

**URBAN GREENING CHECK IN**  
October 30, 2015 10AM – 12PM  
US EPA, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco

**PARTICIPANTS**

EPA

- Luisa Valiela
- Sam Ziegler

ABAG

- Mark Shorett
- Christy Leffall

SFEP

- Jennifer Krebs
- Josh Bradt
- Adrien Baudrimont

SFEI

- Lester McKee
- Jing Wu
- Tony Hale

Regional Board

- Keith Lichten

BASMAA

- Matt Fabry
- Geoff Brosseau

City of San Jose

- Suzanne Thomas
- Jeff Sinclair

City of Sunnyvale

- Elaine Marshall (by phone)

City of Oakland

- Becky Tuden
- Kristin Hathaway

Contra Costa County

- John Steere

City of Richmond

- Joanne Le

City of San Mateo

- Jocelyn Walker

## **SFEP UPDATE**

### Work Accomplished to Date

- Signed contract ABAG-EPA. Draft contracts with BAASMA and SFEI are on their way. Contracts with Sunnyvale, San Mateo and San Jose are pending.
- SFEP and SFEI completing the Proposition 84 Stormwater State Board Grant. The Final Report was delivered on October 29, 2015. Final presentations about this project were made at CASQA conference by SFEI Staff as well as Dan Cloak Environmental.

### In Process and in the Next 6 Months

- Planning:
  - o Collaborating with SFEI in GreenPlan-IT upgrades
  - o Working with cities on their Green Planning Processes. Need to develop a timeline for various city efforts, particularly as it affects SFEI staff resources.
  - o SFEI will have a first Technical Advisory Committee meeting
  - o First Roundtable Meeting
- Implementation:
  - o San Jose QAPP & Chynoweth design progress to 65%
  - o Initiate Stakeholder Group for Design Guidance Charrette
- Tracking: Schematic of the initial design
- Admin: Contracts with all partners in place, Quarterly Report(s) to EPA, Invoice(s) to EPA, Partner reimbursements

## **PARTNERS UPDATES**

### SFEI - Lester McKee, Jing Wu, Tony Hale

- Finishing up GreenPlan-IT water quality module (State Board Grant funded) that provides reduction of PCB curves (# and type of GI to achieve x reduction at y cost)
- In the next 6 months, SFEI will update the user documentation and the case studies
- Begin planning for initial TAC meeting. Initial meeting in first quarter 2016.
- Work with municipalities on GreenPlan-IT analysis (goal today – get municipalities’ needs to develop schedule for next year). SFEI brought the GreenPlan-IT module to San Jose last week.
- Begin to modify GreenPlan-IT based on recommendations from TAC. Stakeholders to validate the designs, and then bring it to the TAC.
- Develop schematic for GI Tracking Tool (post installation of GI), based on recommendations from TAC. The GI Tracker tool is still not completely defined yet (i.e. how it connects to permit conditions, etc.).

### BASMAA - Matt Fabry

- Contract: 10/29/15 or 12/4/15 BASMAA Board discussion on BASMAA-ABAG contract. Contract on its way.

- Roundtable: BASMAA will need a consultant help to put together a road map that identifies barriers for integrating GI into transportation and GHG reduction investments and how to overcome them. BASMAA already approved a list of competent consultants. Schedule initial roundtable meeting in spring 2016. The overall process is still being planned with serial meetings potentially changed to forums and stakeholder meetings that address: What are the benefits of Green Infrastructure? What are the challenges? How to create an integrated process?
- Design Charrette: In the grant application it was to be a design contest, but due to potential costs and uncertainty, the process has changed to a Design Guidance Charrette. This will entail a team of experts working together on a design process, like a workshop. The draft contract agreement between ABAG and BASMAA will be re-scoped to reflect this change from a contest to a charrette. It would be ideal to involve contractors, but it is not easy to involve them in this kind of design activity. BASMAA will coordinate with San Mateo and Sunnyvale on the Charrette – will schedule meeting by end of year.
- Comments and questions:
  - o Lester McKee: The cost information will be very useful for the Tool. The charrette process will feed the Tool.
  - o City of Oakland: Hired a consultant to study Green Infrastructure in transportation planning. Stakeholder meetings are starting now. Intern conducts interviews with departments. The resulting document will inform about processes and design specs Oakland uses.
  - o Jennifer Krebs: San Francisco also is writing a guidance document on how to install Green Infrastructure. In development.
  - o Sam Ziegler: Cost for GI varies a lot. Once studied, it should be more straightforward in term of price.
  - o Lester McKee: it might be more expensive to “buy local”

#### City of San Jose - Suzanne Thomas

- Chynoweth Green Infrastructure Pilot Project<sup>1</sup>: will install a bioretention facility in a residential setting with a County Park on one side of street. Concept plans are being finalized and neighborhood meetings are upcoming. Construction is to start in a year. The monitoring plan is almost done. The biologist will work with EPA to setup the QAPP, which will follow the IRWM pre and post construction monitoring plan. The project will result in almost an acre of permeable surfaces, including: 20,000-25,000 square feet of permeable pavers and 6 bioretention cells.
- Green Planning: Currently exploring ways to incorporate GreenPlan 1.0 outputs into consultant-driven Storm Sewer Master Plan & three Urban Village planning efforts underway. Also looking at potential financial solutions. Will use continue to GreenPlan-IT tool to locate areas to target.
  - o Municipal Green Streets Grant team (transportation, public works, etc). is meets every month to coordinate several ongoing projects:

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<sup>1</sup> <http://bondaccountability.resources.ca.gov/Project.aspx?ProjectPK=2726&PropositionPK=4>

- Martha Gardens Green Alleys Pilot Project<sup>2</sup>
    - Ocala Ave Project
    - Park Ave Project (4 sites)
  - Green street projects were identified by other departments before the locator tool was available. Sites have been retroactively analyzed and ranked by GP-IT.
- Next 6 months:
  - GreenPlan 2.0 effort to be scoped in 2016
  - Chynoweth:
    - In Process: For IRWMP Grant, EIF and Financial Statements Submitted. Working on completing Project Monitoring Plan.
    - EPA-QAPP to follow submittal of IRWMP Monitoring Plan
    - The 65% Plans and Specifications will be submitted by next April.
    - Construction should begin by October 2016

#### City of Sunnyvale - Elaine Marshall

- GreenPlanning:
  - Worked with SFEI (through state grant funds) on an initial run of GreenPlan-IT.
  - The staff have reviewed the initial information and are looking internally to set priorities before the next GreenPlan-IT run. This includes determining the best process for engaging a broader group of City staff (e.g., Public Works, Community Development, and O&M staff).
  - Next 6 months: Sign contract with ABAG and hire consultant to integrate GreenPlan outputs with Peery Park Specific Plan. The Peery Park Specific Plan has been delayed but is moving forward, with an administrative draft that incorporates guiding principles that include GI and Water Quality.
- Design Charrette/Implementation: (JOSH – I don't remember this. Not sure to include or not)
  - City will work with BASMAA on the design charrette task and anticipates hiring a consultant to bring draft designs up to city standards and specs for Green Streets and for construction documents for implementation at select sites
- Comments from Elaine
  - Would like better understanding of what decisions are important. Maybe SFEI could draft a chart that shows the different choices, rationales, ranking factors, etc. based on San Jose & San Mateo experiences? It would be helpful to know what other communities chose.
  - Potential influence on the El Camino Real/Grand Boulevard?

#### City of Oakland - Becky Tuden, Kristin Hathaway

- The city already developed a GIS screening tool to identify GI opportunity sites using Prop 84 Urban Greening funds. City of Oakland has identified areas of needs including pollution, PCB,

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<sup>2</sup> <http://bondaccountability.resources.ca.gov/Project.aspx?ProjectPK=2725&PropositionPK=4>

paved/unpaved, truck traffic, etc. Monitoring data on PCBs and other pollutants are available. Also focused on West Oakland greening: AdaptOakland<sup>3</sup>

- Next 6 months: working with SFEI and on a PCB load analysis for the Ettie Street Watershed. Compare this to Oakland's existing GIS analysis and see where they overlap.
- On a parallel process, City of Oakland would like to add a PCB load analysis model to the tool.
- One of the outcomes of this Green Greening effort is to identify optimal locations in West Oakland for PCB reduction through Green Infrastructure.

#### Contra Costa County/Richmond - John Steere, Joanne Le

- The priorities regarding the Urban Greening project are overlapping for both Contra Costa County and the City of Richmond. North Richmond was identified as an opportunity for PCB reduction. Along the Santa Fe channel. Historic and current industry use. A recent sampling shows that the levels of PCBs might be a bit lower. Less than it was anticipated.
- Richmond Planning Department is updating its watershed plan to include GI. County looking at unincorporated areas of Richmond, including North Richmond, and possibly Montalvin Manor and Rollingwood to trial GreenPlan-IT.
- In the next 6 months (and sooner):
  - o CCC and City of Richmond staff will meet to refine the scope of work.
  - o Prepare basemap(s) for Planning Area showing all relevant GIS layers.

#### ABAG East Bay Corridors Initiative - Mark Shorett, Christy Leffall

- In process: Member Cities have identified a set of projects to advance the Corridors Initiative (to create a network of thriving downtowns and neighborhoods). This includes a multi-city Green Infrastructure project that addresses shared challenges in the public realm. Focus on PDAs. Look at projects that cross cities boundaries. A Green Infrastructure locator tool among multiple cities would be useful. It would also bring people and planners together to discuss scope and funding challenges.
- The East Bay Corridor Initiative<sup>4</sup> was formulized by a MOU earlier this year. The goal is to identify urban greening sites. It is just starting. Need city staff to be more involved. Resources, policies, monies, etc. Congestion management agencies and MTC will also be involved.

#### San Mateo - Jocelyn Walker

- In the next 6 months, will participate in Design Guidance Charrette meetings
- Will contract with ABAG when scope determined to build Green Infrastructure facilities

### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

Lester McKee regarding who should be part of the TAC:

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<sup>3</sup> <http://adaptoakland.org/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://abag.ca.gov/planning/corridors.html>

- Local technical advisors from cities of San Jose, San Mateo, Regional Waterboard and everyone in the room, if they are interested.
- Add more technical advisors: Jill Bicknell (EOA), Peter Shultz-Allen (EOA), Dino Marcellonust (EPA, R10), John Riveron (Pardigm), Steve Carter (Paradigm)
- Comments:
  - o Make the tool output usable for cities and link to TMDLs and more.
  - o In addition to PCBs, can Trash be considered by TAC for GreenPlan-IT enhancement? SFEI: the modeling tool takes in account wind, gravity, etc. would be difficult to add trash, mostly because it behaves differently. No model exists today.

#### TAC timing:

- 3 meetings scheduled. 4-6 hours for the first one. The others would be shorter. Also several phone calls for technical questions that need fast responses.

#### About the whole project timeline:

- On the A list (2015/2016) for SFEI Green Planning work: San Jose, Oakland and Sunnyvale.
- Other cities to be in 2017ish.

#### Action items:

- For next meeting, need a matrix of everybody's timeline!
  - o Oakland: Their urban greening tool (AdaptOakland) must be completed by August 2016. Expect to engage in winter/spring of next year with SFEI. Need to clarify their timeline (Action Item).
  - o CCC: could wait until the summer. Richmond: need to check (Action Item).
  - o San Jose: want to work with SFEI in the next few months. Ready to continue the process now. Will clarify their timeline (Action Item).
  - o San Mateo: need to clarify timeline (Action Item)
  - o Sunnyvale: need to clarify timeline (Action Item)
- SFEP: Design a "Spider Chart" with how everybody interacts with all the components of the project.
- SFEI: Design a matrix to cue when to work with cities. Also, plan for a kickoff meeting for each footprint. Start in the next quarter.
- SFEP: Send base documents for sub-recipients cities contracts.
- BASMAA: Finalize contracts.

#### Next steps:

- Quarterly meetings in person. Alternate with the Water Board & EPA offices. Next meeting in January or February in Oakland.
- SFEI: If needed, online forums in between quarterly meetings.
- Maybe take some time after the next quarterly meeting for more in-depth discussion with interested partners?

- Geoff Brosseau: add a focus discussion about Green Infrastructure multi-benefits?