



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

CITY HALL

10300 TORRE AVENUE • CUPERTINO, CA 95014-3255

TELEPHONE: (408) 777-3354 www.cupertino.org

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Meeting: April 18, 2017

Subject

Approval of the City of Cupertino's Green Infrastructure Plan Framework.

Recommended Action

Approve the Green Infrastructure Plan Framework (Workplan) to complete a State-mandated Green Infrastructure Plan for the City of Cupertino by September 2019.

Discussion

The City of Cupertino is subject to the requirements of the recently reissued Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit (MRP) for municipalities and agencies in the San Francisco Bay area, which became effective on January 1, 2016. The MRP applies to 76 municipalities (cities, towns and counties) and flood control agencies that discharge stormwater to San Francisco Bay, collectively referred to as Permittees. The framework must describe specific tasks and timeframes to ensure completion of the City's Green Infrastructure Plan and submittal to the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) by September 2019. Green Infrastructure (GI) is a new approach to creating sustainable public streets, parking lots and buildings which captures, stores and treats stormwater using natural processes.

Two-year development of Cupertino's Green Infrastructure Plan (2017-Sept 2019)

A new section of the MRP requires Permittees to develop and implement a long-term GI Plan that demonstrates how permittees will gradually shift from traditional "gray" storm drain infrastructure to a more resilient and sustainable storm drain system comprised of "green" infrastructure. The MRP also requires that the City's GI Plan contain a mechanism to prioritize and map areas for potential and planned projects, both public and private, on a time schedule consistent with the mandatory milestones for achieving load reductions of the legacy pollutants, mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), by 2030 and 2040. The City's Green Infrastructure Plan must be completed and submitted to the Water Board by September 30, 2019.

The Green Infrastructure Plan Framework (Workplan)

As part of GI Plan development, the MRP requires Permittees to prepare and obtain decision maker approval of the Workplan, by June 30, 2017, and submit it to the Water Board by September 30, 2017. The GI Plan Framework is simply the plan to develop Cupertino's long term GI Plan. The framework, at a minimum, must include a statement

of purpose, tasks and estimated timeframes to complete the required elements of the GI Plan. The Framework does not commit the City to a specific level of expenditures for future projects.

Staff has prepared the attached Green Infrastructure Framework (Attachment A) from guidance developed by EOA, the consultant for the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP), of which Cupertino is a member. Several components in the Green Infrastructure Plan will be developed collaboratively by SCVURPPP with funding for these steps provided by members' assessments that have been allocated for GI development within the SCVURPPP budget.

Sustainability Impact

The benefits of green infrastructure as a replacement for impervious hardscape include improving water quality, air quality, water conservation, providing habitat, preserving biodiversity, traffic calming, and mitigation of heat island effects, all of which would have a positive environmental and sustainability impact.

CEQA Review

There is no environmental assessment required for the approval of the Workplan.

Fiscal Impact

The approval of the Green Infrastructure Plan Framework will not result in an immediate fiscal impact. The City's Public Works department will be the lead on developing the GI Plan. However, staff from multiple departments and divisions, such as Community Development, Sustainability, GIS, and Recreation and Community Services, will need to collaborate on this task to provide input and review throughout the process. Some of the tasks required for development of the Plan will be completed collaboratively through the City's membership in SCVURPPP. If additional resources are required to develop the Plan by September 2019, funding will be requested during the FY 18-19 budget process.

Prepared by: Cheri Donnelly, Environmental Programs Manager

Reviewed by: Timm Borden, Director of Public Works

Approved for Submission by: David Brandt, City Manager

Attachments:

- A. City of Cupertino Green Infrastructure Plan Framework