

# CITY OF PICO RIVERA



## Citywide Roadway Median Landscape Restoration Master Plan CIP # 30005



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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Mayor Gustavo V. Camacho  
Mayor Pro Tem Brent A. Tercero  
Councilmember Bob J. Archuleta  
Councilmember David W. Armenta  
Councilmember Gregory Salcido

**Ad Hoc Committee:**

Gustavo V. Camacho  
Brent A. Tercero

**Department of Public Works**

**David Volz Design Landscape Architects**





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## I. Introduction

California's watering restrictions has caused Pico Rivera's turf landscaped medians to be in desperate decline. This master plan will provide recommendations and a blue print for restoration of median landscapes in major arterial streets citywide. The process and development of this master plan included an investigation and study of existing median conditions, overall layout and organization of city wide street networks, land uses, as well as the review and input of an Ad hoc committee during the development process. This master plan aims at fulfilling key goals that include water conservation, reduce maintenance, increase visual appeal and attractiveness of city streets, and provide a lasting benefit to the community.

## II. Sustainable Design Guidelines

The following are important guidelines that guided the development of this median landscape restoration master plan.

### 1. Drought Tolerant Plant Material

Medians will be comprised of plant material appropriate for the climate of Pico Rivera, consisting of Mediterranean or arid climate plants. Plant material will have a water use requirements of low, very low, or medium as specified by the Water Use Classification of Landscape Species (WUCOLS) guidelines. Plants will be resilient to particulate matter and other volatile compounds that are common in a street median environment.

### 2. High Efficiency Irrigation

Most medians with existing planting areas are irrigated through spray head irrigation. Spray head irrigation can cause significant over spray and irrigation inefficiency. New median landscape development will be comprised of more efficient irrigation methods including rotary nozzles, drip irrigation, or point source bubblers. Existing controllers will be reviewed and if needed be replaced with smart irrigation controller systems that rely on sensors to determine irrigation run times based on local climate conditions and provide more efficient irrigation.

### 3. Less Plant Material

Reducing plant material quantities will help with reducing water use in median landscapes. Planting material will be reduced in medians and balanced with non organic material including decorative cobble, boulders and DG. Using inorganic material will reduce water use needs, create interest, and reduce maintenance.





### III. Plant Establishment Period

It is important to note that median landscapes, like all landscapes, will go through a plant establishment period. This is the period when the landscape progresses from its initial stage, at the end of the installation period, to full establishment at around a year or two. In the early periods of this process most plants will retain their smaller size and be visually spaced apart. This is done to allow ample room for plants to grow to their mature size through this establishment period. Care must be taken to ensure that plant material not be planted too closely. Overplanting can result in poor plant development and a significant increase in maintenance.



Planting establishment period over two years.





## IV. Overall Median Landscape Design

This master plan outlines a series of conceptual designs and recommendations for the redevelopment and restoration of median landscapes for 6 major arterial corridors in Pico Rivera: Slauson Avenue, Washington Boulevard, Whittier Boulevard, Paramount Boulevard, Rosemead Boulevard, and San Gabriel River Parkway. This Master Plan also addresses unique treatments for the landscape around city entry monuments and screening for various street parkways. The designs for these median landscapes reflect a unique landscape treatment across each street, proposing a unique character and identity for each (see Figure 1). These concepts and design recommendations were developed based on their physical forms, particular characteristics of each street, the size and length of their medians and input from an Ad hoc committee.



### 1. SLAUSON AVENUE

#### Existing Conditions

Slauson Avenue is a 1.8 mile arterial street that runs east to west between Telegraph Road and Whittier Boulevard. Most medians are relatively short ranging from approximately 207' (nose to nose) to 751'. They consist of dead grass, bare soil, small shrubs and stamped concrete. Existing trees are small and in fair to poor condition, removal is recommended.

#### Median Landscape Treatment Recommendations

The design concept for these medians includes the use of small and medium bright red and yellow flowering trees that are appropriate for this mostly commercial and industrial corridor. The under story consists of large bright angular boulder groupings with swaths of angular cobble and DG that contrasts well with small groupings of thick leaved dark evergreen shrubs, thick strappy plantings and ground covers arranged in a formal layout. (See Figure 2 on Page 13)

#### Budget Estimate

Total Approx. Square Footage of Medians	29,652 s.f.
Total Cost of Construction Items and Installation	\$533,736.00
Contingency (20%)	\$106,747.20
Construction Drawings, Specifications, Bidding and Construction Period Services (15%)	\$80,060.40

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**TOTAL BUDGET ESTIMATE** **\$720,543.60**



# OVERALL MEDIAN LANDSCAPE DESIGN



FIGURE 1 - Six major arterial streets that are included in the citywide median landscape master plan.





## 2. WASHINGTON BOULEVARD

### Existing Conditions

Washington Boulevard is approximately 1.95 miles long and runs east to west between Slauson Avenue and Whittier Blvd. Washington is similar in form to Slauson consisting of mostly smaller medians averaging around 470' from nose to nose. Existing trees on this median consist of large Ficus trees on the west and other medium sized trees located throughout the street. Their removal is recommended before their large roots damage the asphalt.

### Median Landscape Treatment Recommendations

This design concept proposes medium and small soft purple and pink flowering trees that are appropriate for this street which is surrounded mostly by residential neighborhoods and pockets of commercial areas. Groupings of bright colored plants, with bold and interesting forms will also provide an attractive and beautiful landscape for this area. Median treatment will be a formal layout consisting of bold plantings and a mix of angular beige and bronze cobble, boulders and DG. (See Figure 3 on Page 13)

### Budget Estimate

Total Approx. Square Footage of Medians	34,990 s.f.
Total Cost of Construction Items and Installation	\$629,820.00
Contingency (20%)	\$125,964.00
Construction Drawings, Specifications, Bidding and Construction Period Services(15%)	\$94,473.00
<b>TOTAL BUDGET ESTIMATE</b>	<b>\$850,257.00</b>

## 3. WHITTIER BOULEVARD

### Existing Conditions

Whittier Boulevard is similar in size and length to Washington Boulevard and is a major commercial corridor located north of Washington Boulevard. Medians on this street are peppered with small trees, palms, and long stretches of bare soil with the exception of a few medians on the western edge of the city that consist of drought tolerant plantings and small trees. Most trees are in fair to good condition and protection is recommended.







**Median Landscape Treatment Recommendations**

A combination of stately palms and bold brightly flowering trees with interesting form is proposed for this special passage. The understory will consist of formal layouts of bold striking plants and colorful resilient ground covers. Swaths of angular cobble, gravel and boulders will accentuate this unique combination of plantings. The design and implementation of optional custom artistic installations across stretches of some key medians will make a striking impact and deliver a unique character for this important city corridor. Median treatment will consist of a combination of different textures of inorganic material, unique paving and artistic installation pieces. (See Figure 4 on Page 14)

**Budget Estimate**

Total Approx. Square Footage of Medians	45,120 s.f.
Total Cost of Construction Items and Installation	\$812,160.00
Tree Up Lighting	\$225,600.00
Architectural Structures and other improvements (optional)	TBD
Contingency (20%)	\$207,552.00
Construction Drawings, Specifications, Bidding and Construction Period Services (15%)	\$155,664.00
<b>TOTAL BUDGET ESTIMATE</b>	<b>\$1,400,976.00</b>



**4. PARAMOUNT BOULEVARD**

**Existing Conditions**

Paramount is a long stretch of arterial street running north to south totaling 3.67 miles. Most of the street consists of a mixture of residential, commercial and open space areas. Median lengths vary greatly through this corridor, ranging from as short as 250 ft, to as long as 2000 ft.

Median conditions include long stretches of bare soil, asphalt, and stamped concrete. Existing medium and small trees range from fair to poor in condition. Closer evaluation of existing tree conditions by an arborist is recommended to determine which trees to protect and which to remove. New medians were constructed on Paramount Blvd between Whittier Blvd and Mines Ave. Newly established landscapes in these medians should be preserved and design recommendations below will reflect and match the style and treatment from these recently developed medians.

**Median Landscape Treatment Recommendations**

A combination of large and medium evergreen and deciduous trees are proposed for this street. The understory consists of a combination of flowering perennials, soft grasses and bold contrasting plants that are intermixed with cobble, boulders and DG in a natural form. Longer median lengths allow for ample room for large masses of ornamental grasses, creating a graceful meadow as residents drive through this street. Median treatment will consist of planting and inorganic material arranged in an informal layout. (See Figure 5 on Page 14)





**Budget Estimate**

Total Approx. Square Footage of Medians	106,202 s.f.
Total Cost of Construction Items and Installation	\$1,911,636.00
Contingency (20%)	\$382,327.20
Construction Drawings, Specifications, Bidding and Construction Period Services (15%)	\$286,745.40
<b>TOTAL BUDGET ESTIMATE</b>	<b>\$2,580,708.60</b>



**5. ROSEMEAD BOULEVARD**

**Existing Conditions**

Rosemead is the longest of the city's main arterial streets and acts as a getaway into the city. Land uses across the corridor consist of large light and medium residential development and commercial areas in and around major intersections. Like Paramount Blvd, medians on this street vary greatly from 260 ft to 1800 ft. Large mature trees exist through out this

corridor. Mature Jacarandas to the south between Telegraph Road and Slauson Avenue are in excellent condition, and protection is recommended. Mature Ficus trees toward the middle and north of street need further evaluation by an arborist. The massive size and extensive root systems of these trees can damage asphalt and concrete, removal is advised.

**Median Landscape Treatment Recommendations**

The medians of this street will consist of large arching evergreen and deciduous trees with bright red and yellow flowering perennials, grasses, and bold accent plants. The proposed form of the landscape will be semi-formal, with large masses of plantings in a natural organic layout. These plantings will be accented with areas of angular cobble, boulders and unique paving. A new design to replace the existing steel tube fencing located throughout the median will consist of a custom ornamental wall, that will complement the surrounding aesthetic and create a striking impact in this area. (See Figure 6 on Page 15)

**Budget Estimate**

Total Approx. Square Footage of Medians	167,070 s.f.
Total Cost of Construction Items and Installation	\$3,007,260.00
*Cost for improvements to tube steel fencing running on certain portion of street medians	\$269,700.00
Contingency (20%)	\$655,392.00
Construction Drawings, Specifications, Bidding and Construction Period Services (15%)	\$491,544.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$4,423,896.00</b>





6. SAN GABRIEL RIVER PARKWAY

Existing Conditions

San Gabriel River Parkway is a short street in the northern side of the city, running across the San Gabriel River. Medians consist of a mix of mortared cobble, bare soil and a few medium trees located throughout.

Median Landscape Treatment Recommendations

Due to its proximity to Whittier Narrows to the north and adjacency to the river native trees like oaks with soft groupings of native shrubs, swaths of round cobble, boulders and DG in a natural layout are appropriate for the medians on this street. (See Figure 7 on Page 15)

Budget Estimate

Total Approx. Square Footage of Medians	45,020 s.f.
Total Cost of Construction Items and Installation	\$675,300.00
Contingency (20%)	\$135,060.00
Construction Drawings, Specifications, Bidding and Construction Period Services (15%)	\$101,295.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$911,655.00</b>



7. ENTRY MONUMENT SIGNS

Median Landscape Treatment Recommendations

Entry sign monuments exists at almost every intersection of these major corridors within the city boundary. It is essential that these important elements are unified by a distinct landscape that creates a lasting impression on those that are driving

into the city. The surroundings of these city entry signs will be comprised of a unique combination of bright colored bold plantings of succulents, ornamental grasses, and groundcovers intermixed with round cobble, boulders and interesting paving, providing a bold statement for those visiting the city. (See Figure 8 on Page 16)

Budget Estimate

Total Approx. Square Footage of Entry Monument Sign Landscape	3,630 s.f.
Total Cost of Construction Items and Installation	\$54,450.00
Contingency (20%)	\$10,890.00
Construction Drawings, Specifications, Bidding and Construction Period Services (15%)	\$8,167.50
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$73,507.50</b>





8. PARKWAY SCREENING

Existing Conditions

Some streets, including Rosemead and Washington Boulevard include secondary streets, divided by a 12-14' parkway median. Conditions of these parkway medians vary with some having bare soil, asphalt, large existing trees or recently planted shrubs.

Parkway Treatment Recommendations

Treatment for these parkway medians would be to provide large screen plantings to create privacy and shield residents from the main street. (See Figure 9 on Page 16). Parkway screening needs will be evaluated on a street by street basis. Cost associated with parkway screening will be included in each individual median landscape cost.

V. Project Budget Estimate Summary

Slauson Avenue	\$720,543.60
Washington Boulevard	\$850,257.00
Whittier Boulevard	\$1,400,976.00
Paramount Boulevard	\$2,580,708.60
Rosemead Boulevard	\$4,423,896.00
San Gabriel River Parkway	\$911,655.00
Entry Monument Signs	\$73,707.50
<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET ESTIMATE*</b>	<b>\$10,961,543.70</b>

*\*Project Budget Estimate was derived through evaluating existing median conditions, size and current industry construction costs. This reflects a Random Order of Magnitude (ROM) opinion of probable cost and is meant for planning purposes.*





## VI. Approximate 5 Year Implementation Plan

STREETS	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5
Whittier Boulevard	█	█	█	█	█
Washington Boulevard		█	█	█	█
Slauson Avenue			█	█	█
San Gabriel River Parkway			█	█	█
Rosemead Boulevard				█	█
Paramount Boulevard					█
Entry Monument Signs	█	█	█	█	█

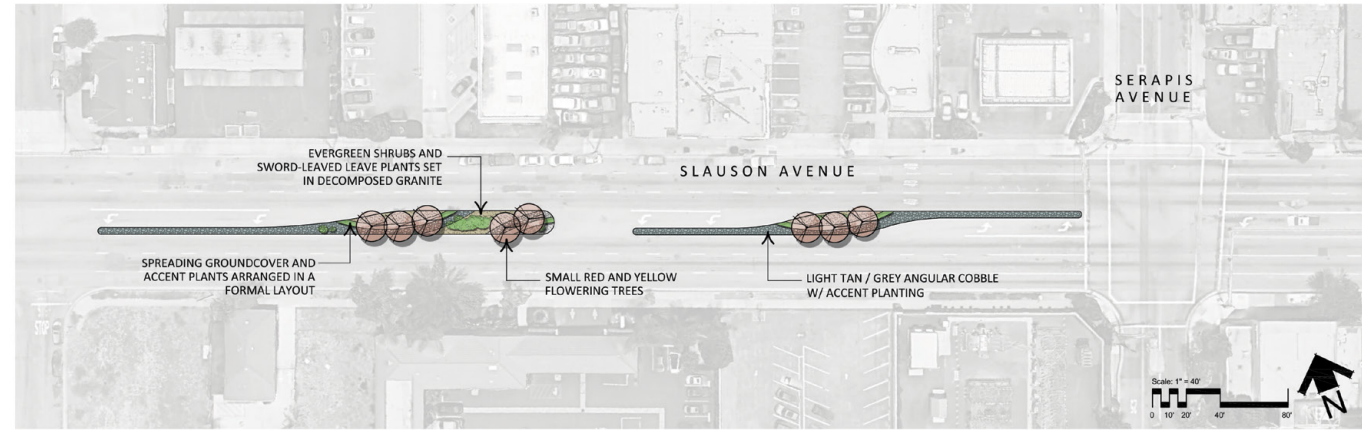
## VII. Approximate Yearly Median Landscape Maintenance Costs

The following cost was calculated using an approximate cost of \$1,000 per month for a crew of two to maintain one mile of street median landscape including weed control (spray), equipment, supplies, labor, chemical costs, work truck and other miscellaneous items, approximately 2 times per month.

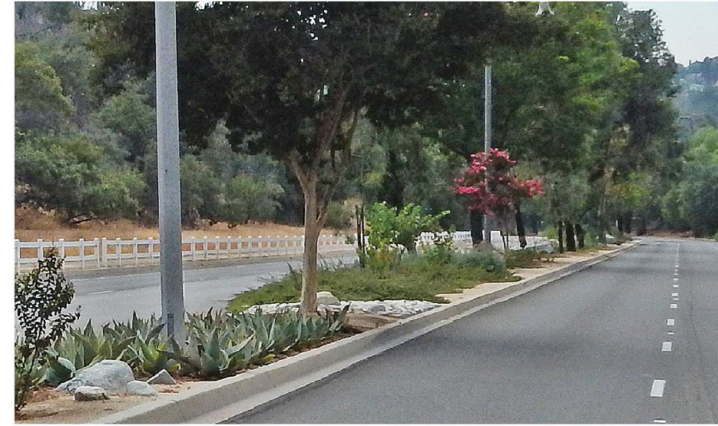
STREET	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE COST
Slauson Avenue	\$22,000
Washington Boulevard	\$24,000
Whittier Boulevard	\$27,000
Paramount Boulevard	\$64,000
Rosemead Boulevard	\$73,000
San Gabriel River Parkway	\$18,000



# 1 | SLAUSON AVENUE



## CONCEPT IDEA



### RECOMMENDED INORGANIC MATERIAL



ANGULAR COBBLE, 'Hickory Creek'



DECOMPOSED GRANITE, 'Graphite Gray Fines'

### RECOMMENDED SHRUBS AND GROUND COVER



- 1 | CORAL ALOE, *Aloe striata*, 18" O.C.
  - 2 | DWARF COYOTE BRUSH, *Baccharis p. 'Twin Peaks'*, 36" O.C.
  - 3 | CORAL ROCKROSE, *Cistus x skanbergii*, 24" O.C.
  - 4 | DWARF CAPE BUSH, *Chondropetalum tectorum*, 36" O.C.
  - 5 | FLAX LILY, *Dianella revoluta 'Little Rev'*, 18" O.C.
  - 6 | RED YUCCA, *Hesperaloe parvifolia*, 18" O.C.
- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 |

### RECOMMENDED TREES



CRAPE MYRTLE, *Lagerstroemia indica*, 16' O.C.



GOLD MEDALLION TREE, *Cassia leptophylla*, 20' O.C.

FIGURE 2 - Slauson Avenue Concept Plan

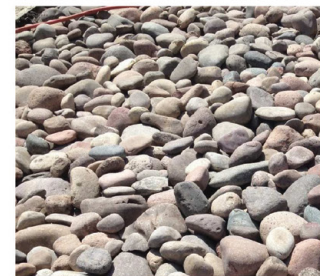
# 2 | WASHINGTON BOULEVARD



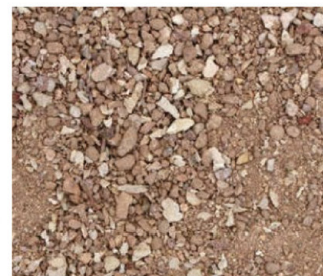
## CONCEPT IDEA



### RECOMMENDED INORGANIC MATERIAL



COBBLE, 'Arizona River Rock'



DECOMPOSED GRANITE, 'Beige Blush'

### RECOMMENDED SHRUBS AND GROUND COVER



- 1 | YARROW, *Achillea 'Moonshine'*, 18" O.C.
  - 2 | GOLD MOUND LANTANA, *Lantana camara 'Gold Mound'*, 36" O.C.
  - 3 | CREEPING ROSEMARY, *Rosmarinus officinalis 'Prostratus'*, 24" O.C.
  - 4 | MEXICAN BUSH SAGE, *Salvia leucantha 'Santa Barbara'*, 36" O.C.
  - 5 | PINK MILKLY, *Muhlenbergia capillaris 'Regal Mist'*, 24" O.C.
  - 6 | DWARF BOTTLEBRUSH, *Callistemon viminalis 'Little John'*, 24" O.C.
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### RECOMMENDED TREES



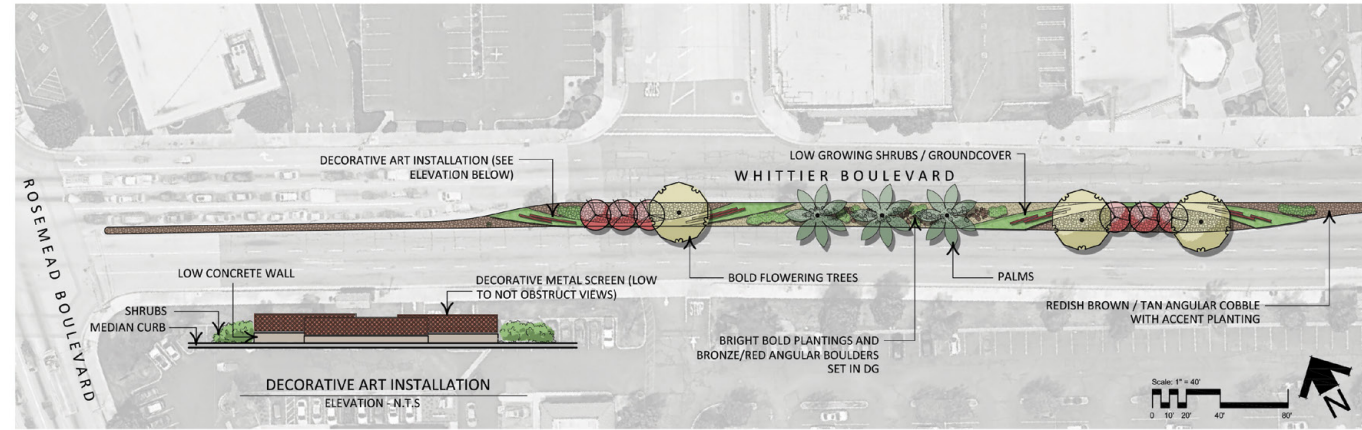
JACARANDA, *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, 25' O.C.



CHITALPA, *Chitalpa tashkentensis*, 20' O.C.

FIGURE 3 - Washington Boulevard Concept Plan

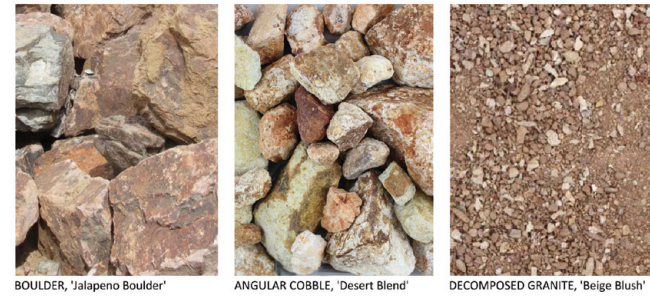
### 3 | WHITTIER BOULEVARD



#### CONCEPT IDEA



#### RECOMMENDED INORGANIC MATERIAL



#### RECOMMENDED SHRUBS, SUCCULENTS AND GROUND COVER



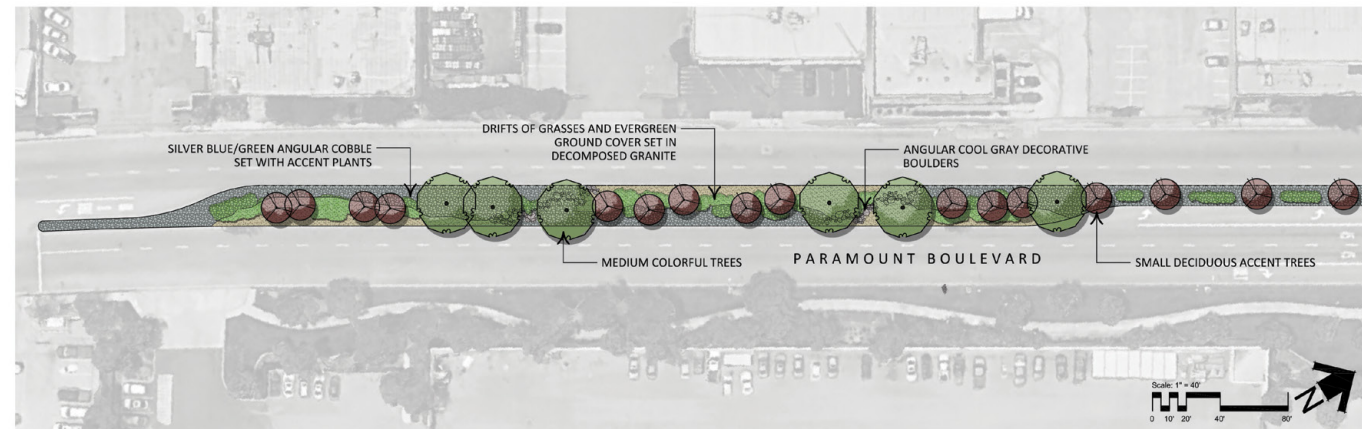
- 1 | DESERT SPOON, *Dasyllirion wheeleri*, 48" O.C.
  - 2 | VARIEGATED SMOOTH AGAVE, *Agave desmetiana 'Variegata'*, 18" O.C.
  - 3 | SEA LAVENDER, *Limonium peresii*, 24" O.C.
  - 4 | Red Aloe, *Aloe cameronii*, 36" O.C.
  - 5 | BUSH GOLD KANGAROO PAW, *Anigozanthos 'Bush Gold'*, 24" O.C.
  - 6 | BLUE CHALKSTICKS, *Senecio serpens*, 18" O.C.
  - 7 | DWARF CAPE RUSH, *Chondropetalum tectorum*, 36" O.C.
- |   |   |   |
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#### RECOMMENDED TREES



FIGURE 4 - Whittier Boulevard Concept Plan

### 4 | PARAMOUNT BOULEVARD



#### CONCEPT IDEA



#### RECOMMENDED INORGANIC MATERIAL



#### RECOMMENDED SHRUBS AND GROUND COVER



- 1 | BERKELEY SEDGE, *Carex divulca*, 24" O.C.
  - 2 | DWARF CAPE RUSH, *Chondropetalum tectorum*, 36" O.C.
  - 3 | PINK MURBLY, *Muhlenbergia capillaris 'Regal Mist'*, 24" O.C.
  - 4 | FLAX LILY, *Dianella revoluta 'Little Rev'*, 18" O.C.
  - 5 | DEER GRASS, *Muhlenbergia rigens*, 36" O.C.
  - 6 | BEAR BERRY COTONEASTER, *Cotoneaster dammers*, 48" O.C.
  - 7 | MOONSHINE YARROW, *Achillea 'Moonshine'*, 18" O.C.
  - 8 | TOYON, *Heteromeles arbutifolia*, 60" O.C.
  - 9 | COAST ROSEMARY, *Westringia f. 'Smokey'*, 36" O.C.
  - 10 | CANYON PRINCE WILD RYE, *Lepurus condensatus 'Canyon Prince'*, 24" O.C.
- |   |   |   |   |    |
|---|---|---|---|----|
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| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |

#### RECOMMENDED TREES

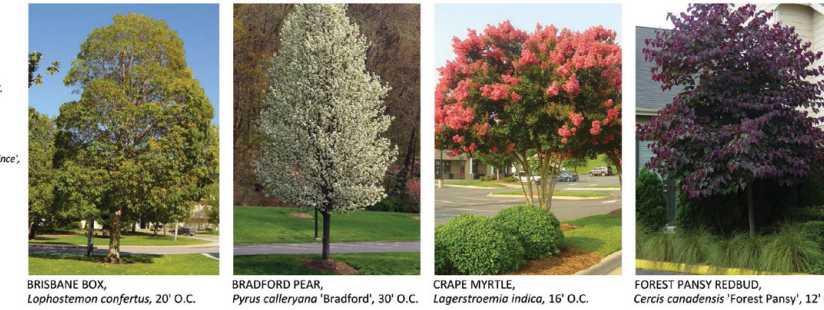
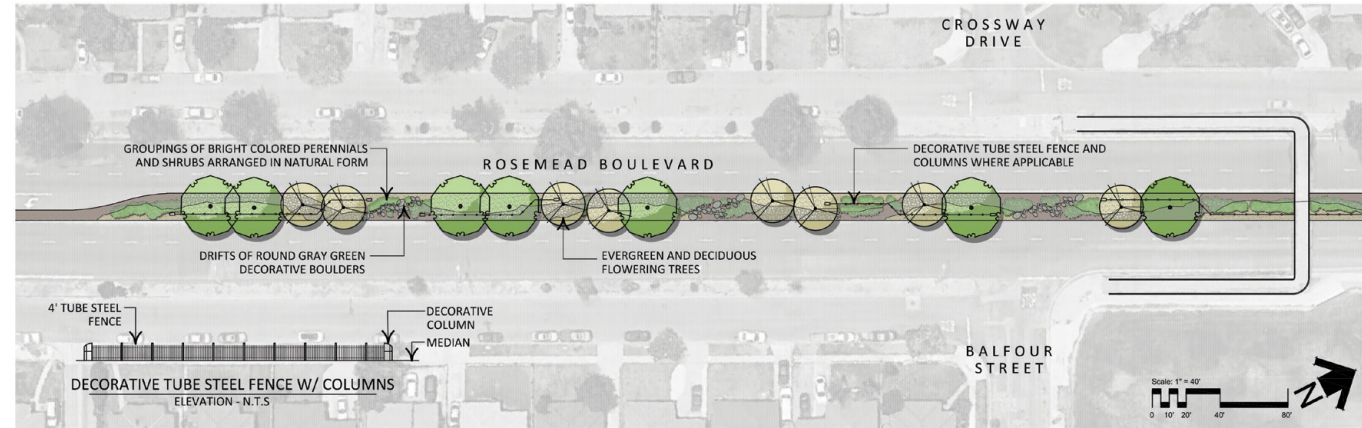


FIGURE 5 - Paramount Boulevard Concept Plan

# 5 | ROSEMEAD BOULEVARD



## CONCEPT IDEA



### RECOMMENDED INORGANIC MATERIAL



### RECOMMENDED SHRUBS AND GROUND COVER



- 1 | BLUE GLOW AGAVE  
*Agave 'Blue Glow', 24" O.C.*
- 2 | WHITE-STRIPED CENTURY PLANT  
*Agave mediopicta 'Alba', 48" O.C.*
- 3 | FIREBIRD BEARD TONGUE  
*Penstemon 'Fire Bird', 24" O.C.*
- 4 | YELLOW YUCCA  
*Hesperaloe parviflora 'Yellow', 24" O.C.*
- 5 | CREAM DE MINT DWARF MOCK ORANGE  
*Pittosporum tobira 'Cream De Mint', 18" O.C.*

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- 6 | BLUEBERRY ICE BOUGAINVILLEA  
*Bougainvillea 'Raspberry Ice', 36" O.C.*
- 7 | LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD ALOE  
*Aloe 'Rookkapple', 24" O.C.*
- 8 | TRAILING LANTANA  
*Lantana montevidensis, 36" O.C.*
- 9 | BLUE CHALKSTICKS  
*Senecio serpens, 18" O.C.*
- 10 | TASMANIAN FLAX LILY  
*Dianella tasmanica 'Variegata', 24" O.C.*

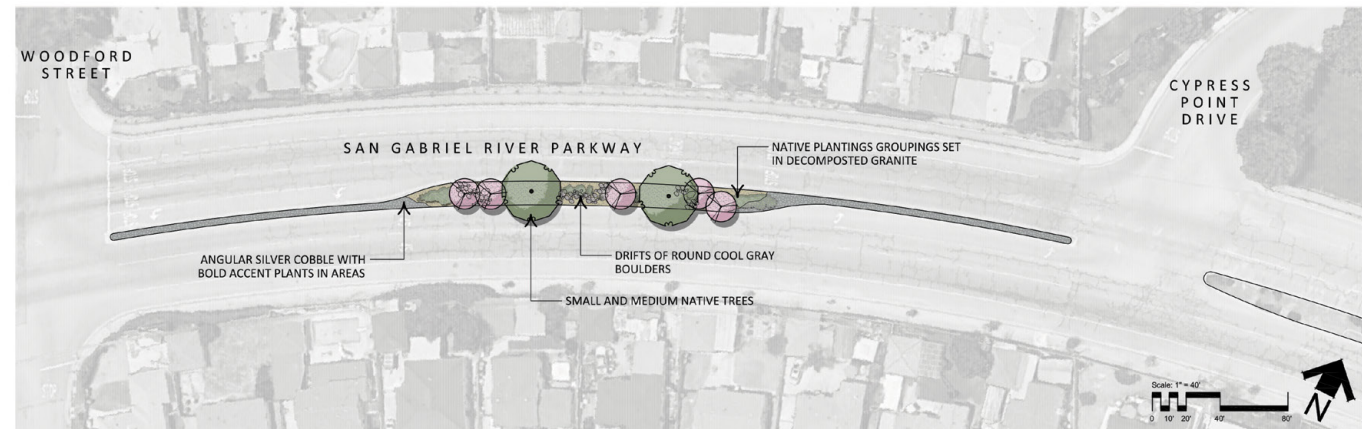
### RECOMMENDED TREES



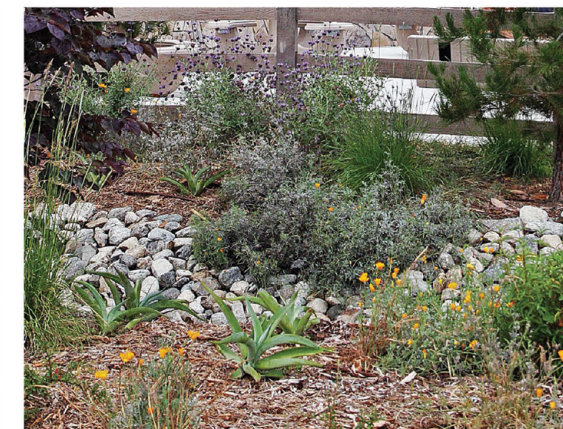
FLAME TREE, *Brachychiton acerifolius*, 25' O.C. JACARANDA, *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, 25' O.C. GOLD MEDALLION TREE, *Cassia leptophylla*, 20' O.C. PINK TRUMPET TREE, *Tabebuia impetiginosa*, 25' O.C.

FIGURE 6 - Rosemead Boulevard Concept Plan

# 6 | SAN GABRIEL RIVER PARKWAY



## CONCEPT IDEA



### RECOMMENDED INORGANIC MATERIAL



### RECOMMENDED SHRUBS AND GROUND COVER



- 1 | DEER GRASS  
*Muhlenbergia rigens*, 36" O.C.
- 2 | TOYON  
*Heteromeles arbutifolia*, 60" O.C.
- 3 | YANKEE POINT CEANOETHUS  
*Ceanothus griseus horizontalis 'Yankee Point'*, 60" O.C.
- 4 | BLUE SAGE  
*Salvia clevelandii 'Winnifred Gilman'*, 24" O.C.
- 5 | DWARF COYOTE BRUSH  
*Baccharis p. 'Twin Peaks'* 36" O.C.

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8

- 6 | COFFEEBERRY  
*Rhamnus californica 'Evo Case'*, 48" O.C.
- 7 | CREEPING MAHONIA  
*Mahonia repens*, 24" O.C.
- 8 | YARROW  
*Achillea 'Moonshine'*, 18" O.C.

### RECOMMENDED TREES



BLOODGOOD LONDON PLANE TREE, *Platanus 'Bloodgood'*, 30' O.C. WESTERN REDBUD, *Cercis occidentalis*, 12' O.C.

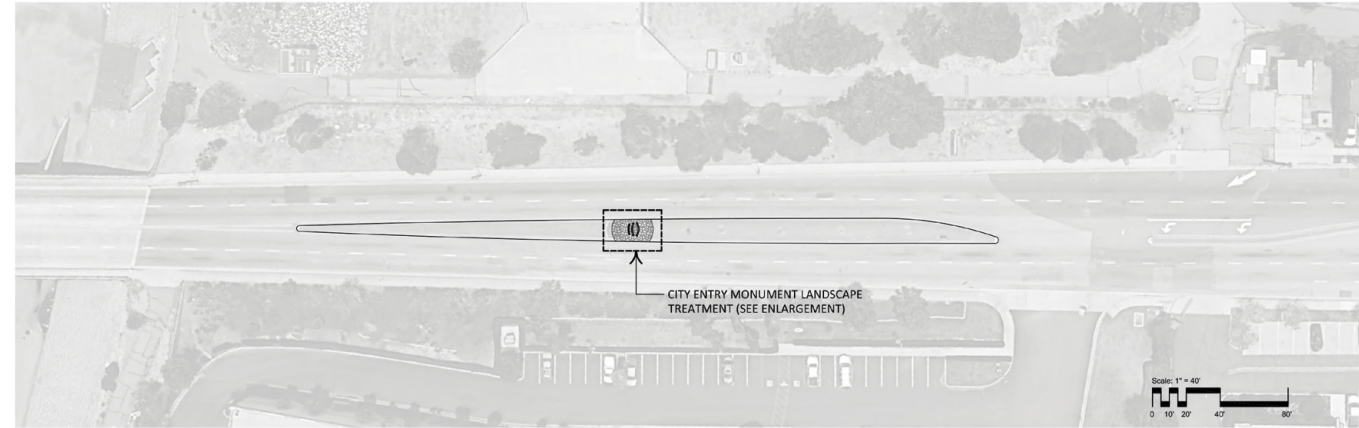
FIGURE 7 - San Gabriel River Parkway Concept Plan





## 7 | ENTRY MONUMENT SIGNS

### CONCEPT IDEA



#### RECOMMENDED INORGANIC MATERIAL



#### RECOMMENDED SHRUBS AND GROUND COVER



- 1 | YELLOW YUCCA  
*Hesperaloe parviflora* 'Yellow', 24" O.C.
- 2 | SHORT LEAVED ALOE  
*Aloe brevifolia*, 18" O.C.
- 3 | BLUE FESCUE  
*Festuca glauca*, 12" O.C.
- 4 | PADDLE PLANT  
*Kalanchoe luciae*, 16" O.C.
- 5 | BLUE CHALK STICKS  
*Senebco serpens*, 12" O.C.
- 6 | JACK SPRATT NEW ZEALAND FLAX  
*Phormium 'Jack Spratt'*, 24" O.C.

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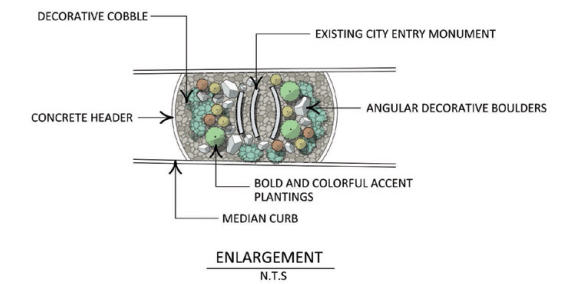
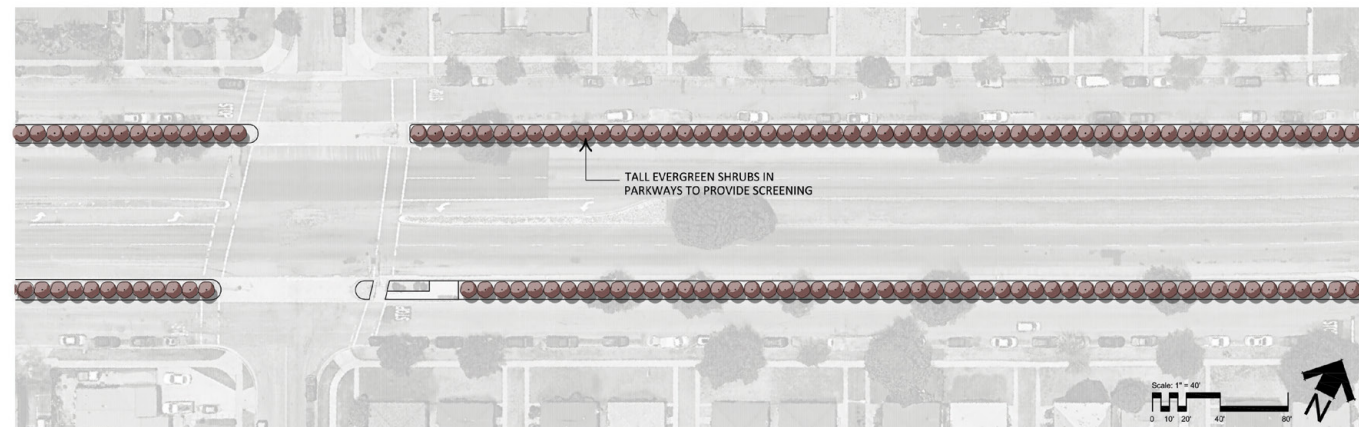


FIGURE 8 - Entry Monument Sign Landscape Concept Plan

## 8 | PARKWAY SCREENING

### RECOMMENDED SCREEN PLANTS



DWARF CAROLINA LAUREL CHERRY, *Prunus caroliniana* 'Compacta', 72" O.C.



PURPLE HOPSEED BUSH, *Dodonea viscosa* 'Purpurea', 72" O.C.

FIGURE 9 - Parkway Screening Concept Plan



**To:** Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Acting City Manager/Director of Parks and Recreation  
**Meeting Date:** October 23, 2018  
**Subject:** CITYWIDE ROADWAY MEDIAN LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN (CIP NO. 30005) - STATUS UPDATE

**Recommendation:**

1. Receive and file a status update of the City of Pico Rivera Citywide Roadway Median Master Plan.

**Fiscal Impact:**

There is no fiscal impact as a result of the recommended action.

**Discussion:**

In April 2014, Governor Jerry Brown issued an executive order in response to the prolonged drought conditions throughout the State of California. The executive order mandated numerous water conservation measures and prohibited numerous water-wasting practices. In addition, it required the California State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) to develop regulations relating to water conservation.

The drought continued in the following years prompting a series of Governor executive orders and subsequent amendments to the Water Code by the Water Board. Cities throughout California, including Pico Rivera, were also required to adopt or amend local ordinances to conform to State regulations. Although California has experienced improved drought conditions and rainfall totals, Governor Brown issued the latest of these executive orders (No. B-40-17) in April 2017 instructing the Water Board to amend State regulations to rescind some of the mandated conservation measures while continuing others.

One of the prohibited practices that was adopted in the 2014 executive order and continued with the 2017 executive order is the watering of ornamental turf on public street medians. Executive Order No. B-40-17 lists this use of water as one of five permanently prohibited wasteful practices.

A significant percentage of the existing 490,000 square feet of roadway medians in Pico Rivera were landscaped with ornamental grass. Since the water to these medians was turned off in April 2014 in compliance with the Governor's executive order, the grass and other vegetation has died.

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On June 12, 2018, the City Council authorized the Acting City Manager to execute an agreement with David Volz Design, Landscape Architects to develop a Master Plan for median landscape restoration throughout the City, encompassing aesthetically pleasing drought tolerant landscaping and irrigation compliant with State regulations. Street arterials selected for development of the Master Plan include Paramount Boulevard, Rosemead Boulevard, San Gabriel River Parkway, Slauson Avenue, Washington Boulevard and Whittier Boulevard. The Master Plan will also provide random order of magnitude estimates for the cost of the landscape restoration that can be used to develop a phased construction program that will complement the City's Pavement Management Program. The goal is to restore the medians simultaneously with the roadway improvements (i.e., reconstructions, rehabilitation, cape seal) as part of the Pavement Management Program.

At the Transportation Ad-Hoc Committee meeting, comprised of Mayor Gustavo Camacho and Mayor Pro Tem Brent Tercero, on August 22, 2018, David Volz Design, Landscape Architects presented two design concepts to the committee members for review and approval. Design Option A incorporated a landscape concept for each arterial corridor selected as part of the Master Plan. Design Option B incorporated a landscape concept based on adjacent land use of each arterial. Both design concepts include water conservation, reduction of maintenance and increased visual appeal and attractiveness of city streets. The Transportation Ad-Hoc Committee selected Design Option A to be incorporated to the Master Plan and direction was given to present Design Option A to the City Council for review and comment.

Following presentation to the City Council, comments will be incorporated into the final conceptual plans and the final Master Plan Report that will be approved at a subsequent City Council Meeting.



Arlene Salazar

AES:KG:lg

Enclosure: 1) Presentation