Oakley Parks and Landscape Division Spruces up Subdivision Signs

The City of Oakley Parks and Landscape Division, being disappointed in seeing several Oakley subdivision entrance signs on busy roadways looking poorly, has taken proactive measures by cleaning and painting some of the signs around the city.

Though the maintenance (repair and replacement) of subdivision entrance signs, sound walls and fences is the responsibility of the homeowners, or under the jurisdiction of a homeowners association if one is established, the Parks Division took it upon themselves to make some of the subdivision entrances more inviting and livable.

Jesse Dela Cruz, Oakley Parks and Landscape Foreman, said “the Parks and Landscape Division takes pride in doing their best to keep landscaping and parks maintained in a clean and pleasing manner with the resources available. With a very small amount of time and expense we enhanced some neighborhoods.”

Dela Cruz added, “We’re not changing City policy or accepting on-going responsibility. We saw an opportunity to impact a situation positively and acted. Most people I hope would be appreciative; however, there will always be a few who will complain for variety of reasons.”

City Manager Bryan Montgomery would prefer to applaud the Parks and landscape Division for their initiative and care in wanting Oakley to look nice. Montgomery also sees this as an opportunity to educate residents, who aren’t aware, that most of the subdivision signs, sound walls, and fences are constructed on private property, and individual homeowners or HOA’s are responsible for maintaining these signs, walls, and fences.
Even though graffiti on private property is also the responsibility of property owners, maintenance crews do remove graffiti on many privately-owned subdivision sound walls and fences as soon as possible, especially graffiti that is gang related or contains obscene language or images.

When asked, Mayor Doug Hardcastle said, “I would like to encourage all residents to rally their neighbors to organize to see what they can do to help beautify their neighborhoods and Oakley.” Hardcastle went on to say, “I recall a couple of years ago the Vintage Parkway residents got together to repair and repaint fences on Vintage Parkway and Big Break Road, along with planting some additional landscaping, and the City collaborated providing some staff and financial assistance. With everyone’s cooperation, we can make a big difference!”

Hardcastle suggested groups interested in having a clean-up or beautification day should contact Nancy Marquez, Assistant to the City Manager, at Marquez@ci.oakley.ca.us