

Paseo Master Association  
Presidents Report  
December 2021

The CDD is beginning phase 2 of the tree replacement project. This project entails removing high maintenance hardwood trees and planting low maintenance palm trees. The Master Board received a letter from Deb Johnson requesting us to intervene in this project. The concern is that planting one type of tree increases the risk of disease spread. Also, of concern is the replacement is not on a one for one basis.

The short answer is the Master has absolutely no control over the CDD even though our declarations indicate that we do. The CDD is a special district established by the Fort Myers city council with a board consisting of publicly elected officials. We can write whatever we want in our documents but writing this does not give us the power.

The second point is that the CDD's research included contacting a certified arborist, a certified horticultural professional, a landscape architect, the University of Florida Institute of F&A Sciences and several landscape companies. As with any subject not all experts are going to agree but it appears the CDD performed significant due diligence.

We greatly respect the opinion and input from this member as she is an invaluable member of our landscape team and an expert in this field as well. The simple fact is the Master Board has no authority over this decision.

We are in the process of setting up a Paseo town hall with local government officials. This will be a meet and greet where residents can ask questions and provide input to our representatives. The expected officials are Darla Bonk (Councilwomen), Cecil Pendergrass (County Commissioner), the City Planner and possibly more participants. We are shooting for early January but there is no established date yet.