
**CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (COW)
New Item for Review and Consideration**

Meeting Date: 09/03/2015
Agenda Item: 3B2

Issue Description: Research the benefits and feasibility of requiring new construction within the City of Tempe to include greywater infrastructure.

Presented by: Councilmember Granville.

What are you looking to accomplish? A Committee of the Whole Working Group should be formed to explore the economic and environmental benefits to requiring greywater infrastructure in all new construction.

Background Information: Recent draught conditions in California and across the country have highlighted the need for desert cities like Tempe to renew their focus on responsible water management. Greywater collection is just one potential piece of a larger effort to promote water conservation and efficient use of water resources by the City and its residents. "Greywater" is water previously used by the interior of a home or commercial building, from clothes washers, bathtubs, showers, or bathroom sinks, and reused for outdoor irrigation. According to a City of Tucson report, approximately 45% of residential water consumption is used for outdoor landscaping irrigation while 32% comes from potential greywater sources. Reusing this recycled water can save a typical household more than 13,000 gallons of potable water per year with potentially greater savings in larger commercial buildings. Requiring greywater infrastructure in new construction directly aligns with the City Council's priority to implement sustainable growth and development strategies.

What stakeholders should be engaged with this process? City staff, developers, Arizona State University's Global Institute of Sustainability.

Anticipated Timeframe and Staff Resources: Approximately 20 hours of staff time is needed, divided between Public Works and Community Development, to determine the options and impact of such an ordinance.

The Tempe City Council is committed to:

- 1. Ensuring a safe and secure community through a commitment to public safety and justice.*
- 2. Developing and maintaining a strong community connection by emphasizing the importance of open government, customer service and communication with community members.*
- 3. Enhancing the quality of life for all Tempe residents and workers through investment in neighborhoods, parks, the arts, human services, and city amenities, with an emphasis on equity and diversity.*
- 4. Implementing sustainable growth and development strategies, including improving Tempe's public transit system to meet future needs, by actively seeking innovative technologies and leading the way in creating a more sustainable community.*
- 5. Maintaining long term financial stability and vitality by focusing on economic development, business retention and generating employment to create a robust and diverse economic base.*