From Vision to Policy
Framework for policy for Green Sustainable Streets
Guidelines for
MASTER PLAN
for a
GREEN STREET NETWORK

Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter
Sustainable Land Use Committee

MARCH 12, 2020
City of San Mateo
Green Streets Network
for
General Plan Amendment
1. Identify all parks, creeks and open spaces
2. Add a 10-minute walkshed around existing parks

This shows areas that lack easy access to parks
1. Identify existing parks & creeks

2. 10 minute walk shed around existing parks

3. Plan new parks in these areas
4. Add existing schools
Connect the schools, parks, creeks, and the Bay

If there is an existing bicycle master plan, check how closely it matches and adjust as needed
6. Plant trees along streets to provide shade

Make walking and biking pleasant

Urban forests:
  . reduce heat island effect
  . sequester carbon
  . improve air quality
  . add beauty
7. Include green storm-water infrastructure
   - capture rainwater for trees and plants
   - clean pollutants
   - prevent flooding
   - recharge ground water

prioritize pedestrian-bicycle arterials for green infrastructure
8. Create Ecology /Habitat Corridors

Use native and high habitat-value planting

- Trees, Shrubs &
- Groundcovers

Enriched ecology attracts birds insects & pollinators
9. Really slow down auto traffic to 15-20mph maximum on green streets

This network is mainly for pedestrians, bicyclists, kids, seniors – not cars
Active transportation is evolving

Reduces VMT

- Healthy outcomes
- Safety - top priority
- Vision Zero streets
- Safe Routes to school

Plan for growth
10. Underground utility lines along green corridors:

Aerial utility lines
  . harm tree canopy
  . pose a fire hazard
Provide incentives for property owners along the corridor to replant with native landscaping for habitat
Invest Once

An integrated design policy yields dividends in many dimensions
Ideally ALL streets would be green and complete streets

However, Cities have to prioritize funding & timing

A connected master plan of green streets will provide benefits on many more levels
Green Streets create Sustainable & Resilient Communities