



**SAFE CLEAN
WATER PROGRAM**

Rio Hondo Watershed Coordinator Update

**Presented to the Rio Hondo WASC
19 November 2024**

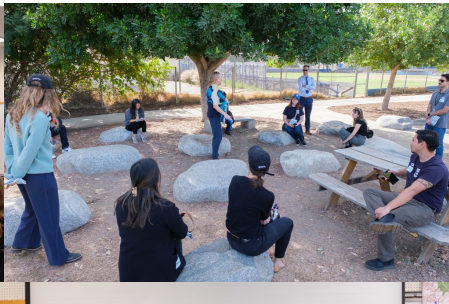
By Richard Watson & Julie Millett (RWA)



Summary of Activities since Last WASC Meeting (Oct 15)

Community Engagement/Outreach and Education

- Co-hosted a tour of the Plymouth Elementary School Neighborhood Stormwater Capture Demonstration Project
 - Developed with the Schools & Stormwater Working Group and project proponent Claire Robinson (Amigos de los Rios)





Summary of Activities since Last WASC Meeting (Continued)

Plymouth School Tour




(Continued)



Summary of Activities since Last WASC Meeting (Continued)

Project Development/Related (continued)

- Attended webinar *Leveraging the Living Infrastructure Field Kit for SCWP Educational Grant Success*
- Funded by Accelerate Resilience LA - designed by Spherical
- Tool integrates built, natural, and social systems – designed to support facilitate processes that identify needs and envision new projects.
- Primer available: <https://livinginfrastructure.org/>
- Spherical rep available to speak to the WASC – or other groups – to share the tool



Visioning Tool

A mapping tool for groups to collaboratively envision projects and plans by:

- Reviewing climate stressors and opportunities across L.A. County
- Collecting stories from community members
- Sketching projects and evaluating their benefits and tradeoffs
- Generating project fact sheets to apply for technical assistance

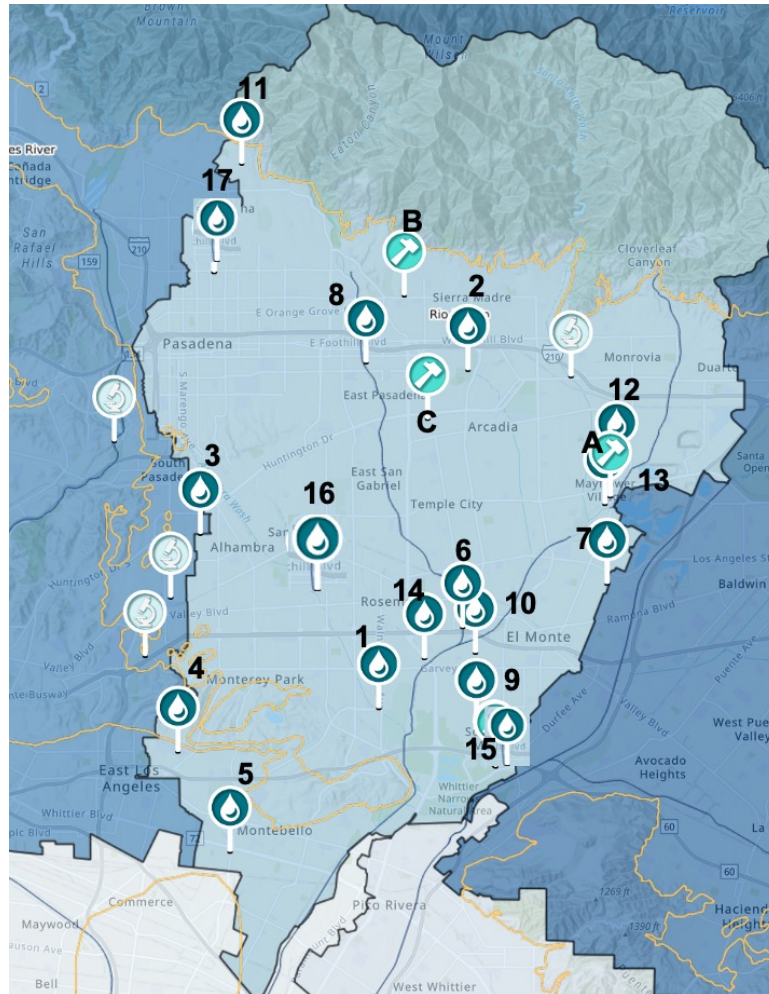
(Continued)



Summary of Activities since Last WASC Meeting (Continued)

Projects/Related (continued)

- Researched status of previously approved projects (for presentation to WASC next month)



(Continued)



Summary of Activities since Last WASC Meeting (Continued)



SCWP and Watershed Coordinator Cohort

- Schools and Stormwater Working Group – worked together on the Plymouth School tour
- Tribal Allyship Working Group
- Monthly convening
- Participated in ROC Community Investment Benefits Working Group
- Monitored ROC Meeting
- Attended webinar rolling out the Water Foundation's SCWP Public Education and Community Engagement Grant
- Reporting



Planned Upcoming Activity Focus



Monrovia Canyon Park, Photo Courtesy City of Monrovia

- Following up with school district
- Working with Amigos de los Rios on potential future school projects
- Work with SGVCOG on date for future presentation to municipal groups
- Schedule interviews for new round of individual meetings with WASC members
- Search for and calendar Outreach & Engagement and/or Educational events opportunities for next quarter
- Reporting



Watershed Coordinator Tasks

Task 1 – Facilitate Community Engagement in SCWP (**Workplan 37%**)

Task 2 – Identify and Develop Project Concepts (**Workplan 10%**)

Task 3 – Work with Technical Assistance Teams (**Workplan 5%**)

Task 4 – Facilitate Identification and Representation of Community Priorities (**Workplan 10%**)

Task 5 – Integrate Priorities through Partnerships and Extensive Networks (**Workplan 5%**)

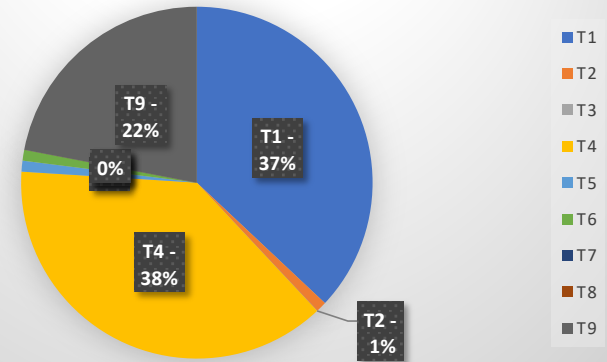
Task 6 – Cost-Share Partners (**Workplan 5%**)

Task 7 – Leverage Funding (**Workplan 11%**)

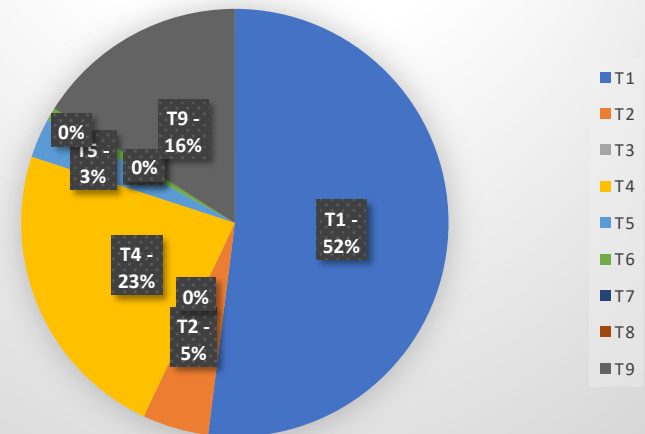
Task 8 – Local Stakeholder Education (**Workplan 11%**)

Task 9 - Watershed Coordinator Collaboration (**Workplan 6%**)

October LOE by Task



WC Contract Year - Cumulative





Rio Hondo Area Activity - FYI

South El Monte Community BIKE RIDE

Join us on a tour of the Merced Ave.
Greenway Project, the first sidewalk
level protected bike lane in the SGV!

Learn more at MercedAveGreenway.org

Date: Saturday, November 30, 2024

Time: 9AM - 12PM

Location: Jeff Seymour Family Center,
10900 Mulhall St, El Monte, CA

RSVP: bit.ly/mercedbikeride1

 **GO SGV**

GOSGV E-BIKES AVAILABLE!

RSVP



- Active SGV hosting an upcoming bike ride along the Merced Avenue Greenway Project
- 1.1-mile roadway enhancement project designed to integrate protected cycling and walking paths, stormwater management, and native habitats
- Phase I set to be completed by end of 2024; Phase II coming in 2027



Questions and Discussion

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Plymouth Elementary School, Monrovia

Photo courtesy Amigos de los Rios



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Summary of Round 6 Regional Program Project Submissions

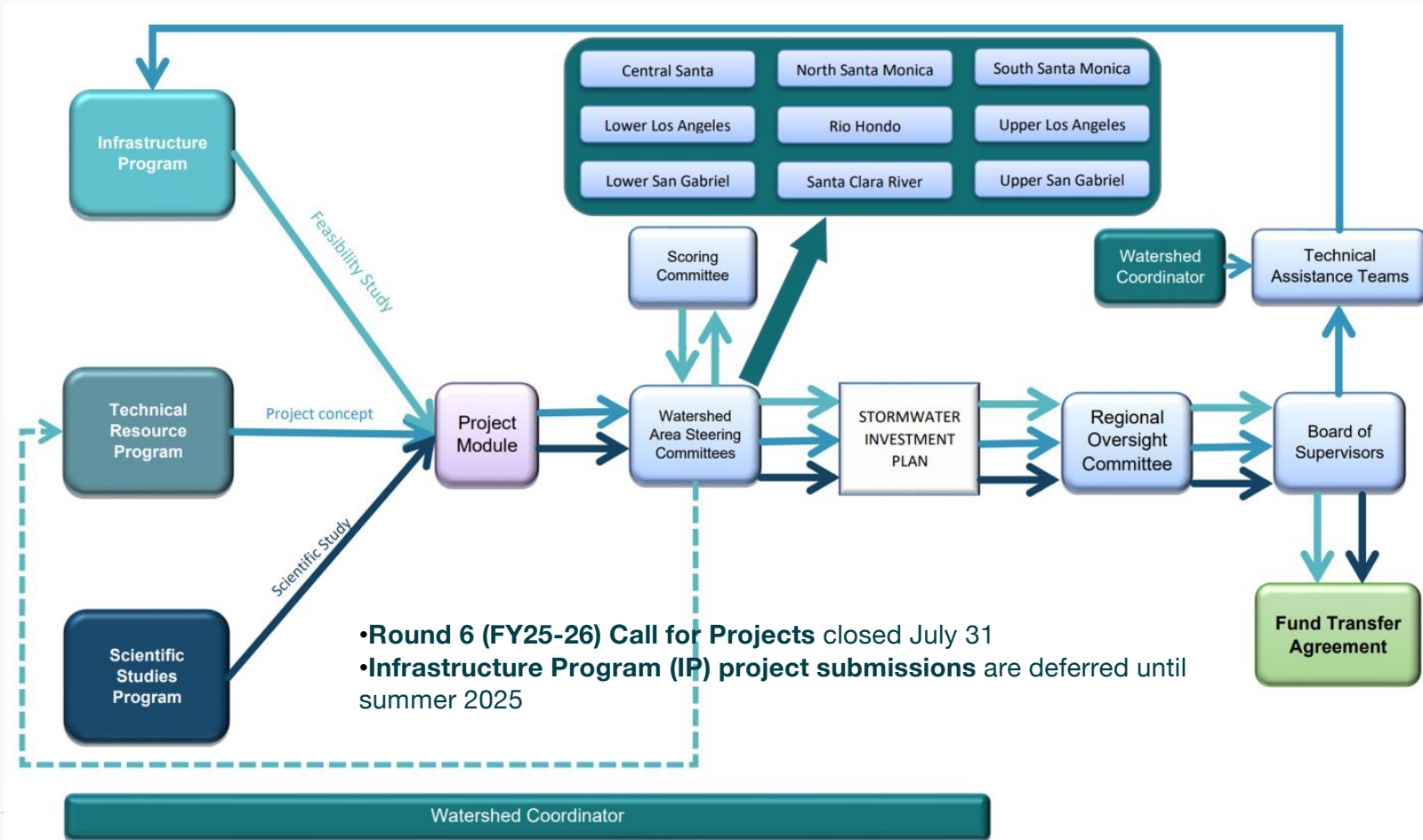
SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM
November 19, 2024

REGIONAL PROGRAM
FY25-26
Rio Hondo Watershed Area

WATERSHED COORDINATOR
Richard Watson



Regional Program Flow Chart



Rio Hondo Year 6 Project Submissions

- **Four (4) Scientific Studies**

- 2 – multiple WASC studies
- 2 – Rio Hondo studies
- Project presentations in December

- **Two (2) Technical Resource Projects (TRPs)**

- Both projects involve stormwater capture and infiltration in parks
- Project presentations today

- DROPS for Los Angeles County (Foothill Mun. Water District - \$49,111 for RHWA)
- Depave LA (Council for Watershed Health - \$77,286 per year for RHWA)
- Hardscape and Brownfield Opportunity Study (SGVCOG - \$410K for RHWA)
- Next Gen Bioretention (Tree People - \$466,248 over 2 years for RHWA)

- Klingerman Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project (City of Rosemead - \$400K TRP)
- City of Montebello Stormwater Capture Project (City of Montebello - \$400K TRP)

Data-Driven Resource Optimization and Planning System (DROPS) for Los Angeles County

- Lead project proponent: **Foothill Municipal Water District**
- Additional collaborators: **Crescenta Valley Water District, Glendale Water and Power, Pasadena Water and Power**
- Total requested funds: **\$442,000** (total for 9 WASCs for 1 year - **\$49,111** for Rio Hondo)
- Description: **Implement DROPS tool that integrates advanced data analytics with AI to site distributed stormwater capture and filtration projects**
- Timeline for Selected Milestones:
 - User research with water resource professionals – **10/31/25**
 - Field verification of DROPS tool with 3 select project sites – **01/30/26**
 - Develop two open-source DROPS planning tool - **07/31/26**
 - Final report – **10/02/26**
- Water quality benefits: **Primary Pollutants of Concern can be treated at identified LID projects**
- Water supply benefits: **Contributes to increasing future local supplies by supporting water capture projects that increase groundwater recharge and raise water levels in the basin**
- Community investment benefits: **Find intersection between non-functional turf areas that need replacement and opportunities for LID; siting projects in disadvantaged communities can help alleviate inequalities in access to services as well as allow projects to tap into other sources of funding**

Depave LA: Prioritizing Parking Lots for Green Retrofitting

- Lead project proponent: **Council for Watershed Health**
- Additional collaborators: **Herrera Environmental Consulting; Olaunu (Daniel Apt)**
- Total requested funds: **\$1,088,720** (total for 5 WASCs for 2 years - **\$77,286/year** for Rio Hondo)
- Description: **Create a tool to identify, rank, and prioritize parking lots for greening, water quality, ad/or water supply-focused retrofits**
- Timeline for Selected Milestones:
 - Tool visioning and framework – 06/30/26
 - Parking lot screening – 11/30/26
 - Parking lot prioritization – 03/31/27
 - Tool Development – 06/30/27
 - Outreach and engagement – 11/30/27
 - Implementation and Guidance – 11/30/27
- Water quality benefits: **Improved water quality through reduced pollution-generating surfaces and installation of green infrastructure, traditional BMPs, and/or stormwater infiltration**
- Water supply benefits: **Increased site infiltration, off-site runoff capture and infiltration, reuse of captured water from infiltration when feasible and needed**
- Community investment benefits: **Prioritized and targeted community investments, increased tree shade, improved habitat connectivity, improved accessibility, public art, educational opportunities**

Hardscape and Brownfield Transformation Opportunity Study

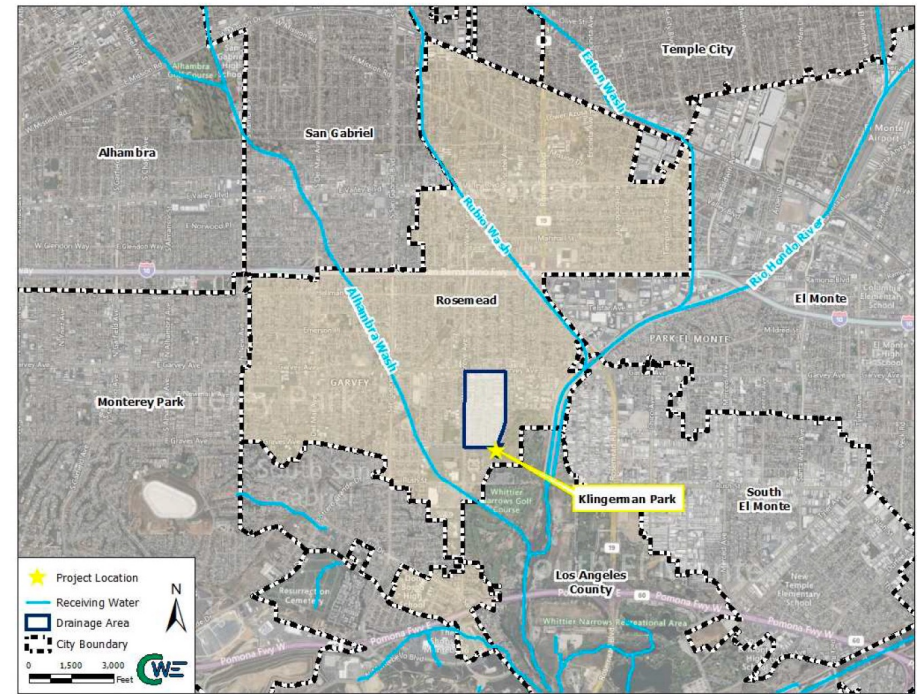
- Lead project proponent: **San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments**
- Additional collaborators: **Accelerate Resilience LA and Los Angeles WaterKeeper**
- Total requested funds: **\$410,000 for one year for Rio Hondo WASC**
- Description: **Exploring the potential Safe, Clean Water Program Benefits of transforming hardscape and brownfields into permeable, multi-benefit surfaces**
- Timeline for Selected Milestones:
 - Bookend Analysis – 07/06/26
 - Metrics and Alternatives – 10/5/26
 - Tax Credit Program Engagement - 06/07/27
 - Programmatic Analysis – 06/07/27
- Water quality and water supply benefits: **Restoring substantial areas of impermeable surfaces would provide water quality and water supply benefits and address the underlying drivers for SCWP**
- Community investment benefits: **Transforming hardscapes to multi-benefit and preferably nature-base surfaces could provide clear and significant community investment by creating new park and habitat opportunities**

Next Gen Bioretention: Towards living and Adaptive Stormwater Systems for a Resilient Los Angeles County

- Lead project proponent: **Tree People**
- Additional collaborators: **Council for Watershed Health, UC Riverside, Herrera Environmental Consulting**
- Total requested funds: **\$466,248 over two (2) years for Rio Hondo WASC**
- Description: **A study assessing existing systems and delivering modelled next generation designs for resilient, multi-benefit bioretention systems.**
- Timeline for Selected Milestones:
 - Site Selection – 02/27/27; Assessment of existing bioretention system - 7/31/26
 - Hydrologic modeling of existing and future conceptual models of bioretention systems- 2/26/27
 - Designs and Concepts for the Next Generation of Bioretention Systems - 12/31/27
 - Completion of art project creating greater cultural relevance to bioretention systems in Los Angeles County (12/31/27)
- Water quality benefits: **Improved water quality through greater infiltration and storage of stormwater, preventing polluted runoff from reaching downstream aquatic systems; optimized soil media can be formulated to transform pollutants into ecological resources.**
- Water supply benefits: **Increased storage achieved by finding modifications and designs that protect & enhance system's infiltration capacity to store water in soil profile and infiltrate into groundwater.**
- Community investment benefits: **Healthy and functioning bioretention systems that support dense vegetation will improve air quality, reduce urban heat island effect, and provide biodiversity corridors.**

Klingerman Park Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Project

- Lead project proponent: **City of Rosemead.**
- Location: **8800 Klingerman Avenue, Rosemead**
- Total requested funds: **\$400,000**
- Regional Water Management Plan: **Upper LAR EWMP**
- DAC Benefits Claimed: **YES – Park within disadvantaged community**
- Project Configuration: **3-acre-foot treatment and infiltration capacity in 0.68-ac park with 88-ac tributary area**
- Geotechnical Investigation: **Anticipated**
- Nature-Based Solutions: **Yes, throughout park**
- O&M: **To be developed after project design completed**
- Outreach & Engagement: **Will be started as part of Feasibility Study and will continue during design and implementation**
- Water quality benefits: **Project will improve water quality downstream by mitigating runoff generated within tributary area**
- Water supply benefits: **Dry- and wet-weather discharge will be captured and infiltrated**



Community Investment Benefits: **Enhanced flood retention; enhanced recreational opportunities through surface enhancements after construction of subsurface infiltration facility; park beautification; opportunities to implement native/drought tolerant landscaping will be considered and would enhance habitat**

Project Summary – Technical Resource Project

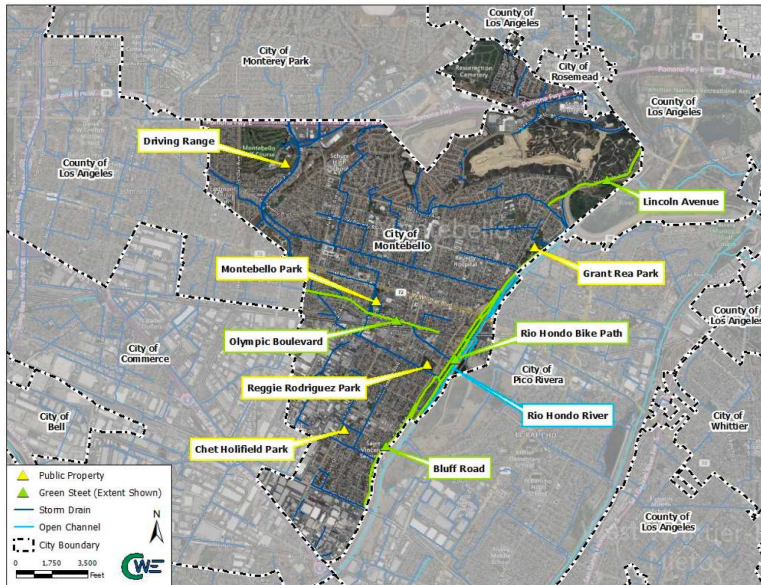


Figure 2 Map of Potential Implementation Locations to be Evaluated and Prioritized

City of Montebello Stormwater Capture Project

- Lead project proponent: **City of Montebello** Location: **TBD**
- Total requested funds: **\$400,000** Regional Water Management Plan: **ULAR EWMP**
- DAC Benefits Claimed: **YES – City has both disadvantaged and severely disadvantaged communities**
- Project Configuration: **Exact configuration not yet determined**
- Geotechnical Investigation: **Anticipated**
- Nature-Based Solutions: **NBS will be prioritized for multiple co-benefits for the community.**
- O&M Plan: **To be developed after project design completed**
- Outreach & Engagement: **Will be started as part of Feasibility Study and will continue during design and construction**
- Water quality benefits: **Project will help reduce pollutant loads to downstream impaired waterbodies with metals and bacteria as listed Pollutants of Concern**
- Water supply benefits: **Dry- and wet-weather flows from tributary areas will be captured and diverted to subsurface infiltration facilities and/or BMPS for infiltration and groundwater recharge.**
- Community Investment Benefits: **Disturbed areas will be restored to higher quality than previously existed. Potential drought-tolerant vegetation and shade trees planted will reduce heat island effect and increase shade.**

Thank you

QUESTIONS?

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