

Roseville Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission

Agenda Item

Date: September 24, 2019

Item No: 5

Item Description: Best Management Practices for Lawns

Background:

There has been significant interest from this Commission and the City Council about increased efforts to reduce the use of water for irrigation of lawns. There have been several ideas proposed including an additional water rate tier, rebates for new controllers and supercharged and targeted outreach efforts.

In an effort to develop the outreach efforts, we have asked Professor Daniel Sandor to come present on his research related to best management practices for lawns including irrigation controller technology and even what type of turfgrass to use. Professor Sandor is a postdoctoral associate in the Department of Horticultural Science at the University of Minnesota.

From his profile page on the U of MN website:

“My research interests emphasize the selection & utilization of drought-resistant turfgrasses in the lawn and the implementation of improved irrigation tools such as smart controllers and soil moisture sensors for residential and commercial sprinkler systems to significantly reduce water usage while meeting the needs and expectations of the consumer. Other research areas include the use of best management practices for weed control, and the identification & refinement of current turfgrass management beliefs, behaviors, and preferences for lawns in the urban environment.

My outreach-education efforts are centered upon water conservation practices for urban lawns and cover subject areas including turfgrass selection and establishment, mowing, fertility, and irrigation. I am a strong, passionate advocate of turfgrasses and I am devoted to sharing the multitude of environmental, functional, aesthetic, and recreational benefits they provide. My programming efforts have been shared with audiences ranging from a small handful of municipal officials and city council members to large crowds of hundreds of lawn-care professionals and landscape contractors.”

Recommended Action:

Receive presentation by Professor Daniel Sandor

Attachments:

A. Presentation