

CASTLE ROCK WATER

**FIRST READING OF
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 4.04, 13.12, AND
15.48.020 OF THE CASTLE ROCK MUNICIPAL CODE
RELATED TO WATER DEDICATION, PUBLIC SERVICES,
AND LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION CRITERIA MANUAL**

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022



LANDSCAPE ORDINANCE

BACKGROUND

- **State of Colorado and Western Context**

- Agriculture
- Frequent droughts / changing weather patterns
- Colorado River
- State Legislation
- Aurora
- Memo of Understanding by biggest Western water providers
- State Water Plan

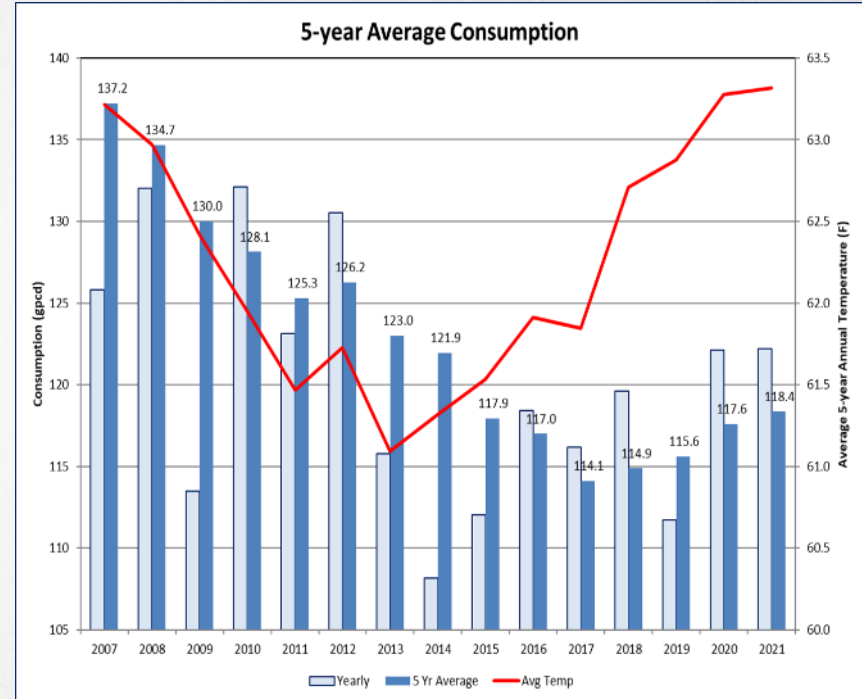
- **Castle Rock Context**

- Half of water demand used outdoors
- Peak demands 4 to 5 times winter demand
- Infrastructure for peak demand – very expensive, will drive rates and fees up over time
- Irrigation water is lost (not available for reuse even though our water rights allow for it)
- Most turf grass in Castle Rock “non-functional”
- Over 3,000 acres of irrigated landscape

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STRATEGIC GOALS

- Reduce per capita demand to 100 gallons per capita per day (gpcd) by 2050
- Reduce peak demands
- Implement ColoradoScapes Plan and reduce high water using turf
- Turf reductions for new development - has greatest usage reduction benefit
- Water budgets set by **plant type** and irrigated area for new development



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OVERVIEW OF RESIDENTIAL CHANGES

- No turf in front yards for new homes
- Backyards for new homes no more than 500 square feet of irrigated turf
- ColoradoScape design instead
- Swimming pools and water features will reduce total allowed turf
- Incentivize front yard and backyard landscapes to be installed by home builder



*500 square feet of experimental Tahoma Bermuda Grass
(super low water using turf) at Castle Rock Water Administration Building*

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COLORADOSCAPE

ColoradoScape: is a natural landscape, comprised of low to very-low water-use-plant material, which blends in with the native Castle Rock landscape. This landscaping utilizes a combination of hardscape and plant materials, providing a variety of colors, textures, sizes, shapes, and seasonal interest.



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OVERVIEW OF NONRESIDENTIAL CHANGES

- For non-residential
 - Eliminate non-functional turf
- Non-functional = areas of turf where play or recreational activities cannot or do not take place.
- Passive use areas still necessary
- This includes apartments, condominiums, townhomes, HOA common areas, and commercial businesses.



Castlewood Ranch (at Mikelson Street) after a ColoradoScape project

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TIMELINE AND IMPACTS

- New turf limits in effect January 1st 2023
- 0.67 program and WEP would be discontinued
- System Development Fees (SDFs) lowered for new homes for home builders that install front and back yard including proration like under current WEP program
- For home builders that do not install both front and back, they get no SDF discount & must still design back yard
- Costs for Coloradoscape appear competitive with current landscape types
- Positive impact on long term rates and fees



During construction and post-completion of a ColoradoScape in Town

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OUTREACH

- Economic Development Committee Water Subcommittee meetings monthly since November 2021
- Developer's Roundtable
- Part of Water Resources Strategic Master Plan discussion and approvals
- Economic Development Council Executive Committee
- Economic Development Council Board
- Homebuilders luncheons

Lot Typicals 10

Lot 2



Ornamental Grasses

Evergreen Shrubs

Boulders

Cobble Mulch

Cobble Mulch
Larger cobble to create visual interest.

Item	Quantity
Deciduous Tree	1
Evergreen Tree	0
Evergreen Shrubs	4
Deciduous Shrubs	5
Ornamental Grasses	14
Perennials	6
Boulders	6

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BUDGET & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Budget:
 - Lower SDF revenues and lower future customer revenues
 - Reduced O&M costs for peak demand infrastructure
 - Future savings on CRW CIP Projects: \$56-\$72 million
- Recommendations
 - Castle Rock Water Commission
 - Staff





RECOMMENDED MOTION:

"I move to approve Ordinance #2022-025 on First Reading as introduced by title."

ALTERNATIVE MOTIONS:

"I move to approve Ordinance #2022-025 on First Reading, with the following conditions or changes: (list conditions or changes)."

"I move to continue this item to the Town Council meeting on ____date to allow additional time to (list information needed)."



ANY QUESTIONS?