

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HALF MOON BAY

AGENDA REPORT

For meeting of: **August 20, 2019**

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

VIA: Bob Nisbet, City Manager

FROM: John Doughty, Public Works Director
Maziar Bozorginia, City Engineer

TITLE: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN STUDY SESSION

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a presentation on the City's Green Infrastructure Plan and provide comments and direction to staff.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The adopted FY 2019-20 Operating Budget has allocated funding for the City's Storm Water Program efforts, which includes development of the Green Infrastructure Plan.

STRATEGIC ELEMENT:

This action supports the Infrastructure and Environment Element of the Strategic Plan.

BACKGROUND:

The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board's Municipal Regional Permit (MRP) identifies and regulates the control of various pollutants in stormwater runoff from municipal storm drain systems throughout San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda, and Contra Costa Counties. Provision C.3.j of the MRP requires each jurisdiction subject to the MRP, including the City of Half Moon Bay, to develop a Green Infrastructure Plan (GI Plan) that demonstrates how each jurisdiction will gradually shift from traditional "gray" storm drain infrastructure—which channels polluted runoff directly into receiving waters without treatment—to a more resilient and sustainable storm drain system comprised of "green" infrastructure facilities and sustainable practices to capture, store and treat stormwater using specially designed landscape systems before the runoff enter the bay or ocean.

On May 21, 2019, the City Council adopted a resolution authorizing execution of an amendment to the professional services agreement with CSG Consultants, Inc. (consultant) for storm water support services. The amendment included support for FY 2019-20 on all matters related to the MRP, with an emphasis on the development and adoption of the City's Green Infrastructure Plan.

DISCUSSION:

On April 16, 2019, staff provided a general overview of the City's Storm Water Program and the upcoming GI Plan, which included discussion on the following elements:

- Includes a mapping and prioritization mechanism to identify and prioritize both private and public green infrastructure project opportunities;
- Identifies locations and timeframes for implementing green infrastructure, including numeric targets for retrofitting impervious areas to achieve mandated pollutant load reductions;
- Utilizes a regionally consistent process for tracking and mapping completed projects to ensure progress towards meeting the pollutant load reduction targets;
- Includes and/or reference design and construction guidelines and standard specifications and details for green infrastructure to guide and enable the completion of projects;
- Integrates with other planning efforts, including updating relevant plans, policies, codes, and ordinances to incorporate green infrastructure for stormwater management to support the implementation of project opportunities;
- Evaluates long-term funding options for design, construction, and long-term operations and maintenance, from the City and other sources;
- Incorporates any necessary legal mechanisms to enable implementation of the plan and projects within and by the City; and,
- Includes public outreach on development and implementation of the plan.

For the City to be compliant to the requirements of the MRP, the City's GI Plan must be completed and then submitted to the State Water Board in September of 2019. The approval of the GI Plan will promote the development of green infrastructure through future private and public projects within the City. Having a plan in place will help guide projects to build sustainable storm water treatment facilities which will enhance water quality into the ocean.

As part of the study session, City staff and the consultant will provide a detailed presentation of the Draft Green Infrastructure (GI) Plan and to seek comments from the City Council and community. Based on feedback received, the Draft GI Plan will be updated and brought back to City Council in September for review and approval.

As was discussed during with the City Council on May 21st, GI is a relatively new concept in storm water management. As was also discussed, the Green Infrastructure Plan is a starting point for compliance and implementation of the Regional Stormwater Permit; the lack of absolutes and prescriptive solutions is intentional. The Draft Plan includes a number of components that are bulleted above; however, the Draft Plan is not intended to be a static document, but one that encourages "out-of-the-box" thinking, allows for reasoned experimentation and flexibility to integrate evolving "best practices".

ATTACHMENTS:

[Draft Green Infrastructure Plan](#)