



Lake & Natural Resources  
Joe Rush, Lake Manager

I'd like to take a moment to thank our members for the support of the Lake Improvement Project program that was approved in August. The program passed the membership vote by 58%. While this may be a very good margin for the passing of the program, I personally recognize that 40% voted no (my math is correct, 2% of the ballots abstained). Those voting no to the program voted no for a multitude of reasons from concerns from the financing, to owning multiple lots, to concern for personal budget for the additional expense, and I'm sure many others, as well.

For those voting yes, or no, we want to assure you that we do not take this task lightly. We will be diligent to ensure the best use of these funds in accordance with the program that was approved by our membership. In an effort to keep our membership aware of how the program is going, we have developed two outreach programs.

The first program is for accounting and transparency for the membership. We have developed a specific budget sheet that will be available for members that outlines all of the projects and how the specific funds are being spent. We have done this so that the members can look directly at the LIP 'bank account' and not have to sort through the larger operational and fixed asset budgets to understand what is happening with the Lake Improvement Project budget.

The second program will be for educating the membership on the projects and when we've reached milestones. We will have a Lake Improvement Project website that provides the most current updates to the program for those that would like to follow the progress. A notification of the website URL will be sent out to the membership once complete. We will provide periodic updates on eblasts, as well as in news articles, too, but the website will be the 'go to' for the most up-to-date information.

Also, a Lake Improvement Project Advisory Committee has been instated to oversee the entire program and the committee consists of board member liaison, staff, and chairmen from various other committees. We currently have our meetings the first Monday of the month at 4:30pm in an effort to help members attend and follow the progress. Periodically, we may have to meet at alternate times to accommodate the committee members' schedules, but we are attempting to meet evenings to accommodate property owners that are working and would like to attend to see what is happening.

Lastly, beyond completion of the projects, we have another goal. That goal is to improve the relationship between the Membership, Staff, Committees, and Board of Directors. We are hopeful that by developing the previous mentioned programs with the budget and project updates on the website, we can continue to work together, as a community, to make improvements to Lake Carroll.