



12-249

**TITLE:** Conduct a Public Hearing to Consider/Discuss/Act on the Request by the City of McKinney for Approval of an Amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Appendix A of Chapter 146 - Zoning Regulations by Adding Xeriscape Plants to the Approved Landscape Plant List

**MEETING DATE:** April 17, 2012

**DEPARTMENT:** Development Services/Engineering

**CONTACT:** Emily Braht, RLA, Landscape Architect / Arborist

**RECOMMENDED CITY COUNCIL ACTION:**

- Approval of the Ordinance.

**ITEM SUMMARY:**

- This Ordinance amends Appendix A of Chapter 146 of the City of McKinney Code of Ordinances Zoning Regulations by adding Xeriscape plants to the approved landscape plant list.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

- A Council work session was held on February 24, 2012 to discuss the median landscaping ordinance.
- The focus of the discussion was an amendment that would encourage a variety of plant materials in the medians of arterial roadways.
- During the work session Council directed staff to review the current list of approved plant materials and develop a recommendation to add appropriate Xeriscape plants to the list.
- Because of recurring drought conditions, the use of Xeriscape plants in our region is desirable. These plants require less water, resulting in a long-term benefit from the reduction in the amount of water used for irrigation.
- Council also asked staff to research a possible incentive for the use of the recommended Xeriscape plants.

- The lower demand for irrigation water is an inherent benefit resulting from the use of Xeriscape plants; therefore, Staff suggests educating developers and citizens as to the advantage of Xeriscape plants
- The use of these plants will then be monitored. In the event the plants are underutilized an appropriate incentive will be developed and forwarded to the Council for their consideration.
- The attached redline copies of the ordinances highlights the proposed changes.

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY:**

- N/A

**BOARD OR COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:**

- On March 27, 2012, the Planning and Zoning Commission voted 6 - 0 to recommend approval of Amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Appendix A of Chapter 146 - Zoning Regulations by Adding Xeriscape Plants to the Approved Landscape Plant List.

**SUPPORTING MATERIALS:**

[PZ Minutes](#)

[Ordinance](#)

[Redline Approved Plant List Code](#)

[Public Notice](#)