

Project Re:Code
Landscape Group
Meeting Notes
February 28, 2018

1. Review Meeting Notes from January 24, 2018. There were no additions or corrections proposed to the previous meeting notes.

2. Discuss idea of a Landscape Mission Statement. At the first meeting it was suggested that staff contact Sacramento, California and Boulder Colorado to see what they do to encourage water wise plant use. Staff reported that both cities encourage wise water use. Sacramento limits watering days and time and monitors excessive water use. They do not discourage planting what is wanted but with the understanding you can only water on specific days and times. They do have a program that provides financial resources to modify existing high water use landscape with water wise plants and a modified irrigation system. Boulder has specific lists of plants to be uses and percentages of plants you can use from each list, from high water use to low water use plants. They monitor installation similar to a building inspector to ensure what was proposed is what gets installed, irrigation and plants. They also use a point system to determine if you have met the required water use landscape expected by their code.

Discussion began about the need to use proper plants for the area, both native and those that are appropriate for this climate. It was stated that we need to start looking at trees and landscape as infrastructure and to also use them for stormwater control, bio swales, to minimize water detention ponds and the need for increasing stormwater sub surface systems.

Discussion turned to clarification of the scope of this groups purpose. It was questioned if this was a county only project or county and city. It was pointed out that current code for both the city and the county are identical based on the zoning. In the ensuing conversation it was determined that although there can be some differences established that they will basically be the same and the end product may be two different recommended documents.

There were suggestions made that the group needs to focus on one or two specific items at each meeting. The group decided that it would be beneficial to have some drawings to be able visualize what is required now to see what works and what is not working.

The group also looked at some of the Mission statements from other communities. It was stated some were very wordy while others were short and to the point. Will touch on mission statement at a later meeting.

The group will be meeting again on March 22, 2018 at 9 am.