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Garden Refuse Ordinance Update



Background

- **1969: Section 6-4.03 – Placement of garden refuse**
 - Deposit garden refuse in center of street
- **1999: Section 6-3.11 – Cuttings**
 - Deposit garden refuse in refuse bins
- **2011: Section 4-8.130 – Public nuisances specified**
 - No reference to garden refuse disposal



Background

- “Garden refuse” = garden refuse, tree trimmings, shrub trimmings, hedge cuttings, leaves, grass clippings, and similar materials
- Current Municipal Code sections are conflicting, unenforceable, and potentially damage public right-of-way



Analysis

- Storm-drain System
 - Travels into gutters and enters storm drains
 - Requires drainage inlet and storm-drain pipe cleaning and repair
- Street Maintenance
 - Creates traffic hazards
 - Impedes street sweeper
 - Makes streets unsightly and unkempt
- Code Enforcement
 - Customer complaints about dirty streets, bicycle paths, and sidewalks
 - No enforcement measures available



Fiscal Impact

- None at this time.
- Ongoing Code Enforcement staffing
- Possible fines per Municipal Code

Alternatives

- Do not recommend one or all sections
- Direct staff to modify the proposed ordinance



Recommendation

Introduce an ordinance amending the Yuba City Municipal Code to allow for placement of garden refuse and defining violation as a nuisance, and waive the first reading.