

## **Timbers Creek Project Update 2/5/2020**

*Construction of the timbers creek drainage project is in full swing despite poor weather, the holidays and wet, muddy conditions. Ground water and drainage continues to be an issue. The upper end of the work site (just downstream from Pinery Parkway) is still encountering water despite the Contractor routing the sanitary sewer under-drain (6") out of the work area. Although dewatering efforts are in place, more is needed and will likely require ongoing attention and effort. Pinery Water&Wastewater (PWSS) periodically flushes their large storage tank that eventually drains through the project site. Although the two parties are coordinating their efforts the water is still likely to be a challenge for the Contractor. While the ground water and under-drain volumes are small (think two or three garden hoses flowing) the water tank-flush can fill the bottom of the creek 2 to 3 inches deep (3-5 cubic feet/sec.). The fact that the water is having to be managed during cold weather doesn't help. While the water may bode well for future plantings, it is a nuisance for the contractor.*

*As noted previously, the project is constructing a series of log and vegetated drop structures along the creek to reduce storm runoff flow rates and water velocities. Each of these structures will be heavily planted with willows, reeds, grasses and other riparian plants to create a more natural stream bed. Unfortunately there is growing concern by the design team that the "deer pressure" in the area could jeopardize the new vegetation once planted. In order to protect the plants, temporary deer-fencing will be installed. Although temporary, the fence is intended to be in place long enough (2-3 years) for the plants to get established. The 8' tall wire fence (see photos) will be installed in March or early April and will have multiple gates for easy access and to reduce potential animal entrapment. Once the plants are established, the fencing will be removed and stored for future projects.*

### **Construction Access**

*Currently, construction access has been from Songbird Wy. Soon construction vehicles will access the lower work area from Chickadee Ct. Multiple access points reduces the amount of construction vehicles on the walking path and the potential for damage. All areas disturbed by construction must be restored and reseeded following the completion of the project this Spring. To date, four of the 26- drop structures are in place with the pace of construction expected to quicken as the weather warms. The walking path should remain open during construction. Construction is expected to be completed by this Spring, 2020.*