

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



**FROM:** Supervisor Marion Ashley

**SUBMITTAL DATE:** February 25, 2008

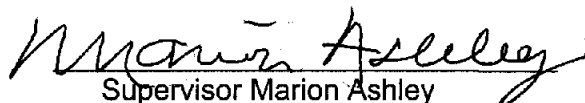
**SUBJECT:** Amendment to Ordinance No. 859 Establishing Water Efficient Landscape Requirements and Amendment to Ordinance No. 348 Providing for Land Use Planning and Zoning Regulations and Related Functions

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Introduce and set for public hearing Ordinance No. 859.1 and Ordinance 348.4548;
- 2) Direct the Planning Department to convene a workshop with representatives of the landscape industry, water districts, and builders within 90 days.
- 3) Direct the Planning Department to revise the County-wide Design Guidelines to ensure consistency with the proposed Ordinance revision.

**BACKGROUND:** In recognition of water conservation and conveyance issues facing our State, it is imperative that the County take practical steps to ensure wise water use. On December 19, 2006 the County Adopted Ordinance No. 859 which established water-efficient landscape requirements for commercial, industrial, and multi-family permits. It was anticipated that model home and subdivision perimeter landscaping would be phased in on January 1, 2008 and single family tract homes would be phased in on January 1, 2010. However, increasing concerns about water availability prompted County staff and representatives of the Building Industry Association to explore an accelerated phase-in process for single family tract homes.

Ordinance No. 859.1 (attached as Exhibit A) captures the anticipated phase-in of the model home and perimeter landscaping. It also reflects an accelerated phase-in of single family tract homes. Ordinance No. 348 has been amended to eliminate water-efficient landscape requirements (Ordinance 348.4548 is attached as Exhibit B). Such requirements for residential uses are now covered by Ordinance No. 859.1.

  
Supervisor Marion Ashley  
Fifth District

Ordinance No. 859 is the first of several steps toward wise water use. The next step is to reach out to our partners within the landscape supply industries to accelerate the conversion to drought tolerant landscaping products. It is important that we inform them of the County's new landscaping policies and the effect these policies may have on the demand for certain products. We should also encourage nursery and landscape supply representatives to stock sufficient quantities of drought tolerant plants, state of the art irrigation components, smart irrigation controllers, conversion components, and other essential products to meet the changing market demand.

County staff will continue to evaluate the changing needs of water use planning, coordinate with other agencies and jurisdictions, and monitor their water efficiency requirements.

Exhibit A  
ORDINANCE NO. 859.1

AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 859 ESTABLISHING  
WATER-EFFICIENT LANDSCAPE REQUIREMENTS

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside Ordains as Follows:

Section 1. Section 3.A. of Ordinance No. 859 is hereby amended to read as follows:

A. The water-efficient landscape requirements contained in this Ordinance shall be applicable to all discretionary permits and/or approvals for commercial, industrial, and residential uses, including but not limited to subdivision common areas and perimeter landscaping, except for grading permits relating to said commercial, industrial, and residential uses.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its adoption.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY  
OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

ATTEST:

CLERK OF THE BOARD:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
November 26, 2007

By Karin Watts Bazan  
KARIN WATTS-BAZAN  
Deputy County Counsel

Exhibit B  
ORDINANCE NO. 348.4548

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE  
AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 348  
PROVIDING FOR LAND USE PLANNING AND ZONING REGULATIONS  
AND RELATED FUNCTIONS

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside Ordain as Follows:

Section 1. Article XIXf of Ordinance No. 348 is hereby deleted in its entirety.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its adoption.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY  
OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

ATTEST:

CLERK OF THE BOARD:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
November 26, 2007

By Karin Watts-B  
KARIN WATTS-BAZAN  
Deputy County Counsel