

**MOORPARK CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA REPORT**

**TO:** Honorable City Council

**FROM:** David A. Bobardt, Planning Director *DB*  
Prepared by Joseph R. Vacca

**DATE:** March 27, 2008 (CC Meeting of 04/16/08)

**SUBJECT:** Consider Approval of the Proposed Amendment to the Implementation Plan for Improvements Associated with Tract Nos. 5187-1&2 and 5405, the Meridian Hills Residential Development Project, on the Application of William Lyon Homes [Upon Transfer of Ownership of the Meridian Hills Development Project from William Lyon Homes to Resmark Equity Partners, LLC, (ORA Ashford 94, LLC)]

**BACKGROUND**

As a requirement of the Development Agreement for Tract No. 5187, the Meridian Hills residential development project, the applicant is required to submit for approval to the City Council an implementation plan for the construction of on-site and off-site improvements, prior to the issuance of a grading permit. On July 7, 2004, William Lyon Homes received the City Council's approval of an Implementation Plan for the project.

On January 10, 2008, William Lyon Homes verbally informed City staff that their company's interests in the unbuilt portions of the Meridian Hills project (183 lots in Tract 5187 and 17 lots in Tract 5405) had been completely transferred to Resmark LLC, (ORA Ashford 94, LLC). This transaction took place in violation of the terms of the Development Agreement for this project, which requires City Council approval of an amendment to the Implementation Plan to address the responsibilities of a new owner prior to the transfer of ownership. On March 25, 2008, William Lyon Homes submitted a formal application to the City seeking approval of an amendment to the Implementation Plan.

## **DISCUSSION**

The intent of an implementation plan is to identify responsibility for grading and improvements associated with the development of Tract 5187 and Tract 5405. In support of this, the plan establishes a method for ensuring that sureties remain in place and improvements are provided in the event that the developer sells portions of the project to other developers prior to the installation of these improvements. While Resmark, LLC., (ORA Ashford 94, LLC), has indicated that they plan to hold the property without selling off portions of the project until such time as conditions for residential construction become more favorable, the required implementation plan will ensure a smooth transition of rights and responsibilities in the event that an unforeseen change results in the sale of any or all of the project to another entity.

Staff has prepared the draft implementation plan and finds it to be consistent with established construction phasing practices. In addition, it adequately provides for the transfer of development responsibilities and associated sureties without leaving a period during which no sureties would be in place. The construction schedule was originally developed in such a way as to ensure that the required off-site improvements, particularly the widening and re-alignment of Walnut Canyon Road and the construction of a regional flood control basin, would be completed early in the process.

Resmark, LLC., (ORA Ashford 94, LLC), has indicated that they do not expect to be developing the remaining lots for at least two years. Since the transfer of ownership has already occurred, Resmark LLC., (ORA Ashford 94, LLC), is required to comply with an amended implementation plan for the project as reviewed and approved by the City Council before it is adopted. In order to ensure that the area is safe, functional, and livable for the residents of the 65 homes, staff has included items to be immediately completed by William Lyon Homes/Resmark within the Amended Implementation Plan.

Therefore, in addition to ensuring that the Amended Implementation Plan addresses all of the improvements required as conditions of approval of the adopted Development Agreement, Tract Map Nos. 5187-1&2 and 5405 and RPD 1999-02 and 2003-01; the Amended Implementation Plan generally includes the requirement to address the following items at a minimum:

- final paving cap on all streets with occupied homes
- completion of the public multi-use trail
- complete HOA approved improvements for the internal recreation facility
- completion of improvements to the Peters' driveway
- security fencing around the remaining phases
- landscaping enhancements of areas visible from public rights of way
- dust and soil erosion control for the remaining phases

On March 6, 2008, staff and the City Council Ad Hoc committee members attended a Homeowner's Association meeting to hear the neighborhood concerns and answer questions on the City's role in the amendment to the Implementation Plan. Staff mailed out a courtesy notice of this meeting to all homeowners in Tract 5187-1&2 and had a sign board notice of the meeting installed at the pool and recreation facility lot located at the primary gated entrance to the developed residential lots.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the Amended Implementation Plan for improvements to Tract Nos. 5187-1&2 and 5405, subject to review of final language and determination of satisfactory financial capacity by the City Manager and City Attorney.

**ATTACHMENT:**

Draft Amended Implementation Plan for the Meridian Hills Residential Development  
Project Tract Nos. 5187-1&2, and 5405

- *Part One:*
- *Part Two A, and;*
- *Part Two B*

**AMENDED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**  
**MERIDIAN HILLS RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**  
**TRACT 5187-1&2 AND 5405**  
**PART ONE**

**Introduction**

Subsection 6.13 of the Development Agreement for Tract 5187 states:

Prior to approval of the first grading permit for the Property, or approval of the first final map of Tract 5187, whichever occurs first, Developer shall submit and gain approval from City Council of an Implementation Plan. The Implementation Plan shall address the requirements for phasing and construction responsibilities of Developer and any successors including sureties for performance for all grading, construction of storm drains and utilities, private and public streets, and other private and public improvements on or offsite required by Tract 5187, RPD 99-2, and this Agreement. The Implementation Plan shall also address the entities responsible and method and timing of guarantee for each component of Developer's obligations pursuant to Tract 5187, RPD 99-2, and this Agreement and Developer's obligation for a Trail Staging area as referenced in Subsection 6.9 of this Agreement. The approval of the Implementation Plan and any Amendments thereto shall be at the City Council's sole discretion. Prior to sale or transfer of ownership of any portion of Tract 5187 (except individual lots after construction of houses), Developer shall seek City approval of an amendment to the Implementation Plan to address the responsibilities of each entity.

The Amended Implementation Plan is between the City of Moorpark and ORA Ashford 94, LLC, as successor to William Lyon Homes, Inc. ORA Ashford 94, LLC is a single successor managed by Resmark Equity Partners, LLC based in Los Angeles, California.

This Amended Implementation Plan will supersede the Implementation Plan between the City of Moorpark and William Lyon Homes, Inc., originally approved by the City of Moorpark City Council on July 7, 2004. This Amended Implementation Plan for Tract Nos. 5187-1&2 and 5405 addresses the following matters as required by subsection 6.13 of Development Agreement between the City of Moorpark and West Pointe Homes, Inc. dated January 23, 2003:

- Construction Phasing and Responsibilities by ORA Ashford 94, LLC., as successor to William Lyon Homes, and West Pointe Homes, and any subsequent single successor.
- Sureties for performance for all grading, construction of storm drains, sewer, water and other utilities, private and public streets and other private and public improvements on or offsite as required by the Development Agreement and Conditions of Approval for Tract 5187-1&2 and Tract 5405.

- Entities responsible, and method and timing of guarantee for each component of Tract Nos. 5187-1&2 and 5405 RPD Permits 1999-02 and 2003-01 (Project).

### **Transfer of Responsibility**

ORA Ashford 94, LLC, will be responsible for the remaining obligations as required by the Development Agreement, Conditions of Approval, and Affordable Housing Purchase and Sale Agreement for Tract Nos. 5187-1&2 and 5405, notwithstanding the fact that ORA Ashford 94, LLC does not own all of the lots in the Tracts identified in the Development Agreement. If ORA Ashford 94, LLC, chooses to sell any remaining portion of the Project, the Surety Bonds securing completion of the noted improvements for Tract 5187-1&2 and 5405 are to remain the obligation of ORA Ashford 94, LLC, until an amendment to the Implementation Plan is approved by the City Council and the Surety Bonds are thereafter replaced, reduced, or exonerated to the satisfaction of the City Council. Any current owners of the property covered by the Development Agreement and any successors in interest to all or part of the Project understand that construction of and/or occupancy permits for units may be withheld, regardless of whether ORA Ashford 94, LLC owns the units at issue, if ORA Ashford 94, LLC or its successors to this Implementation Plan have not completed the improvements associated with such units.

ORA Ashford 94, LLC, will be responsible for the required improvements for Tract Nos. 5187-1&2 and 5405, including, but not limited to:

1. Holding of an election within 60 days of existing homeowners to determine if the majority prefer to have the recreation facilities and landscaping associated with HOA recreation Lot A of Tract 5187-2 developed at this time, providing an estimate of what the increase in HOA dues would be for maintenance. Obtaining of building permits and completion of this improvement to the City's satisfaction within 90 days of the election if a majority of the homeowners support completion of this improvement at this time. If the majority vote is opposed to full improvements of the recreation facilities at this time, then an interim landscaping and irrigation plan including trees, shrubs and ground cover, must be provided to the City for review and approval and landscaping installation must be complete within 90 days of the election.
2. Enhancement of all common landscaping areas that are visible from public Rights of Way, per the approved landscaping plans on file, to the satisfaction of the Planning Director, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services, and Public Works Director/City Engineer.
3. Provision of sureties for performance for all requirements for grading, construction of storm drains, sewer, water, and other utilities, private and public streets and other private and public improvements on or offsite as

required by the Development Agreement, Conditions of Approval, and Affordable Housing Agreement for Tract Nos. 5187-1&2 and 5405.

4. Completion of required improvements to Walnut Canyon Road including the installation of the multi-use trail.
5. Completion of required improvements associated with the construction of Meridian Hills Drive.
6. Provision of required Open Space dedications per the Development Agreement.
7. Installation of required Common Landscaping throughout the Project.
8. Completion of grading within the Project area, to establish areas graded to an average elevation, consistent with the approved plans, in preparation for fine grading prior to construction of structures, and a spine network of streets to serve those areas including improvements within Tract 5187-1 on High Country Place and Canyon Wren Court including required grading for lots 21-34, dry utilities (gas, electric, cable, phone) for lots 1-34, and wet utilities for lots 21-34.
9. Completion of required Multi-use Trail and Public Trailhead improvements.
10. Completion of utility installation within phase 1 of Tract 5187 of sufficient capacity, and including "stub-outs," to serve phase 2 of Tract 5187 of that tract; including remaining improvements within Tract 5187-2 including the completion of the dry utilities on Ridgemark Drive and Ridgemark Court (lots 56-81 and 130-131) and Lone Trail Place (lots 82-88), a portion of Mammoth Peak (lots 53-55, and 90-94), Highgrove Place (lots 36-44), Deer Grass Court (lots 45-52), lettered lots K and L. The wet utilities within Tract 5187-2 are complete except for lettered lot K.
11. Completion and maintenance of EIR mitigation measures for the Project.
12. Maintenance of common areas until such time as these areas are accepted by the Homeowners Association or other applicable governing agencies.
13. Completion of construction and maintenance of the required flood control and other drainage improvements.
14. Continuation of meeting and complying with requirements for the design, installation, monitoring, and maintenance of facilities to meet NPDES requirements.

15. Completion of all required public improvements in Tract 5405 including but not limited to streets, soil nail wall, retaining walls, and sound walls; and maintain the main lines for the wet and dry utilities which have been installed to ensure they are in a good state of repair.
16. Construction of the improvements for the trail staging area per section 6.10c of the Development Agreement to be completed prior to occupancy of the 165<sup>th</sup> residential unit for Tract No. 5187.
17. Compliance with section 6.11 of the Development Agreement and its related requirements set forth in the Affordable Housing Purchase and Sale Agreement recorded on December 15, 2006.
18. Provision of a site security program which includes the 24-hour response and dissemination of security telephone number to the existing residents and City staff.
19. Any additional improvements associated with the development of the Project, as deemed necessary by the City Engineer or Planning Director to protect the public health, safety and welfare.

**AMENDED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN MERIDIAN HILLS RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT  
TRACT 5187-1&2 AND 5405 PART TWO-A**

The following community enhancements and improvements within the Meridian Hills Community are in progress and/or will be performed by ORA Ashford 94, LLC, or a single assignee within the timeframes below:

<b>Tract 5187*( Items originally presented to applicant in a City Engineering Memo dated March 5, 2008)</b>	<b>Required Completion Date**</b>
1 Erosion found: multi-use trail north of site near Pete Peter's driveway. Must secure site for safety immediately. Once area is protected, remediate eroded area monitored by soils engineer and our office and provide reports to engineering for review.	Pending City Approval and 6/30/08
2 Erosion found: desilting basin #3. Easterly end of basin is failing. Need to reconstruct basin and riprap areas per plan and apply all BMP's in correct location. Provide all proper soils monitoring and reports (See sheet 24 of dwg 05-ML-10781).	4/30/08
3 Slope erosion found: Hillside behind residential lot 15 on Mammoth Peak Drive. Remove visqueen and remediate eroded area monitored by soils engineer and our office and provide geotechnical report.	4/30/08
4 Erosion found at upstream end of drainage basin of Lot Q. (See sheet 12 of dwg 05-ML-10781). Removal of mat and re-grade and reconstruct mat and basin per plan. All work shall be monitored by soils engineer and our inspector and provide reports.	4/30/08
5 Outlet channel at end of Meridian Hills Drive as shown o sheet 24 of dwg05-ML-10781. Weep holes are required to be installed in trapezoidal channel to drain the channel dry.	4/30/08
6 The parkway is eroding along the southerly side of Meridian Hills Drive westerly of Ridgemark Drive. All soil removal and replacement remediation work shall be monitored by soils engineer and our inspector and provide reports.	4/30/08
7 Completion of V-ditches and grading as shown on sheet 19A & 20A of 05-ML-10781. All grading shall be monitored by soils engineer and our inspector and provide reports.	6/30/08
8 Downstream end of Lot Q drainage basin: Standing water in basin. Basin shall be regraded to drain per approved plans. All grading shall be monitored by soils engineer and our inspector and provide reports.	4/30/08
9 Additional fencing required to secure site to prevent access at westerly end of Meridian Hills Drive.	4/30/08
10 General Clean up of onsite and offsite trash and removal of all illegal dumping debris. Site shall be cleaned -up immediately.	ongoing
11 Clean up of debris within all V-ditches.	ongoing
12 Replace BMP's, remove all broken sand bags. Remove all silt at chevrons, clean streets with street sweeper.	ongoing
13 Gate to Ventura County Watershed Protection District basin shall be secured immediately and shall remain locked at all times.	ongoing
14 All gates for access areas shall be secured each and every day. Gate to HOA basin along Walnut Canyon Road shall be secured immediately.	ongoing

**AMENDED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN MERIDIAN HILLS RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT  
TRACT 5187-1&2 AND 5405 PART TWO-A**

<b>Tract 5405*( Items originally presented to applicant in a City Engineering Memo dated March 5, 2008)</b>	<b>Required Completion Date**</b>
1 Hillside repair at back of lot No. One (1). Please provide soils monitoring report of correction to engineering for review.	4/30/08
2 Completion of trapezoidal grass swale at south location of site. The visqueen swale is no longer acceptable and the permanent grading and drainage facility is required as shown on the approved plans.	4/30/08
3 General clean up of onsite trash.	ongoing
4 Clean up of debris within all V-ditches.	ongoing
5 Replace BMP's, remove all broken sand bags. Remove all silt at chevrons, clean street with street sweeper.	ongoing
6 Any and all other conditions, bonds, and/or timing of improvements for the property per the Development Agreement and Conditions of Approval.	ongoing

**\*All items are to be completed to the satisfaction of either the City Engineer, City Planning Director or both.**

**\*\*All dates are subject to inspections and collaboration with the various governing agencies.**

**AMENDED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN MERIDIAN HILLS RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT  
PROJECT TRACT 5187-1&2 AND 5405 PART TWO-B**

<b>Tract 5187*( Items originally presented to applicant in a Letter from Planning Director and attached City Engineering Memo, both dated March 13, 2008)</b>	<b>Required Completion Date**</b>
<b>1</b> Correct and complete the installation of the multi-use trail along Peter's driveway and landscaping along the R.O.W of Walnut Canyon Rd. per City requirements. a. slope failure & erosion problem along Peter's driveway requires immediate attention & drainage modification b. install safety guardrail fencing along additional portions of the driveway c. modify the existing concrete block entry monument to comply with "line of sight" d. install a neighborhood mailbox unit	6/30/08
<b>2</b> Need to bond for construction of multi-use trail at 150% of estimated cost of construction.	5/30/08
<b>3</b> Adequate erosion control is required; all unoccupied lots must be hydro-seeded for erosion control.	ongoing
<b>4</b> Install security fencing around all vacant areas of project & post with "No Trespassing" signage.	4/30/08
<b>5</b> Complete water tank site grading & drainage, erosion control and landscaping improvements.	5/30/08
<b>6</b> All occupied streets & Meridian Hills Dr. up to Ridgemark Dr. must receive final cap, all sidewalk and final street improvements including signing and striping.	4/30/08
<b>7</b> Remove existing depressed median curb within Meridian Hills Dr. and replace with full height curb.	5/30/08
<b>8</b> Provide a final acceptance letter from Ventura County Watershed Protection District to verify that the newly constructed VCWPD basin is accepted.	5/30/08
<b>9</b> All tract boundary perimeter fencing must be installed per the approved fencing plan.	5/30/08
<b>10</b> All drainage basin facilities shall perform in a manner that will not impound any water beyond the design storm retention period nor shall create mosquito breeding and shall be maintained properly.	4/30/08
<b>11</b> All monuments must be set in accordance with the Final Maps for Tracts 5187 & 5405. inspector.	5/30/08
<b>12</b> Centerline ties must be set for each street centerline monument in accordance with City requirements.	5/30/08
<b>13</b> Trail must be completed along the drainage basin of HOA Lot Q per Tract 5187-1, including landscaping.	4/30/08
<b>14</b> Temporary drainage basin at end of Meridian Hills Dr. per sheets 21 & 24 of dwg #05-ML-10781 must be constructed per plans.	4/30/08
<b>15</b> Sheets 19A & 20A of dwg #05-ML-10781 must be constructed per plans.	6/30/08
<b>16</b> Repair localized failure in slope located behind Lot 16 of Mammoth Peak Drive.	4/30/08
<b>17</b> Maintenance of retention basin at end of Meridian Hills Drive required to function per approved plans. a. Basin shall not impound any standing water; b. Correct drainage at trapezoidal channel outlet structure - standing water exists; c. Structure must be modified to drain dry properly.	4/30/08
<b>18</b> All trash & debris shall be collected and removed from the site in accordance with NPDES requirements; a. Includes areas along Meridian Hills Drive that are being used for local dumping.	ongoing
<b>19</b> Construct permanent grading & drainage facility at the southerly portion of Tract 5405, per approved plans.	6/27/08
<b>20</b> A \$40,000 deposit to City of Moorpark is required for purposes of plan checking, inspection, NPDES compliance, review of completion of items contained in this memo and site monitoring	4/17/08

**\*All items are to be completed to the satisfaction of either the City Engineer, City Planning Director or both.**

**\*\*All dates are subject to inspections and collaboration with the various governing agencies.**