



In no particular order: Peter Eng, Assistant Tree Surgeon, 6 years; Al Zavala, Truck Driver, 23 years; Steven Valenzuela, Tree Surgeon, 13 years; Sammy Recendez, Tree Surgeon, 8 years; Steve Adams, Truck Operator, 28 years; Tisha Webber, Truck Operator, 5 years; Donald Boyd, Assistant Tree Surgeon, 30 years; Pauline Aguet, Assistant Tree Surgeon, 5 years; Jeff Gutierrez, Tree Surgeon, 10 years; Andrea Harris, Assistant Tree Surgeon, 6 years; Alfonso Juarez, Light Equipment Operator, 17 years; Jose Ramirez, Assistant Tree Surgeon, 1 month; Max Mungaray, Tree Surgeon; Ray Hernandez, Light Equipment Operator, 10 years; and Supervisor KY Cheung.



Tyrone Hunter, 3 years, and Ralph De La Cruz, 2 years.



From left: Johnny Rodriguez, Gardener/ Landscaper, 2 years; and Alexis (Pogi) Garganta, 2 years.



Jose Ibarra, Lead Senior Gardener, 12 years, and part of his crew.



Raul Quezada, Gardener/ Caretaker, 2 years.



Raymond Gonzalez, Gardener/ Caretaker, 7 years.

# Building the Boulevard

■ **Street Services is doing exemplary work, turning Santa Monica Boulevard into a picturesque and efficient entry from Beverly Hills into West Los Angeles.**

*Story by Bev Haro, Club Counselor  
Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager*

**PUBLIC WORKS** — The Bureau of Street Services, working in tandem with other City departments, is doing a great job on a huge and important project, reconstructing Santa Monica Boulevard in West L.A. It's the largest street project in City history.

The Santa Monica Boulevard Transit Parkway Project is a reconstruction and reconfiguration of 2.5 miles of Santa Monica Boulevard between I-405 on the west and the Beverly Hills city limit on the east. It is a partnership with Public Works, Transportation, the MTA, Los Angeles County, the State of California, and the Federal Highway Administration. This project is the largest single street project in L.A. City history.

The Bureau of Street Services is responsible for all landscape services, including medians, thousands of shrubs and miles of irrigation. Construction of the Santa Monica Boulevard Transit Parkway Project began March 2003 and is expected to be complete in August. Street Services is approximately 50 percent done with its work.

Carl Nelson, Engineer and Project Manager, is extremely pleased with the performance of Street Services. He notes that Street Services workers have been there since day one, cutting down the old trees, and will also be the last ones to leave. The project is expected to be finished in August of 2006, but Street Services will remain until March 2007. There has been a lot of pressure to keep up with the contractors, and Street Services has not only met the challenge but also demonstrated flexibility to accommodate the residents in the neighborhood.

Carl Nelson would especially like to give special recognition to Mike Powell (Plumber), for his work on the project. Other people that greatly contributed to the project include Roy Teruya (Landscape Architect), Mark Kaspar (Landscape Architect), Lance Oishi (Senior Landscape Architect), Dennis Wake (Principal Gardener/ Caretaker), Leroy Castellano (Small Trees Supervisor) and Max Mungaray (Small Trees Supervisor).

The Bureau of Street Services joined the project team early on and provided the landscape design for the project. Street Services crews are working in the field every day, planting hundreds of trees, shrubs and ground cover for the project.

Street Services will eventually plant more than 800 street trees including the project's "signature" oaks trees.

The Bureau of Street Services has been providing a crew consisting of two Tree Surgeons, 14 gardener/caretakers, four Senior Gardeners, one Senior Park Maintenance Supervisor, one Senior Park Maintenance Supervisor, one Plumber, one Light Equipment Operator, one Equipment Operator, and one Heavy Duty Truck Operator daily to deliver the work. Additional staff is also brought in on heavy tree planting days.

The Street Services tree palette includes 12 varieties of trees, of which five varieties are already in the ground. The Street Services ground cover palette for shrubs and ground cover includes 48 varieties. The majority of the shrubs and ground cover are native plants, and the remaining varieties were chosen because, even though they are non-native, they are common in the region. Special care was taken when choosing the ground cover and shrubs to ensure that they can coexist and thrive in the environment.

Rest assured that the Street Services staff is very careful about details and wants the best looking landscaping package possible for the Santa Monica Boulevard Transit Parkway project.

Good job Street Services on all your hard work!

The Club thanks Carl Nelson, Project Manager and Engineer, for his assistance.



Jose Ibarra discusses landscape with Louie Garcia.



From left: Louie Garcia, Park Maintenance Supervisor, 9 years; Martin Orozco, 9 years; Steve Winick of Carvel Ice Cream (opened shop at beginning of construction); Beverly Haro, Club Counselor; Jose Ibarra, Lead Senior Gardener, 12 years; and Rafael de la Garza.



From left: Martin Orozco, Ralph De la Garza and Jose Ibarra.



Martin Orozco, Gardener/ Caretaker, 9 years carefully takes measurements.



Ralph de la Cruz works on irrigation.



Rafael de la Garza, Gardener/ Caretaker, 21 years.



Tyrone Hunter goes to pick up more supplies.