

February 4, 2008

Dear Creeks of Willow Bend Homeowners:

The Board is very pleased to announce that within the next week, you will begin to see planting activity within the common grounds of the COWB. The COWB Board is committed to improving the aesthetics within the community to insure that the COWB remains one of the most prestigious communities to live in Plano. As such, we are implementing a tree replacement and enhancement plan throughout the common grounds, and along Preston Road.

As previously communicated, the Live Oak trees planted between the COWB wall and the sidewalk are inappropriate for such a narrow parkway, and if left intact, will ruin both the wall and sidewalk. When this happens, it will be the responsibility of the homeowners to pay to replace the walls/sidewalk, and the trees will have to be pulled out at that time. Our estimates indicate that replacing the wall alone would be upwards of \$500,000.00.

We have met with horticulturists, arborists, landscapers, and even the city of Plano to understand what options are available to us. Tree root barriers were considered, and the idea discarded as there is a 75-80% chance that the trees would not survive, as there isn't even enough width to execute a tree root barrier successfully. (Please see the letter posted to the website in October, 2007) for more information about this.

However, we are turning this negative into a positive. In accordance with the City of Plano Landscaping Code, we are not only replanting trees along Ventura that are appropriate for a narrow parkway, we are also adding additional tree's in other common areas of the community. We are following the initial landscaping plan developed by the landscape architect, in terms of tree placement within the community. This plan was designed to add beautiful seasonal color and to augment and complement the trees currently within the community. We will also be replacing dead/diseased tree's, and filling in some areas along Preston where tree's had died and had never been replaced. New beds will be created, and will provide an opportunity to add additional flowers/plants throughout the year.

We will send out periodic updates on this initiative through the website. If you have any questions, please contact Brian Crow (SBB Management) or a board member.