

HALRI NEARLY DOUBLES LANDSCAPE BUDGET
2018 TOTAL LANDSCAPE BUDGET \$13,100; 2019 \$22,700

Though it is nice to see the entrance gardens looking better, it does come at a price. The Board had tried to keep our former landscape company, for about the same price, while adding all the new boulevard garden's into the job. Of course that wasn't going to work. A new company has been hired for the whole job, at a substantially higher price tag.

I wonder if the Board considered this when designing the entrance? Did they think to estimate the additional annual cost of upkeep? Could the gardens have possibly been designed with more low maintenance plants and hardscape elements to reduce cost of upkeep? In a letter that I sent to each board member individually, at the time (April 21, 2012), I asked some of these questions. ([See letter here.](#))

What if we streamlined some of the gardens, eliminate the "temple of the bunny bench," Remove the broken fountain? Why do we need a water-feature, when we have a whole lake!

What if we took advantage of our amazing and unique lake; creating a nautical theme entrance? Maybe we could include some low maintenance hardscapes like faux piers, ropes, some decking, gazebo and bench seating; and garden areas composed of smooth river rocks and tall grasses?

Anyone else have ideas? Or maybe you're OK with the \$20,000 price tag? Or maybe you won't mind when the Board raises the annual assessment . . . again.

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