

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: March 1, 2010

Reviewed by: BP

SUBJECT: Ordinance No. 2010-01 – Amendments to the Building & Housing Chapter of the Municipal Code related to Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance

REPORT BY: Jeff Bond, Planning & Building Manager

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 2010-01 making amendments to the Building & Housing chapter of the Municipal Code related to Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance.

BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION

The California Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006 requires the City of Albany to adopt a landscape water conservation ordinance by January 1, 2010. Pursuant to this law, the Department of Water Resources has prepared a “Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance” for use by local agencies. On February 16, 2010, the City Council approved the first reading of the proposed ordinance on a 5-0 vote.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

Increasing demand for water in conjunction with year to year variations in water supply in northern California can have significant impact on the ecological health of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as well as require costly investment in water infrastructure. The implementation of the Water Efficient Landscaping Ordinance will help reduce increase in local demand for potable water.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

No additional cost will be required to implement the required ordinance. The City will utilize outside consultants to perform the technical review of landscape design applications. The cost of outside consultants will be reimbursed by applicants. Staff time will be required, however, to modify forms and handouts and explain application and review process with applicants.

Attachments

1. Proposed ordinance No. 2010-01