



Storm Water Management Oversight Committee

Thursday, February 4, 2021
1 pm to 3 pm
Special Meeting

*****BY VIRTUAL TELECONFERENCE ONLY*****

<https://zoom.us/join> Meeting ID: 990 9847 5635 Phone: 1(669)9006833

Pursuant to the provisions of California Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, issued on March 17, 2020, to prevent the spread of Covid-19, this meeting will be held by virtual teleconference only, with no physical location.

Agenda posted in accordance Government Code Section 54954.2(a) or 54956.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public who wish to participate by computer or phone can find the instructions at the end of this agenda. To ensure participation in a particular item, we suggest calling in or connecting online 15 minutes before the item you wish to speak on.

Call to Order (5 min)

Oral Communications (5 min)

Members of the public may speak to any item NOT on the agenda. A reasonable time restriction may be imposed at the discretion of the Committee Chair.

Old Business (5 min)

1. Approval of Minutes from the October 8, 2020 Storm Water Management Oversight Committee Meeting (5 min)

New Business

2. Staff Presentation on FY 22 Budget Process Update and FY 20 Actuals. (25 min)
3. Staff Presentation on Capital Improvement Program Projects (Related to FY21 Budget) (10 min)
4. Staff Presentation on GSI Funding Analysis and Discussion of Subcommittee (45 min)
5. Staff Update on Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit Renewal (10 min)

Committee Member Comments and Announcements (10 min)

6. Discussion on Neighbors Abroad project in Palo Alto

Tentative Agenda Items for Future Meetings and Review Action Items (5 min)

Adjournment

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT (ADA)

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PUBLIC COMMENT

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Committee Members Present:

Peter Drekmeier, Marilyn Keller, Hal Mickelson, Ron Owes, and Bob Wenzlau

Committee Members Absent: David Bower and Dena Mossar

Public Members Present: Enrique Lomnitz, Delfin Montanana, and David Moss (Parks and Recreation Commission, Liaison)

Staff Present:

Michel Jeremias, Karin North, Pam Boyle Rodriguez, Vanessa Silva, Vicki Thai, Joanna Tran, Julie Weiss, Isabel Zacharczuk

Call to Order (5 min): 1:02 by Chairperson Mickelson

Oral Communications (5 min)

Members of the public may speak to any item NOT on the agenda. A reasonable time restriction may be imposed at the discretion of the Committee Chair.

Old Business (5 min)

1. Approval of Minutes from the August 13, 2020 Storm Water Management Oversight Committee Meeting (5 min)

New Business

2. Presentation from Mexico: Enrique Lomnitz, General Director of Isla Urbana (www.islaurbana.org) (30 min)

- i. Wenzlau: Introduced Isla Urbana (focus on rainwater harvesting, improving access to water, and preventing sewage floods).
- ii. Lomnitz: Water crisis began in 1607. Lago de Mexico was slowly drained by artificially creating exits out of the watershed—now essentially drained out of the watershed. Rainwater was intended to flush out as quickly as possible to avoid flooding. As a result, Mexico City has sunk over 10m through the 20th century—sinking up to 40cm/year.
- iii. Isla Urbana focuses on most water-stressed areas first. Rainwater harvesting (RWH) measures reduce peak runoff into the sewage system, which reduces flood risk.
- iv. 2009: Installed 8,000 liter membrane tank inside a resident's home. Now, 8 months out of the year, they are autonomous with water and do not need to pull water from the grid.
- v. This is a social/political/economical challenge, as opposed to being a technical challenge. Collaborated with universities to understand how RWH systems could be scaled.
- vi. 20,000 RWH systems installed since 2009 (6,000+ RWH systems installed through government programs designed by Isla Urbana)
- vii. 146,000 water truck deliveries (1.1 billion+ liters of water harvested per year)—this would circle the Earth six times in 1 L bottles
- viii. Drekmeier: It sounds like the system combines sewer and stormwater (similar to San Francisco). Are there times during heavy storms where the water goes untreated?
 - 1. Lomnitz: as water is pumped out of the ground, the City sinks. Water needs to be pumped at a 10-meter distance at this point out of the City. Low part of the City gets flooded.
 - 2. Mexico City sends their sewage to River Tula, which is then used for agricultural irrigation. A local sewage plant went up several years ago and treats about 50% of the sewage (however, this is post-irrigation treatment). The farmers are a block to treating additional sewage because they don't have to use fertilizer under the current system, which results in farmers opposing additional treatment.
 - a. The system doesn't reduce the amount of total water that goes into the sewage; it reduces the peak runoff. Residents still capture the water in their tanks to eventually discharge, but this water is held before it contributes to peak runoff.
- ix. Keller: Was there public funding for RWH measures, or did residents pay for their own systems?

1. Lomnitz: There are several different models (direct to client sale, government subsidies, partial subsidies with families and foundations). A lot of these systems have been paid by local governments. Labor + custom installation + follow-up visits = \$900 USD. Mexico City government wasn't interested in listening, but local governments were interested in listening to local solutions. Mexico City has 16 boroughs. One of these boroughs spends \$7 million per year solely on water trucks—very interested in cutting down the amount of money that they spend on water trucks by supplementing with these RWH measures.
2. Montanana: We are seeing a change in public perception and overall knowledge and shared understanding of rainwater harvesting
- x. Isla Urbana contact information:
 1. enrique@islaurbana.org and delfin@islaurbana.org
 2. 525 541 885 382 / www.islaurbana.org
3. Staff Presentation on Capital Improvement Program Projects (10 min)
 - i. Thai: Update on Loma Verde Avenue Truck Line Improvement Project (Lewis Road until Sterling Canal easement right before W Bayshore Road). Current storm drain system lacks capacity for 10-year storm event. Replacing 36" concrete pipe with a 48" pipe.
 - ii. Started construction in August 2020. Project will likely finish one month ahead of schedule.
 - iii. Some areas of the road with utility conflicts that lay on top of the existing storm drain pipe resulted in instances where the 36" concrete pipe remained, and a new 30" pipe was installed parallel to the existing pipe to maintain an increased storm drain system capacity. Pipes are also laid at the same invert.
4. Staff Presentation on Green Stormwater Infrastructure Outreach and Community Engagement Efforts (15 min)
 - i. Zacharczuk: Southgate re-planting for two bioretention measures is taking place on October 28th and October 29th. Staff and Grassroots Ecology are removing rocks, replacing plants, and adding compost amendment and mulch.
 - ii. Boyle Rodriguez: Green Streets for Sustainable Communities Webinar series were completed. Pam Boyle Rodriguez and Sylvia Star-Lack (Transportation) participated in planning efforts.
5. Staff Presentation on Stormwater Outreach Efforts (10 min)
 - i. Tran: staff utilizes various outreach methods, including online and print ads; newsletters from the City Manager's Office, Utilities, Zero Waste, Sustainability, and Stormwater; and workshops.

- ii. Recent utility bill inserts included topics such as Integrated Pest Management, storm tips and resources, green streets, and stormwater rebates.
 - iii. Grassroots Ecology continues to service school programs during COVID by offering virtual lesson plans
- 6. Review and Discussion of Updated Stormwater Rebate Program Website (15 min)
 - i. URL is www.Cityofpaloalto.org/stormwater.org
 - ii. Keller: After participating in the rain barrel workshop last December, make sure the rain barrels are strapped down. Consider adding the strap recommendation to the site.
 - iii. Wenzlau: Rebate site could use additional improvements for rain barrel process. The relationship between the City requirements and Valley Water requirements seems confusing. The rain garden rebate seems like a great home improvement project, but the fact that a licensed contractor is required is a deterrent and would add significant costs to the project.
- 7. Announcement of the SCAP Webinars (5 min)
 - i. www.Cityofpaloalto.org/climateaction has all of the various Sustainable Climate Action Plan webinars

Committee Member Comments and Announcements (10 min)

SWMOC has been advised of Jon Hospitalier’s retirement and would like to adopt a motion to thank Jon for his service. Motion to acknowledge Jon’s retirement.

Tentative Agenda Items for Future Meetings and Review Action Items (5 min)

Adjournment

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STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2020 Actual Expenditures

(Amounts in 1000s, as of January 2021)

	Actual Expenses Year 2 2019	Adopted Budget Year 3 2020	Carry Forward Budget from FY 2019	Modified Budget (incl. Carry Forward) Year 3 2020	Actual Expenses Year 3 2020
Revenue Collected	7,376	7,796	0	7,796	7,706
Fee Revenue	7,195	7,449	0	7,449	7,495
Interest Earnings	126	226	0	226	159
Development Fees & Violation Fines	55	121	0	121	52
Base Components	3,037	5,003	28	5,031	3,947
Base Program (Incl. Water Quality, Flood Control)	1,428	2,547	11	2,558	2,072
Storm Drainage Maintenance	1,350	1,507	17	1,524	1,658
Debt Service for Past Capital Project	259	949	0	949	217
Project & Infrastructure	1,663	4,252	1,574	5,701	589
Capital Improvements Program	1,058	2,090	307	2,397	60
Loma Verde Ave Trunk Line Improvements (#1/ SD-19000)	45	2,090	296	2,386	60
Matadero Creek Storm Water Pump Station (SD-13003)	1,013	0	11	11	0
Recurring System Repair (SD-06101)	182	1,522	1,033	2,555	359
Capital Program Engineering Support	46	135	0	135	164
Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI)	376	380	109	489	3
GSI - CIP Design/Construction	330	340 ^[1]	0	340	0
GSI - Consulting Services	46	40 ^[2]	109	149	3
GSI - Other unassigned tasks	0	0	0	0	0
Innovative Project	1	125	125	125	3
Innovative Project - GSI consulting Services	0	100 ^[3]	0	100	0
Innovative Project - Rebates	1	25 ^[4]	0	25	3
Total Expenses	4,700	9,255	1,602	10,732	4,536



Storm Water Management Oversight Committee

MEMORANDUM

Date: February 4, 2021

To: Honorable Finance Committee of the Palo Alto City Council

From: Members of the Storm Drain Oversight Committee

Subject: Review of Fiscal Year 2020 Storm Drainage Fund Expenditures

As directed by the City Council, the Committee met to discuss the Fiscal Year 2020 Storm Drainage (Storm Water Management) Fund expenditures on Thursday, February 4, 2021. Prior to the meeting, Public Works staff provided informational materials about the approved 2017 ballot measure and the proposed budget for the Committee's review. During the meeting, staff presented information and answered questions from the Committee members.

We have reviewed the expenditures for Fiscal Year 2020 and compared it with the provisions of the Storm Water Management Fee approved by Palo Alto property owners in 2017. We find that the attached spreadsheet describing the expenditures for Fiscal Year 2019 fairly summarizes the use of the revenue generated by the Storm Water Management Fee and that the expenditures are compatible with the provisions of the ballot measure. The Committee observed that the available funds for innovative green infrastructure were not fully expended. The Committee encourages staff to adjust and promote the innovative programs to achieve the City's goals for innovative green infrastructure.

Attachment:
Stormwater Management Program – Fiscal Year 2020 Actual Expenditures



FY 2022 Budget Process Update

- SWM Fee Revenue
 - Proposed increase: 2.0%
 - Based on Dec-Dec CPI for region
 - Subject to Council approval
- Operating – Anticipated Adjustments
 - Base Program – general increases
 - Maintenance – no change
 - GSI & Innovative project – no change
- Capital
 - Adjustments for Salary & Benefits

FY 2020 Actuals

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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GSI Budget Plan

Item	Details	FY20 Actuals	FY21 Estimated
GSI Plan Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering Spec. Document • Maintenance & Monitoring Manual • Establish performance metrics & baseline • Further prioritization of GSI projects • Future permit requirement compliance 	\$0k ^[1]	\$85k
Funding Needs & Strategy Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine funding opportunities and feasible fit (e.g. state grants and loans, public/private partnerships) 	\$58k	--
GSI Outreach and Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote Rebate Program and community-wide benefits • Develop outreach materials • Create an outreach strategy and plan to increase community support 	\$70k	\$20k
Bioretention Area Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support City Parks Department in maintaining bioretention areas • Begin to develop a trained workforce 	--	\$40k
Rebate Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with Valley Water to issue rebates for rain barrels, cisterns, and rain gardens 	\$3k	\$25k

Notes:

^[1] \$115k of FY 2020 Budget was reappropriated into FY 2021 for this item due to delays in the process to establish the contract

Planned CIP Projects

Capital Improvement Program	FY 2020 Actuals	FY 2021 Adopted
SD System Replacement & Rehabilitation (SD-06101)	359	2,069 ^[1]
Projects identified from Ballot	104	2,124
Loma Verde Ave Trunk Line Improvements (#1, SD-19000)	60	
Corporation Way System Upgrades and Pump Station (#2, SD-21000)		1,879 ^[1]
West Bayshore Road Pump Station (#4, SD-20000)	44	190 ^[1]
West Bayshore Road Trunk Line Improvements (#3, SD-23000)		55 ^[1]

Notes:

^[1] Includes remaining/unspent funds carried forward and reappropriated from FY 2020 to FY 2021



Completed Capital Improvement Projects in 2020

February 4, 2021

www.cityofpaloalto.org

Loma Verde Trunk Line Upgrade

Project Details

- Contract awarded to Stoloski & Gonzalez, Inc. – June 1, 2020
- Construction Duration – 4 months
- Costs – \$2.3M completed within budget

Project Highlights

- Existing Pipes remained – minimizing off-haul and recycling quantities
- Sections are now dual pipes – allowing for maintenance and higher capacity



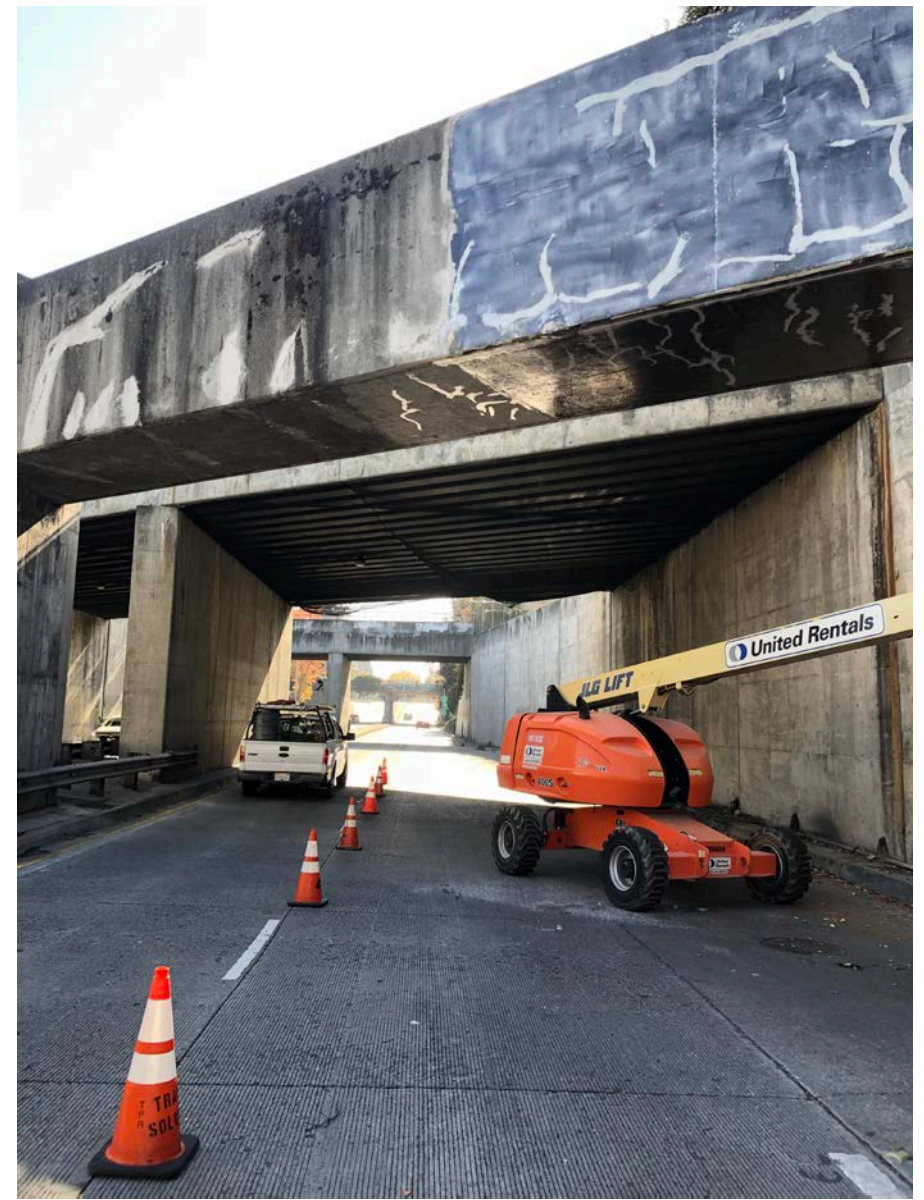
Storm Drain Box Culvert Repair Over Oregon Expressway

Project Details

- Contract awarded to Marshall Brothers
- Construction Completed- Dec. 22, 2020
- Construction Duration – 21 days
- Costs – \$197K, this was a Storm Rehab and Replacement Project

Project Objectives

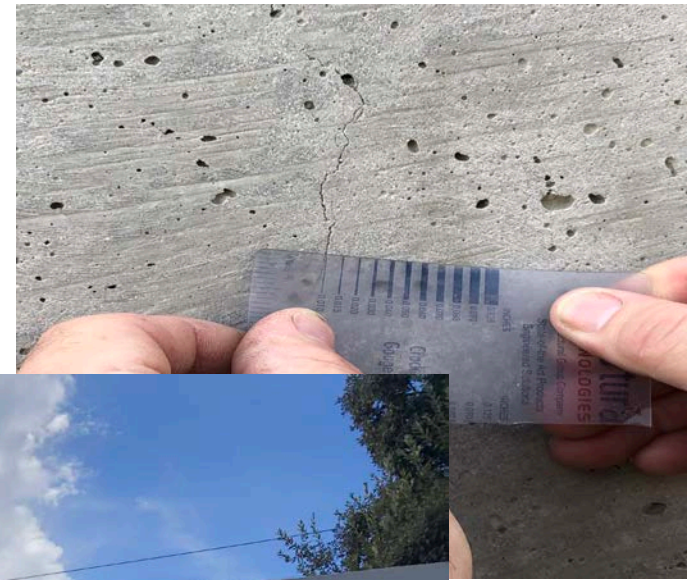
- Repair exterior cracks and install fiber wraps
- Provide vehicle access at all times
- Strengthen the structural box
- Stop leakage onto Oregon Expressway



Storm Drain Box Culvert Repair Over Oregon Expressway

Project Highlights

- Traffic Control on Oregon Expressway was lighter due to SIP
- Required an encroachment permit from Santa Clara County – work done by staff for cost savings
- Repaired cracks wider than 0.01 inch by epoxy injection
- Repaired concrete spalling
- Install fiber wrap and paint finish



Storm Drain Box Culvert Over Oregon Expressway



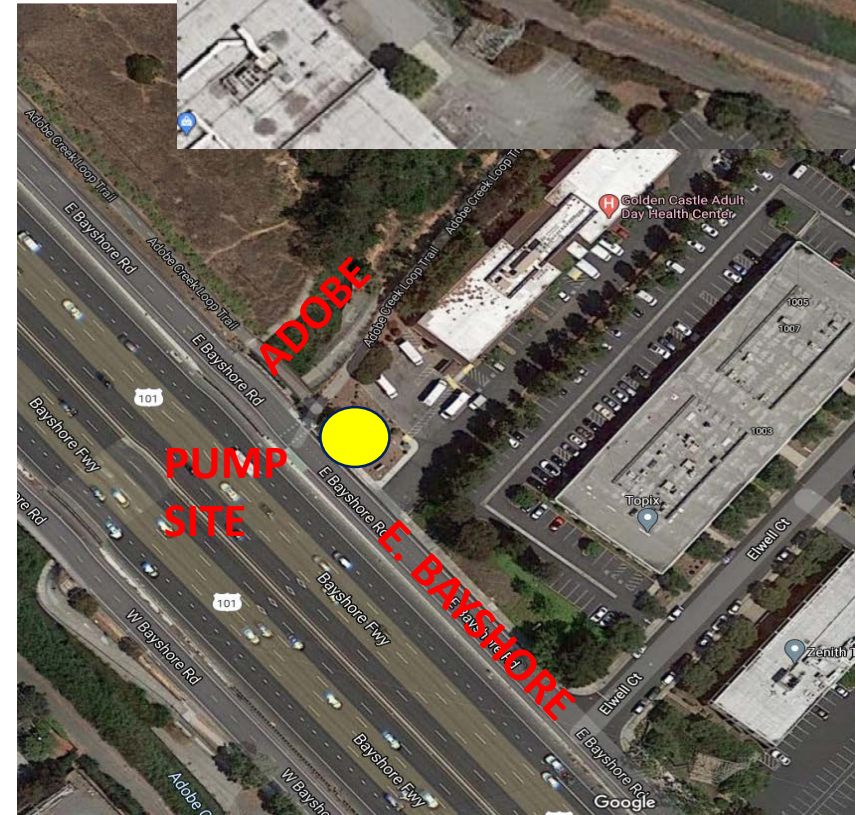
Corporation Way and West Bayshore Rd Pump Station and Trunk Line Upgrades

Project Description

- Install pump stations on E. Bayshore and W. Bayshore Road with pumping capacities of 15 CFS and 25 CFS to address street flooding
- Upgrade existing trunk lines to increase capacity in the system

Project Issues

- Basis of Design & locating the stations
- Coordination w/ Bike and Pedestrian Bridge project under construction



Corporation Way and W. Bayshore Rd Pump Stations and Upgrades

Detail Design and Status

- Survey & Geotechnical Investigation completed
- 30% design completed
- Acquire easements on Google properties in process
- 60% design in process

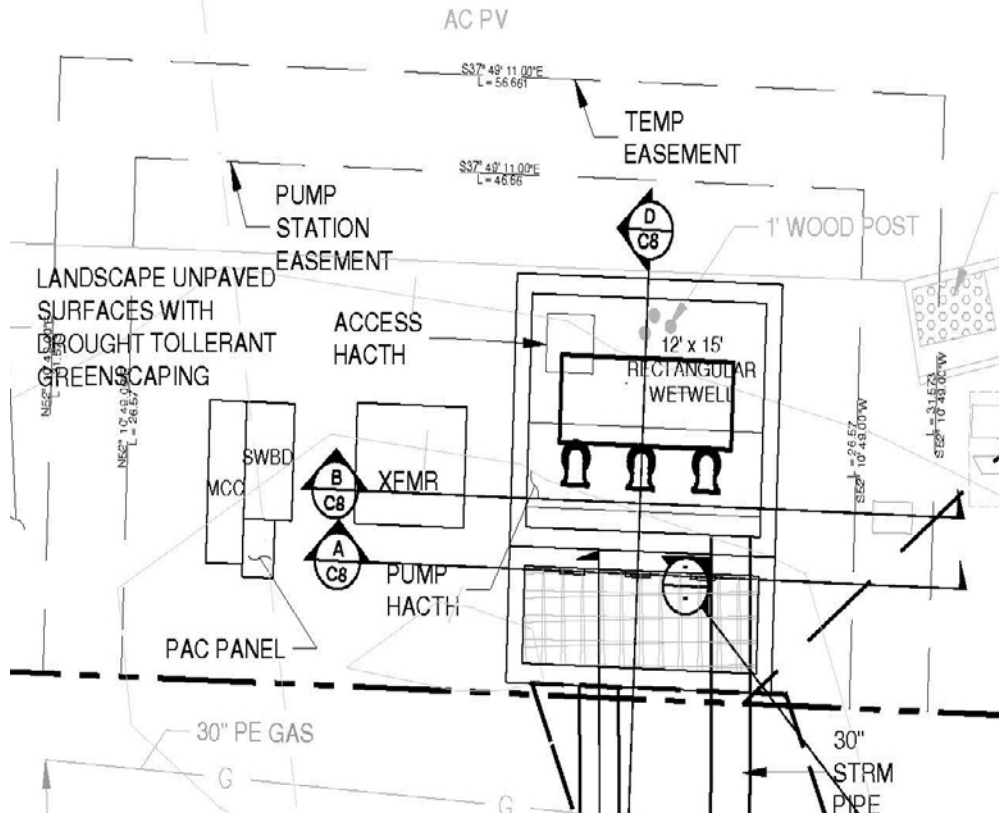
Schedule

- Detail design and construction documents completion by June 2021
- Construction bid for Corporation Way Pump Station and Upgrades - Fall 2021
- Construction bid for West Bayshore Road Pump Station - Summer 2022
- Construction bid for West Bayshore Road Pump Upgrades - Summer 2023

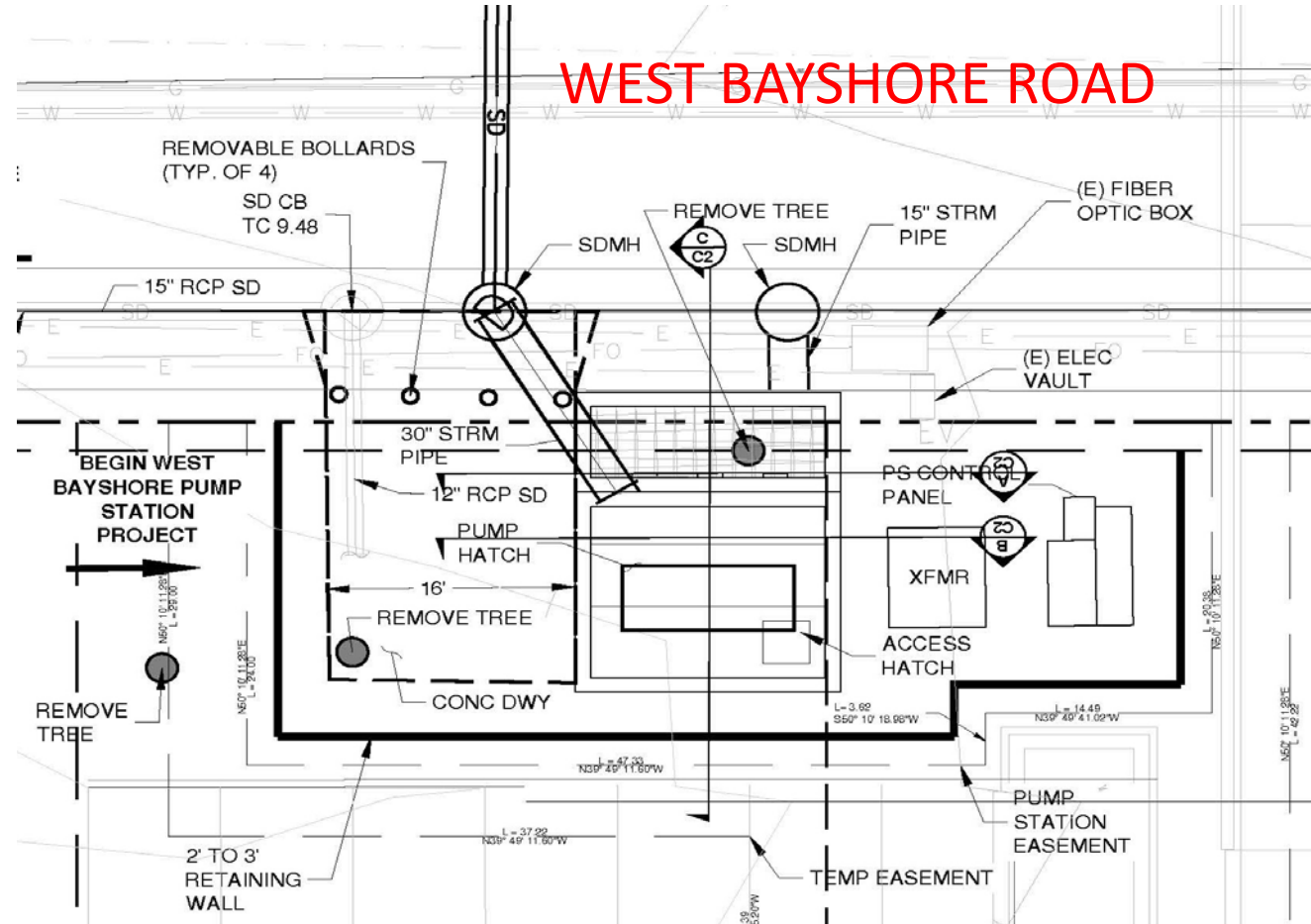
Corporation Way and W. Bayshore Rd Pump Stations and Upgrades



Corporation Way and W. Bayshore Rd Pump Station and Upgrades



EAST BAYSHORE ROAD



WEST BAYSHORE ROAD



Storm Drain Rehabilitation and Replacement Project

Project Overview

- Replace sections of storm pipes throughout City
- Pipes are reported to be in bad condition by Public Works Operations

Design Phase

- Prepare Engineering Plans Winter 2021
- Bid Spring 2021
- Construction 2021



Funding Options for **Green Stormwater Infrastructure**

Task 3 – Stormwater Management Oversight
Committee Participation

February 4, 2021



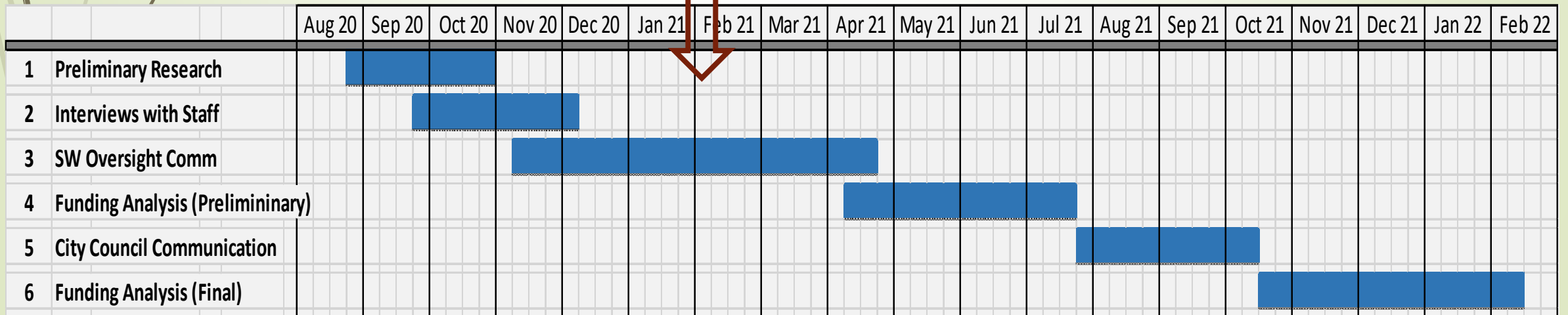
Project Team

- Staff
 - Pam Boyle Rodriguez, Stormwater Compliance Program Manager
 - Isabel Zacharczuk, Associate Engineer (Stormwater)
- Consultant - SCI Consulting Group
 - Public Finance Firm (focused on public infrastructure)
 - Jerry Bradshaw, P.E. – Former Public Works Director / City Engineer
 - Valerie Flores - Consultant
 - Not Here – John Bliss, P.E. – President of SCI

Project Background

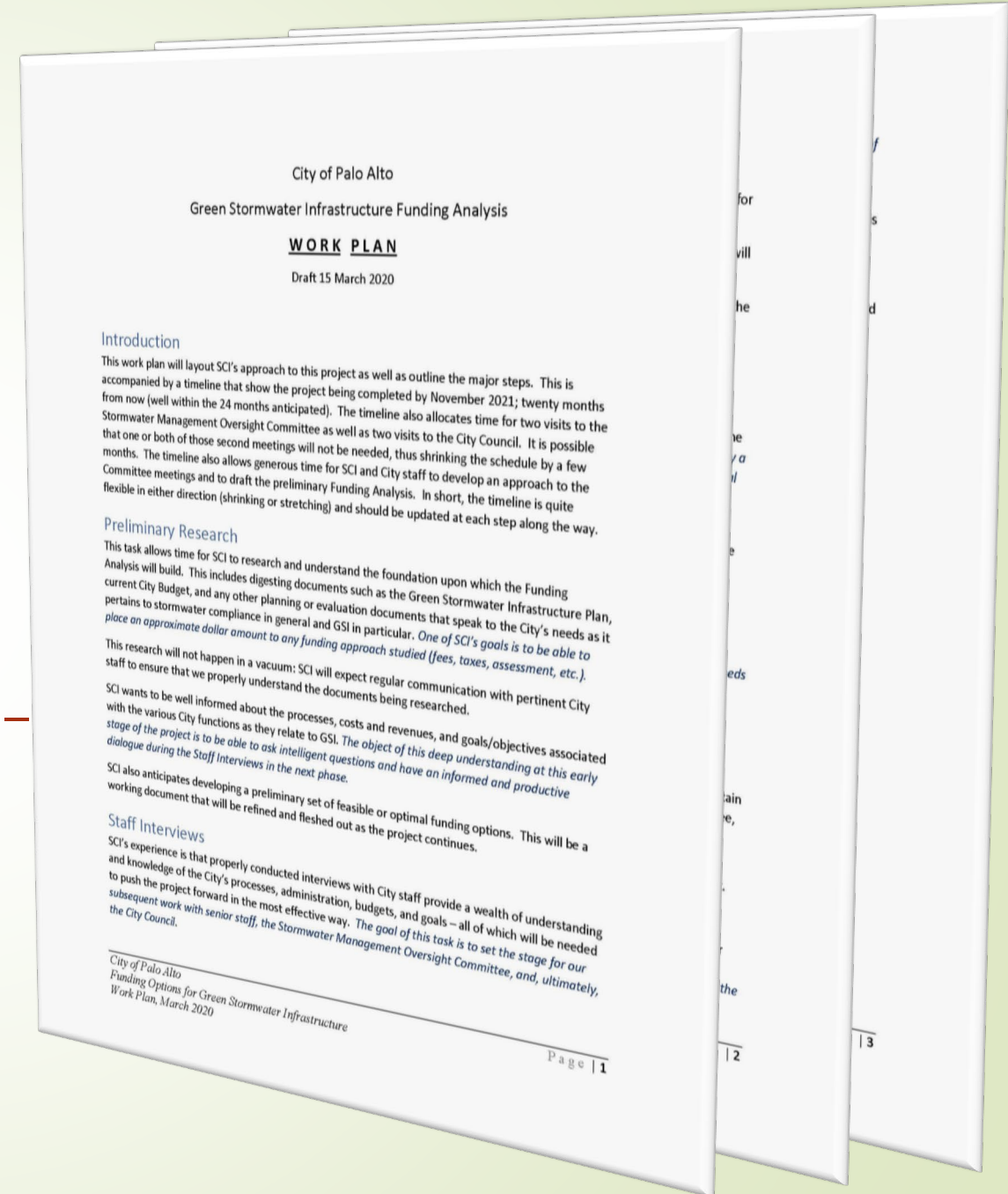
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- 2017 – Stormwater Fee Re-Authorization
 - Total 7%: Allocated 5.25% of funding to GSI (Infrastructure Projects) & 1.25% to Rebate Program/innovative efforts
- 2019 – GSI Plan Accepted (May)
- 2019 – Preliminary Funding Analysis (October)
- 2020-2022 – Our Project
 - Analyze specific funding options
 - Gather input from Staff, Oversight Committee and City Council
 - Develop Final Funding Analysis



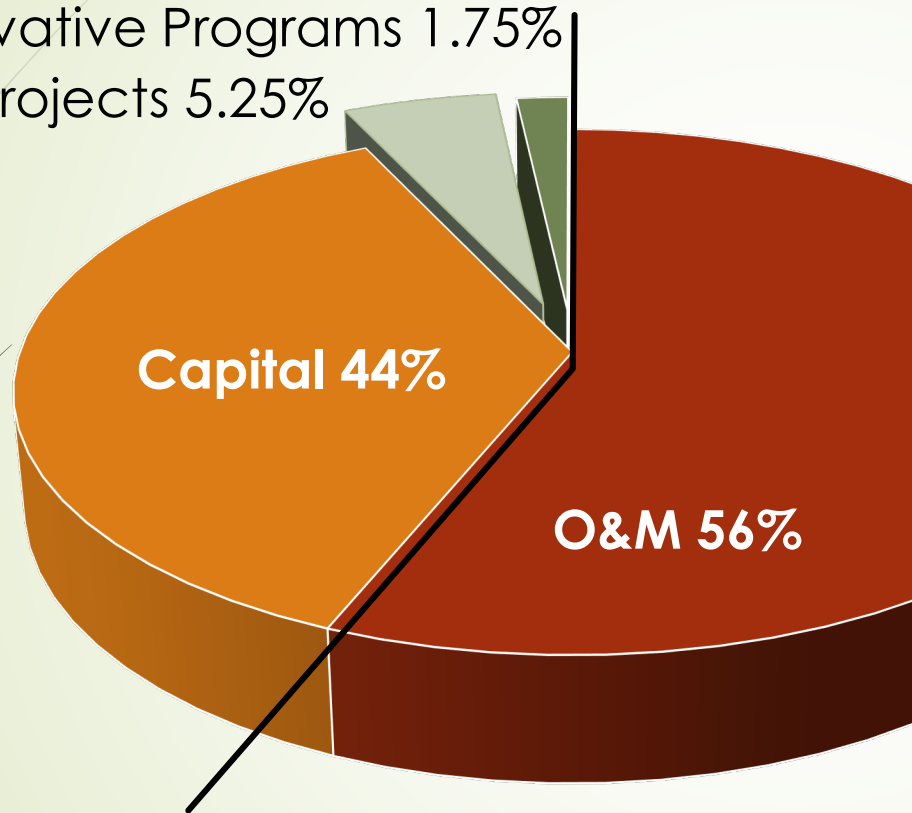
Project Status

- Research (on going)
- Work Plan (complete)
- Staff Interviews (complete)
 - Summary memorandum (draft)
- Stormwater Management Oversight Committee
 - Introduction (today)
 - Working Group (next few months – possibly longer)
 - Committee recommendations
 - Summary memorandum
- Funding Analysis (draft & final)
- City Council Participation (tbd)



Stormwater Fee

Innovative Programs 1.75%
GSI Projects 5.25%



■ O&M ■ Cap ■ GSI ■ IP

Base Component

Floodplain Management	\$ 101,000
Engineering	\$ 255,000
Storm Water Quality Protection	\$1,135,000
Storm Drain System Maintenance	\$1,293,000
Emergency Response	\$ 119,000
Administrative Support	<u>\$1,112,000</u>
SUBTOTAL	\$4,015,000

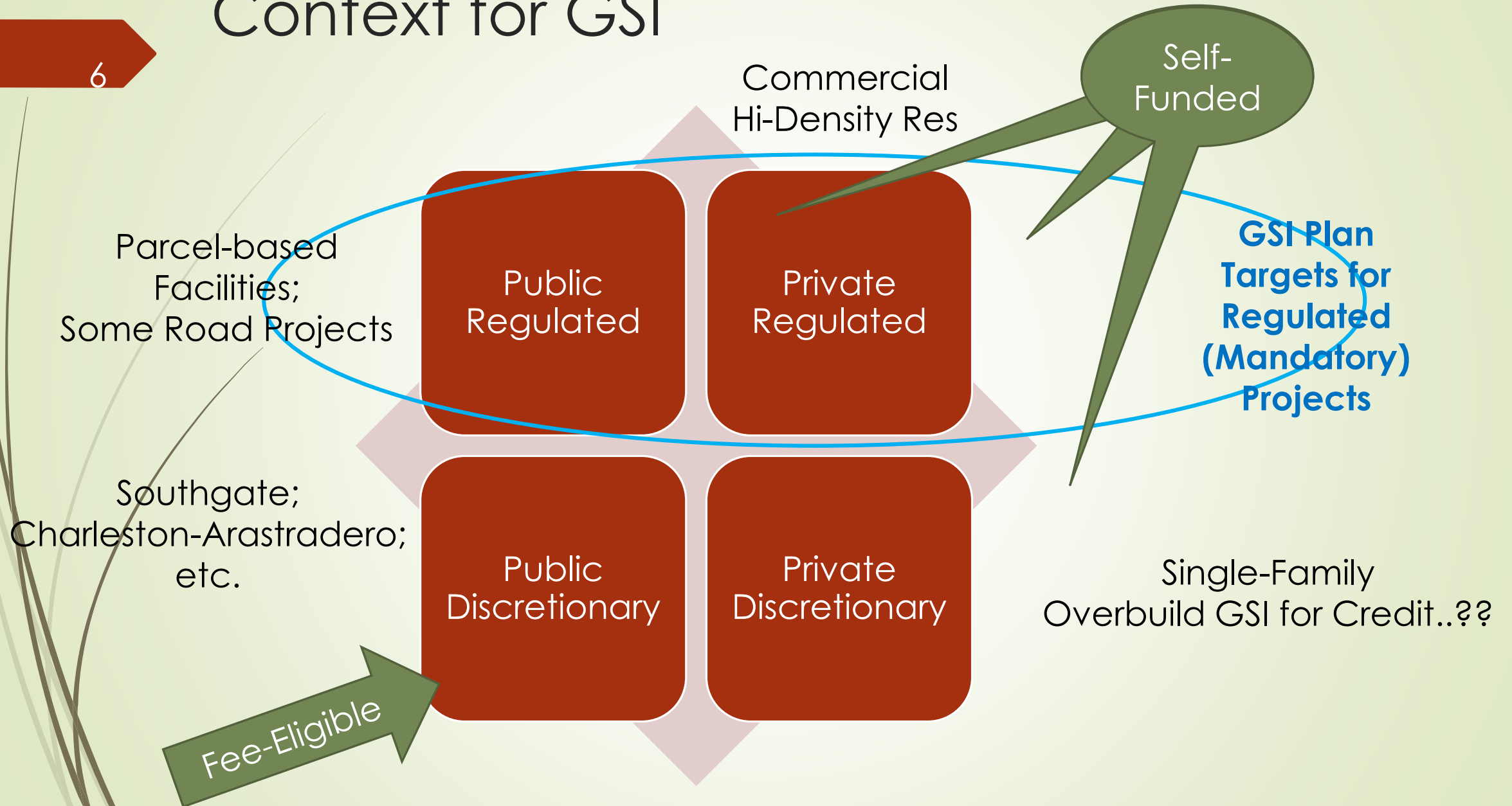
Projects and Infrastructure Component

Storm Drain Capital Improvements	\$1,104,000
Debt Service for Past Capital Projects	\$ 947,000
Storm Drain System Repairs	\$ 400,000
Capital Program Engineering Support	\$ 177,000
Green Storm Water Infrastructure Projects	\$ 375,000
Incentive Projects	<u>\$ 125,000</u>
SUBTOTAL	\$3,128,000

TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET **\$7,143,000**

Context for GSI

6



Staff Interview Structure

7



8

Interview Goals

- ▶ Understand Span of Responsibility
 - ▶ Inter-relations with others
- ▶ Costs & Resources
 - ▶ In-House
 - ▶ Contractors
 - ▶ Volunteers
 - ▶ Cost Parameters
 - ▶ Efficiencies
- ▶ Other Items
 - ▶ Recommendations to Team
 - ▶ Funding Ideas
 - ▶ Other Insights



Do, Lam



Chacon, Miguel



Ribeiro, Mark

Interviews

- 26 Staff Members
- Five Departments
- November 20 to December 16, 2020
- Briefings
 - Brad Eggleston, PW Director
 - Karin North, Acting Asst Director – Environmental Services
- 1-hour Video Interviews (recorded)
- Some Group Interviews
- Started with 10-minute PowerPoint
- Discussion Format

Public Works	
Jon Hospitalier	SD & Street Maintenance
Holly Boyd	Engineering Services
Michel Jeremias	
Walter Passmore	Urban Forestry
Mike Nafziger	Engineering New/Redev
Peter Jensen	Landscape Architect
Chris Fujimoto	Watershed Protection
Mike Wong	Facilities Manager
Roger Nguy	Traffic Operations
Oscar Godinez	SD Operations
Michelle Austin	PW Management Analysts
Jamie Perez	
Community Services	
Darren Anderson	Asst Director
Mark Riberio	Parks
Miguel Chacon	Open Space
Lam Do	Golf
Planning & Development	
Jodie Gerhardt	Current Planning
George Hoyt	Building Services
Evon Ballash	
Khashayar Alae	Sr. Management Analyst
Office of Transportation	
Phillip Kamhi	Chief of Transportation
Sylvia Star-Lack	Transportation Planning
Utilities	
Debra Lloyd	Engineering
Tomm Marshall	Operations
Patrick Valath	Engineering-elec
Silvia Santos	Engineering-gas/wastewater

What We Heard: City Capital Projects

- GSI Plan – Implementation Component 4 – GSI Project Feasibility Assessment
 - Evaluate each capital project for GSI feasibility
 - Already in place for Regulated Projects
 - Will need some effort to incorporate for ALL projects
- GSI in the Stormwater Fee Initiative
 - Helps highlight GSI as a priority (to staff & community)
- Challenges
 - GSI as sub-component → competing with other extraneous needs
 - Projects originate in different “silos”
 - Office of Transportation – finding its footing – silos not yet formed

What We Heard: Operations & Maintenance

- ▶ O&M Funding may require more funding than construction
- ▶ Already 10 projects done – good experience
- ▶ Challenges
 - ▶ Several divisions responsible (Parks, Storm Drainage, Facilities)
 - ▶ No Maintenance Manual yet
 - ▶ Large need for specialty methods, techniques & equipment
 - ▶ Trying to fit new specialty tasks inside current contract agreements

What Else We Heard

Other Challenges

- Design (clay soils, irrigation dilemma)
- Operational (permeable pavement, green roof, replacement soil/plants)
- Administrative (inspections, grant attainment, wages for non-profits)

Opportunities

- Urban Forestry has many programs to emulate
- O&M experience will inform Maintenance Manual and future design
- Capital projects could fund maintenance for first 2 years

Private Development: Different Set of Issues

- Largest source of future GSI
- Least control by City (regulatory function only)
- Opportunities
 - Look for flexible implementation
 - Partnerships with developers
 - In-Lieu Fees
 - Alternative Compliance
- Challenge – just get it in an ordinance

Funding Options

- Prior Analysis (Woodard & Curran, 2019)
- Another Fee on property owners? Lower priority option
- Creative Funding
 - In-Lieu Fee
 - Alternate Compliance
 - Credit Trading
 - Partnerships
 - P3
 - Co-benefit projects
 - Volunteers

Next Steps

- ▶ Working Group Appointment
 - ▶ Delve into specific funding strategies
 - ▶ Community impacts and views
 - ▶ Recommendations for areas of focus

- ▶ Back to Committee in Future Meetings
 - ▶ Review Working Group recommendations
 - ▶ Discuss areas of focus
 - ▶ Input on final steps (community, City Council)

- ▶ Timeline

Stormwater Municipal Regional Permit 3.0

	Schedule	Review Period
Administrative draft release (not public)	January 2021	60-day (city staff only) No response from Water Board
Final workgroup meetings	Spring 2021	City staff only
Tentative Order release (public)	Early Summer 2021	60-day (open to public) Water Board responds to each comment
Board testimony hearing(s)	Summer 2021	Open
Board adoption hearing	December 2021	
Permit effective date	July 1, 2022	