

North Richmond Watershed Connections

A Collaborative Urban Greening and GI Project and Grant by the State Coastal Conservancy

*A presentation To the Transportation, Water, & Infrastructure Committee
by John Steere, Contra Costa County Watershed Program
July 18, 2019*



North Richmond Watershed Connections

A State Coastal Conservancy (Prop 1) funded grant

Multi-benefit, urban greening project and partnership of:

- Contra Costa County (CCC) – Watershed Program
- CCC Transportation Engineering Division
- The Watershed Project (TWP)
- Urban Tilth





Regional Map: North Richmond and Vicinity

North Richmond Watershed Connections: a partnership project of the Contra Costa County Watershed Program and Transportation Engineering, the Watershed Project, and Urban Tilth

N. Richmond Watershed Connections Project (Watershed Connections) Summary

Knits together multi-benefit green infrastructure, urban greening and place-making features in a disadvantaged community

Benefits include:

- Improved water quality/health of San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks
- Expanded urban forest
- Reduced heat islands
- Enhanced pride of place/sense of place
- Increased community awareness and access to local natural resources with a 1.75-mile long “Walkable Watersheds” urban trail



North Richmond Watershed Connections: a partnership project of the Contra Costa County Watershed Program and Transportation Engineering, the Watershed Project, and Urban Tilth

Watershed Connections comprised of 3 subprojects

- **Fred Jackson Way Rain Gardens** adjacent to the North Richmond Urban Farm (*Lead: Urban Tilth*)
- **First Mile/Last Mile Tree Installations**, a green/sustainable streets project (*Lead: Contra Costa County Public Works Dept.–Transportation Engineering*)
- **Clean and Green Adopt-a-Tree, Adopt-a-Block Cleanups and Watershed Connections Route** (*Lead: The Watershed Project and County Watershed Program*)

1. Fred Jackson Way Rain Gardens

2. First Mile/Last Mile Tree Installations

3. Clean and Green Adopt-a-Tree, Adopt-a-Block Cleanups and

LEGEND

- Water/Water Connections Reader
- Urban Tilt / North Richmond Parks Subproject
- Contra Costa County First Mile/Last Mile Subproject
- The Watershed Project Area - a Tree Subproject
- Connecting Natural & Cultural Features
- Urban Tilt - North Richmond Urban Farm
- North Richmond Ball Park (City of Richmond)
- Verde Elementary School / School District
- Wildcat Creek / Openlands Trail
- First & Market Community System
- Macedonia Baptist Church
- Community Center with Native Habitat Garden
- Senior Apartments
- Community Housing Development
- Parkside Middle School
- Shields-Reid Park (City of Richmond)
- San Pablo Creek
- Project Plaza with Native Habitat Garden
- North Richmond Ministry Center Church
- Transit Stops (Blue)
- Safe Routes to Schools (Walking School Bus)
- Concrete Trail - Complete
- Concrete Trail - Incomplete
- Unincorporated North Richmond Boundary

Fred Jackson Way Rain Gardens

Project Lead: Urban Tilt

- Urban Greening: 8 Trees, 3,475 s.f. planting area with native species
- Stormwater Management: 3,475 s.f. rain garden treats 3,110,400 gallons of stormwater annually

Fred Jackson Way First Mile/Last Mile Urban Greening

Project Lead: Contra Costa County Public Works Department

- Urban Greening: 37 Trees (shown conceptually, see design plan for layout)

This is Contra Costa County's Department of Public Works' Project. This 4.6-mile project includes 400 accessible sidewalks with street trees along 0.5-mile stretches from Grove Avenue to Wildcat Creek Trail. It includes an additional 0.3 miles, north to Shields-Reid Park to San Pablo Creek and Class II bike lanes for a total of 0.8 miles of accessible sidewalks and bicycle routes.

Please say that again

Clean & Green Adopt-a-Tree Program & Walkable Watersheds

Project Lead: The Watershed Project

- Urban Greening: Adopt-a-Tree Program / 50 Trees (refer to design plan for opportunity sites)
- Walkable Watersheds: 4 interpretive features, 15 wayfinding markers, painted pavements, art
- Water Quality / Litter Reduction: 3 "jewel boxes" (recycling receptacles with mosaic art)

NORTH RICHMOND WATERSHED CONNECTIONS
MULTI-BENEFIT URBAN GREENING DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

URBAN TILT
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Contra Costa County
Public Works
Department

the watershed project

North Richmond Watershed Connections: a partnership project of the Contra Costa County Watershed Program and Transportation Engineering, the Watershed Project, and Urban Tilt

Need for the Project

- **North Richmond** faces many environmental, economic, and social challenges.
- Built on historic wetland, plagued by poor infrastructure, frequently inundated by floods until 1980s.
- Many streets have no sidewalks some lined with drainage ditches, strewn with trash.
- Stormwater flows untreated into San Pablo and Wildcat creeks
- Proximity to West Contra Costa Sanitary Landfill has increased illegal dumping.
- Few street trees as result of haphazard 1940s era residential development patterns, red-lining



Foundations of Project

Builds on existing community based cleaning and greening initiatives *in North Richmond (NR)*

- 1) Three community gardens and two native habitat gardens
- 2) The NR “Green Team” afterschool watershed curriculum and Creek (Neighborhood House of NR)
- 3) TWP’s “Bye Bye Basura” trash abatement curriculum at Verde School
- 4) The “NR community-based outreach and cleaning program” TWP’s “Adopt-a-Block” funded by the County Watershed Program



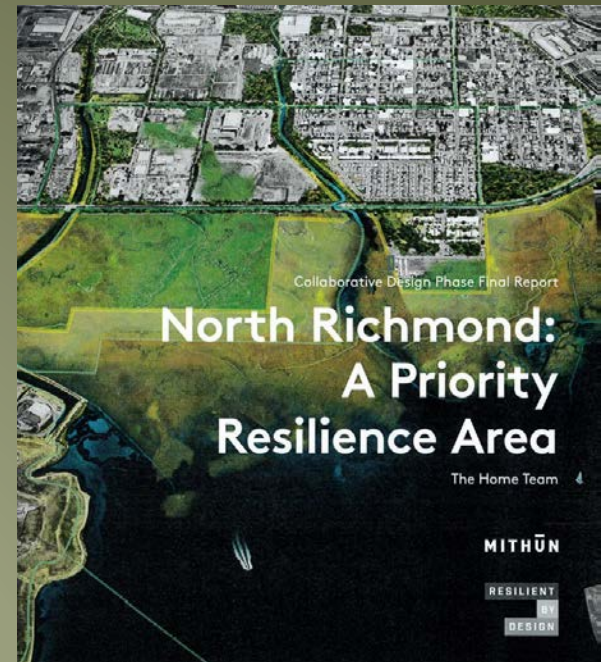
North Richmond Watershed Connections: a partnership project of the Contra Costa County Watershed Program and Transportation Engineering, the Watershed Project, and Urban Tilth

Planning and Outreach Foundations of Project

Components identified in the NR Urban Greening and Resiliency Plan Framework Map identified by 36 community, NGO, and agency stakeholders in April 2016

Complements and builds on public involvement through other planning initiatives

- *Resilient by Design;*
- *North Richmond Shoreline Visioning Plan*



North Richmond Watershed Connections: a partnership project of the Contra Costa County Watershed Program and Transportation Engineering, the Watershed Project, and Urban Tilth

1. Fred Jackson Way Rain Gardens

2. First Mile/Last Mile Tree Installations

3. Clean and Green Adopt-a-Tree, Adopt-a-Block Cleanups and

Fred Jackson Way Rain Gardens

Project Lead: Urban Tilth

- Urban Greening:** 6 Trees, 3,475 s.f. planting area with native species
- Stormwater Management:** 3,475 s.f. rain-garden treets 3,110,400 gallons of stormwater annually

Fred Jackson Way First Mile/Last Mile Urban Greening

Project Lead: Contra Costa County Public Works Department

Urban Greening: 37 Trees (shown conceptually, see design plan for layout)

This is a Contra Costa County Department of Public Works Project. The CPW landscape project includes 436 accessible wheelchair with street lighting & tactile paving from Grove Avenue to Wilcox Creek Trail. It includes an additional 123 trees, walkways to 16 sidewalk bike to carshare stations and 100 bike lanes for a total of 6.6 miles of accessible pedestrian and bicycle routes.

Please say that again

Clean & Green Adopt-a-Tree Program & Walkable Watersheds

Project Lead: The Watershed Project

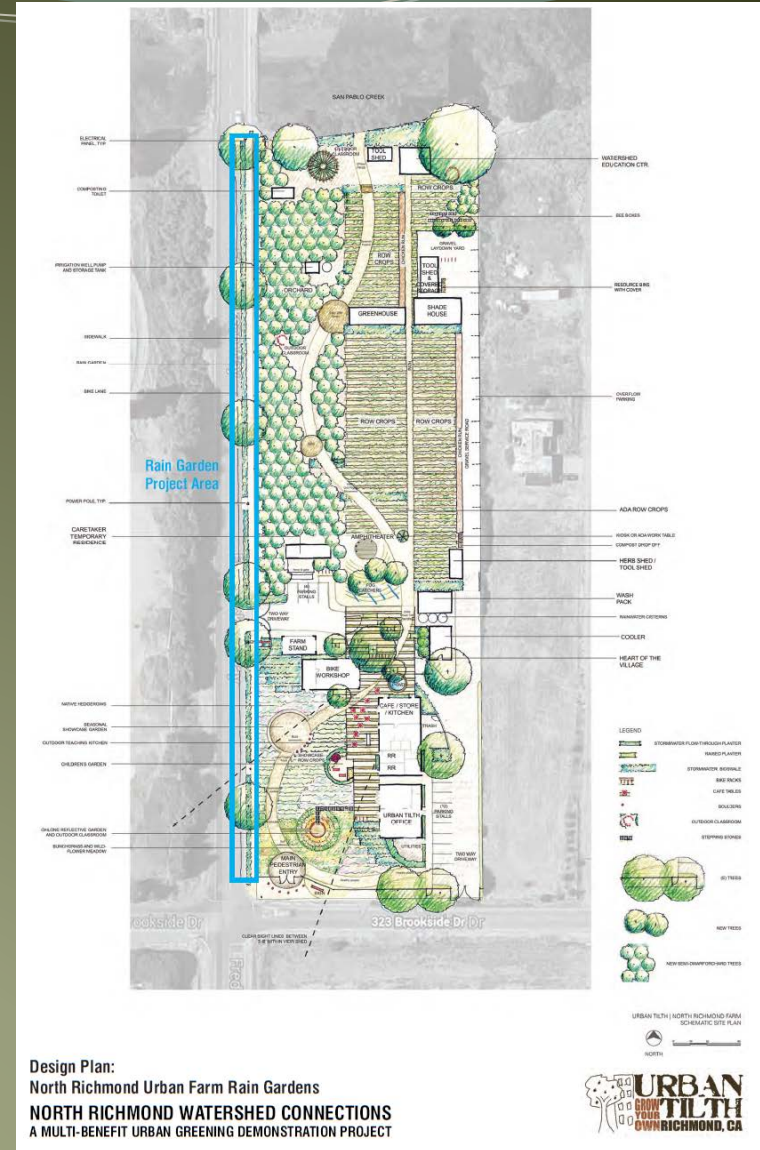
- Urban Greening:** Adopt-a-Tree Program / 50 Trees (refer to design plan for opportunity sites)
- Walkable Watersheds:** 4 interpretive features, 15 wayfinding markers, painted pavements, art
- Water Quality / Litter Reduction:** 3 "jewel boxes" (litter recycling receptacles with mosaic art)

NORTH RICHMOND WATERSHED CONNECTIONS
MULTI-BENEFIT URBAN GREENING DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

North Richmond Watershed Connections: a partnership project of the Contra Costa County Watershed Program and Transportation Engineering, the Watershed Project, and Urban Tilth

Fred Jackson Way Rain Gardens (Urban Tilth)

- Replaces existing roadside drainage ditches along approximately 700 feet of Fred Jackson Way with bioretention facilities and road frontage improvements
- Rain garden and native vegetation to capture and treat over 3 million gallons urban runoff annually, removing trash and pollutants before discharge to San Pablo Creek.



North Richmond Watershed Connections: a partnership project of the Contra Costa County Watershed Program and Transportation Engineering, the Watershed Project, and Urban Tilth



— FRED JACKSON WAY — | BIKE PATH | — RAIN GARDEN — | SIDEWALK — | — URBAN TILTH NORTH RICHMOND FARM —

SECTION ELEVATION

URBAN TILTH RAIN GARDEN - City of Richmond, CA

23 APRIL 2018

Restoration Design Group, Inc.



First Mile/Last Mile Tree Installations

(Contra Costa Co. PWD - Transportation Engineering and Watershed Program).

- Leverages federal Active Transportation Project grant funding for bike-ped infrastructure to improve community access along a primary travel corridor.
- Includes planting of 37 Street trees, + 2 potential bulb outs
- Community outreach and engagement to select the street tree species
- Installation of an automated irrigation system to establish the trees, tree stakes and grates



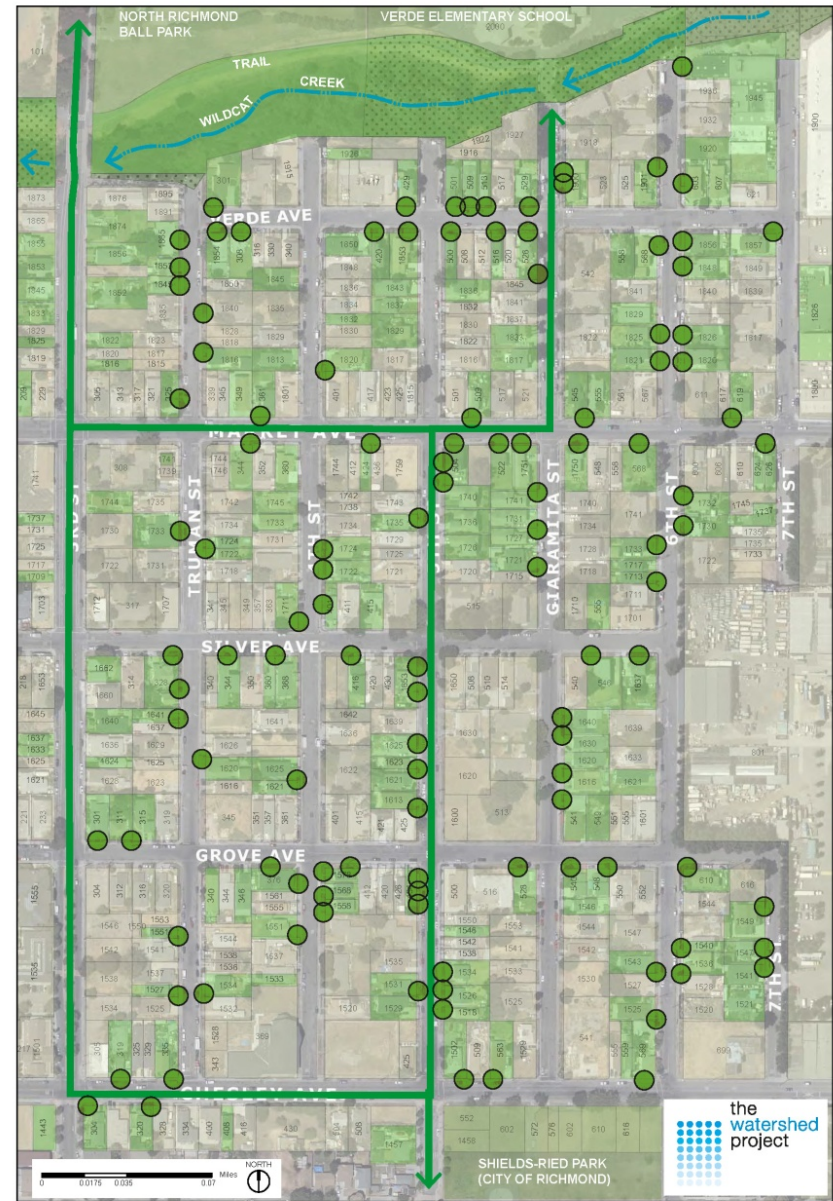
North Richmond Watershed Connections: a partnership project of the Contra Costa County Watershed Program and Transportation Engineering, the Watershed Project, and Urban Tilth

Clean and Green Adopt-a-Tree



Redwood trees planted at North Richmond Ballpark

Community outreach to identify suitable locations for tree planting (public or private space) and drought-tolerant native plant gardens






Design Plan:
Clean and Green Adopt-A-Tree Program
NORTH RICHMOND WATERSHED CONNECTIONS
A MULTI-BENEFIT URBAN GREENING DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

- Legend**
-  Assumed Owner Occupied
 -  Assumed Non-Owner Occupied
 -  Public Parks and Open Space
 -  Adopt-a-Tree Opportunity Site
118 potential locations
50 adopt-a-trees requested
 -  Watershed Connections Route

Placemaking & Wayfinding: Connecting People to Place

Clean & Green Adopt-a-Tree Program & Walkable Watersheds

Project Lead: The Watershed Project

-  Urban Greening: Adopt-a-Tree Program / 50 Trees (refer to design plan for opportunity sites)
-  Walkable Watersheds: 4 interpretive features, 15 wayfinding markers, painted pavements, art
-  Water Quality / Litter Reduction: 3 "jewel boxes" (litter/recycling receptacles with mosaic art)



Complete Streets
integrates urban greening, sustainable features, stormwater management and active transportation

Trail Signage
encourages active transportation and mode choice; improves bicycle safety

Pavement Marking
playful stormwater art highlights the connection between clean streets and water quality

Adopt-a-Tree Program
a sustainable program to plant street trees in collaboration with home owners and maintain them

Wayfinding & Distance Markers
improves walkability; encourages exercise; identifies safe routes; calls out multi-benefit green infrastructure features

Interpretive Signage
references natural and cultural features; promotes watershed awareness



Trail Signage



Pavement Marking



Jewel Box Litter/Recycling



Utility Box Art



Wayfinding & Distance Markers



Interpretive Signage small



Interpretive Signage large



- Mileage and directional signs to Wildcat Creek Marsh, North Richmond Shoreline, Bay Trail
- Jewel boxes depicting historical ecology of Wildcat Creek watershed

Budget

Task #	Task	REQUEST State Coastal Conservancy (SCC)	MATCHING FUNDS		Total Cost
			Applicant Funding (includes in-kind)	Other Funds	
1	Fred Jackson Way Rain Gardens	\$422,000	\$0	\$22,000	\$443,000
2	First Mile/Last Mile Tree Installations	\$234,000	\$0	\$224,000	\$458,000
3	Adopt-a-Tree Program	\$70,000	\$0	\$0	\$70,000
4	Clean and Green Adopt-a-Block	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000
5	Wayfinding, interpretive	\$80,000	\$0	\$0	\$80,000
6	Project Administration,	\$78,400	\$50,000	\$0	\$78,400
TOTAL		\$884,000	\$150,000	\$224,000	\$1,301,000

Next Steps and Project Timeframe

Recommendation: 1) Accept report and refer to the BOS for the resolution to accept grant from the SCC

Estimated Start and End Dates: October 1, 2019 - October 1, 2023 (SCC Awards grant on August 18, '19)

Comments and questions...



North Richmond Watershed Connections: a partnership project of the Contra Costa County Watershed Program and Transportation Engineering, the Watershed Project, and Urban Tilth