



**To:** Community Development Committee of Dublin City Council  
**From:** Dana L. McDaniel, City Manager  
**Date:** October 27, 2017  
**Initiated By:** Matt Earman, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Shawn Krawetzki, Landscape Architect  
**Re:** Proposed Emerald Parkway Corridor Landscape Enhancements

## Background

Over the last two years, there have been discussions / requests to refresh the City's streetscapes and median landscapes. Recent focus of these discussions has included the major thoroughfares and gateway entrances of Dublin along Emerald Parkway between Tuttle Crossing Blvd and City Hall, the West Bridge Street Corridor from I-270 to the new roundabout at Rt. 161 and Riverside Drive, Frantz Road from Rt. 161 to Tuttle Crossing Blvd. The main emphasis of the discussions have been to enhance the landscaping to expose the stone walls by selecting lower plant materials, to add evergreens for additional winter interest, and add more year round color that will enhance the City's thoroughfares.

Staff's estimate of funding for the Emerald Parkway Corridor Landscape Enhancements is \$150,000.00.

## Descriptions

### *Emerald Parkway Corridor*

Most of the medians along the Emerald Parkway Corridor are comprised of perennial plantings and decorative grasses. These types of plantings provide colorful plantings from early spring through late fall. However, as they become dormant in the fall season, the plantings become less desirable and ultimately are cut back for the winter and early spring months. This leaves the City's medians bare for about half of the year.

The intent of refreshing these medians is to add salt tolerant evergreen and other colorful woody shrub plantings that will extend the aesthetic value of the Emerald Parkway medians throughout the year. This would be accomplished by modifying the existing planting beds rather than completely replacing all of the plants. This method will reduce overall costs and provide the needed evergreen and color enhancing planting that is needed to carry the medians over all four seasons. The other goal is to replace the plantings in front of the stone walls, along the rights of way, with lower plant material to expose and celebrate the stone walls that are so symbolic of the City of Dublin.

## Recommendation

Staff will present conceptual plans of planting enhancements to the Emerald Parkway Corridor for the Community Development Committee's review and discussion.