

## AGENDA



Thursday, August 9, 2007

**Austin Water Utility  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**
**Item No. 2**

**Subject:** Approve an ordinance amending Chapter 6-4 of City Code relating to water use management, incorporating recommendations from the Water Conservation Task Force, to become effective October 1, 2007.

**Fiscal Note:** No fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**For More Information:** Dan Strub, 974-2559; Denise Avery, 972-0104

**Boards and Commission Action:** The twice-a-week watering schedule was recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

**Prior Council Action:** Ordinance was amended on August 26, 1999, Ordinance No. 990826-66; and April 26, 2001, Ordinance No. 010426-17.

The Water Conservation Task Force was established by City Council on August 24, 2006. The Task Force recommendations, adopted by City Council on May 3, 2007, included that the City Code relating to water conservation be amended to require the following:

- A mandatory year round watering schedule for commercial and multifamily properties;
- A mandatory watering schedule for single family properties from May 1 to September 30 of every year;
- A year round prohibition on watering by automatic irrigation systems between the hours of 10 AM and 7 PM;
- A prohibition on outdoor watering between 10 AM and 7 PM from May 1 to September 30, except with a hand held hose or bucket.

The changes will become effective October 1, 2007 to ensure ample time for public education and to prepare for enforcement needs.

These changes are projected to save 6.16 millions gallons of water a day.

Rules will be adopted under the ordinance to designate the watering days under the twice a week watering schedule. The watering days will be Wednesdays and Saturdays for residential properties with odd numbered addresses, Thursdays and Sundays for residential properties with even numbered addresses, and Tuesdays and Fridays for all other properties. Through the Water Conservation Task Force process, these changes were brought before several stakeholder groups, including the Austin Lawn Sprinkler Association, the Austin Apartment Association, and the Austin Home Builders Association. The Austin Building Owners and Managers Association was invited to take part, but declined. None of the stakeholders expressed objections to these proposed revisions.