

Annual Reporting for FY 2019-2020

**Regional Supplement for
New Development and Redevelopment**

**San Francisco Bay Area
Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit**



September 2020



B A S M A A

Alameda Countywide
Clean Water Program

Contra Costa
Clean Water Program

Fairfield-Suisun
Urban Runoff
Management Program

Marin County
Stormwater Pollution
Prevention Program

Napa Countywide
Stormwater Pollution
Prevention Program

San Mateo Countywide
Water Pollution
Prevention Program

Santa Clara Valley
Urban Runoff Pollution
Prevention Program

Sonoma County
Water Agency

Vallejo Flood &
Wastewater District

Bay Area

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To Whom It May Concern:

We certify under penalty of law that this document was prepared under our direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on our inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of our knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. We are aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

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INTRODUCTION

This Regional Supplement has been prepared to report on regionally implemented activities complying with portions of the Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit (MRP), issued to 76 municipalities and special districts (Permittees) by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board). The Regional Supplement covers new development and redevelopment activities related to the following MRP provision:

- C.3.j.iii. Participate in Processes to Promote Green Infrastructure.

These regionally implemented activities are conducted under the auspices of the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization comprised of the municipal stormwater programs in the San Francisco Bay Area. Most of the 2019-20 annual reporting requirements of the specific MRP Provisions covered in this Supplement are completely met by BASMAA Regional Project activities, except where otherwise noted herein or by Permittees in their reports. Scopes, budgets and contracting or in-kind project implementation mechanisms for BASMAA Regional Projects follow BASMAA's Operational Policies and Procedures as approved by the BASMAA Board of Directors. MRP Permittees, through their program representatives on the Board of Directors and its committees, collaboratively authorize and participate in BASMAA Regional Projects or Regional Tasks. Depending on the Regional Project or Task, either all BASMAA members or Phase I programs that are subject to the MRP share regional costs.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

C.3.j.iii. Participation in Processes to Promote Green Infrastructure

This provision requires:

(1) The Permittees shall, individually or collectively, track processes, assemble and submit information, and provide informational materials and presentations as needed to assist relevant regional, State, and federal agencies to plan, design, and fund incorporation of green infrastructure measures into local infrastructure projects, including transportation projects. Issues to be addressed include coordinating the timing of funding from different sources, changes to standard designs and design criteria, ranking and prioritizing projects for funding, and implementation of cooperative in-lieu programs.

The BASMAA activities described in this section provide compliance for MRP Permittees with this provision. This section describes: 1) activities and accomplishments during FY 19-20; and 2) a plan and schedule for new and ongoing efforts to participate in processes to promote green infrastructure (GI).

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Activities and Accomplishments during FY 19-20

Grant – Urban Greening Bay Area

Urban Greening Bay Area is a large-scale, grant-funded effort to re-envision Bay Area urban landscapes to develop stormwater-friendly dense, green urban infrastructure that addresses challenges associated with climate change, infiltrates or captures stormwater and pollutants near their sources, and in turn, promotes improved water quality in San Francisco Bay. *Urban Greening Bay Area* is funded by an EPA Water Quality Improvement Fund grant awarded to the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), a joint powers agency acting on behalf of the San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP), a program of ABAG. The term of the *Urban Greening Bay Area* grant project was July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018, but the term was extended to December 31, 2020 and additional funding provided to support follow-up implementation.

BASMAA is one of the subrecipients of the grant and took the lead on two of the grant project tasks – a Regional Green Infrastructure Roundtable process and a Design Charrette, both of which were implemented between May 2016 and May 2018.

The Regional Roundtable was a two-year process, with work groups as needed, to identify and develop a list of recommendations for integrating GI and stormwater management funding and investments with future climate change and transportation investments within the region. The Roundtable included convening meetings with local, regional, and state stakeholders, agencies, elected officials, and staff to produce draft and final task reports that identified and recommended possible legislative fixes, agency agreements, consolidated funding mechanisms, and other means and actions as appropriate. The Roundtable used innovative participatory processes that included key experts, regulators, decision-makers, and other stakeholders to share information, solicit and discuss ideas and solutions, and to identify next steps (i.e., develop a “roadmap”). The [Final Roadmap of Funding Solutions for Sustainable Streets](#) was completed in April 2018. Following completion of the Roadmap, BASMAA and SFEP formed a Roadmap Committee to guide future implementation of the Roadmap.

The Design Charrette task involved coordinating with the cities of San Mateo and Sunnyvale to conduct a Bay Area design charrette to develop cost-effective and innovative “typical” designs for integrating GI with bicycle and pedestrian improvements at roadway intersections. The overall goal of developing standardized, transferable designs was to make progress in addressing the high cost of design, implementation, operations, and maintenance that inhibits the widespread use of GI and LID features.

Work products of the Urban Greening Bay Area grant are posted at: <http://www.sfestuary.org/urban-greening-bay-area/#planning> . The Planning section includes documents related to the Regional Roundtable and the Implementation section includes documents related to the Design Charrette.

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During FY 19-20, BASMAA's participation in activities to implement the Roadmap of Funding Solutions for Sustainable Streets included:

- Continued coordination with transportation agencies – including the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the California Transportation Commission (CTC), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – to clarify GI eligibility in federal, regional, and state transportation grant programs (Roadmap Specific Actions 1-1, 1-2, and 1-3).
- In November 2019, BASMAA transmitted a memorandum to the above-listed regional and state agencies, documenting the eligibility of GI in applicable regional, state and federal transportation funding programs and requesting the agencies' participation in developing fact sheets that clarify eligibility for sustainable streets in two federal transportation funding programs – the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STP) and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) – as well as the California Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program.
- On February 4, 2020, BASMAA representatives met with staff from MTC and Caltrans District 4 (the Caltrans District for the nine-county Bay Area), to develop an approach for a regional fact sheet that focuses on the eligibility of GI in projects funded by the STP and CMAQ through the One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) program administered by MTC. The draft regional fact sheet was reviewed by MTC staff and is scheduled to be finalized by September 2020.
- On February 10, 2020, BASMAA held a conference call with CTC staff to develop an approach for a statewide fact sheet that focuses on the eligibility of GI in projects funded by Senate Bill 1. CTC staff provided comments on the draft statewide fact sheet but deferred further action pending documentation that there is interest in this topic beyond the San Francisco Bay Area. To address that information need, BASMAA drafted an online survey initially intended for distribution to stormwater programs within California. However, before it was distributed, BASMAA worked with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) staff liaison to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to have FHWA staff review BASMAA's November 2019 research memorandum. Similar to the CTC, FHWA questioned whether this issue is of interest beyond the San Francisco Bay Area and California. Accordingly, BASMAA is updating the draft online survey for national distribution through the Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange. The SB 1 fact sheet is scheduled to be finalized by December 2020.

Other Participation and Comments

In addition to the *Urban Greening Bay Area* grant efforts described above, Countywide Program representatives participated in the following forums related to GI promotion:

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- Matthew Fabry (C/CAG, representing SMCWPPP and BASMAA) continued to attend a series of meetings with RWQCB, BAFPA, SFEP, and MTC to discuss ways to integrate stormwater issues into MTC efforts, including Plan Bay Area. To-date, five meetings have been conducted (March 19, 2019; June 12, 2019; July 16, 2019; October 15, 2019; and January 21, 2020). A meeting scheduled for early April 2020 was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Matthew Fabry (C/CAG, representing SMCWPPP) participated in the ReNUWit “Stormwater for Water Supply” workshop on July 25-26, 2019, and presented information on efforts to manage stormwater via GI, including larger regional facilities that can help recharge groundwater. This workshop was part of a larger effort by ReNUWit to create a “Bay Area One Water Network.” He also participated as a panelist during a follow-on one-hour webinar on July 6, 2020. Relevant information can be found at www.bayareawater.org.
- Matthew Fabry (C/CAG, representing SMCWPPP) and Jill Bicknell (EOA, representing SCVURPPP) participated in ongoing meetings of the organization Transportation Choices for Sustainable Communities, a research and policy institute whose mission is to “advance understanding and support for sustainable transportation as an essential component of livable communities and cities,” to plan a “Green Streets for Sustainable Communities” symposium. The event was originally scheduled for March 2020, and has now been rescheduled as a three-day virtual series of seminars on September and October 2020. The symposium will focus on multi-benefit approaches to rethinking streets, including Complete Streets, Green Streets, creating eco-corridors, and as people habitat for public gathering and interaction. Details can be found at <http://transportchoice.org/events/>.
- Matthew Fabry (C/CAG, representing SMCWPPP) participated in USEPA’s Environmental Finance Advisory Board (EFAB) Stormwater Finance Workgroup to respond to a request from Congress in accordance with Section 4101 of the America’s Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) for a report looking at funding sources for stormwater and the adequacy of those sources to support the needs of stormwater management programs. The workgroup met twice – in April and October 2019 and held two public teleconferences in December 2019. On March 30, 2020, EFAB submitted its report, “[Evaluating Stormwater Infrastructure Funding and Financing](#)”, to USEPA, which accepted the report on July 16, 2020 as satisfying the requirements of Section 4101 of AWIA.

Plan for New and Ongoing Efforts

The plan provided below shows how BASMAA will support its member agencies to collectively and regionally implement the requirements of MRP Provision C.3.j.iii during FY 20-21 and through the remainder of the current permit term. The requirements of Provision C.3.j.iii may change in the reissued MRP and may affect the planning and scheduling of participation in the promotion of GI during the next permit term.

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Continue Ongoing Efforts to Participate in Processes to Promote GI

During FY 20-21 and through the end of the permit term for the current MRP (December 31, 2020 or later if extended), BASMAA will continue ongoing efforts to participate in processes to promote GI as described below.

Urban Greening Bay Area. BASMAA will continue to participate in the Urban Greening Bay Area Project's ongoing activities with regard to the implementation of prioritized specific actions in the 2018 Roadmap of Funding Solutions for Sustainable Streets (Roadmap). The Roadmap identifies specific actions to improve the funding of projects that include both complete streets improvements and GI, and is intended to assist relevant regional, State, and federal agencies to plan, design, and fund incorporation of GI measures into local infrastructure projects, including transportation projects. Various specific actions included in the Roadmap address coordinating the timing of funding from different sources, GI designs and design criteria, potential modifications of processes to evaluate projects for funding, and coordination regarding the potential development of cooperative in-lieu programs. The following ongoing activities are anticipated to continue during the period of July 2019 through December 2020:

- O-1. Complete the ongoing coordination with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Caltrans to clarify GI eligibility in federal transportation grants (Roadmap Specific Action 1-1).
- O-2. Complete the preparation of a Roadmap fact sheet (Roadmap Specific Action 3-7). The fact sheet is anticipated to advise municipalities on how GI may be included in One Bay Area Grants (OBAG)-funded projects
- O-5. Continue to participate in ongoing meetings with RWQCB, BAFPA, SFEP, and MTC to discuss ways to integrate stormwater issues into MTC efforts, including Plan Bay Area.
- O-X. Complete the ongoing coordination with the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to clarify GI eligibility in the Senate Bill 1 Local Streets and Roads Program (Roadmap Specific Action 1-3).
- O-X. Conduct an online survey for national distribution through the Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange and continue coordinating with the FHWA liaison to EPA regarding the eligibility of GI in federal surface transportation programs (Roadmap Specific Action 1-1)

New Efforts to Participate in Processes to Promote GI

Between July and December 31, 2020, BASMAA may initiate the following new activities to further implement the Roadmap and participate in other ways to promote GI:

- N-X: Coordinate with MTC to develop an approach for including information about the eligibility of GI in federally funded guidance materials that MTC will

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provide to counties for OBAG's third round of funding (Roadmap Specific Action 1-2).

N-X: Coordinate with MTC to include a discussion of GI and green streets implementation in the anticipated update of Plan Bay Area (Roadmap Specific Action 3-8, Incorporate Roadmap specific actions in funding agencies' planning documents).

N-X: Coordinate with MTC regarding opportunities to present information about Sustainable Streets at statewide meetings of officials from Metropolitan Planning Organizations throughout California, in support of the ongoing coordination with MTC to clarify GI eligibility in federal transportation grants (Roadmap Specific Action 1-1), and ongoing coordination with the CTC to clarify GI eligibility in the SB 1 Local Streets and Roads Program (Roadmap Specific Action 1-3).