



OPEN MEETING

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
THIRD LAGUNA MUTUAL LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE**

Thursday, May 7, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING

**Laguna Woods Village Community Center, 24351 El Toro Road,
Laguna Woods, California**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Acknowledgment of Media
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Report for March 5, 2020
5. Chair's Remarks
6. Department Head Update

Consent:

None

Reports:

7. Project Log
8. Tree Work Status Report

Unfinished Business

9. Tree Removal Request: 3306-P Via Carrizo (Chung) – One Lemon Scented Gum tree and one Carrotwood tree

Items for Discussion and Consideration:

10. Tree Removal Request: 3163-D Alta Vista (Schmieder) – One Rustyleaf Fig tree
11. Tree Removal Request: 5537-B Via La Meza (Carpenter) – One Ornamental Pear tree
12. Landscape Revision Request: 5598-A Vista Del Mando S. (Ferraro) – Artificial Turf Installation

Items for Future Agendas:

None.

Concluding Business

13. Member Comments (Items Not on the Agenda)

The Community Center is closed and this will be a virtual meeting which Members may view on the Village website under Residents>Governance>Board Meeting Videos. Member comments will be read during the meeting and the committee will respond. Please send your comment to the Committee by either calling (949) 268-2020 within the half hour prior to this meeting and fifteen minutes after the start of the meeting. Or, you may email meeting@vmsinc.org with your comment any time prior to the meeting and up to fifteen minutes after the start of this meeting. You must provide your name, manor number, and the meeting your comment is meant for.



14. Response to Member Comments
15. Committee Member Comments
16. Date of Next Meeting – June 4, 2020
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, March 5, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.
Laguna Woods Village Community Center Board Room
24351 El Toro Road**

REPORT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair - Lynn Jarrett, Annie McCary, Cush Bhada, Ralph Engdahl in for Reza Karimi, Jon Pearlstone

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Reza Karimi

OTHERS PRESENT:

ADVISORS PRESENT: Cindy Baker

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 the Agenda

Mr. Wiemann requested Agenda Item #15, be removed from the agenda since it does not require committee approval. Director Bhada made a motion to approve the agenda, with this change. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

4. Approval of the February 6, 2020 Report

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

5. Committee Chair Remarks

Chair Jarrett stated that this neither committee nor staff gets rid of trees lightly. There are rules in place regarding what constitutes the removal of a tree.

There will be a Gate 14 park ribbon cutting ceremony on March 25.

Chair Jarrett stated that the Mutual received 100% of the rebate from ETWD for the Gate 14 turf reduction project. Therefore, sixty-two percent of the project was paid for through the rebate.

The new tub grinder has arrived and Mr. Wiemann will provide more details about it.

6. Member Comments

Margaret Fox (2335-B): She has weeds everywhere. She is paying a gardener \$75 a month to take care of them. They took out a Cedar years ago and the stump is still there.

Eileen Lazar (5520): She drove by the Gate 14 project and it looks good. She said the Gate 11 modernization area, on a large slope, is overgrown. Trees have died and were chopped down. A lot of African daisies are in that area. Have any other Gate 11 areas been earmarked for modernization?

Phyllis Waite (3428-N): There are slopes in her area that need to be cleared. She noted that when our grass starts to look nice, staff drives trucks on the grass and damages it. She has spoken to Luis about it.

7. Response to Member Comments

Mr. Wiemann responded to Member Comments:

Landscape staff is scheduled to get to manors every three months. They failed to put some of the new projects on a shorter schedule so they will be maintained properly. He will make sure this gets done.

The fire reduction program to remove acacia from the slopes goes out to bid on Monday.

No landscape modernization projects are planned for the immediate future.

8. Department Head Update

As of March 1, the landscape crews are fully staffed for the first time in years. A four-man planting crew has been put into place that will start filling in any bare spots. They will begin to keep track of the plants so if they keep dying, they will be replaced with a different type of plant. An irrigation person is on this crew.

Our tree trimming contractor started this week.

Consent Calendar:

None.

Reports:

9. Project Log

Mr. Wiemann reviewed the Project Log with the committee.

He met with the Fire Authority and the Village is fully in compliance except for acacia removal which is going out to bid.

We have a new tub grinder which makes mulch. We can even use it to grind logs and stumps. We will now have enough mulch for the community and may even sell some of it.

Chair Jarrett stated that there will be a video of the tub grinder in action at the April Board meeting.

Mr. Wiemann stated that the aeration project will be done in six weeks.

10. Tree Work Status Report

Mr. Wiemann reviewed this report with the committee.

Items for Discussion and Consideration:

11. Tree Removal Request: 2272-B Via Mariposa East (Baskin) – One Star Pine tree

Director Pearlstone made a motion to approve staff's recommendation and approve this request. Director McCary seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

12. Tree Removal Request: 3166-A Alta Vista (Katz) – One Indian Laurel Fig

Director Bhada made a motion to approve staff's recommendation and approve this request. Director McCary seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

The Member was present. She stated that the tree roots are terrible and are growing under the house and she can feel them in the floor under her bedroom. She wants to make sure staff gets all the roots out and takes the tree out as soon as possible.

13. Tree Removal Request: 3306-P Via Carrizo (Chung) – One Lemon Scented Gum tree and one Carrotwood tree

Director McCary made a motion to approve staff's recommendation and deny this request. Director Pearlstone seconded.

Mr. Chung was present.

Marion Woody (3306-O): She is neighbor of Mr. Chung's. She said the noise of the berries dropping is awful. She can even hear them dropping when she is in her house. It is very annoying. Joe works hard to keep the area clean. There is danger

of people slipping on the berries. The constant noise of the berry drops is worse than a barking dog.

Director Bhada stated that this tree is in a main walking area. It is danger to other Members.

Director Bhada moved to table this motion. Director Engdahl seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

Director Bhada suggested that the Committee and staff should go together to look at these tree before making a decision about possible removal of the tree.

14. Tree Removal Request: 5381-A Avenida Sosiega (Williams) – One American Sweet Gum tree.

Director McCary made a motion to approve staff's recommendation and deny this request. Director Engdahl seconded. The committee was in unanimous support.

15. (THIS ITEM WAS REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA) Tree Removal Request: 5397-B Via Carrizo (Chen) – One Red Ironbark tree and One Cajeput tree

Items for Future Agendas:

None.

Concluding Business

16. Committee Member Comments

Director McCary stated she appreciates Mr. Wiemann and his crews for their work. She also appreciates his knowledge about trees and how the trees differ from one another.

Director Pearlstone stated that he has been on this committee for the last 18 months. When a tree request is denied, it is based upon the professional opinion of staff arborists.

Chair Jarrett told Mr. Chung (3306-P) that the committee will go out to his home before the next meeting to look at the trees. The committee depends on the arborists to give them their professional opinion on whether or not a tree should be removed. She thanked Mr. Wiemann for his work putting together the contracts needed to get the landscaping work done.

17. Date of Next Meeting – April 2, 2020

18. Adjournment at 10:41 a.m.



Lynn Jarrett, Chair
Kurt Wiemann, Staff Officer

Eve Morton, Landscape Operations Coordinator – 268-2565

**Third Mutual Landscape Project Log
May 2020
2020 Reserve Fund Projects**

Project	Description	Status	Estimated Completion	Completion*	Budget	YTD*
Tree Maintenance	The annual program will be a combination of contracted work and in-house staff.	As of March 31, 2020, the in-house crew trimmed 193 and removed 22 trees. Contracted tree crews trimmed 410 and removed 11 trees.	Annual Program	11%	\$853,812	\$93,828
Landscape Modernization/ Aeration	Elimination of highest water using turf areas; replacing with water efficient landscapes.	Areas in Gate 11 are on hold. Work on Aeration Continues.	December 31, 2020	0%	\$100,000	
Slope Maintenance Outsourced	Annual Maintenance	Work is on going	Annual Program: December 2020	27%	\$470,176	\$127,880
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.	Work estimated to start May 2020	Annual Program: December 2020	0%	\$180,000	

Third Mutual Off Schedule Tree Work						
Date	Manor	Description	Tree Type	Labor Hours	Reason	Decision Level
1/14/2020	5342	Clearance Trim	Elm	8	Large Elm tree was encroaching onto the roof	Staff
1/14/2020	3451	Clearance Trim	Carrotwood	4	Tree was encroaching onto the roof	Staff
1/21/2019	3162	Removal	Jacaranda	10	There was a street light conflict, trimming was not an option due to proximity to light	Staff
1/23/2020	Assorted locations	Stump Grinding	Assorted Removals	14	Previously removed trees	Staff/Committee approved
1/24/2020	Assorted Locations	Stump Grinding	Assorted Removals	8	Previously removed trees	Staff/Committee approved
2/10/2020	Assorted Locations	Clearance Trim	Assorted tree types (6)	54	Assorted trees were encroaching onto the manors	Staff
2/10/2020	3242-1A	Full trim	Ficus (1)	10	Ficus benjamina was encroaching onto all three manors 1A, 1B, 1C	Staff
2/11/2020	3086	Removal	Ash	20	Large Ash tree was approved for removal due to damage to V ditch	Board Approved
2/11/2020	3074	Removal	Desert Willow	12	Tree had developed a large split between trunk and major branches	Staff
2/11/2020	55537	Removal	Melaleuca	14	The tree was removed at the request of the projects department to add sidewalk	Parking Committee
2/13/2020	3486	Removal	Eucalyptus	10	The tree uprooted due to a wind/storm event	Staff
2/5 thru 2/13/20	Assorted locations	Stump Grinding	Assorted Removals	20.6	Assorted stump grinding. As of 2/13/20 there are no stumps in Third Mutual	Staff
2/20/2020	3086	Stump Grinding	Assorted Removals	6	Additional grinding needed at 3086 for the 936 department	Staff
2/28/2020	3467-A	Removal	Queensland Pittosporum	10	Tree failure at perimeter wall due to undeveloped tree roots	Staff
3/5/2020	Assorted locations	Stump Grinding	Assorted removals	7	3467-A stump grinding	Staff
3/5/2020	3429	Removal	Sil Oak	19	Large branch failure, staff was unable to restore the tree due to the damage	Staff
3/16/2020	Assorted locations	Trimming	Assorted tree types (4)	13	Storm related trimming and restoration	Staff
3/23/2020	5492	Removal	Ornamental Pear	12	Complete up-rooting of tree due to shallow root system, no damage to manor.	Staff
Total Trees		12	Total Labor Hours	184.6	Hours Budgeted	1766
Trees YTD		12	Total Labor Hours YTD	184.6	Hours Remaining	1581.4



STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 7, 2019
FOR: Landscape Committee
SUBJECT: Tree Removal Request: 3306-P Via Carrizo (Chung) – One Lemon Scented Gum tree and One Carrotwood tree

RECOMMENDATION

Deny the request for the removal of one Lemon Scented Gum tree and one Carrotwood tree.

BACKGROUND (This item was tabled at the March 5, 2020, meeting)

Mr. Chung purchased the manor in March 2019, and is requesting the removal of one Lemon Scented Gum tree, *Corymbia, citriodora* and one Carrotwood tree, *Cupaniopsis, anacardioides*. The reasons cited for the removal are: overgrown and falling debris and berries from the tree falls onto the roof causing disruptive noise. There are six additional signatures on the Mutual Request Form all in favor of the removals (Attachment 2).

The trees were last pruned as an off-schedule clearance prune in December 2019. Future trimming is tentatively scheduled for fiscal year 2021. The height of the Lemon Scented Gum tree is approximately 63 feet with a trunk diameter of approximately 37 inches. The tree is growing in the flowerbed approximately 12 feet from the manor and eight feet from the patio. The height of the Carrotwood Tree is approximately 29 feet with a trunk diameter of approximately 19 inches. This tree is growing in the flowerbed approximately eight feet from the patio and approximately three feet from the walkway.

DISCUSSION

At the time of inspection, the trees were found to be in good condition with balanced canopies. There is no noticeable trunk damage on the Lemon Scented Gum tree and minor trunk damage on the Carrotwood tree. There is no pest or disease present and both trees have noticeable surface rooting with no damage to infrastructure. The Carrotwood tree can be maintained in a healthy and safe manor to prevent branches from hanging over the roof of the manor. However, given the size of this Lemon Scented Gum tree canopy, it would be impossible to remove enough branches to eliminate its seeds from falling onto the roof. Staff has performed all the clearance trimming possible while still maintaining the stability of the tree. The only way to successfully eliminate all disturbances from falling seed pods would be to remove the tree based on litter. In the past it has been the Mutual's policy not to remove trees solely based on litter/debris.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The cost to remove the Lemon Scented Gum tree is estimated at \$2,500; the cost to trim the tree is estimated at \$450 and the estimated value of the tree is \$12,840 based on the tree inventory data. The cost to remove the Carrotwood tree is estimated at \$1,100; the cost to trim the tree is estimated at \$250 and the estimated value of the tree is \$4,490 based on the tree inventory data.

Third Laguna Hills Mutual
Tree Removal Request – 3306-P
May 7, 2020

Prepared By: Bob Merget, Senior Landscape Supervisor

Reviewed By: Kurt Wiemann, Director of Landscape Services

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment 1: Photographs

Attachment 2: Mutual Landscape Request Form

ATTACHMENT 1





Third Laguna Hills Mutual
Tree Removal Request – 3306-P
May 7, 2020





RECEIVED
JAN 16 2020
BY: DLG

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.

3306 VIA CARRIZO #P
Address

2-6-20
1/16/2020
Today's Date

KWANG JO CHUNG
Resident's Name

760 815 9492
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): Falling debris + berries from the trees fall on roof causing disruptive noise 24/7.

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
- Other (explain): _____

GUIDELINES:

- Structural/Sewer Damage: 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.
- Damaged/Declining Health: Trees or plants that are declining in health will be evaluated for corrective action before removal/replacement is considered.
- View Blockage: By nature, view blockage must be reviewed case by case to determine the appropriate course of action.
- Litter and Debris: 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.
- Personal Preference: 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.

Description & Location of Request

Please briefly describe the situation and the exact location of the subject of the request (e.g., "roots of pine tree in front of manor XYZ are lifting the sidewalk"). Attach pictures as necessary.

I attended the Homeowner's landscaping meeting in December to discuss an issue with the trees around my property. Although the tree trimmers came out to the property, they only did minimal trimming which did not resolve the problem. The seeds are still constantly dropping onto our patio roof and we still have issues with other plants falling on the ground. In order to eliminate the seeds, the trees will need to be trimmed much more or cut down completely. I am attaching pictures for your reference. Thank you

Because your request may affect one or more of your neighbors, it is imperative that you obtain their signatures, manor numbers, and whether they are for, undecided, or against this request.

Signature	Manor #	For	Undecided	Against
<i>Joanna Link</i>	3306 N	Yes		
<i>Russell Weston</i>	3306-A	Yes		
<i>Mariano W. Dwy</i>	3306-0	Yes		
<i>Ken Mox</i>	3306-1	Yes		
<i>Doreen Westman</i>	3306-A	Yes		
<i>Christine D. Keller</i>	3306 Q	Yes		

(Please attach a separate sheet if more signatures are necessary.)

Acknowledgement - Owner

By signing, you are acknowledging this request.

[Signature]
Owner's Signature

KWANG JO CHUNG
Owner's Name

OFFICE USE ONLY

MOVE-IN DATE: _____ DATE: _____ INITIALS: _____

530 _____ 540 _____ 570 _____ LAST PRUNED: _____

RELANDSCAPED: _____ NEXT TIME: _____

TREE SPECIES: _____

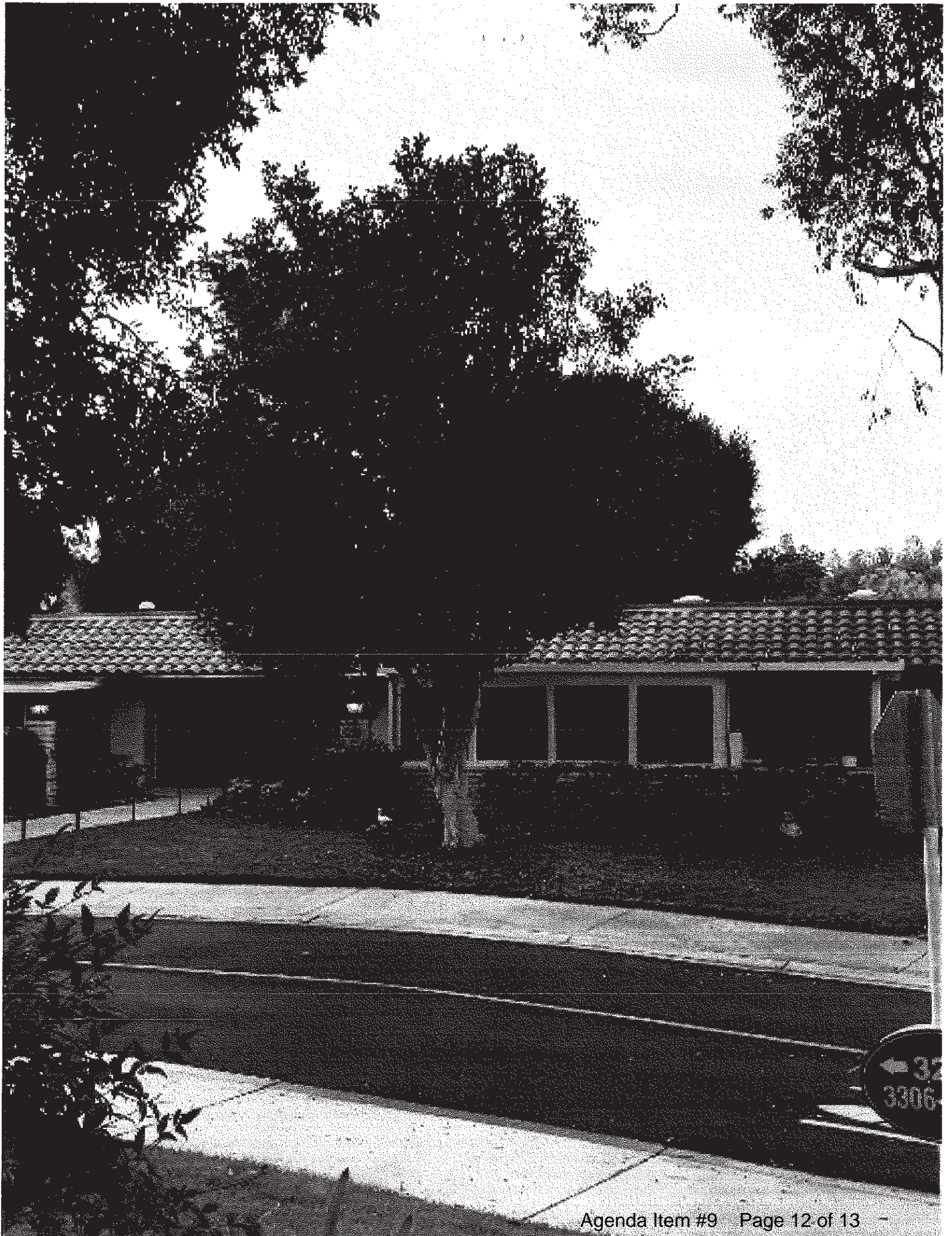
COMMENTS: _____

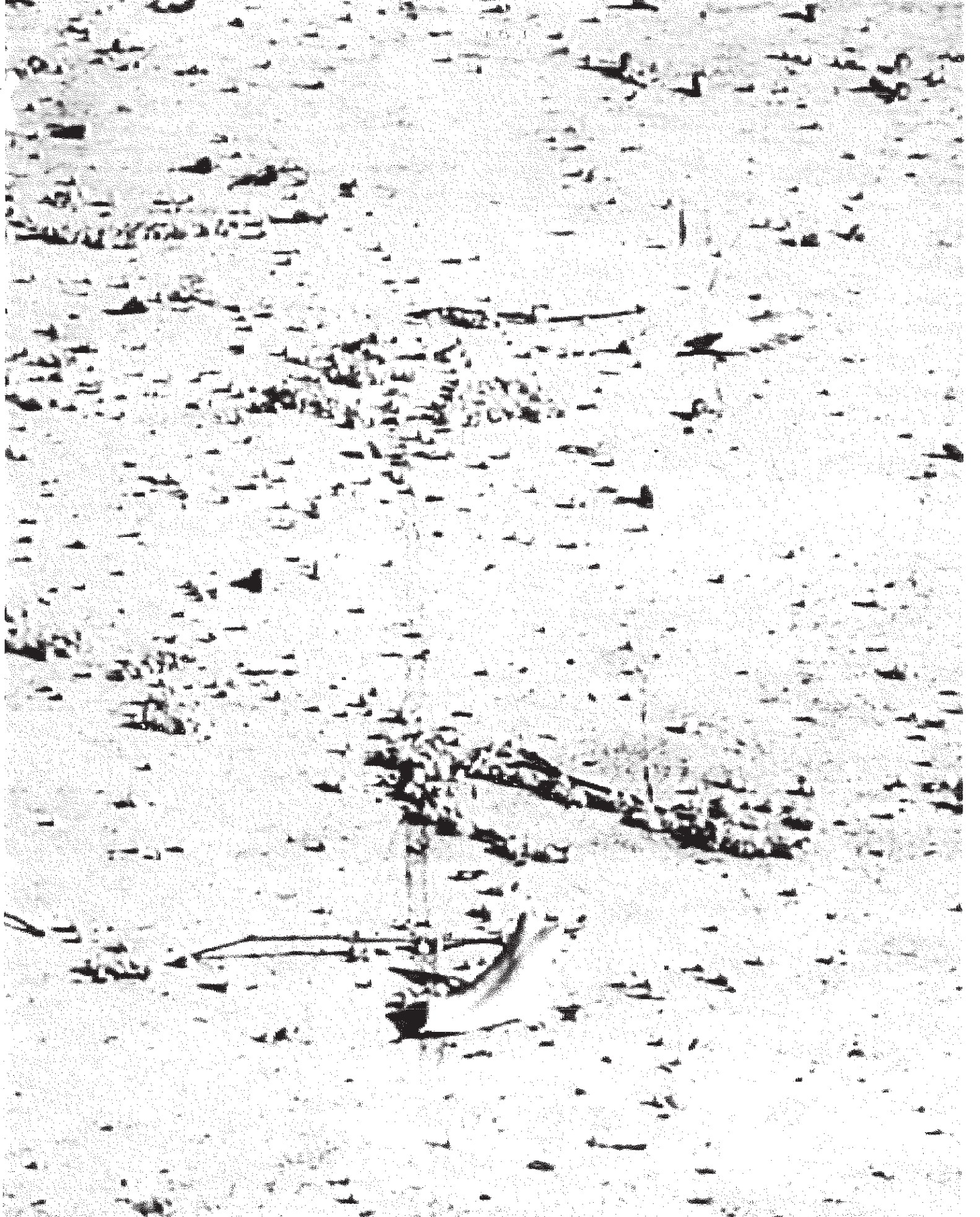
TREE VALUE: _____ TREE REMOVAL COST: _____

I attended the Homeowner's landscaping meeting in December to discuss an issue with the trees around my property. Although the tree trimmers came out to the property, they only did minimal trimming which did not resolve the problem. The seeds are still constantly dropping onto our patio roof and we still have issues with other plants falling on the ground. In order to eliminate the seeds, the trees will need to be trimmed much more or cut down completely. I am attaching pictures for your reference. Thank you











STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 7, 2020
FOR: Landscape Committee
SUBJECT: Tree Removal Request: 3163-D Alta Vista (Schmieder) – One Rustyleaf Fig tree

RECOMMENDATION

Deny the request for the removal of one Rustyleaf fig tree and trim on schedule.

BACKGROUND

Mr. Schmieder purchased the manor in April 2017, and is requesting the removal of one Rustyleaf Fig tree, *Ficus, rubiginosa*. The reasons cited for the removal are litter/debris, overgrown, and safety concerns. There are no additional signatures on the Mutual Request Form (Attachment 2).

The tree was last pruned in July 2018. Future trimming is tentatively scheduled for fiscal year 2020. The height of the tree is approximately 44 feet with a trunk diameter of approximately 33 inches. The tree is approximately 12 feet from the manor walkway and the main walkway along the street. There is no main walkway damage; there are small cracks on the manor walkway and an offset lip that has been previously ground down (Attachment 1).

DISCUSSION

At the time of inspection, the tree was found to be in fair condition, with a very large, balanced canopy and no pests or disease present. There are a number of visible surface roots which are common with this species of trees. One such root is very close to the manor's sidewalk and staff is recommending the removal of the root.

Staff sees no justification at this time for the removal of the Rustyleaf Fig tree and is recommending a clearance trim to develop separation of the canopy from the manor, as well as a significant crown reduction to control the canopy size. With the Species Specific Trim Policy, this tree will be on a two-year cycle rather than the previous three or four year cycle. The more frequent trimming will help to keep the tree in a more manageable state for years to come. In Attachment 1, there is a photo of a trimmed Ficus tree which represents the type of trimming suggested for this Rustyleaf Fig tree.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The cost to remove the tree is estimated at \$2,000. The cost to trim the tree is estimated at \$100 and the estimated value of the tree is \$5,233 based on the tree inventory data.

Prepared By: Bob Merget, Senior Landscape Supervisor

Reviewed By: Kurt Wiemann, Director of Landscape Services

Third Laguna Hills Mutual
Tree Removal Request – 3163-D
May 7, 2020

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment 1: Photographs
Attachment 2: Mutual Landscape Request Form

ATTACHMENT 1



Example of Trimmed Rustyleaf Fig







RECEIVED
FEB 20 2020
BY: *zj*

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.

3163 Alta Vista Unit D
Address

Feb 20, 2020
Today's Date

Daniel Schmieder
Resident's Name

(949) 382-8623
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
- Other (explain): Excessive growth presents safety concerns (see attached)

GUIDELINES:

- Structural/Sewer Damage: 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.
- Damaged/Declining Health: Trees or plants that are declining in health will be evaluated for corrective action before removal/replacement is considered.
- Litter and Debris: 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.
- Personal Preference: 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.

Description & Location of Request

Please briefly describe the situation and the exact location of the subject of the request (e.g., "roots of pine tree in front of manor XYZ are lifting the sidewalk"). Attach pictures as necessary.

Excessive tree growth presents safety concerns to us and to sidewalk pedestrians. Tree is located adjacent to our front entrance. Its location does not affect the other residents on our cul desac as our house is the first condo on the cul desac and faces Alta Vista directly.

Signatures of All Neighbors Affected By This Request

Because your request may affect one or more of your neighbors, it is imperative that you obtain their signatures, manor numbers, and whether they are for, undecided, or against this request.

Signature	Manor #	For	Undecided	Against
Adjacent neighbors not affected by this request as verified by Laguna Woods Landscaping supervisor, Clemente				

(Please attach a separate sheet if more signatures are necessary.)

Acknowledgement - Owner

By signing, you are acknowledging this request.

Daniel Schmieder
Owner's Signature

Daniel Schmieder
Owner's Name

OFFICE USE ONLY

MOVE-IN DATE: _____ DATE: _____ INITIALS: _____
 530 _____ 540 _____ 570 _____ LAST PRUNED: _____
 RELANDSCAPED: _____ NEXT TIME: _____
 TREE SPECIES: _____
 COMMENTS: _____
 TREE VALUE: _____ TREE REMOVAL COST: _____

The Chinese Banyon tree adjacent to our house is excessively overgrown and presents several safety issues.

As seen in the photos (see other side), the tree limbs extend over our roof resulting in leaves and debris on our roof which plug the gutters.

I frequently have to climb up on the roof to blow the leaves off and also clean the gutters - but this doesn't solve the problem. I've also put screens at the downspout entrance so debris doesn't clog the downspouts - but the leaves clog up the screens resulting in a sheet of water spilling in front of our front door during heavy rainfall.

In the spring, the tree sheds sticky and slick purple berries which present a slip hazard to people walking up to our condo (which includes the daily trek by our postal carrier).

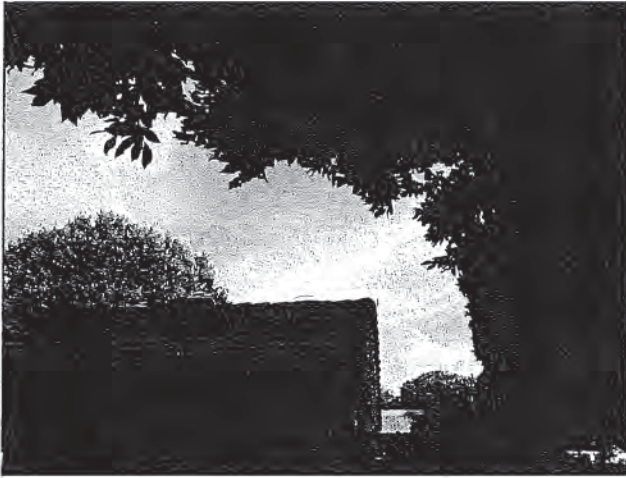
These berries also rain down on the main sidewalk which parallels Alta Vista. This presents a walking hazard and one of the residents said she slipped and almost fell on this main sidewalk last spring due to the berries.

The roots from this tree are apparently causing the sidewalk, to our front entrance, to rise up. One photo (see other side) shows where the edge of the sidewalk was previously ground down to address this issue - but it's not a permanent fix.

Removing this tree would resolve all of the above issues. It would also allow the solar tubes on our roof to do perform more efficiently (and reduce our kitchen light usage) as the excessive height of this tree partially blocks the sunlight to these solar tubes.

For all of the above reasons, we would appreciate having this tree removed. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Dan Schmieder, 3163 Alta Vista, Unit D



3163 Alta Vista, Unit D



STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 7, 2020
FOR: Landscape Committee
SUBJECT: Tree Removal Request: 5537-B Via La Meza (Carpenter) – One Ornamental Pear tree

RECOMMENDATION

Deny the request for the removal of one Ornamental Pear tree.

BACKGROUND

Ms. Carpenter purchased the manor in May 2007, and is requesting the removal of one Ornamental Pear tree, *Pyrus, calleryana*. The reasons cited for the removal are litter/debris, sewer damage, overgrown, and poor condition. Also attached are articles that were published in the Globe regarding events that are held in this greenbelt area by neighboring residents. Ms. Carpenter states she would like to remove the tree to give more space for these events. There are 11 additional signatures on the Mutual Request Form in favor of the removal (Attachment 2).

The tree was last pruned in December 2019. Future trimming is tentatively scheduled for fiscal year 2023. The height of the tree is approximately 28 feet with a trunk diameter of approximately 22 inches. The tree is approximately 13 feet from the manor and six feet from an existing irrigation valve (Attachment 1).

DISCUSSION

At the time of inspection, the tree was found to be in fair condition. The recent trimming included a crown reduction and the thinning of the canopy to develop a more balance canopy in the future.

There are noticeable surface roots associated with this tree and this is common with most *Pyrus* varieties. At this time, the surface rooting doesn't appear to be a threat to the health of this tree. There was a ticket in November 2018 for a mainline stoppage in which tree root removals were mentioned. There have been no additional tickets generated since then.

Staff spoke with the Plumbing department and it was determined that the mainline runs from the front of the manor to the street and is not running towards or near the Pear tree in the back of the manor.

There was no noticeable damage to the irrigation valve box or to the manor's enclosed patio.

As a note, this tree is one of the few species in the community which provides fall color.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The cost to remove the tree is estimated at \$1,534. The unscheduled cost to trim the tree is estimated at \$300 and the estimated value of the tree is \$2,836 based on the tree inventory data.

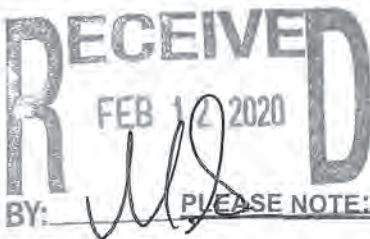
Prepared By: Bob Merget, Senior Landscape Supervisor
Reviewed By: Kurt Wiemann, Director of Landscape Services

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment 1: Photographs
Attachment 2: Mutual Landscape Request Form

Attachment 1





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.

5537 B Via La Mesa
Address
Today's Date 2.12.2020
Marygrace Carpenter
Resident's Name
Telephone Number 310.780.0320

Non-Routine Request

Please checkmark the item that best describes your request. If none apply, please checkmark "Other" and explain.

- Tree Removal (checked)
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 (checked)
Overgrown (checked)
Poor Condition (checked)
Litter/Debris (checked)
Personal Preference
Other (explain):

GUIDELINES:

- Structural/Sewer Damage: 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.
Damaged/Declining Health: Trees or plants that are declining in health will be evaluated for corrective action before removal/replacement is considered.
Litter and Debris: 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.
Personal Preference: 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.

Description & Location of Request

Please *briefly* describe the situation and the exact location of the subject of the request (e.g., "roots of pine tree in front of manor XYZ are lifting the sidewalk"). Attach pictures as necessary.

Behind Manor 5537 B Via La Mesa
Old Tree roots & leaves Debris on my roof & adjacent sewer

Signatures of All Neighbors Affected By This Request

Because your request may affect one or more of your neighbors, it is imperative that you obtain their signatures, manor numbers, and whether they are for, undecided, or against this request.

Signature	Manor #	For	Undecided	Against

(Please attach a separate sheet if more signatures are necessary.)

Acknowledgement - Owner

By signing, you are acknowledging this request.

Marygrace Carpenter
 Owner's Signature

Marygrace Carpenter
 Owner's Name

OFFICE USE ONLY

MOVE-IN DATE: _____ DATE: _____ INITIALS: _____

530 _____ 540 _____ 570 _____ LAST PRUNED: _____

RELANDSCAPED: _____ NEXT TIME: _____

TREE SPECIES: _____

COMMENTS: _____

TREE VALUE: _____ TREE REMOVAL COST: _____

Description & Location of Request

Please briefly describe the situation and the exact location of the subject of the request (e.g., "roots of pine tree in front of manor XYZ are lifting the sidewalk"). Attach pictures as necessary.

Behind Manor 5537 B Via La Mesa

Old Tree roots & leaves Debris on my roof & adjacent sewer
 Impedes Community Access to Green Belt

* Submitted 13 signatures of neighbors around the Green Belt

Signatures of All Neighbors Affected By This Request

Because your request may affect one or more of your neighbors, it is imperative that you obtain their signatures, manor numbers, and whether they are for, undecided, or against this request.

	Signature	Manor #	For	Undecided	Against
1.	Mark Helander	5538PA	✓		
2.	Glenn Jeff	5539-C	✓		
3.	Maureen Lindafelt	5540-A	✓		
4.	Larry Jeff	5541-B	✓		
5.	Grace H. Fisher	34421	✓		
6.	Merlene William	5522	✓		

(Please attach a separate sheet if more signatures are necessary.)

7. Pet Woodrup 5524 ✓

(over)

Acknowledgement - Owner

By signing, you are acknowledging this request.

8. Marygrace Carpenter
 Owner's Signature

Marygrace Carpenter
 Owner's Name

OFFICE USE ONLY

MOVE-IN DATE: _____ DATE: _____ INITIALS: _____

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RELANDSCAPED: _____ NEXT TIME: _____

TREE SPECIES: _____

COMMENTS: _____

TREE VALUE: _____ TREE REMOVAL COST: _____

9. Norm & Joreen 5532-A Via La Mesa Yes
10. Feridun A. Doshi 4 1 4 4 Yes
11. Dr. Glenn R. Magdo 5537 A Via La Mesa Yes
12. Barbara Helen Melnick 5537 C Via La Mesa Yes
13. Dean Melnick 5537 C Via La Mesa Yes

Neighborhood group cultivates community vibe

By Emily Rasmussen
emilyp22@gmail.com

Inside the quiet cul-de-sac in Gate 9 off Avenida Sostega is a small cluster of homes unlike most in Laguna Woods Village; their size and physical appearance are the same, but the community of people who live there is unique.

This community calls itself "Our Neck of the Woods," a structured network of neighbors who organize regular events and take care of each other, Louise Dostu said. Since the group's beginning in the '80s, the 70-plus group of neighbors has grown so large, members have created a directory booklet of each other's names, phone numbers, addresses and pho-

tos. "We make sure if someone is sick or needs something, we have the directory booklet so they can call each other," Dostu, 77, said. "When I talk to other people living in the Village I'm surprised they don't know their neighbors; it seems like such a shame because it's become such a delight."

NEIGHBORS » PAGE 3

Neighbors

FROM PAGE 1

Since the cul-de-sac tucked away from a majority of Laguna Woods Village, the neighbors naturally flock together, resident Alpha Savon said. Savon moved in nearly nine years ago and since day one, the community has brought a feeling of togetherness, she said.



PHOTO BY JIM WILSON FOR THE NEWS

Neighbors

FROM PAGE 1

Since the cul-de-sac is tucked away from a major artery of Laguna Woods Village, the neighbors naturally flock together, resident Aloha Saxon said. Saxon moved in nearly nine years ago and since day one, "a sense of community has brought a feeling of togetherness," she said.

Right after moving in, Saxon said, she was given the directory booklet. One night when she had the fire she called one of the phone numbers to see if any of her neighbor's had Gatorade.

"The woman said to hold on a few minutes, then she and her husband got in the car and drove up to Slater Bros., bought the Gatorade and brought it to me," she said. "That had a very lasting impression. This is how our whole group operates. You're not alone; you can always turn to a neighbor."

In addition to favors, the neighbors regularly create fundraisers for Toys For Tots and organize potlucks and monthly luncheons — a women's-only event, Dostu added. At a recent luncheon at Olive Garden a group of 24 women, talking and laughing for nearly three hours, occupied a large portion of the restaurant.

"It just keeps growing," resident Merlene Williams said. "It's mainly once a month that we meet and then we usually go out. On holidays sometimes at each others' house we'll have a party; we have Fourth of July potluck; it's a real nice way to meet people."

Williams, 84, said when she talks with other people in the Village, it surprises her that people in other



Members of the Our Block of the Woods women get together for lunch at Olive Garden on May 8.



Aloha Saxon, right, talks to other members of the Our Block of the Woods at the women's-only luncheon at Olive Garden on May 8.

neighborhoods don't know one another by name — or by anything, for that matter. "Even if you don't know what the person's name is, if they have a dog you know them!" Saxon added.

The best part of this community is that while the neighbors get together for daily walks and other small interactions, none are too intrusive, Saxon added.

Resident Lynn Mikhail, 71, said she feels lucky she happened to choose to move into this area of Laguna Woods.

"When I came here I didn't really know anyone and it was hard; it was kind of a scary experience," Mikhail said. "I was invited to this neighborhood luncheon and I got to meet all of these wonderful people, who many have become my good friends. It's an interesting group because they

are from everywhere — they have varied interests, enthusiasms, and it's really been fun getting to know so many types of people."

Although the clubs and activities in Laguna Woods Village are fun and good for socializing, Mikhail said, the simplicity of being able

to walk down her street and greet



STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 7, 2020
FOR: Landscape Committee
SUBJECT: Landscape Revision Request: 5598-A Vista Del Mando S. (Ferraro) – Artificial Turf Installation

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the request for the installation of artificial turf in the rear of this manor.

BACKGROUND

Mr. Ferraro is requesting approval to install artificial turf in the rear of the unit.

DISCUSSION

This unit (Casa Palma) has a narrow area of turf in the rear of the unit that historically has been difficult to maintain. The unit sits at the top of a slope and has a narrow rear area due to the proximity to the slope. Furthering the difficulty is the existing raised planter which is directly adjacent to the area for revision.

Approving this request would relieve the Mutual from maintenance of the area and give the resident an easily maintained and functional area. Staff recommends the approval of this request.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

There is no cost to the Mutual in the approval of this request and there would be a minimal savings in maintenance costs.

Prepared By: Bob Merget, Senior Landscape Supervisor
Reviewed By: Kurt Wiemann, Senior Field Services Manager

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachment 1: Photographs
Attachment 2: Mutual Landscape Request Form

ATTACHMENT 1





RECEIVED
FEB 26 2020
BY: 3L

ATTACHMENT 2



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PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED REQUEST FORM TO RESIDENT SERVICES.

Resident/Owner Information

You must be an owner to request non-routine Landscape requests.

5598 A
Address

2/26/2020
Today's Date

DOMINGAS FERRAZO
Resident's Name

323-497-2715
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): install artificial turf/grass where there is now dirt. completely enclosed backyard/patio area. was grass that

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

Other (explain): _____

could not be maintained.

GUIDELINES:

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- **Personal Preference:** 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.

Description & Location of Request

Please *briefly* describe the situation and the exact location of the subject of the request (e.g., "roots of pine tree in front of manor XYZ are lifting the sidewalk"). Attach pictures as necessary.

Enclosed back yard of private unit, no neighbors. Was grass that could not be maintained.

Signatures of All Neighbors Affected By This Request

Because your request may affect one or more of your neighbors, it is imperative that you obtain their signatures, manor numbers, and whether they are for, undecided, or against this request.

Signature	Manor #	For	Undecided	Against

(Please attach a separate sheet if more signatures are necessary.)

Acknowledgement - Owner

By signing, you are acknowledging this request.

[Handwritten Signature]

 Owner's Signature

Darius Ferraro

 Owner's Name

OFFICE USE ONLY

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530 _____ 540 _____ 570 _____ LAST PRUNED: _____

RELANDSCAPED: _____ NEXT TIME: _____

TREE SPECIES: _____

COMMENTS: _____

TREE VALUE: _____ TREE REMOVAL COST: _____