



2016 PROJECT AWARDS APPLICATION FORM

All Applications Must Be Received By March 31, 2016

The First Annual Katy Area Districts Council Project Awards will be presented at a special awards event to be held on April 19, 2016 in Katy, Texas. Katy Area Municipal Utility and other Special Purpose Districts are eligible to submit applications. The recipients will be judged in each of the five award categories that have made significant contributions to the Katy area community.

AWARD CATEGORIES

The Districts Council Awards will be presented to one District in each of the following categories:

- I. Water District I: Less than 500 water connections
- II. Water District II: 501 to 1,000 water connections
- III. Water District III: 1,001 to 1,500 water connections
- IV. Water District IV: 1,500 water connections and up
- V. ESD, Improvement District or Other District not including Water

NOMINATION

Name of District: HARRIS COUNTY MUD #71

District Award Category (See above: I, II, III, IV or V):

Address: 3200 SW FREIGHTWAY, STE 2600 City: HOUSTON State: TX Zip: 77027

Phone #: 713.860.6489

Fax #:

Email:

Website:

Application Submitted By:

Title:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

SUBMITTED FOR: (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

☐ Water and Wastewater Facilities

☒ Landscaping, Parks & Trails

☐ Water Conservation

☐ Roads and other Public Infrastructure



**HARRIS COUNTY
MUNICIPAL
UTILITY
DISTRICT NO. 71**



Harris County Municipal Utility District NO. 71 (HCMUD71) is pleased to submit an application to the Katy Area Districts Council Awards program. HCMUD71 is a category IV Water District with approximately 5,200 water connections. HCMUD71 is submitting an award application for Landscaping, Parks & Trails. The following summarizes the District's project, ***DIRECTORS PARK REFORESTATION PROJECT***, according to the criteria provided.

INNOVATIVENESS

From energy to health care, or aerospace and information technology, it is no wonder that the greater Houston / Harris County area is such a vital, dynamic and desirable area to live, work and play. As development occurs within and adjacent to the District, the Board of Directors strives to provide a balance between the quality of life for its residents while supporting a growing commercial tax base. More roads, houses, utility poles and retail centers equate to less green space for us humans and our native wildlife and trees.

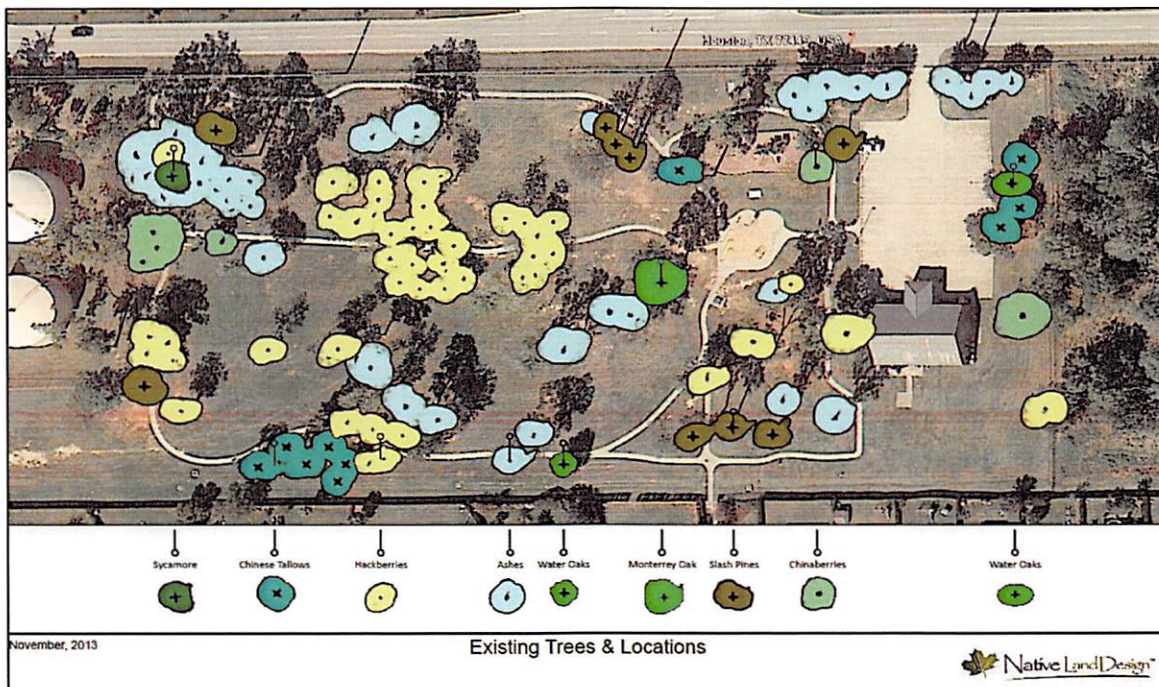
As a long-time proponent of parks, HCMUD71 operates and maintains eleven (11) parks, green spaces and amenity lakes for the communities use and enjoyment. With ongoing development in the area HCMUD71 recognized the need to reestablish native trees in the area through a reforestation program at Director's Park.

TREE FACT: One acre of trees removes up to 2.6 tons of carbon dioxide each year.

DIRECTORS PARK = 6 ACRES
15.6 tons of carbon dioxide removed annually.

The District's reforestation program is innovative in several ways:

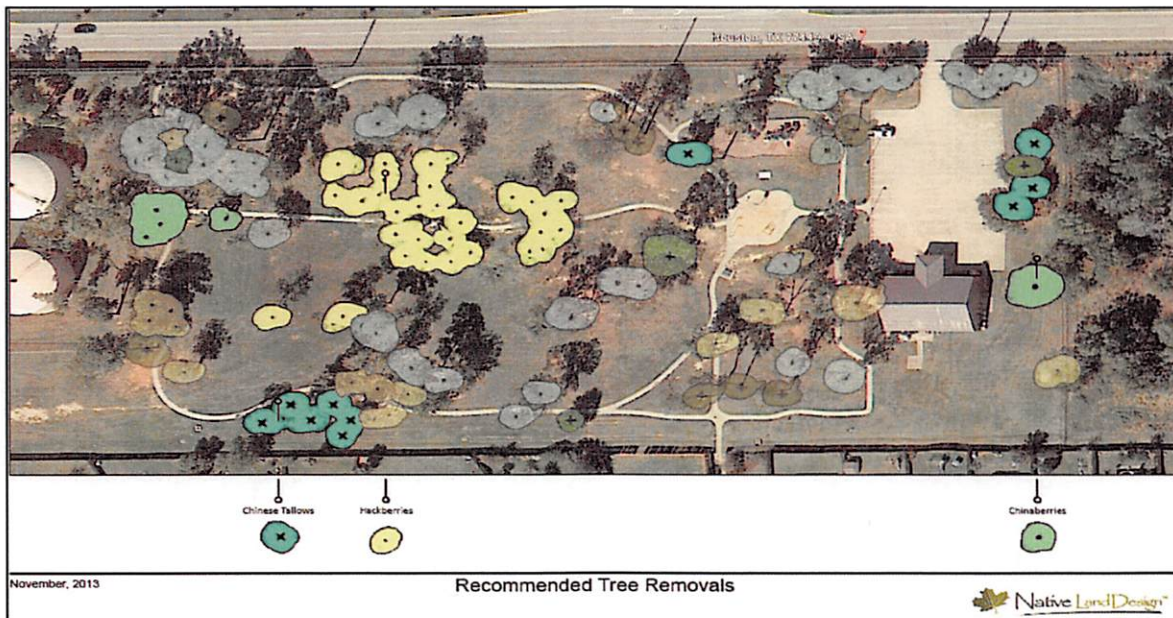
- The phased removal of non-native and invasive species of trees reduced the impact of shade removal to park users.
- Phased installation of native species of trees at optimum times of the year encouraged establishment with minimum watering requirements.
- Installation phases were determined by location to provide the most visual impact to areas with the heaviest use by park visitors.



TRANSFERABILITY

HCMUD71's Reforestation Project is great model for use in other communities. Our project consisted of five (5) phases of plantings and removals, consisting of 121 newly planted trees and approximately 42 tree removals over the course of a year and a half. The District planted trees ranging in size between 30 – 65 gallon so that their installation would have an immediate visual impact to the area. They planted nine (9) different varieties of native trees and one non-native tree species. Diversifying the plantings helps to reduce the catastrophic impact of an infestation of disease or pests and promotes a diversified aviary habitat as well.

Although HCMUD71 chose to plant larger sized trees and a large quantity of trees, our model could be used by other organizations that may not have the resources to implement a project of this size. Quantities and sizes of trees could easily be substituted to make this a viable project for many other agencies.



COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

Although no formal survey was performed or public meeting held to gauge support for the project, the project came to fruition because of the need for additional shade expressed by the parks users and due to the poor health of many of the existing trees. This park receives the highest visitation of any park in the District and park users provided input to the Board of Directors and staff as to their desire for more trees and park furnishings.

Since the completion of the Reforestation Project the District receives continual compliments and words of appreciation by the parks users.

MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES

The success of a project is defined in the project management industry as meeting the following five (5) performance factors: Schedule, Scope, Budget, Quality of Work, and Customer Satisfaction.

SCHEDULE

The project was completed in five (5) phases between November of 2013 and the fall / winter of 2014 as originally planned.

TREE FACT: Trees reduce UV-B exposure by about 50%.

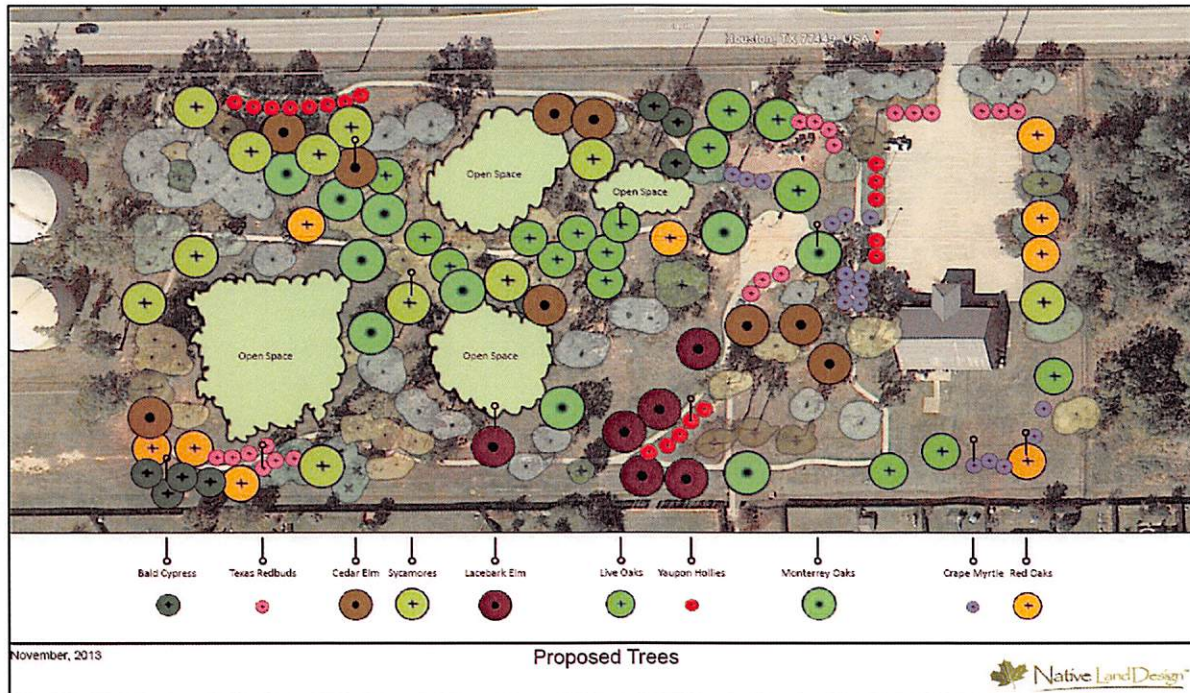
DIRECTORS PARK: Trees provide protection to children enjoying the splashpad from the most common form of cancer, skin.

SCOPE

The project scope was to implement five (5) phases of new tree and irrigation installation, and removal of non-native and invasive species of existing trees. 121 trees were installed as originally planned and 42 trees were removed; 2 trees less than originally planned. Project was completed within the original schedule and budget.

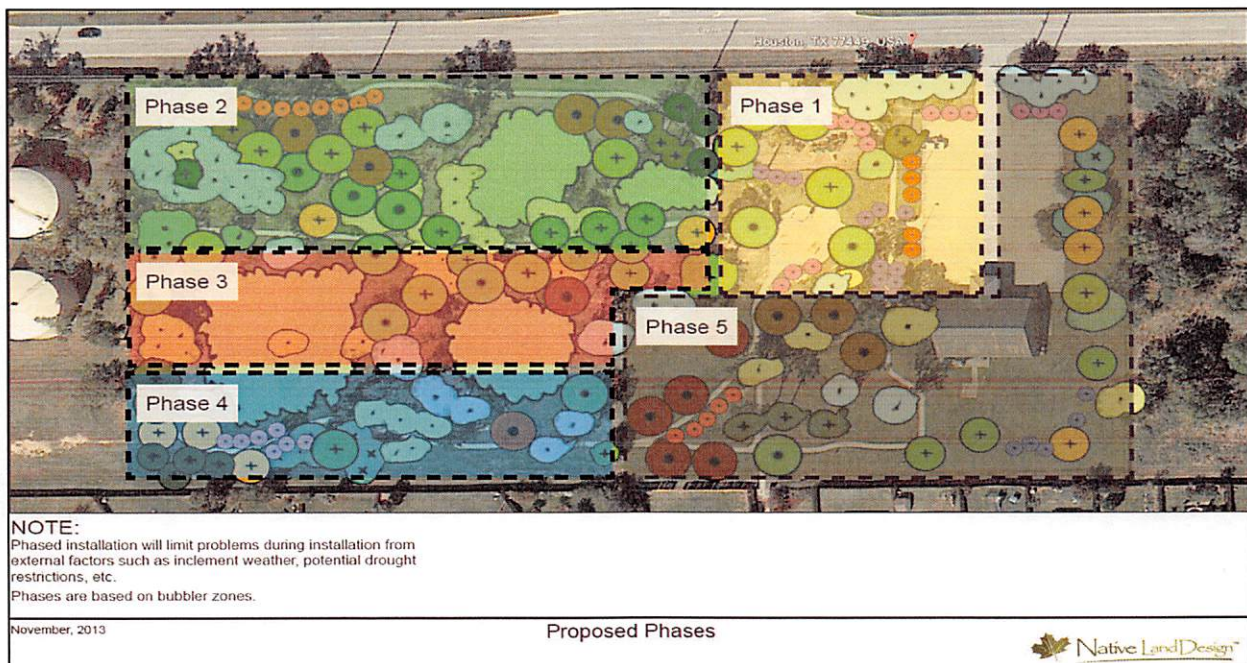
BUDGET

The project was completed in the exact amount that was initially budgeted, \$108,652.35.



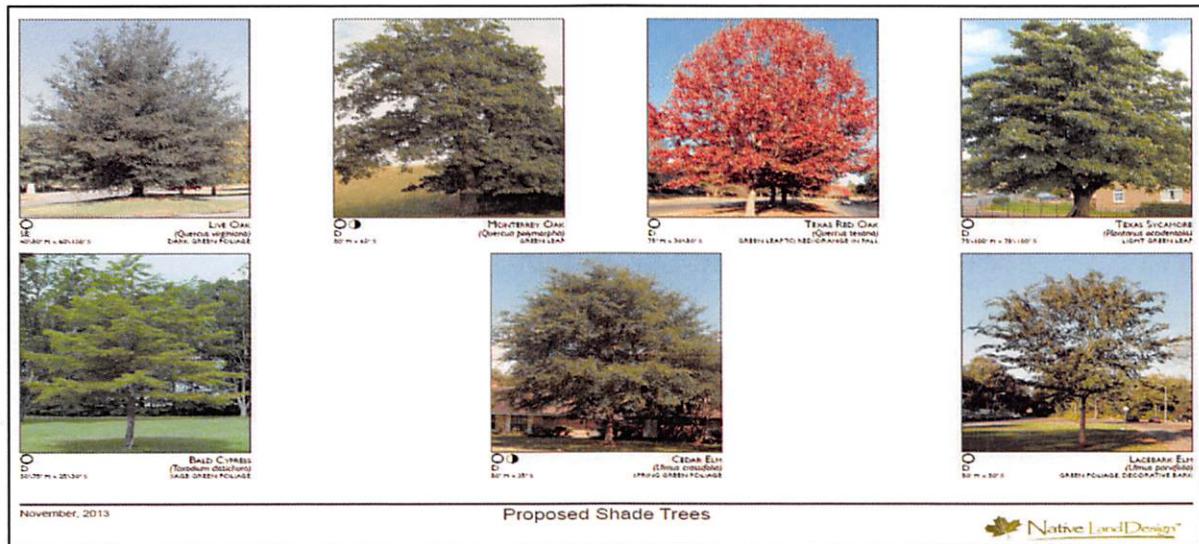
QUALITY OF WORK

The trees were installed in accordance with "best practices" standards within the landscape management industry and irrigation installation was performed under the supervision of a Texas licensed irrigator. Trees to be removed were identified by the landscape architect for the project and removal was supervised by a certified arborist. New plantings were warranted for one year; several trees required replacement during the first year at no expense to the District.



CUSTOMER SATISFACTION

The HCMUD71 Board of Directors were extremely satisfied with the final product delivered upon completion of Phase 5 of the project due to the previous four (4) performance factors being met.

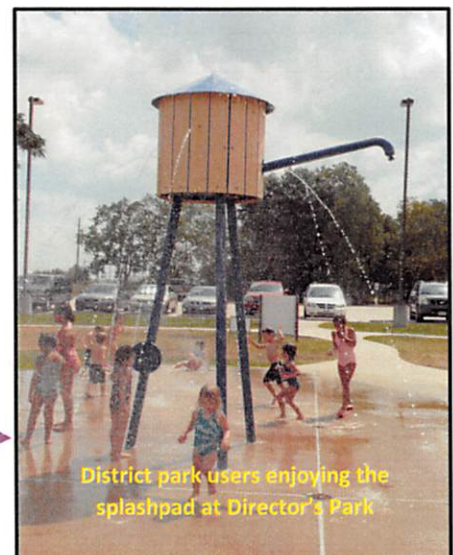


SECONDARY BENEFITS

HCMUD71 believes the community as a whole benefitted from this project because of the following Tree Facts:

- Trees combat climate change
- Trees clean the air
- Trees provide oxygen
- Trees provide a habitat for wildlife
- Trees increase property values
- Trees add unity and civic pride
- Trees bring diverse groups of people together
- Trees help prevent water pollution

PLUS, HAPPY PARK USERS ☐



PROJECT TEAM

HCMUD71 Board of Directors:

Katrina Thornhill, President

Pam Kerr, Vice President

Mary DuBois, Secretary

Phillip Smith, Assistant Vice President

Jennifer Elms, Assistant Secretary

Garth Freeze, Former Director

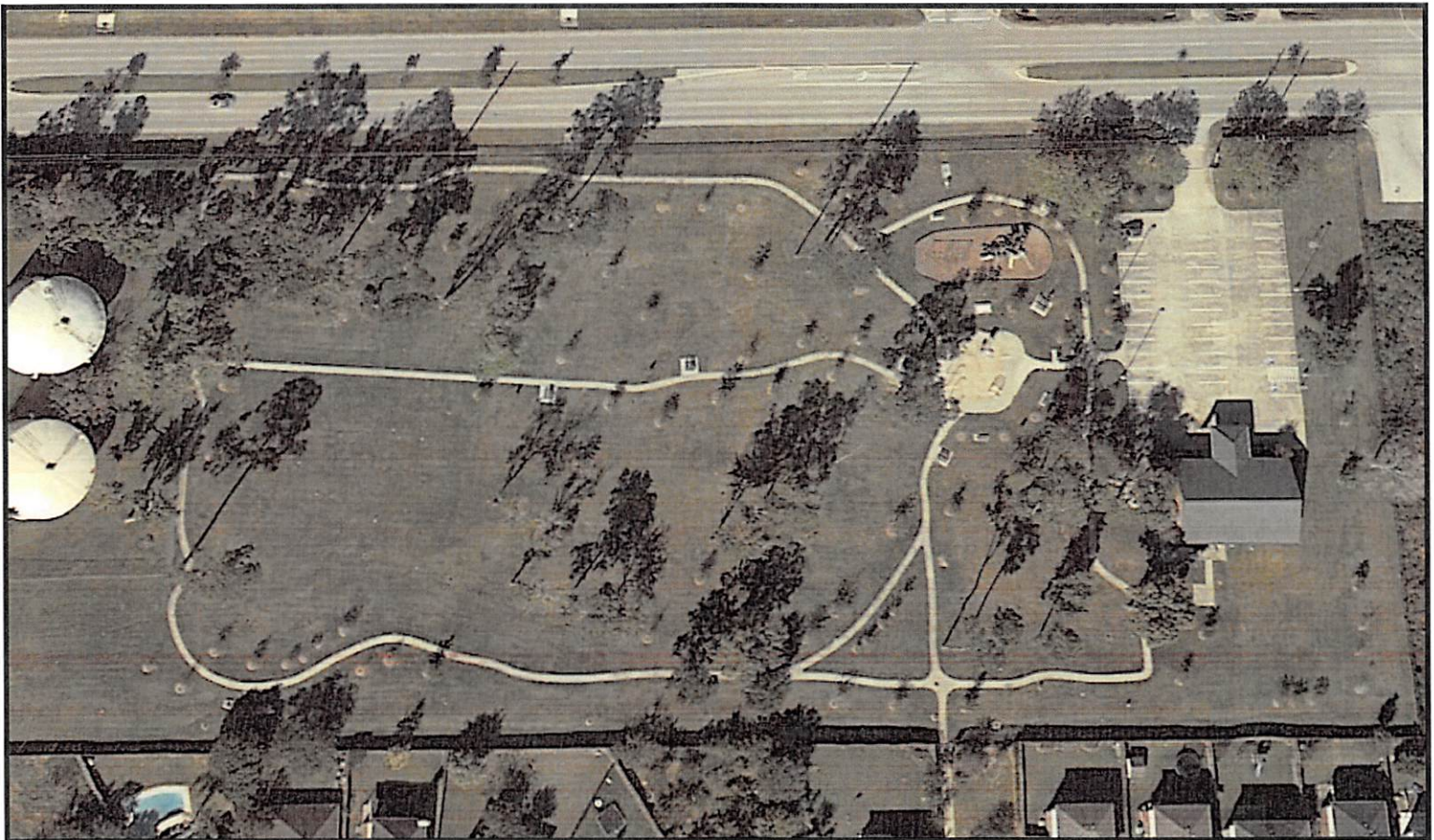
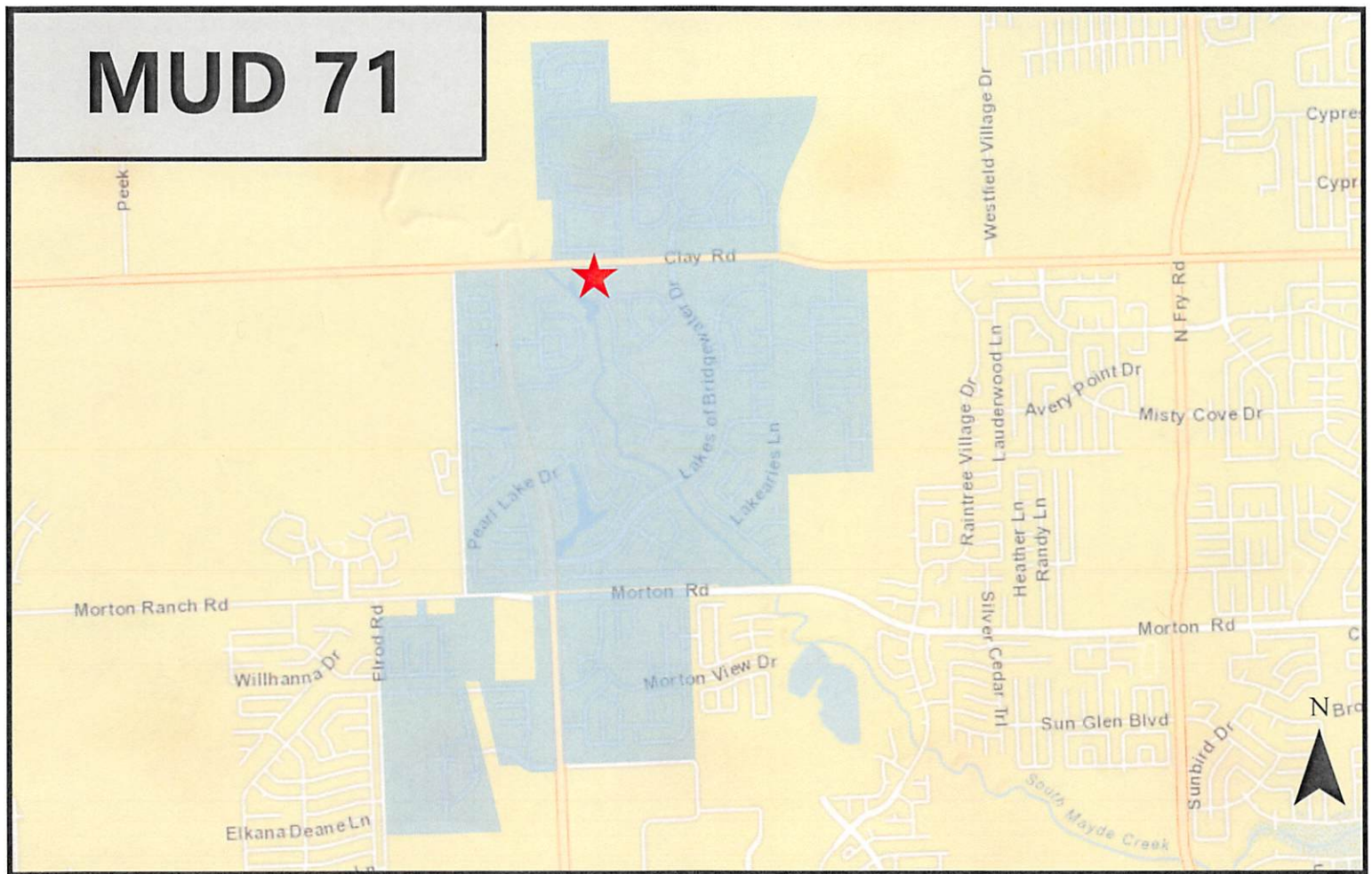
Project Management: *Mike Stone Associates, Inc.*

Project Design & Installation: *Native Land Design*

District Attorney: *ABHR*



MUD 71



DIRECTORS PARK