

**From:** Matt van der Linden  
**To:** [commentletters](#)  
**Cc:** [Brad Vidro](#)  
**Subject:** Comment Letter – Prohibiting Wasteful Water Use Practices  
**Date:** Thursday, November 2, 2017 4:16:15 PM

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Dear Ms. Townsend:

Please consider this e-mail as the comment letter from the City of Solvang. We have comments as follows.

Proposed Prohibition: *Californians shall not apply water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures.*

Solvang comment: We request more latitude be applied to this proposed prohibition. It is nearly impossible to adjust spray irrigation systems so that they never spray onto adjacent sidewalks or non-irrigated areas. There will always be some minor overspray that occurs (especially if there is any wind). This prohibition should be revised to allow for some minor overspray that does not produce a continuous stream or large amounts of water flowing outside the landscaped area.

Proposed Prohibition: *Californians shall not irrigate turf on public street medians or publicly owned or maintained landscaped areas between the street and sidewalk, except where the turf serves a community or neighborhood function.*

Solvang comment: It is unclear what is meant by “community or neighborhood function”. We request that existing turf parkways be specifically excluded from this proposed prohibition. The landscaped area between the street/curb and the sidewalk along the public right-of-way is known as the parkway. Most public streets have these. Based on my travels all around California over 50% of all parkways have turf/grass. The way I read this proposed prohibition, you are requiring all turf/grass parkways in California to be ripped out and replaced with drought tolerant vegetation or dry-scape. This seems exceedingly harsh.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

*Matt van der Linden*, PE  
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