



DATE: May 13, 2019

TO: Council Sustainability Committee

FROM: Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Review of the Green Infrastructure Plan

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee reviews and comments on this report and provides direction to staff regarding the completion of the Green Infrastructure Plan.

SUMMARY

Provision C.3.j. of the Municipal Regional Permit (MRP) mandates that the City develop and implement a Green Infrastructure Plan (G.I. Plan). Compliance with the mandate requires the inclusion of a low impact development drainage design into storm drain infrastructure on public and private lands, including streets, roads, storm drains, parking lots, building roofs, and other storm drain infrastructure elements. This report provides a summary of the mandate to develop the G.I. Plan and the progress staff has completed to date.

BACKGROUND

To reduce pollution that reaches the Bay from development and redevelopment activities, cities are required to slow, spread, and treat surface runoff as well as minimize land disturbance and impervious surfaces. This requirement has primarily been achieved through low impact development (LID) techniques, which the City has implemented since 2002. The goal of LID is to reduce runoff and mimic the site's predevelopment hydrology by minimizing disturbed areas and impervious cover and then infiltrating, storing, and biotreating stormwater runoff close to its source. LID employs principles such as preserving and recreating natural landscape features and minimizing imperviousness to create functional and appealing site drainage that treats stormwater as a resource, rather than a waste product.

In addition to new development and redevelopment requirements, Provision C.3.j of the MRP mandates that municipalities include LID or Green Infrastructure (G.I.) in all projects. The goal is to shift impervious surfaces and storm drain infrastructure from gray (or traditional storm drain infrastructure where runoff flows directly into the storm drain and then the receiving water) to green (or a more-resilient, sustainable system that slows runoff by dispersing it to vegetated areas, harvests and uses runoff, promotes infiltration and evapotranspiration, and uses bioretention and other green infrastructure practices to clean stormwater runoff). Examples of G.I include rain barrels and cisterns, green roofs, permeable

pavement, and biotreatment through rain gardens, bioretention units, bioswales, and planter/tree boxes.

EXAMPLE OF BIORETENTION



EXAMPLE OF BIOSWALE AND PERVIOUS PAVEMENT



On May 2, 2017¹, upon a recommendation from the Council Sustainability Committee, Council approved a G.I. Framework document that describes the tasks and timeframes for development of the City's G.I. Plan. Within this framework the City committed to meet the mandated deadline and complete the G.I. Plan prior to submittal of the City's annual stormwater report, which must be filed by September 30, 2019.

DISCUSSION

To comply with the Green Infrastructure requirements in Provision C.3.j. of the MRP, the City needs to develop and implement a G.I. Plan. The G.I. Plan serves as a guide and reporting tool to ensure G.I. implementation and to document pollution reduction of pollutants of concern, namely PCBs and mercury, as well as, the shift from gray to green stormwater infrastructure. The G.I. Plan must include long term goals to implement G.I. These goals include:

- A mechanism to prioritize and map areas for potential and planned projects, both public and private, over the following time schedules:
 - By 2020;
 - By 2030; and
 - By 2040;
- A target for the amount of impervious surface, from public and private projects, to be retrofitted over the time schedule;
- A process for tracking and mapping completed projects and making the information publicly available;
- Guidelines for design and construction projects that are concurrent with other project needs such as street improvements;
- Standard specifications for projects;
- A summary of the planning documents the City must update or modify to incorporate G.I. requirements, and
- An evaluation of prioritized project funding options.

In addition to the G.I. Plan, the City is required to adopt a legal mechanism to ensure implementation of the G.I. Plan, conduct outreach to professionals involved in infrastructure planning and design, train staff for implementation of the G.I. Plan, and educate elected officials of the G.I. requirements in the MRP.

Geosyntec, a stormwater consulting firm, has been retained to assist the City with drafting the G.I. Plan. The G.I. Plan will include a listing and prioritization of potential and planned projects, a summary of planning documents to be updated with G.I. requirements, and an evaluation of project funding options. Included for your review is Attachment II, a map of potential and planned projects, Attachment III, a list of projects with cost estimates and Attachment IV, a list of funding options. Staff seeks Committee comments and direction regarding the projects and funding options listed in the attachments. Staff recommends the

¹ <https://hayward.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3034173&GUID=7CE8F3EE-E594-4B32-BB6C-125F25904974&Options=&Search=>

list of projects as high potential sites for G.I. installation as well as exploring all funding options listed in the attachment. Staff is working on completing the remaining sections of the G.I. Plan and will have a final draft available for Council review and adoption in July 2019.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Compliance with the MRP mandate for G.I. implementation will increase costs for certain public and private development projects. Staff will provide sufficient advance outreach to notify contractors of this new program via the City's website, a handout in the Permit Center, and targeted outreach to the development community.

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost for Geosyntec's services is \$75,000 to complete the G.I. Plan and will be paid by the Stormwater Fund. Oversight of G.I. implementation will impact staff resources., therefore staff will monitor the time required to review project applications, plans and time in the field to oversee construction projects to assess whether the existing fees are sufficient to cover staff time.

The potential projects identified in Attachments II and III could be constructed over the next 20 to 25 years and are estimated to cost approximately \$19 million. Staff seeks Committee direction regarding the potential funding sources listed in Attachment IV and which sources should be further studied.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

This agenda item is a routine operational item and does not relate to one of Council's three Strategic Initiatives.

SUSTAINABILITY FEATURES

Preventing pollution from entering the storm drain system will benefit Haywards aquatic ecosystems and the health of the San Francisco Bay.

PUBLIC CONTACT

No public contact has been made regarding this agenda item. However, staff plans to conduct outreach to the development community and use regional efforts to outreach to the development community in the next six months and prior to the G.I. Plan's adoption by Council.

NEXT STEPS

After receiving comments from the Committee, staff will present the completed G.I. Plan to Council for adoption in July 2019 to comply with the MRP Provision C.3.j.

Prepared by: Elisa Wilfong, Water Pollution Control Administrator

Recommended by: Alex Ameri, Director of Public Works

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. McAdoo', written in a cursive style.

Kelly McAdoo, City Manager