CITY OF ENCINITAS
ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL

Policy Title: ***Invasive Plant Policy*** ***Section:*** ***Council Policy***

Responsible Department: ***Planning and Building Department*** ***Number:*** ***C029***

Approved By: ***City Council*** ***Originally Approved:*** ***7/16/2014***

Last Amended: _____

1.0 OBJECTIVE

To address the potential negative impacts that invasive plants may have on natural resources in the City of Encinitas.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The City Council directed the establishment of an Invasive Plant Subcommittee to 1) develop an invasive plant policy on how invasive plants are to be regulated and 2) the development of implementation regulations.

Based on the Subcommittee's recommendations in their invasive plant policy, the Council finds that the following polices are necessary to address and potentially reduce potential negative impacts that invasive plants may have on natural resources such as surrounding beaches and lagoons.

3.0 STATEMENT OF POLICY

This new policy identifies and regulates the types of invasive plants that can be located on public and private property in the City of Encinitas as follows:

- The City adopted by reference the County of San Diego Water Efficient Landscape Design Manual and adopted the City of Encinitas Water Efficient Landscape Regulations (Chapter 23.26 of the Encinitas Municipal Code) on February 10, 2010. Appendix I of the Manual includes an invasive species list.

- The City shall continue to apply the currently established regulations and utilize the County's invasive species list with the following noted changes.

    - Updates of invasive species plant list by the County of San Diego shall be incorporated by reference for use within the policy with the ability to exempt food bearing trees and plants.

    - Olive trees and fig trees are exempt from the invasive species plant list.

- The use of plants on the adopted Invasive Species List shall be prohibited on City property and public rights-of-way (including trails, trail buffers, easements, medians, parkways, parks, overlooks, and golf course).

- The use of plants on the adopted Invasive Species List shall be prohibited from **new** landscaping proposed as part of discretionary projects subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and **new** landscaping proposed as part of design review permits. This policy shall not apply to existing landscaping.

- This policy does not prohibit a nursery or similar retail establishment from selling plant species that are found on the Invasive Species List.

The Invasive Species List, which is Appendix I in the County's Water Efficient Landscape Design Manual, is available at:

http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/dplu/docs/POD_08-016_Landscape_Design_Manual.pdf