

City of Ramsey
Agenda
Environmental Policy Board (EPB)
Monday January 9, 2012
6:30 pm
Mississippi River Room, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Citizen Input**
- 3. Approve Agenda**
- 4. Approve Minutes**
 1. Approve Meeting Minutes Dated December 5, 2011
- 5. Policy Board Business**
 1. Green Building/LID Practices and ROI
 2. 2012 Environmental Expo Event
- 6. Board/Staff Input**
- 7. Adjournment**

Environmental Policy Board (EPB)

4. 1.

Meeting Date: 01/09/2012

By: Chris Anderson, Community
Development

Title:

Approve Meeting Minutes Dated December 5, 2011

Attachments

Meeting Minutes Dated December 5, 2011

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Chris Anderson (Originator)	Chris Anderson	01/03/2012 03:51 PM
Form Started By: Chris Anderson		Started On: 01/03/2012 03:48 PM
	Final Approval Date: 01/03/2012	

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BOARD
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

On Monday, December 5, 2011, the Environmental Policy Board (EPB) met in the Mississippi River Conference Room at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive N.W., Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Michael Max
 Board Member Bob Bentz
 Board Member Thomas Stodola
 Board Member John Enstrom

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Chris Anderson

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Max called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

CITIZEN INPUT

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Board Member Stodola and seconded by Board Member Bentz to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Max, Board Members Bentz, Stodola and Enstrom.
Voting No: None. Absent: None.

APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BOARD MINUTES

Motion by Board Member Stodola and seconded by Board Member Enstrom to approve the regular meeting minutes dated November 7, 2011.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Max, Board Members Bentz, Stodola and Enstrom.
Voting No: None. Absent: None.

POLICY BOARD BUSINESS

Case #1: 2012 Environmental Expo & Tree Sale

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson presented the staff report.

Chairperson Max stated that he'd like to see Anoka Ramsey Farm and Garden participate in some capacity and offered to contact them to discuss their interest.

Board Member Stodola stated that he still is in favor of some sort of hands-on activity such as build your own birdhouse.

Board Member Enstrom stated that he knows the manager at Home Depot fairly well and will check with him about their possible involvement with this event.

Chairperson Max stated that the thought the Wood Carvers Association seemed to be a good attraction and would like to see them invited back.

Chairperson Max stated that he was not sure about Sartec, he tried to engage them in conversation about their product multiple times but they kept saying that the data was proprietary and they couldn't discuss it.

Board Member Bentz asked about bio-plastics and whether that was a topic that could be included. He stated that from what he's been reading, the western suburbs are some sort of hub for bio-plastics companies.

Chairperson Max asked about Anoka County's recycling program and whether they may be willing to participate.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that he thought ACE Solid Waste does a really good job of promoting curbside recycling at the expo event. The County does have a mobile classroom and he could check with them about participating.

Chairperson Max stated that maybe they could provide more info about reducing and reusing materials and ACE could still focus on the recycling component.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated he would check with them.

General discussion ensued about potential speakers for the event.

Board Member Stodola offered to contact KARE 11 to check the availability/interest for one of their meteorologists to possibly speak.

Chairperson Max stated that he'd like to find a way to bring back the bird walk that used to be held at the elementary school site.

Board Member Enstrom offered his property for the bird walk. He said that there could be several areas for birding including shorelands and an inland walk. He also said that he could

check with Nikon to see about possibly getting some equipment donated for use that day such as scopes.

Board Member Enstrom stated that he'd also check to see if someone from Nikon would be willing to lead the bird walk and then possibly come back to the Municipal Center for a presentation on birding. If that were the case, they most likely would want the ability to have product displayed for sale.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that he did not think that would be a problem.

Board Member Stodola stated that Jim Brandenburg may also be a good speaker to consider.

Chairperson Max stated that, while maybe not as well known a name, Carrol Henderson, a well respected birding authority, would also be a good speaker.

Board Member Enstrom asked about the possibility of bringing in someone from the state to do water tests.

Board Member Bentz asked if homeowners can drop chlorine tablets into their wells to address odor issues or is that something that only a licensed well digger could do.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that he was not sure and that that would be a good question for the state's Department of Health.

Board Member Enstrom stated that E. H. Renner and Sons would be a good source of information on that and would be a good invite to participate at the expo event as well.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that in the past, the Minnesota Well Water Association has participated in the expo event and that last year an invite was sent to E. H. Renner and Sons to participate but that he never received any response.

Chairperson Max stated that there was at least one septic pumper at last year's Business Expo and he thought that that might also be a good fit for the Environmental Expo as well.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that may be a good fit especially considering that Ramsey still has over 4,000 individual sewage treatment systems.

Board Member Bentz asked if food was going to be offered again at the event.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that while nothing has been finalized yet, food would absolutely need to be a part of the event. The first year it was held at the Municipal Center, that was the biggest piece of feedback he received was that some type of refreshments needed to be available for the public and even more importantly for the vendors that would be there for 5-6 hours.

Chairperson Max suggested that 4-H might see that as an opportunity to raise money for their organization.

Board Member Enstrom suggested possibly using the newsletter as an avenue to solicit assistance with refreshments for the event.

Board Member Bentz asked if the conversion of the website had been completed yet.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that it had but that there has not been training yet for making modifications to individual pages.

Chairperson Max stated that it might be good for the Board over the next month to review the website and make note of any suggested revisions.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that would be fine but that he encouraged them to focus specifically on environmentally related pages. If they had suggestions for the website in general or areas other than the environment, those should be directed to the webmaster.

BOARD/STAFF INPUT

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that the January meeting would need to either be rescheduled or cancelled because the regular meeting date falls on January 2, 2012 but city offices will be closed that day due to the New Years Day holiday.

Consensus of the Board was to reschedule the meeting to January 9, 2012.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson referenced the Vibrant Cities report that he thought the Board might find interesting as it relates to community forestry and associated benefits.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson informed the Board that Ms. Carlson submitted her official resignation this morning.

Discussion ensued as to the possible reasons for her resignation.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that she indicated that she didn't think she necessarily had much to contribute to the Board.

Board Member Stodola stated that when his term is up, he is uncertain if he will reapply for his seat because of the ineffectiveness of the Board and maybe that played into her decision.

Board Member Enstrom stated that he thought it was a shame that this Board isn't put to better use and wondered what could be done to change that.

General discussion ensued about the effectiveness of the Board.

Chairperson Max stated that he would contact Councilmember Backous to discuss as he is the liaison to the EPB.

Board Member Enstrom inquired about Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and wondered if it had been discovered in the northern suburbs yet.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that the most recent confirmed infestation was in Shoreview and that it had not been confirmed in or adjacent to Ramsey yet.

Board Member Enstrom stated that the WMO may start requiring a permit for utility work as a result of concerns raised about the clearing activities within transmission line easement areas. He stated that they will also start requiring not only seeding of disturbed areas but also actual establishment of the seed.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Board Member Stodola and seconded by Board Member Enstrom to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Anderson
Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator

Environmental Policy Board (EPB)

5. 1.

Meeting Date: 01/09/2012

By: Chris Anderson, Community
Development

Title:

Green Building/LID Practices and ROI

Background:

Staff has been researching various green building/LID practices that could be encouraged as development occurs within the city. As the Board knows, LID practices mainly focus on stormwater management alternatives. In the commercial sector, this could include the use of cisterns, pervious pavements, green roofs and curb stops (and parking lot swales) rather than continuous curbs, among other possibilities. Calculating the return on investment on any of these options is rather difficult because it is site specific and weather dependent. However, it may be beneficial to build some flexibility into city code that would help incentivize these alternatives.

Observations:

Currently, credits of up to fifty percent (50%) are possible for commercial sites related to volume reduction actions. The calculation for this type of credit is very site specific with a number of variables that come into play. There are two (2) credits possible, each up to twenty-five percent (25%), that could be applied to the quarterly stormwater management utility fee. But, both of these essentially entail dedicating land for 'ponding', which reduces the amount of 'usable' area on a site that may be needed to comply with other zoning standards, such as minimum number of required parking stalls. But, if the site is connected to a regional pond, for instance, these credits are no longer viable. All the more reason for the EPB to consider how city code could be updated to make it more attractive for potential development in the city.

Potential improvements to city code could include the following (not an exhaustive list):

- Specifically allowing the use of pervious pavements (with executed maintenance agreement)
- Consider allowing reinforced grass paving systems for low traffic areas (fire lanes)
- Allowing curb-less parking areas ('ribbon' gutters) and/or use of curb stops or curb cuts rather than continuous curb in conjunction with landscaped depressions
- Requiring parking lot landscaping to be done in depressions (rather than curbed islands)
- Promoting use of natural 'daylighting' (building orientation and windows/glass)
- Promoting high-efficiency appliances
- Promoting rain-water harvesting systems rather than traditional irrigation systems and consider requiring soil moisture sensors (smart irrigation) rather than just rain sensors
- Updating lighting standards to require/encourage use of better technology (ie LED)

Some communities have implemented a points-based system that requires projects meeting certain thresholds to attain a minimum number of points for approval. A variation of this type of program that could be contemplated would be to award credits and/or flexibility in zoning standards (possibly as a PUD) to projects that attain a certain number of points. This would entail developing a checklist of criteria and eligible points that can be earned for implementing various techniques. This type of program would not only move Ramsey toward more sustainable development but could also potentially reduce certain fees or allow for certain credits for a project and/or provide some flexibility in project design. Furthermore, by incorporating some of the LID practices, a developer/property owner could potentially see long term savings in terms of utility (energy/water) bills.

Staff has included several attachments to this case including an example of a points checklist and an example of the performance/zoning standards found within one zoning district. These are intended to be used as background info for the Board for discussion purposes.

Recommendation:

The purpose of this case is to consider how certain portions of city code could be improved, more specifically some of the zoning standards, to promote more sustainable development without adding more cost/burden to prospective projects.

EPB Action:

Based on discussion.

Attachments

Example of Points Checklist

B-1 Business District

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Chris Anderson (Originator)	Chris Anderson	01/05/2012 03:41 PM
Form Started By: Chris Anderson		Started On: 01/04/2012 10:39 AM
	Final Approval Date: 01/05/2012	

50-28 STORM WATER DRAINAGE AND EROSION CONTROL

Storm water drainage and erosion control regulations and standards apply to all lands in the city, and are contained in Section 50-18.1.E.

50-29 SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS

50-29.1 Applicability

In order to promote sustainable development, all new residential development proposals containing 3 or more units, and all non-residential development with a gross floor area of 10,000 sq. ft. or more, shall be required to comply with the provisions of this Section 50-29.

50-29.2 Points Required

Each new development shall be required to achieve at least a minimum number of points from the menu of options shown in Table 50-29-1:

A. Residential Development Minimum Requirements

1. Residential development with 3-29 units: 3 points.
2. Residential development with 30 or more units: 4 points.

B. Non-Residential Development Minimum Requirements

1. Non-residential development with 10,000 to 25,000 sq. ft.: 3 points.
2. Non-residential development with a total square footage of more than 25,000 sq. ft.: 4 points.

Table 50-29-1: Sustainability Point System	
	Points Earned
LOCATION	
Development on previously used or developed land that is contaminated with waste or pollution (brownfield site)	1.50
Development on previously used or developed land that is not contaminated (site re-use)	0.75
Development on a previously undeveloped site that is located immediately adjacent to existing city roadway and utility infrastructure	0.25
ENERGY EFFICIENCY	
Meet ASHRAE standard 189.1 (Section 7.4.2) for building envelope design ^[1]	1.50
Meet ASHRAE standard 189.1 (Section 7.4.6) for lighting ^[1]	0.75
Meet ASHRAE standard 189.1 (Section 7.4.3) for HVAC equipment ^[1]	0.75
Meet Energy Star standards for low rise residential or exceed ASHRAE 90.1-2004 energy efficiency standards by 15%. ^[2]	1.00
ALTERNATIVE ENERGY	
Generate or acquire a minimum of 15% of the electricity needed by the development from alternative energy sources (solar, wind, etc)	1.00

Table 50-29-1: Sustainability Point System	
	Points Earned
Install solar panels on a minimum of 15% of homes dwelling units contained in one-family, two-family, or townhouse dwellings	0.75
Pre-wire a minimum of 10% of residential dwelling units for solar panels	0.25
Install solar panels on primary structure, or at least 50% of buildings in a multi-building complex	0.75
PASSIVE SOLAR	
A minimum of 20% of residential dwelling units or lots are oriented within 20% of east-west for maximum passive solar exposure	1.00
At least 20% of non-residential buildings have one longer axis oriented east-west for maximum solar exposure	1.00
WATER	
Install a "cool roof" or green vegetated roof on the primary structure, or at least 50% of primary buildings in a multi-building complex. Cool roofs shall have a Solar Reflectance Index of 78 for flat roofs or 29 for roofs with a slope greater than 2:12. Green or vegetated roofs shall include vegetation on at least 50% of the roof area (25% for renovated buildings) and shall use only plant materials permitted by the landscaping standards in Section 50-25	2.00
Meet ASHRAE standard 189.1 (Section 6.3.1) for site water use reduction ^[1]	0.75
Meet ASHRAE standard 189.1 (Section 6.3.2) for building water use reduction ^[1]	0.50
VEGETATION	
Retain at least 20% of existing pre-development natural vegetation	0.75
Turf grass is limited to 40% of the landscaped area.	0.25
URBAN AGRICULTURE	
A fenced, centrally located community garden space is provided for residents and for urban gardening purposes at a ratio of 50 sq. ft. per dwelling unit as part of the overall landscape plan	1.00
A minimum of one on-site composting station is provided for every 25 units	0.25
TRANSPORTATION	
Source a minimum of 20% by cost of construction materials from recycled products or products manufactured, extracted, harvested, or recovered within 250 miles of the site	1.50
A minimum of 1% of required automobile parking spaces are signed and reserved for hybrid/electric/low energy vehicles in preferred locations near the primary building entrance	0.25
^[1] <i>Standard for the Design of High-Performance Green Buildings</i> , American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Condition Engineers, 2009.	
^[2] <i>Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential</i> , American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Condition Engineers, 2004.	

C. LEED-Certified Building Alternative

Buildings that have achieved LEED requirements necessary to receive certification from the U.S. Green Building Council at the silver level or above shall not be required to meet the above requirements.

D. Documentation Required

Applicants shall provide documentation of techniques that will be used to satisfy the above requirement, as necessary, at the time of application submittal. Documentation for items that may not be visually verified as part of an inspection may be provided in the form of invoices, receipts, or delivery confirmation for the items in question.

Sec. 117-114. - B-1 General Business District.

- (a) *Intent.* The intent of the B-1 General Business District is to provide a commercial area for goods and services for the surrounding neighborhoods and community on a smaller scale than the B-2 Highway Commercial District.
- (b) *Permitted uses.* The following are permitted uses, subject to general requirements and performance standards as specified by this chapter:
- (1) Enclosed retail activities without outdoor activities.
 - (2) Restaurants and cafes.
 - (3) Offices and banks.
 - (4) Personal and professional services.
 - (5) Funeral homes.
 - (6) Medical clinics.
 - (7) Laundromat, self-service washing and drying.
 - (8) Dry cleaning.
 - (9) Animal clinics and indoor small animal boarding facilities.
 - (10) Adult uses - accessory.
 - (11) Convenience grocery and/or food operations.
 - (12) Off-sale liquor.
- (c) *Conditional uses.*
- (1) Animal clinics and outside small animal boarding facilities.
 - (2) Commercial carwashes (drive through, mechanical, self service).
 - (3) Convenience gas (no vehicle service or repair).
 - (4) Day care centers.
 - (5) On-sale liquor.
 - (6) Uses with drive through service.
 - (7) Oversizing of signs.
 - (8) Expansion or enlargement of lawful nonconforming uses.
 - (9) Cell towers.
 - (10) Micro-scale WECS.
 - (11) Medium-scale WECS.
- (d) *Accessory uses.*
- (1) Off-street parking as regulated and required by this chapter.
 - (2) Off-street loading as regulated and required by this chapter.
 - (3) Signing as regulated by article II, division 8 of this chapter.
- (e) *Standards.* (Also refer to article II, division 6 of this chapter for general performance standards.)
- (1) Bulk standards.

Standard	Requirement
Minimum lot area	½ acre 1 acre without municipal water and sewer
Minimum lot width	100 feet 200 feet without municipal water and sewer
Minimum lot depth	150 feet
Maximum building height	35 feet
Maximum structure area	35% of lot area
Minimum building setbacks	
Front yard	35 feet
Side yard	10 feet

Side yard on corner lot	20 feet
Rear yard	35 feet
Major and minor arterials and state and county roads	60 feet from centerline of road right-of-way plus the local applicable setback
Public/private service road	25 feet
Off-street parking and pavement (includes maneuvering areas) setback from street right-of-way	20
Setbacks from residential districts:	35 feet
Structure setback from property boundary line	
Off-street parking, driveways and outside sales and display areas	

- (2) All exterior wall finishes on any building shall be:
- a. Face brick;
 - b. Stucco;
 - c. Glass;
 - d. Wood;
 - e. Natural stone;
 - f. Specifically designed pre-cast concrete units whose surfaces have been integrally treated with an applied decorative material or texture;
 - g. Other material as may be approved by the city.
- Combinations of such materials shall be permitted.
- (3) Vehicular access points shall be limited, shall create a minimum of conflict with through traffic movements, and shall be subject to the approval of the city engineer.
- (4) The entire site shall have a drainage system which is subject to the approval of the city engineer.
- (5) All signing and information or visual communication devices shall be in compliance with the applicable provisions of this Code.
- (6) All magazinging or stacking space for vehicles shall be off-street and shall be constructed to a size that will accommodate that number of vehicles which can be serviced during a maximum 30 minute period and shall be subject to the approval of the city engineer.
- (7) Parking or car magazine storage space shall be screened from view of abutting residential districts.
- (8) Provisions are made to control and reduce noise.
- (9) A concrete curb not less than six inches above grade shall separate the public sidewalk from motor vehicle service areas.
- (10) If applicable, motor fuel activities shall be installed in accordance with state and city standards, regardless of whether the dispensing, sale or offering for sale of motor fuels and/or oil is incidental to the conduct of the use or business. Additionally, adequate space shall be provided to access gas

pumps and allow maneuverability around the pumps. Underground fuel storage tanks are to be positioned to allow adequate access by motor fuel transports and unloading operations do not conflict with circulation, access and other activities on the site. Fuel pumps shall be installed on pump islands with canopies. Canopies shall maintain a 20-foot setback from property lines as measured from the edge of the canopy.

- (11) Off-street parking areas, loading areas, driveways, and traffic maneuvering areas shall be surfaced with concrete or blacktop and finished with continuous concrete curbing as recommended by the city engineer and reflected on an approved site plan. Any site proposing to install any of the above named site improvements is subject to the site plan review process established in [section 117-52](#)
- (12) All conditions pertaining to a specific site are subject to change when the council, upon investigation in relation to a formal request, finds that the general welfare and public betterment can be served as well or better by modifying the conditions.
- (13) Lighting. Any lighting used to illuminate an off-street parking area, sign or structure, shall be arranged to deflect light away from an adjoining residential district or public street. Bulbs emitting in excess of 3,000 lumens (150 watts) shall be so directed that the bulb is not visible from off of the property where such light source is located.
- (14) Landscaping and buffering.
 - a. Site landscaping.
 - 1. Minimum landscaping requirements. All open space areas of a lot which are not used or improved for required parking areas, drives or storage shall be landscaped with a combination of overstory trees, ornamental trees, shrubs, flowers, ground cover, decorative walks, or other similar site design materials in a quantity and placement suitable for the site. A reasonable attempt should be made to preserve as many existing trees as is practicable and to incorporate them into the development. For each existing significant tree retained one overstory tree can be deducted from the minimum requirements.
 - 2. Number of plantings. The minimum number of overstory trees on any given site shall be as indicated below. These are minimum requirements that are typically supplemented with other understory trees, shrubs, flowers and ground covers deemed appropriate for a complete quality landscape treatment of a site.

	Business Districts
Deciduous/coniferous trees	1 per 50 lineal feet of site perimeter, or 1 tree per 1,000 square feet of building footprint, whichever is greater. For expansions to buildings, 1 additional tree is required for each 1,000 square feet of additional building footprint area.
Shrubs	1 per 30 feet of site perimeter or 1 per 300 square feet of building footprint area, whichever is greater.

- 3. Minimum size of plantings. Landscaping material shall be of the following minimum planting size:

Landscape Material	Size
Deciduous trees	2.5 inches diameter as measured three feet above ground
Coniferous trees	6 feet in height
Deciduous shrubs	2 feet in height
Evergreen shrubs	2 feet in height or 2 feet in width, whichever applies
Ornamental trees	1.5 inches diameter as measured three feet above ground

- 4. Planting types.
 - (i) Acceptable plantings shall be determined by the City of Ramsey Tree Book.
 - (ii) The compliment of trees fulfilling the landscaping requirements shall be not less than 25 percent deciduous and lot less than 25 percent coniferous. No more than 25 percent of the required plantings shall consist of ornamental trees.
 - (iii)

For every 35 feet of public road frontage, one overstory tree shall be planted on the private property adjacent to the public road right-of-way.

- b. Topsoil. All exposed ground areas of a site not occupied by building, parking or storage, excluding natural areas that are left undisturbed, shall be covered with six inches of topsoil, as defined in [section 117-1](#), or an approved alternative as referenced in [section 117-348](#)
- c. Sodding and ground cover. All areas not otherwise improved in accordance with approved site plans shall be finished with sod up to the edge of improved streets. Any alternative to the sod requirement shall require city council approval.
- d. Irrigation.
 - 1. All landscaping areas required under this section shall include underground irrigation systems.
 - 2. Exceptions include natural areas that are left undisturbed.
- e. Parking lot landscaping. All parking lots are required to provide internal overstory tree plantings in an effort to shade parking surfaces and provide visual relief. Plantings are required at the following minimum schedule. The planting schedule is established to provide an acceptable number of plantings that may be planted in regular symmetrical patterns or irregular clusters or groupings.
 - 1. 1 tree per every ten parking spaces.
 - 2. Every overstory tree planting shall be provided with a planting area of 162 square feet.
 - 3. Acceptable ground cover materials include sod, mulch, and other natural ground cover. Landscaping rock and plastic underlayment is not allowed.
 - 4. All parking lot planting areas shall include underground irrigation systems.
- f. Bufferyards. This section is intended to be minimum requirements to achieve screening between differing uses with varied intensities and impacts that are not always complementary when adjacent to one another. When a bufferyard is required under this section, the yard space and planting requirements are not to be reduced for other purposes such as future parking and driveways, building expansions, or other activities that are not in keeping with the purposes of buffering and screening.
 - 1. Bufferyards are intended to provide additional screening of businesses that are adjacent to residential areas. The following table details the width of the bufferyard along the common adjacent property line. An additional increase of landscape plantings would be required in the bufferyard. That increase is expressed in the table below as a percentage of the total required site landscaping:

		Existing Adjacent Development		
		R-1	R-2	R-3
Proposed Development	B-1 Bufferyard width	40 ft.	30 ft.	20 ft.
	% increase in plantings required	25%	20%	20%
	B-2 Bufferyard width	50 ft.	40 ft.	30 ft.
	% increase in plantings required	30%	25%	20%

- 2. As an alternative method for screening, fences that are 100 percent opaque may be used to mitigate the impacts of businesses that are adjacent to residential areas. Fences shall be subject to the provisions found in all applicable ordinances. When a fence is used for screening purposes, the bufferyard planting requirements may be reduced by ten percent from the stated minimum requirement.

(15) Off-street loading: One off-street loading dock/berth shall be provided for the first 10,000 square feet of floor area and one additional dock/berth for each additional 25,000 square feet of floor area. Such loading berth/dock shall be located in the rear or side wall of building.

(Code 1978, § 9.20.21; Ord. No. 80-04, 5-25-1980; Ord. No. 86-2, 8-25-1986; Ord. No. 93-01, 3-1-1993; Ord. No. 93-05, 4-23-1993; Ord. No. 96-12, 7-29-1996; Ord. No. 03-21, 8-25-2003; Ord. No. 04-20, 6-1-2004; Ord. No. 09-06, § 2, 4-28-2009; Ord. No. 09-12, § 2, 9-8-2009; Ord. No. 10-04, § 2, 4-13-2010)

Environmental Policy Board (EPB)

5. 2.

Meeting Date: 01/09/2012

By: Chris Anderson, Community Development

Title:

2012 Environmental Expo Event

Background:

The Environmental Expo date is set for April 28, 2012. A small promo for the event (essentially a 'save the date') was included in the current issue of the Ramsey Resident newsletter and Staff will likely start getting info added to the website soon to begin building awareness for the event.

Observations:

It seems that each year, both Staff and the Board express a desire to incorporate some sort of hands-on activity but that the layout within the Municipal Center isn't necessarily conducive for it. There are a couple potential scenarios that could be considered: (1) keep the Alexander Ramsey Room open (no exhibitors in there) and hold a work shop or some other hands-on activity in there as well as have some sort of educational presentation (for kids) in there as well or (2) possibly rent a large tent to be set up outside for some sort of activity. There are pros and cons that can be discussed with each scenario.

Staff has received information from a wholesale nursery with regard to available tree stock. As has been mentioned in previous meetings, the tree sale portion of the event will be much different than in the past due to the retirement of a couple of the vendors and the third vendor stating that they would not be participating this year. Trees offered will all be bareroot and there is a wide array of species that may be chosen from. Staff will likely pick ten (10) or so species, all known to perform well in our sandy soils, for pre-order sales.

Last month, the Board discussed bringing back the bird walking activity that used to be a part of the expo event. Board Member Enstrom had offered to 'host' this activity on his land and was going to check with some of his contacts about a potential candidate to lead that walk and follow that up with a presentation at the Municipal Center. Staff is hopeful that this is still a possibility but hasn't received any more info related to this yet.

Recommendation:

Board Members should be prepared to discuss and/or provide updates regarding potential speakers, preference of layout (use of AR room or tent for activity), involvement in coordinating/planning of the event and it's booth.

EPB Action:

Based on discussion.

Form Review

Inbox
Chris Anderson (Originator)

Reviewed By
Chris Anderson

Date
01/06/2012 10:47 AM
Started On: 01/06/2012 09:30 AM

Form Started By: Chris Anderson

Final Approval Date: 01/06/2012