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Legislative Update

The Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006 (AB 1881)

Summary

In 2004, AB 2717 passed. With a deadline of December 31, 2005, this bill requested the California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) convene a stakeholder task force composed of public and private agencies to evaluate and recommend proposals designed to improve the efficiency of water use in new and existing urban irrigated landscapes in California. Based on this charge, the Task Force adopted a comprehensive set of 43 recommendations, essentially making changes to the AB 325 of 1990 and updating the Model Local Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance. The recommendation of the bill charges DWR to update the Model Efficient Landscape Ordinance and to upgrade the California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS).

The Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006 (AB 1881) enacts many, but not all of the recommendations reported to the Governor and Legislature in December 2005 by the CUWCC Landscape Task Force (Task Force). AB 1881 requires DWR, not later than January 1, 2009, by regulation, to update the model ordinance in accordance with specified requirements, reflecting the provisions of AB 2717. AB 1881 requires local agencies, not later January 1, 2010, to adopt the updated model ordinance or equivalent or it will be automatically adopted by statute. Also, the bill requires the Energy Commission, in consultation with the department, to adopt, by regulation, performance standards and labeling requirements for landscape irrigation equipment, including irrigation controllers, moisture sensors, emission devices, and valves to reduce the wasteful, uneconomic, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy or water.

For additional information go to <http://www.owue.water.ca.gov/landscape/ord/updatedOrd.cfm>

What the City of Newport Beach is doing?

Using the preliminary draft ordinance issued by DWR staff is working on creating a ordinance that meets the endations accordingly.

Keep checking back for the latest information. requirements of AB1881. At this point in time the final a public comment period is anticipated to be released in the near future. Newport Beach will making its recomm

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City of Newport Beach . Utilities Department
949 W 16th Street . Newport Beach . California . 92663
949.644.3011 . FAX 949.646.5204
Mailing Address . PO Box 1768 . Newport Beach . CA 92658-8915