

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(2)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, April 6, 2004

TITLE: Advisory board review of Appendix E-17 Invasive Plant Species and update to Appendix E-10 through E-16 Recommended Trees and Shrubs

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING	PUBLIC HEARING: YES __ NO _ X _
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. Land Use Ordinance, Appendices E-10 through E-17 C. Recommendations from EAB and AC	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Noah Ranells, 918-7326

PURPOSE

The Board of Aldermen's 2003 Action Agenda directed advisory board review of the Invasive Plant Species list. Both the EAB and AC have reviewed and offer recommendations to the Board of Aldermen. A resolution that accepts the report has been prepared for the Board's use.

INFORMATION

This process involved a review by the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) and the Appearance Commission (AC). The AC reviewed the plant list voted on a recommendation on February 19, 2004. The EAB reviewed the plant list and voted on a recommendation on September 4, 2003. The existing ordinance was last modified on May 29, 1999 and is included as an attachment (Attachment B).

Compliance with current Land Use Ordinance (LUO) specifies that invasive species as defined in Appendix E-17 "shall be prohibited when complying with the shading and landscaping provisions of this chapter." The term "Chapter" refers to the complete LUO.

Appendices E-10 through E-16 provide information on "plantings which will meet the screening and shading requirements of Article XIX of the LUO," and further specify that the "...lists are by no means comprehensive and are intended to suggest the types of flora which would be appropriate for screening and shading purposes." The lists are generated from four basic criteria: 1) suitability to Piedmont physiographic region, 2) hardiness and tolerance to urban conditions, 3) ease of maintenance, and 4) local availability. When possible, native species are encouraged, albeit not at the exclusion of "highly effective" introduced species (Page E-10-1).

In addition to reviewing Appendix E-17 that lists the invasive species, the EAB expanded their review to include the lists of recommended trees and shrubs in Appendices E-10 through E-16. The EAB and AC recommended addition of 49 species and removal of 23 species in Appendices E-10 through E-16. Only Appendix E-17 includes a mandatory aspect, prohibiting certain species for compliance with shading and landscaping provisions of the LUO. In Appendix E-17, 11 species were added to the list of invasive plant species.

FISCAL IMPACT

NONE.

ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends that the Board of Alderman adopt the attached resolution (Attachment A) accepting accept the recommendation of the EAB and AC. Should the Board wish to take further action, staff has noted that a text amendment could be prepared for the Board's review.