



URBAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE CALGARY CHAPTER

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Issue: Information items related to the review and revision of the 2001 Development Guidelines and Standards Specifications Landscape Construction manual.

Background information: As part of the annual Residential Development Agreement negotiations, UDI participates in a review of various technical standards and specifications. As a result of a recent meeting with representatives of Park Development and Operations, the following items were discussed and are now being provided as information for the UDI membership.

ITEM 1

Parks had proposed a change to the Subgrade, Topsoil, Sodding, Seeding criteria (page 84, item 8.a) whereby the 2% requirement for organic matter would be increased and the range in acceptable pH level would be reduced.

UDI and Parks have agreed that it may not necessary to apply this type of soil amendment city-wide. As soil testing is already part of the CCC process, Parks will compile this information as it is submitted to them over the coming year. The results of the soil testing will be reviewed and discussed next year.

ITEM 2

Parks proposed a change to the type of tree damage which is allowed by inspectors when approving the CCC and FAC. All items which can result in a tree being rejected are currently included in the manual as well as the CNTA specifications. All UDI members are reminded that the City specifications and the CNTA standards must be adhered to at all times.

ITEM 3

On a regular basis, Park Development and Operations reviews the economics and cost effectiveness of irrigation systems. As a result of this initiative, the City is planning to accept irrigation design drawings stamped by Certified Irrigation Designers for approval without requiring additional approval from a Landscape Architect. The period for implementation will be between five and ten years.

ITEM 4

UDI members are reminded that park construction must not begin until all plans are approved by the City of Calgary. Parks has advised UDI that some site construction is well underway prior to plans being submitted for approval. Existing processes and procedures must be followed by the industry.

ITEM 5

Parks Development and Operations would like to advise all UDI members that the City is no longer accepting installation of Columbia Cascade play structures as it does not meet CSA Standards. In addition, Parks would like to recommend that all companies in this industry familiarize themselves with CSA standards. In some cases, it has been found that although the equipment itself meets approval, the installation does not meet the required standard.

If you require additional information about any of these issues, please contact Shelley Coss at the UDI office at 668-5228.