Green Infrastructure Grant Program Applicant Workshop
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
August 24, 2022
Housekeeping

1) Webinar recording will be posted to the website

2) Asking Questions
   • Submit your questions in the Q&A box (not the chat box) at any time
   • Raise your virtual hand at the end to ask questions

3) Poll Questions
Workshop #1 Goals

• Understand the basics of green infrastructure and why it is important
• Understand the eligibility requirements of the Green Infrastructure Grant Program
• Learn how to access additional resources and the SFPUC’s technical assistance program
• Answer any questions you have on the Green Infrastructure Grant Program
Workshop Agenda

1) What is Green Infrastructure?
2) Grant Program Summary
3) Important Information
4) Project Visioning
5) Application and Next Steps
6) Questions
Introduction
Transform the Storm!

Transform the Storm is a city-wide effort to protect our surrounding waters, become more resilient to climate change, and beautify our neighborhoods through sustainable stormwater management practices.

AVAILABLE SFPUC PROGRAMS:
• GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS
• URBAN WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP GRANTS
• COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)
• RAINWATER HARVESTING PROGRAM
• FLOODWATER GRANTS
• ADOPT A DRAIN SF
• RAIN GUARDIANS

Find more details and a full list of programs at sfpuc.org
Why Do We Care About Stormwater?
What is Green Infrastructure?

Green Infrastructure is a set of engineered, sustainable stormwater management tools that slow down, clean, and route stormwater to keep it from overwhelming the City's sewer system.
What is Green Infrastructure?

- Rain Garden / Bioretention
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Permeable Pavement
- Vegetated Roof
How Does Green Infrastructure Work?

Green Infrastructure collects stormwater runoff from an impervious surface, or Drainage Management Area (DMA).

- Drainage Management Area (DMA): 22,000 ft² (0.5 acre)
- Rain Garden Size: 1,100 ft²

Sizing Ratio = GI Area / DMA = 5%
Stormwater Runoff Charge

- The SFPUC’s sewer service charges include both sanitary and stormwater flow.
- Starting in July 2023, customers will see a separate line item on their bill for stormwater.
- Customers with green infrastructure on their property will be eligible for **bill credits** based on the drainage area size.
Program Summary
Key Program Materials

1. Program Guidebook
2. Fall 2022 Application Requirements
3. Application (Excel)

Available for download at www.sfpuc.org/gigrants
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Green Infrastructure Grant Program

- Encourages San Francisco properties to design, build, and maintain performance-based green infrastructure projects.
- Targeted towards large, highly impervious parcels, both public and private
- SFPUC funds design and construction of green infrastructure
- Property owner is responsible for ongoing maintenance
Green Infrastructure Grant Program

Minimum Eligibility Criteria:

1. **Location**: Projects must be on a parcel connected to a SFPUC-owned and operated sewer system service area

2. **Size**: Projects must manage runoff from a minimum of 0.5 acres of impervious surfaces

3. **Experience**: Grant team must have experience designing or constructing green infrastructure and be in good standing with current grant projects

4. **Co-Benefits**: Demonstration of at least 2 of the approved co-benefits

5. **Stormwater Performance**: Capture the 90th percentile storm (0.75-inch depth)
The GIGP has a **20-year maintenance requirement**

**Green Infrastructure Grant Agreement:**

- Documents all grant obligations – design, construction and maintenance
- Must be signed by the grantee and the property owner (if different)
- Includes a Declaration of Deed Restrictions to be recorded against the property
- Includes annual reporting requirements
Green Infrastructure Grant Program

Application Review:

- Applications evaluated and awarded based on satisfaction of the 5 eligibility criteria and scoring rubric in the Fall 2022 Application Requirements
- Awards announced in December 2022

FALL 2022 APPLICATIONS DUE OCTOBER 31ST
Important Information
Eligible Grantees

Who can apply? Eligible grantees may be property owners, government agencies, non-profits, individuals, or for-profit entities.

- Property Owner Letter of Support

City Vendors: In order to receive grant funds, Grantees will be required to become a registered vendor with the City and County of San Francisco.

RL Stevenson Elementary, San Francisco
Grant Timeline and Funding

How much money can I receive?
Grant amount determined by how much impervious surface your project can manage. Maximum Grant Award is **$930,000 per impervious acre** managed, up to **$2,000,000** in funding per project.

Is a grant taxable income?
A grant counts as income and therefore **may be taxable**. It is the responsibility of the Grantee to determine whether a tax liability exists.

How much time do I have to complete my project?
For the Fall 2022 application cycle, projects must **start construction by June 2025**
Eligible & Ineligible Costs

Eligible Costs:
- Planning and Design (capped at 30% of total grant amount)
- Project management/admin
- Survey and Geotech
- LA/PE fees
- Direct construction costs for GI features
- Impervious surface removal
- Educational signage

Ineligible Costs:
- Maintenance
- Non-green infrastructure elements
  - Decorative items
  - Benches
  - Play equipment
  - Lighting
- Artificial turf fields
- Monitoring or research
Stormwater Management Ordinance

GI Grants are intended for retrofits – they cannot pay for compliance

Projects subject to SMO may be eligible for a grant for separate and fully independent systems that manages an otherwise unmanaged portion of a project

Reach out to gigrants@sfwater.org to determine if you may qualify for grant funds
Transform the Storm

Project Visioning
SFPUC Technical Assistance

Pre-Application
• Grant Workshops
• Site Visits with SFPUC Engineers
• GI Opportunities Assessment
• GI Vendor List

Reach out to gigrants@sfwater.org to access our Technical Assistance Team!
**Step 1: Determine Your Eligibility**

- Make sure your property has a minimum of **0.5 acres** of impervious surface. Use the Program Map to measure areas on your property:
  - Roof tops
  - Black tops
  - Paved paths
  - Other paved areas

- Make sure your property is connected to a SFPUC-owned and operated sewer system. Use the Program Map to verify that your property is **not in an Ineligible Area**

**TIP:** Use the Property Measurement Tool on the GI Program Map at sfpuc.org/gigrants
How big is 0.5 acres?
Step 2: Assemble a Grant Team

Required Team Members*:
- Grant or project manager
- Property owner
- A licensed Professional Engineer or Landscape Architect registered in the State of California

Optional Team Members:
- Interested community members
- Additional project stakeholders

*TIP: Check out the GI Vendor List at sfpuc.org/gigrants

*At least one team member must have experience designing or constructing green infrastructure
How can the grant help unlock opportunities and benefits on your property?

• Are there any areas that are currently under utilized or under-performing? How could this be improved?
• Can you identify any opportunities to create a greener, healthier and more inclusive place for everyone?
• Does the site have any flooding or drainage issues?
• Can you think of opportunities for habitat creation and biodiversity in your site?
Step 3: Evaluate opportunities and set priorities

Select two project co-benefits:

• Environmental Justice
• Public Access, Open Space, & Recreation
• Community Engagement, Collaboration, & Placemaking
• Education & Watershed Stewardship
• Green Infrastructure Job Training
• Water Supply
• Climate Resilience
• Biodiversity

TIP: Review the Fall 2022 Application Requirements for specific co-benefit scoring criteria
Step 4: Assess Your Property

Look for **opportunities** and **constraints** on your site

- Existing grading and drainage
- Underground utility locations
- Locations of roof downspouts
- Co-benefit opportunities
- Low soil infiltration rate

**TIP:** Schedule a GI Opportunities Assessment with the GI Grant Team by emailing gigrants@sfwater.org
Step 5: Develop a project concept
Lycée Français San Francisco Ortega Campus

STORMWATER FEATURES: Permeable paving, cistern, 1 rain garden, and improved landscaped areas.

PROJECT CO-BENEFITS: (1) The project site is located within an Environmental Justice Area and Disadvantaged Community. (2) Groundwater recharge.

SIZE: 0.5 acres  COMPLETION DATE: 2022
Lafayette Elementary School

**Transform the Storm**

**STORMWATER FEATURES:** 1 feature dry creek bed, 2 rain gardens, 4 new landscaped areas (impervious to pervious conversion), and 1 improved landscaped area.

**PROJECT CO-BENEFITS:** (1) Groundwater recharge. (2) The School District engaged students, teachers and designers in the creation of educational signage for the play yard.

**SIZE:** 0.7 acres        **COMPLETION DATE:** 2020
Lafayette Elementary School
Transform the Storm

Application & Next Steps
Application Evaluation & Scoring

Review the Fall 2022 Application Requirements for the full application evaluation criteria

Application Scoring Distribution:
- Stormwater Management 15 points
- Co-Benefits 30 points
- Proposed Concept Design & Budget 35 points
- Project Implementation Plan 20 points

Total 100 points
Next Steps

• Join us for Workshop #2 on **September 21**
  • Focus on this year’s scoring criteria and how to complete the application
• Email us at [gigrants@sfwater.org](mailto:gigrants@sfwater.org) to discuss your project or schedule an Opportunities Assessment
• Applications **due October 31st**. Awards will be announced in December 2022.
Thank You!
gigrants@sfwater.org

www.sfpuc.org/gigrants