Guidelines for MASTER PLAN for a GREEN STREET NETWORK

Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter
Sustainable Land Use Committee

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Example:
City of San Mateo

Green Streets Network

“Streets are a huge public asset that should be more imaginatively managed for greater benefit…”
1. Identify Open Space: existing parks & creeks
2. Add a 10-minute walkshed around existing parks

*This shows areas that lack pedestrian access to parks*
3. Plan new parks in these areas

*shown as green dots*
4. Add existing school sites
5. Overlay a connected network of pedestrian walks and bikeways

*Connect the schools, parks, civic amenities, creeks, and the Bay*
6. Plant large resilient trees along this network to provide shade

- Comfort and beauty
- Promote active lifestyle
- Improve air quality
- Hold & slow storm water
- Provide wildlife habitat
- Reduce heat island effect
- Sequester carbon

A connected network for walking & bicycling

Ecology corridors for wildlife
7. Green storm-water infrastructure is a high priority for a green street network

- Clean storm water to creeks and bay
- Rainwater used to grow the trees and plants
- Recharge groundwater
8. Create healthy Ecology /Habitat Corridors

*Use native and high habitat-value planting in storm water bioswales*

- *Trees*
- *Shrubs*
- *Groundcovers*

Improve the environment for birds, insects & pollinators
9. Slow down auto traffic on green streets:

- Max. speed 15-20 mph
- Block thru traffic
- 2-lane traffic max
- Narrow lane widths to 10’

Create a SAFE, slow & connected network for walking and bicycling thru the city
. Start with temporary green streets, using inexpensive and simple means

. Invite community comments

. Allow users sufficient time to get used to the changes

. Review feedback to make adjustments

. Involve multiple city departments
Active transportation reduces VMT & GHG

- Safety - top priority
- Vision Zero

Plan ahead - for significant growth in “active transportation”
Active transportation reduces VMT & GHG

- Safety - top priority
- Vision Zero

- Safe Routes to school uses green network
10. Underground utility lines along green corridors:

Aerial utility lines
- Conflict with tree canopy
- Pose a fire hazard
Provide incentives for property owners along the corridor to replant with native landscaping for habitat.
Create a policy so that city departments work together rather than in silos to
Invest in integrated solutions for our largest public asset - streets
“Sustainable Green Streets” create Resilient Communities