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February 7, 2020

Proposal: Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project

As Manager for the San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program (Countywide Program), I am pleased to submit the attached proposal under the California Resilience Challenge for the “Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project.” The Countywide Program is administered by the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG), a joint powers agency whose members are the County of San Mateo and the 20 cities and towns within the county. The proposed project would develop concept plans for integrating green stormwater infrastructure into the nine campuses in the San Carlos School District to manage stormwater more sustainably in the face of a changing climate. The concepts would be developed to reduce runoff from the school sites to help address more frequent intense storms under future climate scenarios, capture runoff for beneficial use on the school sites and groundwater recharge for drought concerns, minimize downstream flooding concerns through incorporation of large underground retention systems, and build resiliency for urban heat island impacts through reduction in asphalt surfaces and incorporation of tree canopy and vegetation.

C/CAG is implementing numerous stormwater planning efforts on behalf of its member agencies, including efforts to identify and design several multi-benefit regional stormwater capture projects, developing a Countywide Sustainable Streets Master Plan that prioritizes opportunities for incorporating green stormwater infrastructure with planned complete streets, bicycle/pedestrian, and Safe Routes to School improvements, funding ten integrated Safe Routes to School/green stormwater infrastructure projects in public rights-of-way around schools, development of comprehensive Green Infrastructure Design Guidance that includes details for incorporating green infrastructure into buildings and sites (including schools) and streets, and modeling precipitation-based climate change impacts for evaluating future actions. Schools, given their unique governance structure and relationship with the Division of State Architect, are often a “missing” element in municipal green infrastructure planning processes, and this project is intended to break down those barriers by creating a replicable approach that C/CAG, the County Office of Education, and the remaining 22 school districts can use to create a larger, integrated, and ongoing approach to conceptualizing, designing, funding, and maintaining green infrastructure and larger regional systems on school properties.

The project is supported by the San Carlos School District, the Cities of San Carlos and Belmont (one school drains into the Belmont Creek watershed), the recently created San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District, and the County Office of Education. Partnership letters for each agency are included. C/CAG would serve as the lead on this project with consultant support and San Carlos School District staff would also be significantly involved.

We appreciate the efforts the Bay Area Council and other partners to create this grant program and look forward to discussing our proposal in greater detail. You can reach me with any questions at 650-599-1419 or mfabry@smcgov.org.

Sincerely,

Matthew Fabry, P.E.
Manager, Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program
City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County

1.PROJECT SUMMARY


The Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project will develop detailed conceptual plans for incorporating green infrastructure on the nine San Carlos School District (SCSD) campuses in San Mateo County, with the goal of transforming San Carlos schoolyards into resilient landscapes that help mitigate the effects of precipitation-based climate change impacts, while creating enhanced and dynamic learning environments for students. These concept plans would demonstrate the potential for other San Mateo County school districts (23 total) to follow suit. The City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) plans to make the project deliverables scalable and replicable to promote schoolyard greening programs in future years at the countywide level and beyond.

Schools provide a significant and largely missed opportunity for integrating green stormwater infrastructure into the urban landscape in San Mateo County due to their large parcels and overall levels of imperviousness that generate significant volumes of stormwater runoff. By creating green schoolyard concepts, C/CAG and the SCSD will take an important step forward toward creating more resilient schools that capture, use, infiltrate, and clean stormwater runoff and protecting downstream storm drains, creeks, and San Francisco Bay.

This project presents a timely opportunity for C/CAG to advance ongoing countywide green infrastructure and climate resilience planning efforts by addressing schoolyard resiliency. C/CAG administers a countywide stormwater program to support its 21 municipal member agencies with managing runoff in compliance with state regulatory requirements. C/CAG's recent focus has been supporting its member agencies with developing Green Infrastructure Plans as required under the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board's Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit. In 2018 C/CAG received a \$986k Caltrans Adaptation Planning grant to create a Countywide Sustainable Streets Master Plan (SSMP) to identify and prioritize opportunities to integrate green infrastructure with planned transportation improvements to build resilience under modeled climate futures.

This pilot program would fill a critical gap in resilience planning in the county by partnering with a school district that has demonstrated a commitment to sustainability through its involvement and leadership with the County Environmental Literacy Program and its early efforts to improve stormwater management at the Tierra Linda Middle School in partnership with C/CAG. Partnering with C/CAG on creating concept plans offers a path toward greater fulfillment of the SCSD's goals of climate readiness and mitigation of its current ecological footprint, while generating new partnership opportunities with the Cities of San Carlos and Belmont and the newly established Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District (FSLRRD) to better manage stormwater and reduce erosion and flooding in the downstream area of the Belmont Creek watershed.

The Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project would begin in July 2020 and be completed by December 2022. C/CAG would be the lead agency, in partnership with the SCSD, City of San Carlos, City of Belmont, the FSLRRD, and the County Office of Education. The concept plans



would cover all nine schools in the district and would focus on integrated design concepts that merge schoolyard water resiliency with curriculum linkages and recreational and aesthetic benefits.

2. GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED

Under the Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project, C/CAG requests the full grant of \$200,000. These funds would be allocated to consultant support and the San Carlos School District to support their staff time contributions to the project. C/CAG would commit staff time and other indirect costs to manage and implement the project.

3. DESCRIPTION OF RESILIENCE CHALLENGES PROJECT ADDRESSES

The Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project addresses flooding, drought, and extreme heat as the primary resilience challenges under the California Climate Resilience Challenge Grant. These resilience challenges will be addressed through development of green schoolyard concept plans. These concept plans will identify opportunities to integrate green infrastructure, such as rain gardens, stormwater planters, rain barrels, cisterns, and permeable pavement to capture, clean, infiltrate, and beneficially use stormwater runoff and reduce the volume of runoff generated by each campus.

FLOODING

Increased precipitation and associated impacts of runoff related to climate change are anticipated to be serious concerns for communities across San Mateo County in future decades. C/CAG has already modeled changes in runoff volumes for various storm recurrence frequencies under a variety of future climate scenarios, including business as usual climate forcing and more optimistic scenarios where greenhouse gas emissions are significantly reduced. Results indicate significant changes in storm intensities and associated runoff volumes countywide between current conditions and 2100. C/CAG and its member agencies are exploring approaches to maximize green infrastructure implementation at varying scales, including at the parcel scale (typically through new and redevelopment), street scale (green streets), and regional scale with large multi-benefit retention systems. Widespread implementation of green infrastructure at each of these scales will provide a measurable benefit to address the increased storm intensities and runoff volumes. Schools are often left out of municipal stormwater planning due to their separate governance structures and the role of the Division of State Architect in reviewing and approving site improvements. Working collaboratively with the SCSD as an opportunity to reduce upstream imperviousness in San Carlos will be the first step in filling a necessary gap in the overall strategy of managing stormwater in San Mateo County as the impacts of climate change continue to be demonstrated with localized flooding and erosion. The map below in Figure 3.1 shows the locations of each of the nine schools in the SCSD. Figures 3.2 and 3.3 respectively show a watershed-scale analysis of runoff under current conditions vs under the Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 8.5 climate scenario (assumes business as usual increases in greenhouse gas emissions) and the total area vs. relative area of imperviousness for each of the schools. The climate change runoff analysis reveals an estimated 25% increase in stormwater runoff generated in San Carlos watersheds under a more severe climate future. Though schools account for only a fraction of the overall land area in the city, school parcels are generally quite large and schools in San Carlos are on average approximately 45% impervious, which provides a significant area to work with to reduce campus runoff. The City of San Carlos is also targeting treatment of 263.3 acres of land with green infrastructure by 2040 to meet water quality regulatory drivers imposed by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board. If the SCSD were to implement green infrastructure to treat all impervious surfaces at each of its schools, it would amount to approximately 12.3% of San Carlos' targeted treatment area.

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Figure 3.1. San Carlos schools and associated watersheds

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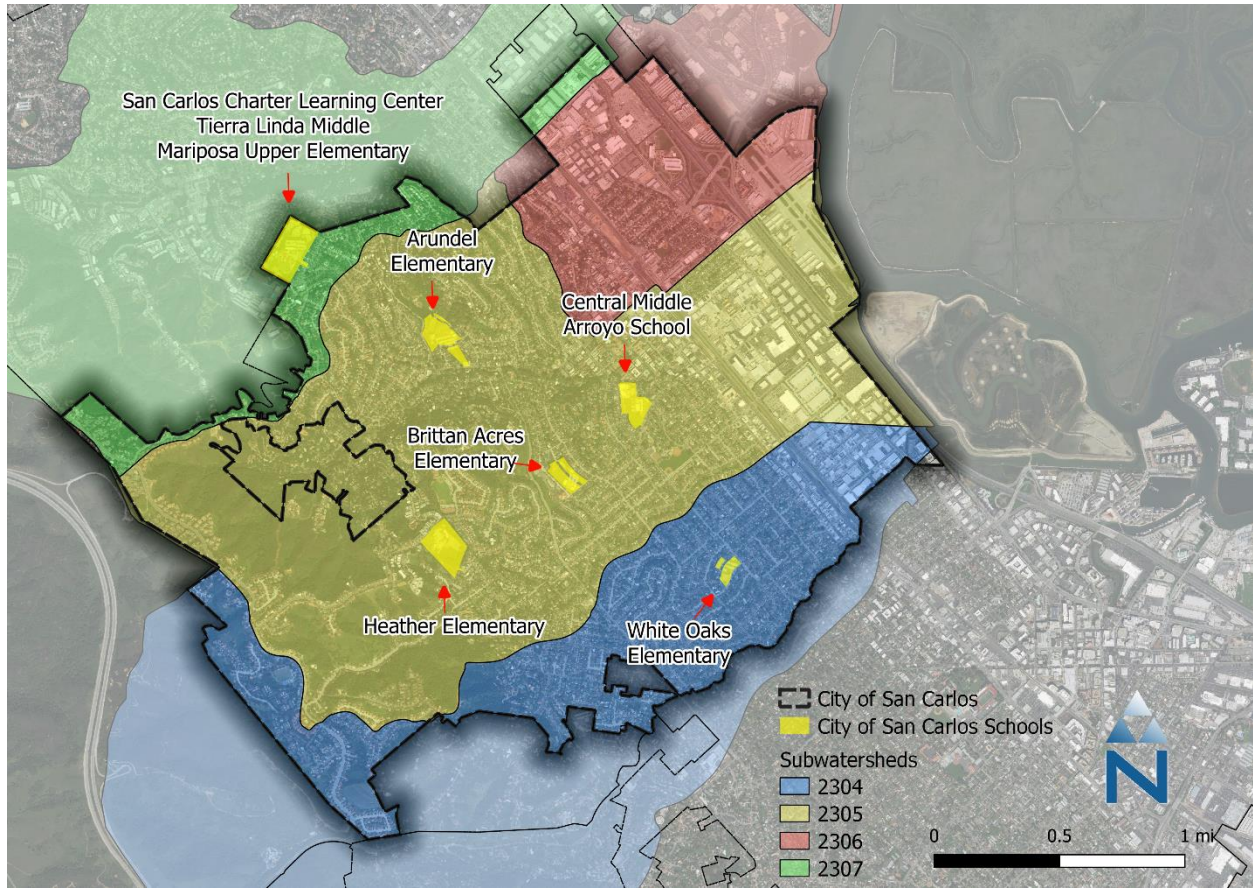


Figure 3.2. 10-year, 6-hour storm volumes (acre-feet) for sub-watersheds in San Carlos under existing and future predicted conditions.

Subwatershed	City of San Carlos 10-yr 6-h Storm Volumes		
	Existing Conditions (ac-ft)	RCP 8.5 Climate Change Conditions (ac-ft)	Volumetric Difference (ac-ft)
2304	202.0	258.8	56.8
2305	250.3	314.8	64.4
2306	55.8	67.1	11.4
2307	23.9	29.6	5.7
San Carlos Total	532.0	670.3	138.3

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Figure 3.3. San Carlos schools’ total acreage and impervious area acreage.

School	Total Area (ac)	Impervious Area (ac)	Percent Impervious
Arundel Elementary	10.4	4.43	43
Brittan Acres Elementary	6.33	3.01	48
Arroyo School ¹	8.99	5.32	59
Central Middle ¹			
Heather Elementary	14.5	5.64	39
San Carlos Charter Learning Center ²	20.0	8.53	43
Tierra Linda Middle ²			
Mariposa Upper Elementary ²			
White Oaks Elementary	3.62	2.08	57

^{1,2} Schools share one parcel

Additional to conventional green infrastructure designs and rainwater harvesting facilities, the concept designs will consider on a site-by-site basis the potential to include subsurface regional stormwater detention facilities that could be constructed under playing fields or parking lots. Preliminary results from the climate change analysis in C/CAG’s SSMP emphasize the importance of these larger facilities, which can capture runoff from hundreds of upstream acres, in mitigating the effects of larger storm volumes flowing through creeks and channels and larger storm drain infrastructure under future climate scenarios. This project will facilitate the process of working with schools to evaluate potential alignments with schoolgrounds in terms of stormwater runoff capture potential, feasibility of connecting to a subsurface stormdrain or nearby channel and interest from the schools’ perspectives of linking to bond-funding and leveraging funds to achieve additional improvements, including field replacement, new amenities, play structures, etc. These projects are also inherently multi-benefit, and feasible project locations will consider capture and reuse for irrigation. Tierra Linda Middle School in San Carlos has already been identified as a potential site for this kind of project, as the campus has plans to update a field and is looking for project partners, including C/CAG and the City of San Carlos, to better evaluate feasibility and identify a funding strategy. Situated in the Belmont Creek watershed, the Tierra Linda campus regional capture opportunity also aligns with work

3. DESCRIPTION OF RESILIENCE CHALLENGES PROJECT ADDRESSES

done by the City of San Carlos, the City of Belmont and the FSLRRD to complete the Belmont Creek Watershed Management Plan (2019), which has modeled the peak flow reduction benefit of large stormwater detention facilities to reduce problematic downstream flooding and erosion.

DROUGHT

The primary focus of green infrastructure is on flow management and water quality; however, there are many benefits to incorporating green infrastructure into schools from the standpoint of drought adaptation. Typical green infrastructure designs and specifications include water-efficient plantings and mulching to help maintain a high water-retaining capacity of the soils and reduce water demand. Rain gardens paired with rainwater harvesting facilities like rain barrels or cisterns can further leverage water saved. This project offers a chance for SCSD schools to evaluate larger cisterns (above or below ground), which can be integrated with or constructed adjacent to a building structure. These rainwater harvesting features could have appreciable water conservation benefits, especially during dry periods and would provide additional learning linkages for students to learn about and become stewards of their campus climate resiliency solutions.

Beyond providing flood mitigation, as described above, regional capture projects can also provide other climate resilience benefits, including adaptation to drought and water resource conservation. By storing and drawing on these larger reserves of water during drier periods, schools and municipalities can potentially offset their potable water supply in a meaningful way. Green infrastructure and larger underground stormwater retention systems can also help to recharge underlying groundwater basins, helping to build a more resilient local water supply source in times of extended drought.

HEAT

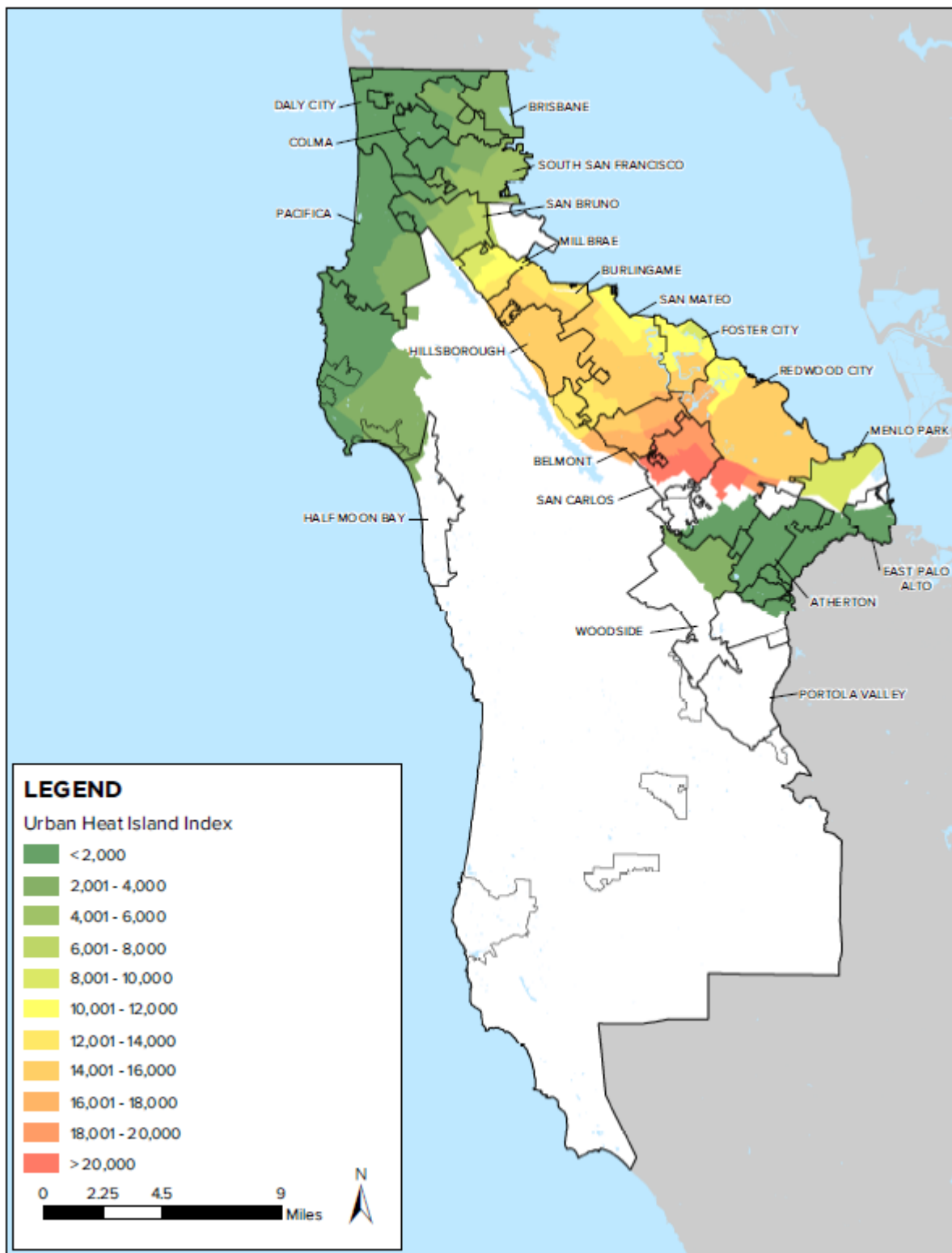
Finally, many if not most schools around the nation are burdened with decades-old patterns of expansive and extensively paved playgrounds. Risk management is a real consideration for schools and in many areas it is a matter of safety and limited resources to maintain large flat or paved areas. However, the consequences of heat impacts, especially as communities experience greater frequencies of high heat days, should not go unaddressed in local adaptation strategies. Research by organizations like the Children and Nature Network and the National Program for Playground Safety have brought to the forefront the many concerns around paved playgrounds and conventional materials used in play structures, along with potential benefits of transforming traditional schoolyards into safe, enjoyable and resilient learning landscapes. Heat has been identified as a major health issue for students on playgrounds, with some materials reaching temperatures of 189°F in some locations, which is hot enough to burn a child's skin within seconds of contactⁱ. Locally, results from C/CAG's analysis of urban heat island indices (UHII) from CalEPAⁱⁱ show increasing trends toward hotter conditions in urban areas, especially on the bayside, where San Carlos is located. The heat maps for San Mateo County (see Figure 3.4

3. DESCRIPTION OF RESILIENCE CHALLENGES PROJECT ADDRESSES

below) show greater impacts on the bayside of the county, with some of the highest index scores (most heat affected) in the county in San Carlos. The CalAdapt Extreme Heat Days modeled projections for San Carlos suggest there could be a doubling of the number of extreme heat days (93.4°F threshold) from approximately three to seven days by 2050.ⁱⁱⁱ The schoolyard greening concept plans would help transform the landscapes of SCSD schools into vibrant and comfortable environments and mitigate against the current and future heat-related impacts of highly impervious surfaces on schoolgrounds. The concepts will look at adding trees and other vegetated areas, including rain gardens and green roofs or green walls, to help reduce these effects, especially with the anticipated increases in average annual temperatures and number of extreme heat days in future years. Recent modeling of the potential cooling effects of green infrastructure in urban environments shows promise for the benefit of adding more green infrastructure at schools, where the combination effects of existing trees and surrounding landscaping and newly added green infrastructure can be maximized.^{iv}

Figure 3.4. Urban Heat Island Index map for San Mateo County from San Mateo Countywide Sustainable Streets Master Plan.

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- i “Temperature,” National Program for Playground Safety, <https://playgroundsafety.org/topics/topic/temperature>, (January 22, 2020)
 - ii “Creating and Mapping an Urban Heat Island Index for California,” Altostratus Inc., 2015, <https://calepa.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2016/10/UrbanHeat-Report-Report.pdf> (January 22, 2020)
 - iii “Extreme Heat Days & Warm Nights,” CalAdapt, <https://cal-adapt.org/tools/extreme-heat/> (January 22, 2020)
 - iv “Nature-Based Designs to Mitigate Urban Heat: The Efficacy of Green Infrastructure Treatments in Portland, Oregon,” Atmosphere, <file:///C:/Users/rbogert/Downloads/atmosphere-10-00282.pdf> (February 6, 2020)

4. OTHER PROJECT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project addresses at least to some degree each of the project evaluation criteria outlined in the request for proposals, as detailed below.

PROJECT DELIVERY/IMPLEMENTATION

In terms of project delivery and linking the outputs of the proposed project with implementation of green schoolyard projects in San Carlos, the project is designed to fast-track implementation through a project delivery focus and structure. C/CAG staff have based its approach on similar established efforts being implemented in Milwaukee, Wisconsin through the Metropolitan Sewerage District and the Green Schools Consortium of Milwaukee where schoolyard redevelopment plans focused on providing green infrastructure and stormwater resilience are first conceptualized, then fundraised, designed, constructed, and eventually operated and maintained. Key learnings from the schoolyard redevelopment program, including the multi-step and phased process of conducting outreach, developing schoolyard concepts, establishing a funding strategy, pursuing funding, and designing, building and maintaining projects, will be incorporated into the Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project. The schoolyard greening concept plans will be developed with an expectation of subsequent fundraising needs to move toward eventual implementation, and with the intention of using this as a model for developing an ongoing, annual program of working with schools to start the concept process. As described in more detail in the project scope, the primary deliverable will be a project report that includes each concept plan and additional information on strategies to incorporate curriculum linkages, funding strategies and recommended maintenance and staff/teacher training resources. Each of the nine concept plans will present the context for the individual campus (including its current conditions and needs), a description of the conceptual plan for making campus improvements (including the outreach and engagement process) and detailed graphic renderings of the proposed enhancements. The concept plans can then be used to further engage local elected officials, community groups and funders to support implementation. As noted by the SCSD staff, without a concept plan it is extremely difficult to make progress on achieving even well-supported and shared goals for campus improvements.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project builds on ongoing efforts led by the San Mateo County Office of Education's Environmental Literacy Program, which over the past several years has made headway into sustainability initiatives across many of the 23 school districts in San Mateo County. C/CAG has been an active participant in these efforts, including partnering on a teacher professional development fellowship this past summer, called the [Clean Water Pathways Fellowship](#). In this three-day training program, teachers learned about the various intersections of the water cycle and the lives of families and students and how to integrate problem-based learning into lessons that focus on stormwater pollution prevention solutions in

the classroom. C/CAG has also engaged with municipalities and schools in recent years to advance 10 C/CAG-funded projects that integrate Safe Routes to School improvements near schools with green stormwater infrastructure. Schools, municipalities and advocacy groups, like the Silicon Valley Bike Coalition, Canopy (a grassroots tree advocacy group), and Grass Roots Ecology (another local non-profit focused on urban greening and sustainable landscaping in partnership with schools and cities) have been very supportive of these efforts. The SCSD is eager to advance the potential for onsite stormwater improvements linked to broader schoolyard greening goals through the proposed concept plans, and there is additional support from the new Flood and Sea Level Resilience District and the County of San Mateo to partner on large-scale stormwater management by locating additional project opportunities for subsurface detention facilities under parks and fields. To expand and standardize curriculum and training on maintaining regenerative landscaping, including green infrastructure, this project has also received support from [ReScape California](#), which promotes regenerative landscape principles among the general public, local agencies and landscaping professionals. C/CAG is hoping to partner with ReScape on this project to develop training and curriculum resources to help school staff and administrators learn about and maintain their new campus improvements.

PROTECTING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

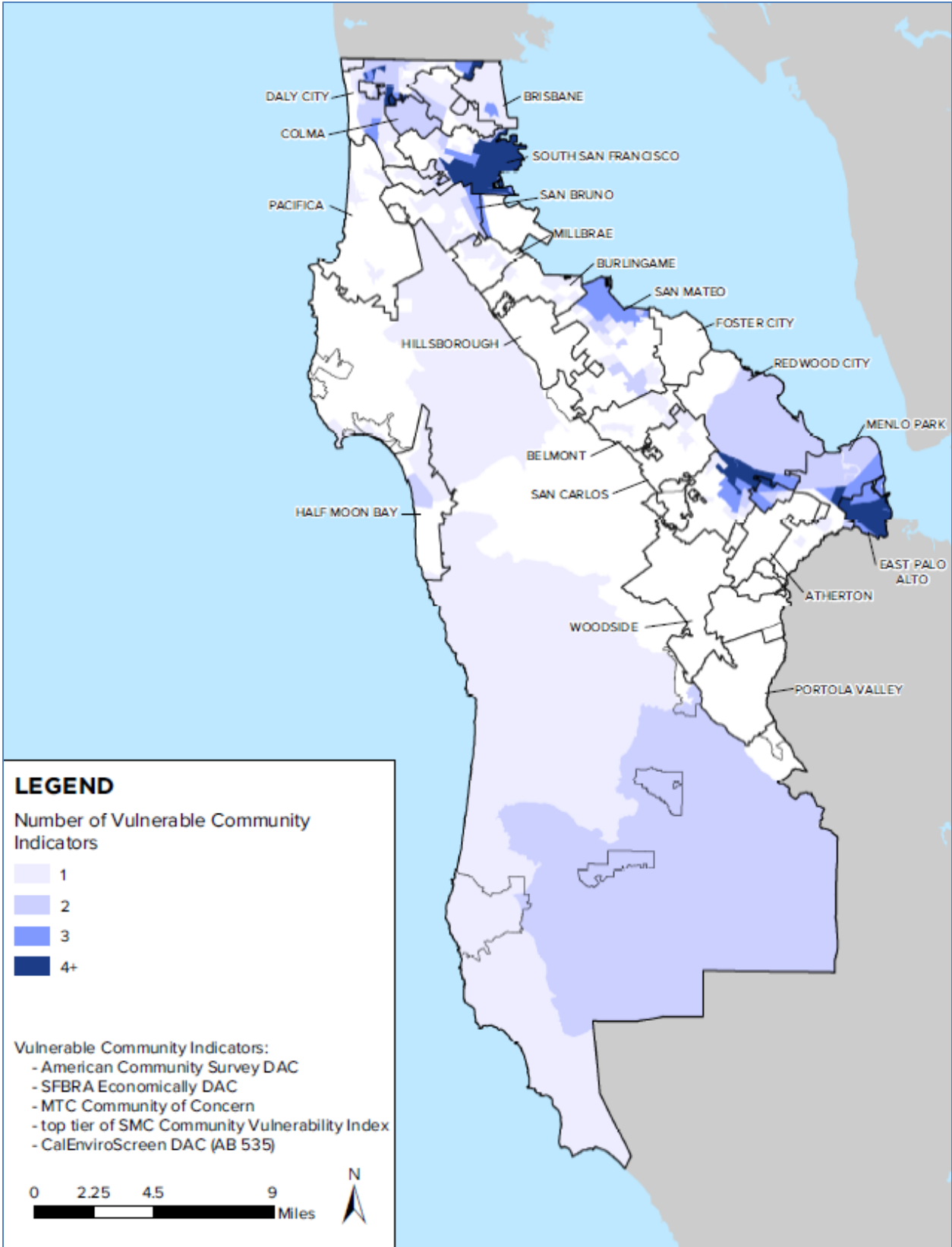
Given the proposed concept plans include resilient infrastructure to adapt schools to future climate impacts, a core aspect of the project is to protect schools and students from weather extremes, especially increased precipitation and drought. Eventual implementation of the concept plans will help reduce runoff from the school sites which will provide downstream benefits for keeping the City's storm drains system flowing. Maintaining adequate and well-functioning infrastructure will become more and more challenging under climate change scenarios where typical design standards for storm drains will be exceeded on a more frequent basis.

PROTECTING DISADVANTAGED OR VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

The project area (including the nine SCSD schools) does not fall within Disadvantaged Communities as defined by CalEnviroScreen 3.0, and generally these schools are not serving significant portions of vulnerable communities in terms of typical social demographics used to evaluate vulnerability. C/CAG's approach is to work with a known, willing partner in the SCSD that has shown interest and desire for stormwater improvements at its school sites to create the model that can then be used to engage other school districts in the county, with opportunities to focus on the districts serving disadvantaged and vulnerable communities. The San Mateo County Climate Ready SMC project produced a new climate vulnerability index that addresses conventional socioeconomic metrics for vulnerability as well as considerations that specifically relate to vulnerability to climate change impacts, including the percentage of households without a vehicle, cost burden of reliance on public transportation, households with income less than 50% of area median income, and percentage of persons greater than or equal to 75 years old.

Some of these criteria are intended to better evaluate the risk to communities associated with climate impacts, especially as they relate to mobility and reliance on public transportation. C/CAG has used this index along with vulnerability indexes to evaluate potential locations for sustainable street improvements and according to the Overall Community Indicator Index used in the SSMP, there is a portion of San Carlos near El Camino that has at least one indicator within two census tracts, as shown below in Figure 4.1.

Figure 4.11. Vulnerable Community Indicators map from the San Mateo Countywide Sustainable Streets Master Plan.



ACHIEVE MULTIPLE BENEFITS ACROSS SECTORS

The Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project achieves numerous co-benefits across environmental, water quality, climate adaptation, public health and education sectors. The concept plans will include integrated campus improvements, which, depending on stakeholder input and community-specific needs and desires, could touch on each of these sectors. The primary benefits can be summarized as follows:

Environmental – Adding green features to school campuses, including gardens, trees, and bioretention areas, can provide significant habitat space for urban wildlife, including pollinating birds and insects. The benefit of increased biodiversity can support other benefits, including cooling effects, creating more comfortable playground environments and increasing carbon sequestration. Other environmental benefits may include water resource conservation via rainwater harvesting systems.

Water Quality – A primary function of green stormwater infrastructure is to filter stormwater runoff. Even simple, low-cost designs for rain gardens and other surface features can provide significant water quality benefits, as water is captured where it falls or is channeled to vegetated areas. Larger regional scale stormwater capture projects can provide dramatically more water quality benefit by capturing hundreds to thousands of acres of upstream drainage area. These basins can store water for reuse in irrigation systems or infiltrate and treat runoff for direct water quality improvement.

Climate Adaptation – Flow reduction is a core consideration of this project. Integrating green infrastructure with other campus or playground upgrades fills a necessary gap in the way stormwater is managed in San Carlos and in San Mateo County more broadly. The potential to capture large volumes of runoff as climate change-related precipitation impacts grow, via rain water harvesting and subsurface detention systems is especially supportive of reducing flow impacts and dealing with drought. Transforming impervious areas into vibrant, greened areas also offers carbon sequestration benefits, reduces playground temperatures and helps schools adapt to changing climate regimes.

Public Health – The primary benefit for public health is to make schools safer, more enjoyable and healthier for students and staff. In addition to the physical benefits of schoolyard greening with respect to new fields, more trees, new gardens and dynamic play and learning areas, there is good evidence of the emotional and mental health benefits of having more exposure to nature and vegetation in school settings.

Education – The concept plans developed under this project will involve students at each of the schools, and the approach to planning and ultimately building project features would be to have students, families and community members involved each step of the way, from conceptualization to building and maintaining projects. Some components to green stormwater infrastructure or other larger structural improvements will require consultants to engineer and

build them; however, many of the vegetated areas, gardens and water harvesting features that may be proposed can be designed and largely constructed with the help of students and school staff. This process offers numerous learning and engagement opportunities. The Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project also delivers more than just structural campus improvements and schoolyard greening. The final project report will include a set of tools and guidance to integrate learning into the new play spaces and learning environments. Teachers from all levels and disciplines will be able to find curricular connections, including environmental monitoring and science, horticulture, art/theater, literature, history and social studies. The emphasis will be on how to inspire students to become resilient leaders in their studies and experiences at school and within their communities via connecting to stewardship and care for their new campus features.

LEVERAGING FUNDS

C/CAG staff plans to make the most of the grant funds by allocating as much of the grant amount to technical support to complete project deliverables. Limited funds would be used for staff time or other indirect costs for the SCSD staff. Several project partners will provide staff time to ensure the project delivers strong results, including representatives from the Office of Education, the Flood and Sea Level Rise Resilience District and city staff. C/CAG and the SCSD will also explore funding support from the San Carlos Education Foundation and other potential sources.

SCALING PROJECT DELIVERABLES FOR FUTURE RESILIENCE

A primary intent of the project is to make the deliverables scalable and replicable. C/CAG intends to use this project as a pilot to expand across the county in future years. Hearing from the SCSD, having demonstration projects can create momentum for other school administrators to act. This project is the first step in the direction of countywide implementation of schoolyard greening.

REPLICATING PROJECT DELIVERABLES FOR FUTURE RESILIENCE

It is also the hope that agencies and school districts beyond San Mateo County would benefit from having a proven set of tools to plan and implement integrated, climate focused schoolyard greening programs as a result of this project. To ensure the replicability of the program, the report and concept plans will be structured so that other agencies and schools/districts could easily follow the layout and process for developing their own plans and model the planning and project timeline for implementation. The report will also include a section on lessons learned to make the process easier and provide opportunities to improve outcomes for future agencies and partners.

COLLABORATION WITH NEIGHBORING JURISDICTIONS

Collaboration is central to the Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project. Beyond working closely with the SCSD, C/CAG plans to engage with the City of San Carlos, the City of Belmont and the

San Mateo Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District (FSLRRD) to ensure the most robust results. Working with the cities will be especially important in finding opportunities to leverage funds to plan and build regional multi-benefit projects. One of the charges of the FLSRRD will be planning future regional scale multi-benefit stormwater capture projects, and C/CAG staff see this as an opportunity to develop new partnerships between the FLSRRD and school district to advance regional stormwater management in the county. The FLSRRD is also focusing much of its early work on climate adaptation to address sea level rise, so this project will align closely with broader climate adaptation planning efforts, as targets for flood protection are established with respect to sea level rise and creek and channel flooding.

COLLABORATION WITH PRIVATE SECTOR

The vision for schoolyard concept plans does not currently include significant collaboration with the private sector; however, it is well recognized that private sector support can go a long way toward building capacity and pursuing project implementation. Further, the SCSD has worked with local landscaping and supply stores to pilot a rain garden at the Tierra Linda campus, and part of the financing plan in the project report would identify similar opportunities to get donations for landscaping and materials. C/CAG staff have already gained support from Lyngso (a local landscaping company in San Carlos, who donated materials for the pilot project at Tierra Linda) and Ewing Irrigation and Landscape Supply (also located in San Carlos) and will continue to engage these and other local entities to find potential donation opportunities in support of funding strategies. There may also be partnership or engagement opportunities with nature-based playground design and materials supply firms in the Bay Area, as well as other private funding groups, like the San Carlos Chamber of Commerce and San Carlos Education Foundation.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION MEASURES

Through engagement with ReScape California, C/CAG staff plans to leverage the organization's focus on education, training and policy-making around creating and maintaining regenerative landscapes, to support this project with training and education components for teachers, students and administrators. ReScape is currently designing tools for measuring the carbon sequestering potential of landscaping, and it is the intent to include any methodologies for measuring greenhouse gas reductions associated with schoolyard greening projects in the tools and guidance section for integrating school curricula.

5.STATE LAW REQUIREMENTS

The proposed project is not directly mandated by state law. Incorporating green infrastructure into the school yards would, however, support the City of San Carlos in meeting long-term water quality improvement requirements imposed by the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board through its Municipal Regional Permit (MRP). The MRP requires agencies to implement Green Infrastructure Plans to achieve reductions in mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) impairing San Francisco Bay by making certain fish species unsafe to eat. The MRP also requires agencies to conduct school age outreach on topics related to stormwater pollution prevention.

C/CAG sees this project as an effective means to implementing school age outreach, building on past and current strategies to engage schools. Presently, C/CAG works with schools across three scales of potential implementation. The first level of engagement is through curriculum connections and linking teachers and schools with opportunities to build standards-aligned stormwater pollution prevention curricula. C/CAG staff have partnered with the County Office of Education to create a professional development module for teachers called the Clean Water Fellowship, which was piloted in summer 2019. Teachers attended a multi-day integrated water workshop and developed problem-based learning lesson plans to be implemented the following semester. C/CAG has also engaged schools in high school contests to develop green infrastructure project concepts for campuses and other teaching tools.

The second scale is site improvements via green stormwater capture and infiltration projects on schoolgrounds. C/CAG partnered with Tierra Linda Middle School in San Carlos in 2019 to do a rain barrel installation and rain garden design, which the students and community helped create. C/CAG has also funded other larger infrastructure projects in partnership with 10 cities and nearby schools through the county to build integrated [Safe Routes to School and Green Street pilot projects](#) in the past several years. An earlier project included onsite stormwater and parking/drop-off improvements as well as adjacent right-of-way enhancements that integrated crossing improvements with green stormwater infrastructure at Laurel Elementary in the City of San Mateo.

The third scale of engagement with schools is regional multi-benefit stormwater capture projects, which could include large subsurface detention basins, designed to store, infiltrate and reuse captured stormwater. Schools make a promising opportunity for implementing regional projects in parking lots and athletic fields. As these areas are updated or replaced, stormwater detention systems can be engineered below ground and integrated with irrigation and other features to improve water resource conservation and water quality improvement. This project would explore all three levels of engagement and implementation with schools to provide a comprehensive approach to advancing climate resilience, water quality improvements and STEM-based learning at schools in San Carlos.

6. SCOPE OF WORK

The following provides a detailed Scope of Work (SOW) for completing the Resilient San Carlos Schools Project.

TASK 1. PROJECT INITIATION

Task 1.1 – RFP for Consultant Services

- C/CAG staff will implement a Request for Proposals process to solicit technical consultant support in accordance with C/CAG’s procurement policy. A copy of the procurement procedures and the executed consultant contract will be available to the Bay Area Council upon request.
- Responsible Party: C/CAG

Task 1.2 – Project Team Coordination Meetings

- Monthly project team meetings with C/CAG, the San Carlos School District, and consultants to ensure good communication on upcoming tasks and to make sure the project remains on time and within budget.
- Responsible Party: C/CAG and consultant(s)

Task 1.3 – Stakeholder Advisory Committee

- C/CAG will convene a single Stakeholder Advisory Committee for developing the concept plans and hold regular meetings with relevant staff and representatives from the San Carlos School District, schools, Parent Teacher Associations, school site councils, City of San Carlos, San Mateo Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District, San Mateo County Office of Education and additional key stakeholders to provide updates and seek input on project deliverables, focusing on the school engagement process and creating concept plans.
- Responsible Party: C/CAG and consultant(s)

Task 1.4 – Consultant Project Management

- The Consultant(s) C/CAG procures to implement the grant effort will manage their teams, coordinate internally, ensure conformance with C/CAG and Bay Area Council funding agreement requirements, develop summaries of work completed, and submit regular invoices for reimbursement.
- Responsible Party: Consultants

TASK	DELIVERABLE
1.2	<i>Monthly meeting minutes</i>
1.3	<i>Stakeholder Advisory Committee minutes</i>
1.4	<i>Monthly consultant invoices and work summaries</i>

6. SCOPE OF WORK

TAKS 2. SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT

Task 2.1 – Develop School Engagement Strategy

- Develop a community engagement strategy for soliciting input from representatives of each school and the broader community members affiliated with the schools. The engagement strategy should include the following audiences: school and school district staff, students, Parent Teacher Associations, school site councils, neighborhood associations, community groups. The strategy should provide a participatory forum for creating visions for the school concept plans and a process for sharing progress and soliciting input on developing the plans. Focus on assessing vulnerable communities if relevant, infrastructure risks and needs in context of a changing climate, and local knowledge of existing and planned campus improvements. The School Engagement Strategy should define a process for engaging all nine schools in an effective
- Responsible Party: C/CAG and consultant(s)

Task 2.2 – School and Stakeholder Engagement Meetings

- Plan and host green schoolyard concept planning meetings in an effective approach according to the School Engagement Strategy. Meetings should be participatory and provide opportunities for stakeholders to learn about and provide meaningful input into the proposed process and development of concept plans. This task may overlap with Task 1.3 (Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meetings). An initial project kick-off meeting including key stakeholders and representatives from each school should be included to provide context, generate enthusiasm for the project and define the process and timeline for developing each school concept plan and final deliverables.
- Responsible Party: C/CAG and consultant(s)

TASK	DELIVERABLE
2.1	<i>Draft and final School Engagement Strategy</i>
2.2	<i>School and stakeholder engagement meetings, including a project kick-off meeting with stakeholders from all schools. Deliverables: materials, including power point presentations, event meeting notes, and attendance records</i>

TASK 3. SCHOOL SITE SURVEYS

Task 3.1 – Conduct School Site Surveys

- Develop and conduct school site surveys to evaluate topographical conditions, drainage patterns and issues, soil conditions, utilities, etc. Site surveys should be coordinated with the school engagement process.

6. SCOPE OF WORK

- Responsible Party: Consultant(s)

TASK	DELIVERABLE
3.1	<i>Completed school site surveys</i>

TASK 4. SCHOOLYARD GREENING CONCEPT PLANS

Task 4.1 – Develop Concept Plans

- Develop integrated schoolyard greening concept plans that address the core climate resilience challenges of the project (stormwater management/flooding, drought, heat). Concept plans should be developed in a cost-effect approach across all participating schools and should include school context and detailed concepts with integrated stormwater and recreational/aesthetic features that provide opportunities for curriculum connections. Concepts should water quality and other climate adaptation benefits to the extent possible.
- Responsible Party: Consultant(s)

TASK	DELIVERABLE
4.1	<i>Draft, revised draft and final concept plans</i>

TASK 5. RESILIENT SAN CARLOS SCHOOLYARDS PROJECT REPORT

Task 5.1 – Develop Comprehensive Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project Report

- Develop a comprehensive report that covers all nine school concept plans. The report should at minimum provide context for each school in terms of the school background and context for the proposed improvements, a discussion of the school engagement strategy and how participants provided input, tools and resources for maintaining the green stormwater infrastructure components of the concepts, tools and guidance for integrating curriculum connections with the proposed concepts, and a section describing recommendations for funding strategies to build projects.
- Responsible Party: Consultant(s)

TASK	DELIVERABLE
5.1	<i>Draft, revised draft and final report</i>

TASK 6. FISCAL MANAGEMENT

Task 6.1 Invoicing

6. SCOPE OF WORK

- Submit quarterly requests for reimbursement to Bay Area Council staff based on all progress towards deliverables and milestone completion.
- Responsible Party: C/CAG

Task 6.2 Financial Reports

- Submit financial reports to to Bay Area Council staff within 90 days of the end of each fiscal year for which the project is conducted. Financial reports will provide progress updates based on tasks and subtasks from the project timeline to demonstrate evidence of project sources and use of funds, including any leveraged funds.
- Responsible Party: C/CAG

TASK	DELIVERABLE
6.1	<i>Quarterly requests for reimbursement</i>
6.2	<i>End of fiscal year financial reports</i>

7. Project Timeline

Project Title: Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project		Grantee: City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County																																				
Task Number	Task Title	FY 2019/20						FY 2020/21						FY 2021/22						FY 2022/23						Funds Dispersed												
		J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J		J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
1	Project Initiation																																					
1.1	RFP for Consultant Services																																					NA
1.2	Project Team Coordination Meetings																																					Quarterly starting October 2020
1.3	Stakeholder Advisory Committee																																					Quarterly starting October 2020
1.4	Consultant Project Management																																					Quarterly starting October 2020
2	School Engagement																																					
2.1	Engagement Strategy																																					October 2020
2.2	Meetings																																					Quarterly starting October 2020
3	School Site Surveys																																					
3.1	Conduct School Site Surveys																																					July 2020
4	Schoolyard Greening Concept Plans																																					
4.1	Plans																																					Quarterly starting May 2020
5	Flowing Green San Carlos Schools Report																																					
5.1	Develop Comprehensive Project Report																																					Quarterly starting October 2022
6	Fiscal Management																																					
6.1	Invoicing																																					NA
6.2	End of Fiscal Year Financial Reports																																					NA

7. LOCAL SUPPORT AND APPROVALS

PROJECT PARTNERS (LETTERS OF SUPPORT ATTACHED)

- San Carlos School District
- City of Belmont
- City of San Carlos
- San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resilience District
- San Mateo County Office of Education

PROJECT SUPPORT/APPROVALS

The following entities will be needed to provide approval and/or support for the project activities in order to proceed with the grant effort.

- Board of Directors, City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County – will need to take action to accept a grant and enter into a funding agreement with CRC.
- City Councils, City of Belmont and City of San Carlos – would need to support and potentially approve any projects proceeding into implementation.
- Board of Directors, San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District – will need to engage and potentially approve any regional stormwater capture project at one of the school sites, given the District’s partial charge to address regional stormwater management.
- School Board, San Carlos School District – will need to approve of the grant project and authorize their acceptance of any funds through a sub-agreement with C/CAG for their staff time, and to approve of the overall project and scope of work.
- State Architect – will likely need to approve any future plans, specifications, and engineering estimates for projects to be implemented on any of the campuses.

9. OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS

If awarded, funds under this grant would not provide required matching funds to release other funding sources.

C/CAG plans to use the full requested grant amount to complete the project. Additional funds may be available from C/CAG to supplement project costs.

Additional funding sources may include the San Carlos Education Foundation, the San Carlos Chamber of Commerce. If the project is funded and the concepts are developed, C/CAG will continue to work with supporting organizations and companies to fund project implementation, including seeking donations of materials from interested project partners, such as Lyngso Garden Materials, Ewing Irrigation and Landscape Supply, Home Depot (San Carlos) and others.

10. Use of Funds

Project Title: Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project		
Task Number	Task Title	Grant Amount
1	Project Initiation	
1.1	RFP for Consultant Services	\$0
1.2	Project Team Coordination Meetings	\$10,000
1.3	Stakeholder Advisory Committee	\$15,000
1.4	Consultant Project Management	\$10,000
2	School Engagement	
2.1	Develop Community School Engagement Strategy	\$10,000
2.2	School and Stakeholder Engagement Meetings	\$20,000
3	School Site Surveys	
3.1	Conduct School Site Surveys	\$20,000
4	Schoolyard Greening Concept Plans	
4.1	Develop Schoolyard Greening Concept Plans	\$100,000
5	Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Report	
5.1	Develop Comprehensive Project Report	\$15,000
6	Fiscal Management	
6.1	Invoicing	\$0
6.2	End of Fiscal Year Financial Reports	\$0
	Indirect Overhead Costs	\$0
	Totals	\$200,000

11. Deliverables

Project Title: Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project		Grantee: City/County Association of Governments, San Mateo County
Task Number	Task Title	Deliverables
1	Project Initiation	
1.1	RFP for Consultant Services	NA
1.2	Project Team Coordination Meetings	Monthly meeting minutes
1.3	Stakeholder Advisory Committee	Stakeholder Advisory Committee minutes
1.4	Consultant Project Management	Monthly consultant invoices and work summaries
2	School Engagement	
2.1	Develop Community School Engagement Strategy	Draft and final School Engagement Strategy
2.2	School and Stakeholder Engagement Meetings	School and stakeholder engagement meetings, including a project kick-off meeting with stakeholders from all schools. Deliverables: materials, including power point presentations, event meeting notes, and attendance records
3	School Site Surveys	
3.1	Conduct School Site Surveys	Completed school site surveys, including topographic, soil conditions, utilities, etc.
4	Schoolyard Greening Concept Plans	
4.1	Develop Schoolyard Greening Concept Plans	Draft and final school concept plans. Concept plans will include detailed renderings of integrated stormwater and recreational site improvements geared towards climate resilience.
5	Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Report	
5.1	Develop Comprehensive Project Report	Draft and final comprehensive Flowing Green San Carlos Schools draft and final report. In addition to the individual detailed concept plans for campus improvements, the report will include detailed descriptions of the context for each school, the engagement process undertaken for each campus, tools and resources for future maintenance and staff training, guidance for curricular connections across relevant grades and disciplines, and a financing plan and additional tools and guidance for next steps towards project implementation.
6	Fiscal Management	
6.1	Invoicing	Quarterly requests for reimbursement
6.2	End of Fiscal Year Financial Reports	End of fiscal year financial reports, demonstrating progress achieved during the previous fiscal year and summarizing the final project deliverables in the final report.

12. ACCESS TO SITE

To complete the schoolyard greening planning process and to develop the school concepts, C/CAG and the project team will need access to San Carlos School District property. C/CAG will work with the school district and the individual schools to acquire access during the project.



City of Belmont

One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 340, Belmont, CA 94002
(650) 595-7408 • Fax (650) 637-2982
www.belmont.gov

City Manager
Afshin Oskoui

January 31, 2020

Mr. Matthew Fabry, Program Manager
San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program
c/o City/County Association of Governments
555 County Center, 5th Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

Subject: Support for C/CAG's Application for Funding under the California Resilience Challenge 2020 Grant Program.

Dear Mr. Fabry:

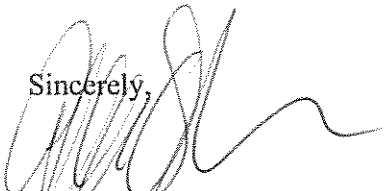
This letter is in support of the City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG) of San Mateo County's application for funding under the California Resilience Challenge 2020 Grant Program, administered by the Bay Area Council.

C/CAG's proposed Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards project to develop resilient schoolyard concept plans for all nine schools in the San Carlos School District aligns with the regional planning efforts, and its vision for helping schools in San Carlos and across the county to better prepare for climate resilience. This project combines overlapping resiliency planning needs in San Mateo County for green stormwater infrastructure and for improved and healthier school environments. This grant will help forge the necessary partnerships among agencies on climate resiliency, and create the tools and resources needed to construct schoolyard greening projects in the coming years. Belmont as a neighboring agency supports the regional plans that link many benefits including, flood reduction, water quality improvement, drought adaptation, temperature mitigation, enhanced recreation, aesthetics and learning.

This is an important opportunity to make new strides with schools in San Mateo County in the realm of climate resilience and aligns with ongoing climate planning throughout the county, including the establishment of the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resilience District. We look forward to partnering with C/CAG and the Bay Area Council to ensure schools are a part of the climate adaptation solution in San Mateo County.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or our support of the proposed grant, please Leticia Alvarez, P.E., Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer, (650) 595-7469, lalvarez@belmont.gov.

Sincerely,



Afshin Oskoui
City Manager

Cc: Leticia Alvarez, Public Works
Steven Machida, San Carlos Public Works

San Mateo County
FLOOD AND SEA LEVEL RISE
Resiliency District

February 2, 2020

Mr. Matthew Fabry, Program Manager
San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program
c/o City/County Association of Governments
555 County Center, 5th Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

Subject: Support for C/CAG's California Resilience Challenge 2020 Grant Application

Dear Mr. Fabry:

I am writing on behalf of San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District (FSLRRD) in support of and partnership with the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County's (C/CAG) application for funding under the California Resilience Challenge 2020 Grant Program, administered by the Bay Area Council.

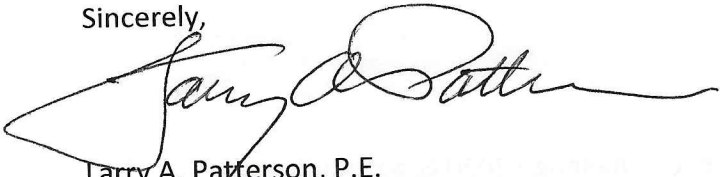
C/CAG's proposed Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards project to develop resilient schoolyard concept plans for all nine schools in the San Carlos School District aligns with AGENCY's climate adaptation planning efforts and its vision for helping schools in San Carlos and across the county better prepare for climate resilience. This project combines overlapping planning needs in San Mateo County for reducing climate impacts through green stormwater infrastructure and for improved, more dynamic, healthier school environments. This grant will help forge the necessary partnerships for greater collaboration among agencies on climate resiliency and create the tools and resources needed to construct schoolyard greening projects in the coming years. The FSLRRD will support this project with staff time dedicated toward school engagement and developing well-supported concept plans that link many co-benefits including, flood reduction, water quality improvement, drought adaptation, temperature mitigation, enhanced recreation, aesthetics and learning.

This is an important opportunity to make new strides with schools in San Mateo County in the realm of climate resilience and aligns with ongoing climate planning throughout the county, including the establishment of the San Mateo County FSLRRD. The District's Mission is to support and assist agencies within the County who are working together to address one or more of our three primary elements of the District's mission: Flooding, Sea Level Rise and Regional Stormwater. The proposed project will advance the District's interest in reducing flows during storms and improving the quality of the runoff. We look forward to partnering with C/CAG and the Bay Area Council to ensure schools are a part of the climate adaptation solution in San Mateo County.

Mr. Matthew Fabry, Program Manager
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or our support of the proposed grant,
please contact Erika Powell at epowell@oneshoreline.org.

Sincerely,



Larry A. Patterson, P.E.
Interim Chief Executive Officer



SAN CARLOS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Michelle Harmeier, Ed. D., Superintendent
Hans Barber, Assistant Superintendent
Mila Milligan, Chief Business Official

1200 Industrial Road, Unit 9
San Carlos, CA 94070
Voice: (650) 508-7333
Fax: (650) 508-7340
www.scsdk8.org

January 31, 2020

Mr. Matthew Fabry, Program Manager
San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program
c/o City/County Association of Governments
555 County Center, 5th Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

Subject: Support for C/CAG's Application for Funding under the California Resilience Challenge 2020 Grant Program.

Dear Mr. Fabry:

I am writing on behalf of the San Carlos School District in support of and partnership with the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County's (C/CAG) application for funding under the California Resilience Challenge 2020 Grant Program, administered by the Bay Area Council.

C/CAG's proposed Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards project to develop resilient schoolyard concept plans for all nine schools in the San Carlos School District aligns with our climate adaptation planning efforts and our vision for helping schools in San Carlos and our entire community better prepare for climate resilience. This project combines overlapping planning needs in San Mateo County for reducing climate impacts through green stormwater infrastructure and for improved, more dynamic, healthier school environments. This grant will help forge the necessary partnerships for greater collaboration among agencies on climate resiliency and create the tools and resources needed to construct schoolyard greening projects in the coming years. The San Carlos School District will support this project with staff time dedicated toward school engagement and the development of well-supported concept plans that link many co-benefits including, flood reduction, water quality improvement, drought adaptation, temperature mitigation, enhanced recreation, aesthetics and learning.

This is an important opportunity to make new strides with schools in San Mateo County in the realm of climate resilience and aligns with ongoing climate planning throughout the county, including the establishment of the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resilience District. We look forward to partnering with C/CAG and the Bay Area Council to ensure schools are a part of the climate adaptation solution in San Mateo County.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or our support of the proposed grant, please our Wellness Director, Mindy Hill, who manages many of our sustainability efforts. Mindy's email is mhill@scsdk8.org. You are also welcome to contact me or our Superintendent, Dr. Michelle Harmeier mharmeier@scsdk8.org, with any other questions. We are all in full support of this program and appreciate the opportunity it will provide our students, staff, and community.

Sincerely,

Hans Barber
Assistant Superintendent, San Carlos School District
hbarber@scsdk8.org

Board of Education ~ Carol Elliott • Kathleen Farley • Neil Layton • Eirene Chen • Wendy Dougherty



February 5, 2020

Mr. Matthew Fabry, Program Manager
San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program
c/o City/County Association of Governments
555 County Center, 5th Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

Subject: Support for C/CAG's Application for Funding under the California Resilience Challenge 2020 Grant Program.

Dear Mr. Fabry:

I am writing on behalf of the City of San Carlos in support of and partnership with the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County's (C/CAG) application for funding under the California Resilience Challenge 2020 Grant Program, administered by the Bay Area Council.

C/CAG's proposed Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards project to develop resilient schoolyard concept plans for all nine schools in the San Carlos School District aligns with the City of San Carlos's climate adaptation planning efforts and its vision for helping schools in San Carlos and across the county better prepare for climate resilience. This project combines overlapping planning needs in San Mateo County for reducing climate impacts through green stormwater infrastructure and for improved, more dynamic, healthier school environments. This grant will help forge the necessary partnerships for greater collaboration among agencies on climate resiliency and create the tools and resources needed to construct schoolyard greening projects in the coming years. The City of San Carlos will support this project with staff time dedicated toward school engagement and developing well-supported concept plans that link many co-benefits including, flood reduction, water quality improvement, drought adaptation, temperature mitigation, enhanced recreation, aesthetics and learning.

This is an important opportunity to make new strides with schools in San Mateo County in the realm of climate resilience and aligns with ongoing climate planning throughout the county, including the establishment of the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resilience District. The San Carlos City Council will take formal action on this matter at their next available formal meeting. We look forward to partnering with C/CAG and the Bay Area Council to ensure schools are a part of the climate adaptation solution in San Mateo County.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or our support of the proposed grant, please contact Public Works Director Steven Machida at (650) 802-4203 or smachida@cityofsancarlos.org.

Sincerely,

Jeff Maltbie
City Manager



Excellence and Equity in Education

Mr. Matthew Fabry, Program Manager
San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program
c/o City/County Association of Governments
555 County Center, 5th Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063

Feb 6, 2020

Subject: Support for C/CAG's California Resilience Challenge 2020 Grant Application

Dear Mr. Fabry:

I am writing on behalf of the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) in support of and in partnership with the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County's (C/CAG) application for funding under the California Resilience Challenge 2020 Grant Program, administered by the Bay Area Council.

C/CAG's proposed, Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards project, which seeks to develop resilient schoolyard concept plans for all nine schools in the San Carlos School District, aligns with SMCOE's vision for climate adaptation planning efforts. We believe this project will help schools in San Carlos better prepare for climate resilience, and will be a model for schools across the county. This project combines overlapping planning needs in San Mateo County for reducing climate impacts through green stormwater infrastructure and for improved, more dynamic, healthier school environments. This grant will also help forge the necessary partnerships for greater collaboration among agencies on climate resiliency and create the tools and resources needed to construct schoolyard greening projects in the coming years. SMCOE will support this project with staff time dedicated toward developing well-supported concept plans.

This project is an important opportunity to make new strides with schools in San Mateo County in the realm of climate resilience and aligns with ongoing climate planning throughout the county, including the establishment of the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resilience District. We look forward to partnering with C/CAG and the Bay Area Council to ensure schools are a part of the climate adaptation solution in San Mateo County.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or our support of the proposed grant, please contact Andra Yeghoian at ayeghoian@smcoe.org.

Sincerely, 

Andra Yeghoian
Environmental Literacy and Sustainability Coordinator
SMCOE