

Gonzales Old Town Low Impact Development (LID) Project:

Case Study Info

Location:

Center Street between 6th Street and 9th Street, Gonzales CA 93926

Features:

Bioinfiltration, reduction of impervious surfaces, native drought tolerant landscape, community involvement

Design Team:

Low Impact Development Initiative, Harris & Associates, Canon Corporation, 2nd Nature

Contact:

Harold Wolgamott, City of Gonzales

Overview:

The Gonzales Old Town LID project completed in the fall of 2017, is located in the old town part of City of Gonzales, California. The street includes primarily residential properties with some commercial and a Central park. Center Street, between 6th Street and 9th Street was redesigned to incorporate low impact sustainable infrastructure in the form of bioinfiltration basins that meet stormwater treatment objectives and provide opportunity for education and outreach to the community.

Background



Stormwater runoff from the Old Town area of Gonzales is discharged without treatment to the Lower



Salinas River, which has the most 303(d) pollutant impairment listings than any other waterbody in the Central Coast. To remedy this, the City of Gonzales, in partnership with Central Coast Low Impact Development Initiative and Harris & Associates, developed a design to construct small scale bioinfiltration BMPs along Center Street in the old town area. The City received a Proposition 84 Storm Water Grant and with addition City funds, made the project a reality.

Design



Working with the City, LIDI prepare a schematic concept plan for the layout of the bioinfiltration areas along Center Street. The City hired Harris & Associates to assist them with the project, to prepare construction documents, construction administration, monitoring and outreach support. The Harris design team included Cannon as the Landscape Architect. Construction of the project was completed in November 2017. The project design will capture, treat and infiltrate the 85th percentile, 24-hr storm event through 12 curb bulb-out type bioinfiltration basins located along Center Street. The landscape design for the basins include drought tolerant, native plant palette.



The project's bioinfiltration design uses soil media, plants, roots, microbes, and overall design configuration to achieve the desired pollutant removal and volume reduction and thereby help solve water quality issues in the Salinas River. Bioretention/Bioinfiltration has been documented as being highly effective in treating several urban stormwater pollutants through physical, chemical and biological processes. The project will address several common urban stormwater pollutants including pathogens, pesticides, oil/grease (TPH), and metals.