



INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR 2027-2028

Old Orchard Park Stormwater Capture Project

Santa Clara River Watershed Area

APPLICATION TYPE:
DESIGN-ONLY

PRESENTATION DATE:
October 15, 2026

PROJECT LEAD:

Oliver Cramer, City of Santa Clarita

Pauline Nguyen & Merrill Taylor,
Craftwater



Project Overview

Stormwater quality treatment and above-ground improvements (including native landscaping, improved lighting, and updated amenities) within Old Orchard Park.

Primary Objective:

- *Improve the water quality/water supply within Upper Santa Clara River Watershed*
 - *Obtain compliance with the MS4 permit for the City of Santa Clarita (City)*
 - *Augment groundwater recharge in the Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin*

Secondary Objectives:

- *Improve community user experience at Old Orchard Park*
 - *Enhance active and passive recreational opportunities through minor enhancements of the existing baseball field and lighting*
 - *Introduce habitat through additional native vegetation in strategic locations within the site.*
- *Provide educational opportunities for environmental stewardship for the adjacent Old Orchard Elementary School*

PROJECT LEAD

City of Santa
Clarita

SCORING COMMITTEE SCORE

67

PROJECT STATUS

10% Design

TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTED

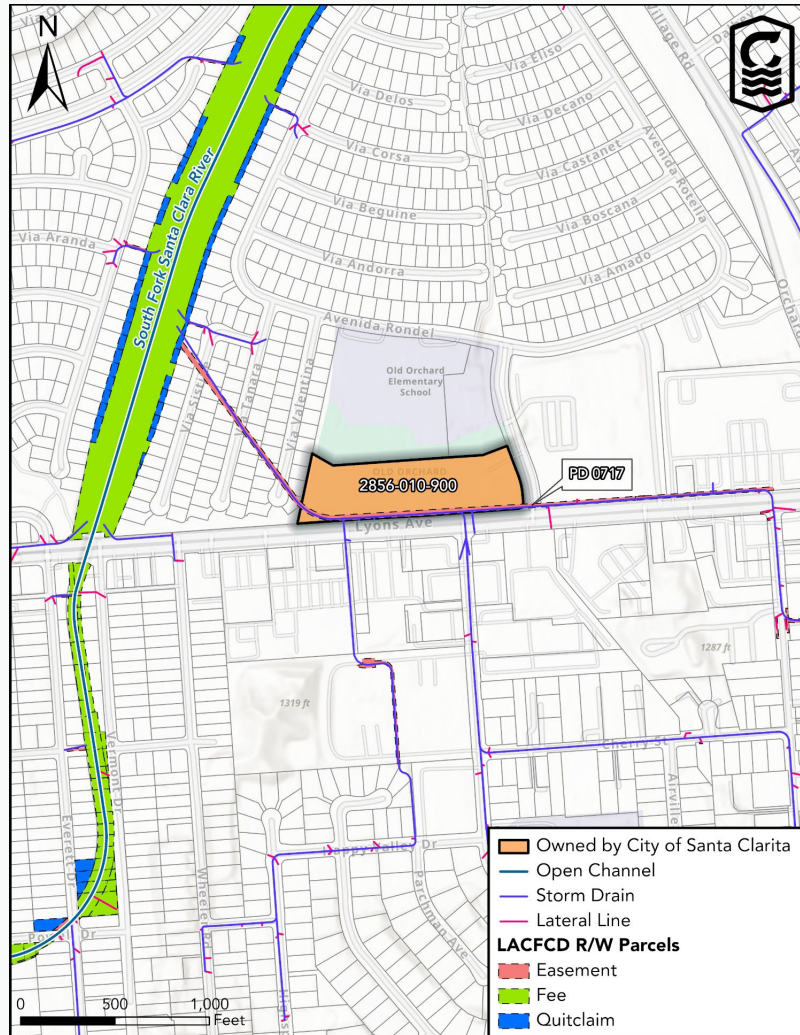
\$1,972,000

Funding Request Phase(s): Design

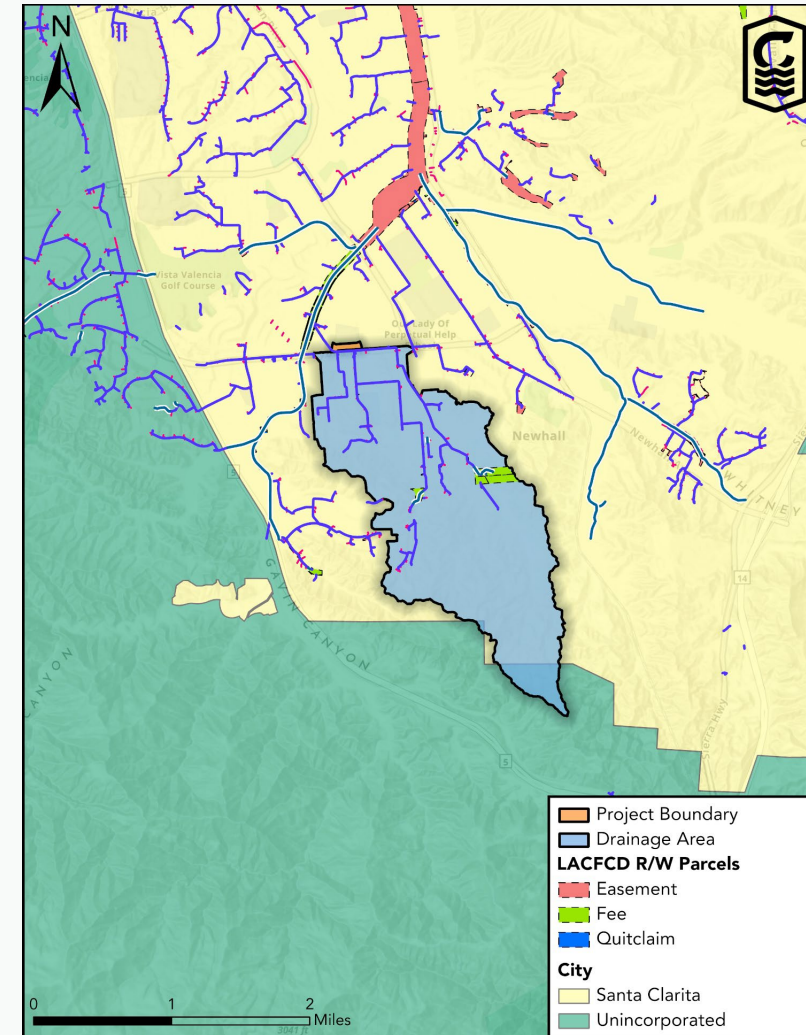
Previously Awarded Technical Resources Project Concept: Yes

Previously Awarded Instructure Program Project: No

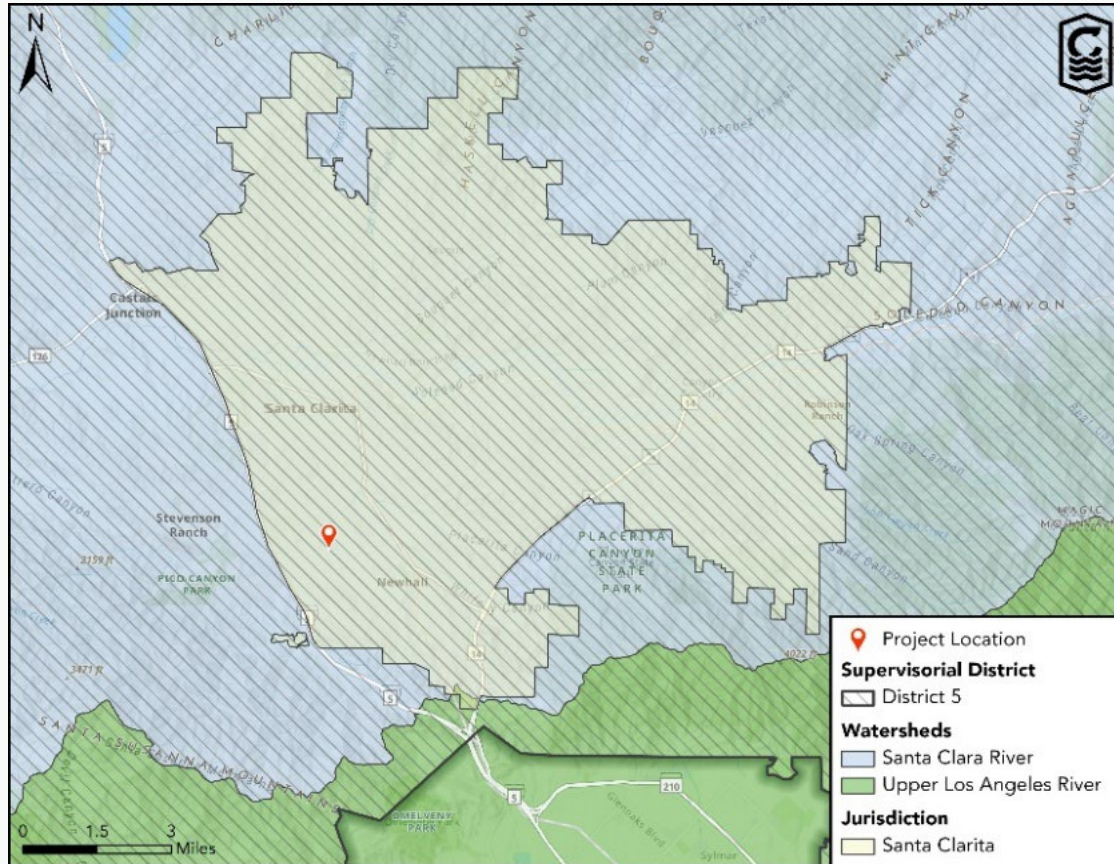
Project Location



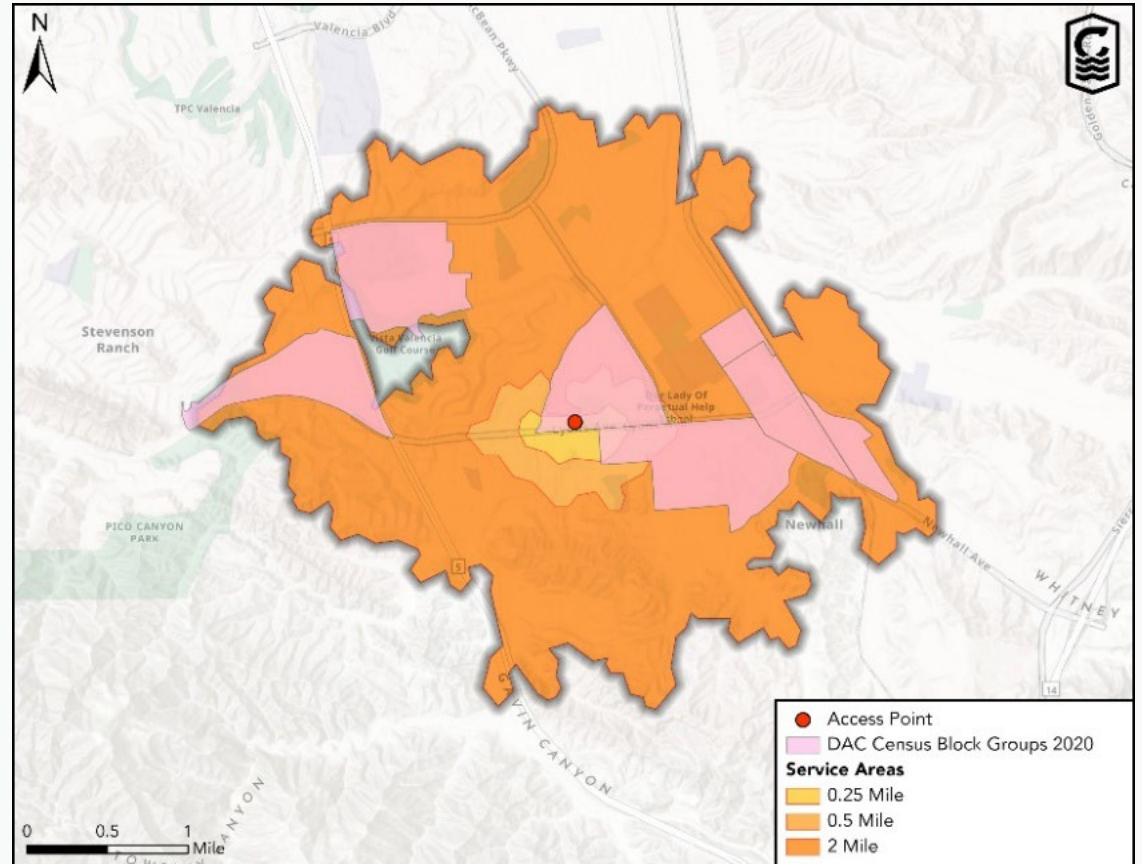
Capture Area



Watershed & Municipalities



DAC Walkshed



Project Background

Why was the Project location selected?

- Proximity to storm drain infrastructure and strategic location within the watershed presents a valuable opportunity to deliver significant water quality improvements.
- Available public development space with opportunity to improve existing park amenities.
- Help meet unmet stormwater management needs identified in the WMP, support water resilience through nature-based solutions, and offer a range of community co-benefits.

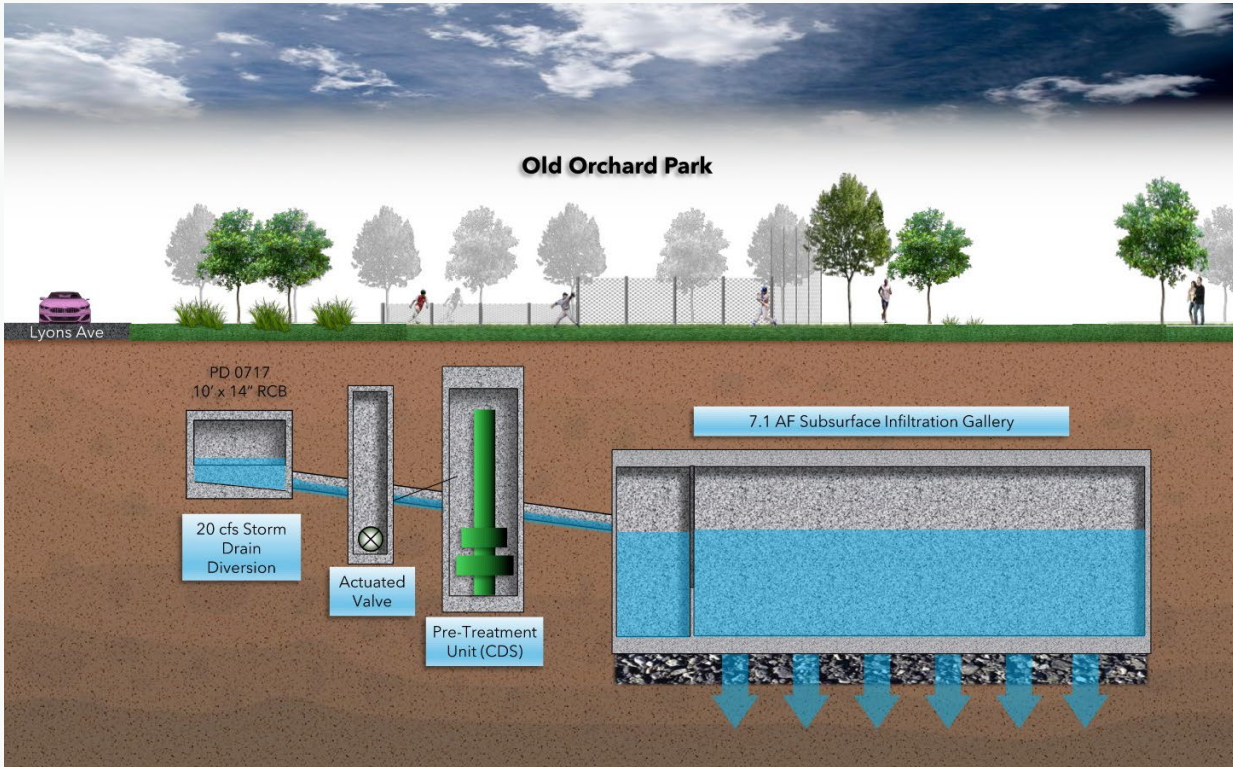
How was the Project developed?

The Old Orchard Park Stormwater Capture Project was identified as a potential project to help the City of Santa Clarita meet compliance in the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed Management Plan.

Who are the Project collaborators?

This project does not involve additional project collaborators.

Project Details



Existing Conditions

- 85th Percentile Peak Flow = 45 cfs
- 85th Percentile Surface Runoff = 25.11 ac-ft
- Infiltration Rate: 1.0 in/hr
- Groundwater Basin: Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin

Diversion Rate (cfs)	Type of Diversion	Storage Capacity (ac-ft)	24-hour Capacity (ac-ft)
20	Gravity	7.10	8.50

Project Details

Current Site Conditions

- Public park owned and operated by the City of Santa Clarita along Lyons Avenue (south) and bounded by Old Orchard Elementary School (north) and residential areas (east and west).
- Eastern portion of the park was recently renovated with new play equipment, turf removal, new vegetation, and multiple bioswales for onsite storm water capture.
- Western portion of the park consists of a baseball backstop and open field; the proposed stormwater capture facility will be limited to this park area.

Land Ownership/Right-of-Way

- Old Orchard Park is within City of Santa Clarita's right-of-way.
- Proposed work within the existing diverted storm drain, PD 0717, is owned by the LACFCD.

Potential/Future Constraints

- Project requires access to the western portion of Old Orchard Park and the existing storm drain within the park.
- Limited access to the western portion of the park including the baseball/open field and pedestrian paseo as these areas will be temporarily closed during different construction phases.

Environmental Documents and Permits

- Environmental Documentation
 - CEQA – Anticipated Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)
- LACFCD Permits
 - Major Modification Permit: Required for installing diversion structure within the LACFCD storm drain, PD 0717.
- Additional Regulatory Permits
 - **Greater LA County Vector Control District:** Mosquito abatement review for potential standing water/ponding.
 - **SCAQMD Rule 403:** Fugitive dust control compliance required during construction activities.
 - **SWRCB Construction General Permit:** Required for soil disturbance over one acre; SWPPP must be prepared.
 - **City of Santa Clarita:** Encroachment, Construction, Demolition, Compliance Inspection, and Electrical permits.

Project Details

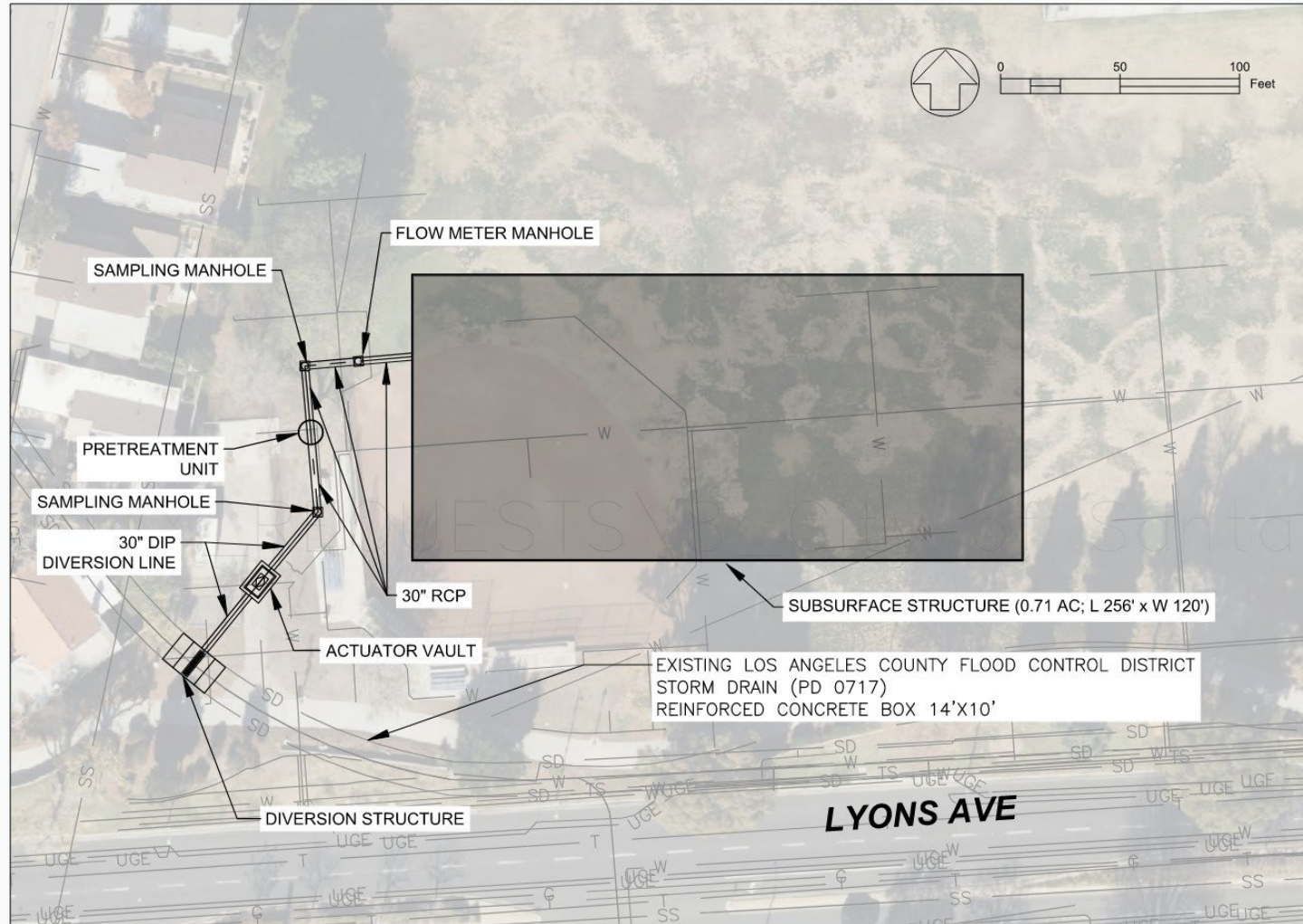
Technical Activities Completed

- Geotechnical – Performed in May 2026
- Stormwater Capture Strategy Memorandum
 - Covers diversion location, rates, storage size, and outflow rates.
- Site Access/Right-of-Way Review
- Utility Data Review
- Feasibility Study

Vector Minimization

- The Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District will be coordinated with during the design phase to discuss potential for mosquito growth in the system. Additional coordination will occur throughout the design process.
- Guidelines outlined in the California Department of Public Health’s Checklist for Minimizing Vector Production in Stormwater Management Structures will be followed.
 - Best vector control practices incorporated in the preliminary Vector Minimization Plan include:
 - Sealing sumps, vaults, and/or basins that hold water longer than four days;
 - Using closed pick hole manhole covers for maintenance manhole covers;
 - Tight fitting covers with gaps or holes no greater than 1/16-inch; and
 - The system includes provisions for rapid dewatering if needed for emergency control of mosquitoes.

Project Schematic



Project Schematic



Project Schematic (Continued)



Cost and Schedule

PHASE	DESCRIPTION	COST	COMPLETION DATE
Planning	Feasibility Study	\$300,000	07/2026
Design	Final Design (30/60/90/100)	\$1,537,000	03/2029
Design	Community Outreach during Design	\$50,000	03/2029
Design	Environmental Planning (CEQA) and Permitting	\$231,000	03/2029
Design	Agency Management (Design)	\$154,000	03/2029
Construction	Construction Cost	\$14,808,000	12/2030
Construction	Community Outreach during Construction	\$50,000	03/2031
Construction	Construction Management	\$1,537,000	03/2031
Construction	Construction Survey	\$15,000	09/2029
Construction	Agency Management (Construction)	\$231,000	03/2031
TOTAL COST		\$18,913,000	

Cost and Schedule (Continued)

ANNUAL COSTS		LIFE-CYCLE COSTS	
Annual Maintenance Cost	\$94,800	Project Life Span	50 Years
Annual Operation Cost	\$0	Total Life-Cycle Cost	\$22,051,402.21
Monitoring Costs	\$36,000	Annualized Life-Cycle Cost	\$919,041.99

Funding Request

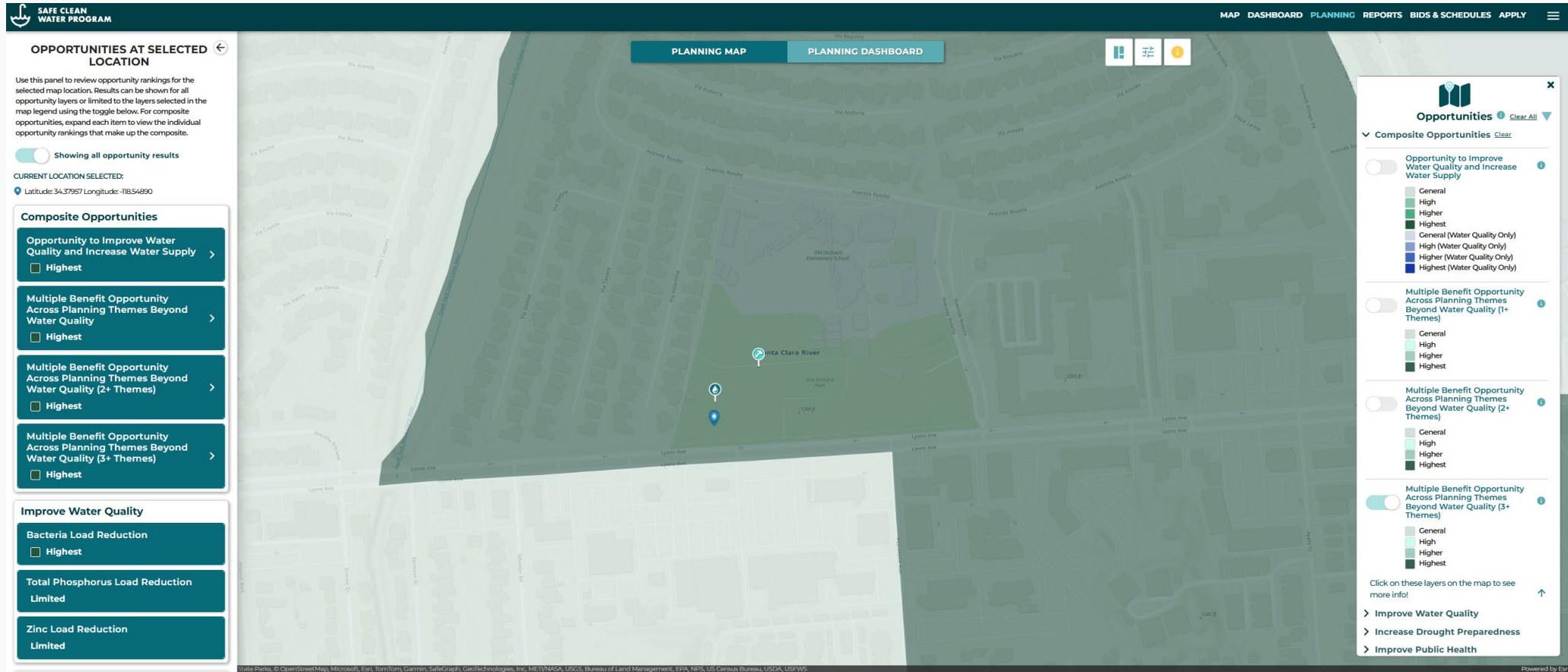
YEAR (FISCAL YEAR)	SCW FUNDING REQUEST	PHASE	EFFORTS DURING PHASE AND YEAR
1 (FY27-28)	\$1,972,000	Design	Pre-Design, Design, and Construction Support; Community Outreach during Design; Environmental Planning and Permitting; Agency Project Management during Design
TOTAL	\$1,972,000		

- **Potential Future SCW Funding Request:** Yes, Approximately \$ 16,641,000 (Construction)

Cost Share

- Total Cost Share: \$0
- Leveraged Funding Percentage: 0%

Watershed Planning Alignment



Latitude	Longitude
34.37957	-118.54890

Composite opportunities displayed is “Multiple Benefit Opportunities Across Planning Themes Beyond Water Quality (3+ Themes):

Project provides opportunities for planning themes such as Increase Drought Preparedness, Improve Public Health, Provide Benefits to DACs, and more

Project Benefits and Watershed Planning Alignment

Improve Water Quality



- Diverted and treated stormwater flows can infiltrate to the underlying aquifer via the infiltration gallery and reduce runoff volume entering the Santa Clara River, thus, reducing bacteria loading and improving water quality.

PROJECT METRICS	METRIC	LEVEL OF OPPORTUNITY
Zinc Load Reduction (lbs/year)	---	Limited
Total Phosphorous Load Reduction (lbs/year)	---	Limited
Bacteria Load Reduction (ac-ft/year as a proxy)	38.19	Highest

Project Benefits and Watershed Planning Alignment

Increase Drought Preparedness



- Due to the high infiltration rate of the native soil at the project site, 1.0 inch per hour, the infiltration gallery will treat approximately 38.19 AFY of diverted stormwater flows through a natural infiltration process.
 - Flows will subsequently recharge the underlying Alluvial Aquifer of the Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin.

PROJECT METRICS	METRIC	LEVEL OF OPPORTUNITY
Increase Local Water Supply through Stormwater Capture (ac-ft/year)	38.19	Highest (Wet or Dry)
Increase Local Water Supply through Groundwater Recharge and Storage (ac-ft/year)	38.19	High

Project Benefits and Watershed Planning Alignment

Improve Public Health / Community Investment Benefits



- A service area defined as a quarter-mile radius from the project site classifies approximately 69% of the surrounding population as a DAC.
- Proposed climate appropriate planting (5,500 sf) can improve the air quality, increase carbon sequestration, provide more tree canopy (12,252 sf), and enhance the park aesthetics.
- Above-ground improvements include new lighting along the pedestrian paseo and an updated baseball backstop.
 - These improvements can enhance the park conditions and user experience, which is desired by the surrounding DACs near the project site.

PROJECT METRICS	METRIC	LEVEL OF OPPORTUNITY
Net area of park and green space created (acres)	0.13	Limited
Net area of park enhanced or restored (acres)	---	High
Net area of green space at schools created (acres)	---	Limited
Net area of canopy, cooling, and shading surfaces (acres)	0.41	High

Project Benefits and Watershed Planning Alignment

Deliver Multi-Benefit Projects/Nature Based Solutions



- Stormwater management for the project site is primarily achieved through an infiltration gallery which will capture and infiltrate diverted stormwater to the underlying groundwater basin.
- Proposed landscape features such as climate-appropriate vegetation and tree planting can enhance the park's ecosystem resilience by improving soil health and providing new habitat space and shading/cooling areas.
 - Climate-appropriate vegetation can support regenerative landscapes and adaptive recovery.
- The diversity of the proposed implementations addresses the various concerns the community voiced such as increased shading and ecological resilience.

PROJECT METRICS	METRIC	LEVEL OF OPPORTUNITY
Net area of habitat created, enhanced, restored, protected (acres)	0.13	Limited
Net change in hardscape (acres)	-0.02	N/A
Community-Stated Priority or Concern Addressed	Shade Trees, Condition of Public Space	N/A

Project Benefits and Watershed Planning Alignment

Equitably Distribute Benefits



- This project can improve the amenities and condition of a highly used park located within a DAC.
- The proposed vegetation and tree planting can provide numerous environmental benefits such as new habitat space and enhanced air quality in a much-needed area.
 - The census tract the project site is located on is subjected to higher levels of pollutant levels than surrounding tracts.
- This project is also on a site that has not yet been served by a SCW Program Project.

PROJECT METRICS	METRIC	LEVEL OF OPPORTUNITY
Does the Project Provide benefits to DACs (Y/N)	Y	Higher

Project Benefits and Watershed Planning Alignment

Prioritize Meaningful Engagement



- Previous engagement efforts consisted with meeting local homeowners' associations and the neighboring elementary school, and tabling at the Newhall Farmers Market to interact with residents.
- The City will continue coordinating with the local Watershed Coordinator and other relevant community-based organizations or non-governmental organizations.
- Findings from prior engagement efforts will help tailor the engagement strategy and build trust with the impacted communities.
- Future engagement efforts will likely include collaborative forums or workshops to educate the community about green infrastructure, stormwater capture, climate-resilient landscape, and fire-wise planting practices or inform them about the progress of the project.

PROJECT METRICS	METRIC
Level of Achievement for community engagement (Good/Better/Best)	Good
Level of Achievement for Tribal engagement (Good/Better/Best)	N/A
Letters of support from communities and Tribes (Count)	11

Thank you

QUESTIONS?

Oliver Cramer, City of Santa Clarita
Pauline Nguyen & Merrill Taylor, Craftwater