



OPEN MEETING

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE THIRD LAGUNA HILLS MUTUAL BOARD OF
DIRECTORS A CALIFORNIA NON-PROFIT MUTUAL BENEFIT CORPORATION**

**Tuesday, November 21, 2023 - 9:30 a.m.
Laguna Woods Village Community Center
Board Room/Virtual Meeting
24351 El Toro Road
Laguna Woods, California**

ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA

**Please see attached document that was added after the agenda packet was printed
and distributed.**

12d. Entertain a Motion to Approve Urban Forest Management Plan

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ENDORSEMENT (to Third Board)

Approval of the Urban Forest Management Plan.

On November 2, 2023, there was an Open Meeting of the Third Landscape Committee to discuss the Urban Forest Management Plan. The proposed Urban Forest Management Plan is a management tool that incorporates resident and committee input and values toward a long-term management plan.

A motion was made and unanimously approved to recommend the Board approve the Urban Forest Management Plan.

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STAFF REPORT

DATE: November 21, 2023
FOR: Board of Directors
SUBJECT: Approve the Urban Forest Management Plan

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the Urban Forest Management Plan.

BACKGROUND

On September 20, 2022, the Third Laguna Hills Board of Directors awarded a contract to Dudek in the amount of \$43,614 to develop an Urban Forest Management Plan for Third Laguna Hills Mutual tree inventory.

DISCUSSION

Third Mutual is responsible for the maintenance of 14,160 trees, with 224 different species. In 2021, Third Mutual Board of Directors approved a species-based tree trimming policy, after years of an unsystematic approach to tree trimming, which led to inefficiencies, an increased amount of service requests, and storm damage to mutual owned trees. Tree trimming is now performed based on the specific growth rate of each species, ensuring financially efficient methodologies to reduce risk and enhance the beauty of the urban forest.

Tree trimming is just one piece of an efficient, long-term maintenance plan of the mutual tree inventory. Most of the trees in Third's urban forest are mature trees, with many of them planted in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The sheer number and variety of trees in Third are unique in the region and will require a long-term plan to maintain and manage the trees through the years. Consideration needs to be taken of the age and condition of the inventory, developing an efficient replanting plan to maintain the inventory, as well as adapting to changes in the environment and the forecasted long-term drought conditions.

The proposed Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) (Attachment 1) is a management tool that incorporates resident and committee input and values toward a long-term management plan. Community involvement and education is an important component of any successful UFMP program. The proposed plan incorporated the resident and Board's input from community meetings, an extensive survey with over 900 responses, consultation with staff regarding existing protocol and policies, and review of existing databases.

The Landscape Committee was involved throughout the process and reviewed several versions of the draft document. The Committee reviewed the final draft on November 2, 2023 and voted to recommend approval by the Board.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

There are no additional funds necessary for approval of this document.

Prepared By: Kurt Wiemann, Director of Landscape Services

Reviewed By: Megan Feliz, Landscape Administrative Assistant

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment 1: Urban Forest Management Plan

Attachment 2: Resolution 03-23-XX



Urban Forest Management Plan

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Resolution 03-23-XX

Urban Forest Management Plan

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Governing Documents of Third Mutual, the Board of Directors is responsible for the management and upkeep of the common areas within, including the landscaping and trees; and

WHEREAS, Third Mutual has over 14,000 trees with 224 different species, each having different growth rates, water needs, and differing sizes; and

WHEREAS, the Mutual adopted Resolution 03-19-06, Five-Year Species-Based Tree Trimming Policy, as the most efficient manner in which to maintain the Mutual's tree inventory and resources; and

WHEREAS, tree trimming is just one piece of an efficient, long-term maintenance plan of the mutual tree inventory; and

WHEREAS, an effective Urban Forest Management Plan takes into consideration the condition of the inventory, contains an efficient replanting plan to maintain the inventory, as well as adapting to changes in the environment and the forecasted long-term drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Third Mutual Urban Forest Management Plan is a long-term management tool that enables the Board and staff to make effective decisions that will maintain and enhance the beauty and safety of the tree inventory; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, effective November 21, 2023, that the Board of Directors of this Corporation hereby enacts the Third Mutual Urban Forest Management Plan attached to this resolution;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the officers and agents of this corporation are hereby authorized on behalf of the Corporation to carry out this resolution.

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