Planning Process

• Research Interpretive Centers - 2010
• Hired Interpretive Planning Consultant - 2011
• Meetings with the Sunol Community - May 2011 to July 2016
• Planning Charrette - June 2011
• Interpretive Master Plan - completed 2014
• Exhibit Design Development - completed 2015
• Education Master Plan - completed 2017
• Development of curriculum and programming – ongoing
• Updates at the Sunol CAC - ongoing
Alameda Creek Watershed
Alameda Creek Watershed Center

- Exhibit Hall
- Watershed Discovery Lab
- Community Room
- Administrative Offices
- Kitchen
- Watershed Discovery Trail
- Pond/Water Feature
- Picnic Area
LEED Gold Net-Zero Building

- Passive Solar Design
- Roof top Solar Panels
- BMS (building management system) will be used to closely monitor and regulate HVAC and Electrical loads for efficiency
- Low flow plumbing fixtures
- Highly efficient LED lighting
- Raw water will be used throughout building other than sink faucets and drinking fountains to minimize potable water use
- Earth berm on the north side of the building will help insulate building from solar heat gain which will minimize HVAC needed
- Permeable materials will be used on pathways and certain parking areas to help reduce the amount of stormwater runoff
- Rain Water Harvesting
- Interpretive signs
ACWC

Interpretive Master Plan

Themes:
• Here at the Sunol Water Temple, we honor the watershed and the water that flows through it.

• At this unique confluence of waterways, we also see the confluence of people and nature, and we are reminded of the significance of water in sustaining both.

Goal:
• Celebrate the site’s legacy stories and to help visitors understand the significance of the watershed and the Sunol Water Temple in relation to the much larger SFPUC water system.
ACWC Interpretive Master Plan
Key Concepts

• Sunol Valley History
  o Muwekma Ohlone
  o Rancho Period
  o SFPUC Water System
• Watershed Health and Restoration
• Stewardship
• Green Building Design
• Water Conservation
Front Entrance
Etched Blue Stone Paver
Watershed Map
Stream Profile Aquarium

- Tactile VR-AR provides a virtual reality experience with steelhead in a creek. The visitor can begin their journey as a steelhead egg and go through all of the steelhead’s life stages.
• Flip lid and flip books

• Second section a 36” Focal Vue wraparound screen – flight through with watershed

• Third Section, multi-touch screen watershed management game
Newts and Steelhead Trout
Close up of Trout and Newts
Filter Gallery

The Water Beneath Your Feet

The Water beneath Your Feet
Over many thousands of years, as Alumna Creek carved Sand Valley into California's landscape, it deposited gravel and sand on the valley floor. The sand and gravel act as a natural filter for the water located beneath the valley floor.

A Subterranean Cistern
When the Spring Valley Water Company began developing water supplies in Alumna Creek, it built a long underground “filter gallery” to capture and channel subsurface flows. Over 100 years old, the filter gallery is still in use today. Nearly 1000 feet long, it sits under the gravity “filter beds” outside the Center.
History of Ranching and the Muwekma Ohlone

- **Ranching**: Evolution of cowboy clothing and equipment, from that of mission era Ohlone to Mexican vaqueros to modern-day ranchers.

- **Muwekma Ohlone**: Recreates the village and showcases some of the artifacts found at the site.
• **Sunol Water Temple:** Computer images reveal close-up views of Polk’s architectural drawings and tools.

• **Calaveras Dam:** Computer images reveal close-up views of objects from the 1913 construction site, such as the powder box (with dynamite sticks) and water nozzle (connected to a hydraulic mining hose), and film footage of steam shovels at work.
Projection Wall

- Touch monitors provide an interactive video wall that features the flora and fauna of the Alameda Creek Watershed.

- The interactive wall-mounted map experience focuses on the Alameda Creek watershed.
Education

Hands on science and exploration
Education Master Plan

• Guide program development for the Alameda Creek Watershed Center

• General recommendations for programs – formal standards aligned fieldtrips, non-formal classes and workshops and informal drop in activities and events.

• Aligned with State Next Generation Science Standards and SFPUC Big Ideas (completed March 2016)

• Staff and volunteer training recommendations
Watershed Discovery Trail
Planting Plan
Watershed Discovery Trail
Interpretive Panels

A Vast Expanse of Land

The Alameda Creek watershed encompasses nearly 700 square miles of landscapes from mountain peaks to tidal sloughs. It supports thousands of species from mountain lions to California sister butterflies, including a number that are threatened and endangered.

Early Water Works

In the 1840s, José de Jesús Vallejo became the first to divert water from Alameda Creek for commerce. He built Niles Dam, near the mouth of what we now call Niles Canyon, and a 2,700 foot aqueduct to carry the water needed to power his flour mill. The SEPUC removed the dam in 2006, but part of the aqueduct is still visible today.
Schedule

- Interpretive Master Plan – December 2012 – March 2014
- Education Master Plan - June 2016 – December 2017
- Re-bid Construction Contract – August 2019
- Award Construction – January 2020
- Begin Construction – April 2020
- End Construction – January 2022
- Develop and Test Programming/Curriculum for ACWC – April 2020 – June 2022