

DRAFT
GREEN STREETS POLICY

Intent: Develop a City Policy to provide an outline of green streets strategies for the City of Vernon consistent with the requirements of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit for the Los Angeles Region, Order No. R4-2012-0175 (hereinafter referred to as the MS4 Permit).

Purpose: The City of Vernon Community Services and Water Department shall implement green streets Best Management Practices (BMPs) for transportation corridors associated with new and redevelopment street and roadway projects, including Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs). This policy is enacted to demonstrate compliance with the MS4 Permit.

Green Streets are enhancements to street and road projects to improve the quality of storm water and urban runoff through the implementation of infiltration, bio-treatment, xeriscaping parkways and tree lined streets. Green streets are also an amenity that provide many benefits including groundwater replenishment, creation of attractive streetscapes, creation of parks and wildlife habitats, and pedestrian and bicycle accessibility. Green streets are defined as right-of-way areas that incorporate infiltration, biofiltration, and/or storage and use BMPs to collect, retain, or detain stormwater runoff as well as a design element that creates attractive streetscapes.

Policy

- A. **Application:** The City shall require new development and/or redevelopment streets and roadway projects and CIPs conducted within the right-of-way of transportation corridors to incorporate green street BMPs. Transportation corridors projects are roadway projects that add at least 10,000 square feet of impervious surface. Routine maintenance or repair and linear utility projects are excluded from these requirements. Routine maintenance includes slurry seals, repaving, and reconstruction of the road or street where the original line and grade are maintained, as required by the MS4 Permit.
- B. **Amenities.** The City shall consider opportunities to replenish groundwater, create attractive streetscapes, create parks and wildlife habitats, and provide pedestrian and bicycle accessibility through new development and redevelopment of streets and roadway projects and CIPs.
- C. **Guidance.** The City shall use the City of Vernon Green Streets Manual for use in public and private developments.
- D. **Retrofit Scope.** The City shall use the City's Watershed Management Program to identify opportunities for green streets BMP retrofits. Final decisions regarding implementation will be determined by the City Engineer based on the availability of adequate funding.
- E. **Training.** The City shall incorporate aspects of green streets into internal annual staff trainings.

This Green Streets Policy was approved and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Vernon, on [DAY], [MONTH] 2013.

Name: _____
Title: Mayor / Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:

Interim City Clerk / Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Scott Porter,
Deputy City Attorney