

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster, California

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Date: April 24, 2007

To: Mayor Hearn and City Council Members

From: Elizabeth Brubaker, Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization Director

Subject: **Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 8.30 of Title 8 to the Lancaster Municipal Code pertaining to Residential Landscaping Installation and Maintenance**

Recommendation:

Introduce Ordinance No. 877, amending Chapter 8.30 of Title 8 to the Lancaster Municipal Code.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Background:

Section 8.30.050 of the Lancaster Municipal Code states, in part, that all portions of residential lots open to view from a public street and not used for buildings, vehicle access or parking shall be landscaped.

Discussion:

The public places a high priority on the commitment and ability of local agencies to maintain neighborhoods, protect property and property rights, and preserve the value of public and private investments. In furtherance of this commitment, the City of Lancaster is dedicated to improving and protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the neighborhoods within the City of Lancaster.

In some neighborhoods within the City, there exists a small area between the curb and the sidewalk in front of or along side a residential lot known as the parkway. Currently, the Lancaster Municipal Code does not address the responsibility of the property owner to maintain landscaping within these parkways. This amendment clarifies that responsibility so that parkways are landscaped and maintained throughout the City.

Therefore, to maintain neighborhoods, protect property and property rights, and preserve the value of public and private investments, staff recommends the introduction of Ordinance No. 877, amending Chapter 8.30 of Title 8 to the Lancaster Municipal Code.