

Oak Park MAC CSA 4 Landscape Committee Report: August 2025
Submitted by: Brian Trushinski, CSA 4 Landscape Committee Chair

- The Committee met on August 6th. Attendees included Brian Trushinski, Supervisor Gorell's staff (Ashley Bautista, Crystal Stratton), Ventura County Public Works Agency staff (George Andrade) and Mariposa Landscapes, Inc. Oak Park citizen volunteer Brian Mattson also attended.
- Brian Trushinski and Brian Mattson presented the following concerns to the Committee about the current level of service being provided by Mariposa Landscapes, Inc. for the CSA 4 Area:
 - Excessive amounts of fallen pine needles on several sections of sidewalks along Kanan Road (Hawthorne Drive to Deerhill Road).
 - Excessive amounts of dead dry leaves around the bases of many plants in the Kanan Road center median and on both sides of Kanan Road.
 - Kanan Road center median turf is being cut too low and receiving virtually no irrigation. The turf is noticeably dried out and looks very bad. It looks tired and neglected.
 - There were sidewalk sections along Hawthorne Drive and Golden Eagle Drive that had significant dirt/ dried mud on the surface from improper irrigation down the adjacent hillside slopes. Brian Trushinski and the MAC have been asking since June how this will be resolved by Mariposa. This is a public safety issue and the problem regularly occurs.
 - In early July, Mariposa committed to put together a planting design and project cost estimate to replace the existing annual flowers in front of the Kanan Road monument sign and the Oak Park Community board (Kanan and Tamarind) with perennial plants. Mariposa has not provided the design or quote to date.
 - In early July, Mariposa committed to inspect the plantings along the north side of Hawthorne Drive (Bowfield to Rockfield) to determine why most of the plants that Enhanced Landscapes planted died (soil conditions, irrigation supply, appropriateness of species planted). They said that they would provide a recommended planting design and cost estimate. This has not been done to date. What is the status?
 - In early July, Mariposa committed to put together a planting design and cost estimate for Phase 2 of the Hawthorne Drive planting project (for the obvious bare patches on the south side from Bowfield to Kanan, and on the north side from Rockfield to Kanan). This has not been done to date. What is the status?
 - How is Mariposa planning to address the excessive leaf-falls that will occur on CSA 4 sidewalks and planting areas from September-December? Brian said that this is a major public safety issue and should be done by Mariposa on a weekly basis for all of CSA 4 and not on the company's recommended 'quad section' schedule. Mariposa has not provided a response to date.

- How is Mariposa planning to address erosion control from the adjacent hillside slopes (from the winter rainfalls) and resulting mud conditions on public sidewalks (potential pedestrian and cyclist slip and fall situation)? Brian said that this should be done by Mariposa on a weekly basis for all of CSA 4 and not on the company's 'quad section' schedule. Mariposa has not provided a response to date.
- In conclusion:
 1. Despite the presence of available funding in the Ventura County Board of Supervisor's-approved 2025/26 CSA 4 budget, the MAC's 2025 Work Plan for landscaping projects and public safety concerns continues not to be addressed by the landscaping contractor.
 2. There is an increasing level of resident dissatisfaction with the way CSA 4 landscaping looks. Several residents expressed their concerns and frustrations at the June 26th Oak Park MAC meeting. At that meeting, some residents and MAC members said that the landscaping is the worst it has looked in many years, and that Oak Park is not being properly served.

-End of Report -