## Ravens Crest East At Princeton Meadows Condominium Association

**Landscape Renovation Project** 



## Landscape Project Background

- Major Renovation Projects on Buildings and Grounds Included;
  - Building COMPLETE
    - Replacing Roofs
    - Replacing Siding
    - Replacing Stairs
    - New Decking and Rails
    - Replacing Doors, and Windows
  - Grounds COMPLETE
    - Limited Drainage
    - Paving of the Parking Lots and Loop Road
    - Lighting
    - Tot Lot
    - Sidewalks

#### Landscape Project Goals

- Landscaping Improvements COMING SOON
- Improve the Aesthetics of the Community
- Preserve Property Values
- Improve Security Around Site
- Provide Safer Walking Paths
- Promote Community Gathering Places and a Neighborhood Feel
- Reduce Maintenance Costs
- Replace Unhealthy and Unsafe Trees
- Re-use (Transplant) of Plantings Where Possible

#### Landscape Project Goals

- New Irrigation System COMING SOON
- More Efficient Water Usage
  - Monitors Weather and only waters When Needed
  - Won't Overwater Turf (Soggy Spots)
  - Provides Reports if a Zone Doesn't Get Watered
  - Notifies Management if a Line Breaks, etc.
- Reduce Maintenance Cost of the System
- Reduce Water Usage Saves Money
- Improved Turf Health

## Landscape Project Process

- Board assembled the Project Team
  - Board issued an RFP for a Landscape Architect
    - Proposals and Interviews from 3 Landscape Architects
    - Board selected Barry Caul of Caul Design Group based on his Presentation, Experience, and Fee
  - Project Team was in place
    - Board
    - Management
    - Caul Design group
    - Aqua Mist Irrigation
    - Morris Engineering
- Project Team met multiple times to develop the Needs, Goals and Budgets for the Project (Program)
- Caul Design conducted numerous Site Visits and worked closely with Board to refine the Program
- Caul Design, Aqua Mist & ME prepared Plans Specifications & Bid Docs based on the Program

# Landscaping Project Program & Community Benefits

### **Building Plantings**

#### Front

- All Existing Landscaping will be Removed
- Existing Soils will be Tilled and Enhanced to Provide for a new Landscape Planting
- New Plant Selection
  - Aesthetics
  - Durability
  - Eliminate Oversized Shrubs surrounding Buildings
  - Selected to Work Together, reducing Overall Maintenance and Mulching
- Selected Trees will grow in a more Columnar Shape
  - Better Fit in narrow Planting Space
  - Prevents branches from growing into the Building
  - Reduces Maintenance Costs

#### Rear & Sides

- New Plantings will be installed along the Sides and Rears of the Buildings
- Attempts will be made to save any Existing Plants that are Healthy and will work with New Plan

#### Transplanting

- Healthy Plants Removed will be Transplanted at Other Locations On Site
- Most Transplants will be Installed Near Tot-lot

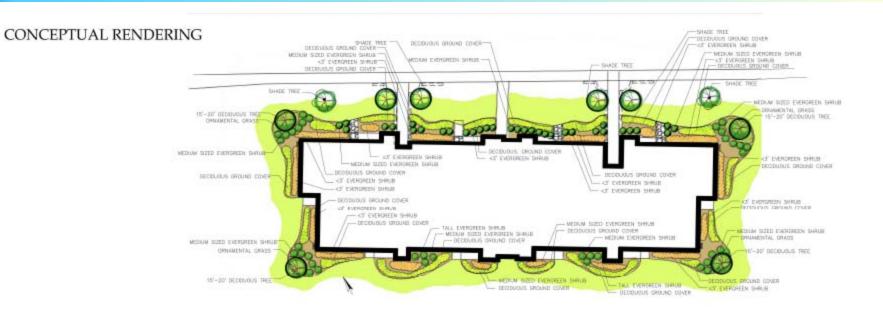
### **Building Plantings**

#### Entrance Walls

- At Buildings with Entry Steps, Low Entry Walls will be constructed on either side of the New, Widened Walkways
- Walls Will Reduce the Slope of the Lawn Area Adjacent to Entry
  - Control Storm Water and Reduce Erosion
  - Roof Runoff will be Collected and Directed Away from Walkways
  - Control Runoff onto Walks in Winter Less Chance of ice
  - Improved Soil Conditions for Better Plant and Turf Health
- Improved Aesthetics













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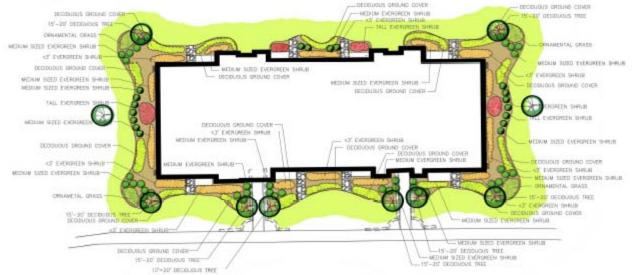


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#### CONCEPTUAL RENDERING









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## Building Plantings Community Benefits

- Improved Aesthetics
- Better Plant and Turf Health
- Lower Maintenance Cost
  - Elimination of Plants that Damage Buildings
  - Better Light and Airflow at Buildings (Less Staining on Siding)
  - Planting Beds Easier to Maintain
- Safety
  - Less Run-off on Sidewalks
  - Less Ice on Sidewalks
  - Less Dirt and Gravel on Sidewalks
  - Level Entry Walks and Proper Step Heights
- Improved Security
  - Eliminate Overgrown Plants at Building (Hiding Places)

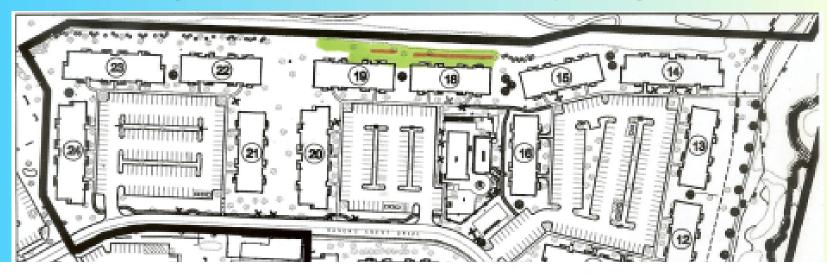
### **Landscape & Seat Walls**

- Landscape and Seat Walls are being added at Several Locations
- Improve Grading and Control Erosion
- Control Runoff onto Sidewalks
- Improved Soil Conditions for better Plant and Tree Health
  - Eliminate "Soggy" Lawn
  - Provide Proper Soil Cover for Trees and Shrubs

#### **Community Benefits**

- Improved Drainage & Erosion Control
- Reduced Maintenance Costs
  - Rutted Lawns
  - Drains Clogged by Erosion
  - Soil & Other Debris on Walkways
- Improved Plant Health
- Improved Safety
  - Less Runoff and Ice on Sidewalks
- Improved Aesthetics
- Community Focal Point

### **Building 18-19 Landscaping Walls**

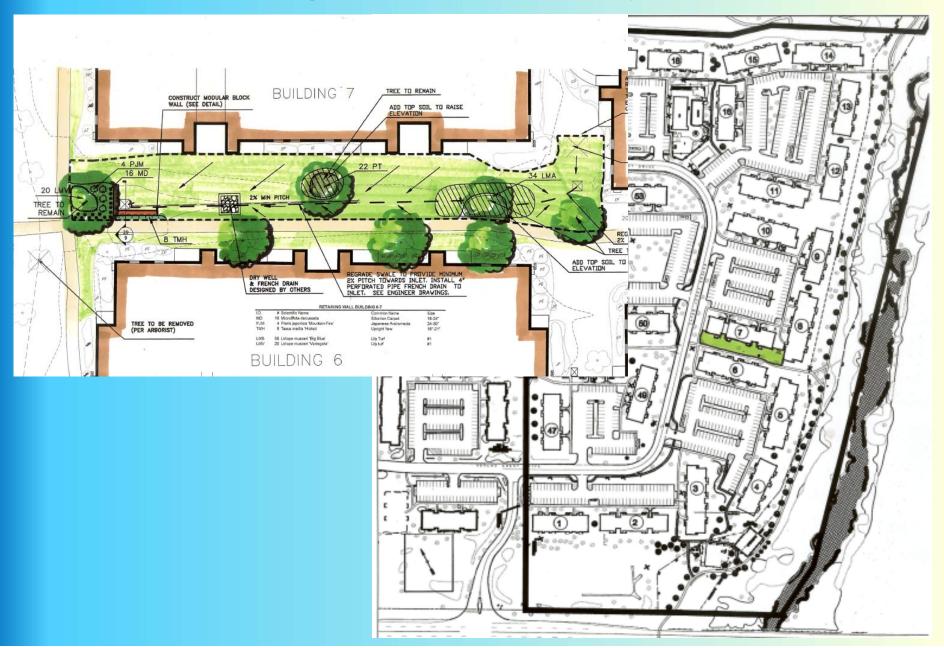




## **Building 48 - 50 Seat Wall**



### **Building 6-7 Landscape Wall**



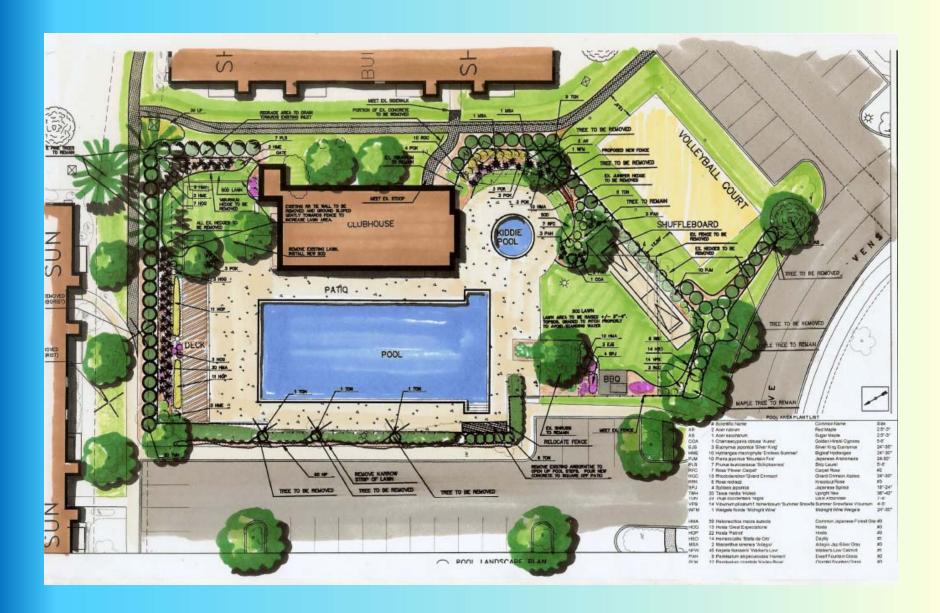
#### **Pool Area**

- Enlarged Common Use Areas
- Improved Aesthetics
- Pool Fencing will be Extended to include area towards the Volleyball Court
- New Hedge
- Enlarged Usable Lawn Space for Grilling and Relaxing
- Revision to Pool Deck will provide Easier Access around the Pool

#### **Community Benefits**

- Enlarged Lawn Area
- More Recreation Space
- More Comfortable Walkway around Pool
- Improved Aesthetics
- Improved Community Recreation Center

### **Pool Area**



### **Parking Lots**

- The Entrance into Each Parking Lot will be Renovated
  - New Plantings
  - Larger Building Number Signs
- Islands Within the Parking Lots will be Replanted
  - New Plants Better Adapted to Extreme Parking Lot Conditions
- Mailbox Areas
- Board is Investigating New Mailboxes from the US Postal Service

#### **Community Benefits**

- Better Plant Health
- Safety & Security
  - Better Visibility of Building Numbers for Emergency Response
- Convenience
  - Better Visibility of Building Numbers for Guests
- Aesthetics





### Site & Path Plantings

- Installation of Trees and Shrubs Throughout the Community
- Provide Screening and Aesthetic Improvements
- Cherry Trees will be Planted along the Path near the Creek
- Landscape Beds will be Revised to Reduce Maintenance Costs
- Hedges Along the Main Loop Road will be Improved with Replanting
- Site Benches will be Added at Walking Path
- Many Areas will be Revised with Safety and Maintenance as the Priority

#### **Community Benefits**

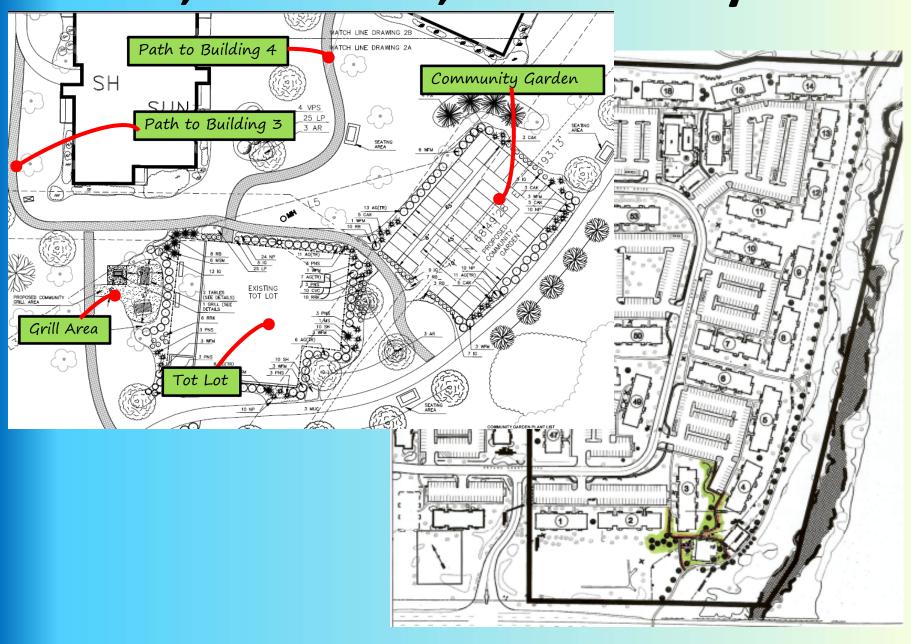
- Improved Screening of the Homes from the Roadway
- Lower Maintenance Cost
- Community Focal Points along Walkways
- Improved Aesthetics

## **Site Plantings**



**Path Plantings** 

## Tot Lot, Grill Area, Community Garden



#### **Tot Lot & Grill Area**

- Tot Lot will be Enhanced with New Plantings
- New Sidewalks will Link the Area to the Community
- Plants Removed Elsewhere will be Transplanted to Tot Lot Area
- A Grill & Picnic Area will be built Next To the Tot Lot

#### **Tot Lot & Grill Area**



### **Community Garden**

- Small Plots for Residents to Plant Vegetable and Flower Gardens
- Water will be Provided in the Garden Area
- The Area will be Fenced in and Surrounded by Shrubs





# Tot Lot, Grill Area, Community Garden Community Benefits

#### **Tot Lot & Grill**

- Place For Grilling Outside of Pool Season
- Tot Lot & Grill Area will provide place for Outdoor Family Recreation
- Community Feature

#### **Community Garden**

- Outdoor Recreation Opportunities
- Place to Grow Vegetables for Healthy Living (Garden to Table)
- Community Focal Point
- Unique Community Feature

## **Tree Replacement**

**Trees Damaged During Recent Weather Events** 









#### **Tree Replacement**

- The Landscape Project Includes Removal of Some Trees due to:
  - Proximity to Buildings
  - Rootbound Trees
  - Unhealthy and Dead Trees
  - Dangerous Trees
    - Trees to be Removed include Pear Trees in Parking Lot Areas. These Trees are a Recurring Problem as they Have Fallen, Split, and Dropped Large Branches
    - Cleaning up the Pear Trees has been a Large Expense for The Association

### **Community Benefits**

- Eliminate Unhealthy and Dangerous Trees
- Replacement Trees Selected for the Specific Locations and Conditions in which they will be planted
  - Columnar Trees Won't Encroach on Buildings
  - Less Maintenance Required
- Trees will be Planted Properly to Ensure Long Term Health

## **Tree Replacement**













### **Irrigation**

- Existing Irrigation System is Outdated and was Poorly Installed by Developer
  - Inefficient
  - Expensive to Repair & Maintain
- Replacement Irrigation System is State of the Art
  - System will be Computer Controlled and Monitored
  - System Monitors Weather (Rain) and only Waters When Needed
  - Shady Areas can get Less Water than Sunny & Dry Areas
  - System will be Remotely Controlled and Monitored
    - Breaks, Failures, Damage will Trigger Notification
  - New Equipment is More Durable and will be Properly Installed

### **Community Benefits**

- Reduced Water Usage
  - Preserve the Resource
  - Save Money
- Better Turf Health
  - Turf Gets Right Amount of Water
  - Not Mushy Lawn
- Reduced Maintenance and Repair Costs

## **Irrigation**





## Landscape Project Process

- Project Put Out to Bid to 8 Landscaping Companies
  - 4 Proposals Received
- Board Reviewed the Bids and Interviewed the Bidders
- Landscape Maintenance Services (LMS) Selected as the Winning Bidder based on Pricing, References And Experience
  - LMS has been the Association's Landscape, Irrigation and Snow Removal
     Contractor since 2004

## Landscape Project -Budget

- The Original Renovation Project Budget Amount in 2007 for the Landscaping Improvements was \$150,000.
- The Budget for The Landscaping Project is Approximately \$2.3 Million. The cost of The Project has significantly increased for Several Reasons:
  - 2007 Program was only for Repair of Existing Landscape
  - Original Budget was Based On Conditions in 2007
    - 7 Years Later Existing Landscape has Deteriorated
    - Association has not Invested in Landscape Improvements in 10 Years
  - Current Program has Expanded Scope:
    - Complete Renovation Around Buildings
    - Tree Replacement
      - Township has Requirements
      - Trees Lost to Hurricane Sandy (Over 35 Trees), Drainage Work, Site Lighting, and Natural Loss
    - Tot Lot, Grill Area, Community Garden
    - Landscape Walls
    - Improvements to Common Areas (Pool, Walks, Etc.)
    - Irrigation System

## Landscape Project -Phasing Plan

- The Project will Begin in 2014 and is Estimated to be Completed in 2018.
- What is Completed in Each Phase (or Year) will be Determined by Several Factors:
  - There are Pre-Requisites that must be Completed such as Irrigation Infrastructure
  - Work with Greatest Immediate Impact will be Expedited
    - Building Fronts will be Done Before Sides and Backs
  - Grouping of Budget Lines into \$400,000 \$500,000 Phases that Match Funds Available

## Landscape Project -Phasing Plan

#### **Project Phases (Estimated)**

The actual work performed in the phase will be determined based on schedule and fund availability.

#### Phase 1 - 2014

Tot Lot

**Grill Area** 

Landscape Wall behind 1800-1900

Rear of Building 1800

Rear of Building 1900

Seat Walls at Building 4800

Seat Walls at Building 5000

**Parking Lots** 

Community Garden

373,654 Total 2014

#### Phase 2 - 2015

Main Loop Irrigation (all 3 mains)

**Site Plantings** 

Front of Buildings (100-600)

455,447 Total 2015

#### Phase 3 - 2016

Front of Buildings (700-2400)

489,555 Total 2016

#### Phase 4 – 2017

Front of Buildings (4700-5300)

Rear of Buildings (100-1000)

Building Walls (600-700)

432,061 Total 2017

#### Phase 5 - 2018

Rear of Buildings (1100-1600, 2000-5300)

Pool Area

Path Planting

484,257 Total 2018

#### **Phase Totals**

373,654 Phase 1 – 2014 455,447 Phase 2 – 2015

489,555 Phase 3 – 2016

432,061 Phase 4 – 2017

<u>484,257 Phase 5 – 2018</u>

2,234,974

## Landscape Project Project Controls

- The Association Has Systems In Place To Control The Quality & Cost Of The Project:
  - The Budget Includes a 10% Contingency "Safety Net" for Unforeseen Conditions.
  - Contractor Does Not Get Final Payment Until After Plant Establishment Period – 1 Year
  - The Project Team will stay In Place Throughout the Project:
    - Caul & ME will Monitor the Work for Compliance with the Plans and Quality of Work
    - Payments Won't Be Made Without Payment Recommendations from Caul & ME
  - Costs will be Monitored Throughout the Project and Adjustments
     Made As Necessary to Stay in Budget

