

# #5 - FRONT ENTRY GARDENS

## PROJECT SUMMARY

The project includes the replacement of existing turf with native and habitat enhancing landscapes at the front entry and surrounding FSSD Facilities. The new landscape will include biodiverse plantings for infiltration, habitat enhancement, and to create a welcoming landscape for visitors and staff.



Plan of Entry Gardens - NTS

## Project Goals

- Improve visitor and employee experience by creating outdoor use areas;
- Replace irrigated turf and ice plant at the wastewater treatment plant site;
- Increase public awareness about recycled water, native plant gardens, habitat gardens, green stormwater infrastructure, and rainwater capture and reuse; and
- Enhance habitat.

## Why? What Vulnerability Addressed?

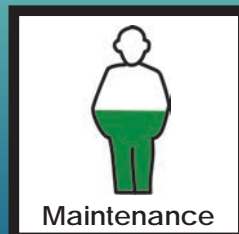
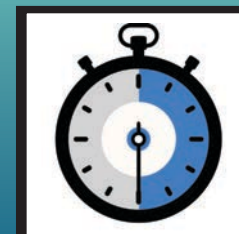
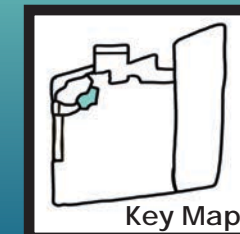
- State-wide and local drought and water supply limitations require water conservation innovations such as gardening with drought tolerant and native plant species and irrigating with recycled water and/or captured rainwater.
- Improving the quality of stormwater runoff leaving the site, using available landscape areas, improves water quality in the Suisun Marsh and San Francisco Bay, which are negatively impacted by pollutants.

## Project Benefits

- Natural Stormwater Infiltration - promotes sustainability
- Habitat enhancement
- Education and environmental awareness
- Shade
- Outdoor usable paths and seating areas
- Maximize on-site use of recycled water



## RESILIENT & GREEN MASTER PLAN



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## Climate - Mitigation & Adaptation - Potential

- MITIGATION: Carbon sequestration occurs by incorporating deep-rooted perennial plants; reduced use of fuel-powered equipment for grass cutting.
- ADAPTATION: Increasing landscape areas reduces temperatures which makes our community more livable; increasing biodiversity and pollinator species makes local farms more resilient.

## Regulatory Considerations

- Facility-specific Permits
- Local Ordinances

## Next Steps (to Implement) Major Tasks and Timeline

### Years 1-3:

- Confirm project specific development areas and prepare a development plan, including:
  - Landscape and Engineering Plan
  - Construction Documents
  - Cost Estimates
  - Secure project funding
- Collaborate with community partners to install the front entry gardens with FSSD employees and community.

## Image Key

1. Diverse mixes of native and habitat diverse plants allow for multiple pollinators. Specialty gardens may include a "white blooming garden" or similar specific planting themes
2. Native plants such as Salvia species, educate visitors about pollinators, native plant uses and connection with culture and habitat
3. Succulents and grasses combine as an example of low maintenance and water conserving plantings tolerant of recycled water

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## Long-term O&M Considerations

Long term maintenance will be required, possible upgrade of irrigation system, intensive removal of invasive ice-plant and turf grass, long term weed abatement and monthly maintenance (mowing and weeding). Monthly maintenance of the gardens.

## Planning Level Cost Estimate

1. Landscape Plans Design and Planning Fees: \$75,000
2. Capital Cost = \$350,000
3. Operations & Maintenance = ~\$75,000 annually (dedicated staff)

## Grant Funding Potential / Ideas

- Solano County Water Agency, Water Efficient Landscape Rebate Program

## Potential Project Partners

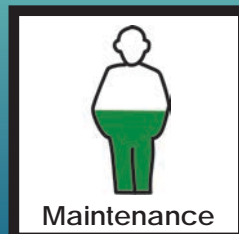
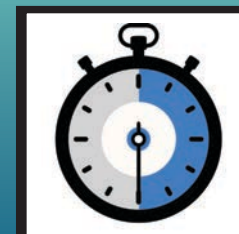
- Sustainable Solano
- Suisun Resource Conservation District
- Solano Resource Conservation District
- California Conservation Corps
- Solano Community College

## Image Key

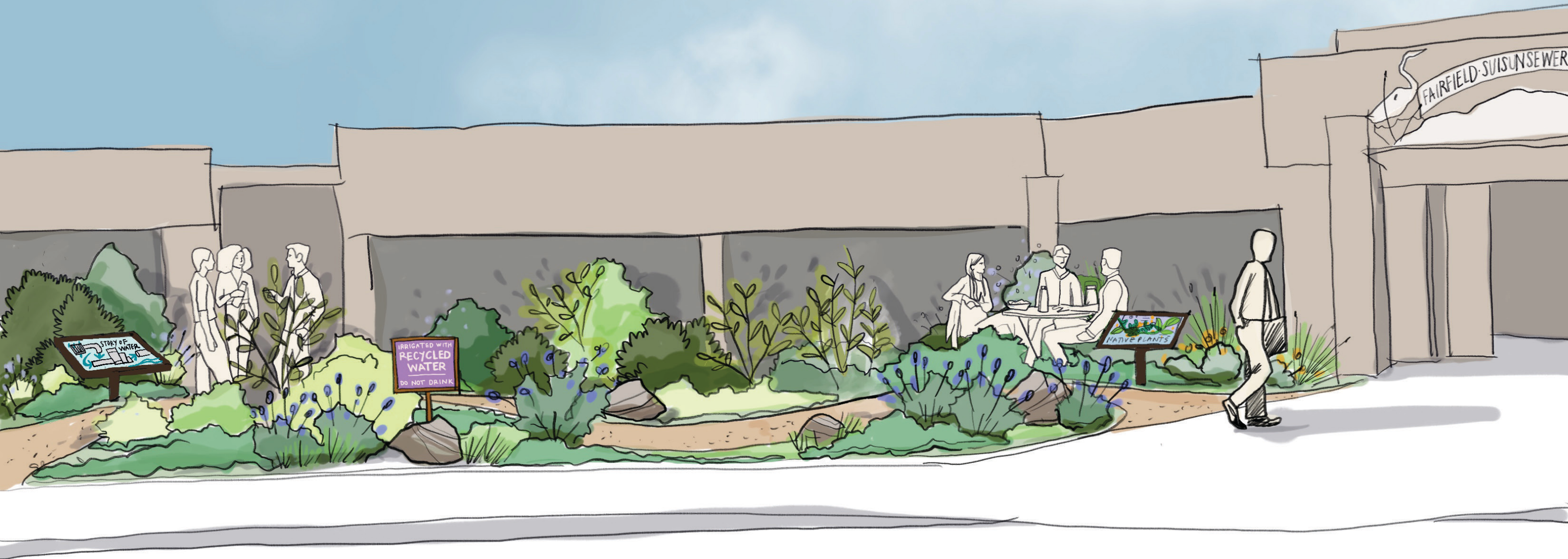
1. Rainwater cisterns allow for simple on-site water collection from roof run off and may be used for irrigation
2. Turf alternatives such as no-mow sod and native grasses may be an alternative to traditional sod and installed in infiltration basins
3. Infiltration gardens allow for stormwater runoff to infiltrate into the soil before entering the storm drain system
4. Parking lot retrofits allow for stormwater runoff to enter infiltration planters with shade trees reduce temperatures and increase site cooling



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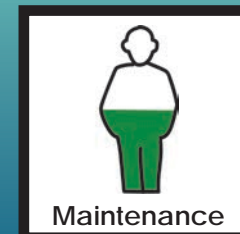
View of Front Entry Gardens



## RESILIENT & GREEN MASTER PLAN



Key Map



Maintenance