**Request for Proposal (RFP) to Address the Indian Wells South Landscape Barrier Overgrowth and Aging Plants Situation**

Our southern landscape barrier has become over-grown with both the originally planted species as well as new “volunteers”. We are looking for affordable solutions to bring the barrier back to be:

* aesthetically pleasing
* maintainable (Our current landscape contract requires an additional cost for cutting hedges above 6’. While that can be probably renegotiated if there are solutions that don’t get us to that height, it is not a bad starting point for discussion purposes for this RFP)
* hearty

It is important that we don’t create openings for people to walk through and that we this work in a phased approach over several years so that the financial burden is ~$5K/yr.

There are likely many different approaches that might accomplish this and we welcome your thoughts regarding both our base option and your alternatives to our base option.

Our base option would be to replace the landscape shown on the diagram that follows in phases over several years. We would start by replacing the row closest to the neighborhood and once it matures enough to close gaps, replace the row adjacent to Mustang Island. Within that first row, we would start at the center and work towards the ends as money allows each year. One member of our committee recommended schefflera but we are open to other recommendations.

Some of the questions we have with this base option include:

1. What is the length of the hedge we could achieve in each phase assuming a $5K/yr. expenditure, a mulch bed and using schefflera?
2. Are there different aesthetically pleasing barrier plants that you would recommend and what would that do to the length of hedge/yr. and timing to an impenetrable hedge?
3. How quickly would the plants mature enough at planting distances assumed above to prevent people from walking though that barrier?
4. What would you do to prevent re-growth of existing plants in the footprint of the new plants?

As another option, please assess the current landscaping and determine if some of this can be re-worked in a way that makes sense, given the age and growth of the plants, while meeting our same goals and constraints of cost/yr. to provide us a better, more cost-effective solution What would that look like from a scope/yr. standpoint?

Lastly, what are other options you suggest and what do they look like from scope and implementation perspectives? Also, what are the overall savings if we chose to spend somewhat more than $5K/yr.?

Please provide your proposal to:

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