

# Tara CDD Newsletter



## COMMUNITY UPDATE

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### Tara CDD 1

Preserve Community Center  
7340 Tara Preserve Lane  
Bradenton, FL 34203  
941-756-2416  
[fieldmanager@taracdd.org](mailto:fieldmanager@taracdd.org)  
[www.taracdd.org](http://www.taracdd.org)

Duane Smith, Field Manager  
(at the Community Center)  
**Office Hours:**  
Tue to Fri: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
[fieldmanager@taracdd.org](mailto:fieldmanager@taracdd.org)

Jennifer Goldyn  
District Manager  
[jgoldyn@rizzetta.com](mailto:jgoldyn@rizzetta.com)  
813-533-2950

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### In This Issue

Latest Community Updates

### COVID-19

**T**he COVID-19 crisis continues to pose challenges for the District. The task of keeping all our residents safe has been complicated by the lack of comprehensive guidelines. In order to deal with the effects of the pandemic in our community, the District has looked at a broad scope of guidance from the County, State, and the Federal Center for Disease Control (CDC). We also considered recommendations from our District Attorney, Property Manager, and Insurance Company to assist us in our decision-making process. Throughout this process, our primary focus was, and remains, the safety of all residents. We continue to monitor data from these sources and advise residents to keep safe and employ measures to help stop the spread of this deadly virus. Secondly, our goal was aimed at maintaining stability of daily operational expenses thus avoiding potentially higher CDD fees. Our 2021 budget has been approved with a slight reduction in fees.

### District Manager

The CDD's new District Manager is Jennifer Goldyn, effective July 1, 2020. She may be contacted at [jgoldyn@rizzetta.com](mailto:jgoldyn@rizzetta.com). We would like to thank Angel Montagna for her guidance and wish her well with her new career.

### Safety

Since our August 2019 newsletter, many improvements have been implemented to our overall infrastructure to maintain and increase homeowners' property values.

Here is a major example:

After many years of lobbying the County for stop signs, Vanessa Baugh, our County District 5 Commissioner, was instrumental in helping secure

construction of two new pedestrian caution signals. The new pedestrian signals and crosswalks are located at two hazardous four-way intersections. The first one is situated at the intersection of Tara Preserve Lane and Tara Boulevard. The second is further up the road on Tailfeather Way. These improvements facilitate traffic flow changes and required re-stripping of crosswalks for enhanced pedestrian safety. By all accounts, the new crosswalks have served to reduce vehicular traffic speed along Tara Boulevard.

Asphalt repaving and resurfacing on Tailfeather Way and Wingspan Way has been partially completed by Manatee County. We have asked for information regarding the resumption and completion of such work throughout the community. Additionally, we have also requested that Manatee County repaint all our stop lines and road traffic safety lines.

### **Community Center**

Extensive repairs and upgrades have been made to our Community Center and outdoor facilities including:

- Pool pavers raised, cleaned and sealed.
- New pool maintenance company hired for enhanced quality care.
- New pool furniture purchased.
- Added a pickle ball court and refurbished all existing courts along with new benches added inside the courts.
- The interior of the community center cleaned and upgraded during the COVID-19 closing.
- New furniture—tables and chairs—purchased.
- New carpeting installed.
- New tile flooring installed in outside pool restrooms.

### **Policies and Procedures**

The Policies and Procedures Guide Book has been updated. Copies are available at the Tara Preserve Community Center.

### **Landscape**

An annual encroachment program is underway to cut back exotics, and remove dead and decaying trees. The goal is to help prevent potential property damage throughout the community during stormy weather.

### **Pond Maintenance**

A new maintenance company, Aquagenix, was hired on July 1, 2020 to provide improved services at a lower cost versus the former vendor. Algae blooms, especially problematic during the hot summer months, will now receive treatments twice a month. Please be aware that it may take some period of time before the ponds return to optimal conditions. Should you have any immediate concerns, please reach out to district management.

Aeration systems were installed in the seven ponds identified prior as candidates for aeration. Due to excess nutrients and fertilizers that flow into the ponds, these systems will help to reduce the formation of algae with the added benefit of requiring lower usage of chemicals.

## **Endangered Species**

Florida Power and Light (FPL) has identified an endangered species of gopher turtles below the high-power transmission lines on CDD grounds. The nests have been marked to preserve the immediate surrounding area, and to protect them from damage. FPL has also provided a nesting platform in the area for ospreys to help keep them safe. In addition, the CDD collaborated with the TMA to fence, gate, and lock the area below the power lines along Stone River Road. The structures were needed to help protect endangered wildlife and to prevent trespassers on ATV's, motorcycles, and other vehicles from accessing the area.

Our District Engineer detected a collapsed large drainage culvert on this property. The culvert serves as drainage and helps flood water flow rapidly out of the Wingspan area. The collapse may have potentially contributed to recent flooding that occurred during torrential rain. FPL has replaced the culvert at their expense.

## **Irrigation**

The two original well pumps that operate the CDD irrigation systems have reached the end of their life cycle. During the recent drought, the pumps failed to function normally and shut down. We upgraded the smaller pumps with larger, more efficient ones that will allow use of clean well water to irrigate rather than pull water from storm ponds.

## **Flooding**

The County has cleaned the storm drains along Tara Preserve Lane to mitigate flooding in the area. In addition, the CDD has also cleaned up debris and excessive growth along a fence line which was washing into the storm system causing blockage and flooding. On June 1, 2020, we experienced a heavy 10-inch rain event without major flooding. This area will be cleaned by our landscaper on a regular basis.

## **Golf Course Sale**

We are pleased to announce new ownership of the Tara Preserve Golf Course. Golf course operations will be business as usual with no plans for home development. The on-site manager is Krishna Persaud. We reached out to him to gain a better understanding of how golf course property impacts homeowners' property values. Mr. Persaud has been invited to attend a future in-person CDD meeting at the Community Center. This meeting will allow him to introduce himself, to share his ideas for golf course improvements and services, and also provide an opportunity for the community to welcome him to Tara Preserve.

**Tara Community Development District 1**  
7340 Tara Preserve Lane  
Bradenton, FL 34203

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August 2020

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Bradenton, FL 34203

PHONE:

941-756-2416

FAX:

941-756-2416

EMAIL:

[fieldmanager@taracdd.org](mailto:fieldmanager@taracdd.org)

Jennifer Goldyn

District Manager

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813.533.2950

Visit us at:

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