
Visitacion Valley Green Nodes

Improving Our Sewer System and Benefiting the Community

In the summer of 2018, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) completed the Visitacion Valley Green Nodes Project (VVGN). The project develops two distinct green infrastructure locations that improves community spaces and accessibility while helping manage stormwater.

The mini-plaza on Sunnydale Avenue features rain gardens that manage 180,000 gallons of stormwater each year (0.18 MG) from nearly a half-acre of adjacent streets, and creates a community gathering space as well as improves pedestrian crossing safety at the busy intersection. The terraced rain gardens in McLaren Park will manage 600,000 gallons of stormwater each year (0.6 MG) from approximately 1.5 acres of impervious surface and provide a pedestrian connection to McLaren Park from Leland Avenue.

This project is a partnership with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department and San Francisco Public Works.

Project Statistics

Watershed: Sunnydale
Stormwater Managed: 780,000 gallons of stormwater each year (0.78 MG)
Drainage Area: 1.96 acres of impervious surface
Green Features: 3,745 square feet of rain gardens

Additional Community Benefits

• Educational opportunities
• Community spaces
• Strengthens pedestrian connections to McLaren Park
• Improves neighborhood aesthetics
• Traffic calming

About the Sewer System Improvement Program

The Visitacion Valley Green Nodes project is a part of the Sewer System Improvement Program (SSIP), a multi-billion-dollar citywide investment required to upgrade our aging sewer system. The SSIP is the result of an eight-year community planning process and will ensure a reliable, sustainable and seismically safe sewer system now and in the future. The project is one of eight demonstration projects in each of SF’s urban watersheds to evaluate GI stormwater management performance.
Green infrastructure can help manage and treat stormwater onsite before it enters the sewer system and also provide livable city benefits like neighborhood beautification and traffic calming.

**PERMEABLE PAVEMENT:** Allows stormwater to soak into the ground in contrast to hard surfaces (concrete or asphalt) where stormwater rapidly flows into the sewer system.

**RAIN GARDENS:** Capture stormwater runoff from streets, roofs, and parking lots. Plants and soil absorb that water, reducing the amount of runoff overwhelming the sewer system.

**BULB OUT WITH RAIN GARDEN:** A traffic calming method that extends the sidewalk, reducing the distance to cross the street increasing pedestrian visibility and safety. These may include various green technologies to capture and treat stormwater.

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**Project Map**

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**A Partnership Project:**

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**Project Contact Information:**

- SFPUC General Hotline: (415) 554-3289
- Email us at ssip@sfwater.org
- Project website: sfwater.org/vvgreenodes

Para una copia de este material en español o para más información en español, por favor póngase en contacto con nosotros en (415) 554-3289 o info@sfwater.org.

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