



Legislation Text

File #: Ord. 2021-06, **Version:** 1

AGENDA CAPTION:

Consider approval of Ordinance 2021-06, on the first of two readings, amending section 14.126 of the San Marcos City Code concerning Landscape Irrigation Systems to require separate irrigation meters in new development; providing a savings clause; providing for the repeal of any conflicting provisions; and providing an effective date.

Meeting date: January 19, 2021

Department: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Amount & Source of Funding

Funds Required: n/a

Account Number: n/a

Funds Available: n/a

Account Name: n/a

Fiscal Note:

Prior Council Action: n/a

City Council Strategic Initiative: [Please select from the dropdown menu below]

Sustainability

[Choose an item.](#)

[Choose an item.](#)

Comprehensive Plan Element (s): [Please select the Plan element(s) and Goal # from dropdown menu below]

☐ Economic Development - [Choose an item.](#)

☒ Environment & Resource Protection - [Choose an item.](#)

☐ Land Use - [Choose an item.](#)

☐ Neighborhoods & Housing - [Choose an item.](#)

☐ Parks, Public Spaces & Facilities - [Choose an item.](#)

☐ Transportation - [Choose an item.](#)

☐ Core Services

☐ Not Applicable

Master Plan: *[Please select the corresponding Master Plan from the dropdown menu below (if applicable)]*

Choose an item.

Background Information:

The Sustainability Committee, City Council and P&Z have received information from staff regarding potential water conservation enhancements by requiring separate irrigation system water meters in new development. Irrigation use of water for lawns and landscaping comprises more than half of total seasonal water use, and represents a major opportunity for water savings going forward.

The proposed plumbing ordinance changes would require a separate irrigation meter for new single-family residential properties, which matches the requirement for commercial and multi-family services that was adopted in 2006. This change will enable accurate metering of water used by automatic irrigation systems. Existing residential customers would be grandfathered and no retrofits would be required by these changes.

Council Committee, Board/Commission Action:

The Sustainability Committee referred this item to City Council on September 30th. City Council approved referral of this item to P&Z on November 4th. P&Z approved the proposed amendments on December 8th.

Alternatives:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Recommendation:

The Sustainability Committee is charged with advancing the strategic initiative of Sustainability, and recommends approval of the proposed LDC changes. City staff concur with this recommendation.