



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Jones and Members of the Board

FROM: Karen Proctor, Town Administrator

DATE: June 3, 2021

RE: Open Space Maintenance

DISCUSSION:

The Board requested a discussion regarding the Open Space. Below are some pictures taken recently of several dead trees, weeds and graffiti in the tunnel. Staff has provided some background information below and is seeking direction on how the Board would like to proceed or what additional information they would like.

1) Dead Trees

A tree care professional the Town consulted a few years ago said clearing all the dead wood and brush out would not only disturb the wildlife habitat but would likely cause trouble with the drainage pond setup. Those trees were strategically planted for the drainage pond and channel.

2) Weeds

Terracare will be cutting and bagging the growth of the Canadian Thistle after spraying and wilting of the plant to minimize the chance of seeds and re-growth. This will be a couple of years of effort, but hopefully after the first treatment, they will get the nuisance part of the weed out and follow up with spot spray to kill the "new" volunteers between treatments.

3) Graffiti

Unfortunately, ACSO no longer does any removal. We have been unable to find a non-profit group that removes graffiti in Arapahoe County. There are private graffiti removal companies that the Town could hire. The Board has also talked about having teens paint a mural but there has been concern about how to keep the kids safe from paint fumes in the tunnel.



