

Canyon Median Design Standards

August 13, 2026

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Background

Initial Presentation

January 2024

SCOPE OF WORK

Provide recommendations to reduce the maintenance requirements for the medians on Canyon Road while emphasizing aesthetics.

PROJECT INTRODUCTION

This program is part of the county's effort to remedy the maintenance requirements of its median inventory allowing the labor to be repurposed to other areas. This project will focus on the use of; 1) colored gravels; 2) stamped asphalt/concrete; 3) encased river rock; and 4) xeriscape/low maintenance areas.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Landscaping of public right-of-way/medians is important to the overall image, character, and visual quality of Los Alamos County. The landscape design should provide year-round aesthetic appeal/interest; accent or improve awareness of community features; micro-climate enhancement; provide a model for conservation and sensitivity to our natural environment, reduce water consumption; minimize maintenance requirements and utilization of the Integrated Pest Management Program (IPM). Two primary areas of consideration: IPM Program and reduced maintenance costs.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

Increase the footprint of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program as approved by County Council in 2022, reduce staff maintenance (safety concerns), reduce water usage and improve the aesthetics of the medians in Los Alamos County.

Background Continued

PROJECT GOAL

The project goals identified and prioritize medians that could be replaced with nonorganic, low maintenance, attractive design, and materials.

The first area for the initial project, Canyon Road from Rose Street to 39th Street.

The median landscape design goals:

- Reduce maintenance / Areas are not easy to access, high volume of traffic, staff safety concerns
- Relatively high labor hours to maintain
- Reduce chemical applications as outlined in the IPM Program
- Reduce water use and implement xeriscape designs into median landscapes
- Reduce small, narrow medians while improving the overall appearance

Canyon Road Median Photos (Existing)



Google map images of Canyon Road.



Canyon Road Median – Plateau Design

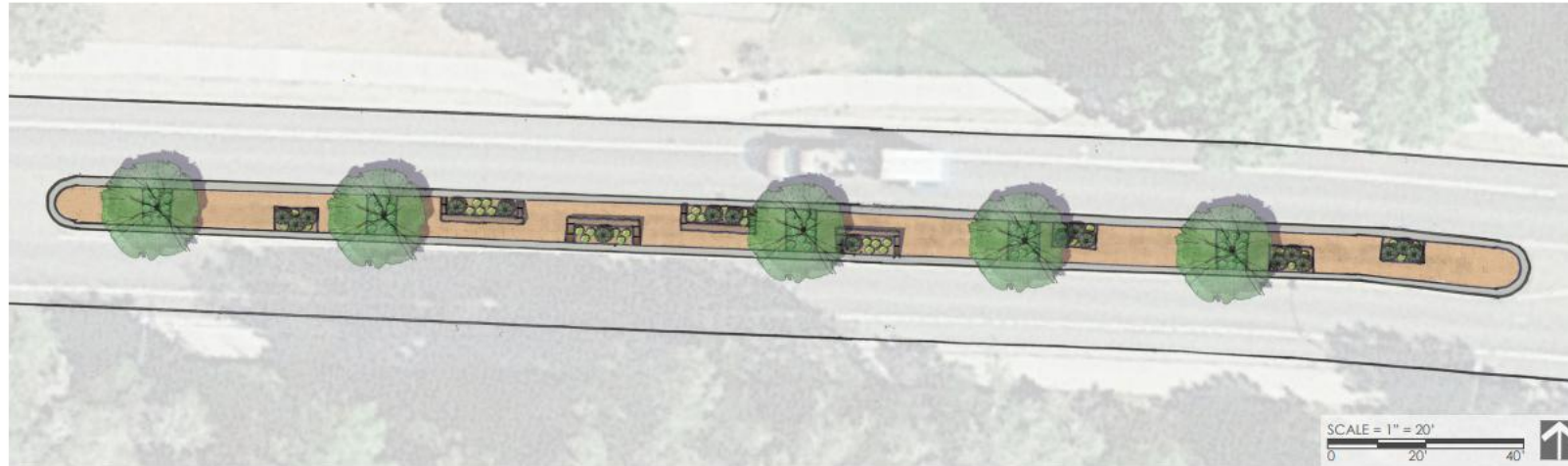


CANYON ROAD MEDIAN DESIGN OPTION "PLATEAU"

City of Los Alamos, New Mexico
March 20, 2023



Canyon Road Median – Bandelier



CANYON ROAD MEDIAN DESIGN OPTION "BANDELIER"

City of Los Alamos, New Mexico
March 20, 2023

Next Steps

- Survey community members for input
- Finalize the median drawings
- Create a task order for construction
- Create a project timeline to effectively communicate with the community on construction dates
- Timeline for media communication and method (big impact for traffic)

Questions

Thank you!