In compliance with Provision C.3.i.i.(1) of Order R2-2015-0049
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ACRONYMS

ABAG  Association of Bay Area Governments
BASMAA  Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association
Caltrans  California Department of Transportation
cBMP  Centralized Best Management Practice
CIP  Capital Improvement Project
C3  Refers to Provision C3 in the MRP to address stormwater runoff pollutant discharges and increased flows from New Development and Redevelopment using source control, site design, and stormwater treatment measures.
DAC  Disadvantaged Community
dBMP  Decentralized Best Management Practice
FSSD  Fairfield Suisun Sewer District
GI  Green Infrastructure
GIS  Geographic Information System
GSI  Green Stormwater Infrastructure
IRWMP  Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
LID  Low Impact Development
MRP  Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit
MTC  Metropolitan Transportation Commission
NPDES  National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
PCBs  Polychlorinated Biphenyls
RAA  Reasonable Assurance Analysis
ROW  Right-of-Way
SFEI  San Francisco Estuary Institute
TMDL  Total Maximum Daily Load
URMP  Urban Runoff Management Program
VFWD  Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District
WLA  Waste Load Allocation
1 Executive Summary

The purpose of Suisun City’s Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) Plan is to describe how the City will gradually integrate GSI features into its urban landscape over several decades, with a particular focus on retrofit and redevelopment projects. The City, as with other municipalities and agencies in the Bay Area, is subject to the requirements of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board for the San Francisco Bay Region’s (RWQCB’s) Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit (MRP), which became effective on January 1, 2016. A section of the MRP requires Permittees to develop and implement long-term GSI Plans for the inclusion of GSI measures into storm drain infrastructure on public and private property and in the right-of-way, including streets, roads, parking lots, and alleys. The GSI Plan must demonstrate the City’s long-term commitment to GSI implementation to reduce pollutants of concern, in particular PCBs and mercury, discharged to local waterways (per MRP requirements). This document serves to meet the MRP requirement and outlines how the City aims to transform its traditional stormwater conveyance and drainage system over years to come.
2 Introduction and Overview

2.1 Regulatory Mandate

The City of Suisun City is one of 76 local government entities subject to the requirements of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board for the San Francisco Bay Region’s (RWQCB’s) Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit (MRP). The MRP was last reissued in November 2015. The MRP mandates implementation of a comprehensive program of stormwater control measures and actions designed to limit contributions of urban runoff pollutants to San Francisco Bay.

MRP Provision C.3.i.i. requires Suisun City to prepare a Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan, to be submitted with its Annual Report to the RWQCB due September 30, 2019.

“Green Infrastructure” (GI), also known as “Green Stormwater Infrastructure” (GSI), refers to the construction and retrofit of storm drainage to reduce runoff volumes, disperse runoff to vegetated areas, harvest and use runoff where feasible, promote infiltration and evapotranspiration, and use bioretention and other natural systems to detain and treat runoff before it reaches our creeks and Bay. Green Stormwater Infrastructure facilities include, but are not limited to, bioretention facilities or “rain gardens”, pervious pavement, infiltration features, and rainwater harvesting systems. Green stormwater infrastructure can be incorporated into construction on new and previously developed parcels, as well as new and rebuilt streets, roads, and other infrastructure within the public right-of-way.

Water quality in San Francisco Bay is impaired by mercury and by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Sources of these pollutants include urban stormwater. By reducing and treating stormwater

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2 Although the MRP uses the term green infrastructure (GI), the Solano Permittees prefer to use the term green stormwater infrastructure (GSI). Henceforward, the term GSI will be used.
flows, green stormwater infrastructure reduces the quantity of these pollutants entering the Bay and will hasten the Bay's recovery.

Provisions C.11 and C.12 in the MRP require Solano County Permittees (City of Vallejo, City of Fairfield and City of Suisun City) to reduce estimated PCBs loading by 8 grams/year and estimated mercury loading by 2 grams/year using green stormwater infrastructure by June 30, 2020. Regionally, Permittees must also project the load reductions achieved via green stormwater infrastructure by 2020, 2030, and 2040, showing that collectively, reductions will amount to 3 kg/year PCBs and 10 kg/year mercury by 2040. Of these regional 2040 reduction targets, the Solano Permittees are responsible for reductions of approximately 110 grams/year PCBs and 47 grams/year mercury.³

2.1.1 Further Background on Mercury and PCBs in San Francisco Bay

The MRP pollutant-load reduction requirements are driven by Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements adopted by the RWQCB for mercury (Resolution No. R2-2004-0082 and R2-2005-0060) and PCBs (Resolution No. R2-2008-0012). Each TMDL allocates allowable annual loads to San Francisco Bay from identified sources, including from urban stormwater.

The mercury TMDL addresses two water quality objectives. The first, established to protect people who consume Bay fish, applies to fish large enough to be consumed by humans. The objective is 0.2 milligrams (mg) of mercury per kilogram (kg) of fish tissue⁴. The second objective, established to protect aquatic organisms and wildlife, applies to small fish⁵ commonly consumed by the California least tern, an endangered species. This objective is 0.03 mg mercury per kg fish⁶. To achieve the human health and wildlife fish tissue and bird egg monitoring targets and to attain water quality standards, the Bay-wide suspended sediment mercury concentration target is 0.2 mg mercury per kg dry sediment⁷.

The PCBs TMDL was developed based on a fish tissue target of 10 nanograms (ng) of PCBs per gram (g) of fish tissue.⁸ A food web model was developed by San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) to identify the sediment target concentration that would yield the fish tissue target; this sediment

³ Permittees shall “quantitatively demonstrate that PCBs load reductions of at least 3 kg/yr will be realized by 2040 through implementation of green infrastructure projects” (C.12.c.ii.2.d) Percent of Solano Permittee load reduction is 20.8% PCBs and 16.1% mercury from BASMAA RAA Guidance Document (6/30/17).
⁴ The average wet weight concentration measured in the muscle tissue of fish large enough to be consumed by humans.
⁵ 3-5 centimeters in length
⁶ average wet weight concentration
⁷ A roughly 50% decrease in sediment, fish tissue, and bird egg mercury concentrations is necessary for the Bay to meet water quality standards. Reductions in sediment mercury concentrations are assumed to result in a proportional reduction in the total amount of mercury in the system, which will result in the achievement of target fish tissue and bird egg concentrations.
⁸ This target is based on a cancer risk of one case per an exposed population of 100,000 for the 95th percentile San Francisco Bay Area sport and subsistence fisher consumer (32 g fish per day).
target was found to be 1 microgram (µg) of PCBs per kg of sediment. Twenty percent of the estimated allowable PCB external load was allocated to urban stormwater runoff. The Bay Area-wide allocation for PCBs for urban stormwater is 2 kg/yr by 2030.\textsuperscript{9}

2.2 Objectives and Vision

This Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan (Plan) will guide a shift from conventional “collect and convey” storm drain infrastructure to more resilient, sustainable stormwater management systems that reduce runoff volumes, disperse runoff to vegetated areas, harvest and use runoff where feasible, promote infiltration and evapotranspiration, and use natural processes to detain and treat runoff. GSI are tools to achieve Low Impact Development (LID) strategy that maintains or restores the natural ecological and hydrologic functions of a community and/or site to protect and improve water quality, manage stormwater runoff, achieve natural resource protection objectives and fulfill environmental regulatory requirements.

As required by Provisions C.3.a. through C.3.i. in the MRP, these “Low Impact Development” practices are currently implemented on land development projects in the City of Suisun City. Specific methods and design criteria are spelled out in the City’s Stormwater C.3 Guidance, which the City has referenced in municipal code Chapter 10 of Title 13 (Stormwater Management and Discharge Control).

This Plan details how similar methods will be incorporated to retrofit existing storm drainage infrastructure using green stormwater infrastructure facilities constructed on public and private

\textsuperscript{9} This value was developed based on applying the required sediment concentration (1 µg/kg) to the estimated annual sediment load discharged from local tributaries.
parcels and within the public right-of-way, with a particular focus on retrofit and redevelopment project opportunities.

3 City of Suisun City Description and Background

3.1 Suisun City Planning Context

3.1.1 Municipal geography

The City of Suisun City is located in the northern Bay Area just south of the City of Fairfield. The Suisun Marsh and additional waterways lie along the southern extent of the city. The area surrounding the city includes hills and mountains. Suisun City has a downtown historic waterfront area that is its distinguishing characteristic.

3.1.2 Demographics

At the time of the 2010 census, the population of Suisun City was estimated to be 28,111 people\textsuperscript{10}. The population of Suisun City grew 10.9\% from 2000 to 2010. The median age of Suisun City is 32.8, which is lower than both Solano County and the Bay Area. The young age of the population may be due to the large number of families living in Suisun City (82\% of households). Suisun City has an ethnic composition of 31\% Caucasian, 20\% African American, 25\% Hispanic, 17\% Asian American, and 7\% Other. Suisun City has lower education levels than Solano County and the Bay Area, with 44\% of residents over age 25 with a high school diploma (based on 2008 data). The median household income in Suisun City is $82,000 (2010), which is lower than the median for Solano County but higher than for the Bay Area. In 2010 the unemployment rate in Suisun City was 12.6\%.

3.1.3 Economic and Social Trends

The local Suisun City economy is composed mainly of health, education, and recreation service jobs. The local Suisun City economy is very similar to Solano County as a whole, despite Suisun City not having a large number of local jobs (total jobs in 2010 was 4,190). The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) projected a 12.3\% increase in the Suisun City local jobs from 2015-2020. Suisun City has had a low per-capita taxable retail sales historically: $2,875 per capita in 2005 compared to $9,892 for Solano County.

3.1.4 Development and Redevelopment Trends

Most work by the Suisun City Redevelopment Agency is focused on the Waterfront District including development of mixed-use housing, office space, restaurants, and services. Suisun City also has

\textsuperscript{10} United States Census Bureau, Quick Facts, Suisun City, California
various housing programs including rehabilitation of foreclosed houses and programs to support first time homebuyers.

### 3.2 Watersheds and Storm Drainage Infrastructure

Subwatersheds within the Solano Permittee jurisdiction are shown in Figure 1-1.

![Figure 3-1. Solano Permittee subwatershed boundaries](image-url)

**3.2.1 Watersheds and Watershed Characteristics and Challenges**

The City of Suisun is a four-square mile city sitting south of Fairfield and north above the Suisun Marsh. The Suisun Marsh is the largest estuarine tidal marsh on the West Coast.

**3.2.2 Major Drainages and Major Drainage Characteristics and Challenges**

There are two main drainage systems flowing through Suisun City, McCoy Creek and Laurel Creek, which outflows to Suisun Slough.
3.2.3 Storm System

The City of Suisun owns four stormwater pump stations which are operated and maintained by the FSSD.

3.2.4 Storm Challenges (Pertinent to GSI)

With low elevations and tidal influence, adequate separation from groundwater for Green Stormwater Infrastructure is difficult. Many of the low-lying areas in Suisun city are subject to tidal influence. Biofiltration with liners and underdrains will likely be a preferred method for GSI.

3.2.5 Flood Zones

Due to Suisun City’s proximity to the Suisun Marsh, its land and flood control facilities including creeks are subject to tides as well as drainage and flooding pulses from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valleys. Most of the land in Suisun City that is south of Highway 12 lies within the 100-year floodplain.

3.2.6 Flood Control Facilities

Over the years, Suisun has developed a rigorous network of levees to manage tidal influence and provide flood protection. Starting in the 1970s, the Fairfield Streams Project modified existing stream channels into a trapezoidal shape to increase capacity, installed diversion and drop structures, and modified two existing detention basins to reduce the occurrence and risk of flooding.

3.2.7 Recent and Planned Drainage Improvements

Drainage improvements include annual vegetation management for flood control, active education and outreach programs that include creek cleanups; identification, monitoring, and cleaning up of areas with high trash loads.

3.2.8 Funding for Maintenance and for Capital Improvements

On March 1, 1988 the FSSD entered into a "Drainage Maintenance Agreement" with Fairfield and Suisun City. This agreement provided a mechanism for partial funding of the maintenance of the "Fairfield Streams" federal flood control project which serves both cities. The FSSD created a storm drainage maintenance enterprise fund and established fees for users of the system which are collected on the county tax roll each year. Revenues are shared by the cities and the District for flood control activities. Currently, the FSSD assists the cities by overseeing the Urban Runoff Management Program and operating and maintaining city-owned stormwater pumping stations.
Also, Solano County Water Agency administers an ongoing Flood Control Small Grant Program for small projects such as creek vegetation and debris removal, water and sediment retention, and erosion control projects\textsuperscript{11}.

4 Green Stormwater Infrastructure Targets

Provisions C.11 and C.12 in the MRP require Solano County Permittees (City of Vallejo, City of Fairfield and City of Suisun City) to reduce estimated PCBs loading by 8 grams/year and estimated mercury loading by 2 grams/year using green stormwater infrastructure by June 30, 2020. Regionally, Permittees must also project the load reductions achieved via green stormwater infrastructure by 2020, 2030, and 2040, showing that collectively, reductions will amount to 3 kg/year PCBs and 10 kg/year mercury by 2040. Of these regional 2040 reduction targets, the Solano Permittees are responsible for reductions of approximately 110 grams/year PCBs and 47 grams/year mercury.12

The Bay Area RAA Guidance identifies three categories of green stormwater infrastructure load reductions:

• Load reductions due to land use changes associated with redevelopment (for example, the conversion of old industrial lands to new residential, recreational (baseball and soccer fields are not uncommon) or commercial areas).

• Load reductions attributable to the implementation of Low Impact Development (LID) features and LID treatment controls, and non-LID treatment controls, on land development projects as required by Provision C.3 in the MRP and its predecessor permits.

• Load reductions attributable to the retrofit of existing streets and developed sites with LID features and treatment controls, and non-LID treatment controls.13

This planning process developed and assessed projections for the square footage of impervious surface to be treated with green stormwater infrastructure from future redevelopment or new development within the City of Suisun City jurisdiction by 2020, 2030, and 2040 (summarized in Section 4.1). It also incorporates targets for the square footage of impervious surface to be retrofitted and treated with green stormwater infrastructure through potential public and private projects within the City of Suisun City’s jurisdiction by 2020, 2030, and 2040 (summarized in Section 4.2). These targets are associated with the pollutant load reduction estimates in Section 4.3.

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12 2020 Reduction targets are fixed values specified in the MRP, 2040 Reduction targets have been rescaled based on new calculated baseline values per RAA Guidance Section 3.5 as a proportion of total estimated reductions (20.8% for PCBs, 16.1% for mercury)

13 BASMAA, June 30, 2017, Bay Area RAA Guidance Document
4.1 Redevelopment and Land Use Conversion

Provision C.3.j.i.(2)(c)

To forecast future development and redevelopment, the City of Suisun City used known information about planned projects and the outputs of UrbanSim. Land use changes were identified from City general plans, specific redevelopment area planning documents, examination of current and historical aerial imagery, and interpreted outputs from the UrbanSim urban planning model. With the exception of the UrbanSim outputs, land use change data were not available in GIS formats and were to be translated from PDF documents and manually digitized in GIS.

UrbanSim is a model developed by the Urban Analytics Lab at the University of California under contract to the Bay Area Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). UrbanSim was developed to support the need for analyzing the potential effects of land use policies and infrastructure investments on the development and character of cities and regions. The Bay Area’s application of UrbanSim was developed specifically to support the development of Plan Bay Area, the Bay Area’s Sustainable Communities planning effort.

MTC forecasts growth in households and jobs and uses the UrbanSim model to identify development and redevelopment sites to satisfy future demand. Model inputs include parcel-specific zoning and real estate data; model outputs show increases in households or jobs attributable to specific parcels. The methods and results of the Bay Area UrbanSim model have been approved by both MTC and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Committees for use in transportation projections and the regional Plan Bay Area development process.

The Solano Permittees used outputs from the Bay Area UrbanSim model to map parcels predicted to undergo development or redevelopment in each of the three Cities at each time increment specified in the MRP (2020, 2030, and 2040). The resulting maps were reviewed by local staff for consistency with the City of Suisun City’s local knowledge and local planning and economic development initiatives. The general workflow to extract new development and redevelopment parcels mirrored that employed by the Contra Costa County Clean Water Program RAA analysis:

1. Intersect the parcel dataset with Solano County MS4 areas
2. Export UrbanSim model runs for the years 2010 through 2040 that includes fields that quantify total job spaces, total residential units, and year built.
3. Use an if-then statement to flag parcel differences for these metrics between 2010 and 2040 and query the year built output to determine which parcels are estimated to change during each scenario timeframe (2010-2020, 2020-2030, 2030-2040)
It is assumed that new development and redevelopment of multifamily residential and commercial/industrial parcels will incorporate green stormwater infrastructure in accordance with MRP Provisions C.3.b., C.3.c., and C.3.d. Because of high land values, it is expected that more than 50% of existing impervious area in developed parcels will be replaced if a parcel is redeveloped, subjecting the parcel to Provision C.3 requirements (that is, will be retrofit with Green Stormwater Infrastructure), consistent with the “50% rule” requirements of MRP Provision C.3.b.

Existing impervious surface for each affected parcel was estimated using the 2011 National Land Cover Database. Estimates were spot-checked and revised based on local knowledge and available satellite imagery.

Figure 4-1 depicts the locations for future land use conversions in 2020, 2030, and 2040 for City of Suisun City. Based on these assumptions and the revised maps, the amounts of existing impervious surface forecast to be retrofit with green stormwater infrastructure via redevelopment and new development projects are as shown in Table 4-1.
Figure 4-1. Predicted Redevelopment and Land Use Conversion in Fairfield and Suisun City
Table 4-1. Impervious area treated forecasts for GSI on parcels planned for New Development or Redevelopment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>GSI on New Dev/Re-dev Parcel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2040</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Acreages are incremental, not cumulative
4.2 Specific Green Stormwater Infrastructure Projects

Provision C.3.j.i.(2)(c)

Impervious surfaces that have been or will be retrofit via specific green stormwater infrastructure projects are classified into three project types:

Parcel LID – A combination of structural and non-structural controls that result in runoff and pollutant load reductions. Examples include routing of water to pervious areas on site, downspout disconnection, and/or rainwater harvesting. Specific BMP locations and sizing are not identified.

Decentralized BMPs (dBMP) - Decentralized BMPs drain small areas and infiltrate runoff or attenuate pollutants near their source. Examples are bioretention, infiltration features, or permeable pavement.

Centralized BMPs (cBMPs) - Centralized BMPs drain larger areas such as a neighborhood subdivisions or an entire urban catchment. They route stormwater from its source to a structural treatment feature. Examples are dry basins, infiltration basins, wet basins, or treatment vaults.

Figure 4-2 identifies the locations of existing green stormwater infrastructure projects and those proposed for 2020, 2030, and 2040. The associated estimate of impervious area treated for each green stormwater infrastructure project type is summarized in Table 4-2.
Figure 4-2. Existing green stormwater infrastructure projects and green stormwater infrastructure projects proposed for 2020, 2030, and 2040
Table 4-2. Impervious area treated forecasts for specific GSI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Parcel LID</th>
<th>dBMP</th>
<th>cBMP</th>
<th>Total from Green Stormwater Infrastructure(^\d)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2040</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Sum of Parcel LID, dBMP, and cBMPs

NOTE: Acreages are incremental, not cumulative.
4.3 Projected Load Reductions

As part of the RAA process, the estimates of land use conversion and redevelopment (described in Section 2.1) and the general and specific locations of green stormwater infrastructure projects (summarized in Section 2.2) have been incorporated into a water-quality model to predict mercury and PCB load reductions for 2020, 2030, and 2040.

Details of methods, inputs, and model outputs are included in a separate RAA Modeling Report and draft results are summarized for all the Solano Permittees in Table 4-3 for PCBs and Table 4-4 for Mercury. By 2040, the largest proportional reduction of PCBs and Mercury from green stormwater infrastructure is from land use changes. Conversion from land uses with characteristically high pollutant concentrations to those with much lower concentrations dramatically reduce the PCB and Mercury loading, as depicted in Figure 4-5. While land use conversion driven by redevelopment and new development typically happens at the same time as GSI implementation, and are both included in GSI waste load allocations, they are shown separately in Table 4-3 and Figure 4-5 for clarity on factors driving the reductions.
Table 4-3. Estimated Cumulative PCB Reductions from Green Stormwater Infrastructure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Land Use Changes</th>
<th>GSI on New Dev/Redev Parcel</th>
<th>Sum of Parcel LID, dBMP, and cBMPs</th>
<th>Total Reduction from GSI1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2040</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vallejo

Cumulative PCBs Reductions (g)

Fairfield

Cumulative PCBs Reductions (g)

Suisun City

Cumulative PCBs Reductions (g)

Solano Permittees

Cumulative PCBs Reductions (g) by 2040

1. Consistent with BASMAA RAA Guidance accounting for load reductions from land use changes associated with redevelopment

Table 4-4. Estimated Cumulative Mercury Reductions from Green Stormwater Infrastructure
### Vallejo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Land Use Changes</th>
<th>GSI on New Dev/Redev Parcel</th>
<th>Sum of Parcel LID, dBMP, and cBMPs</th>
<th>Total Reduction from GSI¹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2040</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fairfield

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Land Use Changes</th>
<th>GSI on New Dev/Redev Parcel</th>
<th>Sum of Parcel LID, dBMP, and cBMPs</th>
<th>Total Reduction from GSI¹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2040</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Suisun City

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Land Use Changes</th>
<th>GSI on New Dev/Redev Parcel</th>
<th>Sum of Parcel LID, dBMP, and cBMPs</th>
<th>Total Reduction from GSI¹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2040</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Solano Permittees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Land Use Changes</th>
<th>GSI on New Dev/Redev Parcel</th>
<th>Sum of Parcel LID, dBMP, and cBMPs</th>
<th>Total Reduction from GSI¹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2040</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Consistent with BASMAA RAA Guidance accounting for load reductions from land use changes associated with redevelopment.
Figure 4-3. Solano Permittees proportional contribution by 2040 of land use changes, New Development/Redevelopment parcels, and combined Parcel LID, dBMPs, and cBMPs to overall reductions from Green Stormwater Infrastructure.

The combined mercury and PCB reductions achieved via the identified and modeled green stormwater infrastructure categories are predicted to meet both the 2020 and 2040 GSI reduction targets. Table 4-5 summarizes the load reductions from green stormwater infrastructure compared to the targets of 8 grams/year PCBs and 2 grams/year mercury by June 30, 2020 and the Solano Permittees 2040 targets of approximately 110 grams/year PCBs and 47 grams/year mercury.\textsuperscript{14} The reason that the estimated load reductions exceed targets to such a degree is the inclusion of large areas of redevelopment-driven land use change in the GSI reduction calculations, primarily on Mare Island and the Vallejo Waterfront (see Figure 4-2).

\textsuperscript{14} Percent of Solano Permittee load reduction is 20.8\% PCBs and 16.1\% mercury from BASMAA RAA Guidance Document (6/30/17).
Table 4-5. Predicted compliance with 2020 and 2040 PCB and Mercury pollutant load reduction targets for Green Stormwater Infrastructure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PCBs</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Loading (g)</td>
<td>GSI Reduction (g)</td>
<td>GSI Reduction Target (g)</td>
<td>Projected GSI % Attainment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>630</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>286</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2040</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mercury</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Loading (g)</td>
<td>GSI Reduction (g)</td>
<td>GSI Reduction Target (g)</td>
<td>Projected GSI % Attainment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>1441</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1276</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2028</td>
<td>1238</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2040</td>
<td>1152</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2020 Reduction targets are fixed values specified in the MRP, 2040 Reduction targets have been rescaled based on new calculated baseline values per RAA Guidance Section 3.5 as a proportion of total estimated reductions (20.8% for PCBs, 16.1% for mercury)
5 Project Identification, Prioritization, and Mapping

Provision C.3.j.i.(2)

As described in Section 4.3, the combined existing and proposed GSI projects within the Solano Permittees’ jurisdiction are predicted to fully achieve the PCB and Mercury GSI reduction targets. This section describes the process the Permittees can use to identify and prioritize GSI opportunities considering factors such as project feasibility and environmental benefits.

5.1 Tool for Project Identification and Prioritization

A GIS based Desktop Evaluation identified priority parcels and roadways for site assessment and evaluation of potential green stormwater infrastructure opportunities. Prioritization factors incorporated into the evaluation included land use (specific to high probability for PCB and mercury loading), soil, slope, future development or redevelopment plans, parcel size and/or land ownership. The proximity to existing storm drain infrastructure is another important consideration because it indicates a projects’ feasibility to connect overflow or underdrains from a GSI feature to the existing storm drain. The cost and complication of a GSI project increases the further away a parcel or roadway is from existing storm drain infrastructure.

Points were assigned to each of the selected factors and a single parcel and roadway based prioritization shapefile created based on a union of the overlapping factors. The total points were tallied to indicate a relatively high, medium, or low opportunity for GSI implementation.

The spatial prioritization analysis provides a way to combine implementation feasibility, benefit magnitude, and other logistical factors. A geodatabase was constructed to house all of the GIS data and an automated spreadsheet was created for easy adjustments of metrics and weightings. Outputs from the spatial prioritization analysis serves two purposes: 1) provide some practical and immediately actionable alternatives for GSI implementation and 2) identification of additional means to meet GSI and WLA reduction target requirements. Figure 5-1 identifies the areas in darkest green with the highest potential for PCB and Mercury reduction using green stormwater infrastructure.
Figure 5-1. High priority parcels and road segments for GSI redevelopment

Green parcels and road segments indicate areas in the top 20% of the priority scores. Most of the parcels or road segments identified in Figure 5-1 are either Old Industrial, Old Transportation or Old Commercial land uses, which corresponds with the highest PCB concentration land uses. These green areas indicate the greatest potential for additional GSI implementation to achieve additional pollutant load reductions.

Given that current GSI reductions exceed the GSI reduction requirements, Solano Permittees may also consider identifying synergistic opportunities within areas that have already been slated for redevelopment in the near future.

Selected opportunity sites identified through this Desktop Evaluation will be followed by a field-based site feasibility assessment by GSI design staff to inform siting and conceptual level designs. For example, limits of sea level rise inundation along with potential conflicts with existing utilities will be considered when identifying, evaluating, and prioritizing sites for potential application of green stormwater infrastructure.
5.2 Tool for Project Ranking and Prioritization

In addition to the spatial prioritization tool for project identification, a Project Multi-Benefits Assessment is another tool the Permittees can use to compare and rank individual projects based on their relative benefits. For example, each project will be compared based on its benefit to water supply, flood reduction, water quality, the environment, and the community. Each of these criteria can be weighted based on system understanding along with input from stakeholders. The final ranked projects will be integrated into other planning documents such as Storm Drain Master Plans, the Capital Improvement Project planning process, Complete Streets and other transportation planning processes.

Table 5-2 lists example project multi-benefits, metrics to evaluate each benefit, and criteria weights. Each multi-benefit has a possible score of 10 points which are weighted based on stakeholder input, referred to as the criteria weight.
Table 5-1. Example multi-benefits and metrics to prioritize individual stormwater projects relative to each other using a Project Multi-Benefits Assessment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Metric points</th>
<th>Criteria Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water Supply</td>
<td>Water supply reliability</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water conservation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conjunctive use</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Quality</td>
<td>Support of TMDL compliance</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Increased runoff infiltration/treatment</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NPS pollution control</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reestablish natural drainage patterns</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood Control</td>
<td>Decreased flooding risk</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced sanitary sewer overflows</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td>Environmental habitat protection/improvement, via</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>i. Wetland enhancement/creation</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ii. Riparian enhancement and/or</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>iii. Instream flow improvement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reduced energy use, greenhouse gas emissions or provide carbon sink</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reestablish natural hydrograph</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Increased urban green space</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Improve water temperatures</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Employment opportunities</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community involvement</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public education</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enhance/create recreational opportunities and public use areas</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAC</td>
<td>Direct benefit to a disadvantaged community (DAC)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Project capital cost</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Development</td>
<td>Use of metrics driven approach</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provides regional benefits</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Readiness</td>
<td>Ready to implement</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cost well defined</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Land owned by public agency</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Environmental permitting complete</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Funds available for 50% match</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resiliency</td>
<td>Increases Climate Resiliency</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6 Early Implementation Projects

Provision C.3.j.i.(2)(j)

Existing and early implementation projects include both private development projects regulated under Provision C.3 of the MRP and several City of Suisun City projects where GSI has either been implemented or scheduled for construction in the near term.

6.1 Review of Capital Improvement Projects

MRP Provision C.3.j.ii. requires that the City of Suisun City prepare and maintain a list of public and private green stormwater infrastructure projects planned for implementation during the 2015-2020 permit term, and public projects that have potential for green stormwater infrastructure measures. The City of Suisun City submitted an initial list with the FY 15-16 Annual Report to the RWQCB and updated the list in the FY 16-17 and FY 17-18 Annual Reports.

The creation and maintenance of this list is supported by guidance developed by BASMAA: “Guidance for Identifying Green Infrastructure Potential in Municipal Capital Improvement Projects” (May 6, 2016). The BASMAAA Guidance is attached to this document as Appendix A.

6.2 Workplan for Completion

Public and private priority projects with green stormwater infrastructure potential identified for future implementation in 2020, 2030, and 2040 are listed in Table 6-1, along with their pollutant removal potential, status, and planning level capital and maintenance costs. Table 6-2 summarizes the planning level project information used to inform the estimates in Table 6-1.
Table 6-1. Public and private projects with green stormwater infrastructure potential identified for future implementation in 2020, 2030, and 2040, along with their pollutant removal potential, status, and planning level capital and maintenance costs. For future scenarios, estimated PCB and mercury reductions are after land use changes have already been applied in the model, so that these reductions only reflect a small portion of the total redevelopment reductions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BMP ID</th>
<th>RAA Model Scenario Year</th>
<th>Impervious Area Treated (ac)</th>
<th>Estimated PCB Reduction (g)</th>
<th>Estimated Hg Reduction (g)</th>
<th>Cost Estimate (2018, $USD)</th>
<th>Design and Permitting Fees</th>
<th>Construction Cost</th>
<th>Project Admin Costs</th>
<th>Annual Operation &amp; Maintenance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Railroad Avenue Extension</td>
<td>2030</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>0.0003</td>
<td>0.0726</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
<td>$23,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6-2. Planning level project information used to inform cost estimation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BMP ID</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
<th>CIP Number (if applicable)</th>
<th>Year to be Completed</th>
<th>Status (Planning or Implementation)</th>
<th>GSI Category</th>
<th>Drainage Area (ac)</th>
<th>Assumed Impervious %</th>
<th>Soils</th>
<th>Drainage (in/hr)</th>
<th>Slope</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Railroad Avenue Extension</td>
<td>38.24420</td>
<td>-122.03304</td>
<td>115-9963</td>
<td>2030</td>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>dBMP</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Project construction costs were estimated using the EPA National Stormwater Calculator\textsuperscript{15}. The calculator utilizes cost curve regression equations developed for green stormwater infrastructure projects types including, impervious area disconnection, rainwater harvesting, rain gardens, green roofs, street planters, infiltration basins, and permeable pavements. Project costs vary depending upon project type, complexity (simple, typical, and complex) and drainage area for the project. The cost curves are useful because they simplify the complexities of cost estimation into easily interpreted curves based on project specific information.

The cost curve complexity depends upon site criteria such as if the project is new development or redevelopment, includes pretreatment, is suitability for GSI implementation, the site topography, and soil type (hydrologic soil group). The output cost from the cost curves is adjusted based on the location of the project.\textsuperscript{16}

The following assumptions were applied to all projects for cost estimation purposes:

- Redevelopment project types with poor site suitability;
- The 85\textsuperscript{th} percentile rainfall event was used for design storm sizing (0.67 inches for Vallejo, 0.73 inches for Fairfield, 0.71 inches for Suisun)\textsuperscript{17};
- A median climate change scenario;
- cBMP projects were assumed to be infiltration basins and dBMP and parcel projects were assumed to be street planters;
- Design and permitting fees represent 12\% of the estimated construction costs;
- Project administration represents City staff effort and represents 16\% of the combined design and construction costs; and
- Annual operation and maintenance costs are based on 1\% of the combined design and construction costs.

\textsuperscript{15} The calculator follows the procedures from “Low Impact Development Stormwater Control Cost Estimation Analysis” (RTI International and Geosyntec Consultants, 2015).

\textsuperscript{16} The Regional Cost Adjustment Factor is determined from the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index and Producer Price Index for nationwide regions. The adjustment factor is computed for the three nearest regions to the project, with a value of 1.0 used when the three nearest regions are greater than 100 miles from the project. The San Francisco Bay area has a multiplier of 1.33.

\textsuperscript{17} Estimated based upon the PRISM rainfall, 4km raster dataset
7 Tracking and Mapping Public and Private Projects Over Time

Provision C.3.j.iv.

7.1 Tools and Process

As the Solano Permittees proceed to implement GSI control measures, projects will be tracked in a manner that allows ongoing assessment of stormwater mitigation multi-benefits and spatially explicit quantification of runoff and pollutant load reductions.

Ongoing project effectiveness and BMP maintenance tracking will be accomplished with a stormwater infrastructure geodatabase and the regional watershed spreadsheet model, similar to the tools implemented in the 2NFORM Platform currently used by Solano Permittees. The project tracking system will include field data capture via datasheets or mobile apps, inspection protocols for decentralized and centralized structural BMPs, and a protocol to field verify non-structural BMPs. Overall effectiveness tracking for projects will be based on the estimates of cumulative annual runoff and pollutant load reductions calculated for implemented projects and comparison with the target GSI load reduction targets.

7.1.1 GIS Tracking tool

GSI implementation data will be stored in a geodatabase linked to hydrographic data that describe the urban drainage system that includes urban catchment delineations, stormwater infrastructure, catchment outfalls, and connectivity to receiving waters. This will facilitate quantification of stormwater pollutant load reduction that may require a routing component and/or integration with source controls for tracking progress towards pollutant waste load allocations. The geodatabase will also include data layers required for estimating runoff and pollutant loading to BMPs, such as impervious surface coverage, rainfall, soil types, land use, and slope. GSI project implementation data will include a hierarchy of implementation types that includes non-structural parcel LID, decentralized BMPs, and centralized BMPs. When available, individual BMP data will be stored within the geodatabase and linked to both the GSI project level data and the catchment spatial data.

7.1.2 Pollutant load reductions tracking

The primary unit of analysis will be the urban catchments (100 acres) that have already been delineated for each of the Solano permittees. Reductions will be sequenced to avoid double counting within each catchment, with reductions occurring first on parcels and road segments and next at any regional treatment facility within the same drainage. The outputs will allow mapping of the spatial patterns of reductions annually and summing of PCB and Mercury reductions for each MS4. Reductions will be calculated according to individual BMP specifications, C3 BMP runoff capacity requirements, pollutant removal efficiency of different BMP types, and estimated loading.
to each BMP based on their drainage areas. Calculations will be carried out within a GIS or using spreadsheets that maintain linkage to a desktop GIS via association of individual BMPs to GSI projects, parcels, and catchments. This data structure has already been created as part of this GSI Workplan will continue to evolve according to Solano Permittee tracking and reporting needs.

For each annual reporting cycle, subsequent reductions will carry over into the next year, provided that BMPs are continuing to function to an adequate performance level which will be verified with regular field inspections. The same calculation methods will be used each year other than when new information becomes available. For example, catchment drainages may need to be updated, or a new BMP type may be implemented that was not previously used. Over time, additional redevelopment and GSI implementation will add to the estimated PCB and Mercury reductions.

Tracking GSI Projects and BMP performance status will become more complex as GSI implementation grows and a tighter coupling between the reductions calculations and the GIS may be necessary to avoid errors and create an efficient reporting workflow. In addition to fulfilling reporting requirements, spatially based load reduction tracking will provide information to help prioritize future GSI projects as loading patterns change and new implementation opportunities and priorities emerge.
8 Design Guidelines and Specifications

The MRP requires that the GSI Plan include general design and construction guidelines, standard specifications and details (or references to those documents) for incorporating GSI components into projects within the City. These guidelines and specifications should address the different street and project types within the City, as defined by its land use and transportation characteristics, and allow projects to provide a range of functions and benefits, such as stormwater management, bicycle and pedestrian mobility and safety, public green space, and urban forestry.

The Solano Permittees have developed a Green Stormwater Infrastructure Design Guidebook (Design Guidebook) to reflect the best local and national GSI planning and design practices. The Design Guidebook also reflects the unique challenges and specific needs for constructing GSI within the cities of Fairfield, Suisun City, and Vallejo. The Design Guidebook is a tool for identifying and incorporating green stormwater infrastructure into the built environment, including into existing and proposed streets, parking lots, and landscape areas. The four primary chapters are organized to identify these green stormwater infrastructure integration opportunities.

Chapter 2. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Types. This chapter defines a common and consistent terminology for use throughout the Solano Permittees' GSI planning initiatives.

Chapter 3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines for Green Stormwater Infrastructure Projects. This chapter illustrates types of GSI opportunities in the Permittees' jurisdictions, specifically in right-of-ways, parking lots, and public spaces; provides GSI landscape design criteria; and identifies considerations for GSI maintenance and post-construction performance.


Chapter 5. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Sizing Requirements. Explains GSI sizing requirements; Regulated Projects should consult and comply with each Cities’ separate C3 Guidance documents.
8.1 Guidelines for Streetscape and Project Design
Provision C.3.j.i.(2)(e)

8.1.1 Description of Guidelines

Design guidelines are sets of recommendations towards good practice in design. They are intended to provide clear instructions to designers and developers on how to adopt specific principles, such as intuitiveness, learnability, efficiency, and consistency. Design guidelines convey general policies and best practices in the design of stormwater features in new and retrofit environments. They do not dictate solutions and instead, they define a range of appropriate responses to a variety of specific design issues.

Design Guidelines support the development of a common understanding of GSI design principles and standards. Maintaining a high quality of stormwater infrastructure ensures that the community not only meet its important regulatory requirements but also directs investments in ensuring aesthetic standards and helps to achieve the community’s goals on a wide range of issues. Therefore, these guidelines and the associated design review process through which they are administered promotes the functionality and performance for stormwater as well as the contribution of the project to larger community goals. Recognizing this, the Solano Permittees have established GSI design guidelines.

The goal of the Design Guidebook is to be a Green Stormwater Infrastructure design, planning, and implementation tool that will support the Permittees to achieve water quality targets linked to other community priorities to realize multiple benefits and efficiently invest public dollars. Though implementation is often driven by regulations, GSI planning and design is best when linked to other community priorities to realize multiple benefits and efficiently invest public dollars. For example, green stormwater infrastructure can be integrated into right-of-way improvements to promote active transportation or Complete Street approaches as illustrated in Chapter 3 of the Design Guidebook, included in Appendix B.

8.2 Specifications and Typical Design Details
Provision C.3.j.i.(2)(f)

8.2.1 Description of Specifications and Typical Design Details

Linking GSI implementation with other community priorities creates an opportunity to cost effectively balance GSI construction and operation and maintenance costs. One means to achieve this balance is GSI integration into the Permittee’s standard practices, starting with the design details and specifications included in Chapter 4 of the Design Guidebook, included in Appendix B. Every capital project, every street improvement, every private development is an opportunity to integrate GSI into planned investments and capitalize on GSI’s multiple benefits.
The green stormwater infrastructure details and specifications have been selected to support integration of GSI into standard practices, for example in street design, municipal capital projects, and to support private development review. Implementation of a GSI strategy will require cross departmental coordination with planning, operations and maintenance. These details and specifications can support the design and construction of GSI practices in the Permittee jurisdictions.

The typical details and specifications were developed to be revised and customized as needed for each individual project by design professionals. They show typical configurations, rather than a required City standard configuration. This distinction is deliberate. We recognize that to create functional, contextual, and aesthetic green infrastructure projects, design professionals must use their professional judgment and creative thinking to be responsive to each site-specific condition.

AutoCAD drawings of these typical details are provided so that design professionals can modify the plan, sections, call-outs, and/or construction notes to address the projects site-specific conditions. To allow for site-specific design adjustments the typical details are developed as “not for construction” drawings. The typical details are formatted, organized, and developed with the necessary informational tools to guide the design professional through the proper selection, layout, and design of GSI.

8.3 Sizing Requirements
Provision C.3.i.i.(2)(g)

8.3.1 Description of “single approach” to GSI sizing prepared through BASMAA

Where possible, GSI measures should be designed to meet the same sizing requirements as Regulated Projects. However, if a GSI measure cannot be designed to meet this design standard due to constraints in the public right-of-way or other factors, the measure can still reduce runoff, improve water quality and achieve other multi-benefits (e.g., traffic calming, pedestrian safety, etc.). For these situations, the Design Guidebook in Appendix C describes regional guidance for sizing in Chapter 5.

Regulated Projects must comply with each Cities’ separate C3 Guidance for specific LID and GSI requirements, and private developers are encouraged to use the Design Guidebook as a resource.
9 Funding Options

The MRP requires that the City develop a funding strategy for the implementation of the GSI Plan. Permittees should develop both local strategies, as an individual municipal agency, and collaborate with the other Solano Permittees to develop regional funding strategies that require the coordination of multiple agencies and permittees similar to that described in the “Roadmap of Funding Solutions for Sustainable Streets” developed by the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association for Urban Greening Bay Area Initiative. This section first outlines the regional and then local efforts identified by the Solano Permittees the City’s respective actions and anticipated timelines.

The Solano Permittees reviewed the funding strategies outlined by the San Mateo County Green Infrastructure Funding Nexus Evaluation and selected strategies that best reflect the respective capacity, opportunities and unique conditions in their communities. They have identified efforts already under way and then created timelines that work best for their local contexts. Section 9.1 describes the Permittees’ regional and then local funding strategies. Appendix C includes a summary table outlining all the funding options evaluated by the Permittees.

9.1 Funding Strategies Developed Regionally

Provision C.3.j.i.(2); TRT Item 15C

The Regional Roundtable on Sustainable Streets convened meetings with local, regional, state, and federal agencies, private sector and non-profit partners in 2017 to identify solutions for obstacles to funding projects that include both GSI and transportation improvements. The final report of the Roundtable process is the Roadmap of Funding Solutions for Sustainable Streets (Roadmap, BASMAA 2018), which identified specific actions to improve the capacity – both statewide and in the San Francisco Bay Area -- to fund Sustainable Street projects that support compliance with regional permit requirements to reduce pollutant loading to San Francisco Bay, while also helping to achieve the region’s greenhouse gas reduction targets.


Prickett, L. September 4, 2018, Evaluation of Funding Options for Projects that Include Both Green Infrastructure and Transportation Improvements, Memo to the BASMAA Development Committee
The Roadmap presents the results of the evaluation of grant and loan monies that may be used to fund projects that include both GSI and transportation improvements. The results of this evaluation are presented in two tables, which are described below and reproduced in Table 9-1:

- **Table B-1, Transportation Funding Sources that May Potentially Fund Sustainable Streets**, identifies nine transportation grants, and provides an evaluation of the conditions under which green stormwater infrastructure is eligible for funding.
- **Table B-2, Resource-Based Grant and Loan Programs that May Potentially Fund Sustainable Streets**, identifies nine resource-based grant and loan programs and provides an evaluation of the conditions under which transportation is eligible for funding.

These tables will be consulted as part of developing a funding plan for prioritized projects as they are advanced in the City’s capital improvements program.
Table 9-1. Grant and loan monies that may be used to fund projects that include both GSI and transportation improvements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Row No.</th>
<th>Name of Funding Source</th>
<th>Administering Agency</th>
<th>Funded by</th>
<th>Conditions under which Green Stormwater Infrastructure is Eligible</th>
<th>Link to information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1       | One Bay Area Grant Program | Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) | • Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STP – federal funding)  
• Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ – federal funding) | • Permeable pavement is eligible.  
• Landscaping as part of streetscape improvement or safety improvement is eligible.  
• GSI is eligible if required for mitigation.  
• Dependent on various goals and guidelines of OBAG sub-programs  
• Must comply with all Federal & State & Regional & County level (for county programs) regulations.  
• Follows Caltrans Federal Aid Delivery process.  
(Source: MTC 2017a) |
| 2       | Active Transportation Program | California Transportation Commission (CTC) | Myriad of fund sources that will have to be obtained from CTC | • Scoring criteria is a balance dictated by the various fund sources.  
• Landscaping as part of the ATP project that meets the program goals are eligible expenses.  
• Projects must comply with all Federal and State regulations and must follow the Caltrans Federal Aid and CTC delivery process. | [www.dot.ca.gov/programs/4tp](http://www.dot.ca.gov/programs/4tp)  
(Source: Caltrans 2017b) |
| 3       | TDA Article 3 | MTC establishes guidelines; counties administer funding per MTC guidelines (Source: MTC 2017b) | State funded through Transportation Development Act (TDA), Public Utilities Code (PUC) Section 92200 | • Intersection safety improvements including bulbouts/curb extensions (Source: MTC 2016).  
• Curb and gutter improvements were not specifically mentioned in the guidelines, but would be integral to curb extension construction. | [http://mtc.ca.gov/our-work/fund-invest/investment-strategies-commitments/transit-21st-century/funding-sales-tax-and-0](http://mtc.ca.gov/our-work/fund-invest/investment-strategies-commitments/transit-21st-century/funding-sales-tax-and-0)  
(Source: MTC 2017b) |
Contra Costa: [www.ccta.net/ resources/detail/182](http://www.ccta.net/ resources/detail/182) (CCTA 2017a)  
| 6       | TIGER grants | FHWA | FHWA | • National competition aimed at highway/bridge bike/ped/passenger and freight rail/port/intermodal projects.  
• Very intensive benefit-cost analysis required.  
• Infrastructure as required mitigation is probably eligible. | [https://www.transportation.dot.gov/ tiger](https://www.transportation.dot.gov/tiger) (USDOT 2017) |
Table 8-1: Transportation Funding Sources that May Potentially Fund Sustainable Streets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Row No.</th>
<th>Name of Funding Source</th>
<th>Administering Agency</th>
<th>Funded by</th>
<th>Conditions under which Green Stormwater Infrastructure is Eligible</th>
<th>Link to Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Transportation Fund for Clean Air</td>
<td>BAAQMD</td>
<td>State Funding</td>
<td>• The Application Guidance for the Bicycle Facilities Grant Program does not specifically mention storm drainage, landscaping, or other project activities directly related to green stormwater infrastructure (BAAQMD 2017b); however, an informational interview with BAAQMD staff (BAAQMD 2016) indicated that green stormwater infrastructure improvements, or other landscaping improvements, may be eligible due to carbon sequestration benefits.</td>
<td>[<a href="http://www.baaqmd.gov/grant-funding/public-agencies">http://www.baaqmd.gov/grant-funding/public-agencies</a> (BAAQMD 2017a)]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities</td>
<td>Strategic Growth Council guidelines.</td>
<td>State Cap and Trade Funding</td>
<td>• Urban greening costs are eligible, and projects must include at least one urban greening element. The definition of urban greening includes natural infrastructure and stormwater features. Natural infrastructure is defined as the preservation and/or restoration of ecological systems, or utilization of engineered systems that use ecological processes, to increase resiliency to climate change and/or manage other environmental problems. Projects may receive up to 3 points for incorporating natural infrastructure, if the surrounding community is experiencing any specific climate vulnerabilities and the project aims to address specific concerns.</td>
<td>[<a href="http://www.sgc.ca.gov/Grant-Programs/AHSC-Program.html">http://www.sgc.ca.gov/Grant-Programs/AHSC-Program.html</a> (SGC 2015)]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Row No.</td>
<td>Name of Funding Source</td>
<td>Administering Agency</td>
<td>Funded by</td>
<td>Conditions under which Transportation is Eligible</td>
<td>Link to information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1       | Prop 1 Stormwater Grant Program | State Water Resources Control Board | State Proposition 1 | - Costs for permeable pavement are eligible  
- Costs for bike lanes/pedestrian pathways/alternate travel lane could be eligible if GHG reduction is shown as a quantifiable benefit  
(Source: BASMAA 2017a) | [Source: SWRCB 2017] |
| 2       | Prop 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Grants | Department of Water Resources | State Proposition 1 | - The guidelines for the 2016 round of funding do not specifically address the eligibility of the transportation features of Sustainable Streets projects; however, projects receive points for demonstrating a reduction of GHG (DWR 2016) | [DWR 2017] |
| 3       | State Coastal Conservancy | Prop 1 Grants | State Proposition 1 | - The program funds multi-benefit projects in four focus areas: Fisheries, Wetlands restoration, Agricultural water use/ ecosystem, and Urban Greening. Urban greening looks at multi-benefits, including public access to ecological resources, carbon sequestration, enhancement of urban park, with a focus on ecological function (BASMAA 2017a).  
- The grant guidelines do not specifically address the eligibility of the transportation features of Sustainable Streets projects; however, one of the project selection criteria is for project design and construction methods to include measures to avoid or minimize GHG emissions to the extent feasible and consistent with the project objectives (SCC 2016). | [SCC 2017] |
| 4       | Measure AA | San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority | Regional Measure AA | - The program generally looks at larger scale GIS, but could fund water quality treatment systems along urbanized shorelines of the Bay. Projects in association with restoration and/or along shore or Bay edge may be eligible (BASMAA 2017a).  
- The Measure AA grant guidelines do not mention roads or streets. Eligible project types include trails and levees (SFRBA 2017a). | [SFRBA 2017a] |
<p>| 5       | Urban Greening Grants | California Natural Resources Agency | State Cap and Trade funding | - Eligible activities include green street and alleyway projects that integrate green stormwater infrastructure elements into the street or alley design, including permeable surfaces, bioswales, and trees (CNRA 2017a). | [CNRA 2017a] |
| 6       | Emergency Management Performance Grant | Federal Emergency Management Agency | Appropriation Authority for Program: Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017 (Pub. L. No. 115-51) | - This is a planning grant that provides Federal funds to states to assist state, local, territorial, and tribal governments in preparing for all | [FEMA 2017] |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Row No.</th>
<th>Name of Funding Source</th>
<th>Administering Agency</th>
<th>Funded by</th>
<th>Conditions under which Transportation is Eligible</th>
<th>Link to information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Cooperative Implementation Agreements for Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Compliance</td>
<td>Caltrans Stormwater Program</td>
<td>Caltrans Stormwater Program funding</td>
<td>• As of March 2018, the program had funded three local agency projects through cooperative implementation agreements in the San Francisco Bay Area; none were Sustainable Street projects. Sustainable Streets projects in the SF Bay Area could potentially be eligible; however, this program can only fund water quality improvements. Key criteria include: the number of TMDL pollutants that will be addressed (including trash) and the amount of Caltrans right-of-way that is treated. Projects that infiltrate or capture and use stormwater are preferred. For information, contact Tom Russe, <a href="mailto:tom.russe@dot.ca.gov">tom.russe@dot.ca.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Grants</td>
<td>USEPA</td>
<td>USEPA</td>
<td>• Eligible projects include projects that manage stormwater with low impact development and green stormwater infrastructure; projects should be based on a restoration plan, TMDL, stormwater/green stormwater infrastructure plan, or watershed plan (USEPA 2017b).</td>
<td><a href="http://www.epa.gov/sfbay-wq/pi/sf-bay-water-quality-improvement-fund">www.epa.gov/sfbay-wq/pi/sf-bay-water-quality-improvement-fund</a> (USEPA 2017b).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
9.2 Local Funding Strategies

Provision C.3.j.i.(2)(k)

The Solano Permittees considered both locally balloted and non-balloted funding options for implementing their prioritized GSI projects. The Cities prioritized the potential opportunities according to a feasibility criterion given the level of effort required as well as the strategy’s perceived impact and risk. These criteria were used to determine whether to include the strategy and create a proposed timeline for development. Each community has varying competing needs and resources within its jurisdiction and the following recommendations reflect those relative political, financial and organizational contexts. Attachment D is a table of the consolidated funding strategies with descriptions of the funding options considered by the permittees, potential uses for the funds, the pros and cons associated with the various funding options, and general comments from the permittees.

9.2.1 Balloted Funding Options

The Permittees reviewed three balloted funding options including Parcel Taxes, Property Related Fees and General Obligation Bonds. Each Permittee assessed that all three would each require a high level of effort to gain community acceptance and would be high risk of not passing and categorized them as a long-term project that would take up to 15 years to implement.

9.2.2 Non-Balloted Funding Options

The Non-Balloted funding options are listed by their recommended timelines below:

9.2.2.1 Already Implemented/Short Term (up to 5 years)

Grants. All three Permittees will pursue grant opportunities which are considered a low risk and require a relatively low level of effort. For example, City of Vallejo is committing its Environmental Services Manager to seeking grant resources and Suisun City is already in the process of pursuing grants.

Community Facilities Districts (Mello Roos) are already implemented for new development in the City of Vallejo.

Business Improvement District. City of Vallejo has two existing Business Improvement Districts and plans to engage those communities about the advantages of GSI.

Multi-Agency Partnerships. All the Permittees identified Multi-Agency Partnerships as a high priority, low risk and low effort strategy to pursue. City of Vallejo listed as examples their existing partnerships with the City of Benicia, Solano Transportation Authority, Caltrans to implement GSI. The cities of Fairfield and Suisun City, through multiple program efforts, partner with Solano
Resource Conservation District to achieve Program compliance for water quality monitoring, and Public Information and Participation. Furthermore, the cities through Program efforts also partner with Solano Irrigation District, Solano County Water Agency, the city of Benicia, the city of Dixon and the city of Vacaville.

**Caltrans Mitigation Collaboration.** All the Permittees identified collaborating with Caltrans as a high priority, low risk and low effort strategy to help Caltrans achieve TMDL compliance for water quality impacts associated with both local streets and the highway right-of-way.

**EPA Financial Capability Assessments.** The EPA’s “Financial Capability Assessment Framework for Municipal Clean Water Act Requirements” allows communities that meet financial capability criteria the ability to apply for delayed schedules for compliance with some of their NPDES stormwater permit elements. It is designed to help communities develop a more accurate and complete picture of their ability to pay for Clean Water Act obligations, emphasizing factors beyond the 2% threshold for median income. All the Permittees prioritized conducting an assessment to determine whether they qualify for a delayed compliance schedule.

**Realignment of Services.** Both City of Vallejo and Suisun City have been realigning services (short term) and City of Vallejo will continue to do this into the medium term as money allows.

**Benefits Assessments.** City of Vallejo has implemented a Benefits Assessment on all new development.

**Transportation Opportunities.** All the Permittees will investigate opportunities for collaborative implementation of GSI through their transportation projects.

### 9.2.2.2 Medium Term (5-10 years)

**Community Facilities Districts (Mello Roos)** were considered a medium-term priority for City of Fairfield and Suisun City will consider them for new developments.

**Regulatory Fees.** All the Permittees commit to investing effort into developing funding from their regulatory fees for services such as plan check and inspection fees related to stormwater and GSI.

**Alignment of Services.** All three Permittees commit to a realignment of services such as water supply, sewer and refuse collection in the next 5 to 10 years. The Permittees would look for opportunities to reorganize management, staffing, services units and/or budgets from traditional stormwater management services that can be integrated with the more easily funded water, sewer and/or refuse collection or flood control or transportation agencies. Examples include using GSI to promote groundwater recharge, trash capture or rainwater harvesting and reuse.

**Business License Fees.** City of Fairfield considers the development of a Business License Fees with a direct nexus with stormwater quality as a medium-term goal.
**Developer Impact Fees.** All three Permittees will invest time to create Developer Impact Fees for GSI charged by municipality in connection with conditions of approval. The funds would offset public costs associated with the development and will require a high level of time to develop and implement.

**Benefits Assessments.** City of Fairfield and Suisun City are committing to developing these assessments in the next 5-10 years and Suisun City will do this for new developments.

**Partnerships and Other Strategies.** City of Vallejo is considering a Public Private Partnership with the Mare Island Developers to help build and maintain public infrastructure.

**Volunteer Programs.** All three Cities consider the development of a volunteer program to steward the GSI projects, conduct habitat stewardship and protection, planting and maintaining landscaped improvements to require a high degree of effort and risk and therefore will take time to develop.

**9.2.2.3 Long Term (10-15 years)**

**Business Improvement Districts.** City of Fairfield and Suisun City both ranked seeking funding for GSI from Business Improvement Districts as a long-term strategy with Suisun City indicating that it would be a low payback strategy as the local Business Improvement District currently relies entirely on City services and would be unlikely to assess themselves to pay for GSI.

**Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts.** This strategy is uniformly seen as requiring a high level of effort and time and a long-term potential for all the Permittees. For example, City of Vallejo noted that implementation and ongoing management would require a great deal of time.

**Business License Fees.** City of Vallejo and Suisun City will develop Business License Fees related to stormwater as a long-term goal as it is potentially a low payback and has the potential to discourage businesses from moving into the Permittees' jurisdiction.

**Realignment of Services.** Suisun City will continue to realign its services into years 10-15.

**Loans.** While it will require a high level of investment and risks, City of Vallejo commits to pursuing loans into years 10-15.

**Alternative Compliance.** All the Permittees will work to develop an alternative compliance program for new and off sight redevelopment projects. All the Permittees consider alternative compliance as higher risk with high levels of effort to implement.

**Partnerships and Other Strategies.** Fairfield and Suisun estimate the development of Public Private Partnership with private entities to help build and maintain public infrastructure will be both high risk and require a high level of effort and therefore a longer-term effort.
In Lieu Fees. In-lieu fees as a source of funding for regional projects would require a high degree of effort with high-risk. City of Vallejo also notes that it would also require a lot of interdepartmental collaboration.
10 Integration with City Plans & Documents

Provision C.3.j.i.(2)(h)

To ensure effective implementation of the GSI Plan, the GSP Plan goals, priorities and strategies should align with the City’s planning documents and policies. The MRP states that the GSI Plan include:

“(h) A summary of the planning documents the Permittee has updated or otherwise modified to appropriately incorporate green infrastructure requirements, such as: General Plans, Specific Plans, Complete Streets Plans, Active Transportation Plans, Storm Drain Master Plans, Pavement Work Plans, Urban Forestry Plans, Flood Control or Flood Management Plans, and other plans that may affect the future alignment, configuration, or design of impervious surfaces, including, but not limited to, streets, alleys, parking lots, sidewalks, plazas, roofs, and drainage infrastructure. Permittees are expected to complete these modifications as a part of completing the Green Infrastructure Plan, and by not later than the end of the permit term.

(i) To the extent not addressed above, a workplan identifying how the Permittee will ensure that green infrastructure and low impact development measures are appropriately included in future plans (e.g., new or amended versions of the kinds of plans listed above).”

This Section describes the various municipal planning documents that were evaluated to determine to what extent they were aligned with the GSI Plan. Overall, no planning documents were identified that prevent the implementation of GSI projects within the City. Moreover, some planning documents already contain language to support the GSI Plan. However, various plans need to be better aligned with the GSI Plan to require the integration of GSI and use of the various tools, specifications and guidelines addressed in this Plan and through subsequent implementation. Examples of language supporting GSI in these documents are provided in Appendix D.

10.1 Related Regional and Countywide Plans and Planning Documents

This Plan has been coordinated with the Solano Permittees Reasonable Assurance Analysis (RAA). The RAA for Green Stormwater Infrastructure is being prepared by collectively by the Solano Permittees and is consistent with guidance prepared by the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA). The RAA for Green Stormwater Infrastructure uses a water quality model coupled with continuous simulation hydrologic output to estimate baseline loadings of pollutants and the reductions that might be achieved through green stormwater infrastructure implementation in 2020, 2030, and 2040 under various scenarios, which include implementation of projects identified in this Plan. Results pertinent to green stormwater infrastructure planning and implementation are discussed in Sections 5 and 6 of this Plan.
10.2 Existing City Plans that Support GSI

The City has several planning documents that address different elements related to GSI, including land use, transportation, sustainability, conservation, urban forestry, environmental leadership, infrastructure, and housing. Table 10-1 lists the plans that the City has reviewed to determine the extent to which GSI related language, concepts and policies have been or could be incorporated.

10.3 Workplan for Future Integration of GSI Language into City Plans

In the future, new plans and updates to existing plans will contain appropriate language to further support the GSI Plan as needed. The plans identified in Table 10-1 will be further amended with GSI language during the update process for each plan, and for some, an interim policy will guide the City’s work until the respective document update. Appendix D describes specific language with GSI references.

If these updates do not occur during the current permit term, an interim policy will be adopted by the City to follow the GSI Plan and related documents created during its implementation. City staff will support the City’s plan development process when revising or updating existing planning documents or when developing new planning documents in order to ensure that GSI requirements and policies are incorporated. Examples of GSI-related language can be found in references such as SCVURPPP’s Model Green Infrastructure Language for Incorporation into Municipal Plans (2016). Finally, the adaptive management process described in Section 13 will help ensure this requirement is met.
### Table 10-1. City Plans and Documents and Status of GSI Integration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Name</th>
<th>Last Updated</th>
<th>Next Projected Update</th>
<th>Relavancy to GSI Plan Goals, Priorities, Strategies?</th>
<th>Currently Includes Language to Support GSI Plan Goals, Priorities, Strategies?</th>
<th>Will be updated before end of MRP term?</th>
<th>Future Updates Recommended to Include GSI Elements?</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Review Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2035 General Plan, adopted 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The General Plan provides the basis for Suisun City’s regulation of the overall amount, character, and location of urban development, as well as preservation and natural resource conservation, economic development, transportation, safety, public facilities and services, and housing.</td>
<td>Recommend incorporating specific references to GSI, Complete Streets, and Green Streets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 1, Chapters 1-3</td>
<td>May 2015</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Because the General Plan includes projections of future development capacity, it serves as a tool for the City and other service providers to plan for services, facilities, infrastructure, and environmental mitigation. Chapters 1-3 include “Setting and Central Issues”, “Community Character and Design”, and “Land Use” elements.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 1, Chapters 4-5</td>
<td>May 2015</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Transportation and Economic Development Chapters of the 2035 General Plan.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 1, 2015-2023 Suisun City Housing Element</td>
<td>March 2015</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>The Housing Element of the General Plan is a comprehensive statement by Suisun City of its current and future housing needs and proposed actions to facilitate the provision of housing to meet those needs at all income levels.</td>
<td>Low relevancy to GSI goals, priorities, strategies. No opportunity identified for integration of GSI Elements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 1, Chapters 7- Glossary</td>
<td>May 2015</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Open Space and Conservation, Community Facilities and Services, Public Health and Safety and Glossary of the 2035 General Plan.</td>
<td>Recommend incorporating specific references to GSI, Complete Streets, and Green Streets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterfront District Specific Plan</td>
<td>November 2016</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Provides a comprehensive vision and framework for development in the Waterfront District, including design policies and guidelines.</td>
<td>A detailed review is recommended to integrate GSI, Green Street and Complete Streets into the proposed improvements and design guidelines. Initial recommendations for GSI integration have been identified, but further review and updates should be prioritized to avoid missing opportunities for GSI integration into Waterfront District improvements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11 Outreach and Education

Provision C.3.j.i.(4)

The City of Suisun City’s Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan development process engaged a wide variety of stakeholders, including both government staff and community members who will live, work, and play near future green stormwater infrastructure projects. The City of Suisun City also intends to engage relevant government staff and community members as projects move forward towards design and implementation.

11.1 Interdepartmental Meetings and Trainings

To get support and commitment to the GSI Plan and this new approach to urban infrastructure, educating department staff, managers, and elected officials about the purposes and goals of green stormwater infrastructure, the required elements of the GSI Plan, and steps needed to develop and implement the GSI Plan was an important step in the development of the GSI Plan. The City began this process in fiscal year 2015-2016 and to date has completed the following tasks:

- Engineering Services staff attended the a GSI workshop covering GSI design guidelines; implementing GSI projects, the GSI Design Guidebook; and GSI landscape and maintenance considerations.
- In-house training was provided February 4, 2019 to Planning and Engineering Services Department staff on GSI requirements, strategies, and opportunities.
- Interdepartmental meetings with affected department staff and management have been held to discuss GSI requirements and assigned tasks.
- The MRP requirements to analyze proposed capital projects for opportunities to incorporate GSI were discussed with Planning Department staff.

11.2 Public Outreach and Education

Public and stakeholder support is also essential for the successful implementation of the GSI Plan and future GSI projects. There were several opportunities for public participation in the development of the GSI Plan, including through a GSI website and public outreach events and presentations.

Updates on the development of the GSI Plan were presented at public outreach events and a City webpage [www.city.org/gsi](http://www.city.org/gsi) was established to provide information to the public and will be periodically updated. The website will also serve as a home for the Final GSI Plan.

For Elected Officials, the Solano Permittees developed a factsheet and a brief presentation for Cities to use in conducting outreach to elected officials on GSI.

The City will continue to conduct education and outreach about GSI as the GSI Plan is implemented.
12 Policies, Ordinances, and Legal Mechanisms

Provisions C.3.j.i.(3) and C.3.j.i.(5)(c)

The Solano Permittees reviewed numerous policies, programs and business practices that could be implemented to streamline, require, incentivize and integrate the planning and implementation of green stormwater infrastructure. The concepts were gathered through examples from existing programs, examples from the Resilient by Design results and best practices from around the country. The team assessed whether strategies were already underway, discussed the relative levels of effort required, the potential return on investments and perceived risk and resources needed. These criteria were used to determine whether to further evaluate the strategy and how it best fit into the Permittees respective GSI planning timelines. Each Permittee evaluated these strategies against their communities’ current opportunities and constraints and reflect their unique conditions. The short, medium, and long-term strategies are described below in no particular order.

12.1 Integrated Planning

Integrated Watershed Planning. The Permittees considered performing integrated watershed planning whereby they would work with the community to create a vision for an integrated watershed plan that considers stormwater, water supply, flood resiliency, climate change adaptation and GSI into parks, schools, streets, water fronts and flood control facilities. By working with the community and stakeholders, the Permittees would increase the likelihood of agency partnerships, shared funding and City family buy in. Vallejo and Suisun City will apply integrated watershed planning over the long-term with Fairfield Considering this a medium-term strategy, recognizing it requires a high degree of effort. At the time of this writing, the City of Vallejo is onboarding an Environmental Services Manager to engage the public and create a defined vision for their community.

Conduct Integrated and Collaborative Capital Planning. All the Permittees indicated they are implementing GSI in their various capital projects and are amplifying benefits across various land uses (streets, parking lots, schools, parks and other large landowners). They have created an interagency process to conduct collaborative capital planning and are able to harness existing projects and funding streams. For example, Vallejo is planning on continuing this practice with Caltrans, Solano Transportation Authority, and the City of Benicia.
12.2 Align Stormwater with Climate Resiliency

The implementation of green stormwater infrastructure, adaptation to sea level rise and planning and design for increased flooding and rain intensity can have multiple areas of overlap for planning, funding and implementation. By conducting integrated planning as described in Section 12.1, the Permittees can best direct funding and investment for both stormwater and flood resiliency and sea level rise to create multi-benefit solutions, reduce risk to vulnerable populations and infrastructure and increase the potential number of funding partners. By participating in the development of shared plans and regional efforts to prepare for climate change, the Bay Area will better compete for state and federal dollars. City of Vallejo considers this a long-term effort that would require increased staff resources and time but will make small changes immediately to move in this direction. Fairfield and Suisun will both will pursue this aligned planning approach within the medium time frame.

Broaden the Definition of GSI. GSI is tool in a suite of solutions called, "nature-based solutions" an umbrella term that includes actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems that adaptively provide human well-being and biodiversity benefits. This can include natural sea level rise management using wetlands and living levees, dunes, floodable greenspaces, and natural spaces that allow for the natural hydrological cycles to function. Each Permittee will broaden the definition of GSI in the short term, though it doesn’t directly benefit the goals of the stormwater program.

Integrate GSI with Sea Level Rise Planning. Both City of Vallejo and Suisun City identified addressing sea level rise and exploring the use of managed retreat or the development of natural berms as a longer-term effort requiring a high level of effort. City of Fairfield will explore these options in the medium term.

Integrate GSI into Resiliency Funding. Resiliency projects generate multiple cross sector partners and can attract multiple funding sources, such as transportation and water grants. City of Vallejo plans to pursue resiliency funding with the potential to integrate GSI in the shorter-term, for example through grant writing with their new Environmental Services Manager, while Fairfield and Suisun consider this a medium-term effort.

Link GSI to Flood Resiliency. Local stormwater harvesting and floodable spaces can be developed with GSI planning and could be coupled with the integrated watershed plans mentioned in Section 12.1. Each of the Permittees acknowledge this effort requires a significant amount of
time and resources. Vallejo and Suisun will pursue GSI linked flood resilience projects in the long term while Fairfield will pursue it in the medium term.

**Use GSI and Rainwater Harvesting as a Multi-purpose Tool for Drought Resiliency.** Healthy woodlands, wetlands, and floodplains have a natural capacity to sustain water supplies year-round by storing water during wet seasons, slowly releasing it during dry seasons, and/or promoting groundwater infiltration. This coupled with local rainwater capture projects can contribute to a healthier local water cycle and local water supplies. The Permittees will pursue this in the medium term even though it is not considered directly relevant to their stormwater requirements.

### 12.3 Increase Stormwater Management Requirements

**Pollution Prevention Programs.** Stormwater programs can successfully use public education, outreach, and legislative strategies to reduce the amount of pollutants that enter storm sewer systems at the source. This policy would implement and further strengthen authorities and programs to prevent toxic chemicals from entering receiving water bodies. All the Permittees agreed this is a good short-term goal and City of Fairfield and Suisun City have already implemented these programs. Vallejo’s new Environmental Services Manager will help strengthen existing pollution prevention programs.

**Maintenance in the ROW.** This policy requires development projects to construct and/or maintain treatment measures in the public rights-of-way. All three Cities have implemented this policy and all of the cities require each contractor to submit a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan before starting work.

### 12.4 Training and Certification

Each of the Solano Permittees will provide focused stormwater education and certification for designers, planners, inspectors, contractors and operations and maintenance specialists. Examples include hosting contractor trainings and certifications and promote the benefits of training by advertising with lists of the local contractors who are knowledgeable and enthusiastic about GSI.

### 12.5 Create Incentives for GSI

There are many options for providing incentives for GSI that go beyond regulatory compliance. Some include offering stormwater fee discounts for reducing runoff from private property, providing rebates and cost-share programs based on GSI implementation and creating
development and redevelopment incentives to implement GSI in exceedance of onsite compliance requirements. Hosting awards, recognition, and certification programs is another option. In the short term, the Permittees will pursue awards and recognition programs and creating development incentives such as expedited permitting, decreased fees, zoning upgrades, reduced stormwater requirements, and other benefits to developers who plan to use green stormwater infrastructure in the medium term. For the long-term the Permittees will pursue rebates and incentives through funding, tax credits, or reimbursements to property owners who install green stormwater infrastructure such as cisterns or pervious pavement.

12.6 Change Agency Business Practices

Simple changes to business practices can be a low cost and relatively easy way to reduce barriers to compliance and GSI implementation. The Permittees all agreed that in the short term they would conduct internal assessments of their project review processes and hold focused conversations with the development community to illuminate the inefficiencies with the aim to make significant improvements to the regulated community. In addition, providing skilled technical assistance in the form of staff and materials for developers and design professionals would advise planners, developers, designers and engineers to improve effectiveness of GSI program success.

Operation and Maintenance. All Permittees agree that creating operation and maintenance agreements for the green stormwater infrastructure in the ROW would assist in meeting GSI goals in the short term. Fairfield and Suisun currently do this, and Vallejo agrees that it would be a low effort and cost to implement in the short term.

Design Standards. All the Permittees have developed design guidelines and specifications for GSI in streetscapes, schools, parks, parking lots, and residential lots, as described in Section 8. Street Design Standards provide clear and consistent direction for employees and contractors who may be installing green stormwater infrastructure in rights-of-way along roadways. Street designs that incorporate street trees should develop protocols for ongoing maintenance of trees, particularly in areas anticipating increased temperatures and/or drought.

Identify Agency Integration Opportunities. To transform the daily work of the Permittees to collaboratively implement GSI, there are several actions the Permittees have opted to pursue. In the short term, they will realign the GSI into trash collection, drainage and flood control management strategies and integrate GSI into street planning, design, delivery and operations. In each City, all forms of GSI are being considered in the design of all facilities, projects and all
public properties will be checked for their ability to incorporate GSI. A medium-term project will be to create interagency teams to review all public projects for GSI opportunities and to work to increase the integration of agencies, capital planning and project delivery and operations.

12.7 Participate in Regional Partnerships to Support GSI

Large regional agencies that implement electric, gas, telecommunication and shoreline projects are potential areas for shared projects to reduce flooding and sea level rise risk and increase GSI. Potential partners include regional parks, transportation and waterfront projects. Wastewater and water agencies have direct incentives to address stormwater and GSI for resiliency and augmenting water supply. Since increasing utility rates to implement projects does not require a vote, these are opportunities for pooling funding for shared project. All three Cities will pursue regional partnerships to support GSI in the medium term.

12.8 Address Social Needs

GSI is seen as new form of infrastructure that requires new skills and has the potential to catalyze new business and jobs. The Permittees all agreed they could promote these green jobs in the short term by hosting a green stormwater infrastructure job development program whereby the agency lists locally trained GSI designers/builders/maintenance staff/inspectors on their website to assist both developers and the trained professionals. In addition, to make sure investments are aligned where they are needed the most, the cities will conduct an analysis about the social and economic disparities within their communities to identify vulnerable populations and prioritize investments in those neighborhoods first to reduce risks to vulnerable populations.
13 Adaptive Management

As the GSI Plan is implemented and more comprehensive analyses (e.g., master planning, capital improvement planning) are performed, an adaptive management process will be key to ensuring GSI goals are met. This GSI Plan can inform implementation goals, but the pathway to meeting those goals is subject to adaptive management and can potentially change based on new information or future analysis. The goal of the adaptive management process is to strategically guide GSI implementation to improve water quality cost-efficiently and aligned with parallel City initiatives.

Future updates of the GSI Plan will provide opportunities to learn from GSI implementation and research initiatives both locally and regionally. The City anticipates aligning future GSI Plan updates with RAA modeling to track progress towards achieving the waste load allocation targets.
Background

In the recently reissued Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit (“MRP 2.0”), Provision C.3.j requires Permittees to develop and implement Green Infrastructure Plans to reduce the adverse water quality impacts of urbanization on receiving waters over the long term. Provisions C.11 and C.12 require the Permittees to reduce discharges of Mercury and PCBs, and portion of these load reductions must be achieved by implementing Green Infrastructure. Specifically, Permittees collectively must implement Green Infrastructure to reduce mercury loading by 48 grams/year and PCB loading by 120 grams/year by 2020, and plan for substantially larger reductions in the following decades. Green Infrastructure on both public and private land will help to meet these load reduction requirements, improve water quality, and provide multiple other benefits as well. Implementation on private land is achieved by implementing stormwater requirements for new development and redevelopment (Provision C.3.a. through Provision C.3.i.). These requirements were carried forward, largely unchanged, from MRP 1.0.

MRP 2.0 defines Green Infrastructure as:

Infrastructure that uses vegetation, soils, and natural processes to manage water and create healthier urban environments. At the scale of a city or county, green infrastructure refers to the patchwork of natural areas that provides habitat, flood protection, cleaner air, and cleaner water. At the scale of a neighborhood or site, green infrastructure refers to stormwater management systems that mimic nature by soaking up and storing water.

In practical terms, most green infrastructure will take the form of diverting runoff from existing streets, roofs, and parking lots to one of two stormwater management strategies:

1. Dispersal to vegetated areas, where sufficient landscaped area is available and slopes are not too steep.

2. LID (bioretention and infiltration) facilities, built according to criteria similar to those currently required for regulated private development and redevelopment projects under Provision C.3.
In some cases, the use of tree-box-type biofilters may be appropriate\(^2\). In other cases, where conditions are appropriate, existing impervious pavements may be removed and replaced with pervious pavements.

In MRP 2.0, Provision C.3.j. includes requirements for Green Infrastructure planning and implementation. Provision C.3.j. has two main elements to be implemented by municipalities:

1. Preparation of a Green Infrastructure Plan for the inclusion of LID drainage design into storm drain infrastructure on public and private land, including streets, roads, storm drains, etc.

2. Early implementation of green infrastructure projects (“no missed opportunities”).

This guidance addresses the second of these requirements. The intent of the “no missed opportunities” requirement is to ensure that no major infrastructure project is built without assessing the opportunity for incorporation of green infrastructure features.

Provision C.3.j.ii. requires that each Permittee prepare and maintain a list of green infrastructure projects, public and private, that are already planned for implementation during the permit term (not including C.3-regulated projects), and infrastructure projects planned for implementation during the permit term that have potential for green infrastructure measures. The list must be submitted with each Annual Report, including:

“... a summary of how each public infrastructure project with green infrastructure potential will include green infrastructure measures to the maximum extent practical during the permit term. For any public infrastructure project where implementation of green infrastructure measures is not practicable, submit a brief description for the project and the reasons green infrastructure measures were impracticable to implement”.

This requirement has no specified start date; “during the permit term” means beginning January 1, 2016 and before December 31, 2020. The first Annual Report submittal date will be September 30, 2016.

Note that this guidance primarily addresses the review of proposed or planned public projects for green infrastructure opportunities. The Permittee may also be aware of proposed or planned private projects, not subject to LID treatment requirements, that may have the opportunity to incorporate green infrastructure. These should be addressed in the same way as planned public projects, as described below.

\(^2\) Standard proprietary tree-box-type biofilters are considered to be non-LID treatment and will only be allowed under certain circumstances. Guidance on use and sizing of these facilities will be provided in a separate document.
Procedure for Review of Planned Public Projects and Annual Reporting

The municipality’s Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project list provides a good starting point for review of proposed public infrastructure projects. Review of other lists of public infrastructure projects, such as those proposed within separately funded special districts (e.g., lighting and landscape districts, maintenance districts, and community facilities districts), may also be appropriate. This section describes a two-part procedure for conducting the review.

Part 1 – Initial Screening

The first step in reviewing a CIP or other public project list is to screen out certain types of projects from further consideration. For example, some projects (e.g., interior remodels, traffic signal replacement) can be readily identified as having no green infrastructure potential. Other projects may appear on the list with only a title, and it may be too early to identify whether green infrastructure could be included. Still others have already progressed past the point where the design can reasonably be changed (this will vary from project to project, depending on available budget and schedule).

Some “projects” listed in a CIP may provide budget for multiple maintenance or minor construction projects throughout the jurisdiction or a portion of the jurisdiction, such as a tree planting program, curb and sidewalk repair/upgrade, or ADA curb/ramp compliance. It is recommended that these types of projects not be included in the review process described herein. The priority for incorporating green infrastructure into these types of projects needs to be assessed as part of the Permittees’ development of Green Infrastructure Plans, and standard details and specifications need to be developed and adopted. During this permit term, Permittees will evaluate select projects, project types, and/or groups of projects as case studies and develop an approach as part of Green Infrastructure planning.

The projects removed through the initial screening process do not need to be reported to the Water Board in the Permittee’s Annual Report. However, the process should be documented and records kept as to the reason the project was removed from further consideration. Note that projects that were determined to be too early to assess will need to be reassessed during the next fiscal year’s review.

The following categories of projects may be screened out of the review process in a given fiscal year:

1. **Projects with No Potential** – The project is identified in initial screening as having no green infrastructure potential based on the type of project. For example, the project does not include any exterior work. Attachment 1 provides a suggested list of such projects that Permittees may use as a model for their own internal process.
2. Projects Too Early to Assess – There is not yet enough information to assess the project for green infrastructure potential, or the project is not scheduled to begin design within the permit term (January 2016 – December 2020). If the project is scheduled to begin within the permit term, an assessment will be conducted if and when the project moves forward to conceptual design.

3. Projects Too Late to Change – The project is under construction or has moved to a stage of design in which changes cannot be made. The stage of design at which it is too late to incorporate green infrastructure measures varies with each project, so a “percent-complete” threshold has not been defined. Some projects may have funding tied to a particular conceptual design and changes cannot be made even early in the design process, while others may have adequate budget and time within the construction schedule to make changes late in the design process. Agencies will need to make judgments on a case-by-case basis.

4. Projects Consisting of Maintenance or Minor Construction Work Orders – The “project” includes budgets for multiple maintenance or minor construction work orders throughout the jurisdiction or a portion of the jurisdiction. These types of projects will not be individually reviewed for green infrastructure opportunity but will be considered as part of a municipality’s Green Infrastructure Plan.

Part 2 – Assessment of Green Infrastructure Potential

After the initial screening, the remaining projects either already include green infrastructure or will need to go through an assessment process to determine whether or not there is potential to incorporate green infrastructure. A recommended process for conducting the assessment is provided later in this guidance. As a result of the assessment, the project will fall into one of the following categories with associated annual reporting requirements. Attachment 2 provides the relevant pages of the FY 15-16 Annual Report template for reference.

- **Project is a C.3-regulated project and will include LID treatment.**
  Reporting: Follow current C.3 guidance and report the project in Table C.3.b.iv.(2) of the Annual Report for the fiscal year in which the project is approved.

- **Project already includes green infrastructure and is funded.**
  Reporting: List the project in “Table B-Planned Green Infrastructure Projects” in the Annual Report, indicate the planning or implementation status, and describe the green infrastructure measures to be included.

- **Project may have green infrastructure potential** pending further assessment of feasibility, incremental cost, and availability of funding. Reporting: If the feasibility assessment is not complete and/or funding has not been identified, list the project in “Table A-Public Projects Reviewed for Green Infrastructure” in the Annual Report. In the “GI
Included?” column, state either “TBD” (to be determined) if the assessment is not complete, or “Yes” if it has been determined that green infrastructure is feasible. In the rightmost column, describe the green infrastructure measures considered and/or proposed, and note the funding and other contingencies for inclusion of green infrastructure in the project. Once funding for the project has been identified, the project should be moved to “Table B-Planned Green Infrastructure Projects” in future Annual Reports.

- **Project does not have green infrastructure potential.** A project-specific assessment has been completed, and Green Infrastructure is impracticable.
  
  **Reporting:** In the Annual Report, list the project in “Table A-Public Projects Reviewed for Green Infrastructure”. In the “GI Included?” column, state “No.” Briefly state the reasons for the determination in the rightmost column. Prepare more detailed documentation of the reasons for the determination and keep it in the project files.

### Process for Assessing Green Infrastructure Potential of a Public Infrastructure Project

**Initial Assessment of Green Infrastructure Potential**

Consider opportunities that may be associated with:

- Alterations to roof drainage from existing buildings
- New or replaced pavement or drainage structures (including gutters, inlets, or pipes)
- Concrete work
- Landscaping, including tree planting
- Streetscape improvements and intersection improvements (other than signals)

**Step 1: Information Collection/Reconnaissance**

For projects that include alterations to building drainage, identify the locations of roof leaders and downspouts, and where they discharge or where they are connected to storm drains.

For street and landscape projects:

- Evaluate potential opportunities to substitute pervious pavements for impervious pavements.
Identify and locate drainage structures, including storm drain inlets or catch basins.

Identify and locate drainage pathways, including curb and gutter.

Identify landscaped areas and paved areas that are adjacent to, or down gradient from, roofs or pavement. These are potential facility locations. If there are any such locations, continue to the next step. Note that the project area boundaries may be, but are not required to be, expanded to include potential green infrastructure facilities.

**Step 2: Preliminary Sizing and Drainage Analysis**

Beginning with the potential LID facility locations that seem most feasible, identify possible pathways to direct drainage from roofs and/or pavement to potential LID facility locations—by sheet flow, valley gutters, trench drains, or (where gradients are steeper) via pipes, based on existing grades and drainage patterns. Where existing grades constrain natural drainage to potential facilities, the use of pumps may be considered (as a less preferable option).

Delineate (roughly) the drainage area tributary to each potential LID facility location. Typically, this requires site reconnaissance, which may or may not include the use of a level to measure relative elevations.

Use the following preliminary sizing factor (facility area/tributary area) for the potential facility location and determine which of the following could be constructed within the existing right-of-way or adjacent vacant land. Note that these sizing factors are guidelines (not strict rules, but targets):

- Sizing factor ≥ 0.5 for dispersal to landscape or pervious pavement³ (i.e., a maximum 2:1 ratio of impervious area to pervious area)
- Sizing factor ≥ 0.04 for bioretention
- Sizing factor ≥ 0.004 (or less) for tree-box-type biofilters

For bioretention facilities requiring underdrains and tree-box-type biofilters, note if there are potential connections from the underdrain to the storm drain system (typically 2.0 feet below soil surface for bioretention facilities, and 3.5 feet below surface for tree-box-type biofilters).

If, in this step, you have confirmed there may be feasible potential facility locations, continue to the next step.

**Step 3: Barriers and Conflicts**

³ Note that pervious pavement systems are typically designed to infiltrate only the rain falling on the pervious pavement itself, with the allowance for small quantities of runoff from adjacent impervious areas. If significant runoff from adjacent areas is anticipated, preliminary sizing considerations should include evaluation of the depth of drain rock layer needed based on permeability of site soils.
Note that barriers and conflicts do not necessarily mean implementation is infeasible; however, they need to be identified and taken into account in future decision-making, as they may affect cost or public acceptance of the project.

Note issues such as:

- Confirmed or potential conflicts with subsurface utilities
- Known or unknown issues with property ownership, or need for acquisition or easements
- Availability of water supply for irrigation, or lack thereof
- Extent to which green infrastructure is an “add on” vs. integrated with the rest of the project

**Step 4: Project Budget and Schedule**

Consider sources of funding that may be available for green infrastructure. It is recognized that lack of budget may be a serious constraint for the addition of green infrastructure in public projects. For example, acquisition of additional right-of-way or easements for roadway projects is not always possible. Short and long term maintenance costs also need to be considered, and jurisdictions may not have a funding source for landscape maintenance, especially along roadways. The objective of this process is to identify opportunities for green infrastructure, so that if and when funding becomes available, implementation may be possible.

Note any constraints on the project schedule, such as a regulatory mandate to complete the project by a specific date, grant requirements, etc., that could complicate aligning a separate funding stream for the green infrastructure element. Consider whether cost savings could be achieved by integrating the project with other planned projects, such as pedestrian or bicycle safety improvement projects, street beautification, etc., if the schedule allows.

**Step 5: Assessment—Does the Project Have Green Infrastructure Potential?**

Consider the ancillary benefits of green infrastructure, including opportunities for improving the quality of public spaces, providing parks and play areas, providing habitat, urban forestry, mitigating heat island effects, aesthetics, and other valuable enhancements to quality of life.

Based on the information above, would it make sense to include green infrastructure into this project—if funding were available for the potential incremental costs of including green infrastructure in the project? Identify any additional conditions that would have to be met for green infrastructure elements to be constructed consequent with the project.
Attachment 1

Examples of Projects with No Potential for Green Infrastructure

- Projects with no exterior work (e.g., interior remodels)
- Projects involving exterior building upgrades or equipment (e.g., HVAC, solar panels, window replacement, roof repairs and maintenance)
- Projects related to development and/or continued funding of municipal programs or related organizations
- Projects related to technical studies, mapping, aerial photography, surveying, database development/upgrades, monitoring, training, or update of standard specs and details
- Construction of new streetlights, traffic signals or communication facilities
- Minor bridge and culvert repairs/replacement
- Non-stormwater utility projects (e.g., sewer or water main repairs/replacement, utility undergrounding, treatment plant upgrades)
- Equipment purchase or maintenance (including vehicles, street or park furniture, equipment for sports fields and golf courses, etc.)
- Irrigation system installation, upgrades or repairs
Appendix B – Solano Permittees’ Green Stormwater Infrastructure Design Guidebook
SOLANO PERMITTEES’
GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

DESIGN GUIDEBOOK
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CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

• Describe the multi-benefits of green stormwater infrastructure and why it should be included in new or retrofit projects.
• Illustrate how to use the Design Guidebook, including its purpose, scope, and organization.
1. Introduction

WELCOME TO THE SOLANO PERMITTEES’ GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGN GUIDEBOOK

This Green Stormwater Infrastructure Design Guidebook (Design Guidebook) reflects the best practices on green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) planning and design locally and nationwide. The Guidebook also reflects the unique challenges and specific needs for constructing GSI within the cities of Fairfield, Suisun City, and Vallejo (FSV), collectively referred to as the Solano Permittees (Permittees).

Though implementation is often driven by regulations, GSI planning and design is best when linked to other community priorities to realize multiple benefits and efficiently invest public dollars. For example, green stormwater infrastructure can be integrated into right-of-way improvements to promote active transportation or Complete Street approaches as illustrated in Chapter 3. Landscaped GSI can improve property aesthetics which translates into increased property values. In downtown corridors these improved aesthetics create a sense of community identity and can drive economic development.

Linking GSI implementation with other community priorities creates an opportunity to cost effectively balance GSI construction and operation and maintenance costs. One means to achieve this balance is GSI integration into the Permittee’s standard practices, starting with the design details and specifications included in Chapter 4. Every capital project, every street improvement, every private development is an opportunity to integrate GSI into planned investments and capitalize on GSI’s multiple benefits.

The goal of this Design Guidebook is to be a Green Stormwater Infrastructure design, planning, and implementation tool that will support the Permittees to achieve water quality targets linked to other community priorities to realize multiple benefits and efficiently invest public dollars.

Regulated Projects must comply with each Cities’ separate C3 Guidance for specific LID and GSI requirements, and private developers are encouraged to use this Design Guidebook as a resource. Due to the predominance of soils with low infiltration capacity within the Solano Permittees area, most GSI features won’t infiltrate to a significant degree and in most cases will require an underdrain and overflow connected to the existing storm drain system.
1. Introduction
1. Introduction

GUIDEBOOK ORGANIZATION

This Design Guidebook is intended as a tool for the Permittees to use to identify and incorporate green stormwater infrastructure into the built environment, including into existing and proposed streets, parking lots, and landscape areas. The four primary chapters are organized to identify these green stormwater infrastructure integration opportunities.

Chapter 2. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Types. This chapter defines a common and consistent terminology for use throughout the Solano Permittees’ GSI planning initiatives.

Chapter 3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines for Green Stormwater Infrastructure Projects. This chapter illustrates types of GSI opportunities in the Permittees’ jurisdictions, specifically in right-of-ways, parking lots, and public spaces; provides GSI landscape design criteria; and identifies considerations for GSI maintenance and post-construction performance.


Chapter 5. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Sizing Requirements. This chapter simply explains GSI sizing requirements and provides “real-world” examples of how the sizing requirements apply to specific concept projects identified within the Solano Permittees’ jurisdictions. Regulated Projects should consult and comply with each City’s separate C3 Guidance documents.

What are Design Guidelines?

Design guidelines are sets of recommendations towards good practice in design. They are intended to provide clear instructions to designers and developers on how to adopt specific principles, such as intuitiveness, learnability, efficiency, and consistency. Design guidelines convey general policies and best practices in the design of stormwater features in new and retrofit environments. They do not dictate solutions and instead, they define a range of appropriate responses to a variety of specific design issues.

Why have Design Guidelines?

Design Guidelines support the development of a common understanding of GSI design principles and standards. Maintaining a high quality of stormwater infrastructure ensures that the community not only meet its important regulatory requirements but also directs investments in ensuring aesthetic standards and helps to achieve the community’s goals on a wide range of issues. Therefore, these guidelines and the associated design review process through which they are administered promotes the functionality and performance for stormwater as well as the contribution of the project to larger community goals. Recognizing this, the Solano Permittees have established these design guidelines.

What is a Design Specification?

A design specification is a detailed document providing information about a designed project. Design specifications include all necessary drawings, dimensions, environmental factors, aesthetic factors, and maintenance that will be needed for construction. It may also give specific examples of how the design should be executed, helping others work properly (a guideline for what the person should do).
1. Introduction

**How to Use This Guidebook**

- What is GSI?
  - Improve water quality and public health
  - Reduce flooding and urban heat islands
  - Community Engagement

- Where and how can I incorporate GSI in this project?
  - Gather your team

- Select GSI to use...
  - Is your project regulated under MRP C.3 compliance requirements?

- What types of GSI can I use in this project?

- Consult the City's C.3 Guidance

- What is possible within the site and project constraints?
1. Introduction

**WHAT IS GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOW DOES IT WORK?**

The US Environmental Protection Agency describes green stormwater infrastructure as a range of natural and built approaches to stormwater management that mimic natural systems by cleaning stormwater and letting it absorb back into the ground. An important objective of green stormwater infrastructure is to reduce stormwater volume, which improves water quality by reducing pollutant loads, stream bank erosion, and sedimentation.¹

Rather than collecting runoff in piped or channelized networks and controlling the flow downstream in a large stormwater management facility, green stormwater infrastructure distributes treatment of non-point source pollution, disperses flows, and manages runoff closer to where it originates. Because green stormwater infrastructure embraces a variety of useful techniques for controlling runoff, designs can be customized according to local resource protection requirements, as well as, site constraints. New projects, redevelopment projects, and capital improvement projects can all be viewed as candidates for implementing green stormwater infrastructure and Low Impact Development design principles, as defined in Chapter 3.


Green stormwater infrastructure uses vegetation, soils, and natural processes to manage water and create healthier urban environments. Green stormwater infrastructure can range in scale from site design approaches such as rain gardens and green roofs to regional planning approaches such as conservation of large tracts of open land. In conjunction with gray infrastructure, interconnected networks of green stormwater infrastructure can enhance community resiliency by increasing water supplies, reducing flooding, combating urban heat island effect, and improving water quality.²

2 EPA, Green Infrastructure and Climate Change Collaborating to Improve Community Resiliency, August 2018.

**GUIDEBOOK PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

This Design Guidebook has been specifically prepared to fulfill the requirements of provisions of the Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit (MRP) issued by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Order No. R2-2015-0049), by providing:

- Guidelines for overall streetscape and project design and construction, so that projects have a unified, complete design that implements the range of functions associated with the projects (MRP Section C.3.j.i.2(e));
- Standard specifications and design details to incorporate green stormwater infrastructure into projects (MRP Section C.3.j.i.2(f)); and
- Sizing requirements for treatment and hydromodification to satisfy Provision C.3.c and C.3.d in the Permit (MRP Section C.3.j.i.2(g)).

These materials can also support public outreach to:

- Educate appropriate elected officials (mayor and city council) on green stormwater infrastructure (MRP Section C.3.j.i.4(c));
- Conduct green stormwater infrastructure public outreach and education (MRP Section C.3.j.i.4(a)); and
- Train appropriate staff on green stormwater infrastructure provisions (MRP Section C.3.j.i.4(b)).

While the design guidelines are written for use by the city family, all readers are strongly encouraged to enlist the assistance of qualified design and planning professionals, including landscape architects, engineers, soil and plants consultants.
1. Introduction

The multi-benefits green infrastructure provides (source: EPA)

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<th>Improved Air Quality/Climate Change</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Urban Heat Island</strong> Green infrastructure practices that include trees and other vegetation can reduce the urban heat island effect, which reduces energy use and the incidence and severity of heat-related illnesses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Air Quality</strong> Green infrastructure improves air quality by increasing vegetation, specifically trees, that absorb air pollutants, including CO₂, NO₂, O₃, SO₂, and PM₁₀.</td>
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<td><strong>Greenhouse Gases</strong> Green infrastructure's ability to sequester carbon in vegetation can help to meet greenhouse gas emission goals by contributing to a carbon sink.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Water Conservation</strong> Green infrastructure that incorporates locally adapted or native plants reduce the need for irrigation, which reduces demand for potable and recycled water. Rain barrels and cisterns that capture rainwater also reduce water use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water Quality and Flood Mitigation</strong> Green infrastructure can decrease the frequency and severity of local flooding by reducing stormwater discharge volumes and rates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Habitat</strong> Vegetated green infrastructure can provide habitat for wildlife, particularly birds and insects, even at small scales of implementation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality of Life</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Health</strong> Residents have more recreational opportunities in the presence of large-scale green space in their community, which can improve public health and well-being.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Safety</strong> Green streets that include curb bump-outs at pedestrian crossings improve pedestrian safety by slowing traffic and decreasing the distance that pedestrians must travel in the roadway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational Opportunities</strong> Larger-scale green infrastructure facilities that include public access, such as constructed wetlands, offer recreational opportunities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Property Aesthetics</strong> Green infrastructure that includes attractive vegetation can improve property aesthetics, which can translate into increased property values.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Educational Opportunities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Education</strong> The visible nature of green infrastructure offers enhanced public education opportunities to teach the community about mitigating the adverse environmental impacts of our built environment. Signage is used to inform viewers of the features and functions of the various types of facilities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Introduction

WATER QUALITY BENEFITS OF GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Fish tissue monitoring has identified the bioaccumulation of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), mercury, and other pollutants in San Francisco Bay (Bay) in quantities with the potential to affect people consuming fish from the Bay. In response to these findings, the Bay has an interim advisory regarding the consumption of fish, has been designated an impaired water body on the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) list for PCBs, mercury, and other pollutants, and has Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) water quality restoration programs targeting PCBs and mercury.

The reissued MRP (MRP 2.0, Order R2 2015 0049) requires municipal agencies to move from pilot scale work to focused implementation and defined load reduction goals (e.g., 3 kg/year region wide for PCBs and 10 kg/year for mercury). The Solano Permittees, along with other municipalities in the San Francisco Bay Area, are preparing a suite of watershed-based planning efforts to identify control measure implementation strategies to achieve the pollutant load reduction goals.

One of the strategies, that is part of a long-term approach to meeting the Mercury and PCB TMDLs, is the disconnection of impervious surfaces using green stormwater infrastructure.

Green stormwater infrastructure provides water quality benefits by reducing the concentrations of PCBs and mercury in stormwater, while also reducing concentrations or amounts of other regulated pollutants, such as trash and pesticides. GSI has the potential to reduce concentrations of future pollutants of concern such as nutrients, pathogens, and others.

Green Stormwater Infrastructure can reduce the amount of pollution entering the San Francisco Bay, specifically for some of the pollutants of greatest concern like Mercury, PCBs, and Trash.

Mercury

Mercury in the San Francisco Bay is a concern because it bioaccumulates, or collects in higher concentrations the larger and older a fish is. People eating fish from the Bay are at risk of consuming mercury in concentrations that can lead to health effects. Elevated mercury, in the form of methylmercury is linked to neurological, developmental, immunological, reproductive and cardiovascular problems in wildlife and people.

How does Mercury enter the Bay?

Mercury binds to sediment particles and is found in and near the Bay from a variety of sources. One historic source is from legacy sediments originating from gold miners during the California Gold Rush. Because gold dissolves in mercury, miners used mercury to separate gold from unwanted materials, making it possible for them to collect small pieces of gold. The practice of using mercury, coupled with using powerful jets of water to dislodge soil from hillsides, caused sediments with high concentrations of mercury to flow into the Bay. These sediments remain in the Bay and are a continued source of mercury contamination as they still flow into the Bay from the California foothills and Central Valley.

Mercury also enters the Bay from stormwater runoff, industrial wastewater, air pollution, and from sewage treatment plants.

The primary means for reducing mercury contamination is through reducing sediments from entering the Bay.
1. Introduction

PCBs

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), like mercury, bind to sediment particles which deposit in the Bay and are a risk to human and ecosystem health.

How do PCBs enter the Bay?

Though PCB production was banned by the United States Congress in 1979, they can still be found due to historic uses and their continued use by electric utilities in transformers. PCBs were widely used as dielectric and coolant fluids in transformers, cutting fluids for machining operations, carbonless copy paper, heat transfer fluids, and other industrial uses.

The primary means for reducing PCB contamination is through reducing sediments from entering the Bay, specifically in the vicinity of sites with historic PCB use.

From Caltrans Stormwater Quality Handbooks Project Planning and Design Guide, July 2017

Trash

Trash in stormwater is defined as manufactured objects made from paper, plastic, cardboard, glass, metal, etc. This definition excludes sediments, oil and grease, and vegetation. Trash in surface waters can inhibit the growth of aquatic vegetation, harm aquatic organisms by ingestion or entanglement, convey other pollutants, such as toxic substances, and cause aesthetic problems on shorelines.

Trash within stormwater is considered to be a significant problem in highly urbanized areas, such as the San Francisco Bay Area. Trash can be addressed using a full capture system such as Gross Solids Removal Devices (GSRDs), institutional controls such as street sweeping, and anti-litter education and outreach programs may also be implemented.

1. Introduction

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, INFORMATION SOURCES AND REFERENCES

The information in this Design Guidebook draws upon numerous sources from across the country and the San Francisco Bay Area. The following are specific jurisdictions we would like to acknowledge as providing information that was referenced and incorporated and/or adopted into this Design Guidebook. We anticipate these jurisdictions will continue to lead in the innovation, development, and implementation of green stormwater infrastructure and can be referenced as a source of inspiration and guidance.


### 1. Introduction

#### ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AASHTO</td>
<td>American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABAG</td>
<td>Association of Bay Area Governments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASMAA</td>
<td>Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMP</td>
<td>Best Management Practice, can refer to both structural and non-structural practices, including GSI and LID.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BP</td>
<td>Bioretention Planter Construction Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3</td>
<td>Refers to Provision C3 in the MRP to address stormwater runoff pollutant discharges and increased flows from New Development and Redevelopment using source control, site design, and stormwater treatment measures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASQA</td>
<td>California Stormwater Quality Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEQA</td>
<td>California Environmental Quality Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CWA</td>
<td>Clean Water Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DMA</td>
<td>Drainage Management Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESC</td>
<td>Erosion and Sediment Control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSV</td>
<td>Fairfield, Suisun, Vallejo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GI</td>
<td>Green Infrastructure; Although the MRP uses the term green infrastructure (GI), the Solano Permittees prefer to use the term green stormwater infrastructure (GSI). Henceforward, the term GSI will be used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS</td>
<td>Geographic Information System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSI</td>
<td>Green stormwater infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRWMP</td>
<td>Integrated Regional Water Management Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEED*</td>
<td>Leadership in Energy &amp; Environmental Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LID</td>
<td>Low Impact Design or Low Impact Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAP</td>
<td>Mean Annual Precipitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max</td>
<td>Maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEP</td>
<td>Maximum Extent Practicable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Min</td>
<td>Minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRP</td>
<td>Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS4</td>
<td>Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-structural Stormwater BMPs</td>
<td>Practices or programs designed to manage, treat, and/or improve stormwater quality and/or quantity. Examples include street sweeping practices or educational programs about responsible pesticide or fertilizer use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NLCD</td>
<td>National Land Cover Data Set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPDES</td>
<td>National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCBs</td>
<td>Polychlorinated Biphenyls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP</td>
<td>Pervious Pavement Construction Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAA</td>
<td>Reasonable Assurance Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROW</td>
<td>Right-of-Way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RWQCB</td>
<td>Regional Water Quality Control Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RWSM</td>
<td>Regional Watershed Spreadsheet Model developed by SFEI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFEI</td>
<td>San Francisco Estuary Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFPUC</td>
<td>San Francisco Public Utilities Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMARTS</td>
<td>Stormwater Multiple Application &amp; Report Tracking System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SM GSI</td>
<td>Site Management Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spec</td>
<td>Standard Specifications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stormwater BMPs</td>
<td>“In the ground” systems to manage, treat, and/or improve stormwater quality and/or quantity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWRCB</td>
<td>State Water Resources Control Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TMDL</td>
<td>Total Maximum Daily Load; Fish tissue monitoring has identified the bioaccumulation of PCBs, mercury, and other pollutants in San Francisco Bay in quantities with the potential to affect people consuming fish from the Bay. In response to these findings, the Bay has an interim advisory regarding the consumption of fish, has been designated an impaired water body on the CWA Section 303(d) list for PCBs and mercury, and other pollutants, and has TMDL water quality restoration programs targeting PCBs and mercury.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USEPA</td>
<td>United States Environmental Protection Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WLA</td>
<td>Waste Load Allocation</td>
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<td>Typ</td>
<td>Typical</td>
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1. Introduction

LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT (LID) is a water quality and stormwater management strategy that maintains and restores the natural ecological and hydrologic functions of a community and/or site to protect and improve water quality, manage stormwater runoff, achieve natural resource protection objectives and fulfill environmental regulatory requirements.

GSI
GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE (GSI) is a built approach to slow, infiltrate, use, and/or treat stormwater runoff using vegetation, soils, and natural processes to make stormwater runoff cleaner, absorb it back into the ground, and create healthier environments.

HOW SHOULD I DEFINE IT?

LID IMPLEMENTATION TOOL
CHAPTER 2
GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE TYPES

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

- Establish consistent terminology for use throughout the Solano Permittees’ GSI planning initiatives.
2. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Types

GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE CLASSIFICATIONS

For the purposes of organizing and presenting information, this Design Guidebook classifies green stormwater infrastructure structures into six categories. Any existing or proposed green stormwater infrastructure feature can be identified as one of these six types: a bioretention feature, an infiltration feature, pervious pavement, rainwater harvesting, a bioswale or a biofiltration feature.

There are other common terms associated with green stormwater infrastructure, like “curb cuts”, that are specific design elements that can be associated with many different green stormwater infrastructure types. Another example is the term “rain garden”, which is a type of bioretention where stormwater can infiltrate into the subsurface soils. Biofiltration is another type of bioretention with an impermeable or concrete liner with an underdrain (pervious) pipe.

These definitions are consistent throughout the Solano Permittees’ green stormwater infrastructure programs, including within the Green Infrastructure Plans and pollutant load models.

Several of these Green Stormwater Infrastructure strategies can be combined into a treatment train to meet stormwater requirements and project goals, depending on what is best suited for a particular project and site. In this context, treatment train refers to GSI in series so overflow, for example, from a biofiltration may flow into a bioretention which may flow into a bioswale. Throughout this Design Guidebook the icons to the right are used to identify different types of Green Stormwater Infrastructure as they are represented within right-of-way improvements or parking lots (Chapter 3) or specific design details (Chapter 4).

Bioswales and pervious pavements will have limited applicability towards meeting a Regulated Project’s stormwater requirements, and are recommended to “treat” impervious area at a 2:1 ratio of pervious to impervious surface..
2. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Types

**BIORETENTION**

A landscaped feature that allows for infiltration into subsurface soils and can be constructed with or without side walls. Other common terms used to refer to bioretention features include rain gardens, self-retaining areas, or biofilters.

Stormwater typically is designed to pond up to 6 inches prior to outflow via a surface outlet (e.g., curb cut) or a piped overflow (e.g., overflow inlet and/or underdrain). Bioretention features may or may not include a perforated underdrain. Bioretention structures are constructed with a specialized soil media ideally 18-24 inches in depth to enhance biogeochemical processes to retain and transform pollutants, and infiltrate at a rate of 5 inches per hour. A rock or aggregate subsurface reservoir can be included under the soil media to enhance stormwater storage and infiltration. A settling forebay can be located at inlet(s) to remove sediment. Bioretention features trap toxic hydrocarbons and asbestos before reaching subsurface and groundwater supplies.
2. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Types

Bioretention features are ideal for median strips, parking lot islands, and swales. Existing medians and parking strips can be evaluated for conversion into bioretention features to manage stormwater, landscaping, and shade.

An inlet pipe, curb cuts, or sheet flow over an impervious area conveys water into the bioretention feature, where it is filtered prior to infiltration or outflowing via the storm drain system. Bioretention features often provide complete on-site infiltration for small storm events. They can be sized to infiltrate larger storms in areas where soils drain well or infiltration basins can overflow to another GSI feature or a discharge point.

Using native plant species reduces fertilizer, pesticide, water, and overall maintenance requirements. Vegetation types include species that can tolerate stormwater ponding and drought conditions. Regulated Projects should reference C3 Guidance for design requirements.
A linear landscape feature designed to allow stormwater to flow through vegetation. Other common terms used to refer to bioswales include grass swales, grass filter strips, vegetated buffer strips, or bioslopes.

The flow-through area in a bioswale has dense vegetation coverage (>80%) and the topography allows for inundation and conveyance of stormwater through the vegetated areas. The gentle sloped flow paths and dense vegetation promote the filtration of pollutants in stormwater, adsorption of pollutants to vegetation, and settling. Biological processes include geochemical transformation and plant uptake.
2. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Types

Bioswales are depressions that are rock lined or planted with grass, and can be used to collect and convey stormwater runoff. They allow pollutants to settle and filter out as the water infiltrates into the ground or flows through the facility. In addition to providing pollution reduction, they can also decrease flow rates and volumes, if installed on soils where infiltration may occur. Bioswales should be integrated into the overall site design and have the potential to decrease the need for “gray infrastructure” elements.

The location and type of rock used within a bioswale channel should be carefully considered due to potential safety and nuisance concerns.

Employing green infrastructure techniques to meet stormwater regulations versus a combination of detention pipes and cartridge filters (“gray infrastructure”) allows stormwater managers to meet multiple objectives in a way that mimics a site’s natural function and maximizes overall water quality and quantity improvements.

Bioswales can provide critical linkages between cistern overflows and existing drain inlets within retrofit situations. Bioswales also provide potential solutions to nuisance flooding issues, by providing positive drainage away from buildings or walkways, and can re-establish a hydrologic conveyance element interrupted or buried as a result of site development.

Bioswales cannot be used to meet the LID or stormwater treatment requirements for Regulated Project’s.
2. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Types

PERVIOUS PAVEMENT

Use of sustainable materials to create a durable, pervious surface overlaying a crushed stone base that allow stormwater to percolate and infiltrate into the underlying soil.

Pervious pavement refers to Porous Asphalt, Pervious Concrete, Porous Aggregate, Pervious Pavers, or Permeable Pavers, all of which can be used for parking lots, sidewalks, driveways or other hardscaped surfaces in place of traditional concrete and asphalt mixes. Pervious pavement can include an underlying reservoir with aggregate to increase infiltration rates. Typically, if pervious pavement is designed to meet minimum needs for structural stability, there is sufficient reservoir in the base course. Regulated projects should reference C3 Guidance for design requirements.
Pervious pavement allows for stormwater to infiltrate while providing a stable load-bearing surface that does not contribute to a project’s impervious area. There are two main categories of pervious pavements: pervious concrete and pervious asphalt, which are poured in place, and permeable pavers, which are discrete units set in place. Pervious asphalt, pervious concrete, and permeable pavers can be used in practically all pedestrian areas and parking lots, especially in parking aisles. Pervious pavements are not recommended where the slope exceeds 2%.

The use of pervious pavement reduces site impervious area which decreases a project’s stormwater management obligation. Parking areas and walkways are well suited for conversion to permeable pavement alternatives. Landscaped areas should not drain on to pervious pavement because of the potential to introduce sediment and debris that can clog the void space in the pervious pavement.

Initial expenses for alternative paving materials may be greater than conventional materials, though in general, the multi-functional nature of pervious pavements can reduce overall new construction costs. Pervious pavement can often eliminate the requirement for underground storm drain pipes and conventional stormwater systems, so a more accurate price comparison would involve the costs of the full stormwater management system. Design costs typically represent 10-15% of the construction cost. Pervious pavement can be more expensive when a deep base course is required, as it is in the clay soils commonly found in the Bay Area.
2. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Types

RAINWATER HARVESTING

Rainwater harvesting is the practice of collecting and using rainwater from roof surfaces or other man-made above-ground surfaces.

Rainwater harvesting has been employed by communities for centuries, such as in ancient Italy where central plazas were designed to filter and collect rainwater in a central well for the community to access. Today, in part due to prolonged drought conditions in California, rainwater harvesting is growing in popularity as people look for ways to increase local resilience and use all water resources more efficiently. Preventing rainwater from discharging to hard surfaces or directly into the storm drain system reduces demand on the storm drain system and protects the quality of nearby surface waters. Typical elements in a rainwater harvesting systems include (1) debris separation to remove, for example, leaf litter, (2) conveyance such as roof gutters and downspouts, (3) storage such as an above ground tank, and (4) distribution to the intended use, for example, plumbed to a toilet for toilet flushing.

All new construction and building retrofits can be evaluated for opportunities to incorporate a rainwater harvesting system. For regulated projects it is almost always necessary to include a downstream bioretention facility to manage overflows that cannot be directed to reuse.
Rainwater includes precipitation collected from roof surfaces or other man-made above-ground collection surfaces. Cisterns are containers of various sizes that store runoff from building downspouts. Rain barrels are generally smaller structures, located above ground. Cisterns are larger, can be buried underground, and may be connected to the building’s plumbing or irrigation system. Cisterns may be used to store and release water for landscape irrigation or for domestic purposes. Disinfection of rainwater may be required for all uses with potential for human contact.

Preventing rainwater from discharging to hard surfaces or directly into the storm drain system reduces demand on the storm drain system, reduces water demand, and protects the quality of nearby surface waters.

A general rule of thumb is $1 per gallon for the cost of cisterns, which does not include additional costs for shipping, installation, plumbing, and pumping if needed, which can vary based on design, material, brand and supplier. Design costs typically represent 10-15% of the construction cost.

Photos:

A. Cisterns for rainwater harvesting (source: LID Urban Design Tools)
B. Rainwater harvesting with collection (A), conveyance (B and C), storage (D) and distribution (E). (source: New Mexico Office of the State Engineer)
2. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Types

**INFILTRATION FEATURE**

A structure designed to retain stormwater from small impervious drainage areas and infiltrate that stormwater into an unsaturated zone.

Infiltration features typically include the vertical excavation of native soils and filling with coarse drain rock or other highly permeable material to maximize infiltration rates. Vegetation and landscaping is typically not present in infiltration features which can be applied where space is a constraint. Other terminology or examples of infiltration features are infiltration, exfiltration, or percolation trenches, dry wells, or french drains. Regulated projects should reference C3 Guidance for design requirements.

Infiltration features are appropriate where the soil is well drained, for example in hydrologic soil groups A or B, that allow runoff to infiltrate at a rate of 5 inches per hour or greater.
2. Green Stormwater Infrastructure Types

**BIOFILTRATION**

A landscape feature that allows stormwater to filter through a specialized soil media before it is discharged via an underdrain (perforated) pipe.

Biofiltration features are suitable where infiltration cannot be accomplished due to site context, native soils, or other site constraints, and they can be built with or without walls and lined with an impermeable membrane or concrete. Outlet designs typically require surface ponding prior to surface outflow typically with a max ponding depth of 6". Site designed biofiltration systems use specialized soil media ideally 18-24 inches in depth to enhance biogeochemical processes to retain and transform pollutants. Proprietary designs vary and may or may be confined space and difficult to access for inspection. Regulated projects should reference C3 Guidance for design requirements.

Biofiltration planters provide water quality treatment and reduce runoff volumes, and may be applied in more limited right-of-ways. Urban Biofilters or Tree Box Biofilters are types of biofiltration features, with proprietary alternatives that can be considered on a case-by-case basis.
CHAPTER 3
STREETSCAPE AND PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

• Illustrate types of green stormwater infrastructure opportunities in the Permittees’ jurisdictions, specifically in right-of-ways, parking lots, and public spaces;
• Provide GSI landscape design criteria;
• Identify considerations for GSI maintenance and post-construction performance.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

OPPORTUNITIES TO INTEGRATE GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Opportunities abound to integrate Green Stormwater Infrastructure into the fabric of the urban landscape. From street corners and medians, to parking lots, and the rooftops of public buildings there is an opportunity to implement projects that provide a range of functions and benefits while reducing stormwater runoff volumes and making the stormwater that does runoff, cleaner.

One of the critical elements to create a cost effective balance of construction and O&M costs is to integrate GSI opportunities into projects that address multiples needs. For example, using GSI as a buffer to improve bicycle and pedestrian mobility and safety or using GSI to enhance public green space and the urban forest.

Public buildings can showcase and educate the community about green stormwater infrastructure.

Traffic calming and safety measures can also treat and manage stormwater.

Green Stormwater Infrastructure Opportunities

Rainwater harvesting can capture water for reuse and reduce stormwater runoff volumes.

Retrofit or build new parking lots with green stormwater infrastructure.

Reduce impervious surfaces in parking lots by using permeable paving and landscaping.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

As dictated by the Green Stormwater Infrastructure Sizing Requirements described in Chapter 5, GSI will be installed on private parcels as new development and retrofit projects occur. There is also an opportunity to implement GSI projects in public spaces to showcase the aesthetic appeal of green stormwater infrastructure practices and provide a visual demonstration of how GSI can function. This every day interaction allows residents, businesses, and local governments to experience the additional benefits and values of green stormwater infrastructure practices—more walkable streets, traffic calming, green public spaces, improved aesthetics, shade, and enhanced foot traffic in retail areas.³

This chapter outlines guidelines to identify and maximize available GSI implementation opportunities, starting with the key Low Impact Development (LID) site design principles that every construction project should apply. Next we consider integration of GSI into Public Right-of-Way (ROW) Streets and Sidewalks, recognizing that regular ROW operation and maintenance activities open windows of opportunity to incorporate GSI. Retrofitting parking lots with GSI reduces runoff volumes, cleans stormwater runoff, and creates shade that reduces the urban heat island. Finally, integrating GSI into public spaces like plazas, parks, farmers market spaces, and schools provide the educational touch points to convey the multiple benefits green infrastructure brings into our communities.

³ Green Infrastructure Opportunities that Arise During Municipal Operations, EPA Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, National Estuary Program, January 2015
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES AND GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Low Impact Development (LID) is a water quality and stormwater management strategy concerned with maintaining or restoring the natural ecological and hydrologic functions of a community and/or site to protect and improve water quality, manage stormwater runoff, achieve natural resource protection objectives and fulfill environmental regulatory requirements. LID employs a variety of natural and non-structural best management practices, such as green stormwater infrastructure, that reduce the rate of runoff, filter out its pollutants, and facilitate the infiltration of water into the ground. By reducing water pollution and increasing groundwater recharge, LID and green stormwater infrastructure together improve the quality of receiving surface waters and stabilize the flow rates of nearby streams.

Why Use LID Practices?

Adopting better site design or LID techniques at the onset of a project can reduce non-point source pollution and the amount of stormwater runoff generated, and also reduce the cost of both the stormwater conveyance system and stormwater practices. Better site design stresses the principles of minimizing land disturbances, reducing runoff, increasing infiltration, filtering and adsorbing pollutants, retaining natural drainage and minimizing imperviousness. Several better site design goals can be applied early in the design process:

• Preservation of natural areas, stream and river buffers,
• Reducing impervious cover in site design
• Disconnecting and distributing runoff
• Utilizing landscaping as stormwater management features.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

LID GUIDING PRINCIPLES

LID Principle 1. Reduce Impervious Surfaces

Impervious surface areas associated with development can increase the speed, volume and frequency of stormwater flows resulting in flooding, erosion, and stream channel scour, down cutting of stream channels and costly washout of habitat and infrastructure (roads and pipelines). Less impervious surface reduces the volume of runoff needing treatment and infrastructure to safely convey it. Impervious cover reduces the amount of rainfall and runoff that directly infiltrates and recharges groundwater. Impervious land coverage greater than 10% has been shown to degrade water quality and the natural hydrology of stream or river. Provision C.3 in the MRP requires site designs for new developments and redevelopments to minimize the area of new roofs and paving. Where feasible, pervious surfaces should be used instead of paving so that runoff can infiltrate to the underlying soil.

- Minimize soil disturbance where feasible and improve soil quality by amending the soil thereby enhancing microbial health to improve landscape health and increase infiltration rates.
- Concentrate development on parts of the site with less permeable soils and preserve areas that can promote infiltration.
- To reduce impact of new impervious surfaces, capture stormwater for irrigation, toilet flushing, cooling towers, and other non-potable applications.

4 Edited from SFPUC, 2016, San Francisco Stormwater Management Requirements and Design Guidelines
5 http://www.ci.vallejo.ca.us/city_hall/departments___divisions/public_works/engineering_division/stormwater_regulatory_information/

A. Permeable pavers at UC Berkeley Botanical Garden  (source: Blue Green Blog, Friends of Five Creeks) B. Pervious asphalt comparison (source: Water Research Center) C. Residential parking lot with pervious concrete (source: Fall Creek Engineering, Inc.)
LID Principle 2. Integrate Natural Landscaping

Vegetated landscapes filter and clean stormwater runoff and recharge groundwater with little effort. Stormwater that is treated and managed on-site reduces infrastructure for large scale stormwater management projects, thereby reducing initial development costs and long-term maintenance costs and needs. When stormwater management is integrated into the site, stormwater can be a beneficial resource or a functional amenity and can enhance livability through the creation of water features and green spaces.

- Prioritize the use of infiltration-based BMPs where soils, groundwater, and geology allow.
- Detain and retain runoff throughout the site to manage runoff as close to its source as possible.

Runoff from impervious surfaces like roads, sidewalks, and trails can be directed into bioswales through curb cuts and/or trench drains.
LID Principle 3. Preserve and Plant Trees

Preserving or planting trees and vegetation are key elements of LID. Trees and vegetation intercept rain, slowing and reducing stormwater runoff. The resulting runoff requires less treatment and minimizes downstream impacts. Trees and vegetation absorb and filter pollutants from soil, water and air, shade and cool air and water, and filter dust and airborne particles. Roots loosen soil increasing rainfall infiltration which reduces overland flows.

- Encourage planting of new trees and preservation of healthy established trees.
- Look at each site as an opportunity to protect, enhance, or create wildlife habitat.

3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

**LID Principle 4. Create Vegetative Buffers**

Natural vegetative corridors along rivers and streams filter pollutants, intercept rainfall and allow rain to infiltrate slowly to groundwater and streams. Buffers are important to accommodate natural shifts and widening of streams which provide space for flood flows and protect adjoining and nearby properties. Buffers provide open space corridors that can be used for passive recreation and exercise. Vegetated buffers protect and stabilize river and stream banks reducing the amount of erosion and property damage to roads and bridges.

- Incorporate creeks, wetlands, and existing vegetation into the site design. Develop setbacks to protect these areas.

*The more space allowed for trees and shrubs along a stream leads to stronger banks, cleaner water, less flooding, and better habitat.*

Commonly observed negative riparian conditions
(source: adapted from the Tennessee Urban Riparian Buffer Handbook, September 2015)

- Sparse planting along the waters edge can cause erosion around exposed tree roots and destabilize stream banks.
- Building close to the waters edge limits the space available for riparian vegetation.
- Mowing to the waters edge prevents trees and shrubs from growing that would otherwise filter pollutants, and stabilize banks with their roots.
LID Principle 5. Make Green Streets, Parking Lots and Public Spaces

In developed areas streets and parking lots can make up to 25 to 30% of the land area and account for 50% of the total impervious cover. Street and parking lot runoff carries sediment, nutrients, oil, grease, heavy metals and other potential toxins. Green street and green parking lot design can reduce impervious coverage by 10 to 15% when compared to traditional street design.

• Use landscaping and pervious paving materials rather than traditional hardscape in plazas, sidewalks, driveways, streets, parking areas, and patios.
• Design multi-purpose projects that not only manage stormwater but also improve streetscape and public space design.
• Incorporate environmental education and interpretation into GSI where appropriate.
• Use GSI to amplify urban design and place using site-specific strategies.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW) STREETS AND SIDEWALKS

With a changing climate bringing more frequent and intense extreme weather events we need alternatives to traditional “gray” stormwater management approaches that treat water as waste. Expanding existing gray stormwater infrastructure to add capacity is often financially untenable and squanders the benefits green stormwater infrastructure can do to reduce flooding risks and improve water quality. To build more resilient urban spaces we need to re-imagine our asphalt and concrete sidewalks and streets as sites for sustainable stormwater management.

By including green infrastructure, complete streets improve both mobility and stormwater management to make healthier, more resilient, and safer communities. Every realm in the public right-of-way is an opportunity to incorporate green stormwater infrastructure that also can calm traffic and make way for walking, biking, and public space. We can transition the management of stormwater as a nuisance to a resource in the Solano Permittees’ arterial, commercial, and residential streets by using GSI tools like the ones described in this chapter; stormwater curb extensions, stormwater transit stops, floating island planters, and stormwater medians. These details and specifications will allow projects to provide a range of functions and benefits, such as stormwater management, bicycle and pedestrian mobility and safety, public green space, and urban forestry.

A challenge when identifying GSI opportunities both in new street design and in street retrofits is finding low points where it is also practical to incorporate GSI. Factors to consider include identifying existing and future gradient and drainage patterns. A cost effective GSI retrofit in a right-of-way will work with existing and/or proposed gradients and drainage patterns, the storm drain system, avoid utility conflicts, and maintain access for emergency and maintenance vehicles.

Green stormwater infrastructure implemented in the street right-of-way can be used to:

- Reduce impervious area
- Infiltrate/filter runoff from the street and adjacent property
- Incorporate features of universal design to be made more accessible to people with disabilities.
- Provide shade using trees
- Improve air quality
- Reduce the urban heat island effect
- Create a sense of place
- Showcase public art
- Calm traffic
- Provide wildlife habitat
- Create a welcoming area
- Enhance aesthetics
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

COMPLETE STREETS ARE GREEN STREETS

What is a Complete Street? A street that is safe for all users.

“Complete Streets are streets for everyone. They are designed and operated to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities. Complete Streets make it easy to cross the street, walk to shops, and bicycle to work.”
- Smart Growth America, National Complete Streets Coalition

What is a Green Street? A street where green stormwater infrastructure is capturing, slowing and treating all the runoff from the roadway.

“Green Streets are designed to capture, slow, and treat stormwater runoff. This approach stands in contrast to the traditional approach to stormwater management that uses “gray” infrastructure, designed to expediently collect stormwater runoff from streets through a system of storm drain inlets, pipes, culverts, and storage facilities that eventually dispose of the collected runoff in waterways or treatment facilities.”
- Sustainable Streets City of San Mateo, February 2015

‘Complete Streets’ in Vallejo

In 2012, the City of Vallejo adopted a policy supporting the planning and installation of complete streets. Key features of the City's approach to complete streets are:

• Multi-Modal. Each complete street serves all users by balancing the needs of automobiles, buses, and trucks with those of pedestrians and cyclists. This is done in different ways depending upon the situation and ultimately will provide many options for moving throughout Vallejo.

• Context Sensitive. Each street is designed to accommodate the different users while working within the existing or intended physical context of the area to enhance the appeal of adjacent real estate.

• Integral to Vallejo’s Approach to Streets. The City includes complete streets as part of its planning and review processes. Over time, each street is evaluated for the improvements it needs to become a complete street. As opportunities arise and funding is available, the improvements are systematically installed.

For additional information on Complete Streets, visit www.smartgrowthamerica.org/complete-streets

Green Streets use green stormwater infrastructure to improve safety for all users while also introducing a host of environmental multi-benefits. Therefore an ideal Complete Street design is also a Green Street. Currently, not all Complete Streets are designed to be Green Streets and vice-versa. However, the Solano Permittees seek to incorporate Green Streets, and GSI features, into all future Complete Streets.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

People Walking - Landscaped GSI makes walking more pleasant by providing shade, reducing temperatures, improving air quality, calming traffic, and creating valued community spaces.

People Using Transit - GSI incorporated into transit boarding bulbs and islands improves passenger comfort.

People Bicycling - GSI can reduce nuisance ponding after storms, making bike paths safe for travel; landscaped GSI can create a protected bikeway buffer to increase biker safety and comfort.

People Driving Motor Vehicles - GSI can lead to reduced vehicle speeds and nuisance ponding after storms, making driving conditions safer.

People Residing and Conducting Business - “Research has shown that street trees help create walkable environments that provide a positive impact to retail sales and rents. One study showed a 3% to 15% increase in home values and 9% to 12% more retail spending as shoppers spend more time in districts with a good canopy of street trees.”

People Working / Performing Maintenance - GSI must be implemented with consideration for existing or planned subsurface utilities, and designed so that maintenance crews can access and navigate equipment around GSI.

An example of a Complete Street integrated with green stormwater infrastructure to create a Green Street (source: National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO), Urban Street Stormwater Guide, 2017)

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7 Sustainable Streets City of San Mateo February 2015
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

**ROW GSI SOLUTION: STORMWATER CURB EXTENSION**

Stormwater curb extensions visually and physically narrow the roadway width, creating safer and shorter crossings for pedestrians and providing traffic calming on low-speed neighborhood streets and commercial corridors. The available space generated by curb extensions can be used for bioretention or biofiltration GSI, plantings, street furniture, benches, and street trees.

Stormwater curb extensions, also called “bulbs,” “bump-outs,” or “neckdowns,” are typically located parallel to sidewalks and narrow the crossing distance for pedestrians crossing the street. Stormwater curb extensions also decrease curb radii, encouraging drivers to make slower turns.

Bioretention or biofiltration cells can be integrated into stormwater curb extensions depending upon drainage patterns to intercept runoff before it enters an existing catch basin. Curb extensions provide traffic calming benefits, can be combined with pedestrian crossings, and can intercept and infiltrate gutter flow, especially when cited along the downstream flow path.

Upgrading curb ramps and relocating signal poles and/or utility boxes can improve pedestrian mobility and make space available for GSI.

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8 National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO), Urban Street Stormwater Guide, 2017
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Design Considerations

Stormwater curb extension sizing should allow for safe overflow during large storm events to minimize flooding into the roadway, which can create hazards for street users.

Plants in curb extensions should not grow taller than 24 inches above the sidewalk grade to maintain sight clearance in the right of way.

Curb extensions are typically recessed 1-2 feet from the outside edge of the right-most travel lane, though width may be adjusted based on site specific considerations.

The angle of the curb extension where it joins the original curb should be angled between 30 to 60 degrees to allow for mechanical street sweeping.

Inlets and outlets should be designed to avoid vehicle and bicycle wheels entering the openings.

A pre-settling zone, or energy dissipation area, should be incorporated at any locations where high energy flows are expected to enter the GSI.

While ensuring that emergency responders maintain adequate access, stormwater curb extensions can be located in areas where on-street parking is already prohibited, such as near fire hydrants or driveway setbacks.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

ROW GSI SOLUTION: FLOATING ISLAND PLANTER⁹

Vegetated space on pedestrian refuge islands, bikeway buffers, transit boarding islands, or other constructed elements that are offset from the curb can improve the streetscape and provide space for street trees. With thoughtful design and suitable topography, GSI may be incorporated into islands.

Depending on the location, floating island planters provide mobility benefits by calming traffic, protecting cyclists, and shortening crossing distances for pedestrians, all while increasing the streetscape aesthetic and opening GSI opportunities.

Stormwater overflow from floating island planters can be directed to a second GSI treatment areas. For example, overflow from the floating island planter can enter a curbside GSI in a sidewalk area to maximize treatment and minimize ponding against the curb.

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⁹ National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO), Urban Street Stormwater Guide, 2017
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Design Considerations

Bioretention or Biofiltration with walls are typically most appropriate in floating island planters due to space constraints.

Runoff can enter the planter through cub cuts or trench drains. Overflow needs to be managed to prevent ponding that creates unsafe conditions for bicyclists or motorists.

To allow adequate access by street sweepers, allow a minimum of 8 feet between the floating planter and the adjacent curb.

To maintain sight clearance, plants should not grow taller than 24 inches above the adjacent grade.
ROW GSI SOLUTION: STORMWATER MEDIAN

Wide medians used to separate traffic directions can convey and infiltrate large amounts of water. On very wide streets and parkways, green stormwater infrastructure can be coupled with greenways for bicycling and walking, providing attractive public space adjacent to stormwater management.

Runoff from upstream and/or the adjacent roadways and impervious areas can be directed into a bioswale, bioretention, or biofiltration facility located in the median.

Stormwater medians transform a typically unused space in the right-of-way into a multi-functional GSI element that can provide a visual cue to drivers to reduce vehicle speeds. On wide parkways or boulevards, stormwater medians can provide distinctive walkways and inviting public spaces.

3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Design Considerations

Streets are usually crowned, with runoff flowing away from a street centerline and towards the side curbs and gutters, therefore runoff does not typical flow towards the median. A right-of-way retrofit can capture runoff from upstream or from side streets or may require re-grading the street to convey runoff towards the median.

Capturing runoff from side streets can be achieved by daylighting the subsurface stormwater pipelines in the stormwater median.

Other utilities are often located in the right-of-way and their location may impact the stormwater median design.

To maintain sight clearance shrubs and ground cover should not grow taller than 24 inches above the adjacent grade. Trees should be pruned in standard form to maintain roadway views.

Identify if traffic lanes will need to be closed for maintenance and/or if refuge areas can be included for maintenance access.

Include an 10 to 24 inch wide level area on both sides of the median to allow maintenance workers to work safely within the median.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

GUIDELINES BY STREET TYPE

Green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) can be integrated into many, if not all, of the street types located within the Solano Permittees' jurisdictions. Four specific street types have been identified as a high potential for incorporating GSI: arterial streets, commercial main streets, and high and low residential streets. These street types are found in a relatively high frequency throughout the Permittee areas and potential integration of GSI into the right-of-way, using specific GSI ROW solutions, such as stormwater curb extensions, transit stops, floating islands, and bioretention in planter strips and medians are proposed for each street type. Due to the predominance of soils with low infiltration capacity within the Solano Permittee, most GSI features won't infiltrate to a significant degree and in most cases will require an underdrain and overflow connected to the existing storm drain system.

Modifying lane widths while maintaining safe travel and mobility can provide opportunity for GSI integration in the right-of-way. Importantly, wider lanes correlate to higher speeds, so reducing land widths to add GSI can correlate to improved stormwater management and safer streets.

Some lane width recommendations from the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO):

- 10 foot lane widths in urban areas improve street safety without impacting traffic operations;
- Truck or transit routes can use one travel lane of 11 feet in each direction;
- Narrower travel lanes (9–9.5 feet) can be effective as through lanes in conjunction with a turn.

Other ROW elements where GSI can be incorporated:

- Chicane
- Pinchpoint
- Gateway
- Pervious Pavement Within the Parking Lane, Crosswalks, and Sidewalks
- Tree well filters along sidewalks, in curb extensions, or medians
- Traffic Circles

This aerial image is from Vallejo, CA and depicts four common street types found within the Solano Permittee jurisdiction, each with unique GSI integration opportunities described in this Design Guidebook.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Use the questions in the decision tree to identify opportunities for adding green stormwater infrastructure into the street right-of-way.

Can I retrofit this street with Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI)?

- Are lane widths greater than 10 feet?
  - Y: Convert one lane in each direction to GSI, bicycle lanes, and/or bike lane buffered by floating island planter
  - N: Reduce lane width to 10’ to reduce vehicle speeds, making streets safer while making space available for GSI
- Are all vehicle lanes used at capacity?
  - Y: Evaluate for stormwater median
  - N: Reduce lane width to 11’ in each direction to make more space available for GSI
- Is the street crowned?
  - Y: Site GSI close to existing drain inlets to facilitate connection to the existing storm drain network
  - N: Look to the edge of the right-of-way to site floating island planters and stormwater curb extensions at midblock or intersections
- Are the roads and/or sidewalks in need of repair or resurfacing?
  - Y: Retrofit with pervious pavement instead of replacing or resurfacing in-kind
  - N: Program into CIP pervious pavement replacement of sidewalk, parking strip, crosswalk and/or roadway
- Is roadway safety a concern?
  - Y: Site GSI in planting strip between sidewalk and roadway
  - N: Direct runoff, where feasible, from adjacent arterial or commercial streets to new GSI in the right-of-way
- Is it a residential street?
  - Y: Alternate midblock stormwater curb extensions to create a serpentine driving lane to reduce vehicle speeds
  - N: Convert to parallel parking to make space for: wider pervious pavement walkways, bike lanes and/or... Green stormwater infrastructure (stormwater curb extensions and floating island planters)
- Is parking angled?
  - Y: Consult an Arborist if new GSI is proposed near existing mature trees
  - N: Consult an Arborist if new GSI is proposed near existing mature trees

Are lane widths greater than 10 feet?

Are all vehicle lanes used at capacity?

Is the street crowned?

Are the roads and/or sidewalks in need of repair or resurfacing?

Is roadway safety a concern?

Is it a residential street?

Is parking angled?
### 3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

**Street Type**: Arterial  
**Example**: CA-29  
**Sonoma Boulevard, Vallejo**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street Type</th>
<th>Arterial</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Example: CA-29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sonoma Boulevard, Vallejo</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Arterial streets typically have a wide right-of-way with multiple travel lanes that generate significant amounts of stormwater runoff. Arterial street design also typically prioritizes vehicle traffic with little emphasis on walkability or bike transit. Travel lanes and paved shoulders are often oversized, which contributes to frequent speeding and unsafe vehicle operations.

The over-wide or redundant roadbeds in arterial streets present great opportunities for GSI integration. All of the ROW GSI solutions described previously can be applied in arterial street types: stormwater curb extensions, floating island planters, stormwater medians, and curb cuts to bioretention planter strips.

GSI can be a unifying theme for revitalizing arterial streets into vibrant corridors that provide safe multi-modal transportation alternatives while reducing stormwater runoff volumes, improving the quality of stormwater runoff, introducing ecosystem services into urban streets, and improving shade coverage.

For example, some arterial streets would benefit from replacing redundant travel lanes with bike lanes buffered by floating island planters. Similarly, existing landscape medians can be converted to medians with bioretention, or extra space available by reducing lane widths can be used to add stormwater curb extensions, or new medians with bioretention. Arterial streets are also the perfect place to introduce transit stops that integrate stormwater treatment and improve user experience and bus driver efficiencies, while providing the multiple benefits of GSI. Pervious pavement can replace impervious surfaces in sidewalks and in street parking areas, adding character and placemaking benefits while providing stormwater management services.

**Guidelines by Street Type | Arterial**

Existing mature trees provide significant stormwater management benefits and valuable placemaking opportunities. GSI near existing mature trees along arterial streets needs to be designed to protect and promote the root structure of mature trees. A certified arborist should be consulted when designing around existing mature heritage trees.

The costs and benefits of stormwater medians should be carefully considered. Installing stormwater median retrofits can be an expensive GSI alternative because they may require changing existing topography (street drainage and cross slope) and create challenging maintenance conditions.

Proprietary biofiltration chambers with street trees, or street trees alone, could be a cost effective alternative to a stormwater median.

Pervious pavement can be used to designate bike lane; pervious concrete or porous asphalt are the more comfortable option for bicyclists.

Arterial streets generating amounts of sediment and debris, may require larger pre-settling zones at the entrance to bioretention or biofiltration facilities.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Street Type | Commercial Main Street

Example:
Georgia Street, Vallejo
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

GUIDELINES BY STREET TYPE | COMMERCIAL MAIN STREET

Design Considerations

Reducing lanes through road diets, and reallocating road space to bicycling and/or walking increases mobility while also providing GSI opportunities like floating island planters or pervious pavement.

Stormwater curb extensions can be located midblock or at intersections to improve mobility and safety by shortening pedestrian crossing distances and calming vehicle traffic by narrowing the road. The walled, or planter style, biofiltration or bioretention facilities are often best suited in downtown areas because they require less space. The perimeter wall of these facilities can incorporate seating or other placemaking elements, which also reduce the risk of people stepping into the planters.

Biofiltration structures, with impermeable or concrete linings, may be preferred because they prevent groundwater infiltration which can negatively affect adjacent utilities and pavement.

GSI is often most effective at intersections or adjacent to existing drain inlets where it has the opportunity to capture, treat, and drain stormwater runoff.

Many downtown streets use angled parking along the street frontage, which when converted to parallel parking creates additional space for wider walkways, bike lanes, and GSI with a relatively small loss in parking spaces.

GSI should include paths or be sited to allow for access to the sidewalk at frequent and regular intervals. GSI should be sited to prevent adversely affecting access to businesses. If access impacts are expected, they should be equally distributed across all storefronts.

To adjacent retailers GSI aesthetics are often more important that function. Provisions for regular maintenance, like debris removal and light weeding, can be coordinated with local businesses to reduce cost and improve performance.

Example Commercial Main Street in Vallejo, CA

Downtown streets hold great potential for GSI integration, but require careful design to balance competition for space among on-street parking, pedestrians, street trees, and above ground/below ground utilities. One of the benefits introducing GSI into commercial downtowns is that landscaped GSI, like bioretention or biofiltration facilities, makes streets more inviting by improving the overall street aesthetic. GSI may help reduce flooding risks to downtown businesses and neighborhood main streets allowing them to more quickly return to service after extreme weather events.

Because they efficiently use available space and minimize sidewalk congestion, stormwater transit stops can be an excellent alternative to traditional pull-out bus stops in space-constrained commercial main streets.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Street Type | High Density Residential

Example: Virginia Street, Vallejo
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

GUIDELINES BY STREET TYPE | HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL

Example High Density Residential Street in Vallejo, CA

Green stormwater infrastructure can initiate opportunities to retrofit residential streets and create more pleasant conditions for people to walk, bike, and enjoy their neighborhoods.

The close proximity and frequency of driveway entrances, plus a higher demand for on-street parking, creates less space for GSI integration in high density residential streets as compared to low density residential streets. Pervious paving is a favorable GSI alternative in high-density residential streets because it can manage stormwater runoff without sacrificing high use parking spaces, sidewalk width, or drive lanes. For example, pervious paving in the parking lane can capture runoff from the street, with additional runoff directed into adjacent GSI.

Design Considerations

Stormwater runoff from nearby arterial or downtown streets can be directed towards GSI on residential streets, which can avoid some of the potential maintenance conflicts on busier streets.

Alternating midblock stormwater curb extensions can create a curved, or serpentine, driving lane and maintain slow vehicle speeds. Curb extensions at cross walks also increase pedestrian visibility and shorten crossing distances.

Bioretention or biofiltration facilities can be sited in the planting strip between the sidewalk and the roadway.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Street Type | Low Density Residential
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

GUIDELINES BY STREET TYPE | LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL

Example Low Density Residential Street in Vallejo, CA

Low-density residential streets offer opportunities for GSI integration because they typically have the fewest conflicts with utilities and typically have underused parking zones.11

GSI on low density residential streets can align with school routes, bike routes or delineate parks, schools or churches.

Design Considerations

Bioretention or biofiltration facilities can be sited in the planting strip between the sidewalk and the roadway, if the available width can be accessed by maintenance crews. Where space is a constrained, GSI facilities with walls may be appropriate.

Mature trees and frequent driveways can limit applications of stormwater curb extensions.

The lower traffic volumes on residential streets result in less sediment and debris, increasing opportunities for pervious pavement, bioretention, and biofiltration.

3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

PARKING LOT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE INTEGRATION

Parking lot pavement makes up a substantial proportion of urban and suburban impervious surface areas. Parking lots, along with associated medians, curbs, and islands, present opportunities to integrate green stormwater infrastructure. New parking lot designs or existing parking lot retrofits can integrate green stormwater infrastructure to capture runoff from parking spaces, parking lanes, and buildings before it leaves the site. Parking lots with GSI can\(^\text{12}\):

- Reduce effective impervious area
- Infiltrate runoff from parking lanes and stalls
- Improve parking lot drainage
- Provide shade when trees are used
- Improve pedestrian safety with curb bump-outs to reduce crossing distances
- Improve aesthetics
- Provide wildlife habitat

When considering the design of new or retrofit parking lots, it is imperative to consider how much parking is needed on an “average day.” For most of the year parking lots often have many empty parking spaces, especially shopping mall and large retail store parking lots. As municipal requirements allow, parking lots can provide spaces for average day versus peak conditions, incorporate principals of shared parking (for example between office buildings and movie theatres that have demand for parking at different times), or at a minimum, provide peak overflow parking zones with pervious paving.

\(^{12}\) Green Infrastructure Opportunities that Arise During Municipal Operations, EPA Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, National Estuary Program, January 2015
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Balance Parking and Landscape Space

Impervious surfaces increase runoff and pollutant loads, and especially given the high cost of property in the Bay Area, parking lots are an opportunity for efficient design to make space available for other things, like green infrastructure. A variety of GSI tools can be applied in parking lots, starting with techniques to reduce impervious areas, which reduces runoff volumes and makes space available for GSI while meeting target parking space requirements.

Strategies to reduce imperviousness in parking lots include:

- Shortening parking stalls to create GSI planters in front of and/or next to angled parking. Shorten parking stall lengths to 15 feet and/or shorten the drive/back-up aisles to 22 feet. The shorter stalls can still accommodate SUVs, and the drive aisles can still allow cars to comfortably back-up and travel within the parking lot.\(^\text{13}\)
- Create shallow depressions in medians, centerline safety strips, and roundabouts and plant with low-profile vegetation.
- Convert one or more street parking spaces to a micropark that serves as a seating area or gathering space while incorporating a bioretention facility to receive drainage from surrounding impervious areas.
- Choose pervious pavement for areas with low volume traffic, such as parking stalls, fire lanes, pedestrian walkways, and overflow parking.
- Install or convert areas between parking rows to bioswales.
- Install bioretention or biofiltration along the parking lot perimeter and in corners where cars cannot park. Use curb bump-outs with bioretention at the end of stalls to calm traffic and reduce pedestrian crossing distances.
- Plant trees between parking rows, in bump-outs, and along perimeters. Use stormwater tree boxes in wide sidewalks and entrance courts.
- For retrofits, redirect stormwater flow from storm drains to bioretention areas.

\(^\text{13}\) San Mateo County Sustainable Green Streets and Parking Lots Guidebook. Portland, Oregon and other cities have allowed even smaller parking lot dimensions within their city codes.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

- Natural Feature: Dry Creek Bed or Outlet
- Bioretention
- Existing Adjacent Lawn - Converted to Infiltration Area
- Filterra or Storm Water Boxes at Sidewalk and Street Edges
- Permeable Pavers in Parking Stalls and Crosswalks
- Compact Spaces 15' Deep - to Reduce Impervious Area
- Traditional 10'-20' Stalls
- Clearly Defined Pedestrian Areas
- Parking Lot Example

Not to Scale
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Green Parking Areas: Potential Project Partners and Funding Sources

- Seek input from business improvement districts, neighborhood associations, and the Chamber of Commerce regarding desired features and amenities of green parking areas.
- Solicit funding from business associations or grants to improve municipal parking areas serving a commercial district.

Design Considerations:

For GSI located between parking aisles, plant trees aligned with stripes to avoid being hit by cars.

Select plants that do not impede driver sight lines or hide pedestrians from view.

Design GSI with access and features that make maintenance easier, such as paved forebays for easy sediment removal.

Choose vegetation that is densely rooted to filter debris and pollutants.

Use wheel stops or curbs with cuts to ensure that cars do not drive over bioretention.

Grade drainage to slope toward bioretention areas or pervious pavement; avoid concentrated flows.

Design curb cuts and inflow areas to manage adequate flow.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

PUBLIC PARKS, PUBLIC LANDSCAPE AREAS, AND OTHER PUBLIC OUTDOOR AREAS

Municipal buildings, libraries, public parking lots, schools, community centers and parks offer opportunities for highly visible green infrastructure retrofits. Projects can be undertaken as part of the capital improvement process, ideally in conjunction with other needed maintenance such as building additions and modifications, repaving, re-landscaping, or infrastructure repair or replacement. Green stormwater infrastructure can enhance public spaces by:

- Providing opportunities for signage describing the GSI philosophy;
- Infiltrating runoff from paved areas and rooftops;
- Creating wildlife habitat; and
- Creating welcoming, park-like areas

Green Stormwater Infrastructure in Parks

The American Planning Association, through The City Parks Forum created a briefing paper on “How cities use parks for Green Infrastructure”, which identifies the four key points:

- Key Point #1 Creating an interconnected system of parks and open space is manifestly more beneficial than creating parks in isolation.
- Key Point #2 Cities can use parks to help preserve essential ecological functions and to protect biodiversity.
- Key Point #3 When planned as part of a system of green stormwater infrastructure, parks can help shape urban form and buffer incompatible uses.
- Key Point #4 Cities can use parks to reduce public costs for stormwater management, flood control, transportation, and other forms of built infrastructure.

14  Green Infrastructure Opportunities that Arise During Municipal Operations, EPA Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, National Estuary Program, January 2015
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Consider the following actions to implement green stormwater infrastructure in parks and around public buildings like City Hall and the Library:\footnote{Adapted from Green Infrastructure in Parks: a Guide to Collaboration, Funding, and Community Engagement, EPA Office of Water, June 2017.}

- Convert turf areas with high maintenance requirements and potable water demands to landscape GSI or other naturalized areas to reduce maintenance and other costs associated with the management of turf;
- Decrease potable water demand by installing cisterns or rain barrels to collect roof runoff for irrigation;
- Install pervious pavement in parking lots and along walkways to reduce runoff and improve aesthetic;
- Install GSI in underutilized areas to improve aesthetics and reduce runoff and flooding;
- Include educational signage describing stormwater impacts and the benefits of GSI.
Green Stormwater Infrastructure in Schools

Integrating green stormwater infrastructure on school grounds provides an opportunity to connect kids, families, educators, and staff with environmental problems and solutions in tangible ways while also managing stormwater and achieving regulatory compliance.

Students can study, monitor, and maintain water quality facilities on school grounds as part of their science curriculum.

GSI can be used to capture stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces adjacent to school rooftops, walkways, playgrounds, blacktops, and parking lots.

Rainwater harvesting can be used to collect rainfall from rooftops, and the captured water can be used for irrigation and with the proper treatment indoor uses like toilet flushing. Students can be a part of the collection and reuse process by using collected rainwater to irrigate school gardens.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Create Stormwater Microparks

“Urban landscapes have many small-scale pockets of space that are underutilized and sometimes unsightly. These spaces often are located in triangles at junctions of diagonal streets, in spaces between buildings, in vacant lots, or in corners of parking lots. These underused areas are often paved or have high-maintenance turf that offers limited amenity value. They can be converted to a bioretention area or community garden with trees and attractive vegetation, and can accomplish the following:”

- Reduce impervious surface
- Infiltrate runoff from the right-of-way and adjacent property
- Protect and restore water quality
- Improve aesthetics
- Create park-like areas
- Provide shade
- Showcase public art
- Provide wildlife habitat
- Promote urban agriculture

Ensure that there is adequate light for plant growth, or select shade-tolerant plants for microparks surrounded by buildings.

For microparks adjacent to streets, consider enhanced pedestrian safety measures, such as wheelstops, railings, buffers, curb extensions, and painted crosswalks.

Review local codes (setback requirements, sidewalk widths, parking requirements, etc.) to ensure there is space for green infrastructure practices.

Identify possible conflicts with existing utilities.” 16

Design Considerations

Install pervious pavement in low traffic areas such as alleys, medians, sidewalks, fire lanes, and parking stalls.

Convert unused parking spaces into a micropark and/or install GSI. Overflow parking is fantastic application for pervious pavement.

Replace pavement in medians and traffic islands with vegetation. Larger under utilized spaces may be appropriate for community gardens.

Locate GSI in areas where runoff is already naturally flowing to avoid costly regrading.

Site and design GSI in consideration of maintenance requirements by providing adequate access and features to facilitate debris and sediment removal.

Include trees within site improvement plans to provide shade, stormwater and climate change benefits, and improve aesthetics.” 17

To prevent lateral migration of infiltrating stormwater, which can undermine building foundations and other structures, install lined biofiltration elements to capture rooftop runoff adjacent to, or close to, buildings.

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16 Green Infrastructure Opportunities that Arise During Municipal Operations, EPA Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, National Estuary Program, January 2015
17 Green Infrastructure Opportunities that Arise During Municipal Operations, EPA Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, National Estuary Program, January 2015
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

LANDSCAPE DESIGN CRITERIA

INTRODUCTION

Urban greening infrastructure improvements and low impact development projects should serve to improve the fabric and quality of life in our towns and cities. By making well informed and strategic landscape design and planting choices, engineered basins, swales and structures can be transformed into green jewels in a community!

Every project will be unique and will need to be thoughtfully considered. Urban sites designed to include bioretention planters and green gutters, or biofiltration planters surrounded by modern architecture lend themselves to a more structured approach with a less diverse plant palette while large stormwater facilities and bio-swales located within large sloping greenspaces may be more naturalistic and include a more diverse variety of plant species and textures.

Green street and parking lot projects may have an altogether different approach and include a mix of plantings that are tolerant of wet-zone conditions and severe drought and will almost always include large canopy tree plantings tolerant of these conditions as well as urban contaminants and pollution.

Climate

Solano County is located in the San Francisco Bay area, characterized as a Mediterranean climate is typified by warm dry summers and mild winters. Rainfall distribution is substantially affected by topography, with most of the rainfall concentrated along the western county border over the Vaca Mountains. Each of the three cities included in the project area have slight climatic differences. Vallejo is considered a waterfront city and subject to occasional fog and marine climate. Slightly further inland, Fairfield and Suisun City are also considered as having a mild climate with similar mild summers and winters.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

PLANTING DESIGN

Tree Selection

Although not directly related to stormwater quality, adding tree canopy provides additional benefits including energy savings, air quality improvement and economic benefit to a community. Significant amounts of tree canopy have other important environmental benefits not directly related to stormwater management.

Existing healthy and mature trees should be preserved on a site whenever possible. Mature trees may influence the location of stormwater facilities and should be considered in the design of streetscape and stormwater treatment facilities. Often adjacent trees may be retained and can advantageously affect the uptake of water in a stormwater basin, thus providing an additional benefit.

Species of tree should be considered when placing new landscape as well, some species are highly sensitive to crown disturbance, root trimming, standing water or supplemental irrigation.

If a new tree planting is planned, it is important to consider if the tree species is well suited for the proposed location. For instance, in a parking lot island or street tree application species should be selected that have a large canopy, non-invasive roots, are pollution tolerant and tolerant of standing water (if planted in a biofiltration swale).

Each City within Solano County has developed tree selection criteria specific to their region and City Standards for Vallejo, Suisun City and Fairfield should be consulted in addition to this document.

Plant Selection

There are many conditions to consider when choosing plant species to be used in stormwater treatment drainage features. Many of the criteria are found in species that successfully tolerate the disparate conditions found in their native habitats. For example, the plant species need to tolerate periods of flooding as well as extended dry periods without supplemental irrigation. A mix of Mediterranean and California native plant species are highly recommended as they are best adapted to the local climate of wet winters and hot dry summers.

The plant palette is intended to serve as a baseline for plant species selection for LID drainage features. Other plant species may be proposed for use in stormwater drainage features and the individual Cities within Solano County will have the right to permit or deny their use. The following planting criteria and characteristics are to be considered when proposing other species for stormwater treatment features:

- The planting zones where the plant species are to be planted (Low, Mid, High, see Planting Zones)
- The size of the planting area and the size of the plant species at maturity
- California native or easily naturalized plant species are preferred
- Appropriate for the site, areas of high traffic and vandalism should be treated with sturdy more robust species
- Invasive species should not be used
- Ratio of 70% evergreen / 30% deciduous to minimize leaf collection in basins and maximize coverage year round.
- Drought tolerant / low-supplemental irrigation requirements
- Tolerant of flooding/inundation (when appropriate)
- Low maintenance requirements
- Proven success in Solano County

As an element of a drainage feature, plant selections should control erosion and draw water from soils. An ideal planting will have 100% coverage over a 1 year period to prevent sedimentation and erosion. Plantings should be installed with a higher coverage rate than in traditional applications.

If a planted LID drainage feature receives a concentrated flow, energy dispersion will be required at the entry point to deter damage or erosion to the planted areas. Examples of erosion protection/energy dissipation designs include large boulders, cobblestones or gabions. These natural dissipation features can enhance a stormwater feature by adding a natural character to what can be considered engineered site features.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Plant Layout

The following shall be considered when planting in stormwater features:

- The smallest practical area of land should be exposed at any one time during development. Mulching, erosion control blankets, native grass sod or other protective erosion control measures should be used to protect exposed areas.
- Vegetation should be installed immediately after the land is exposed, during construction.
- Plants should be planted in staggered rows to ensure that plants grow together for maximum soil coverage.
- Avoid compacting soils and maintain slopes less than 3:1

Hydrozones

Planting zones refer to the planted areas in drainage features of Low Impact Development (LID) practices and stormwater control features. Plants are an integral element of the function of these stormwater features. The plants in these zones facilitate natural infiltration of surface runoff, increase evapotranspiration, reduce the heat-island effect of urbanized areas, and reduce the rate, volume, and pollutant loading of urban runoff that ultimately ends up in local streams, rivers, estuaries, Suisun Marsh, and Suisun Bay and the San Francisco Bay. For the drainage features to function optimally, numerous plant characteristics have been considered in indicating the appropriate plant species for the three plant zones such as: water requirements, tolerance for inundation, root and leaf structure and a species’ ability to filter pollutants.

In all instances, a mix of drought tolerant Mediterranean and California native plant species are recommended since they are adapted to the San Francisco Bay and inland climate and generally require less water and fertilization. Invasive plant species are discouraged as water can quickly spread their occurrence and alter downstream habitats. Likewise, high water use turf grasses are discouraged for LID drainage features since they require large amounts of supplemental water, fertilizers and regular maintenance.

LOW ZONE A – The low zone is an area where runoff temporarily ponds in response to a rain event. The low zone should be designed to infiltrate at a rate of 5 inches per hour or greater, and to drain standing water in less than 72 hours. However, it may be inundated for extended periods of time during the rainy season. Water tolerant plants with dense root structure and/or vegetative cover provide maximum pollutant filtration, discourage erosion and slow water runoff velocities (in drainage features that cross-drain, such as biofiltration swales). Low growing sedges, rushes and grasses that quickly cover exposed soils (three months time) and are tolerant of very wet and intermittent flooding, are the best choices and low zone A. In some cases, a native grass sod may be selected and installed for immediate coverage in large basins subject to severe erosion or that need immediate coverage.

MID ZONE B – The mid zone is an area that slows the storm water runoff as it flows into the drainage feature, with side slopes 3:1 or less. Water passes through and saturates this area but will not stand there for extended periods of time during typical storm events. The plants for this zone must tolerate periods without water and periodic inundation. The plants in the mid zone should provide a root structure to prevent erosion of the side slope. Larger grasses and mixed species groundcovers may be used in the mid zone B where there are varied slopes, soil type, and drainage patterns (sheet flow, concentrated flow, or intermittent flooding). Select low-growing plant material (less than three feet in height). Low-growing plants tend to be more appropriate and functional in green street and parking lot applications.

HIGH ZONE C – The high zone is an area that creates the top of the bank of the drainage facility. Water will not stand in this zone. Deep roots give natural base structure to the edge of the drainage facility. These plants must be tolerant of extended periods without water and occasional saturation. Trees and small shrubs are best planted in the high zone C where their roots can absorb the infiltration and minimize debris collecting in the basin bottom. Plants chosen for wet zone conditions should also have some level of drought tolerance in order to minimize, or potentially eliminate, the need for supplemental irrigation and minimize maintenance.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Hydrozone Zone A

Run-off

Inundation Area Mix of Sedges, Rushes and Grasses

Zone B

Zone A

Zone C

Locate Energy Dissipator at High Flow Areas - Boulders and Cobble

Inundation Area Mix of Low Grasses, Sedges and Rushes

Gentle Transition to Natural Grade

Mix of Boulders and Grasses with Low Growing Shrubs to Provide Erosion Control
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

SITE PREPARATION

Each site is different and stormwater treatment facilities and treatments may require specific soil mixes and soil preparation. It is important to consider the overall goal of the soil application and the requirements for drainage. Specific soil mixtures should be selected depending on the installation type and are detailed in the Engineering section of this Report.

LID retrofit sites and stormwater improvement projects are often located in sites with extremely compacted or mineral depleted soils. Because of this, the site preparation and soil amendment process is critical to the long-term and sustained health of plantings.

Generally new bioretention mixes should be fully incorporated into the top six inches of existing soil, well rototilled and lightly compacted (up to 75% compaction). Heavy compaction in large sites and paved areas is often the main cause of storm water facility failure.

Precise grading of stormwater facilities is critical for assuring the success of a green street or parking lot project and in most situations, adjustments to the grades will need to be made in the field. Finish elevations of bioretention soils shall be held 3 inches below final grade of the stormwater facility to account for a mulch layer.

Bioretention Soil Mix

In general, bioretention or biofiltration soil mixes shall be consistent with the BASMAA Regional Bioretention Soil Mix Specification (Appendix A). Soils for biotreatment or bioretention areas shall meet two objectives:

• Be sufficiently permeable to infiltrate runoff at a minimum rate of 5” per hour during the life of the facility, and

• Have sufficient moisture retention to support healthy vegetation.

Achieving both objectives with an engineered soil mix requires careful specification of soil gradations and a substantial component of organic material (typically compost).
Compost shall be a well decomposed, stable, weed free organic matter source derived from waste materials including yard debris, wood wastes or other organic materials not including manure or biosolids meeting the standards developed by the US Composting Council (USCC). The product shall be certified through the USCC Seal of Testing Assurance (STA) Program (a compost testing and information disclosure program).

**Soil Testing For Non-Regulated Projects**

A soils report should be prepared prior to planting. The report shall be prepared by a qualified soils laboratory. The report shall be submitted to the City as part of the landscape and irrigation plans for final approval. Soil samples should be collected after grading operations are complete. Since surface soils are highly variable within Solano County, a sufficient number of soils samples shall be collected to account for variations that may be present in the areas to be planted. The report should include:

- Native soil composition
- Infiltration rates
- A texture test
- Known or suspected toxins or infestations
- Exchange capacity
- An agricultural suitability analysis
- Recommended amendments for planted species to thrive

The selection of plant material, fertilizers, soil amendments, soil conditioners, and irrigation systems, shall address, in particular, the needs as indicated in the soils analysis report.

**Amendments**

Prior to planting the recommended amendments shall be added as described in the soils report. A copy of the soils report shall be attached to the irrigation schedule provided to the owner of the project.

**Irrigation**

Refer to the Individual City Standards (City of Vallejo, Suisun City and City of Fairfield) for a full list of irrigation materials, specifications and construction details. Specific irrigation standard materials may vary by City.

All irrigation systems and landscapes shall be designed using the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance AB 1881 of the California Code of Regulations (or replacement bill) as a standard.

Ideally a sub-surface drip irrigation system or individual bubblers located in planting areas, are preferred choices in long narrow stormwater features such as green gutters and biofiltration swales and in engineered solutions such as biofiltration and infiltration features because they allow for maximum application of water without overspray, or emitter maintenance. This is an ideal solution in high traffic areas and where minimal irrigation is needed for establishment of a planting area.

Non irrigated landscapes should be maintained for a period of two full rainy seasons.

**Mulch**

Mulch should be added to all stormwater features with the exception of Low Area plantings that are densely planted. The mulch may be organic material (e.g., aged compost) or stone. Wood mulch is discouraged because it tends to float. Stone mulch is a good choice for stormwater facilities that experience high levels of runoff. Stone should be sized appropriately based on the expected sediment load of the runoff, larger rocks can collect sediment and be difficult to maintain. In green street and parking lot projects with a flat bottom, an ideal selection is pea gravel because it allows for easier removal and maintenance of sediment and debris.

When planning and designing stormwater facilities, finished grade should be left 3 inches below the desired finish grade to allow for a thick layer of mulch. If the finish grade of the stormwater facility is built without planning for a mulch layer, the stormwater facilities will be graded too high and water cannot get into the overflow.

After planting, exposed soils shall be covered with mulch to prevent erosion and for the purpose of retaining moisture and minimizing weed growth. New construction and retrofit is often subject to the State’s Model Water Efficiency Landscaping Ordinance (or comparable local ordinance) will require at least three inches of mulch. Biodegradable coconut fiber erosion control blankets may also be used on slopes greater than 3:1 to provide same function as mulch.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Mulch should be large enough in size to be easily cleaned away from drain inlets and not fit through the openings of drain grates. Mulch shall be free of sticks and other debris. Always hold mulch away from root crown. Acceptable mulch types include:

- Redwood bark (1” to 2” diameter)
- Chipped gravel, crushed stone, (1” – 2 1/2” diameter) or cobbles (4” – 6” diameter)
- Aged compost

**Maintenance**

Native and well selected plant species naturally reduce the need for maintenance. Well selected plants and trees will minimize pests and disease problems, require less fertilizer, reduce the need for excessive pruning and conserve water.

Care requirements should be considered when choosing plant species for LID drainage features. Trash and debris should be cleaned out of LID planting areas periodically, especially after large storm events. Drain inlets shall be cleaned out monthly.

A 3” layer of composted mulch should be re-applied once a year, or as needed, to slopes and exposed soil, preferably in June following weeding.

**Pesticide Use – Integrated Pest Management**

Either by rain or irrigation, pesticides used on landscaping and gardens can be washed off the plants and soils upon which they have been applied. This stormwater runs off the land and flows to the nearest storm drain, which ultimately carries the stormwater to local creeks, the Suisun Marsh, and Suisun Bay without treatment. These pesticides may be harmful to fish and other organisms. Therefore, reducing the use of pesticides in landscape maintenance helps protect water quality, aquatic life and human health.

In planning and selecting plantings for a stormwater treatment project, consider pest resistant plants and promoting integrated pest management (IPM) methods of pest control. IPM is a decision-making process for managing pests. This approach uses monitoring to determine pest-caused injury levels and the most effective methods for pest control. To effectively control pests while minimizing pesticide usage, IPM uses a combination of biological controls (natural enemies or predators); physical or mechanical controls (hand labor or mowing); cultural controls (mulching, diskong, or alternative plant type selection); and reduced risk chemical controls (soaps or oils).

Synthetic pesticides should not be used on bioretention facilities. Beneficial nematodes and non-toxic controls may be used. Acceptable natural pesticides include Safer® Aphid, Whitefly, and Mealybug Killer, Safer® Tree and Shrub Insect Attach, Safer® for Evergreens, and Neem oil. For more information on pesticide reduction in landscape maintenance and design, please refer to the Fairfield-Suisun Urban Runoff Management Program brochure entitled “Landscape Maintenance Techniques for Pest Reduction.”
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

Landscape Design Resources

East Bay Municipal Utility District, Plants and Landscapes for Summer-Dry Climates of the San Francisco Bay Region. 2004.


Low Impact Development Center, Inc. General information about LID principles. Available at: www.lid-stormwater.net


Bornstein, Carol, David Fross and Bart O’Brien, California Native Plants for the Garden, Los Olivos, CA, Cachuma Press, 2005.


San Francisco Plant Finder, <www.sfplantfinder.org>


### 3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

#### Trees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Zone A</th>
<th>Zone B</th>
<th>Zone C</th>
<th>Swale or Filter Strip</th>
<th>Large Planters (&gt; 5')</th>
<th>Street</th>
<th>Wind Tolerant</th>
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<td>Cercis occidentalis</td>
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<td>Pyrus calleryiana</td>
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**Select natural form - prefers some shade**  
**Do NOT use 'Yarwood'**  
**Do NOT use in City of Suisun**  
**Allow ample room for canopy**  
**Allow ample room for canopy**

#### Shrubs & Groundcovers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
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**Many sizes and species available**  
**Clay tolerant**  
**Many sizes and species available - tolerates shade**  
**Shade tolerant**  
**Many sizes and species available - allow space**
## 3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

### Sedges, Grasses and Herbaceous Perennials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Zone A</th>
<th>Zone B</th>
<th>Zone C</th>
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<td>Deschampsia caespitosa</td>
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<td>Elymus glaucus</td>
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<td>Festuca idahoensis</td>
<td>Idaho Fescue</td>
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<td>Iris douglasiana</td>
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<td>Blue Rush</td>
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<td>Lupinus species</td>
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<td>Muhlenbergia rigens</td>
<td>Deer Grass</td>
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<td>Poystichum munitum</td>
<td>Western Sword Fern</td>
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<td>California Wild Rye</td>
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<td>Salvia species</td>
<td>Sage</td>
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- **Zone A**: Tolerates Prolonged Saturation
- **Zone B**: Tolerates Periodic Flooding
- **Zone C**: Tolerates Prolonged Dry Periods

**Notes**: Many sizes and species available. Use sparingly, spreading habit can be aggressive. Keep out of Zone A and mulched areas. Best in large planters - spreads quickly. Many sizes and species available.
3. Streetscape and Project Design Guidelines

MAINTENANCE CONSIDERATIONS DURING DESIGN

Maintenance is critical to the longevity and effective function of green stormwater infrastructure. GSI projects need to strike a cost effective balance between construction and operation and maintenance (O&M) costs. Specific aspects of facility maintenance should be considered during the design phases, specifically who will be responsible for maintenance and if there is sufficient staffing capacity to support the additional work, how maintenance crews will access the facilities, and what special equipment or skills may be needed to perform the maintenance.

The access routes and temporary material storage areas that maintenance crews will use should be delineated during the project design phases. This will ensure that crews have safe access even in high traffic areas. The type and frequency of the required maintenance activities should be identified during the design phase to confirm with site managers that staffing, skills, and equipment will be in-place to perform the required maintenance once the facility is installed.

“Although green infrastructure may need more frequent maintenance, provided by a broader coalition of project partners, the aggregate costs can be less than that required for gray infrastructure, for which repairs and maintenance may be less frequent but much more disruptive and likely more costly.”

- Sustainable Streets City of San Mateo, February 2015
POST-CONSTRUCTION

Post-Construction Verification

Inspections and ongoing maintenance throughout the construction of a GSI facility is recommended and will streamline the post-construction verification process. After GSI construction, and an agreed upon plant grow-in period, a construction inspector should verify that the following items have been performed correctly and/or completed:

- Submit as-built drawings.
- Planter area(s) are free of construction-related sediment and debris.
- Plantings are healthy and rooted-in (pass pull test). Plant replacements should occur as required under the contract.
- Overall site is stabilized.
- Stormwater diversion and erosion and sediment control measures were maintained throughout the plant grow-in period.
- Good housekeeping measures were in place during the entire duration of the project.
- Monitoring wells, if any, have been installed properly.
- Irrigation system is functioning properly and irrigation head spray patterns are properly adjusted (if applicable).
- Plant grow-in and maintenance tasks are being performed.
- Flood tests were performed and approved for every bioretention planter.
- All punch list items/requested repairs have been addressed.

Flow diversion is required throughout the plant grow-in phase and until all adjacent construction is completed and stabilized. This ensures that plants are rooted firmly in place before they are inundated with stormwater runoff.

Post-Construction Maintenance

GSI maintenance can include watering, weeding, pruning, removal of invasive species, and plant replacement to support healthy plant establishment; plant debris and trash removal; and sediment removal from the forebay to maintain flow paths. If a facility is not functioning properly, maintenance may involve removing soil media and/or mulch to clean out sediment deposits.

Specific maintenance requirements, including frequency of each activity and length of contracted maintenance period, should be detailed in contract documents. Considerations during maintenance activities:

- Ensure irrigation is functioning properly. Look for evidence of broken pipes or sprinklers.
- Follow recommended pruning practices by plant type for timing and amount to remove.
- Refer to the Planting Plan in the design documents to identify and remove invasive weeds.
- Ensure maintenance inspection takes place immediately following storms with rainfall of 0.25 inches or more.
- Complete and submit inspection checklists and maintenance logs based on the specification requirements.

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18 Adapted from SFPUC, Green Infrastructure Construction Guidebook
19 Adapted from SFPUC, Green Infrastructure Construction Guidebook
CHAPTER 4
GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE STANDARD SPECIFICATION AND DESIGN DETAILS

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

• Provide a suite of GSI details and specifications for integration into Permittee standards.
GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE STANDARD SPECIFICATION AND DESIGN DETAILS

These green stormwater infrastructure details and specifications have been selected to support integration of GSI into standard practices, for example in street design, municipal capital projects, and to support private development review. Implementation of a GSI strategy will require cross departmental coordination with planning, operations and maintenance. These details and specifications can support the design and construction of GSI practices in the Permittees jurisdictions.

How to use these GSI typical details

These typical details and specifications were developed to be revised and customized as needed for each individual project by design professionals. They show typical configurations, rather than a required city standard configuration. This distinction is deliberate. We recognize that to create functional, contextual, and aesthetic green infrastructure projects, design professionals must use their professional judgment and creative thinking to be responsive to each site-specific condition.

AutoCAD drawings of these typical details are provided so that design professionals must modify the plan, sections, call-outs, and/or construction notes to address the projects site-specific conditions.

These typical details are formatted, organized, and developed with the necessary informational tools to guide the design professional through the proper selection, layout, and design of GSI best management practices (BMPs) and the selection of appropriate site-specific BMP component details (i.e., inlets, outlets, and edge treatments, etc.).

Design professionals using the AutoCAD drawings must review and adjust the details and construction notes to address their site-specific conditions. To allow for site-specific design adjustments the typical details are developed as “not for construction” drawings. Title blocks are provided for document organization and reference only.

SPECIFICATIONS

Specifications for Bioretention, Pervious Concrete, Porous Asphalt, and Permeable Pavers are located in Appendix A.

20 Adapted from Green Infrastructure Typical Details, SFPUC Stormwater Management Requirements and Design Guidelines, September 2016, Version 2.0

PURPOSE:
BIORETENTION BASINS CONTROL PEAK FLOWS AND VOLUMES OF STORMWATER RUNOFF BY PROVIDING SURFACE, SUBSURFACE STORAGE AND INFILTRATION INTO NATIVE SOIL. WATER IS ALSO TREATED AS IT FILTERS THROUGH THE BIORETENTION SOIL.

DESIGNER NOTES & GUIDELINES:
1. THE DESIGNER MUST ADAPT PLAN AND SECTION DRAWINGS TO ADDRESS SITE-SPECIFIC CONDITIONS.
2. FACILITY AREA, PONDING DEPTH, BIORETENTION SOIL DEPTH, AND AGGREGATE STORAGE DEPTH MUST BE SIZED TO MEET PROJECT HYDROLOGIC PERFORMANCE GOALS.
3. PONDING AND BIORETENTION SOIL DRAWDOWN TIME (I.E., TIME FOR MAXIMUM SURFACE PONDING TO DRAIN THROUGH THE BIORETENTION SOIL AFTER THE END OF A STORM) RECOMMENDATIONS:
   - 3 - 12 HOUR PONDING AND BIORETENTION SOIL DRAWDOWN (TYPICAL)
   - 24 HOUR MAXIMUM PONDING AND BIORETENTION SOIL DRAWDOWN
4. FACILITY DRAWDOWN TIME (I.E. TIME FOR SURFACE PONDING TO DRAIN THROUGH THE ENTIRE SECTION INCLUDING AGGREGATE STORAGE AFTER THE END OF A STORM) REQUIREMENTS:
   - 48 HOUR MAXIMUM FACILITY DRAWDOWN (I.E. ORIFICE CONTROLLED SYSTEM OR EXTENDED STORAGE DEPTH WITHIN INFILTRATION SYSTEM).
5. THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES APPLY TO RIGHT-OF-WAY APPLICATIONS:
   - BULB OUT CURB TRANSITIONS SHALL CONFORM TO CITY STANDARDS.
   - WHEN FACILITY CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS EXISTING SIDEWALK, ALL SAW CUTS MUST ADHERE TO CITY REQUIREMENTS. SAW CUTS SHOULD BE ALONG SCORE LINES AND ANY DISTURBED SIDEWALK FLAGS SHOULD BE REPLACED IN THEIR ENTIRETY.
   - DESIGNER TO SPECIFY TRANSITION OF PLANTER TO TOP OF CURB ELEVATION BETWEEN CURB CUTS OR CONTINUOUS 6 INCH REVEAL AT CURB EDGE.
6. UP TO TWO PLANTERS MAY BE CONNECTED IN SERIES, IN LIEU OF MULTIPLE INLETS, PROVIDED THE CONNECTION IS A TRENCH DRAIN OR EQUAL SURFACE CONVEYANCE AND IS ADEQUATELY SIZED TO CONVEY FLOWS.
7. MINIMUM UTILITY SETBACKS AND PROTECTION MEASURES MUST CONFORM TO CURRENT CITY ASSET PROTECTION STANDARDS AND OTHER UTILITY PROVIDERS REQUIREMENTS.

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Solano County Permittees’ Green Stormwater Infrastructure Design Guidebook | PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT - JULY 2019
CONSTRUCTION NOTES:
1. AVOID COMPACTION OF EXISTING SUBGRADE BELOW BASIN.
2. SCARIFY SUBGRADE TO A DEPTH OF 3 INCHES (MIN) IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO PLACEMENT OF AGGREGATE STORAGE AND BIORETENTION SOIL MATERIALS.
3. COMPACT BIORETENTION SOIL IMMEDIATELY BEHIND CURB TO 90% OF MAXIMUM DENSITY PER STANDARD PROCTOR TEST (ASTM D698).
4. UNDERDRAIN REQUIRED FOR ALL FACILITIES WITH IMPERMEABLE LINER.
5. PROVIDE ONE CLEANOUT PER PLANTER (MIN) FOR FACILITIES WITH UNDERDRAINS. CLEANOUT MUST CONSIST OF A VERTICAL, RIGID, NON-PERFORATED PVC PIPE, WITH A MINIMUM DIAMETER OF 4-INCHES AND A WATERTIGHT CAP.
6. MINIMUM UTILITY SETBACKS AND PROTECTION MEASURES MUST CONFORM TO CURRENT CITY STANDARDS. COORDINATE WITH ENGINEER IN THE EVENT OF UTILITY CROSSING AND UTILITY CONFLICTS.

CONSTRUCTION NOTES:
1. AVOID COMPACTION OF EXISTING SUBGRADE BELOW BASIN.
2. SCARIFY SUBGRADE TO A DEPTH OF 3 INCHES (MIN) IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO PLACEMENT OF AGGREGATE STORAGE AND BIORETENTION SOIL MATERIALS.
3. UNDERDRAIN REQUIRED FOR ALL FACILITIES WITH IMPERMEABLE LINER.
4. PROVIDE ONE CLEANOUT PER PLANTER (MIN) FOR FACILITIES WITH UNDERDRAINS. CLEANOUT MUST CONSIST OF A VERTICAL, RIGID, NON-PERFORATED PVC PIPE, WITH A MINIMUM DIAMETER OF 4-INCHES AND A WATERTIGHT CAP.
5. MINIMUM UTILITY SETBACKS AND PROTECTION MEASURES MUST CONFORM TO CURRENT CITY STANDARDS. COORDINATE WITH ENGINEER IN THE EVENT OF UTILITY CROSSING AND UTILITY CONFLICTS.

PURPOSE:
UNDERDRAINS ARE USED TO COLLECT STORMWATER THAT HAS BEEN FILTERED THROUGH BIORETENTION SOIL AND CONVEY THAT TREATED STORMWATER TO A DESIGNATED OUTLET (E.G., PLANTER OVERFLOW STRUCTURE).

DESIGNER NOTES & GUIDELINES:
1. THE DESIGNER SHOULD INCLUDE UNDERDRAINS IN FACILITY DESIGN IN THE FOLLOWING SCENARIOS:
   - INFILTRATION IS PROHIBITED OR IMPRUDENT (E.G., FACILITY NEAR SENSITIVE INFRASTRUCTURE OR STEEP SLOPES, RISK OF CONTAMINATION IS HIGH OR SITE GROUNDWATER/SOILS ARE CONTAMINATED, THERE IS POOR INFILTRATION CAPACITY DUE TO SOILS OR HIGH GROUNDWATER).
   - SUBGRADE MEASURED (I.E., UNCORRECTED) INFILTRATION RATE IS LESS THAN 0.5 INCHES PER HOUR.
   - MAXIMUM SURFACE POOL DRAWDOWN PERIOD CANNOT BE ACHIEVED.
2. AN OUTLET STRUCTURE AND/OR CLEANOUT(S) TO ALLOW MAINTENANCE ACCESS TO ALL PIPES IS REQUIRED FOR FACILITIES WITH UNDERDRAINS.
3. UNDERDRAIN PIPE SHALL HAVE A SMOOTH INTERIOR WALL TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WITH PRESSURIZED WATER OR ROOT CUTTING EQUIPMENT.
4. DESIGNER SHOULD CONSIDER THE INSTALLED ELEVATION OF THE UNDERDRAIN PIPE WITHIN THE BIORETENTION FACILITIES AGGREGATE STORAGE LAYER TO PROMOTE INFILTRATION, BELOW THE UNDERDRAIN, WHEN FEASIBLE. DESIGNER SHOULD ALSO CONSIDER THE USE OF ORIFICES OR OTHER CONTROL STRUCTURES TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFILTRATION AND FLOW CONTROL BENEFITS WHERE APPLICABLE.
5. PIPE MATERIAL SHALL BE DESIGNED PER CITY STANDARDS.

DESIGNER CHECKLIST (MUST SPECIFY, AS APPLICABLE):
- UNDERDRAIN MATERIAL TYPE AND SIZE
- UNDERDRAIN ELEVATION, SLOPE, AND LOCATION WITHIN BASIN OR PLANTER
- PIPE BEDDING MATERIAL SPECIFICATION (I.E. AGGREGATE STORAGE LAYER)
- DISCHARGE LOCATION TO OVERFLOW STRUCTURE
- CLEANOUT LOCATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ACCESS
- ORIFICE FLOW CONTROL STRUCTURE(S), AS APPLICABLE
CONSTRUCTION NOTES:
1. UNDERDRAIN PIPE SHALL BE SLOTTED PVC SDR 35 OR ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTE MATERIAL PER ENGINEERS SPECIFICATION.
2. ALL MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP FOR UNDERDRAINS SHALL CONFORM TO CITY STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS AND APPLICABLE CODES.
3. SET CROWN OF UNDERDRAIN PIPE AT OR BELOW BOTTOM OF CHOKING COURSE. SEE DESIGNER NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE ON LOCATING UNDERDRAIN PIPE IN GRAVEL STORAGE.
4. LONGITUDINAL SLOPE OF UNDERDRAIN PIPE SHALL BE 0.5% MINIMUM.
5. UNDERDRAIN PIPE SHALL BE SLOTTED PVC SDR 35 OR ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTE MATERIAL PER ENGINEERS SPECIFICATION. SINGLE WALL AND DUAL WALL CORRUGATED HDPE PIPE (AASHTO M252 AND M294 TYPES C, S, AND D) ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.
6. UNDERDRAIN PIPE SHALL BE SLOTTED TYPE, MEASURING 0.032 INCH WIDE (MAX), SPACED AT 0.25 INCH (MIN), AND PROVIDING A MINIMUM INLET AREA OF 5.0 SQUARE INCH PER LINEAR FOOT OF PIPE.
7. SLOTS SHALL BE ORIENTED PERPENDICULAR TO LONG AXIS OF PIPE, AND EVENLY SPACED AROUND CIRCUMFERENCE AND LENGTH OF PIPE.

PURPOSE:
CURB CUTS SERVE AS INLETS TO CONVEY STORMWATER RUNOFF TO A BIORETENTION FACILITY. CURB CUTS ARE TYPICALLY USED IN PLANTER APPLICATIONS WHEN THE FACILITY IS IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO THE ROADWAY (I.E. NO COURTESY STRIP), PROVIDING AN OPENING TO INTERCEPT AND CONVEY STORMWATER FROM THE GUTTER TO THE PLANTER. CURB CUT INLETS INCLUDE MODIFICATIONS TO THE GUTTER TO HELP DIRECT FLOW INTO THE FACILITY.

DESIGNER NOTES & GUIDELINES:
1. THE DESIGNER MUST ADAPT DRAWINGS TO ADDRESS SITE-SPECIFIC CONDITIONS.

DESIGNER CHECKLIST (MUST SPECIFY, AS APPLICABLE):
- CURB CUT DIMENSIONS
- FRAME AND GRATE TYPE/MATERIAL AND DIMENSIONS
- CHANNEL DIMENSIONS
- CONTROL ELEVATIONS FOR OPENINGS AT GUTTER AND PLANTER WALL

BIORETENTION & BIOINFILTRATION COMPONENTS
INLETS - DESIGNER NOTES

3.0
CONSTRUCTION NOTES:

1. ALL MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP FOR CURB CUTS SHALL CONFORM TO CITY STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS AND APPLICABLE CODES.

2. BOND NEW CURB AND GUTTER TO EXISTING CURB AND GUTTER WITH EPOXY AND DOWEL CONNECTION.

3. INLET CURB CUT WIDTH SHALL BE 18" ON GUTTER SLOPES ≥ 5%.

INLET - CURB CUT TYPE 1

BIORETENTION & BIOINFILTRATION COMPONENTS
INLETS - CURB CUT INLET

3.1

**CONSTRUCTION NOTES:**

1. **ALL MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP FOR CURB CUTS SHALL CONFORM TO CITY STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS AND APPLICABLE CODES.**
2. **BOND NEW CURB AND GUTTER TO EXISTING CURB AND GUTTER WITH EPOXY AND DOWEL CONNECTION.**

**SECTION A**

**TOP OF CURB**

**2" GUTTER DEPRESSION**

**1" (MIN) SPLASH APRON**

**4" (MIN), DESIGNER TO SPECIFY**

**STREAMBED COBBLES FOR ENERGY DISSIPATION**

**TOP OF PLANTER WALL**

**BIORETENTION SOILS**

**4" (MIN), DESIGNER TO SPECIFY**

**TOP OF PLANTER WALL**

**GUTTER MODIFICATION AT INLET, SEE DETAIL 3.1**

**ISOMETRIC**

**PLANTER WALL**

**Curb Cut Type 2**

**INLET - CURB CUT TYPE 2**

**BIORETENTION & BIOINFILTRATION COMPONENTS**

**INLETS - CURB CUT INLET AT BULB OUT**

**ROADWAY**

**PLANTER WALL**

**SPLASH APRON WALL**

**SPLASH APRON**

100% (MIN)

**PLAN**

**SIDEWALK**

**12" (MIN)**

**BIORETENTION PLANTER**

**STREAMBED COBBLES**

**12" (MIN)**

**TAPER TO MATCH GRADE**

**INLET - CURB CUT TYPE 2**

PURPOSE:
BIORETENTION OUTLET STRUCTURES CONVEY SURFACE AND/OR SUBSURFACE OUTFLOWS FROM A BIORETENTION FACILITY TO AN APPROVED DISCHARGE LOCATION.

DESIGNER NOTES & GUIDELINES:
1. THE DESIGNER MUST ADAPT DRAWINGS TO ADDRESS SITE-SPECIFIC CONDITIONS.
2. THE DESIGNER MUST SIZE CURB CUT, GRATE, AND OTHER OVERFLOW STRUCTURE FEATURES TO SATISFY CITY HYDRAULIC REQUIREMENTS.
3. AN OUTLET STRUCTURE OR CLEANOUT(S) THAT ALLOWS MAINTENANCE ACCESS TO ALL PIPES IS REQUIRED FOR FACILITIES WITH UNDERDRAINS.
4. IF SITE CONSTRAINTS NECESSITATE STORM DRAIN PIPE IN AN AREA SUBJECT TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC OR OTHER LOADING, APPROPRIATE COVER DEPTH AND PIPE MATERIAL MUST BE SPECIFIED.
5. OUTLET PIPES MUST BE EQUIPPED WITH CLEANOUTS, SEE CITY STANDARD CLEANOUT DETAIL(S).
6. DESIGNER SHALL EVALUATE BUOYANCY OF STRUCTURES FOR SITE SPECIFIC APPLICATION AND SPECIFY THICKENED OR EXTENDED BASE / ANTI-FLOTATION COLLAR, AS NECESSARY.
7. SAND TRAP REQUIREMENTS (12 INCH SUMP AND CAST IRON HOOD/TRAP) MAY BE ELIMINATED WHEN OVERFLOW DIRECTLY DISCHARGES TO DOWNSTREAM (CITY) SAND TRAP.
8. LOCATE ALL OVERFLOW PIPES AT AN ELEVATION HIGHER THAN THE SEWER HYDRAULIC GRADE LINE TO PREVENT BACKFLOW INTO THE BIORETENTION FACILITY.

DESIGNER CHECKLIST (MUST SPECIFY, AS APPLICABLE):
- OUTLET STRUCTURE TYPE/MATERIAL, DIAMETER, AND DEPTH
- ATRIUM GRATE MANUFACTURER, MODEL NO., AND SIZE
- SAND TRAP COMPONENTS AND DIMENSIONS
- FRAME AND GRATE TYPE, MODEL NO., AND SIZE
- CONTROL ELEVATIONS FOR OUTLET STRUCTURE RIMS
- MATERIAL AND DIAMETER FOR ALL PIPES
- WATER TIGHT CONNECTOR TYPE FOR ALL WALL PENETRATIONS (E.G., GROUTED, COMPRESSION, BOOT)
CONSTRUCTION NOTES:
1. ALL MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP FOR CURB CUTS SHALL CONFORM TO CITY STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS AND APPLICABLE CODES.
2. BOND NEW CURB AND GUTTER TO EXISTING CURB AND GUTTER WITH EPOXY AND DOWEL CONNECTION.
3. MATCH GUTTER SLOPE UP AND DOWNSLOPE OF CURB CUT SLOPE SIMILAR TO INLET DETAIL 3.1 UNLESS MODIFYING GUTTER.
4. OUTLET CURB CUT WIDTH SHALL BE 18" ON GUTTER SLOPES ≥ 5%.

CONSTRUCTION NOTES:

1. ALL MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP FOR TRENCH DRAIN ASSEMBLY SHALL CONFORM TO CITY STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS AND APPLICABLE CODES.

2. MATCH GUTTER SLOPE UP AND DOWNSLOPE (UNLESS MODIFYING GUTTER SLOPE SEE INLET DETAIL 3.1).

3. SLOPE TO PROVIDE AT LEAST 1 INCH DROP OVER LENGTH OF CHANNEL OR A MINIMUM OF 2 PERCENT, WHICHEREVER IS LARGER.

4. ALL TRENCH GRATES SHALL BE REMOVABLE, RATED PER THE ANTICIPATED LOADING, AND BOLTED IN PLACE OR OUTFITTED WITH APPROVED TAMPER-RESISTANT LOCKING MECHANISM, FLUSH OR RECESSED IN GRATE.

5. HORIZONTAL CONTROL JOINTS SHALL BE PROVIDED EVERY 10 LINEAR FEET, OR PER MANUFACTURER’S RECOMMENDATIONS.

6. BOND NEW CURB AND GUTTER TO EXISTING CURB AND GUTTER WITH EPOXY AND DOWEL CONNECTION.

7. APPLY EPOXY BONDING AGENT AT ALL TRENCH DRAIN CONSTRUCTION COLD JOINTS.

8. INLET/OUTLET CURB CUT AND CONCRETE CHANNEL WIDTH SHALL BE 16” (MIN) ON GUTTER SLOPES ≥ 5%.

ISOMETRIC

OUTLET - TRENCH DRAIN

PLAN

SECTION A

SECTION B

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Solano County Permittees’ Green Stormwater Infrastructure Design Guidebook | PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT - JULY 2019

CONSTRUCTION NOTES:
1. ALL MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP FOR OVERFLOW STRUCTURES SHALL CONFORM TO CITY STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS AND APPLICABLE CODES.
2. SIZE OF ATRIUM GRATE SHALL MATCH SIZE OF RISER SPECIFIED IN PLANS, SHALL BE REMOVABLE TO PROVIDE MAINTENANCE ACCESS, AND SHALL BE BOLTED IN PLACE OR OUTFITTED WITH APPROVED TAMPER-RESISTANT LOCKING MECHANISM. MAXIMUM GRATE OPENING SHALL BE 4 INCHES.
3. IF INTERIOR DEPTH OF OVERFLOW STRUCTURE EXCEEDS 5 FEET, A PERMANENT BOLTED LADDER AND MINIMUM CLEAR SPACE OF 30 INCH BY 30 INCH SHALL BE PROVIDED FOR MAINTENANCE ACCESS.
4. 12 INCH (MIN) CLEARANCE WITHIN OVERFLOW STRUCTURE SHALL BE PROVIDED FOR MAINTENANCE ACCESS.
5. INSTALL CAST IRON TRAP/HOOD PER MANUFACTURER’S RECOMMENDATIONS.
6. BARREL/BOX AND BASE OF CATCH BASIN MAY BE PRE-CAST WITH REINFORCING STEEL PER MANUFACTURER’S RECOMMENDATIONS, POURED IN PLACE CONCRETE WITHOUT STEEL PER CITY STANDARD PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, OR NYLOPLAST DRAIN BASIN (2812AG OR EQUAL). ENGINEER TO SPECIFY.
7. MINIMUM STREAMBED COBBLE DIAMETER SHALL BE LARGER THAN MAXIMUM GRATE OPENING.
8. GROUT ALL PENETRATIONS, CRACKS, SEAMS, AND JOINTS WITH CLASS “C” MORTAR.

OVERFLOW STRUCTURE WITH INTERGAL SAND TRAP

CAST IRON BEEHIVE GRATE, SEE NOTE 2
DESIGNER TO SPECIFY

CAST IRON BEEHIVE GRATE
AND FRAME, SEE NOTE 2
DESIGNER TO SPECIFY

OVERFLOW STRUCTURE AREA DRAIN

OVERFLOW STRUCTURE, SEE NOTE 6

CAST IRON TRAP/HOOD PER CITY STANDARD
OR EQUAL, SEE NOTE 5 AND DESIGNER NOTES

CONCRETE BASE, SEE NOTE 6

GRAVEL BASE ASTM NO. 57

OPTIONAL STREAMBED COBBLES (TYP), SEE NOTE 7

OPTIONAL STREAMBED COBBLES (TYP), SEE NOTE 7

STORM DRAIN PIPE, DESIGNER TO SPECIFY,
TO APPROVED DISCHARGE POINT

CAST IRON TRAP/HOOD PER CITY STANDARD OR EQUAL, SEE NOTE 5 AND DESIGNER NOTES

CONCRETE BARREL OR BOX, SEE NOTE 6

GRAVEL BASE ASTM NO. 57

NOTE 3

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

6" (MIN)

PURPOSE:
PERVIOUS PAVEMENT (PAVEMENT) CONTROLS PEAK FLOWS AND VOLUMES OF STORMWATER RUNOFF VIA INFILTRATION THROUGH THE
PAVEMENT SURFACE, STORAGE IN THE PAVEMENT SECTION, INFILTRATION INTO NATIVE SOIL, AND OVERFLOW THROUGH OPTIONAL
SUBSURFACE OUTLETS. RUNOFF IS TREATED AS IT FILTERS THROUGH THE PAVEMENT SECTION, AND INFILTRATES INTO UNDERLYING NATIVE
SOIL.

DESIGNER NOTES & GUIDELINES:
1. THE DESIGNER MUST ADAPT PLAN, SECTION DRAWINGS, AND CALCULATE DEPTH TO ADDRESS SITE-SPECIFIC CONDITIONS.
2. ALL PAVEMENT SYSTEMS MUST BE DESIGNED BY A LICENSED ENGINEER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AASHTO GUIDE FOR DESIGN OF
PAVEMENT STRUCTURES BASED ON SITE-SPECIFIC CONDITIONS INCLUDING TRAFFIC LOADS AND SUBGRADE CONDITIONS. PAVEMENT
SECTIONS SET FORTH IN THESE TYPICAL DETAILS ARE PROVIDED TO REPRESENT THE ANTICIPATED RANGE OF DESIGN REQUIREMENTS,
BASED ON "GOOD" AND "POOR" SOIL CHARACTERIZATIONS NORMALLY ENCOUNTERED IN THE CITY. ACTUAL SECTION DEPTHS MUST BE
DETERMINED AS DESCRIBED IN GUIDELINE #3, BELOW. SEE TABLES BELOW FOR TRAFFIC LOADING AND EFFECTIVE ROADBED SOIL
RESILIENT MODULUS ASSUMPTIONS USED IN DEVELOPING THESE TYPICAL SECTIONS.
3. TRAFFIC LOADING ASSUMPTIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESIGN ASSUMPTION</th>
<th>MODERATE VEHICULAR</th>
<th>LIGHT VEHICULAR</th>
<th>PEDESTRIAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EQUIVALENT SINGLE AXLE LOADS*</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAFFIC INDEX (TI)**</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* SEE AASHTO GUIDE FOR DESIGN OF PAVEMENT STRUCTURES FOR DEFINITIONS
** SEE CALTRANS HIGHWAY DESIGN MANUAL FOR DEFINITIONS

SUBGRADE ASSUMPTIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESIGN ASSUMPTION</th>
<th>GOOD SOILS</th>
<th>POOR SOILS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EFFECTIVE ROADBED SOIL RESILIENT MODULUS, ( M_r ) (PSI)*</td>
<td>6,800</td>
<td>3,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALIFORNIA R-VALUE **</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRAINAGE COEFFICIENT, ( m ) *</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAYER COEFFICIENT, ( a ) * FOR OPEN GRADED AGGREGATE BASE</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* SEE AASHTO GUIDE FOR DESIGN OF PAVEMENT STRUCTURES FOR DEFINITIONS
** SEE CALTRANS HIGHWAY DESIGN MANUAL FOR DEFINITIONS

4. GEOTECHNICAL EVALUATION OF SUBGRADE SOILS TO VERIFY THEIR STRUCTURAL SUITABILITY FOR PERMEABLE PAVEMENT
INSTALLATIONS IS REQUIRED. INFILTRATION TESTING REQUIREMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO DIFFERENT THRESHOLDS. REFER TO CITY
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR GUIDANCE.
5. THE PERMEABLE PAVEMENT FACILITY MUST BE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT SUBSURFACE STORAGE IN THE PAVEMENT SECTION TO
MEET PROJECT HYDROLOGIC PERFORMANCE GOALS. THE SECTION THICKNESS WILL BE A FUNCTION OF THE SUBGRADE INFILTRATION
RATE (DRAINAGE COEFFICIENT), AND SUBGRADE SLOPE.
6. ENTIRE PAVEMENT BASE SECTION MAY BE USED TO MEET SUBSURFACE STORAGE REQUIREMENTS.
7. SUBSURFACE STORAGE DRAWDOWN TIME (I.E. TIME FOR MAXIMUM SUBSURFACE STORAGE VOLUME TO INFILTRATE INTO SUBGRADE
AFTER THE END OF A STORM) SHOULD NOT EXCEED 48 HOURS. DRAWDOWN TIME IS CALCULATED AS THE MAXIMUM SUBSURFACE
PONDING DEPTH DIVIDED BY THE NATIVE SOIL INFILTRATION RATE.
8. THE DESIGNER MUST ENSURE THAT THE PAVEMENT EDGES ARE RESTRAINED AND THAT WATER IS CONTAINED IN THE PAVEMENT SECTION
AS NEEDED TO PROTECT ADJACENT PAVEMENT SECTIONS OR STRUCTURES.
9. THE DESIGNER MUST EVALUATE UTILITY SURVEYS FOR POTENTIAL UTILITY CROSSINGS OR CONFLICTS.

RELATED SPECIFICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RELATED SPECIFICATIONS</th>
<th>CSI NO.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERMEABLE/ POROUS UNIT PAVERS:</td>
<td>32 14 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- PERMEABLE/ POROUS UNIT PAVERS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- JOINT FILLER AGGREGATE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- PAVEMENT BASE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- EDGE RESTRAINTS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- GEOTEXTILE FOR SOIL SEPARATION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERVIOUS CONCRETE PAVEMENT:</td>
<td>32 13 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- PERVIOUS CONCRETE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- PAVEMENT BASE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- GEOTEXTILE FOR SOIL SEPARATION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POROUS ASPHALT PAVEMENT:</td>
<td>32 12 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- POROUS ASPHALT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- PAVEMENT BASE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- GEOTEXTILE FOR SOIL SEPARATION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LAYOUT REQUIREMENTS:

1. ALL PERMEABLE PAVEMENT APPLICATIONS SHALL CONFORM TO CITY STANDARDS. THE DESIGN MUST COMPLY WITH CITY STANDARD ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.

2. THE PREFERRED AND ALLOWED CATCHMENT AREA CONTRIBUTING RUN-ON TO A PERMEABLE PAVEMENT FACILITY IS PROVIDED IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEARING COURSE</th>
<th>PREFERRED RUN-ON RATIO</th>
<th>MAXIMUM RUN-ON RATIO** (AREA CONTRIBUTING RUN-ON: PERMEABLE PAVEMENT AREA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pervious Concrete and Porous Asphalt</td>
<td>MINIMAL</td>
<td>3:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permeable Unit Pavers (≥ 1/2&quot; Gaps) [Parcel Only]**</td>
<td>0:1</td>
<td>3:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permeable Unit Pavers (≥ 3/8&quot; Gaps)**</td>
<td>0:1</td>
<td>2:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porous Pavers</td>
<td>0:1</td>
<td>0:1 (NO RUN-ON)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Pavers with 3/8 inch or 1/2 inch gaps shall be permeable interlocking concrete pavers with integrated precast interlocking spacer.

**The designer and owner should consider the increased maintenance requirements associated with higher run-on ratios when designing the facility.

3. WHEN DESIGNED TO ACCEPT RUN-ON FROM OTHER CATCHMENT AREAS, PERMEABLE PAVEMENT AREAS MUST BE PROTECTED FROM SEDIMENTATION WHICH CAN CAUSE CLOGGING AND DIMINISHED FACILITY PERFORMANCE. THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS APPLY FOR RUN-ON CONTRIBUTIONS:
   - RUN-ON FROM LAWN, LANDSCAPE OR OTHER ERODIBLE SURFACES IS DISCOURAGED. IF MINOR RUN-ON FROM LAWN OR LANDSCAPE AREAS IS UNAVOIDABLE, THOSE ERODIBLE AREAS MUST BE FULLY STABILIZED.
   - CONCENTRATED RUN-ON (E.G., DIRECT DISCHARGE FROM A DOWNSPOUT) SHOULD BE DISPERSED PRIOR TO DISCHARGE TO A PERMEABLE PAVEMENT FACILITY. ACCEPTABLE METHODS INCLUDE SHEET FLOW OR SUBSURFACE DELIVERY TO THE STORAGE RESERVOIR. IF SUBSURFACE DELIVERY IS USED, PRIMARY SETTLING IS REQUIRED (E.G., VIA SAND TRAP) FOLLOWED BY DISTRIBUTION TO STORAGE RESERVOIR (E.G., VIA PERFORATED PIPE).

4. WEARING COURSE SHALL BE SET FLUSH (± 3/16 INCH) WITH ADJACENT WALKING SURFACES.

5. WEARING COURSE SHALL HAVE A MINIMUM SURFACE SLOPE OF 0.5% TO ALLOW FOR SURFACE OVERFLOW AND A MAXIMUM SURFACE SLOPE AS LISTED BELOW:
   a. Porous Asphalt Surface: = 5 PERCENT SLOPE
   b. Pervious Concrete Surface: = 10 PERCENT SLOPE
   c. Permeable Unit Pavers: = 12 PERCENT SLOPE (PER MANUFACTURER’S RECOMMENDATION)

DESIGNER CHECKLIST (MUST SPECIFY, AS APPLICABLE):

- Permeable Pavement Specifications and/or Paver Type and Gap Width
- Permeable Paveement Width and Length
- Elevations and Control Points at Every Corner or Point of Tangency
- Thickness of Each Layer in the Pavement Section
- Joint Spacing and Type
- Subgrade Slope
- Elevations of Each Pipe Inlet and Outlet Invert
- Type and Design of Permeable Pavement Components (e.g., Edge Treatments, Outlets, Underdrains, etc.)

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

KEYNOTES:
1. PERMEABLE UNIT PAVERS DETAIL 5.3
2. PERVIOUS CONCRETE DETAIL 5.4
3. POROUS ASPHALT DETAIL 5.5

CITY STANDARD PAVEMENT SECTION

PERMEABLE PAVEMENT KEY MAP 5.2

MINIMUM MATERIAL THICKNESS (IN):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAYER</th>
<th>MATERIAL TYPE*</th>
<th>MODERATE VEHICULAR</th>
<th>LIGHT VEHICULAR</th>
<th>PEDESTRIAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>GOOD SOILS**</td>
<td>POOR SOILS**</td>
<td>GOOD SOILS**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>PERMEABLE UNIT PAVERS</td>
<td>3 1/8</td>
<td>3 1/8</td>
<td>3 1/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>LEVELING COURSE ASTM NO. 8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>BASE COURSE ASTM NO. 57</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>RESERVOIR COURSE ASTM NO. 2, 3, OR 57</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* MATERIAL FINER THAN NO. 100 SIEVE SHALL NOT EXCEED 2 PERCENT FOR ANY AGGREGATE LAYER (LICENSED PROFESSIONAL TO SELECT AGGREGATE).

** "GOOD" AND "POOR" SOIL CLASSIFICATIONS BASED ON AASHTO GUIDE FOR DESIGN OF PAVEMENT STRUCTURES. SEE DESIGNER NOTES FOR SUBGRADE ASSUMPTIONS. (LICENSED PROFESSIONAL MUST CALCULATE REQUIRED DEPTH BASED ON SITE CONDITIONS).

TYPICAL JOINT FILLER AGGREGATE SIZE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GAP WIDTH (IN)</th>
<th>JOINT FILLER AGGREGATE*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/8 OR 1/2</td>
<td>ASTM NO. 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
* PROVIDED FOR REFERENCE ONLY, FOLLOW MANUFACTURER’S RECOMMENDATIONS

CONSTRUCTION NOTES:

1. SEE PERMEABLE/ POROUS UNIT PAVER SPECIFICATIONS FOR WEARING COURSE, PAVEMENT BASE, SUBGRADE, AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR PERMEABLE/ POROUS UNIT PAVER FACILITIES.

2. MINIMUM UTILITY SETBACKS AND PROTECTION MEASURES MUST CONFORM TO CURRENT CITY STANDARDS AND OTHER UTILITY PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS. COORDINATE WITH ENGINEER IN THE EVENT OF UTILITY CROSSINGS AND UTILITY CONFLICTS.
### Minimum Material Thickness (in):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer</th>
<th>Material Type*</th>
<th>Moderate Vehicular</th>
<th>Light Vehicular</th>
<th>Pedestrian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Good Soils**</td>
<td>Poor Soils**</td>
<td>Good Soils**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Pervious Concrete</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Base Course ASTM NO. 3 OR 57</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Optional Reservoir Course ASTM NO. 2, 3, OR 57</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Material finer than No. 100 sieve shall not exceed 2 percent for any aggregate layer (Licensed professional to select aggregate).

** "Good" and "Poor" soil classifications based on AASHTO Guide for Design of Pavement Structures. See Designer Notes for Subgrade Assumptions. (Licensed professional must calculate required depth based on site conditions).

### Construction Notes:

1. See Pervious Concrete Specifications for Wearing Course, Pavement Base, Subgrade, and other requirements for pervious concrete facilities.

2. Minimum utility setbacks and protection measures must conform to current city standards and other utility provider requirements. Coordinate with engineer in the event of utility crossings and utility conflicts.

---

**NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION**

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**Permeable Pavement**

**Pervious Concrete Section** 5.4
### Subgrade Per Specifications

#### Moderate Vehicular

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer</th>
<th>Material Type</th>
<th>Good Soils**</th>
<th>Poor Soils**</th>
<th>Good Soils**</th>
<th>Poor Soils**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Porous Asphalt</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Base Course ASTM No. 57</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Reservoir Course ASTM No. 2, 3, or 57</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Light Vehicular

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer</th>
<th>Material Type</th>
<th>Good Soils**</th>
<th>Poor Soils**</th>
<th>Good Soils**</th>
<th>Poor Soils**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Porous Asphalt</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Base Course ASTM No. 57</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Reservoir Course ASTM No. 2, 3, or 57</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Pedestrian

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer</th>
<th>Material Type</th>
<th>Good Soils**</th>
<th>Poor Soils**</th>
<th>Good Soils**</th>
<th>Poor Soils**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Porous Asphalt</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Base Course ASTM No. 57</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Reservoir Course ASTM No. 2, 3, or 57</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Material finer than No. 100 sieve shall not exceed 2 percent for any aggregate layer (licensed professional to select aggregate).**

"Good" and "Poor" soil classifications based on AASHTO Guide for Design of Pavement Structures. See designer notes for subgrade assumptions. (Licensed professional must calculate required depth based on site conditions.)

** CONSTRUCTION NOTES:**

1. See porous asphalt specifications for wearing course, pavement base, subgrade, and other requirements for porous asphalt facilities.
2. Minimum utility setbacks and protection measures must conform to current city standards and other utility provider requirements. Coordinate with engineer in the event of utility crossings and utility conflicts.

### Porous Asphalt Wearing Course (See Specification 32 12 43)

- **Optional geotextile for soil separation, per engineer’s recommendation, see specifications.**
CHAPTER 5
GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE SIZING REQUIREMENTS

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

• Simply explain Green Stormwater Infrastructure sizing requirements
The California Regional Water Quality Control Board for the San Francisco Bay Region reissued the MRP in November 2015. The MRP governs discharges from municipal storm drains operated by 76 local government entities, including those in the cities of Vallejo, Fairfield, and Suisun City.

Regulated Projects must comply with each Cities’ C3 Guidance for specific LID and GSI requirements. All GSI measures must be designed to meet the same applicable treatment and hydromodification sizing requirements as Regulated Projects. However, if GSI measures cannot be designed to meet the standard sizing requirements due to constraints in the public right-of-way or other factors, the City may still wish to construct the measure to achieve other benefits (e.g., traffic calming, pedestrian safety, etc.) To address this situation, MRP Provision C.3.j.i.(2)(g) states that, for non-regulated projects, “Permittees may collectively propose a single approach with their Green Infrastructure Plans for how to proceed should project constraints preclude fully meeting the C.3.d requirements.” Such a regional approach has been developed by BASMAA for use by Permittees in their GSI Plans and is described below, and included in Appendix B.

**ALTERNATIVE SIZING**

GSI measures should be located and sized to treat the C.3.d volume and/or flow of runoff from the contributing impervious surface area from the public right-of-way (street and sidewalk) where possible. Similarly, for GSI measures in parking lots and public parks, every attempt should be made to locate and size GSI measures to treat the C.3.d amount of runoff from the contributing impervious surface areas. Consideration should be given to the feasibility of treating impervious surface area from adjacent parcels, even if privately owned. If site constraints prevent locating and sizing GSI measures to meet C.3.d requirements, the alternative sizing methodology described below may be used.

In general GSI should be sized as large as feasible to meet the C.3.d Criteria.
5. Green Infrastructure Sizing Requirements

Per the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA) Guidance for Sizing Green Stormwater Infrastructure Facilities, analysis completed by Dubin Environmental Consulting (in Appendix B) found that a bioretention facility with a standard cross-section that is sized to be equivalent to 4% of the impervious area draining to the feature will meet the sizing requirements for projects requiring hydromodification management. The standard bioretention facility cross-section is one that has 6-inch ponding depth, 2-inch freeboard, 18-inch treatment soil, and a 12-inch gravel layer below for water storage.

The hydrologic analysis report also provides minimum bioretention sizing criteria for projects to provide treatment of 80% of annual runoff (per MRP C.3.d,) based on the mean annual precipitation (MAP) of the project site:

For bioretention with 6-in surface reservoir configuration:

\[ \text{SizingFactor} = 0.00060 \times \text{MAP} \text{ (in)} + 0.0086 \]

Where:

- SizingFactor is the ratio of the surface area of the bioretention facility to the impervious area contributing runoff
- MAP is the mean annual precipitation of the project site

For example, the MAP for the Solano Permittees is approximately 24 inches per year. As a result, sizing factors for non-regulated GSI projects is 0.023 (or 2.3%). This indicates that GSI facilities in the street right-of-way can be sized with as low as a 2.3% sizing factor and still meet the C.3.d sizing requirements.

There are typically more constraints on the placement and sizing of GSI measures in a public right-of-way (street) than for parcel-based GSI projects, and there may be GSI opportunities for which the 2.3% sizing factor cannot be achieved. However, undersized GSI measures or GSI measures designed to only treat a portion of the runoff from the contributing drainage area may still have some water quality, runoff reduction, or other benefits.

The BASMAA Development Committee developed regional guidance on how to use the modeling results and what design approaches to use in specific situations when the C.3.d sizing requirements cannot be met. The regional guidance includes the following recommendations for sizing GSI facilities in green street projects:

1. Bioretention facilities in street projects should be sized as large as feasible and meet the C.3.d criteria where possible. Constraints in the public right-of-way may affect the size of these facilities and warrant the use of smaller sizing factors. Bioretention facilities in street projects may use the sizing curves in the BASMAA GSI Facility Sizing Report to meet the C.3.d criteria (see Appendix B). Local municipal staff involved with other assets in the public right of way should be consulted to provide further guidance to design teams as early in the process as possible.

2. Bioretention facilities in street projects smaller than what would be required to meet the Provision C.3.d criteria may be appropriate in some circumstances. As an example, it might be appropriate to construct a bioretention facility where a small proportion of runoff is diverted from a larger runoff stream. Where feasible, such facilities can be designed as “off-line” facilities, where the bypassed runoff is not treated or is treated in a different facility further downstream. In these cases, the proportion of total runoff captured and treated should be estimated using the results of the attached memorandum. In cases where “in-line” bioretention systems cannot meet the C.3.d criteria, the facilities should incorporate erosion control as needed to protect the facility from high flows.

3. Pollutant reduction achieved by GSI facilities in street projects can be estimated in accordance with the Interim Accounting Methodology or the applicable Reasonable Assurance Analysis [standard methodologies employed by BASMAA and the Solano Permittees].
5. Green Infrastructure Sizing Requirements

If it is determined that GSI measures in a City project are unable to be designed to meet the C.3.d sizing requirements, the following steps can be taken:

- Document the project constraints that preclude meeting the C.3.d sizing requirements. For example, if an underground utility is preventing installation at the appropriate depth, or the sidewalk planter area is inadequate for ideal sizing, or heritage trees and their root structures conflict with the desired GSI location, document those constraints.

- Use the sizing charts from the BASMAA GSI Facility Sizing Report to determine the smallest facility size that will meet the C.3.d sizing requirements (see Appendix B).

- If the minimum facility size is still infeasible, identify possible variations from the standard design. For example, determine whether the depth can be adjusted only in the area where a utility conflict exists. Using this alternative design, estimate the percent of the C.3.d volume that will be treated. Evaluate the cost-effectiveness of installing the GSI measure given the other benefits realized (e.g., pedestrian safety, traffic calming, reduced local flooding, etc.) and the amount of pollutant removal achieved.
APPENDICES
Appendix A

SPECIFICATIONS
Appendix B

Guidance for Sizing Green Infrastructure Facilities in Street Projects (BASMAA, 2018)
### Appendix C – Funding Options Summary Tables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Balloted Funding Options</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parcel Taxes</td>
<td>Ongoing funding source levied on property according to metrics associated with the property i.e., area. Funds all parts of a GSI program as defined in the ballot questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Related Fees</td>
<td>An ongoing fee is paid for specific goods or services rendered by the government vs. a tax that has no connection to the benefits received for an individual. Storm drainage can be established as a separate utility service that can fund all parts of a GSI program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Obligation Bonds</td>
<td>Issued to raise up front capital and repaid over the long term through annual property taxes. Rate based on property value. Funds can be used for land acquisition, planning, design and construction. GSI capital projects can be funded through debt taken on by the agency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Special taxes: sales, business licenses, vehicles, utilities users and transient occupancy taxes</td>
<td>An ongoing and mandatory financial charge imposed by a governmental organization to fund public expenditures.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Balloted Funding Options</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>One-time funding for qualifying projects from Federal, State or other granting authority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Facilities Districts (Mello-Roos)</td>
<td>A special tax that must be approved by property owners or registered voters. Often formed during the development process for a finite set of parcels owned by a single entity. Often included in the conditions of approval for a development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Improvement Districts</td>
<td>Districts where businesses and property owners tax themselves and manage the funds to build or maintain certain assets. Typically set up and administered by the community members.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Agency Partnerships</td>
<td>Multi-agency partnerships can take advantage of situations where regional projects and programs span jurisdictional boundaries. Challenges and opportunities abound in such partnerships. For example, developing mechanisms for sharing the planning, capital, operations and maintenance and administrative chores can be challenging. On the other hand, these types of partnerships can be an opportunity to be either a generator of trading credits or a way to invest trading credits. In addition, such partnerships can be a source of multi-benefit projects – projects that can achieve GSI goals as well as other important public and private goals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caltrans Mitigation Collaboration</td>
<td>Caltrans has shared NPDES obligations with other Permittees and has funding available to mitigate various pollutant loading in instances where the obligation is shared. They administer Cooperative Implementation Agreements to pursue local or regional GSI projects thereby allowing Caltrans to meet its pollutant load mitigation requirements in partnership with the local agencies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Capability Assessment</td>
<td>An EPA process called the “Financial Capability Assessment Framework for Municipal Clean Water Act Requirements” allows communities that meet financial capability criteria have the ability to apply for delayed schedules for compliance with some of their NPDES stormwater permit elements. Designed to help communities develop a more accurate and complete picture of their ability to pay for Clean Water Act obligations, emphasizing factors beyond the 2% threshold for median income.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realignment of Services</td>
<td>Water supply, sewer and refuse collection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits Assessments</td>
<td>Assessments levied on properties to pay for services such as landscaping, lighting, recreation facilities, parks, fire protection, mosquito abatement, and cemeteries, etc. Governed by statute that varies depending on the type of service or improvement. Must comply with Prop. 218 that requires that assessments have a nexus with the services rendered. Benefits that are general must be funded from sources other than tax assessment – such as a city’s general fund. Benefit assessments typically are collected as part of the annual property tax bill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Ballotted Funding Options</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>-------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Opportunities</td>
<td>Transportation projects have recently begun to be subject to NPDES requirements while trends towards complete and green streets resulted in transportation including GSI even when not required by NPDES permits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory Fees</td>
<td>Ongoing funding from services such as plan check and inspection fees related to stormwater and GSI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realignment of Municipal Services and Integration with existing funding</td>
<td>In which a local government agency reorganizes their management, staffing, services units and/or budgets from traditional stormwater management services that can be integrated with the more easily funded water, sewer and/or refuse collection or flood control or transportation agencies. Examples include using GSI to promote groundwater recharge, trash capture or rainwater harvesting and reuse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business License Fees</td>
<td>Business License Fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developer Impact Fees (AB 1600 Fees)</td>
<td>Developer Fees for GSI charged by municipality in connection with conditions of approval. Funds offset public costs associated with the development. Payment is voluntary and must be reasonably related to the cost of the service provided by the agency. Similar to impact fees aimed at improving water, sewer and parks or schools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnerships and Other Strategies</td>
<td>P3s are agreements with private parties to help build and maintain public infrastructure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers</td>
<td>Volunteer programs assist agency in achieving various goals either cultivated by the agency or under the direction of non-profit organizations. Typical activities include habitat stewardship and protection, planting and maintaining landscaped improvements such as rain gardens and bioswales.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts</td>
<td>Captures ad valorem tax increments to invest in district boundaries or other projects that have a tangible benefit to the district. Tax is based on the value of a transaction or of property. Typically imposed at the time of a transaction similar to sales tax or value-added tax. May be imposed annually or in connection with another significant event. Formation requires consent from all the participating local agencies through a Joint Powers Authority. Requires preparation of an Infrastructure Financing Plan and formation of a Public Finance Authority. EIFD must have a Finding of Completion for all redevelopment obligations prior to receiving any new tax increment. Can be created with multiple municipalities and can span political boundaries making it a good fit for a watershed approach to GSI funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans</td>
<td>Loans or long-term debt financing are valuable tools for funding projects and programs. Allows an agency to leverage an ongoing revenue stream by borrowing money for immediate needs such as capital construction and repaid over time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative Compliance</td>
<td>New public and private development and redevelopment projects use offsite projects to either supplement or replace stormwater management requirements. MRP 2.0 allows: • Construction of a joint stormwater treatment facility • Construction of a stormwater treatment system off-site (on public or other private property) • Payment of an in-lieu fee for a regional project (on another public or private property).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Ballotted Funding Options</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Lieu Fees</td>
<td>In-lieu fees are a potential source of funding for regional projects and typically use two collection methods: Ad hoc and structured. Ad hoc is a case-by-case basis and is negotiated with an individual developer depending on the financial and logistical circumstances. The agency is limited to its discretionary authority and local stormwater regulations. Structured approaches use a developer fee model (AB 1600) whereas in-lieu fees are adopted and published in the agency’s master fee schedule. They require a comprehensive nexus study linking development impacts or compliance needs to projects. Larger agencies with numerous development projects are well suited for in-lieu fees. Staff apply the scheduled fees to each project as it comes around. At the same time, for larger projects that enter into a developer agreement, those adopted fees could be set aside for a more creative or appropriate ad hoc approach.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix D – GSI Integration with City Plans and Documents

Document Review and Overall Assessment

As part of the development of the GSI Plan City documents were reviewed to determine if any changes were needed for the City to effectively implement the GSI Plan.

The City reviewed its other existing municipal planning documents and identified that none of these documents prevent the implementation of GSI projects within the City. Moreover, several planning documents already contain some language to support the GSI Plan. However, various plans need to be better aligned with the GSI Plan to require the integration of GSI and use of the various tools, specifications and guidelines addressed in this Plan and through subsequent implementation.

This Appendix includes recommended revisions to a sampling of the City’s planning and policy documents. These documents have been reviewed for updates to planning document content to support the implementation of green stormwater infrastructure per Provision C.3.i.i.(2)(h) of the MRP. This sampling provides a broad set of recommended update language that can also be used as a guide for the City to make updates to other planning and policy documents. The intent of making these revisions is to provide a policy framework that will support efficient planning, design, construction, and maintenance for green stormwater infrastructure.

The following is formatted with existing planning document text as normal styled text, deleted text is red with strikethrough and new text is red and underlined.

City of Suisun City 2035 General Plan, Volume 1, Policy Document

p-1-5, Setting and Central Issues, Guiding Principles, Infrastructure
Ensure availability of storm drain, water and sewer services to accommodate the City’s continued growth and prosperity.

p-1-6, Setting and Central Issues, Guiding Principles, Sustainability
Encourage the use of green stormwater infrastructure to create a healthy living environment

p-1-6, Setting and Central Issues, Guiding Principles, Transportation
Use Complete Street and Green Street design for active pedestrian and bicycle-friendly paths and streets and public spaces.

p. 1-10, Setting and Central Issues, Managing Flooding and Tidal Inundation
Impacts can be addressed through stormwater management approaches, including through green stormwater infrastructure practices and such as rain gardens, filter strips, swales, and other natural drainage strategies, which absorb stormwater, reduce pollution, recharge groundwater, and reduce flood risk.

p.2-2, Community Character & Design, Introduction
Community character is also shaped by natural vegetation, landscaping, green stormwater infrastructure, and open spaces. Incorporating natural vegetation and open space into the built environment provides recreational and aesthetic benefits, preserves water quality, reduces air pollution, and preserves habitat and important cultural amenities (see the Open Space and Conservation Element).

p.2-6, NEW Policy CCD-1.19, Distinctive Design and Development
The City will encourage building designs that integrate green stormwater infrastructure, preserve and enhance soil permeability, and reduce other negative effects of urban development.

p.2-8, Policy CCD-2.1, Distinctive Design and Development
The City will support projects in existing developed areas to add and enhance pedestrian connections, public art, natural drainages, green stormwater infrastructure, shade trees and other landscaping, and make other improvements to the public realm, as needed, to improve the quality of design in existing neighborhoods and business districts.

p.2-8, Policy CCD-2.2, Distinctive Design and Development
The City should upgrade older developed areas with green stormwater infrastructure, the planting of shade trees and landscaping along roadways and in surface parking areas, installation of decorative low walls and fences, street furniture, decorative lighting, and the screening of trash bins and HVAC equipment.

p. 2-9, Policy CCD-2.3, Distinctive Design and Development
The City will support the construction of new pedestrian bridges, roadways, trails, as appropriate and as funding is available to increase connectivity between Downtown and other areas of Suisun City and between Suisun City and Fairfield. As new connections are created, they should add
appropriate green stormwater infrastructure, landscaping, drainage, and pedestrian and bicycle amenities.

p.2-10, Policy CCD-4.4, Streetscapes
The City will require visually attractive streetscapes with green stormwater infrastructure, street trees, planting strips, attractive transit shelters, benches, pedestrian-scale streetlights in appropriate locations, and landscaping along fences and low walls, if present.

p.2-13, Policy CCD-4.10, Streetscapes
The City will work with Caltrans to install aesthetic and functional improvements along the SR 12 corridor, including green stormwater infrastructure, landscaping, trees, pedestrian and bicycle pathways separated from the travelway, and noise attenuation improvements.

p. 3-5, Land Use, Table 3-1. Land Use Designations, Allowable Land Use, Density, and Intensity
Park Provides for developed active and passive public parkland, linear parks, and associated recreation facilities and services. Land within this designation may also be used for green stormwater infrastructure, stormwater management, stormwater retention, natural areas, and buffering between incompatible uses, public facilities and services, and other compatible uses.

p. 3-10, Policy LU-1.4, Land Use
The City will collaborate with other service providers to invest in community centers, parks, and other public facilities and services, add street trees and green stormwater infrastructure, and make other improvements to existing neighborhoods, as funding is available.

p.4-3, Related General Plan Guiding Principles, Sustainability
Encourage the use of green stormwater infrastructure to create a healthy living environment

p. 4-3, Related General Plan Guiding Principles, Transportation
Use Complete Street and Green Street design for active pedestrian and bicycle-friendly paths and streets and public spaces.

p.4-28, PolicyT6.2, Travel Mode Choice
The City will require design, construction, operation, and maintenance of “complete streets” that 
incorporate green stormwater infrastructure and provide safe and convenient access and travel 
for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit users of all ages and abilities.

p.4-30, Program T-6.2, Travel Mode Choice
Expand Bicycle Infrastructure
The City will facilitate construction and maintenance of a safe, comprehensive, and integrated 
bicycle system. The City will collaborate with other organizations to acquire and develop trail 
facilities consistent with the 2035 General Plan with integrated green stormwater infrastructure consistent with the City’s Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan.

p.4-32, Policy T-7.9, Parking and Loading
The City may waive or relax offsite parking requirements for infill and affordable housing 
projects that integrate green stormwater infrastructure beyond MRP C.3 requirements, use shared 
parking, on-street parking, and techniques to reduce vehicular travel demand.

p.5-5, Regional General Plan Guiding Principles, Infrastructure
Ensure availability of storm drain, water and sewer services to accommodate the City’s 
continued growth and prosperity.

p. 7-16, Policy OSC-3.4
New developments shall control debris, sediment, and the rate and dispersal of runoff before 
drainage into watercourses and Suisun Marsh through the incorporation of erosion control 
measures and green stormwater infrastructure consistent with the City’s Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan.

p.7-28, Site and Building Design
Water conservation, water conserving landscaping, and stormwater-management-systems green 
stormwater infrastructure that reduce water use (and therefore the electricity needed to convey 
water).

p.8-15, Policy CFS-8.3, Storm Drainage and Flooding
The City will identify funding opportunities and leveraging this funding, as appropriate, to improve drainage infrastructure and install green stormwater infrastructure in existing developed areas and to encourage infill development consistent with the 2035 General Plan.

p.9-20, Policy PHS-5.1, Water Quality
New development shall incorporate site design, source control, and treatment measures to keep pollutants out of stormwater during construction and operational phases, consistent with City and Fairfield-Suisun Urban Runoff Management Program standards and the City’s Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan.

p.9-20, Policy PHS-5.2, Water Quality
New developments shall incorporate low impact development (LID) and green stormwater infrastructure strategies, such as rain gardens, filter strips, swales, and other natural drainage strategies, to the greatest extent feasible, in order to reduce stormwater runoff levels, improve infiltration to replenish groundwater sources, reduce localized flooding, and reduce pollutants close to their source.

Glossary
Green Streets: Use green stormwater infrastructure to capture, slow, and treat stormwater runoff.

Green Stormwater Infrastructure: A built approach to slow, infiltrate, use, and/or treat stormwater runoff using vegetation, soils, and natural processes to make stormwater runoff cleaner, absorb it back into the ground, and create healthier environments.

Waterfront District Specific Plan

p. 1-8, Specific Plan Vision
Iconic signage, art, and streetscape/landscape enhancements that incorporate green stormwater infrastructure should be added to emphasize the importance of this key destination and historic facility within the community.

p. 1-9, Specific Plan Vision
Similarly, vertical monuments, public art, and landscaping green stormwater infrastructure should be used to activate the entrances along the marina and boat launch areas.

p. 5-14, Section 5.2.3 Stormwater
Suisun City is the lead agency responsible for review of projects for stormwater conformance with applicable, laws, policies, and guidelines, including implementing the C.3 provision of the NPDES permit, which requires the City implement measures to reduce stormwater pollution and increased stormwater runoff, volume, and duration from new development or redevelopment projects. This includes compliance with the Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit (MRP) requirement for the City to prepare a Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan and its various elements to manage stormwater runoff and improve water quality with the use of green stormwater infrastructure.

p. 6-6, Residential Development Standards + Design Guidelines
B. Parks and Open Space
1. A variety of parks and open space are encouraged within the Planning Area, designed and located to help promote public health and as opportunities for new green stormwater infrastructure to assist in meeting goals for water quality and flood hazard reduction.

p. 6-31, General Development Standards
2. Parking lots should be adequately landscaped with green stormwater infrastructure within and at the perimeter, adjacent to abutting streets and buildings. Parking areas, which abut residential uses or zones, should be screened with a dense hedge and/or a fence. Lighting should be directed away from residences.
Appendix E - GSI RAA Modeling Report