

Land Use and Development Code Amendments

Landscape and Site Design Requirements

City Council Study Session –
September 23, 2025

City Staff Representative:

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Landscape & Site Design Code Amendments

Background:

- The State of Colorado recently passed Senate Bill 24-005 and House Bill 25-1113.
- Within these bills are restrictions on “Nonfunctional Turf” and “Artificial Turf.”
- Currently, the Landscape and Site Design Code has restrictions on permissible locations for artificial and irrigated turf, as well as restrictions on invasive species. Adjustments to the Landscape and Site Design Code are necessary to fully comply with the new laws.

Purpose:

- Amendments to the code can be initiated by the City Council, Planning Commission, and Staff on behalf of the entities.

Proposed Changes to Article 8.02 - Landscape Design

- Staff proposes amendments to restrict the placement of “Nonfunctional Turf,” “Artificial Turf,” and “Invasive Plant Species” in Commercial, Institutional, Industrial, Common Interest Communities, Street ROW, Parking Lots, Medians, and Transportation Corridors.
- Artificial Turf can continue being used for recreational activities. For example, an athletic field may be made of artificial turf.

Proposed Changes to

Article 8.03 - Buffer and Screening Design

- Given the recent and future residential neighborhood growth near highways, staff will also be introducing new sound mitigation requirements to the Code.
- These proposed restrictions will be put into place for the safety and wellbeing of the community.
- Neighborhoods near highways currently have minimal sound mitigation requirements. The proposed sound barriers would foster safer and more enjoyable communities.
- The sound wall design provided in the Brighton Community Identity Design Plan would be implemented on any new sound wall proposed, which would foster a sense of place for Brighton.

Proposed Changes to Article 11 - Definitions & Terms

- Adds new terms to the definitions section that were implemented via recent legislation.

Changes to Article 8 - Landscape & Site Design Article 11 - Definitions & Terms

The City Council has the following options to consider:

- ☐ Direct staff to proceed with the code amendments as presented;
- ☐ Direct staff to proceed with the code amendments with modifications; or
- ☐ Direct staff not to proceed with the code amendments.