

**Rancho Santa Fe Association
Golf Course and Trail Tree Removal and Replacement
Golf Course Tree Planting Plan Phase 2**

BACKGROUND

At the September 2, 2021, RSF Association Board meeting, a Golf Course and Trail Tree Removal and Replacement proposal was presented and approved. This initiative established a four-phase strategy to provide a comprehensive approach to trees on the golf course and the trails surrounding the golf course.

THE ISSUE

The Association has received numerous complaints regarding removal and loss of trees on the golf course and the surrounding trail system prior to and during the golf course renovation project . The Association owns the property and the Golf Club is responsible for development and maintenance of the course on the property. Due to the joint responsibility for the property, the Association and the Golf Club have taken steps to define a process to preserve and evaluate trees on the golf course as part of a collaborative effort defined and implemented during Phase 1. In an effort to address concerns over the loss of trees, the Association Board is committed to taking further steps to intelligently plant trees to:

- Offer a superior golfing experience and enhance the course,
- Provide additional shade and aesthetics on surrounding trails,
- Beautify the landscape for neighboring property owners, and
- Replace trees as they decline due to age, disease or drought.

THE PROPOSAL

Phase 2 – Develop for Board approval, a Tree Replanting Plan consisting of the following components:

1. The Board will appoint the Tree Replacement Planning Group (TRPG) to develop a plan for replanting trees on the golf course and surrounding trails. The plan will include type, location and maturity of all recommended trees and a planting schedule.
 - The planning group shall comprise a collaborative team of representatives from the Association staff, Golf Club staff, Greens Committee, Trails Committee, FHPC Committee and others.

- Landscape design professionals, including golf landscape/architectural professionals, shall also be consulted as the plan is developed.
 - Workshops will be conducted early in the planning process to gather input from members who belong to the Golf Club, members with properties adjoining the golf course, and members at large.
 - A senior member of the Association staff will lead the planning group.
 - Quarterly updates to the Golf Club and the Association Board will be scheduled with more frequent reporting if needed.
 - Initial discussions and planning shall proceed on a schedule determined by the Association Manager based on available resources.
2. With input from the TRPG and membership, Staff will develop a plan for the replacement/replanting project, to be presented to the Board and community for comment and approval. The plan will include recommended trees and locations, estimated costs, recommended cost-sharing, and a proposed schedule. The process includes:
- Continued workshops with stakeholders to socialize plans as they evolve.
 - Conceptual plans for Art Jury review.
 - A cost analysis study and identification of funding sources.
 - Timelines based on funding and other factors.
 - Plan approval from the appropriate authorities.

COST IMPACT

The costs for this phase will be limited to consultants' time. An estimate for these costs has not yet been developed. It is recommended the consultant fees be funded 50% by the Association and 50% by the Golf Club.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the proposal for Phase 2 as presented.