

DATE: August 1, 2016

TO: Michael O. Geisel, P.E.
Director of Public Services

FROM: James A. Eckrich, P.E. *JAE*
Public Works Director / City Engineer

RE: Ladue Road – Easternmost Island



*Forward to PPW
for consideration
me
8/1/2016*

In February of 2016 the Planning and Public Works Committee was provided a detailed presentation on Ladue Road, specifically the four islands just east of Greentrails Drive South. At that time the Planning and Public Works Committee authorized Staff to send a letter to each residence in the Ladue Trails Subdivision explaining the situation and why the City of Chesterfield will not mow those islands. Since the issuance of that letter there have been no problems with those four islands, and each island is being mowed regularly.

While there are no current problems associated with the four islands near Greentrails Drive South, the City of Chesterfield regularly receives complaints regarding the appearance of the easternmost island on Ladue Road, located near Cross Trails Drive. This island was created as part of the Route 141 project, and was intended to be landscaped in a manner similar to the other islands created as part of that project. However, MODOT was unable to secure an easement from the nearby Montessori School, and therefore could not provide irrigation to this island. Without irrigation there is no ability to beautify the island, and it contains only mulch.

Please be advised that this island differs in two important ways from the four islands previously discussed by the Planning and Public Works Committee:

- 1) This island was created as part of the Route 141 project and was intended to be beautified in some manner by the City of Chesterfield. Conversely, the four islands near Greentrails Drive South were created as part of the Ladue Trails and Trails West subdivisions, and have always been maintained by the subdivisions.
- 2) The easternmost island is much smaller than the other four islands. The easternmost island is approximately 54 square yards, while the other four islands are approximately 2,000 square yards.

The City of Chesterfield could correct the appearance of this island by installing stamped and colored concrete within the island. This stamped and colored concrete would match the nearby MODOT islands located to the east. The cost of the stamped concrete (material only) would be under \$1,000 and could be constructed by City maintenance personnel.

It has been mentioned previously, but bears repeating, that the City of Chesterfield could not have simply paved the four islands near Greentrails Drive South as part of the Ladue Road Reconstruction Project. Paving those islands would have added to the impervious area within the

project limits, resulting in the project no longer qualifying as a “maintenance” project during MSD review. This would have necessitated that the City add water quality features to the project, which would have changed the scope of the project and added substantially to the cost. As detailed in the February presentation, the City likely could pave these four islands now, but this work would be much more substantive than paving the easternmost island and would likely need to be contracted.

Action Recommended

This matter should be forwarded to the Planning and Public Works Committee for consideration. Should PPW concur with Staff’s recommendation, it should vote to authorize Staff to replace the mulch from the easternmost island on Ladue Road with stamped and colored concrete. The estimated material cost of under \$1,000 can be absorbed in the existing Street Maintenance Division Budget.