



City of Santa Barbara

Parks and Recreation Department

Memorandum

DATE: October 19, 2016

TO: Creeks Restoration/Water Quality Improvement Program
Citizen Advisory Committee

FROM: Cameron Benson, Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager

SUBJECT: **FISCAL YEARS 2018 – 2023 PROPOSED CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – FOR ACTION**

COMMITTEE DIRECTION

That the Committee receive a presentation about and discuss the proposed Creeks Division Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years (FY) 2018 – 2023, and recommend that the City Administrator forward the proposed program to the City Council for review and approval as part of the FY 2018-19 financial plan.

DISCUSSION

Background

The Creeks Division has an extensive capital improvement program that funds a broad range of creek restoration and water quality improvement projects and programs. The capital program is funded through Measure B revenue and grants.

Every budget cycle, the City prepares a six-year capital program. The intent of the six-year capital program is to estimate capital project schedules, milestones, and funding needs. Funding proposals in the capital program are reviewed and adopted annually within each budget cycle. This provides the opportunity to add new projects, change funding allocations, revise project schedules, and re-allocate funds among projects, if necessary. The City Council reviews the capital program as part of the budget approval process.

Existing Creeks Division Capital Program

As shown in the table below, the Creeks Division currently has 17 projects in the capital program. The projects are currently in planning, design, permitting, and implementation stages.

Fiscal Year 2017 Creeks Division Capital Projects

Project	Status
1. Bacterial Reduction Program	Research and Monitoring Plan sampling in progress. Initiating feasibility analysis for potential storm water treatment drywells.
2. Capital Replacement for Storm Water Treatment Facilities	Replacement of structures, pumps, filters, and other hardware and software in water quality capital projects as needed.
3. Storm Water Treatment Retrofit Projects	Construction of the “Streets, Sidewalks, and Alleys” storm water treatment retrofit projects will be completed during FY 2017.
4. Las Positas Creek Restoration	Design is underway, construction is anticipated to begin in summer 2017 if the design is approved, permitted, and adequate funds are available. Construction would be complete in December 2018.
5. Upper Arroyo Burro Restoration – Barger Canyon	Construction is underway with completion anticipated by December 2016.
6. Lower Arroyo Burro Restoration	Outreach, technical studies, and conceptual design are underway for the newly-acquired Arroyo Burro Open Space.
7. San Roque Creek Restoration Program	Initial funding proposed in FY 2020.
8. Mid-Arroyo Burro Restoration	Site selection, technical studies, and conceptual design are anticipated to begin in FY 2020.

9. Lighthouse Creek Restoration	Initial funding proposed in FY 2020.
10. Honda Valley Restoration	Initial outreach, planning, technical studies, and conceptual design will begin in FY 19.
11. El Estero Wetland Restoration	Conceptual design completed. Preliminary and final design postponed pending addition information gathering by the Public Works Department.
12. Mission Creek Restoration at Oak Park	Next phase of project will be designed and constructed during FY 2019 through 2020.
13. Lower Mission Creek Restoration	Technical studies are anticipated to begin in FY 2019.
14. Rattlesnake Creek Restoration	Initial funding proposed in FY 2019.
15. Old Mission Creek Restoration at West Figueroa Street	Design anticipated to resume in FY 2021.
16. Sycamore Creek Restoration	Site selection, technical studies, and conceptual design are anticipated to begin in FY 2020.
17. Andrée Clark Bird Refuge Restoration	Water quality pilot project, monitoring, and data collection are ongoing. Initial technical studies and conceptual design preparation are also underway.

Proposed Creeks FY 2018 – FY 2023 Capital Improvement Program

A number of factors were considered in the preparation of the proposed Creeks Division capital program. These include:

- Recommendations from community members, Creeks Advisory Committee members, Creek Inventory and Assessment Study, and the Watershed Existing Conditions Technical Study for new capital projects.
- Consistency with Measure B and the adopted Creeks Program Funding Guidelines.
- Water quality research and monitoring results.
- Potential funding from private foundations, ballot initiatives, and state and federal grants.
- Expected completion of some projects, and achievement of significant project milestones.
- Need to begin setting aside funds for future construction, as well as capital infrastructure replacement and repair.

In addition to the above considerations, the availability of staff resources and opportunities for collaboration with other agencies and private land owners plays a significant role in the development and prioritization of the proposed capital program.

The proposed FY 18 – FY 23 Capital Improvement Program includes the continuation of several existing projects. Funding is proposed in anticipation of moving projects forward through outreach, planning, design, permitting, and construction. In many cases, projects are considered long-term, and funding levels vary depending on anticipated progress or the need to bank funds in preparation for construction. Grant funding will be needed to fully implement the capital program within the proposed schedule. Specific grant sources have not been identified for all projects.

FY 2018 – FY 2023 Capital Project Descriptions

There are 17 capital projects proposed in the FY 18 – FY 23 Capital Improvement Program. The projects include the following:

Bacterial Reduction Program: The purpose of this project is to design and install targeted water quality treatment projects (such as dry weather diversions, drywells, vegetated swales, and active treatment) to reduce the discharge of polluted water to creeks in Santa Barbara. Funding for the next 6-year capital program will allow for the development of two to three new projects (design, permitting, and construction). Grant funds could assist with project construction costs.

Capital Replacement for Storm Water Treatment Facilities: The purpose of this project is to set aside funds for the repair and replacement of structures, pumps, filters, and other hardware and software installed in water quality improvement capital projects.

Storm Water Treatment Retrofit Projects (LID): The purpose of this project is to design, and construct "Low Impact Development" (storm water-and urban runoff treatment) demonstration projects on City-owned properties to improve creek and ocean water quality. Construction of the Quarantina Street and sidewalk permeable paver project will be completed in FY 2017. Future Storm Water Treatment Retrofit Project locations will be identified in FY 2018.

Las Positas Creek Restoration Project: The purpose of this project is to design and implement a creek restoration project on lower Las Positas Creek, west of Las Positas Road. Existing and new capital funds, combined with grant funds (\$1,500,000 awarded so far), will provide adequate funding to undertake the outreach, planning, design, technical studies, environmental review, and construction of a significant creek restoration project.

Lower Arroyo Burro Restoration: The purpose of this project is to design and implement restoration projects for the Arroyo Burro riparian corridor on specified creek reaches between Cliff Drive and Modoc Road. These creek areas experience bank erosion and extensive areas of non-native vegetation. Existing funds could be utilized for acquisition, planning, design, environmental review, and permitting. Outreach and technical studies will begin in FY 17 and conceptual design is scheduled for FY 18.

Arroyo Burro Open Space Restoration Project: The purpose of this project is to design and implement a creek restoration project on City-owned property in the lower Arroyo Burro watershed. Existing and new capital funds, combined with potential grants, are expected to provide adequate funding to undertake the planning, design, technical studies, permitting and environmental review, and construction of a large restoration project.

San Roque Creek Restoration: The purpose of this project is to restore a section of San Roque Creek. Restoration could include non-native weed removal and revegetation with native plants, removal of steelhead passage barriers, biotechnical stabilization of eroding banks, removal of hard structures from the creek channel, and improvement of trails and interpretive information.

Mid-Arroyo Burro Restoration: The purpose of this project is to restore the specified reaches of the riparian corridor in the mid-Arroyo Burro watershed (between Highway 101 and Foothill Road). Restoration could include removal of hard structures from the creek channel, non-native weed removal and revegetation with native plants, biotechnical stabilization of creek banks, and improvement of trails and interpretive information.

Lighthouse Creek Restoration: The purpose of this project is to restore a section of Lighthouse Creek. Restoration could include non-native weed removal and revegetation with native plants, biotechnical stabilization of eroding banks, removal of

hard structures from the creek channel, and improvement of trails and interpretive information.

Honda Valley Restoration: The purpose of this project is to restore the riparian corridor in Honda Valley Park. Restoration could include non-native weed removal and revegetation with native plants, biotechnical stabilization of eroding banks, removal of asphalt and other hard structures from the creek channel bottom, and improvement of trails and interpretive information.

El Estero Wetland Restoration: The purpose of this project is to develop a restoration project for the El Estero wetland area that includes habitat restoration and water quality improvements. The Public Works Department is currently evaluating a potential restoration project at this location.

Mission Creek Restoration at Oak Park: The purpose of this project is to restore Mission Creek in Oak Park. Restoration could include non-native weed removal and revegetation with native plants, removal of steelhead passage barriers, biotechnical stabilization of eroding banks, removal of concrete from the creek channel, and improvement of trails and interpretive information.

Lower Mission Creek Restoration: The purpose of this project is to restore a section of lower Mission Creek. Restoration could include non-native weed removal and revegetation with native plants, removal of steelhead passage barriers, biotechnical stabilization of eroding banks, removal of hard structures from the creek channel, and interpretive information.

Rattlesnake Creek Restoration: The purpose of this project is to restore a section of Rattlesnake Creek. Restoration could include non-native weed removal and revegetation with native plants, removal of steelhead passage barriers, biotechnical stabilization of eroding banks, removal of hard structures from the creek channel, and improvement of trails and interpretive information.

Old Mission Creek at West Figueroa: This project has two primary objectives: 1) to develop a storm water detention system to reduce bacteria, sediment, and other pollutants in storm water in Old Mission Creek; and 2) to restore and enhance the riparian habitat adjacent to the creek.

Sycamore Creek Restoration: The purpose of this project is to develop a restoration project for Sycamore Creek. The project would address creek bank restoration, water quality improvement, and riparian habitat enhancement.

Andrée Clark Bird Refuge Water Quality Improvement and Habitat Restoration: The purpose of the project is to develop a comprehensive program to improve water quality and enhance native habitats of the Andrée Clark Bird Refuge. Water quality research is in progress. Technical engineering and scientific studies have been initiated that will form the basis of conceptual design options. Conceptual design is expected to be

complete in FY 2017, with permitting, environmental review, final design and construction during FY 2018-2020.

cc: Jill E. Zachary, Parks and Recreation Director