

### **OPEN MEETING**

# REGULAR MEETING OF THE THIRD LAGUNA MUTUAL LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

# Thursday, May 2, 2019 – 9:30 a.m. Laguna Woods Village Community Center Board Room 24351 El Toro Road

### <u>AGENDA</u>

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Acknowledgment of Media
- 3. Approval of the Agenda
- 4. Approval of Meeting Report for April 4, 2019
- 5. Chair's Remarks
- 6. Member Comments (Items Not on the Agenda)
- 7. Response to Member Comments
- 8. Department Head Update

### 9. Consent:

- a. Recommendation to Deny Tree Removal Request (5560-B) Camphor tree
- b. Recommendation to Approve the Request for Tree removal in Fiscal Year 2020 (5561-B) Ficus Tree
- c. Recommendation to Deny the Appeal for Tree Removal Request (5578-B) Rustyleaf Fig Tree
- d. Recommendation to Deny the Removal or Off Schedule Trimming Request (5389-A) Spotted Gum tree

### Items for Discussion and Consideration:

10. Review Rendering of Turf Modernization Project

### Reports:

- 11. Herbicide Testing Final Report
- 12. Project Log
- 13. Tree Trimming Status Report

### **Items for Future Agendas:**

14. Review Landscape Manual

### **Concluding Business**

- 15. Committee Member Comments
- 16. Date of Next Meeting June 6, 2019
- 17. Adjournment

Lynn Jarrett, Chair Kurt Wiemann, Staff Officer Eve Morton, Landscape Operations Coordinator, 949-268-2565



### **OPEN MEETING**

# REGULAR MEETING OF THE THIRD LAGUNA HILLS MUTUAL LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 4, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.
Laguna Woods Village Community Center Board Room
24351 El Toro Road

### **REPORT**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair-Lynn Jarrett, John Frankel in for Cush

Bhada, Jon Pearlstone, Anne McCary, Reza Karimi

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Cush Bhada arrived at 10:30 a.m.

OTHERS PRESENT: Cindy Baker, GVA

**ADVISORS PRESENT: James Tung** 

STAFF PRESENT: Kurt Wiemann, Eve Morton

#### 1. Call to Order

Chair Jarrett called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

### 2. Acknowledgement of Media

No media was present.

### 3. Approval of March 7, 2019 Report

Director Pearlstone moved to approve the Report. Director McCary seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

### 4. Approval of the Agenda

Director Pearlstone made a motion to accept the agenda. Director McCary seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

#### 5. Committee Chair Remarks

Chair Jarrett reported that she is glad that residents are in attendance because they care what is happening with landscaping.

Spring is in full bloom. It is keeping landscaping crews busy and growth is unbelievable because of all the rain. The area around 3433 is where the slopes were bare and are now going to be hyrdroseeded.

Third Landscape Committee April 4, 2019 Page 2

Water conservation is still important.

There are several interesting projects on the project log today.

The tree trimming cycle is in the agenda packet

### 6. Member Comments - (Items Not on the Agenda)

Eileen Lazaar (5220) She thanked the landscaping division for all their efforts. The lawn bowling area at CH2 has weeds which are so tall that seeds are blowing everywhere. Shepherds crooks are going up so will ivy be taken off the walls? The sprinklers are on in certain areas and off in other areas. Will this be remedied?

Burt Dubois (3425-C) Staff came out to pull out a dead tree a few weeks ago. He had no notice and would like to know what will be replacing it. One year ago, he was at this committee asking about his backyard lawn since tractors have ruined the lawn. His calls have gone unanswered.

John Banks (5090) Mr. Banks stated that when lawn is taken out, weeds grow. By Gate 11, there are weeds in a front yard. He has photos. Some residents are doing their own weeding and he is worried about their safety.

Doug Gibson (5289) said West Creek is looking very good.

Marcia Huberman (3433-A) Her slope is no longer bare, however, it is because thistles have taken over the slope. It is now an eyesore and has subterranean termites. They are concerned.

Michael Sweet (3435-B) He requested that a bush be replaced but hasn't been. No water is getting to his bushes; two are dead and now only one left alive. If he were allowed to replace the bushes himself, he would.

Bud Lazar (5220) He asked what is the spraying in Gate 11 on Del Sol? OC Landscaping is on the trucks which are doing the spraying. Mr. Wiemann reported he will send someone out to look.

### 7. Response to Member Comments

Mr. Wiemann reported that weeds are a problem community-wide. Currently, landscaping is performed at manors every 8-10 weeks and there isn't enough Staff to do go more often.

Staff was spraying this morning for weeds. The area should have been marked and people notified. He will look into it.

In the Shepherds crooks area, the goal is to minimally impact the existing landscape.

All irrigation should be on now. The system is 20 years old. Electronic communication with the controllers is an issue and is being worked on.

Third Landscape Committee
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He informed Mr. Dubois at 3425-C that he will look into what tree will be replacing the tree which was removed and will let him know. He will also look into his lawn.

A lawn rehabilitation program is on top of his list. He is working on a community-wide rehabilitation program for lawns.

Regarding the hydroseeding of slopes; the contractor has had the contract for three weeks and hasn't signed it. Now, our people will do the weeding of the slopes until a contractor is in place.

Mr. Sweet was told that a full-time coordinator has been hired to facilitate all landscaping departments working together. He informed him he will get back to him regarding his bushes.

Director Karimi said sometimes it is hard to figure out which contractors are working for the community and which are working for homeowners. Is there anything we can do to differentiate? Mr. Wiemann reported that currently there is no contracted work so if a landscaper doesn't have a VMS shirt on, they are not doing work for VMS.

### 8. Department Head Update

Mr. Wiemann reported that soon, a landscape survey to look at the current irrigation system will be starting and will include an evaluation and ideas to make our system more water efficient.

- a) Herbicide Testing Update (Verbal) Mr. Wiemann said testing is done and a report and costs are being put together.
- b) Landscape Modernization Update (Verbal) Mr. Wiemann reported that he is working with a landscape architect on this and they are developing a model program for turf reduction that may be replicated throughout community. These will be going to committee and ultimately, a Town Hall.

### Consent:

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by the Committee by one motion. In the event that an item is removed from the Consent Calendar by members of the Committee, such item(s) shall be the subject of further discussion and action by the Committee.

None.

#### Reports:

### 9. Project Log

Mr. Wiemann reported on the projects in the log and stated that all are reserved-funded projects and are over and above the daily maintenance work.

### Items for Discussion and Consideration:

### 10. 5389-A - Request for Trimming or Removal of one Spotted Gum Tree

Ms. Friesen was present. She stated that this tree is over her and her neighbor's master bedrooms. The tree sheds on the patios and sheds big branches and pods which make a lot of noise. She submitted her request in November. Two trees have been removed in her area and she said they cost \$700 so why is cost for hers so much more? The tree has been trimmed but it has not helped.

Mr. Wiemann reported that going forward tree trimming will involve 25% of the tree to be trimmed.

Discussion ensued.

Director Karimi made a motion for Staff to revisit this tree. Director McCary seconded. The vote was three in favor and one opposed. The motion passed.

### 11. Discuss and Review the Tree Schedule

Mr. Wiemann reviewed the tree trimming schedule. In the past, crews inspected the trees every 34 months and decided which needed to be trimmed. Some trees were skipped and some were not adequately trimmed. Most tree trimming management programs recommend that trees are trimmed on cycle based species. Staff has gone through all the trees in Third and looked at the last trims. All were sorted by species. His goal is to keep the number of trees to trim each year about the same which makes staffing and funding needs easier to gauge.

Director Karimi asked if the updated landscape manual will have guidelines for off schedule trimming. Mr. Wiemann said yes.

Mr. Banks at 5090 had a question about the fruit trees on Common Area. He reported that a house near his has four fruit trees and no one is taking care of them. Mr. Wiemann reported that each owner agrees to take care of any non-standard landscaping. If they don't wish to take care of it, they need to inform Staff and it will be removed by Staff.

### Items for Future Agendas:

### 12. Herbicide Testing Final Report

### 13. Review Landscape Manual

### Concluding Business

#### 14. Committee Member Comments

Advisor Tung suggested some kind of uniform for any VMS hired contractors. Mr. Wiemann stated that would be a cost to VMS and there will ideally just be one contractor to do all the work and residents will know their name.

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Recommendation to tell Security about VMS hired contractors.

Director Pearlman asked residents to give Staff some time to put Mr. Wiemann's plans into place. Gate 11 residents should file tickets for any concerns and interact with Board Members to address any concerns.

Director McCary thanked Mr. Wiemann for the information about the trees.

Director Karimi stated that Mr. Wiemann has a lot of work to do but he thinks he is the right person to do it and we are here to help.

Mr. Wiemann reported that he has created a ticket response crew and their only job will be to respond to tickets. He asked that resident to please not put 'supervisor contact requested' on tickets to avoid delays in responses.

Eileen Lazaar stated that the landscaping in Gate 11 area has been declining and older residents are out there trying to weed or are hiring their own outside gardeners.

A Member asked if there is a way to see what is happening with the tickets. He said each time they put in a ticket, it is like starting all over again. Chair Jarrett suggested getting the ticket number to reference later.

A Member commented that training on how to trim trees is needed.

Chair Jarrett thanked the committee, Mr. Wiemann, and the residents for attending.

- 15. Date of Next Meeting May 2, 2019
- 16. Adjournment at 10:52 a.m.

Lynn Jarrett, Chair

Kurt Wiemann, Staff Officer

Eve Morton - 268-2565

### **STAFF REPORT**

**DATE:** May 2, 2019

FOR: Landscape Committee

SUBJECT: Tree Removal Request – 5560-B Via Portora (Lin) – Camphor tree

### RECOMMENDATION

Deny the request for the removal of one Camphor tree at Manor 5560-B and trim on schedule.

### **BACKGROUND**

Mr. Lin purchased the manor in December 2013. He is requesting the removal of a Camphor tree, *Cinnamomum, camphora,* located at the front of the manor. The reason cited by him for the removal is litter/debris (people have slipped on the berries). Six additional residents have signed the Mutual Landscape Request Form in favor of the removal. See Attachment 2.

### **DISCUSSION**

The tree was last trimmed in August 2015 and the next scheduled inspection/pruning is yet to be determined. It is approximately 34 feet in height with a trunk diameter of approximately 19 inches. It is growing in the turf area approximately 3-4 feet from the common sidewalk and irrigation valve box and 5-6 feet from the cable TV pull box. There is noticeable minimum sidewalk raising and concrete grinding has been previously performed. See Attachment 1.

At the time of inspection, the tree was found to be in good condition with no trunk damage, decay, or pests present. There are a number of visible surface roots. Based on Third Mutual's tree removal policies, there is no justification to remove this tree based on litter/debris.

### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The cost to remove the tree is estimated at \$1,500. The cost to trim the tree is estimated to be \$350. The estimated value of the tree is \$3,493 based on the ArborPro tree inventory.

**Prepared By:** Bob Merget, Landscape Supervisor

Reviewed By: Larry Hernandez, Landscape Manager

Kurt Wiemann, Senior Field Services Manager

### ATTACHMENT(S)

ATT-1: Photographs

ATT-2: Mutual Landscape Request Form





Agenda Item # 9A

Ligana Woods Villago.

MUTUAL LANDSCAPE REQUEST FORM

PLEASE NOTE: THIS FORM IS NOT INTENDED FOR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE REQUESTS

For all non-routine requests, please fill out this form. Per the policy of your Mutual, if your request falls outside the scope of the managing agent's authority, it will be forwarded to the Mutual's Landscape Committee for review. If you are unsure whether your request falls into this category, first contact Resident Services at 597-4600 in order to make that determination.

# PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED REQUEST FORM TO RESIDENT SERVICES.

Resident/Owner Information	
You must be an owner to request non-routine Landscape requests.	
S560B Via PORTORA, 12/10/2018 Address Today's Date	
Address ( Today's Date ( )	
Si Shun Lin 949 33/ 7702	
Resident's Name Wei phoun Lin Telephone Number	
Non-Routine Request	
Please checkmark the item that best describes your request. If none apply, please checkmark "Other" and explain.	,
☐ Tree Removal ☐ New Landscape ☐ Off-Schedule Trimming	
□ Other (explain):	
·	
Reason for Request  Please checkmark the item(s) that best explain the reason for your request.	
☐ Structural Damage ☐ Sewer Damage ☐ Overgrown ☐ Poor Condition	
□ Clitter/Debris □ Personal Preference □ View Obstruction □ Other (explain): Tree grow Berry Which fall down to  GUIDELINES: pave Ment passenger 5/00/4 tell  • Structural/Sewer Damage: Damage to buildings, sidewalks, sewer pipes, or other facilities	
Other (explain): Tree grow, Berry Which fall down	1
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• <u>Structural/Sewer Damage</u> : Damage to buildings, sidewalks, sewer pipes, or other facilities	
may justify removal if corrective measures are not practical.	
Overgrown/Crowded: Trees or plants that have outgrown the available space may justify	
removal.  • <u>Damaged/Declining Health</u> : Trees or plants that are declining in health will be evaluated for	
corrective action before removal/replacement is considered.	
• <u>View Blockage</u> : By nature, view blockage must be reviewed case by case to determine the appropriate course of action.	
<ul> <li><u>Litter and Debris</u>: Because all trees shed litter seasonally, generally this is not an adequate</li> </ul>	
reason to justify removal. However, if granted, removal/replacement may be at the resident's	
<ul> <li>expense.</li> <li>Personal Preference: Because one does not like the appearance or other characteristics of</li> </ul>	
the tree or plant generally does not justify its removal. However, if granted, removal/replacement is usually at the resident's expense.	
Mutual Landscape Request Form Page 1 of 2	

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COMMENTS:				
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### **STAFF REPORT**

**DATE:** May 2, 2019

FOR: Landscape Committee

SUBJECT: Tree Removal Request – 5561-B Via Portora (Yun) – Weeping Fig tree

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the request for removal in fiscal year 2020.

### **BACKGROUND**

Mr. Yun purchased the manor in May 2013. He is requesting the removal of a Weeping Fig tree, *Ficus, benjamina,* located at the front of the manor. The reasons cited by him for the removal is sewer damage. No additional residents have signed the Mutual Landscape Request Form. See Attachment 2.

### **DISCUSSION**

The tree was last trimmed in August 2015 and the next scheduled inspection/pruning is yet to be determined. It is approximately 27 feet in height with a trunk diameter of approximately 16 inches. It is growing in the turf area approximately 2-3 feet from the common sidewalk, 1-2 feet from the manor's sidewalk and 6-8 feet from the main line sewer clean out. See Attachment 1.

At the time of inspection, the tree was found to be in good condition with no trunk damage, decay, or pests present. There have been three mainline stoppages reported in the last two years all mentioning the removal of Ficus tree roots. The 914-Plumbing department has scheduled the mainline to have epoxy installed which will prevent any further root intrusion.

### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The cost to remove the tree is estimated at \$1,200. The cost to trim the tree is estimated to be \$350. The estimated value of the tree is \$3,620, based on the ArborPro tree inventory.

**Prepared By:** Bob Merget, Landscape Supervisor

**Reviewed By:** Larry Hernandez, Landscape Manager

Kurt Wiemann, Senior Field Services Manager

ATTACHMENT(S)

ATT-1: Photographs

ATT-2: Mutual Landscape Request Form





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Laguna Woods Village.

# MUTUAL LANDSCAPE REQUEST FORM PLEASE NOTE: THIS FORM IS NOT INTENDED FOR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE REQUESTS

For-all non-routine requests, please fill out this form. Per the policy of your Mutual, if your request falls outside the scope of the managing agent's authority, it will be forwarded to the Mutual's Landscape Committee for review. If you are unsure whether your request falls into this category, first contact Resident Services at 597-4600 in order to make that determination.

### PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED REQUEST FORM TO RESIDENT SERVICES.

Resident/Owner Inforr	
You must be an owner to request non-routine Landscape i	requests.
5561 Via portora Unit B	Dec 20, 20/8
Address	Today's Date
Kab Yun	Today's Date  151-515-6822  Telephone Number
Resident's Name	Telephóne Number
Non-Routine Requ Please checkmark the item that best describes your reques "Other" and explain.	est
☐ Tree Removal ☐ New Landscape	☐ Off-Schedule Trimming
Other (explain): the Clogging main drain factory up into	both tub this is third
Reason for Regue	st
Please checkmark the item (s) that best explain the reason	for your request.
☐ Structural Damage Sewer Damage ☐ Overgrown	☐ Poor Condition
☐ Litter/Debris ☐ Personal Preference ☐ View Obstruc	tion
☐ Other (explain):	
GUIDELINES:     Structural/Sewer Damage: Damage to buildings, sidew may justify removal if corrective measures are not practice.	

- <u>Overgrown/Crowded</u>: Trees or plants that have outgrown the available space may justify removal.
- <u>Damaged/Declining Health</u>: Trees or plants that are declining in health will be evaluated for corrective action before removal/replacement is considered.
- <u>View Blockage</u>: By nature, view blockage must be reviewed case by case to determine the appropriate course of action.
- <u>Litter and Debris</u>: Because all trees shed litter seasonally, generally this is not an adequate
  reason to justify removal. However, if granted, removal/replacement may be at the resident's
  expense.
- <u>Personal Preference</u>: Because one does not like the appearance or other characteristics of the tree or plant generally does not justify its removal. However, if granted, removal/replacement is usually at the resident's expense.

Mutual Landscape Request Form Revised: October 2017

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Description & Lo	ocation of I	Request			
Please briefly describe the situation and the ex	xact location o	f the subje	•		I
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### **STAFF REPORT**

DATE: "A Umi&, 2019

FOR: Landscape Committee

SUBJECT: Appeal of Denied Tree Removal Request – 5578-B Luz Del Sol (Levy) –

Rustyleaf Fig tree

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Deny the request for the removal of one Rustyleaf Fig tree located at 5578-B and trim on schedule.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Landscape Committee considered the tree removal request submitted by Ms. Levy at the meeting on December 6, 2018, and voted to deny the request to remove the tree. Ms. Levy is appealing the decision to deny the removal and is requesting the Landscape Committee to reconsider and is willing to pay for the removal (Attachment 2).

Ms. Levy purchased the unit in May 2018. She is requesting the removal of a Rustyleaf Fig tree, *Ficus, rubiginosa* located at the front of the unit. The reasons cited by her for the removal are litter/debris, (people have slipped on the berries), overgrown, and the lifting of the sidewalk. There was a sidewalk repair performed in May 2018, at a cost of \$1,593. The scope of work was a drain installation that was not tree related. No additional residents have signed the Mutual Landscape Request Form (Attachment 3).

The tree was last trimmed in August 2015, and scheduled trimming is yet to be determined. Based upon the proposed trimming schedule it would be trimmed this year. The tree is approximately 25 feet in height with a trunk diameter of approximately 17 inches and is growing in the turf area approximately 3 feet from the common sidewalk, approximately 10 feet from the unit sidewalk, and approximately 20 feet from the driveway which has some visible cracking (Attachment 1).

### DISCUSSION

At the time of inspection, the tree was found to be in good condition with no trunk damage, decay, or pests present and is well placed. Based on Third Mutual's tree removal policies, there is no justification to remove this tree based on litter/debris, as they are a natural occurrence with trees. Trimming this tree on schedule will reduce the amount of litter caused by the tree.

### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The cost to remove the tree is estimated at \$750, cost to trim is estimated at \$300, and the estimated value is \$3,893, based on tree inventory data.

Third Laguna Hills Mutual Appeal of denied Tree Removal Request – 5578-B Luz Del Sol (Levy) – Rustyleaf Fig tree March 7, 2019

Prepared By: Bob Merget, Landscape Supervisor

Reviewed By: Larry Hernandez, Landscape Manager

Kurt Wiemann, Senior Field Services Manager

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment-1: Photographs
Attachment-2: Appeal Letter

Attachment-3: Mutual Landscape Request Form





February 12, 2019

To: The Third Laguna Woods Mutual Board of Directors Landscaping Committee

Re: Tree Removal at 5578 B Luz del Sol

In accordance with Resolution 01-13-182 we are appealing your decision of December 18, 2018 denying our request to remove the weeping fig tree in front of our home for the following reasons:

- 1. It is not solely due to litter and debris, rather it is a safety problem. This is caused by the huge volume of seeds which are both slippery and a fall hazard. The tree has dropped these seeds twice in the 7 months that we have lived here. It affects our front walk, the sidewalk in front of the unit and the street where visitors park their cars.
- 2. The tree roots have already damaged our front walk causing the maintenance department to replace it at considerable expense. It is only a matter of time before this will recur.
- 3. In addition at some point the roots will cause the same problem to the sidewalk along the street.
- 4. The preponderance of roots above ground not only could cause people to trip, but has limited our front lawn, taking away from the beauty of our area.

We are willing to reimburse the \$750 cost you estimated of removing the tree and stump and we would pay for a mutually decided replacement.

If the aforementioned fails to sway you, could you please trim back the tree so that it does not hang over the front walk and sidewalks by the street.

Thank you for your consideration,

Arthur and Judy Levy





### MUTUAL LANDSCAPE REQUEST FORM

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### PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED REQUEST FORM TO RESIDENT SERVICES.

PERAGE RETORN COMPLETED REGULATION TO RESIDENT SERVICES.
Resident/Owner Information
You must be an owner to request non-routine Landscape requests.
5578 Luz del Sol #B 10/15/18
Address Today's Date
Judith Levy (H) 657-233-1513 201-446-4378 (C)  Resident's Name Telephone Number
Resident's Name Telephone Number
Non-Routine Request
Please checkmark the item that best describes your request. If none apply, please checkmark "Other" and explain.
Tree Removal ☐ New Landscape ☐ Off-Schedule Trimming
□ Other (explain):
Reason for Request
Please checkmark the item(s) that best explain the reason for your request.
□ Structural Damage □ Sewer Damage ☑ Overgrown □ Poor Condition
Litter/Debris  Personal Preference  View Obstruction
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<ul> <li><u>Structural/Sewer Damage</u>: Damage to buildings, sidewalks, sewer pipes, or other facilities</li> </ul>
may justify removal if corrective measures are not practical.
<ul> <li><u>Overgrown/Crowded</u>: Trees or plants that have outgrown the available space may justify removal.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li><u>Damaged/Declining Health</u>: Trees or plants that are declining in health will be evaluated for</li> </ul>
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<u>View Blockage</u> : By nature, view blockage must be reviewed case by case to determine the
appropriate course of action.
<u>Litter and Debris</u> : Because all trees shed litter seasonally, generally this is not an adequate
reason to justify removal. However, if granted, removal/replacement may be at the resident's expense.
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removal/replacement is usually at the resident's expense.

Mutual Landscape Request Form Revised: October 2017 Page 1 of 2 OVER →

Description & Lo	ocation of l	Request	-	
Please briefly describe the situation and the ex	kact location c	f the subje	ect of the reques	
"roots of pine tree in front of manor XYZ are lift	•	alk"). Atta	ach pictures as r c·       1	necessary. i
Or front lawn thee drop	os berr	2 2 2	has a	ay sed
people to sup, Roots	have L	fred .	Sidewalk	/'m
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By signing, you are acknowledging this req	uest.	1 .		
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OMMENTS:				
			<del></del>	
TREE VALUE:	TREE REMOV	AL COST∙		



### STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 2, 2019

FOR: Landscape Committee

SUBJECT: Tree Removal Request: 5389-A-Paseo del Lago (Friesen) – Spotted Gum

tree

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Deny the request for the removal or off-schedule trimming of one Spotted Gum tree located at 5389-A and trim on schedule.

### **BACKGROUND**

Ms. Friesen purchased the unit in August 2014. She is requesting the removal or off-scheduled trimming of a Spotted Gum tree, *Corymbia, maculata* located at the rear of the unit. The reasons cited for the removal or off-schedule trimming are: overgrown, litter and debris, and large branches and acorns have fallen onto the patios causing distressing noise and the possibility of roof damage in the future. One additional resident has signed in favor of the removal (Attachment 2).

The tree was last pruned in June 2018, and future scheduled trimming is tentatively scheduled for fiscal year 2020. The tree is approximately 54 feet in height with a trunk diameter of approximately 28 inches and is growing in the turf area approximately two feet from the rear patio.

### DISCUSSION

At the time of inspection, there was no noticeable trunk damage, pest or disease, no surface rooting or damage to the patio, and the tree has a well-balanced open canopy. This species of Eucalyptus does produce flowers and small fruit seed pods that do self-shed throughout the year. There were signs of small limb loss in the past which is typical for this species.

### **FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

The cost to remove the tree is estimated at \$2,500, cost to trim is estimated to be \$400, and the estimated value is \$7,994, based on the tree inventory data.

**Prepared By:** Bob Merget, Landscape Supervisor

**Reviewed By:** Kurt Wiemann, Senior Field Services Manager

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment 1: Photographs

Attachment 2: Mutual Landscape Request Form





Agenda Item # 9D Page 2 of 4





MUTUAL LANDSCAPE REQUEST FORM

HIS FORM IS NOT INTENDED FOR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE REQUESTS

For all non-routine requests, please fill out this form. Per the policy of your Multual, if your request falls outside the scope of the managing agent's authority, it will be forwarded to the Mutual's Landscape Committee for review. If you are unsure whether your request falls into this category, first contact Resident Services at 597-4600 in order to make that determination.

### PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED REQUEST FORM TO RESIDENT SERVICES

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED REQUEST F	ORIVITO RESIDENT SERVICES.
Resident/Owner Inf	ormation
You must be an owner to request non-routine Landscap	pe requests.
5389-A Paseo del Lago Address	700, 1, 2018 Today's Date
KAThleen & Drad FRiesen Resident's Name	949-584-8619 Telephone Number
Non-Routine Re Please checkmark the item that best describes your req "Other" and explain.	
☐ Tree Removal ☐ New Landscape	Off-Schedule Trimming
*Other (explain): Extremely tall thee require to prevent further hight and day	esting removal or Top+ trim
Reason for Red Please checkmark the item(s) that best explain the rea	
☐ Structural Damage ☐ Sewer Damage ☒ Overgro	wn Door Condition
☑ Litter/Debris ☐ Personal Preference ☐ View Obs	truction
Other (explain): Lorde Branches + assure for Causing distressing notice and concern of roof do GUIDELINES:	el from extremely tall true year around
<ul> <li>Structural/Sewer Damage: Damage to buildings, sign</li> </ul>	dewalks, sewer pipes, or other facilities
<ul> <li>may justify removal if corrective measures are not possible.</li> <li>Overgrown/Crowded: Trees or plants that have out removal.</li> </ul>	grown the available space may justify
<u>Damaged/Declining Health</u> : Trees or plants that are corrective action before removal/replacement is corrective.	e declining in health will be evaluated for nsidered.
<ul> <li><u>View Blockage</u>: By nature, view blockage must be appropriate course of action.</li> </ul>	reviewed case by case to determine the
<ul> <li><u>Litter and Debris</u>: Because all trees shed litter seas reason to justify removal. However, if granted, remexpense.</li> </ul>	sonally, generally this is not an adequate noval/replacement may be at the resident's
<ul> <li><u>Personal Preference</u>: Because one does not like the tree or plant generally does not justify its remove</li> </ul>	e appearance or other characteristics of val. However, if granted,

Mutual Landscape Request Form Revised: October 2017

removal/replacement is usually at the resident's expense.

Page 1 of 2 OVER →

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on to roofs + patio covers. Very	low	d'a starth	ig, Aou	nds like for	Mots_
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Page 2 of 2



### STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** May 2, 2019

FOR: Landscape Committee

**SUBJECT: Alternative Herbicide Trial Report** 

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve an unbudgeted expense of \$24,000 for alternative herbicide products.

### **BACKGROUND**

Staff was directed to investigate a viable alternative to Roundup and other herbicides that contain glyphosate.

### **DISCUSSION**

In response to concerns from the community regarding the safety of the herbicide Round Up<sup>®</sup> and its main ingredient glyphosate, Staff was directed to investigate the potential use of viable alternative products.

Most of the natural, organic, and alternative products have the potential to increase the cost of weed control dramatically. There are several key variables; cost per gallon, the effective quantity, the application rate, and the number of applications. These variables have the potential to increase the costs of any weed control program.

With all of the conflicting available information, Staff decided to test the efficacy of six of the leading alternative herbicides. As the efficacy of Roundup<sup>®</sup> is well known, it was used as the control. To reduce the number of variables, Staff standardized the trials (Attachment 1).

Each product has different costs per gallon, different claims to safety, different levels of efficacy, and different application price levels. By creating a trial program, each of these important factors was addressed. The data produced from the trials will allow the Board to make an educated decision on an alternative product to glyphosate (Attachment 2).

Finale<sup>®</sup> outperformed the entire group of alternative products and was the only product that killed the Kikuyu grass completely. The trial showed that Finale<sup>®</sup> at four ounces per gallon rate, along with one half ounce of Oroboost<sup>®</sup> additive, is a viable alternative to glyphosate products. If the Board desires to eliminate Roundup<sup>®</sup> and other glyphosate products from the herbicide program in Laguna Woods Village, the recommendation is Finale<sup>®</sup> with Oroboost<sup>®</sup>.

United Laguna Woods Mutual Alternative Herbicide Trial May 2, 2019 Page 2

### **FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

Based upon the historic usage of Roundup<sup>®</sup>, the estimated additional annual cost for the use of the Finale<sup>®</sup> blend will be approximately \$24,000. Please see the attached detailed report for additional financial information.

Prepared By: Kurt Wieman, Senior Field Services Manager

**Reviewed By:** Eve Morton, Landscape Operations Coordinator

### ATTACHMENT(S)

**ATTACHMENT 1**: Alternative Herbicide Final Report with Financial Documentation

# Alternative Herbicide Trials

Laguna Woods Village



APRIL 8, 2019





# **Alternative Herbicide Trials**

Laguna Woods Village

### Introduction

In response to concerns from the community regarding the safety of the herbicide Roundup® and its main ingredient glyphosate, the Landscape Committees from the Golden Rain Foundation, United Laguna Woods Mutual, and Third Laguna Hills Mutual directed staff to investigate the potential use of alternative products.

In recent years there has been an interest in the landscape and agricultural industries with alternative herbicides to control weeds. In response, many herbicide manufacturers have entered the market with synthetic, organic, natural, and other safe alternative products. Throughout the green industry there are different views on which herbicide to use, which is the most effective, and which is the safest. In the green industry, weeds are referred to as pests; the terms "herbicide" and "pesticide" in this context are synonyms and are used interchangeably. Results of these herbicides have varied based on the volume of product that was applied, the type of weeds treated, the type of weather or season in which it was applied, the application equipment, the sponsor of the test, and human error.

Most of the natural, organic, and alternative products have the potential to increase the cost of weed control dramatically. There are several variables; cost per gallon, the effective quantity, the application rate, and the number of applications. These variables have the potential to increase the costs of any weed control program.

With all of the conflicting available information, Staff decided to test the efficacy of six of the leading alternative herbicides. As the efficacy of Roundup® is well known; it was used as the control. To reduce the number of variables, Staff standardized the trials. To oversee and verify the methodology and metric, Staff employed the services of MTC Landscape Services, an expert in agronomics and landscape methodology. The principal, M. Tom Carrasco, is a licensed Pest Control Adviser (PCA). PCAs are licensed by the State of California as professional consultants who serve the California agriculture, landscape, and horticulture industry.

The safety aspect of alternatives to glyphosate is also a factor to be considered. Many of the organic alternatives do include EPA registration numbers and strong signal words such as DANGER and WARNING. The level of safety, according to the EPA, from least to most toxic is as follows: CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER, and POISON. These strong signal words on some of the alternative herbicides indicate that these products may be a concern for the employee applying the product, but they are also a possible concern for the public and the environment.

### **Trial Location and Plan**

The location of the trial was adjacent to 3486 Bahia Blanca West. The location is northwest facing with six to ten hours of partial sun during February and March. The total square footage of the trial area is 5,852 square feet. Each product was applied in a dedicated, marked location of 200 square feet each.



Most herbicides, including glyphosate, either contain or require an added adjuvant to improve their efficacy. The adjuvants help with the spreading, adhesion, and penetration of the main product. For these tests, Oroboost® was used; it is certified organic and possesses superior penetration properties. A recent University of Illinois study concluded that Oroboost®-treated applications are absorbed into the leaf more quickly, and move a greater percentage of the systemic herbicide to the roots faster than herbicide alone. This product also treats the issue of water quality that greatly affects the efficacy of any herbicide.

### **Protocol Summary**

With today's environmental and human safety awareness levels, the Landscape Management Team at Laguna Woods Village took a proactive approach to testing alternatives to the herbicide glyphosate. There have been many products entering the market claiming to be an alternative to glyphosate. Each product has different costs per application, different claims to safety, different levels of efficacy, and different price levels. By creating a trial program, we address each of these important factors. The data will allow the Board Members and Management to make an educated decision on an alternative product to glyphosate and consider alternative methods to their standard application protocol.

### **Testing Protocol**

- 1. Identical, individual, new, 1- gallon spray tanks were used to apply each product.
- 2. All applications were performed by a licensed Qualified Applicator (QAL)
- 3. Products were all sprayed by the same applicator to reduce inconsistencies.
- 4. Each product was sprayed at the highest labeled rate.
- 5. Each alternative herbicide was mixed with one half ounce per gallon, of Oroboost®.
- 6. All plots were 200 square feet for each product
- 7. The chosen location turf was 85% Kikuyu and 15% mixed turf. Each plot was representative of this.
- 8. Irrigation was turned off for 24 hours to arrive at maximum effectiveness of the herbicides
- 9. A 1/2 gallon of final solution of each alternative herbicide was sprayed on its 200 square foot plot. This is equivalent to 2.5 gallons per 1000 sq. feet which is considered standard in the industry as "sprayed to wet." This is also the setting that most spray tanks are calibrated to at the factory.
- 10. Pictures of each plot were taken prior to each application
- 11. As directed by the individual labels, a second application was applied two weeks after the initial application. These products included: Scythe®, Axxe, Weed Pharm, Finale® and Weed Zap.

### **PRODUCTS**

The seven products tested:

- 1. ROUNDUP® (Control)
- 2. WEED ZAP®
- 3. WEED ROT®
- 4. SCYTHE®
- 5. FINALE®
- 6. AXXE®
- 7. WEED PHARM®

## **Discussion**

Kikuyu grass is the number one weed that the crews in Laguna Woods Village have to manage every day, especially along planter edges and tree wells. A native grass of South Africa, Kikuyu was brought to the United States and Southern California in 1913. This grass was to be used for slope stabilization along the new roads and highways being built in the rapidly growing Southern California counties. Soon it made its way into home lawns, golf courses, parks, and later homeowner association turf grass areas. It grows from a thick network of rhizomatous roots and sends out stolons, which extend along the ground. Because of its rapid growth and aggressive nature, it is categorized as a noxious weed in some regions.

The majority of the herbicide use in the Village is dedicated to the maintenance of tree wells and shrub beds. Therefore, the location of the trial site, with a heavy kikuyu grass stand, was ideal for the alternative herbicide test. Kikuyu is a very tough grass to eradicate, with a thick cuticle (upper leaf layer) with underground stems and shoots which proved impervious for the organic, certified organic or natural products.

The following products provided an initial burndown which gave the appearance of success; in the following weeks the regrowth of the Kikuyu was evident. These products included Scythe®, WeedPharm®, Axxe®, WeedRot®, and Weed Zap®.

Finale® herbicide and the control product, Roundup®, outperformed all of the other tested products by far. Both of these products killed the Kikuyu grass to the roots. The original tests, performed by Staff last summer, used Finale® but did not include Oroboost®.

After the initial two applications were performed, core samples from the best visually performing plots were taken to the lab where they were tested and given an ideal growing environment to encourage regrowth. These core samples were taken from the Roundup®, Finale®, Scythe® and WeedPharm® test areas. The core samples for Roundup® and Finale® indicated no regrowth while the Scythe® and WeedPharm® core samples showed regrowth (Appendix A).

### **Summary**

Finale® outperformed the entire group of alternative products and was the only product that killed the Kikuyu grass completely. The trial showed that Finale® at four ounces per gallon, along with one half ounce of Oroboost® additive, is a viable alternative to glyphosate products. If the Boards desire to eliminate Roundup® and other glyphosate products from the herbicide program in Laguna Woods Village, the recommendation is Finale® with Oroboost®.

Staff also recommends using a turf grass plant growth regulator. Plant growth regulators (PGR) stop the turf edges from growing for an extended period of time, reducing the need to apply herbicides. This will greatly reduce future turf runner growth and reduce the number of times Staff would need to spray herbicides to edge the turf. The edging of the Kikuyu turf at Laguna Woods Village makes up the majority of the herbicide applications and costs could be greatly reduced by using these technologies. There is a potential for labor savings and a reduction in the use of herbicides with these products. Staff will test PGRs and perform a cost analysis for review. Staff will also continue testing new non-glyphosate products as they become available and will provide pertinent updates to the Landscape Committees.

Kurt Wiemann Senior Field Services Manager Village Management Services, Inc. M. Tom Carrasco MTC Landscape Services PCA, QAL

**Appendix A:** Test Photos

**Appendix B:** Financial Analysis

<sup>\*</sup>This report should not be considered a written recommendation or a legal document pertaining to the safety of these products. MTC Landscape Services and its staff members produce unbiased fact- based data on the trial and herbicide effectiveness. MTC Landscape Services assumes no liability and is indemnified for the trial work, short term or long term effects to or damage to the environment, common area, the staff members, or residents at Laguna Woods Village.

### **APPENDIX A**

### **ROUNDUP®**

**Application Rate: 1 ounce per gallon** 

Signal Word- Caution

**Type of Herbicide**- Synthetic **Active Ingredient**- Glyphosate



Week 1 Week 2



Week 3 Week 4

# Roundup®



No regrowth can be seen in the Lab core test

WEED ZAP®

Signal Word- N/A

Type of Herbicide- "Certified Organic" OMRI, Prop 25 b exempt, Topical

Active Ingredient- Cinnamon Oil, Clove Oil



Week 1 Week 2



Week 3 Week 4

# **WEED ROT®**

Signal Word- N/A

**Type of Herbicide-** Natural, Prop 25 b exempt, Systemic **Active Ingredient-** Organic Citric acid, Coconut Oil (SLS)



Week 1 Week 2



Week 3 Week 4

#### **SCYTHE®**

Signal Word- Warning

Type of Herbicide- Natural/Synthetic- contains Petroleum, Topical

Active Ingredient- Pelargonic Acid, Fatty Acids



Week 1 Week 2



Week 3 Week 4

# Scythe®



Regrowth can be seen in the Lab core test

FINALE®
Signal Word- Warning
Type of Herbicide- Synthetic, Locally Systemic
Active Ingredient- Glufosinate- ammonium



Week 1

CAUTION

CAUT

Week 3 Week 4

### Finale®



No regrowth can be seen in the Lab core test

#### **AXXE**

Signal Word- Warning

**Type of Herbicide-** "Certified Organic", Topical **Active Ingredient- A**mmonium-Nonanoate



Week 1 Week 2



Week 3 Week 4

#### **WEED PHARM**

Signal Word- Danger

**Type of Herbicide-** "Certified Organic" Washington State, Topical

Active Ingredient- Acetic Acid



Week 1 Week 2



Week 3 Week 4

## WeedPharm<sup>®</sup>



Regrowth can be seen in the Lab core test

### APPENDIX B

Brand Name	Raw Cost per Gallon	Raw Cost Difference	Price per Ounce	Rate oz/per Gallon of Finished Mix	Cost of Herbicide per Finished Gallon	Cost of Oroboost Portion	Cost of Finished Gallon of Mix Ready to Use	Percentage Higher than Roundup
Roundup	\$36.50	%0	\$0.29	1	\$0.29	•	\$0.29	•
Scythe	\$59.30	% <b>29</b>	\$0.46	12	\$5.56	\$0.28	\$5.84	1948%
Аххе	\$75.64	<b>107%</b>	\$0.59	16	\$9.46	\$0.28	\$9.74	3314%
Weedpharm	\$29.95	%81-	\$0.23	undiluted	\$29.95	\$0.28	\$30.23	10501%
Weedzap	\$72.25	%86	95.0\$	6.4	\$3.61	\$0.28	\$3.89	1265%
Finale	\$53.78	%47%	\$0.42	4	\$1.68	\$0.28	\$1.96	288%
Weedrot	\$52.50	% <b>7</b> 7	\$0.41	54	\$9.84	\$0.28	\$10.12	27%
Oroboost	\$71.25	n/a	\$0.56	0.5				

,	All Mutuals	S	
Historical Roundup Usage	2016	2017	Average
Gallons	198.4	200.0	199.2
Annual Cost (All Mutuals)	\$7,242	\$7,299	\$7,270

Break	Breakdown by Mutual	lutual	
	2016	2017	Average
United	\$2,650	\$2,671	\$2,661
Third	\$4,077	\$4,109	\$4,093
GRF	\$514	\$518	\$516
	\$7,242	\$7,299	\$7,270

	Gallons		
United	23	73	73
Third	112	113	112
GRF	14	14	14
Total	198.4	200.0	199.2

		Third	Third Mutual		Gold	den Rain	Golden Rain Foundation	on
	Annual <i>f</i>	\ternative	Annual Alternative Herbicide Estimate	stimate	Annual A	Iternative	Annual Alternative Herbicide Estimate	timate
	Product	PPG	# Gallons	Total	Product	PPG	# Gallons	Total
	,	Average Aı	Average Annual Usage		,	\verage Ar	Average Annual Usage	
\$2,661	Round Up	\$36.50	112	\$4,093	Round Up	\$36.50	14	\$516
	Es	timated A	Estimated Annual Unsage	6	ES	timated Aı	Estimated Annual Unsage	a
\$15,683	Finale	\$23.78	449	\$24,124	Finale	\$53.78	25	\$3,042
\$1,781	Oroboost	\$71.25	26	\$3,995	Oroboost	\$71.25	7	\$504
\$17,464	 Total Co	t of Finale	Total Cost of Finale/Oroboost:	\$28,119	Total Cos	t of Finale	Total Cost of Finale/Oroboost:	\$3,546
\$14,803	Increa	se to Curre	Increase to Current Budget:	\$24,026	Increa	se to Curre	Increase to Current Budget:	\$3,030

			Third Mutual Landscape Project Log	t Log		
ltem#	Project	Description	Status	Estimated Completion/ On-going Date	Completion	ر 
Ъ	Tree Maintenance	This annual program only includes street light clearing, un-scheduled pruning, service requests and dead tree removal.	As of March 31, 2019, 20 trees were removed and 2 un-scheduled service requests completed.	December 2019 Annual	11%	
2	Turf Reduction	Elimination of highest water using turf areas; replacing with water efficient landscapes.	In design phase. Preliminary drawings complete. Renderings expected for June committee meeting.	2019	10%	
3	Landscape Modification	Turf Renovation (aeration & deep fertilization)	Anticipated start May 2019	2019	0%	
4	Slope Renovation	Restoration of All Slopes	Out to Bid: Bids Due April 25, 2019	2019	3%	
ъ	Slope Maintenance Outsourced	Annual trimming and weeding of vegetation on slopes	Out to Bid: Bids Due April 25, 2019	2019	ω	3%
6	Fire Risk Reduction	Project includes the removal of vegetation; lowering height of shrubs and raising the lower branches on trees on slopes with a high risk of fire.	Anticipated start Summer 2019. Meeting with OCFA	2019		0%

1766	Hours Budgeted	47	Total Labor Hours	15	Total Trees	
Board Approved	Landscape Request Form	4.5	Canary Island Pine	Trim	4006-3C	4/23/2019
Staff	Decay	4	Eucalyptus tree	Trim	3323-A	4/22/2019
Staff	Decay	4.5	Oak tree	Trim	3233-A	4/22/2019
Staff	Dead-Verticillium Wilt	1.5	Flowering Plum tree	Removal	3496-C	4/22/2019
Staff	Multiple limb loss	6.5	Silk Oak tree	Removal	3181-D	4/22/2019
Board Approved	Landscape Request Form	4.5	Loquat tree	Removal	3155-C	4/22/2019
Board Approved	Landscape Request Form	ر.	Carottwood tree	Removal	3528-C	4/22/2019
Board Approved	Landscape Request Form	4.5	Star Pine	Removal	3342-A	4/22/2019
Staff	Dead-Poly Shot Hole Bore	2.5	Monterey pine	Removal	5468	4/22/2019
Staff	Replace failed tree	1.5	Pink trumpet tree	Plant	3148	4/18/2019
Staff	Replace failed tree	1.5	Pepper tree	Plant	5040	4/18/2019
Staff	Uprooted	ω	Australian Willow	Removal	2159	4/15/2019
Staff	Dead-Mildew	1.5	Crepe Myrtle tree	Removal	2402	4/15/2019
Staff	Dead-Verticillium Wilt	Ь	Remove 1	Removal	2393	4/15/2019
Staff	Dead-Verticillium Wilt	1	Flowering Plum tree	Removal	2295-C	4/15/2019
Decision Level	Reason	Labor Hours	Tree Type	Description	Manor	Date
	Work	hedule Tree	Third Mutual Off Schedule Tree			