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DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS

SOLID WASTE DIVISION

CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA

October 10, 2001

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City Council  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

**SUBJECT:** UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF LANDSCAPE GUIDELINES  
AND OUTREACH PROGRAM – NORTH NATOMAS

**LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT:** Citywide

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This report is for information only.

**CONTACT PERSON:** G. Harold Duffey, Solid Waste Manager, 433-4932

**FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF:** October 30, 2001

**SUMMARY:**

This report provides the City Council updated information regarding the development of landscape guidelines for North Natomas. The purpose of these guidelines is to promote the reduction of green waste at the source of generation and water conservation.

**COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION:** None.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The City of Sacramento Department of Public Works executed an agreement with the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) in October 2000. The agreement provided the City with \$15,000 in reimbursement monies to develop landscape guidelines. The purpose of the guidelines is to reduce the long-term generation of green waste while promoting water conservation. The proposed guidelines target new developments in North Natomas. The guidelines are designed to address the tendency of developers to over-plant landscape in

City Council  
Update on Development of Landscape Guidelines and Outreach Program –  
North Natomas  
October 10, 2001

new developments to create a more mature appearance. Developing plant spacing guidelines for new developments will reduce the generation of green waste by reducing the need of residents to prune back over-planted landscapes. The guidelines also address water conservation, insuring that developers landscape with plants that are compatible with waste/water efficient plant spacing guidelines.

A cooperative partnership was developed between the City's Department's of Public Works and Utilities, and the California Integrated Waste Management Board, to complete the following:

- The Department of Public Works has executed an agreement with CIWMB. This agreement provides \$15,000 in reimbursement monies to develop the landscape guidelines.
- CIWMB has received an additional \$50,000 in grant funds through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The purpose of these funds is pollution reduction.
- A Consultant Services Agreement has been executed with Strayer Associates to create plant spacing guidelines. A draft copy has been developed and is being revised according to comments from stakeholders.
- Stakeholders, including landscape architects, landscape maintenance firms, and other interested parties, have been invited to the working group meetings. The goal is to develop consensus so that the final guidelines are accepted.
- Solid Waste staff has requested a one-year extension on the current agreement with CIWMB. The purpose of the extension is to accommodate the State's grant schedule of deliverables with EPA.

The following actions are planned:

- Development of the plant spacing guidelines final draft for presentation to the City Council.
- Development of the outreach program. While contingent upon Council approval, this program is in the planning stages. Three target groups have been identified and outreach methods are being discussed. The three groups include landscape architects, landscape maintenance firms, and homeowners.
- Implementation of North Natomas Landscape Guidelines and outreach program.

City Council  
Update on Development of Landscape Guidelines and Outreach Program –  
North Natomas  
October 10, 2001

- Report back to the City Council recommending the North Natomas Landscape Guidelines for Citywide application.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The agreement between the City of Sacramento and the California Integrated Waste Management Board will reimburse the City up to \$15,000 for work performed under that attached scope of services from the State Agreement. City staff estimates the expenditure of additional staff resources equal to or slightly exceeding the maximum reimbursement. Sufficient staff resources and monies exist within the operating budgets of the Department of Public Works and Utilities.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

There is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, this item is exempt from CEQA guidelines under § 1561(b)(3).

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:**

The development of landscape guidelines promoting long-term reduction of green waste and water conservation is consistent with adopted City Council policy.

**ESBD CONSIDERATIONS:**

The Solid Waste Division will conform to all ESBD procurement policies and practices.

Respectfully submitted,



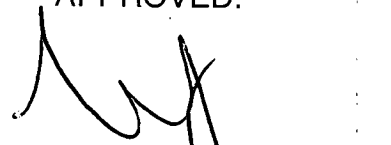
G. Harold Duffey  
Solid Waste Division Manager

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:



ROBERT P. THOMAS  
City Manager

APPROVED:



Michael Kashiwagi  
Director of Public Works