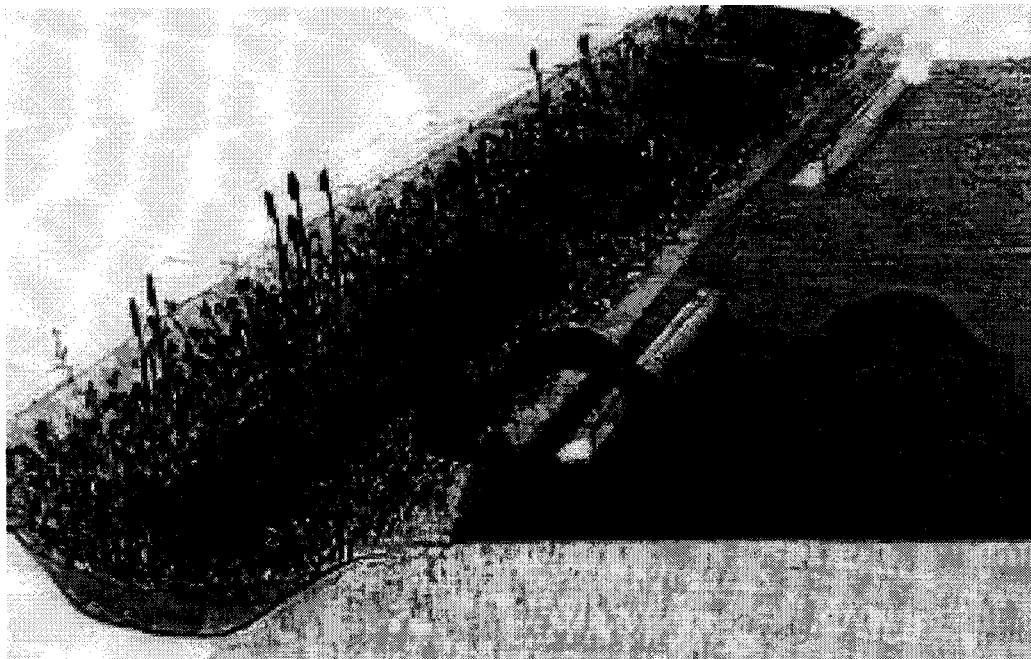


MEETING DATE: 10/6/08

AGENDA ITEM: Authorization to Issue a Letter of Support to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Regarding a Proposition 84 Water Quality Grant Application Being Developed by Santa Monica Bay Keeper.

ATTACHMENTS

		<u>Pages</u>
1	Description and illustration of a rain garden	1
2	Preliminary map of locations	2
3	Recommended letter of support	3
4	Final Design and Planning Principles (Table 5-A) of the Ballona Creek and Trail Special Focused Study of 2004	4-5



Rain Garden

Flows tributary to the rain garden flow into the garden and are filtered or infiltrate

Pollution Removal Potential

*The following is a published EPA guideline with regard to performance of bio-swales and bio-retention:

Pollutant	Removal Rate
Total Phosphorus	70%-83% ¹
Metals (Cu, Zn, Pb)	93%-98% ¹
TKN	68%-80% ¹
Total Suspended Solids	90% ²
Organics	90% ²
Bacteria	90% ²

Source: ¹Davis et al. (1998)

²PGDER (1993)

*Taken from the EPA document EPA 832-F-99-012

Proposed Rain Garden Locations



October __, 2008

Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

Subject: Letter of Support for Ballona Creek Rain Garden Project

Dear _____:

This letter serves to confirm that the City of Culver City supports Santa Monica Baykeeper's efforts to secure funding for the Ballona Creek Rain Garden Project. The proposed project would be constructed along the banks of Ballona Creek in the City of Culver City. The project will treat or infiltrate storm water flows from drainages adjacent to the Creek and will improve water quality. The project will also serve as an example of treatment methods that can be employed on other public or private parcels.

Culver City will partner with Santa Monica Bay Keeper through design and construction and will provide City staff support to complete this important project. Please give serious consideration to this important project.

Sincerely.

Jerry Fulwood
City Manager

ATTACHMENT 3

Final Design and Planning Principles

Table 5-A

Flood Control

1. Maintain or improve the ability of Ballona Creek to convey floodwaters.
2. Take no actions that would interfere with or impair the ability to maintain Ballona Creek for the purpose of carrying floodwaters.

Quality Of Life

1. Limit new access to trails from existing residential neighborhoods to discourage trail users from parking in those neighborhoods to access the trail.
2. Provide for vertical separation and buffer between the elevation of the bike trail and adjacent residential yards.
3. Provide additional landscaping and fencing to buffer public use areas from residential yards.
4. Encourage landscaping techniques that maximize noise absorption and minimize noise echoes.
5. Design paths that would encourage users to move through the trail system.
6. Develop enforceable design guidelines for creek-side development including standards for noise and lighting (i.e., low level and low emitting lighting, shielding of light glare/spill).
7. Control the hours of operation of public use areas.
8. Enforce existing municipal, County, and Federal codes along the bike path and adjacent properties.
9. Enhance Ballona Creek as an amenity for people who already use, live, or work near the bike path.

Public Safety and Maintenance

1. Develop a maintenance and safety program to assure the health and safety of Ballona Creek and Trail users and adjacent residents.
2. Coordinate and correct fragmentation of jurisdictional responsibility such as policing, graffiti control, homelessness, and maintenance.

Ballona Creek and Trail Focused Special Study

Aesthetics and Environment

1. Create environments that will enhance both the scenic beauty of Ballona Creek and the property values of nearby residents and businesses.
2. Spur the low impact revitalization of creek-side commercial and industrial properties and residential improvements towards beautification.
3. Improve the general condition and appearance of Ballona Creek and trail by eliminating dilapidated conditions and devising consistent standards for creek-side fencing, safety lighting, way-finding, landscaping, and guard rails.
4. Provide suitable landscaping (i.e. native plants for certain areas, drought tolerant or low maintenance) along the bike path and both sides of the channel.
5. Improve water quality in Ballona Creek.
6. Provide attractive signage for the Ballona Creek and Trail denoting Coastal Access.

Recreation and Use Potential

1. Provide a linkage and land-bridge connection to the Baldwin Hills Park area.
2. Provide a system of way-finding to better and more safely connect with various open space areas and parks such as Syd Kronenthal Park, Lindberg Park, Slauson Park, etc. via the trail system.
3. Seek to link the Ballona Creek bike path to other bikeway circulation systems in Culver City such as Culver Boulevard, MTA Exposition right of way and Downtown Culver City.
4. Provide trails that are ADA accessible.

Financial Resources

1. Devise a cohesive operations and maintenance strategy for Ballona Creek that does not cost the City of Culver City any more than it does today.
2. Ensure that improvements made to Ballona Creek and the trail system are funded through outside grants sources with minimal or no matching grants.

Study Process

1. Ensure that the plans for Ballona Creek are in the best interests of Culver City and its citizens.