

STAFF REPORT: FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ROUND 3 URBAN GREENING GRANT PROGRAM FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

BACKGROUND

Proposition 84 (Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006) included allocations for Sustainable Communities and Climate Change Reductions, including funds for urban greening projects in the amount of \$90.0M. SB 732 provided the implementing language for the urban greening program to award funding to projects and plans for the development of sustainable communities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Up to 25% of available urban greening funding is available for urban greening plans. The program was approved by the Strategic Growth Council (Council) in October 2009 for three rounds of funding. The guidelines were approved in December 2009.

The Budget Act of 2010/11 appropriated \$21.0M for the urban greening program to the California Natural Resources Agency for local assistance grants. Awards in the amount of \$20.8M for Round 1 were approved by the Council in the Fall of 2010. The Budget Act of 2011/12 included \$21.0M. Awards in the amount of \$20.7M were awarded in June 2011. The Budget Act of 2012/13 includes \$21.0M. \$23.9M is available in Round 3, which includes unused funds carried over from previous rounds. Round 3 includes a substitution list in rank order should additional funds become available (e.g., projects that are withdrawn, come under budget, etc.)

SUMMARY PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Statutory Requirements

- Project uses Natural Systems, Mimics Natural Systems or Creates, Enhances, or Expands Green Spaces; Project provides Multiple Benefits; Project consistent with State's Planning Priorities; Project reduces Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Statutory Priorities

- Interagency Cooperation and Integration/Collaboration; Uses Existing Public Lands and Facilitates Use of Public Resources and Investments, including Schools; Disadvantaged/Severely Disadvantaged Community.

Council Additional Priorities and Public Access

- Project Improves Public Health; Project is Innovative and/or Creative; Project is Proposed by a Community More Vulnerable to Climate Change or Address an Environmental Justice Issue; Project provides Public Access as feasible.

ROUND 3 FUNDING

184 concept proposals were received for proposed urban greening projects, resulting in a recommendation for 37 projects totaling \$22.9M. Three urban greening plans are recommended for funding totaling \$1.0M.

RECOMMENDATION - Approve as submitted.

Urban Greening Grant Program – Round 3

Available for Awards

FY 12/13 appropriation	\$21,000,000
Carryover	<u>\$ 2,953,245</u>
Total Available for Round 3	\$23,953,245

Grant categorization as established by legislation, Proposition 84 and SB 732 and approved by the Strategic Growth Council via established guidelines.

Urban Greening Projects

Applicants:	Cities, Counties, Special Districts, Nonprofit Organizations, and Joint Powers Authorities
Targeted Funds:	Up to \$2.0M of available funds are available for smaller projects proposed by disadvantaged communities. Requests for targeted funding are limited to \$75,000.

Urban Greening Planning

Applicants:	Councils of Governments, Countywide Authorities, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Local Governments (Cities/Counties), Nonprofit Organizations, Special Districts, and Joint Powers Authorities.
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Summary of Requested Recommended Funding

	Received		Recommended	
	#	Amount	#	Amount
Project Concepts	184		-	-
Project Full applications (non- targeted)	53	\$38,779,231	29	\$22,457,745
Project Full applications (targeted)	9	\$530,000	8	\$495,500
Total Projects	62	\$39,309,231	37	\$22,953,245
Plans	14	\$3,846,635	3	\$1,000,000
TOTALS			40	\$23,953,245

**STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL
URBAN GREENING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
ROUND 3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Agency Name	County	Region	Proposal Title	Recommend	Description	Rank / Score
URBAN GREENING PLANS RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING -						Rank
Fresno PARCS Department *	Fresno	Central	Fresno Master Urban Greening Plan	\$250,000.00	Developing plan to guide future development of greening projects, including parks, multipurpose trails and creating continuous greenbelt.	1
Watershed Conservation Authority *	Los Angeles	Southern	Gateway Cities & River Urban Greening Plan	\$500,000.00	Developing plan to create inventory of greening opportunities, storm-water infiltration and pedestrian linkages.	2
Pico Rivera, City of *	Los Angeles	Southern	City of Pico Rivera Urban Greening Master Plan	\$250,000.00	Developing plan to create tool for identifying new parks and open space, ground water replenishment, pedestrian and biking mobility, and urban tree canopy forestation.	3
URBAN GREENING PROJECTS - \$75,000 OR UNDER FOR DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING -						
Fresno PARCS Department *	Fresno	Central	Romain Park Community Cultural Garden	\$40,000.00	Converting asphalt parking lot into a new community space including an edible, cultural community garden. Project includes stormwater capture features.	NA
Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles *	Los Angeles	Southern	The Growing Experience Urban Food Forest	\$50,000.00	Expanding existing community urban farm in disadvantaged community on Housing Authority property.	NA
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works *	Los Angeles	Southern	Buford Seed Project	\$75,000.00	Removing approximately 3,000 square feet of concrete; creating edible garden; planting drought resistant trees outside four classrooms; capturing storm water from roof and surrounding area.	NA

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ROUND 3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Agency Name	County	Region	Proposal Title	Recommend	Description	Rank / Score
Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust *	Los Angeles	Southern	105th & Normandie Community Garden	\$75,000.00	Expanding existing community edible garden and planting native, drought resistant trees and understory. Site has cistern in place which will be used for a portion of the irrigation.	NA
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority *	Los Angeles	Southern	Franklin Ivar Park	\$75,000.00	Planting cluster sound barrier trees and understory near freeway off-ramp as part of larger (funded) project to create new park space.	NA
Oxnard, City of *	Ventura	Southern	Oxnard Urban Greening	\$65,000.00	Planting drought tolerant, native trees along streets and in schools by local City Corp members.	NA
Trust for Public Land *	Contra Costa	Coastal / Bay	Harbour to 8th Richmond Greenway Project	\$75,000.00	Expanding greenway which will include 2,600 square foot vegetated bioswale to treat and slow flows from parking lot. Recycled wood for benches and path delineation.	NA
Watsonville, City of *	Santa Cruz	Coastal / Bay	Upper Struve Slough Trail & Greenway	\$40,500.00	Restoring a section of Upper Struve Slough with native, drought resistant vegetation.	NA
URBAN GREENING PROJECTS OVER \$75,000 RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING						
Trust for Public Land *	Ventura	Southern	Kellogg Park Development Project	\$1,000,000.00	Converting property from light commercial use to develop 2.5 acre passive park with amenities; establishing walking path, planting native trees/understory, and creating vegetated bioswales for treatment and recharge.	1

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ROUND 3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Agency Name	County	Region	Proposal Title	Recommend	Description	Rank / Score
San Francisco Recreation and Park Department *	San Francisco	Coastal / Bay	Mansell Corridor Improvement	\$848,059.00	Eliminating two lanes of traffic through existing park to create a greenway with amenities for walking and cycling; developing bioswales to collect storm water; converting asphalt ditch into vegetated swale.	2
Bellflower, City of *	Los Angeles	Southern	North Caruthers Park Urban Greening & Biofiltration Project	\$650,000.00	Acquiring property to convert active commercial space to passive parkland with amenities; planting low-water use, drought tolerant trees/understory; removing 45,000 square feet of asphalt; collecting/treating water from adjacent street before entering side channel.	2
Benjamin Franklin Elementary Foundation *	Los Angeles	Southern	BFEF Urban Greening Project	\$1,000,000.00	Removing 45,000 square feet of asphalt for meadow/play area, vegetated bioswales, and rain gardens; expanding existing edible garden; planting native, drought resistant trees/understory; constructing open recycled decking and landform amphitheater; creating paths along rain gardens.	4
Ontario, City of *	San Bernardino	Southern	Museum of History and Art, Ontario - Sustainable Landscape and Education Gardens	\$998,387.00	Converting traditional landscape to drought resistant, native landscaping to tie museum theme to outside/tangible learning experience; replacing significant amount of turf and asphalt for vegetated bioswales/infiltration.	5
UCSB & the Cheadle Center for Biodiversity & Ecological Restoration *	Santa Barbara	Southern	North Campus Open Space (formerly Upper Devereux Slough Restoration (Phase I) Project)	\$1,000,000.00	Activating new community space; restoring 39 acres from high impact use (golf course) to wetland using largely reclaimed water; creating over one mile of trail with several connections to surrounding community.	5
Long Beach, City of *	Los Angeles	Southern	Willow Springs Wetland	\$924,000.00	Activating new community space; restoring 11.5 acres of lowlands and hill slopes. Creating a system of bioswales (1,700 linear feet) and ponding areas to divert stormwater and dry weather flows; converting existing dirt/access roads for pedestrian use.	7

**STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL
URBAN GREENING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
ROUND 3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Agency Name	County	Region	Proposal Title	Recommend	Description	Rank / Score
Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation *	Los Angeles	Southern	Model Green Park Project at Eugene A. Obregon Park	\$836,625.00	Converting traditional landscape of an existing 9.2 acre park to native/drought resistant by incorporating bio-swales, bio-retention basins, turf reduction, trees, rain barrel, plants, and demonstration garden.	8
North East Trees *	Los Angeles	Southern	Ascot Hills Park Habitat Restoration & Greening Project	\$989,000.00	Greening existing (largely barren) park with carbon sequestering shade trees, creating vegetated bioswales and infiltration system.	9
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority	Los Angeles	Southern	Caballero Creek and Los Angeles River Confluence Park	\$1,146,500.00	Activating new community space by removing large segment of asphalt on City and County owned property to replace with native vegetation, vegetated bioswales, interpretive signage and amenities. Over 600 feet of riverfront property.	10
Whittier, City of	Los Angeles	Southern	Greenway Landscape	\$366,327.00	Greening 1.29 miles of a well-used off road bike path that will connect to Class I bike path with additional planned regional connections.	11
Visalia, City of *	Tulare	Central	St. John's River Riparian Corridor Restoration Project	\$466,544.00	Activating new community space by converting commercial use to passive parkland with bike path that connects to other segments within the City. Planting native, drought tolerant vegetation and storm water collection features.	12
Los Angeles Conservation Corps *	Los Angeles	Southern	Willowbrook Walking Path / Compton Creek	\$798,815.00	Activating/restoring blighted space for community that bridges gap in multi-use trail and connects to additional seven miles of trail; urban runoff/stormwater treated /infiltrated above trail before entering Compton Creek.	13

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ROUND 3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Agency Name	County	Region	Proposal Title	Recommend	Description	Rank / Score
Glendale, City of *	Los Angeles	Southern	Glendale Green Street Demonstration Project	\$997,900.00	Developing green streets on Harvard and Louis Streets by adding natural systems to the street network through the planting of trees, construction of a series of bioswales, curb extensions, and permeable concrete gutters.	14
Visalia, City of *	Tulare	Central	Jennings Waterway Landscape and Trail Project	\$203,500.00	Activating community space while preserving a stand of oak trees along Jennings Waterway. Restoring approximately 2 acres with native vegetation; creating 1/2 mile meandering trail that will informally connect with the adjacent Mill Creek trail; creating system of bioswales for stormwater treatment and infiltration.	14
Urban Corps of San Diego County *	San Diego	Southern	Neighborhood Canyons Access and Enhancement Project	\$856,549.76	Restoring approximately 15 acres of canyonlands; formalizing approximately 3.3 miles of voluntary trails and creating trailheads; wayfinding and interpretive signage; creating system of bioswales for stormwater treatment.	16
National City, City of *	San Diego	Southern	Hoover Avenue Park / Paradise Creek Walk	\$840,000.00	Expanding existing community space adjacent to school site and planned development; creating safe routes to school path; edible garden and removing significant amount of hardscape for bioswale.	16
Civic San Diego *	San Diego	Southern	Southcrest Trails Park	\$635,730.00	Formalizing trails, creating trailhead, and planting native trees and understory along Chollas Creek. Installing vegetated bioswales for stormwater treatment/infiltration.	16
San Jose, City Of *	Santa Clara	Coastal / Bay	Three Creeks Trail (Los Gatos Creek to Guadalupe River)	\$1,000,000.00	Developing approximately one mile of paved trail, linking residential development to the downtown core. Creating series of bioswales for stormwater collection and infiltration and a native plant community to increase bio-diversity and wildlife habitat values.	19

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ROUND 3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Agency Name	County	Region	Proposal Title	Recommend	Description	Rank / Score
Vacaville Community Services Department *	Solano	Coastal / Bay	Centennial Park Riparian Forest Restoration and Loop Trail Development Project	\$680,286.00	Restoring approximately 12.5 acres on two tributaries of Horse Creek that traverse existing park; planting more than 1,200 native trees and 1,000 shrubs; adding 3,500 feet of trail linking to existing paths creating a loop trail with interpretive stops; nesting boxes.	20
Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation *	San Diego	Southern	Northwest Village Chollas Creek Enhancements (Phase 4)	\$1,000,000.00	Extending and adding features to existing greenway/restoration project along Chollas Creek adjacent to school including ADA compliant pedestrian bridge, overlook and restoration using native, drought resistant plantings.	21
Watsonville, City of *	Santa Cruz	Coastal / Bay	(Watsonville Wetlands Trails and Greenways -) Rolling Hills Connector Trail & Greenway	\$185,000.00	Creating a path that will serve as a safe route to school and create an outdoor classroom. Site will catch and retain significant amounts of water from the nearby hilltop; potential for habitat diversity.	22
Richmond, City of *	Contra Costa	Coastal / Bay	Greening the Last Mile of the Richmond Greenway	\$727,553.00	Creating a connection point to the Western section of the Richmond Greening and installing bioswale and meadow; creating access point to the greenway at the bridge over the BART tracks; and creating access and park at 39th Street.	23
Koreatown Youth & Community Center *	Los Angeles	Southern	Wilshire Park Elementary School Native Habitat Garden	\$110,000.00	Greening school site by removing asphalt and replacing with vegetated bioswales, trees and understory.	24

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ROUND 3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Agency Name	County	Region	Proposal Title	Recommend	Description	Rank / Score
East Bay Regional Park District *	Alameda	Coastal / Bay	Albany Beach Restoration and Public Access Project at East Shore State Park - Phase I	\$750,000.00	Restoring 27,000 feet of transitional upland habitat, including oyster and coastal prairie by removing invasive plant species with native, drought tolerant vegetation and installing rock nesting; formalizing user trails to improve and clearly delineate public access.	25
Anaheim, City of	Orange	Southern	Anaheim Coves (Northern Extension) Urban Nature Park	\$901,996.34	Converting barren land along a portion of Burris Basin near the Santa Ana River to native habitat and creating a through greenway/linear urban park with formal entrances at both ends.	26
San Francisco Recreation and Park Department	San Francisco	Coastal / Bay	Noe Valley Town Square Development	\$599,809.00	Developing new community space/town center by converting impervious surface to pervious, reducing the hardscape footprint; converting high water-use landscape to drought resistant.	27
Literacy for Environmental Justice *	San Francisco	Coastal / Bay	Candlestick Point State Recreation Area Healthy Habitats and Lifestyles Project	\$985,164.00	Restoring with native coastal shrub plantings grown at the on-site nursery; increasing public access with outdoor learning nodes with seating and signage for small groups linked by one mile accessible path.	28
Brea, City of	Orange	Southern	Tracks at Brea - Segment 2 Construction	\$950,000.00	Creating a 4 mile multi-use trail that will traverse the City from east to west with three public access points. Installing bioswales, native, drought resistant trees, and plants/shrubs.	29
			TOTAL	\$23,943,245.10		

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ROUND 3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Agency Name	County	Region	Proposal Title	Recommend	Description	Rank / Score
URBAN GREENING PLANS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING						Score
San Diego, City of *	San Diego	Southern	Uptown Urban Greening Plan	\$0.00	Plan to develop a system of green streets, new green spaces and strategies to link community facilities to parks.	77
Vallejo, City of*	Solano	Bay	Vallejo Urban Greening Master Plan	\$0.00	Plan to address greenhouse gas emissions and adaptability to climate change.	77
Bakersfield, City of*	Kern	Central	Downtown Bakersfield Urban Greening Plan	\$0.00	Plan to analyze and develop greening opportunities for City focusing on the downtown and connecting downtown to other parts of city.	76
San Francisco, City of	San Francisco	Bay	Biodiversity & Ecology	\$0.00	Plan to focus on preserving remnant natural areas and habitats and recreating the built environment to include local nature and integrate with natural systems.	76
El Cajon, City of*	San Diego	Southern	El Cajon East Main Street Multi-Cultural	\$0.00	Plan to provide shade, broaden sidewalks, add bike lanes, lighting and seating.	71
San Diego, City of	San Diego	Southern	Grantville Urban Greening Plan	\$0.00	Plan to establish guidelines for creating green streets to connect existing and planned residential areas to the San Diego River.	69
Los Angeles Economic Development Department*	Los Angeles	Southern	Lincoln Heights Regional Trail Plan	\$0.00	Plan to connect community of Lincoln Heights to the Los Angeles River Greenway	NA
Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative*	Los Angeles	Southern	From Port to Park	\$0.00	Plan to connect Leland Park to the coast line.	NA
Santa Clara, County of*	Santa Clara	Bay	Urban Green 2050	\$0.00	Plan to develop an urban greening climate management and adaptation plan to modify existing tree palettes and preserve existing green assets.	NA

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Agency Name	County	Region	Proposal Title	Recommend	Description	Rank / Score
Trust for Public Land*	San Francisco	Southern	India Basin Shoreline Access & Greening Plan	\$0.00	Plan to address missing link of the Bay Trail.	NA
Vernon, City of *	Los Angeles	Southern	City of Vernon Greening Plan	\$0.00	Plan to develop new organizational and community paradigm and coordinate subsequent greening development projects.	NA
<i>Not Recommended for Funding (No site visit conducted)</i>						
Trust for Public Land*	Los Angeles	Southern	Reseda Riverwalk Project	\$0.00	Extending the Reseda Riverwalk at the confluence of the Los Angeles River and Aliso Creek.	78
San Francisco Planning Department*	San Francisco	Bay / Coastal	Green Connections: Oakdale Avenue	\$0.00	Greening a four block section including lighting, street striping and landscaping.	75
Daly City, City of	San Mateo	Bay / Coastal	John Daly Boulevard Greenway	\$0.00	Converting lawn medians into bioswales and landscaping.	74
Civic San Diego *	San Diego	Southern	Market Green Street Link-to-Trolley	\$0.00	Connecting pedestrians and bicyclists to the Euclid Trolley station with permeable pavement and bike lanes, native tree canopy & landscaped parkways.	74
Sonoma County Agriculture Preservation & Open Space District	Sonoma	Bay / Coastal	Copeland Creek Watershed Project	\$0.00	Acquiring 75 acres to develop a multi-use trail along Copeland Creek.	73
Amigos de los Rios*	El Monte	Los Angeles	Mulhall Family Center Greening	\$0.00	Greening three acres along the Rio Hondo River by planting native vegetation with recreational elements.	68
South San Francisco, City	San Mateo	Bay / Coastal	Grand Blvd. Greening Project	\$0.00	Planting 48 trees and plants in median and street frontages with rain gardens.	68

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ROUND 3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Agency Name	County	Region	Proposal Title	Recommend	Description	Rank / Score
Visalia, City of *	Tulare	Central	Evans Waterway Trail & Rotary Park Pedestrian Connection	\$0.00	Planting native landscaping along St John's River and extending recreational trail along river.	67
People for Parks*	Los Angeles	Southern	10th Street Elementary Community School Park	\$0.00	Greening project including native vegetation, relocating fence, repairing asphalt and DG gravel path.	65
Trust for Public Land	Humboldt	North	Ryan Creek Community Forest	\$0.00	Acquiring fee title of 615 acres to complete the community forest in Eureka.	65
Ventura, County of	Ventura	Southern	Oak Park - Brookside School Greenscape Retrofit	\$0.00	Constructing pedestrian curb extension, installing bioswales and drought tolerant plants.	65
San Francisco Department of Public Works	San Francisco	Bay / Coastal	Grey2Green Schools project - International Studies	\$0.00	Removing concrete restriction growth of five trees and planting additional trees.	64
Woodlake, City of	Tulare	Central	Acquire 15 acres to extend greening project/walking trail	\$0.00	Acquiring 15 acres to extend pedestrian and bike trails and develop community garden.	60
Long Beach, City of	Los Angeles	Southern	Pacific Coast Highway	\$0.00	Landscaping improvements in public right-of-way.	NA
Marysville, City of*	Yuba	North	Yuba & East 13th Street Park	\$0.00	Acquiring eight lots for a community park.	NA
Trust for Public Land	Marin	Bay / Coastal	Marin City to National Park Greenway	\$0.00	Acquiring 9 acres to create access to a National Park.	NA
Ventura Botanical Gardens, Inc.	Ventura	Southern	Botanical Gardens	\$0.00	Developing linear trail and planting native plants with bioswale and bike stations.	NA

* Disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged community.

NA - Projects were not scored because they were either not in a competitive pool, did not meet minimum due diligence, or did not strongly meet goals of program.

**STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL
URBAN GREENING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
ROUND 3 SUBSTITUTION RECOMMENDATIONS**

Agency Name	County	Region	Proposal Title	Description	Rank
Santa Ana, City of	Orange	Southern	Urban Greening Center Street	Removing 500 feet of concrete and replacing with bioswale and vegetation creating a green space between two ball fields.	1
San Pablo, City of *	Contra Costa	Coastal / Bay	El Portal Drive Greening Project	Planting native, drought resistant vegetation on the upper banks of Baxter Creek and creating separate bike lane (current sharrows) by removing a portion of asphalt.	2
Torrance, City of	Los Angeles	Southern	Torrance Entradero Basin & Park	Restoring upland habitat around detention basin.	3
Richmond, City of *	Contra Costa	Coastal / Bay	Booker T. Anderson Green Parking Lot and Riparian Zone Protection	Removing two parking spaces for bioswale; creating buffer between parking lot and creek to catch on-site storm water from existing park parking lot.	4
Tree Musketeers	Los Angeles	Southern	Clutter's Bluff Wildlife Habitat	Rehabilitating sand dune with native vegetation to create a greenbelt of wildlife on slope.	5
North East Trees *	Los Angeles	Southern	A living Street for Boyle Heights Project (Evergreen Neighborhood Green Street)	Creating a greenstreet by planting trees and creating a system of bioswales.	6
Civic San Diego *	San Diego	Southern	14th St. Pilot Block: G.G.R.O.W. San Diego (Greater Greener Rights-of-Way)	Creating greenstreet with demonstration project to remove concrete sidewalk and replace with permeable concrete, plant trees and remove asphalt for bioswale.	7
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission *	San Francisco	Coastal / Bay	Chinatown Green Alley Project	Removing two parking spaces for bioswale; creating buffer between parking lot and creek to catch on-site storm water from existing park parking lot.	8
Watsonville, City of*	Santa Cruz	Coastal / Bay	Upper Struve Trail & Greenway	Developing a trail/greenway along the wetland with native plantings.	9

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