(c) Geospatial analysis: The project team mapped where in the basin different landscape changes can provide maximum benefits. For example, this exercise identifies where groundwater recharge may be feasible or where stormwater capture would be most valuable.

The project team will produce a report to share our research findings.

2. Install Sustainable Landscapes

In this implementation stage, the project team and interested companies will work with local partners to install, and measure the outcomes of, sustainable landscapes on the participating properties. Companies will be able to choose from a menu of landscape element options based on designs generated by a landscape architect who specializes in sustainable landscapes.

3. Use Insights to Inform Policy

Based on outcomes and lessons learned through this initiative, the project team will identify and pursue policies and other strategies for larger scale implementation of the sustainable landscape approach. This work will result in a final report with key policy recommendations.

About the Pacific Institute

The Pacific Institute is a global water think tank that provides science-based thought leadership with active outreach to influence local, national, and international efforts in developing sustainable water policies. The Pacific Institute acts as co-secretariat for the United Nations Global Compact's CEO Water Mandate, which is a platform for companies to share best and emerging practices and forge partnerships to address challenges related to water scarcity, quality, governance, and access to water and sanitation.

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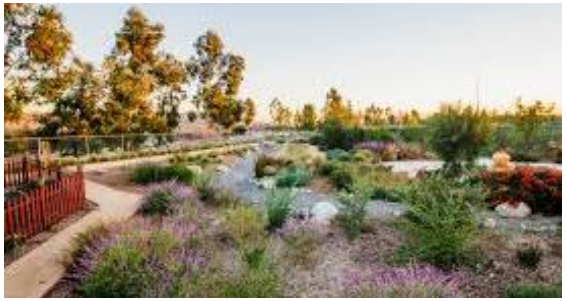
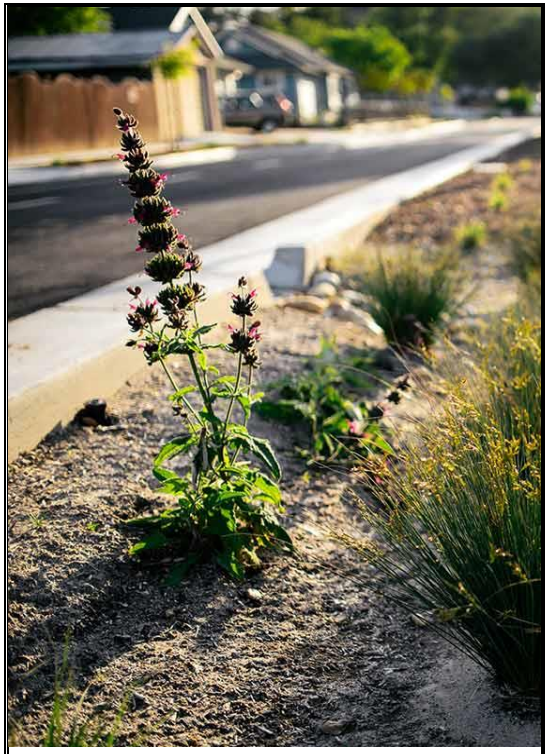
About California Forward

California Forward is the staffing and coordinating organization of the California Economic Summit, which has emerged as the only multi-disciplinary, regions-based civic effort to identify and promote policy choices that will advance a triple-bottom-line future for California. The 2015 California Economic Summit set out an ambitious challenge—one million acre-feet of additional water conserved, captured, and reused each year for the next 10 years—to close the supply gap for urban, agricultural, and environmental needs.





Southern California Sustainable Landscapes Initiative

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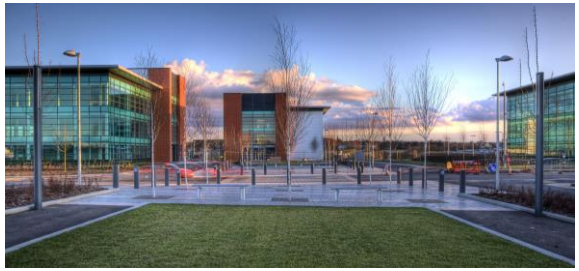
CA FWD:

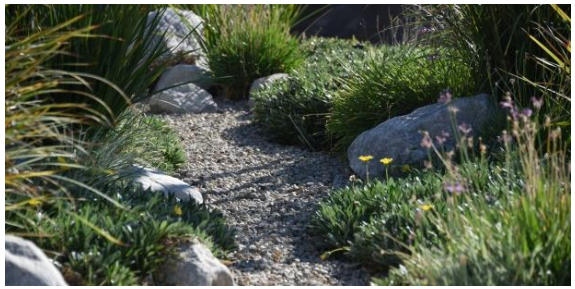
The CEO Water Mandate



Why Sustainable Landscapes?

California's urban areas are marked by vast expanses of turf and impervious surfaces. Half of all urban water is used outdoors, mostly to irrigate grass. Runoff from these areas carries fertilizers and pesticides into waterways. Similarly, pavement impedes groundwater recharge, contributes to high storm flows, and carries pollutants into our rivers and oceans.

The good news is that there are more sustainable options for California communities. Replacing lawns with low water-use plants can provide significant water savings. Likewise, installing rain gardens and other forms of green infrastructure can improve water quality, reduce flooding, and recharge groundwater. In addition, these strategies provide other benefits, like creating habitat, reducing energy use and emissions, and boosting property values.



Why Commercial Properties?

To date, sustainable landscaping programs have focused mainly on residential properties due, in part, to the real and perceived challenges of engaging the business community in such projects. Yet, these large commercial and industrial properties represent great opportunities for water savings, and stormwater capture and infiltration. The landscapes also represent a highly visual way for the business community to showcase its commitment to sustainability and will help to promote similar actions by others.

Project Objectives

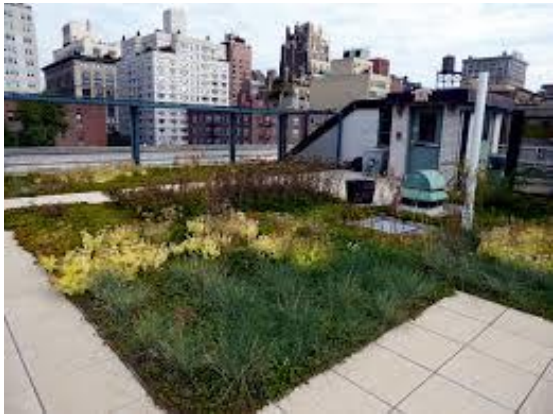
The Pacific Institute is partnering with California Forward, and coordinating with the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, to advance sustainable landscapes on commercial and industrial properties by:

(1) assessing the opportunities and benefits of sustainable landscapes on commercial and industrial properties in the Santa Ana River Watershed;

(2) working with companies to integrate the costs and benefits of sustainable landscapes into their investment decisions; and

(3) developing tools and resources to advance sustainable landscapes on commercial and industrial properties in Southern California and beyond.

The project team has a goal of recruiting 5-10 businesses to make investments in sustainable landscapes on their properties and monitor the associated water savings and co-benefits.



Project Activities

This project is divided into three phases. While currently focused on the Santa Ana River Watershed, this work can be scaled to Southern California and beyond.

1. Research and Analysis

(a) Benefits: Through a literature review and discussions with experts, the project team identified the site-level and community benefits of various sustainable landscape strategies, such as climate-appropriate plants, rain gardens, bioswales, and green roofs.

(b) Motivations and challenges: The project team interviewed companies with facilities in Southern California. For those who had previously made investments, the interview focused on their motivations and any challenges encountered. For those who had not, the interview explored why not and gauged interest and capacity to make such a conversion in the future.