

**Conservatory Metropolitan District  
Community Update  
August 2020**

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*As part of its ongoing effort to keep residents apprised of current matters before the Board of Directors of the Conservatory Metropolitan District (the "District"), the Board intends to provide periodic updates to the community. The information contained herein is only a brief summary, and residents are encouraged to attend Board meetings to learn about matters firsthand. With the exception of January, which is the fourth Monday, and special meetings, the Board meets regularly at 9:00 a.m. on the third Monday of March, May, June, July, September and October. Minutes of recent meetings are posted to the District's website. For additional information please contact the District Manager at (303) 987-0835 or visit our website at [www.yourcmd.org](http://www.yourcmd.org).*

**Evergreens in Conservatory:** We recently received a question about the large junipers located on District property in various areas. The large bushes are commonly known as Sea Green Junipers and can grow to a height of over 10 feet. These bushes were planted in strategic locations to provide a wind buffer or visual screening. We discussed this issue with two separate landscaping Architects and learned that like all junipers they can be pruned but it must be done carefully, in small segments and at certain times of the year to avoid harm to the plant. The District plans to carefully prune these very large bushes in the springtime.

Many of the Austrian Pines in the District were affected by extreme weather conditions late last year and early this year. An unseasonal cold snap in April 2020 wreaked havoc on many trees in the metro area. Most survived, but many did not. Some of the pines in the District are showing the effects at the tips of their branches, which have died back from the hard freeze. We will continue to monitor all of the stressed trees in the District and replace as many dead or dying trees as possible within our budget constraints.

**Continuing Detention Pond Renovations:** Major renovations to the District's water quality detention ponds started in 2018 and are now substantially complete. The District has decided to undertake additional work on Pond 6, the largest of the District's six ponds, to reduce erosion and eliminate a steeply embanked ditch, next to the public path in Tract JJ. The District is in the planning stage to extend and bury the storm drainpipe at the inlet point to eliminate the steep embankments. Proper design and approval by the City of Aurora is required for such projects. To accomplish this the District solicited proposals from several engineering firms. At its July 20<sup>th</sup> Special Board Meeting the District's Board engaged RG and Associates to perform the design, surveying, bidding, and project management for this important project. The District hopes to start construction later this year when water flow conditions are typically at their lowest.

**Tract V and Pond 7:** The District recently accepted responsibility for all improvements located on Tract V, including the detention pond and gazebo. This is located along S. Conservatory Parkway, across from S. Ireland Ct. The District has completed repairs to the gazebo and has cleaned out the vegetation and debris in the detention pond. Repairs to the retaining walls are now complete. The District is working with a contractor to establish proper flow in Pond 7 and reduce standing water to the extent possible.

**Ongoing Pond Maintenance:** In addition to the major refurbishments and improvements that have been recently completed, the District is required to perform ongoing maintenance. Most of this work will consist of picking up trash, periodically mowing, cutting back and removing vegetation, and performing regular inspections. The District is requesting bids from several landscaping companies to perform this ongoing maintenance and file the mandatory inspection reports with the City of Aurora.

**Monument Area Landscaping Improvements:** We are pleased to announce that the District recently completed renovations to the landscaping at two entry areas; the area located at South Conservatory Parkway and Nepal, and at the entry area located at the North end of Conservatory Parkway. The District engaged Tim Dunn Design to prepare the plan to beautify these areas. Tim Dunn is the Landscape Architect who prepared the original design for all the District Tracts. BrightView Landscape Services performed the work.

**Mailbox Kiosks:** The District is presently gathering information and assessing the condition of the mailbox kiosks in order to perform maintenance as necessary.