



CONSIDERATION OF GLYPHOSATE USE BY CITY DEPARTMENTS

Community & Economic Development
Department

City Council
January 14, 2020

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BACKGROUND

1. Glyphosate is a broad spectrum systemic herbicide;
2. Label approval and use regulated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency; and
3. Concerns expressed regarding use and public safety.



2

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GLYPHOSATE USE

1. Systemic herbicides versus non-systemic herbicides;
2. Historical use of Roundup by City departments:
 - a) Public Works
 - b) Parks, Recreation and Community Services
 - c) Riverside Public Utilities
 - d) General Services
3. Health and safety of applicators and the public.



3

DISCUSSION - ALTERNATIVES

1. Alternative weed abatement methods:
 - a) Contact herbicides (non-glyphosate based)
 - b) Organic herbicides
 - c) Manual weeding
 - d) Weed burners



4



COST COMPARISONS

Material	Material Cost per Acre	Number of Treatments Annually <small>(generalized across the city)</small>	Total Material Costs per Acre <small>(annual, does not include labor)</small>
Glyphosate-based herbicides	\$25.06	2-3 times	\$50.12 - \$75.18
Non-glyphosate based herbicides	\$32.48	7-8 times	\$227.36 - \$259.84
Material cost difference per acre			\$177.24 - \$184.66



5

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council:

1. Receive and review this report on glyphosate use by different city departments;
2. Consider the outcomes and impacts of the citywide temporary glyphosate moratorium placed into effect in April 2019; and
3. Provide direction to staff whether to continue or amend the citywide temporary glyphosate moratorium.



6