

San Mateo County Sustainable Green Streets and Parking Lots Design Guidebook

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SAN MATEO COUNTYWIDE
**Water Pollution
Prevention Program**
Clean Water. Healthy Community.

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<< *El Camino Real
Green Street Concept Sketch
San Mateo County, California*

Executive Statement

In 2007, the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) enthusiastically supported the recommendation from its San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program Technical Advisory Committee to develop this Sustainable Green Streets and Parking Lots Design Guidebook (guidebook).

The guidebook provides designers, builders, municipal staff, and other interested groups practical and state-of-the-art information on creating low-impact development roadways and parking lots within San Mateo County. Roads and parking lots provide important opportunities for managing stormwater because they constitute as much as 70 percent of the total impervious cover in ultra-urban landscapes.

Small amounts of rain throughout a watershed incrementally add up to large volumes of water downstream. Similarly, small changes to stormwater runoff treatment in a watershed can cumulatively result in significant improvements to overall watershed health. For this reason, the site-scale stormwater management strategies described in the guidebook are at the core of creating balanced watershed systems.

The guidebook encourages the use of low-impact development for new and retrofitted road and parking lot projects. Supporting use of low-impact development for stormwater management is an objective shared by the C/CAG, local communities, and the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board/State Water Resources Control Board, which has adopted low-impact development as one of its core values.

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*The Pacific Ocean at the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve >>
Moss Beach, California*

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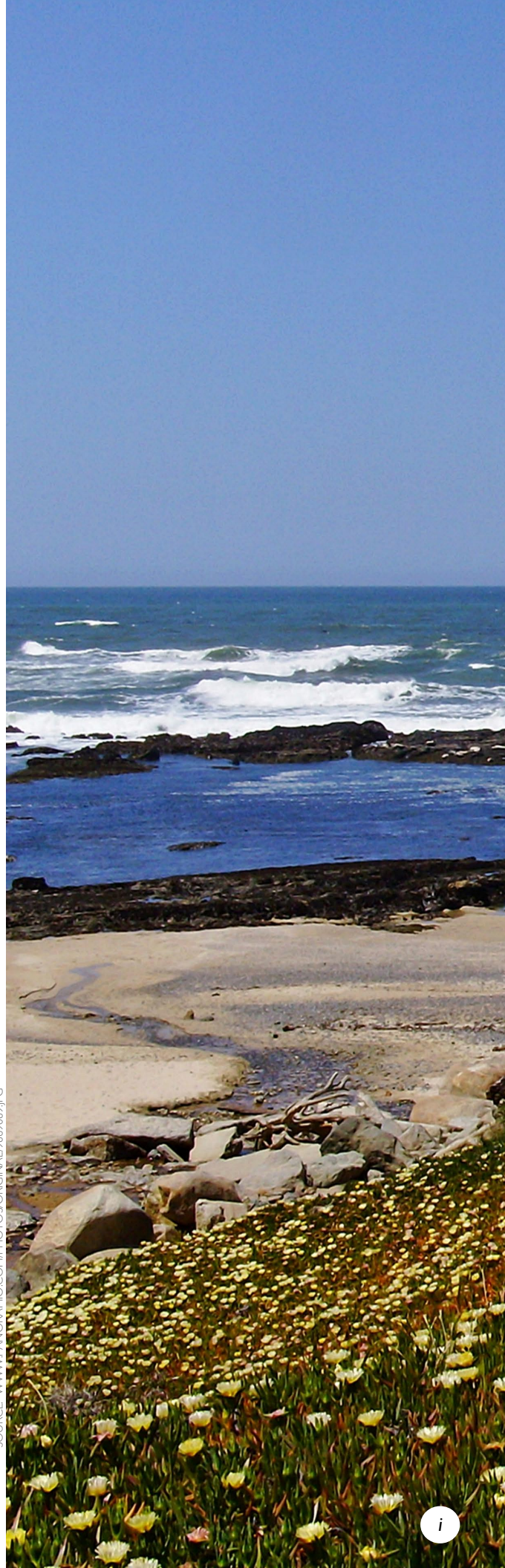


TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE STATEMENT	i
CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION TO THE GUIDEBOOK	6
Project Summary.....	6
What is Sustainable Stormwater Design?.....	7
Pre-Urban Development: A Healthy Landscape.....	8
Urban Development: The Effects of Impervious Surface.....	9
Balanced Development: A Greener Approach.....	10
What are Green Streets and Green Parking Lots?.....	12
Why Use Green Streets and Green Parking Lots?.....	14
Unique Considerations For San Mateo County.....	18
What Is Inside this Guidebook?.....	19
CHAPTER 2 - DESIGN STRATEGIES FOR GREEN STREETS AND PARKING LOTS	20
SITE LAYOUT STRATEGIES	
Provide Efficient Site Design.....	22
Balance Parking Spaces with Landscape Spaces.....	28
Utilize Surface Conveyance of Stormwater.....	29
Add Significant Tree Canopy.....	30
Provide Alternative Transportation Options.....	31
STORMWATER FACILITY STRATEGIES	
Pervious Paving.....	32
Vegetated Swales.....	36
Infiltration/Flow-Through Planters.....	40
Rain Gardens.....	44
Stormwater Curb Extensions.....	48
Green Gutters.....	52
CHAPTER 3 - THE STREETS AND PARKING LOTS IN SAN MATEO COUNTY	54
San Mateo County Streets.....	55
San Mateo County Parking Lots.....	59
CHAPTER 4 - DESIGN EXAMPLES FOR SAN MATEO COUNTY	60
Low-Density Residential Streets.....	62
High-Density Residential Streets.....	74
Residential Driveway Options.....	80
Commercial Streets.....	82
Arterial Streets and Boulevards.....	90
Parking Lots.....	98



CHAPTER 5 - KEY DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DETAILS..... 108

DESIGN DETAILS

The Sizing of Stormwater Facilities..... 109

Street Profile..... 112

Pedestrian Circulation along Green Streets..... 114

Pedestrian Circulation within Parking Lots..... 115

Dealing with Steep Topography..... 116

Dealing with Poor Soils..... 118

Designing with Utilities..... 120

Getting the Water in - Sheet Flow or Curb Cuts?..... 130

Curb Cut Examples to Avoid..... 131

Types of Curb Cuts..... 132

Conveying Water with Trench Drains and Speed Bumps..... 137

Dealing with Sediment..... 138

Overflow Options..... 139

Choosing Appropriate Plant Material..... 140

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Soil Preparation..... 142

Grading of Soil and Hardscape Elements..... 143

Applying Mulch Material..... 144

Construction Administration..... 145

CHAPTER 6 - IMPLEMENTING GREEN STREETS AND PARKING LOT PROJECTS..... 146

KEY IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Reducing Project Costs..... 147

Changing Municipal Code/Policy..... 150

Creating Incentives..... 151

Public Education and Outreach..... 152

Demonstration Project Approaches..... 153

DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN SAN MATEO COUNTY

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Parking Lot..... 155

Holly Road Green Street..... 158

Belle Air/Third Avenue Green Street..... 162

Large Shopping Mall Area..... 164

IN CONCLUSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS..... 166

APPENDICES..... 168

Appendix A: Further Resources..... 168

Appendix B: Potential Green Street and Parking Lot Constraints Survey 170

Appendix C: The Physical Conditions in San Mateo County..... 172