

Mike:

As we discussed, we should have been opened in October '22, when we were beginning our project due to prior GC abandoning the project (now @ 10 months in process).

The costs of materials, subcontractors, renegotiating increased contracts, with the supply chain issues, shortages and extending this project, the landscape design is quite burdensome. Cleaning up the vacant lot, which was not enforced previously, with the massive extensive overgrown trees from the residential home adjacent to the west, and no requirements for the ice machine, we have transformed this property immensely to include revenue for the City of Eustis.

I am not opposed to 'beautification', but the design that had been submitted initially, will not currently work with the actual space available. The lack of access to the stormwater basins (for lawn maintenance & upkeep), the concern for the cars being scratched by the shrubs when they mature along the drive lane (would need to be grassed due to maintenance and advantageous for retention erosion), shrubs along the fence line (around the north and west side of the property) is overkill as the retention area being fenced off; due to 4' retention wall & ditch 150' across the back, the water usage costs with the seven water zones on the property is expensive and wasteful (Needs to be reduced to 3 max.), unavailability for shrubs due to cement in those spaces, gates for fencing, and lack of actual planting ability.

Landscapers are no exception for the rising cost to installing irrigation, trees, plants, mulch, stones, etc. as their material costs have increased along with labor. I have received estimates from \$26k - \$54k, with a budget of \$15k implemented from start of project. Although on paper the design may seem to be feasible, but this under 0.5ac parcel can only implement a smaller landscape design now with the actual visual availability. As it has been explained that the city wanting to upgrade the corridor, it appears that even maintenance for other businesses have been a challenge.

We take pride in ownership of our business and do not want landscaping to be the breaking point to finalizing this project. We are requesting to slim down the landscaping, not eliminate, while still being able to maintain a desirable, attractive, eye catching space in the business corridor of Eustis.

Thank You
Karen Weber
QSR Quality LLC/Elliano's Coffee