

RESOLUTION R12-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
PALOS VERDES ESTATES, CALIFORNIA
ADOPTING A POLICY FOR THE PRIVATE LANDSCAPING OF PARKLANDS

WHEREAS, the City Council expressed a desire for the creation of a policy to guide the residents, Parklands Committee, and City Council regarding requests for the landscaping of City-owned parklands by private individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Parklands Committee has worked with staff to create a Policy for the Private Landscaping of Parklands; and

WHEREAS, this policy fulfills the purpose to guide the City in making decisions on resident's requests for the private landscaping of parklands;

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Palos Verdes Estates DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council hereby adopts a Policy for the Private Landscaping of Parklands attached hereto and incorporated by reference, as the official City policy relating to the review of requests by private individuals to landscape City-owned parklands:

Section 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of Resolution R12-05 and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED on this 13th day of March, 2012.


WILLIAM JOHN REA, MAYOR

ATTEST:


JUDY SMITH, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


CHRISTI HUGIN, CITY ATTORNEY

CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES
PARKLANDS LANDSCAPING POLICY

1. **GOALS.** The goal of the Parklands Landscaping Policy is to guide residents and the Parklands Committee regarding the landscaping of the City's parklands by private individuals.

2. **OBJECTIVES.**

The City's parklands were intended to remain open to the public and to remain as undeveloped as possible. Landscaping within the parklands should only be done to retain an undeveloped and natural look that simulates natural forestation and ground cover.

Landscaping should not be done so that the area appears to be privately-owned or so that the landscaping creates a barrier to the public. Any landscaping that is allowed as a result of an approved application should be limited to "native" varieties as determined by the City. Any irrigation should be temporary in nature and placed on the ground, not buried.

Applications for placement within the parklands of man-made items, such as benches, statues, hardscape, or other, shall be reviewed on a case by case basis, and in general such applications should be denied.

3. **PERMIT PROCEDURE.** An "Application to Landscape City Parklands" shall be obtained from and filed with the City.

4. **PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL.** Each application shall be reviewed by the Parklands Committee. The Committee shall consider the proposed improvements and the testimony, both verbal and written, of the applicant and of affected property owners. The recommendation of the Parklands Committee shall be placed on the Consent Agenda of the City Council for final action.

5. **FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL**

The findings for approval are based on those required for approving a Variance within the Zoning section of the Municipal Code:

1. That there are special circumstances attached to the property referred to in the application, which do not apply generally to other properties in the same area;
2. That the granting of such application is necessary to do substantial justice, and to avoid practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship;
3. That the granting of the application will not result in material damage or prejudice to other property in the vicinity, nor be detrimental to the public safety or welfare.

4. That the landscaping, to the extent reasonably practicable, is not to be done so that the area appears to be privately-owned or so that the landscaping creates a barrier to the public.

6. **PERMIT FEES.** A fee shall be submitted with the application in the amount that shall be established by resolution of the City Council.

7. **COSTS FOR INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE.** All costs for installation and maintenance shall be paid by the applicant. A legal contract between the city and the property owner defining a maintenance schedule and standards that runs with the property in perpetuity is required.