

<i>SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING</i>	POLICY	
	Document Number:	CMA-CL-PL-7120
	Version Number:	01

1.0 Purpose:

To ensure the conservation of water and prevention of pollution in landscape planting and maintaining landscape.

2.0 Scope:

The policy applies to all VTA facilities and properties, and where appropriate, capital projects.

3.0 Responsibilities:

Facility Maintenance Managers, Superintendents, Supervisors, Construction Resident Engineers/Inspectors, Project Managers, and VTA Contractors are responsible to ensure that landscaping, irrigation, and associated maintenance activities conserve water and prevent pollution by implementing the following practices to the maximum extent possible:

- Plant low maintenance, drought tolerant, and native plant species (see the Santa Clara Valley Water District qualifying plant list available at <http://www.valleywater.org/uploadedFiles/Programs/WaterConservation/Landscaping/PLANT%20LIST%20WITH%20COVER2013.pdf>);
- Preserve and reuse established vegetation, and incorporate compost, mulch, and other appropriate organic materials to reduce runoff and conserve soil moisture;
- Limit or avoid the use of chemicals to control weeds and pests;
- Limit or eliminate the use of turf area by using plantings, mulch, decomposed granite, or other coverings;
- Group plants with similar water needs into climate and water zones to maximize water efficiency;
- Choose irrigation equipment that uses the least amount of water for the design, layout, and type of landscape;
- Adjust irrigation times and durations with the seasons and for proper coverage and even distribution;
- Use reclaimed water for irrigation where available;
- Install rain shut-off devices, flow sensors, weather-based irrigation controllers, pressure compensating spray heads, and vandal resistant sprinkler heads;
- Respond promptly to leaks and perform regular inspections of irrigation equipment to ensure good working order;

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- In areas of heavy public use, select and place landscaping and irrigation equipment appropriately to avoid damage.

4.0 Policy:

This policy serves as written communication of VTA's intent to implement environmentally sustainable landscaping practices to ensure the conservation of water and prevention of pollution at all VTA facilities and properties.


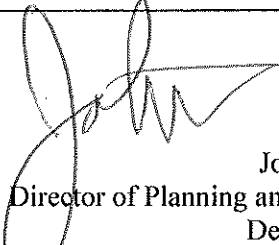

5.0 Definitions:

For the purposes of this policy, *sustainable* refers to the ability to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

6.0 Summary of Changes:

Initial release of this policy.

7.0 Approval Information:

<i>Prepared by</i>	<i>Reviewed by</i>	<i>Approved by</i>
 Tom Fitzwater Manager, Env. Programs and Resources Management	 John Ristow Director of Planning and Program Development	 Nuria I. Fernandez General Manager