

Memorandum

To: Mayor Andrew Gilich
Jerry Creel, Director of Community Development
Eric Nolan, Arborist
City Council Members
Mike Leonard, CAO
City Councilmembers

From: City Of Biloxi Tree Committee
Carroll Campbell, Chair (5)
James "Bernie" Marinovich, Vice-Chair (6)
Tracy Wyman, Secretary (3)
Matt Dubaz (2)
Robin Rodolfich (1)
Geneva Dummer (4)
Brian Lamar (7)

Date: October 3, 2018

Re: Biloxi Tree Committee Recommendations for Nature's Trails Phase 2 – TR-004

The Tree Committee has reviewed the site plan for Nature's Trail Phase 2. The developer proposes removal of 142 trees and mass grading of the site to allow for relatively flat building surfaces. The Tree Committee appreciates the developer's proposal of planting a 30-gallon Live Oak on each lot, as well as two-30-gallon Live oaks on each corner lot, which would partially fulfill mitigation requirements, and create a nice shaded street over the years. With this in mind, the Tree Committee recommends the following:

1. Due to the good health and significant size of some of the trees proposed for removal, the Tree Committee would like to see efforts toward retaining the larger Live Oaks on the site, especially the 36" and 32" live oaks that lie opposite each other on the two lots at Station 6+00, and the 52" live oak on the far west side of the site near Station 1+00. To accomplish this, the Tree Committee requests a revised grading plan showing these trees are to remain and be protected.
2. The Developer is to mitigate for all trees proposed for removal to full mitigation requirements of the LDO. To clarify: this permit is for the removal of 124 protected (specimen) trees, which would require 372 trees to be planted to mitigate for this loss.
3. Mitigation Recommendations: The Tree Committee recommends a mix of live oak, southern magnolia, and bald cypress to be planted as buffer between lots, and at backs of lots to connect patches of green space, in addition to the Developer's proposal of Live Oaks at the front of each regular lot and two at the front of each corner lot. If infrastructure permits, trees could also line the entrance from Lorraine Rd. Additionally, a new neighborhood park within this development would provide an excellent site for replacement tree planting, while also benefitting the health and well-being of residents, and potentially add to property values.

4. Tree Committee requests information / results of tree mitigation plantings and location/use of wetland mitigation site. This information will aid the Tree Committee in documenting mitigation and serve as a public relations tool, providing relevant information of interest to the public.
5. The City should require the Applicant to provide a plan for tree protection during construction.