

**City Hall Demonsration Garden  
Response to Public Comments**



	COMMENTS	RESPONSES
	<b>Planting/Irrigation</b>	
1	Provide proposed plant list including botanical names. Mix California native and Mediterranean plants.	<i>See the proposed plant list which has been provided on the project website at <a href="http://www.srcity.org/cityhalldemogarden">www.srcity.org/cityhalldemogarden</a>. This list will meet grant and ordinance requirements. The project will prioritize and install California native plants that are low water use, low maintenance, locally available, adapted to the local climate, and provide long-term performance. The plant list is predominantly composed of California native and Mediterranean plant species. It was developed by the project design team based on feedback via a public design charrette, public comments, and in collaboration with City's Recreation and Parks Department who will be responsible for maintaining the landscape.</i>
2	Clearly label plants in the demonstration area.	<i>The project will include (40) plant ID tags for the selected plant species.</i>
3	Use more flowering species like Salvia, Lavender, etc.	<i>The plant list does specify some flowering plant species including <i>Iris douglasiana</i>, <i>Hesperaloe parvifolia</i>, and others that are long lasting, achieve adequate height, and provide durability and low maintenance for the civic setting. Additional flowering plants may be showcased during teaching events held at the demonstration garden.</i>
4	The Agave may be frost tender	<i>Due to the frost concern, Agave has been deleted from the plant list.</i>
5	Demonstrate how to not overplant by installing different sizes of the same species to show progression of maturity.	<i>The proposed planting plan addresses this suggestion by following the Russian River-Friendly Landscaping practice of selecting appropriate plants that can grow to their natural size in the space allotted them.</i>
6	Create a bio-diverse habitat for pollinators.	<i>The City is currently evaluating revisions to the design to incorporate additional insectary plants as well as potential habitat features that will increase biodiversity to further support pollinators, local bird populations and other wildlife.</i>
7	Use vertical height plants to cover the concrete on West demo area.	<i>The chosen landscape design for the project is intended to showcase the 1960 mid-century modern architecture and building materials of City Hall. The height of the proposed plants were also selected to maintain visibility throughout the demonstration area. However, the existing Redwood Tree grove in the West demonstration area does provide some vertical screening to the building.</i>
8	Utilize the expertise of Master Gardeners.	<i>Attendees from the Master Gardeners Association participated in the project's Design Charette and their input has been considered in the landscape design.</i>
9	Instead of laying planting out in large blocks of a single species, spread them out to create a more naturalistic look.	<i>A more natural planting layout has been provided along all of the bioswales, while a more formal blocked planting layout has been maintained throughout other portions of the project area to compliment the 1960 mid-century modern architecture of City Hall. Please see the updated design renderings on the project website at <a href="http://www.srcity.org/cityhalldemogarden">www.srcity.org/cityhalldemogarden</a> .</i>
10	Demonstrate the use of in-line drip irrigation.	<i>In-line drip irrigation will be demonstrated throughout the project area.</i>

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		<b>Hardscape/Site Elements</b>	
	11	Use local resources, supplies, materials and workforce.	<i>The project intends to specify the use of local resources, supplies, and materials to the fullest extent.</i>
	12	Replace cement paths and patio with sand or crushed gravel or turf blocks.	<i>In order to meet and maintain ADA compliance, these areas will be paved. However, the proposed walkways and gathering areas will be constructed using permeable pavement in order to minimize runoff and maximize infiltration .This will also meet the terms of the Grant Agreement.</i>
	13	Resurface metal cistern with natural material or use a plastic tank decorated with artwork.	<i>The intent of the chosen materials for the cistern is to respond to and compliment the 1960 mid-century modern architecture of City Hall. The cistern will be an iconic feature of the project based on the collaborative impact gained from the design charrette. Corrugated metal has been selected as the tank skin to reflect the authenticity of materials and function consistent with City Hall architecture.</i>
	14	Cistern size is not representative of what an average homeowner will need.	<i>The intent of the rain water system is to demonstrate the application of rain water harvesting in either a commercial or residential setting. The proposed cistern will be irrigating a calculated portion of the demonstration garden based on cistern size, weather data and plant water requirement.</i>
	15	Provide more shade at the gathering area.	<i>Canopy trees have been re-arranged at the gathering area to provide additional shade for the seating areas to the extent possible while still meeting the layout requirements necessary to use the space as an outdoor classroom.</i>
		<b>Additional Scope of Work</b>	
	16	Install LED sign at 2 <sup>nd</sup> and Santa Rosa Ave to promote meetings.	<i>This grant funded project stipulates a specific scope of work that must be completed in order to secure funding from the State Water Resources Control Board. While many great ideas have been suggested, these tasks are outside the scope of work and available funding for this project. However, a number of these suggestions are being considered through other City initiatives and programs. For specific questions or for more information, please contact the Project Manager Deb Lane at cityhalldemogarden@srcity.org</i>
	17	Add extra boulders along Prince Memorial Greenway.	
	18	Provide benches at West demonstration garden area.	
	19	Add more art work.	
	20	Eliminate the East parking lot.	
	21	Include cutouts in existing sidewalks to add design interest and allow additional infiltration.	
	22	Include/promote gray water use.	
	23	Remove some of the Redwood and Liquidambar trees in the East parking lot.	
	24	Specify solar pumps.	
		<b>Miscellaneous Comments</b>	
	25	Provide lists of resources for the public.	<i>The demonstration garden will include signage throughout the project area with information and links to various resources on sustainable landscaping and storm water management.</i>
	26	I want to learn how to install and maintain swales.	<i>There are a number of resources available including the City's LID Technical Manual available at <a href="http://www.srcity.org/stormwaterLID">www.srcity.org/stormwaterLID</a>. Additionally, the City will be offering free classes utilizing the project's outdoor classroom. Topics will include storm water management and water-use efficiency. Project signage will also include educational links.</i>