



Memorandum

TO: TRANSPORTATION AND
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

FROM: Kerrie Romanow

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: May 29, 2019

Approved

Date

5-31-19

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE GREEN STORMWATER
INFRASTRUCTURE DRAFT PLAN**

SUPPLEMENTAL

REASON FOR SUPPLEMENTAL

This supplemental memorandum provides a summary of public comments regarding the Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) Draft Plan.

Staff developed a Green Stormwater Infrastructure Draft Plan that describes how the City can shift from directing stormwater flows from impervious surfaces into storm drain infrastructure, where the stormwater runoff is not treated and flows directly into receiving waters, to a system where stormwater runoff is slowed, infiltrated, used, and/or treated prior to discharge to receiving waters. The GSI Draft Plan was posted to the City's website on April 24, 2019 and the public was invited to provide comments on the Draft Plan by May 15, 2019. During the 21-day public comment period staff received feedback from a combination of 22 interested parties addressing a range of topics, including:

- preservation of park uses;
- project designs;
- public health and safety;
- open space preservation,
- operations and maintenance;
- green street implementation;
- flooding and climate change; and
- internal and external stakeholder coordination.

Four of the 22 comment letters are from non-governmental organizations including Save the Bay, League of Women Voters, SPUR, Greenbelt Alliance, and Committee for Green Foothills

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(Greenbelt Alliance and Committee for Green Foothills submitted a joint letter). Letters from these groups express support for citywide implementation of green stormwater infrastructure and an interest in expansive implementation of green streets that focuses on achieving multiple benefits. The letters also describe the groups' interest in preserving Coyote Valley and their perspective on how it fits into the context of a broader green infrastructure plan. Some groups ask the City to consider the impacts of climate change and to include a discussion of them in the GSI Draft Plan.

The City also received two letters from park advocates and 16 emails from community members regarding the Kelley Park Disc Golf Course which is identified in the GSI Draft Plan as a potential location for a regional GSI project. Although some commenters support the concept of treating water prior to it reaching local creeks and the Bay, they broadly express concerns about using parks as regional GSI project sites. They also note specific concerns regarding the conceptual designs presented in the GSI Draft Plan. While no designs have been developed beyond the concept level, commenters question whether any design would be compatible with current park uses and allow adequate flexibility for future uses.

Staff is in the process of evaluating how these comments may be incorporated into the GSI Draft Plan. Each individual or group that submitted comments on the GSI Draft Plan will receive a written response to their letter or email. Staff is in the process of drafting these correspondences.

/s/

KERRIE ROMANOW

Director, Environmental Services

For questions, please contact Sharon Newton, Deputy Director, at (408) 793-5351.