



City of Madison  
Madison Municipal Building  
215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Madison, WI 53703

RE: 4205 Portage Road – Landscaping Mulch

Dear Commission Members,

I am writing to request an alteration to the landscaping plan for property located at 4205 Portage Road. The approved plan suggested the use of wood mulch for the landscaping beds; however, we would like to install stone landscaping mulch as allowed by Madison General Ordinances Section 28.142(3)(c).

The original plan was approved after careful consideration of the property's design and environmental impact, and we assure you that our proposed alteration will not compromise these important factors. In fact, the proposed landscape plan exceeds Madison's landscape requirements by more than 500%. The use of stone mulch has many advantages that wood mulch cannot overcome.

Stone mulch is an attractive and durable alternative to wood mulch and will enhance the overall aesthetic of the landscaping beds. Stone mulch also has a longer lifespan than wood

mulch, reducing the need for regular replacement and therefore minimizing the environmental impact of transportation and waste disposal. (See preference image of existing landscaping at our comparable property.)





Stone mulch helps prevent erosion control during rainfall while wood mulch washes away as it does at some of our properties. Stone mulch is also less flammable than wood mulch, reducing the risk of fire hazard to our property and neighboring properties. Here is an image of a wood mulch plant bed at one of our properties after rainfall.



Wood mulch is often treated and contains harmful toxins that can harm pets. Vive Residences is a pet-friendly property and our top priority is keeping our residents and their pets safe. Not to mention wood mulch attracts pest such as termites, carpenter ants, and encourages fungi and mold growth. Stone mulch is pest resistant, mold resistant, allergy friendly, and eco-friendly as it does not deplete natural resources like wood mulch does.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our request. The installation of stone mulch will enhance the curb appeal of the property and provide a safer and more sustainable outdoor space for the residents and their pets. Your approval of this landscaping alteration will not only benefit our property but also contribute positively to the sustainability of our community.

Sincerely,

Nick Patterson  
Project Manager  
Vive Residences