



# Memo

Department of Planning & Housing

35

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Steve Osguthorpe, Planning & Housing Director

**DATE:** May 16, 2012

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE – ALTERNATE LANDSCAPING  
STANDARDS FOR AUTO AND MARINE CRAFT TRADE USES**

A proposed ordinance adopting alternative landscaping standards for auto and marine craft trade uses was presented to the City Council on May 8, 2012. This was one of three proposed text amendments requested by Wilson Toyota to facilitate expansion plans for the dealership, and which could also facilitate a proposed new dealership by the Deery Brothers along Highway 30. The Council acted on two of the requested amendments (i.e., parking lot striping and integrated site plan subdivision provisions) but continued the alternative landscaping provisions to the May 22 meeting in order for staff to:

1. Prepare a hypothetical site plan showing how an auto dealership site would be landscaped under the current code requirements versus the proposed alternative standards, and
2. Contract the remaining auto dealerships in Ames to receive feedback on the proposed ordinance.

Staff is working on development of the hypothetical site plan requested by the Council. Staff will then invite all auto-dealer representatives in the city to attend a meeting where the plan and proposed alternative standards will be presented and car dealer input will be sought. Staff will not be able to have these tasks complete in time for the May 22 meeting. **Staff is therefore requesting that this item be continued to the June 12, 2012 meeting.**

SO\clh