigation breaks repaired as necessary
- Public roadway landscaping trimmed twice a year
- Landscape areas fertilized once a year as necessary