

**Re: Irrigation**

Hello Rick,

I understand that you will provide an update on committee progress at the homeowners meeting. Our Committee is continuing its work in better understanding the Park irrigation system, evaluating options and assisting staff in finding solutions which are in the best interest of MLE. In the next week we will provide an updated summary of work to date and recommended steps forward.

In the interim I can report that:

The residential system, pipe and control is not in need of immediate replacement and may continue to operate from the integrated pipe system shared with the golf course. Options will be explored to separate the systems either by independent piping or operation of the pump station at different pressures at different hours. Longer term plans to gradually rehabilitate the residential system will be aided by a CAD (digital mapping) representation of the system. Better knowledge of our existing system is key in planning future expenditures in an economical and effective manner – we have to know what we have and where it is before looking at replacement.

The golf course system now requires at least the replacement of the hydraulic controls with electric. It should be noted that the greens already have electric control. If irrigation coverage is adequate, the existing piping and heads can be retained at a considerable cost savings. At this time the repair history does not justify further replacement. Once accurate drawings of the system are available we recommend an irrigation expert evaluate the system and offer options ranging from needed improvement of the existing to total replacement along with preliminary costs. Much will depend on a decision on the extent of renovation to the course.

Our primary recommendation is to proceed now with digital representation (CAD) of the entire irrigation system in order to document location and condition of the components. This would enable us to properly evaluate alternatives and associated costs. Our committee has made considerable progress which should result in lower cost and less time required in carrying out the mapping project. Once the digital mapping is available we recommend that all contracted technical expertise should work from the this same base. We will continue to offer our expertise to staff in carrying out next steps.

Please realize this is a short, preliminary comment to assist in keeping our home owners informed. We can provide greater detail as appropriate.

I should note that I have been impressed with expertise and hard work by the members of the irrigation committee and by the excellent working relationship with Nancy Miller and other staff. If we can continue in this direction I think we can offer park residents the right solution at a reasonable cost.

Angus Ross  
Chairperson  
Committee on Irrigation.