

RESOLUTION NO. 2008- 222RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A BAY-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING POLICY
FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda:

Whereas, studies of the overall waste stream by StopWaste.Org show that plant debris from landscape construction, renovation and maintenance comprises 7% of the materials disposed in Alameda County landfills; and

Whereas, the State of California is experiencing significant drought, and traditional landscaping practices consume large volumes of drinking water; and

Whereas, in 2001 the EPA listed all the creeks in the San Francisco Bay Area as impaired due to pesticide contamination; and

Whereas, Bay-Friendly Landscaping is a whole systems approach which supports the integrity of the San Francisco Bay watershed by reducing waste and using recycled content materials; nurturing healthy soils while reducing fertilizer use; conserving water, energy and topsoil; using Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to minimize chemical use; reducing stormwater runoff; and creating wildlife habitat; and

Whereas, in 2001 the Board of Supervisors established a policy on pesticide use requiring each County agency that uses pesticide to adopt an Integrated Pest Management plan; and

Whereas, the Board of Supervisors finds that County agencies and personnel, particularly the General Services Agency, have taken steps to successfully practice Bay-Friendly Landscaping; and

Whereas, the County Strategic Vision, in principal, establishes sustainability as a principle for decision-making, and Bay-Friendly Landscaping enhances urban sustainability; and

Whereas, Bay-Friendly landscape design, construction, operation and maintenance promotes reduced use of chemicals, energy and water conservation, waste reduction, healthy wildlife habitat, the health of the San Francisco Bay watershed, improved air quality and the health of residents, employees, and visitors to the County; and

Whereas, studies by StopWaste.Org show that Bay-Friendly Landscaping reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 4 tons CO₂ equivalent per acre relative to conventional landscaping practices due to less waste transportation, less organic debris in the landfill, reduced trimming and mowing, fewer chemicals, reduced water consumption, and increased soil organic matter; and

Whereas, Bay-Friendly Landscaping can result in significant cost savings to the County over the life of the projects; and

Whereas, the County finds that it is critical to both the economic and environmental health of the County that the County provide leadership to the private and public sectors by demonstrating the benefits of Bay-Friendly landscaping; and

Whereas, in Alameda County, StopWaste.Org has defined and promoted environmentally friendly landscaping for the commercial, institutional and residential sectors by developing the Bay-Friendly Landscape Guidelines for professional landscapers and the Bay-Friendly Gardening Guide for residents.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT:

Resolved, that the Board of Supervisors directs the General Services Agency, Public Works Agency, and all other County agencies making landscaping decisions to include Bay-Friendly landscaping elements in County landscape projects and in public-private partnership landscape projects built on County-owned land or funded in part or fully by the County; and

Further **Resolved**, that all projects with landscapes which are officially identified and substantially funded on or after the effective date of this Resolution shall have a project goal of reaching at least the minimum points as identified on the StopWaste.Org Bay-Friendly Landscape Scorecard, and that agencies managing such projects will report annually on their progress to the BOS; and

Further **Resolved**, that landscaping for all new facilities will not use conventional grass turf unless required for specific functional use such as an athletic field, in which case drought-tolerant low-chemical varieties shall be planted; and

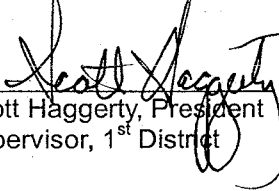
Further **Resolved**, that the County will actively pursue a program to replace high-water landscaping, such as grass turf, with Bay-Friendly drought-resistant landscaping in all County facilities and will evaluate the availability and economic feasibility of conversion to reclaimed water for all County landscaping; and

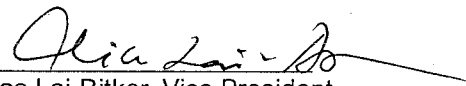
Further **Resolved**, that Bay-Friendly practices shall be incorporated into the maintenance of County landscapes by the General Services and Public Works Agencies and their contractors where practicable and cost effective; and

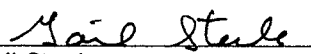
Further **Resolved**, that the Public Works Agency shall regularly review the project specifications used in bidding traditional public works projects to include the best environmental practices and Bay-Friendly landscaping practices applicable; and


Finally, **Resolved**, that the Board of Supervisors directs the Community Development Agency to encourage private landscaping projects to include Bay-Friendly landscaping elements.

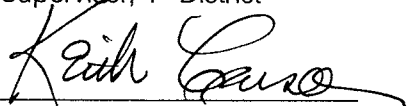
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda, State of California this seventeenth day of June, Two Thousand and Eight.


Scott Haggerty, President
Supervisor, 1st District


Alice Lai-Bitker, Vice President
Supervisor, 3rd District

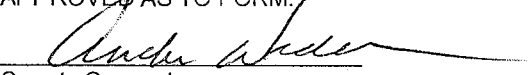

Gail Steele
Supervisor, 2nd District


Nate Miley
Supervisor, 4th District


Keith Carson
Supervisor, 5th District

ATTEST:

Clerk, Board of Supervisors

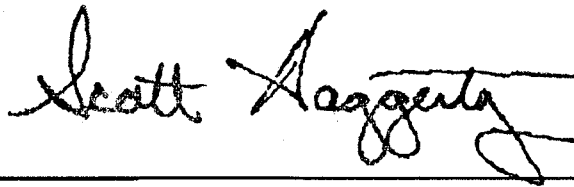
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

County Counsel

THE FOREGOING was **PASSED** and **ADOPTED** by a majority vote of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors this 17th day of June, 2008, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Carson, Lai-Bitker, Miley, Steele & President Haggerty – 5

NOES: None

EXCUSED: None



PRESIDENT, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

File: 23573
Agenda No: 33
Document No: R-2008-222



I certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors, Alameda County, State of California

ATTEST:
CRYSTAL HISHIDA GRAFF
Clerk, Board of Supervisors

By: R. Caballero
Deputy