



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT **WARDS: ALL**

SUBJECT: ADOPT AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 17.24 OF THE RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROVIDE DISCRETION IN REQUIRING GRADING BONDS

ISSUES:

The issue for City Council consideration is to adopt an ordinance to amend Chapter 17.24 of the Riverside Municipal Code to allow for Public Works Director discretion in requiring grading bonds.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council adopt an ordinance to amend Section 17.24.010 of the Riverside Municipal Code regarding the fees/bonds/deposits giving the Public Works Director discretion on whether or not to require grading bonds.

BACKGROUND:

Effective October 22, 2009, Public Works began requiring that all grading permits be secured by a grading bond. The intent of requiring grading bonds is to ensure site stabilization and eliminate hazardous conditions in the event of a work stoppage. The amount of the bond for projects under one acre in size is based upon the amount of remedial grading required, lineal feet of project frontage, and area of project requiring revegetation. The amount of the bond for projects over one acre in size is based upon the engineer's estimate to complete grading improvements including associated drainage facilities.

Consistent with the Riverside 2.0 priorities of Enhanced Customer Service and Economic Development, and advancing the "Right-size Regulations" strategy of Business Ready Riverside 2.0, the Public Works Department, along with other City departments, is in the process of identifying unnecessary delays and requirements. Department staff analyzed and reviewed the requirement for grading bonds on all grading permits and determined that frequently, especially on smaller projects, the need for a grading bond is unnecessary.

Therefore, authorizing the Public Works Director to have discretion in requiring grading bonds, rather than requiring them for all grading permits, will eliminate unnecessary delays to a significant amount of the grading plans currently reviewed.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Kris Martinez, Interim Public Works Director
Certified as to
availability of funds: Brent A. Mason, Finance Director/Treasurer
Approved by: Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachment: Ordinance