

One Water Committee Governor's Executive Order and Metropolitan's Activities Related to Non-Functional Turf

Item 6c April 26, 2022

### Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-7-22

Executive Order N-7-22

Issued March 28, 2022

# Summary of Executive Order

- Calls on water agencies to move to Level 2 of water shortage contingency plans
  - Enact plans to ensure water shortage reduction up to 20%
  - Encourages agencies to go beyond 20% to prepare for long-term drought
- Directs DWR to develop strategies to improve water conservation
- Directs SWRCB to consider adoption of a non-functional turf regulation

Executive Order N-7-22

## • Non-Functional Turf

"By May 25, 2022, the Water Board shall consider adopting emergency regulations defining "non-functional turf" (that is, a definition of turf that is ornamental and not otherwise used for human recreation purposes such as school fields, sports fields, and parks) and banning irrigation of non-functional turf in the commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors except as it may be required to ensure the health of trees and other perennial non-turf plantings."

Executive Order N-7-22

## SWRCB Proposed Non-Functional Turf Regulation

- Focus on Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional (CII) properties
  - Excludes residential
  - Excludes park, sports fields, and other turf used for recreation or community events
- Allows irrigation of turf on the same valve as trees, shrubs, and other perennial plants
- Applies only to turf irrigated by potable water
- Held public meeting on April 21, 2022 to review proposed regulation and receive public comment

#### Metropolitan's Activities in Non-Functional Turf Removal

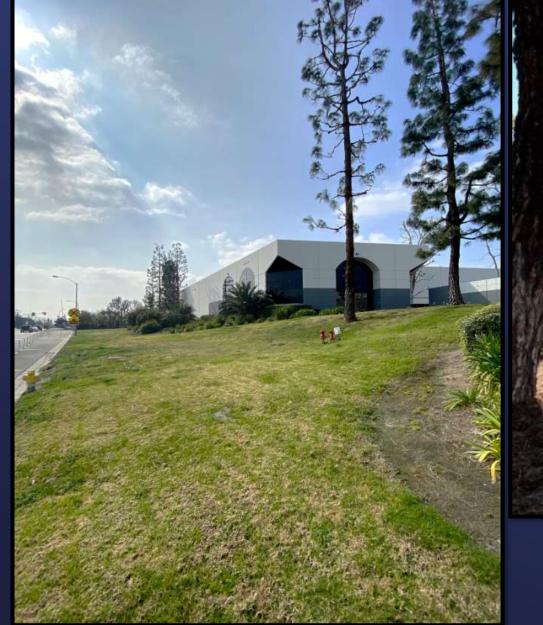
Metropolitan's Activities

## Commercial Turf Replacement Program

- Approximately 96 million square feet of commercial turf removed since July 1990
- Equivalent to ~63,800 residential front yard conversions
- Recently awarded DWR grant will be used to further increase program activity

Commercial Turf Removal <u>is Non-</u> Functional Turf Removal







## Non-Functional Turf Removal

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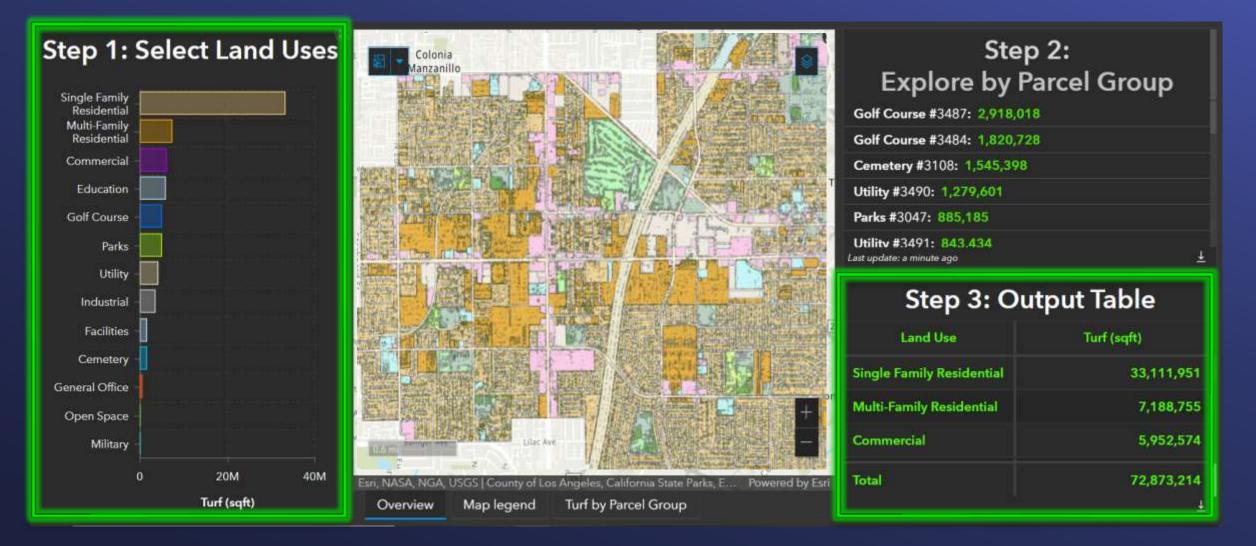
#### Non-Functional Turf Removal



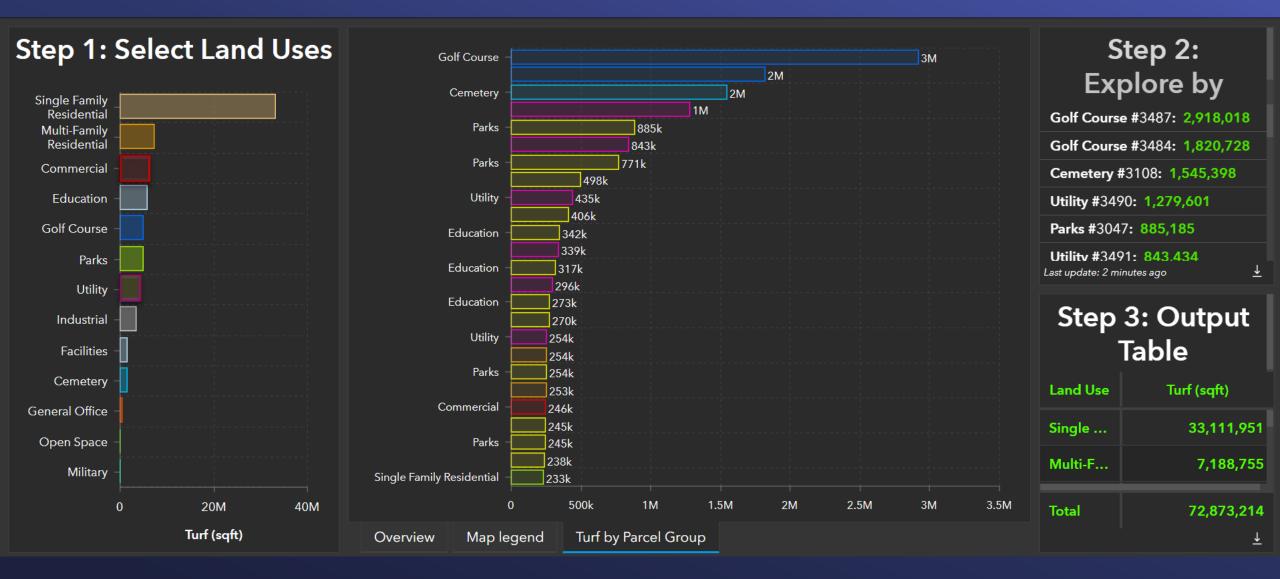
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#### Interactive Dashboard: Understanding the Prevalence of Non-Functional Turf

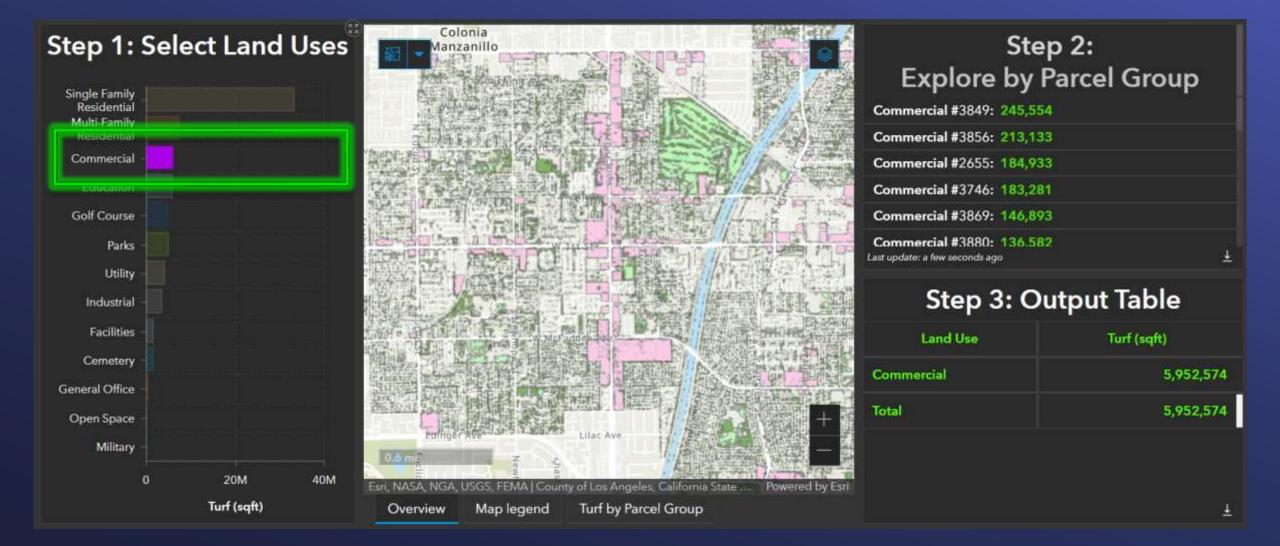
#### Interactive Turf Measurement Dashboard



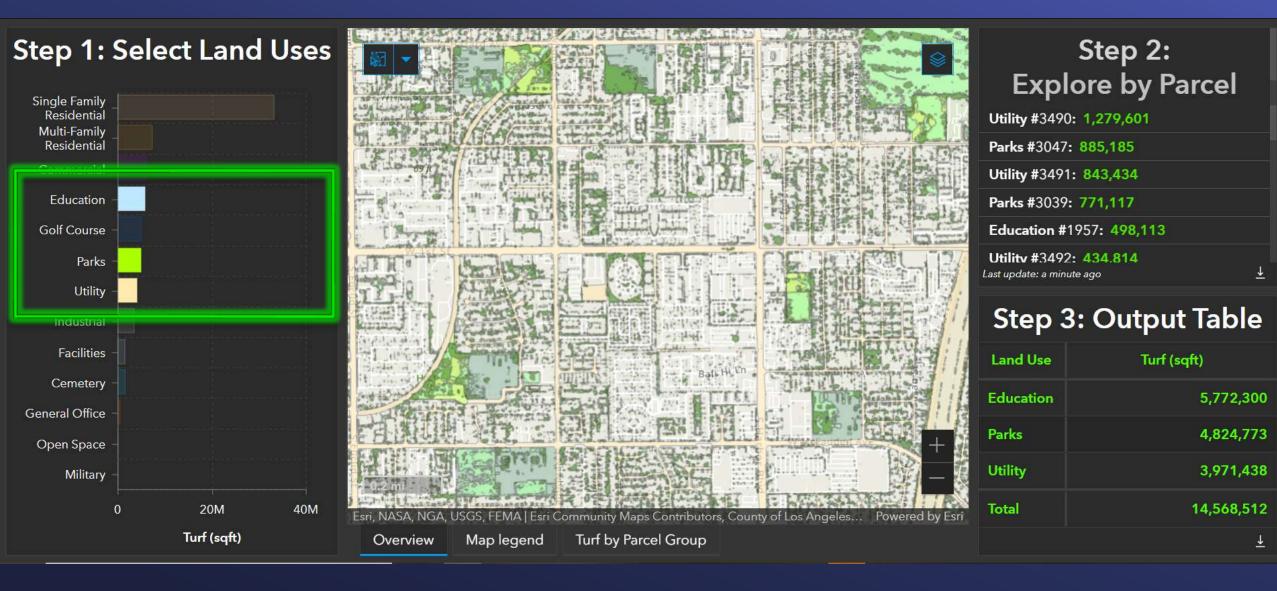
#### Turf Measurement Dashboard: Ranked by amount of turf per parcel



#### Isolate categories to understand the magnitude of the issue



#### Group categories and locate on map



### Next Steps

- Utilize recently awarded DWR grant to further increase commercial non-functional turf replacement program activity
- Continue to assist public agencies with non-functional turf replacement projects
- Expand turf measurement dashboard to entire service area
- Support development of city and county nonfunctional turf ordinances

