

It's Time to Vote on the GID

Submitted by the Joint HOA Perimeter Fence Committee

Our journey on the perimeter fence project began with a series of community meetings in February. But the journey truly began when Willow Creek was built in the 1970s. Our neighborhood was carved out of open ranch land when Dry Creek and County Line were dirt roads. Our first "dog-ear" perimeter cedar fence between brick columns was the typical material used for desirable residential neighborhoods like ours.

By the late 1980s, C-470 had been built, the Dry Creek/I-25 exit had been created, and new neighborhoods and businesses were springing up all around. Roads on all four sides of Willow Creek were widened to accommodate the accompanying rapidly increasing traffic. In 1989, the leaders of Willow Creek 1 & 2 collaborated to build a second, upgraded cedar fence, incorporating the original brick columns into the new design.

Our Willow Creek community has also grown and changed in so many ways over these years. We homeowners have also updated our homes to reflect modern times and trends. Nearly totally gone are our cedar roofs, dark faux wood paneling, linoleum floors, foil wallpaper, and railroad tie landscaping replaced with new modern materials, styles and appearances.

Now, using a General Improvement District, we have the opportunity to make a change regarding the image of our community projected by our perimeter fence. This opportunity comes in the form of two ballot questions, 6C and 6D on the November general election ballot that all active registered voters will receive in the mail in mid October. There is a complete description of the ballot questions in another article in this Willow Talk edition.

Through our votes on these two questions (6C and 6D) we residents will determine whether we fund construction of a masonry perimeter fence via low cost tax exempt bonds -- with the advantages of improved appearance, lower maintenance cost, durability, noise abatement and safety - or in the alternative, whether we prefer to live with the existing fence, or to pay increased dues or a special assessment to repair, replace and then continue to repair cedar fencing for decades into the future. The cedar option is cheaper in the short run, but offers none of the advantages of masonry, and may be just as expensive in the long run.

As you consider making your decision, copies of presentations made to the community via a series of community meetings early this year and articles in the Willow Talk and the Willow Wisp are posted on your HOA website for your review.

Please watch for your ballots in the mail in mid October and be sure to vote your preference to make your voice count. In the meantime, feel free to contact the Joint HOA Perimeter Fence Committee at djackso9@aol.com if you have any questions.