



**OPEN MEETING**

**REGULAR OPEN MEETING OF THE THIRD LAGUNA HILLS MUTUAL  
LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE\***

**Thursday, July 11, 2024, 9:30 a.m.  
24351 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA  
Board Room and Virtual with Zoom**

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

9. Items for Discussion and Consideration

- g. 5206 Landscape Alteration

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## STAFF REPORT

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**DATE:** July 11, 2024  
**FOR:** Landscape Committee  
**SUBJECT:** Landscape Request: 5206 Avenida Despacio

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

- Deny the retention of gravel in front shrub bed located at 5206 Avenida Despacio.
- Direct member to remove solar lights in turf area.

### **BACKGROUND**

The unit was purchased in August 2023. The resident is requesting permission to keep gravel in front and side shrub beds (Attachment 1). The landscape request form states the gravel provides a cleaner look.

On March 7, 2024, the landscape committee placed this item on hold to give the members time to complete a landscape request form for turf reduction. The resident was open to the idea but needed to get his neighbor's consent. As of the writing of this report, no form was submitted by the member.

### **DISCUSSION**

The resident is requesting to keep gravel placed in shrub beds in front of unit and extending patio in rear of unit. The member has no additional signatures in favor of keeping the items.

Staff inspected the area and found the gravel is a liability. Gravel tends to migrate out of the areas in which it is placed (Attachment 2). Lawn mower blades spin at up to 3,200 RPM and string trimmers spin at speed up to 12,000 RPM. The gravel can cause damage to windows or parked cars when struck by mowers or line trimmers when the turf is being maintained. Approving this request puts the Mutual at risk for damage to windows and cars. Staff recommends denying the request for retention of gravel in front of unit 5206. Additionally, the member has placed solar lights in the turf area, which also have potential liability issues if struck by a mower, risking the aforementioned damage as well as potential damage to the mowers or injury to staff.

Alternately, this unit is in the area affect by AB1572 and would be an excellent candidate for a pilot project using the approved concepts. If the turf is removed and replaced with drought tolerant plantings the hazards posed by gravel are eliminated; the lights and gravel could stay. This unit has approximately 1,122 square feet of turf. There are sufficient funds remaining from Resolution 03-23-124 to accomplish this work.

### **ALTERNATE RECOMMENDATION**

Approve a landscape alteration for turf removal and installation of waterwise landscaping and irrigation per the recently approved front yard plans.

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

Recommendation: There is no cost to the mutual for the removal of the gravel and solar lights.  
Alternate Recommendation: The approximate cost for turf removal and installation is approximately \$8,000. There is a balance of \$144,593 from Resolution 03-23-124, which is sufficient to accomplish this work.

**Prepared By:** Megan Feliz, Department Administrative Assistant

**Reviewed By:** Kurt Wiemann, Director of Field Operations

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

**Attachment 1:** Mutual Landscape Request Form

**Attachment 2:** Photographs





Laguna Woods Village

BY: *[Signature]*

## 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.

*5206 Avenida Despacio*

Address

*1-17-2024*

Today's Date

*HAN CHU*

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): *I put BRVEL UNDER ~~ST~~ PRIMARY SHAUBS TO COVER MUD AND DEBRIS (PER PHOTOS)*

### 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): *FOR A CLEANER LOOK*

#### **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.

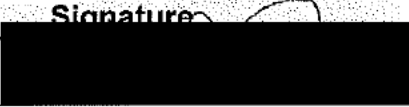
### Description & Location of Request

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.

FRONT OF THE HOUSE

### 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
	5206	✓		

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

### Acknowledgement - Owner

By signing this request.

Owner's Signature

Owner's Name

HAN CHUN

### OFFICE USE ONLY

MOVE-IN DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_

530 \_\_\_\_\_ 540 \_\_\_\_\_

570 \_\_\_\_\_ LAST PRUNED: \_\_\_\_\_

RELANDSCAPED: \_\_\_\_\_

NEXT TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

TREE SPECIES: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

TREE VALUE: \_\_\_\_\_ TREE REMOVAL COST: \_\_\_\_\_







**Attachment 2**





Third Laguna Hills Mutual  
Landscape Committee  
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