



# Resilient San Carlos Schoolyards Project

## SMCWPPP C.3 Workshop

Aug 18, 2021

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City/County Association of Governments of San  
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SCSDk8.org



## Background

- C/CAG was awarded a California Resilience Challenge Grant administered by the Bay Area Council to develop resilient schoolyard greening concept plans for schools in San Carlos
- Focus on water resilience in the face of climate change, addressing water quality/volume, heat impacts, lack of tree canopy/shading and stormwater as a resource
- Build local resilience and a shared vision for adaptation and resilience to climate threats through diverse and replicable projects across the state



## Background

### Project-Specific Goals:

- Develop schoolyard greening concept plans for schools in San Carlos School District
  - Multi-benefit greening elements
  - Connections to curricula
- Engage school stakeholders in a participatory process to support concepts and future efforts
- Advance partnerships with school stakeholders





# Working with Schools



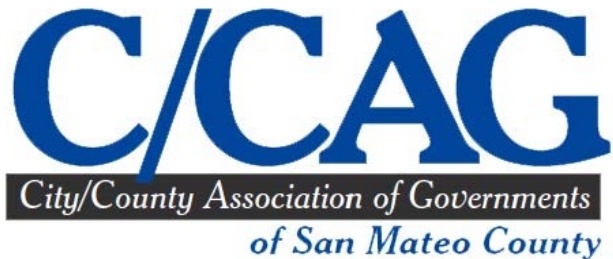


# Working with Schools

## Curriculum/Education

- SMCOE – [Schools For a Sustainable Future Conference](#)
- San Mateo Environmental Literacy Collaborative – [Sustainable Watersheds Teacher Fellowship](#)
- SMCWPPP [teacher toolkit](#) and presentations





# Working with Schools

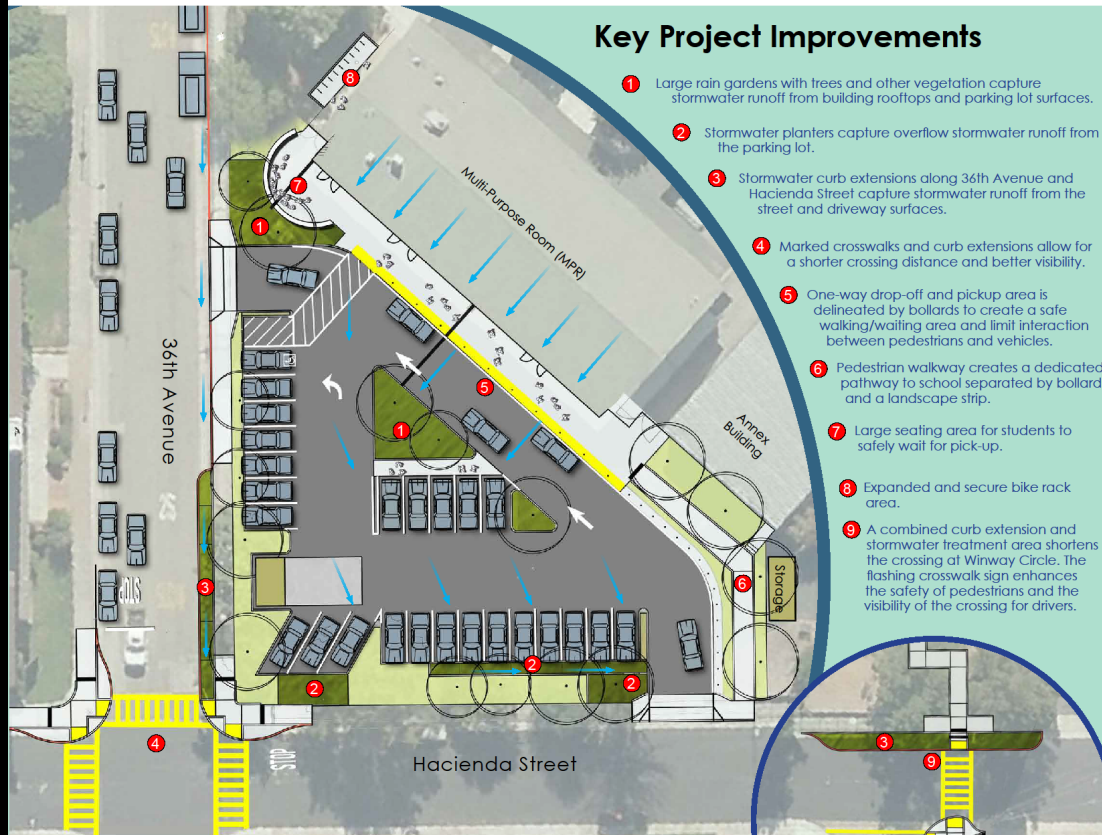


## Site Improvements

- Tierra Linda Middle School – San Carlos
- Rain barrel and rain garden 2020
- Laurel Elementary
- Green Infrastructure Design Guide:  
[www.flowstobay.org/gidg](http://www.flowstobay.org/gidg)

# Laurel Elementary School

## A Sustainable Stormwater and Safe Routes to School Demonstration Project



### Key Project Improvements

- 1 Large rain gardens with trees and other vegetation capture stormwater runoff from building rooftops and parking lot surfaces.
- 2 Stormwater planters capture overflow stormwater runoff from the parking lot.
- 3 Stormwater curb extensions along 36th Avenue and Hacienda Street capture stormwater runoff from the street and driveway surfaces.
- 4 Marked crosswalks and curb extensions allow for a shorter crossing distance and better visibility.
- 5 One-way drop-off and pickup area is delineated by bollards to create a safe walking/waiting area and limit interaction between pedestrians and vehicles.
- 6 Pedestrian walkway creates a dedicated pathway to school separated by bollards and a landscape strip.
- 7 Large seating area for students to safely wait for pick-up.
- 8 Expanded and secure bike rack area.
- 9 A combined curb extension and stormwater treatment area shortens the crossing at Winway Circle. The flashing crosswalk sign enhances the safety of pedestrians and the visibility of the crossing for drivers.

### When It Rains

Pollutants that accumulate on streets and parking lots, including oil, vehicle fluids, and trash, get washed into our storm drain system and flow directly to Laurel Creek and then San Francisco Bay. These pollutants are harmful to plants and animals living in our creeks and the Bay. The green landscaped areas you see in the parking lot and along the street help treat stormwater by capturing and filtering runoff through the soil and plants. The specially designed soils in the landscape allow stormwater to soak into the ground, removing pollutants and replenishing our underground water supply.

### Walking and Biking to School

Improving safety while walking and bicycling is a central mission of the Safe Routes to School Program. The new walkways, seating areas, drop-off and pick-up zone, and street crossing improvements provide a safer environment for parents, teachers, and students at Laurel Elementary School. Walking or biking is a healthy way to get to school, reduces traffic congestion, and helps the environment by reducing pollution from vehicles. The common goal of the Safe Routes to School Program is to bring families, neighbors, school officials, and community leaders together. Every child and community deserves a safe trip to and from school.

### How Can You Help?

The new rain gardens, pathways, and parking lot improvements at Laurel Elementary have a specific function to clean stormwater runoff and provide a safe and inviting environment for students and the neighborhood. Do your part by walking or biking to school, being present and aware of pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists, and keeping the campus area clean.



This project was completed in 2015 and funded by the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County in partnership with the San Mateo-Foster City School District and the City of San Mateo. To learn more about Sustainable Stormwater and Safe Routes to School, visit [www.ccag.ca.gov](http://www.ccag.ca.gov).





# GI Design Guide





# GI Design Guide





# GI Design Guide





# Working with Schools

## Safe Routes to Schools/Green Infrastructure

- 10 Pilot Projects across the county & early demonstration project at Laurel Elementary





# Laurel Elementary – San Mateo







# Working with Schools

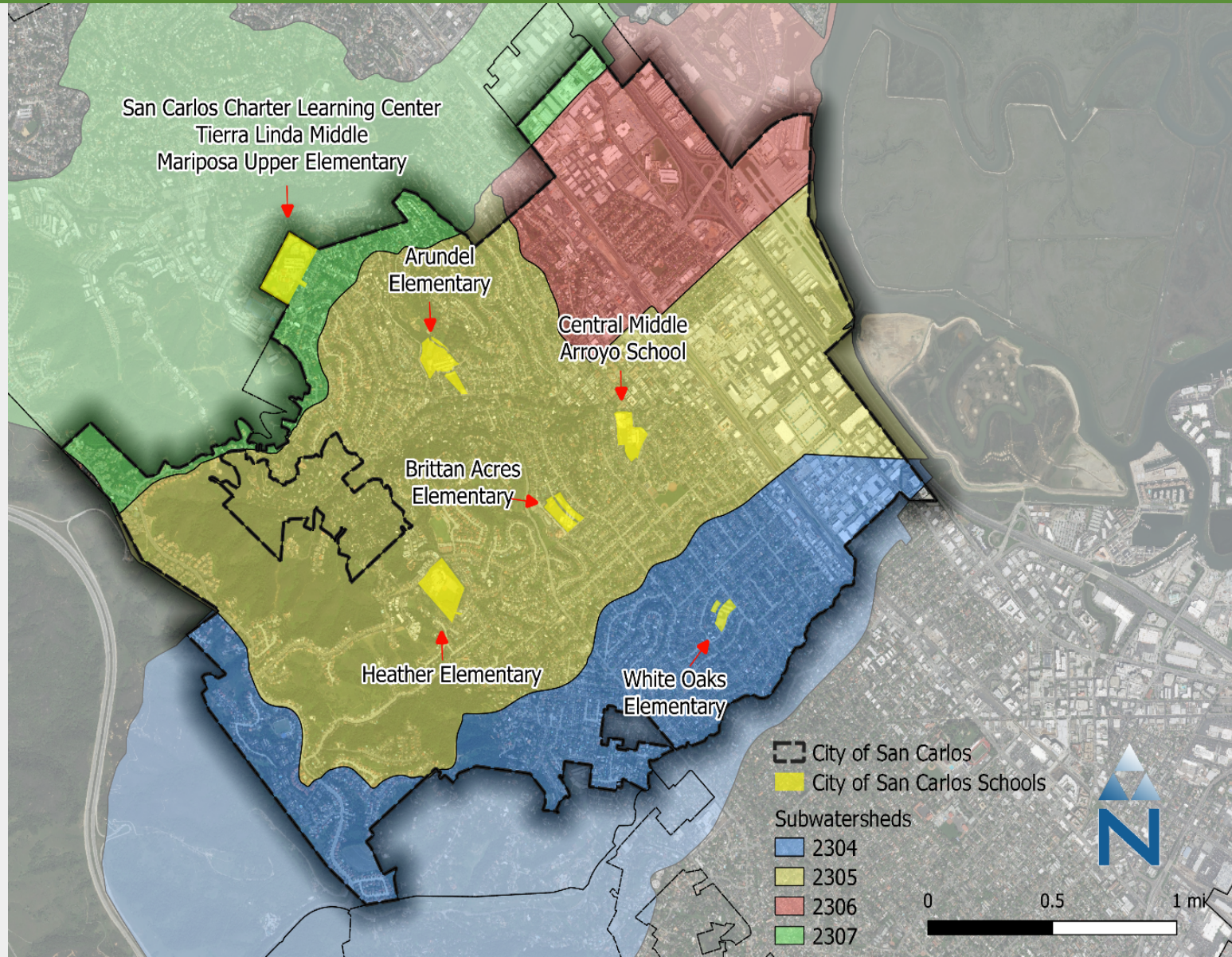


## Regional Multi-Benefit Stormwater Capture Projects

- Potential to site at schools
- Leverage funding/partnerships with municipalities
- Advancing Regional-scale Stormwater Management Project



# Scope of Work





# Scope of Work

## Tierra Linda/Mariposa/San Carlos Learning Center



# Tools for Scaling Schoolyard Greening

- Concept plans
- Resource for planning/fundraising/design/construction/maintenance
- Ongoing funding opportunities for additional district projects and coordination with SMCOE
- Potential to leverage Green Streets Stewardship Pilot Program with Master Gardeners



CAUTION: GREEN THUMBS AT WORK!

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