



**SF Environment**

**Our home. Our city. Our planet.**

A Department of the City and County of San Francisco



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## **San Francisco Carbon Fund Funding Recommendations for Grant Awards**

The San Francisco Department of the Environment issued a Request for Proposals on July 30, 2015 seeking community greening and innovative composting projects. Fourteen proposals totaling \$790,000 in funding requests (for an available \$250,000) were received on September 7, 2015; three in the innovative composting category and 11 in the community greening category. Evaluation panels, comprising Department of the Environment staff, one community member and one NGO professional reviewed proposals, interviewed applicants and participated in site visits. Greening projects that received more than 95 points out of 130 were interviewed and/or received site visits.

Based on the evaluation of the projects, the Department of the Environment staff recommends that the Commission on the Environment approve SF Carbon Fund grant awards to the following eight organizations, for a combined total grant amount of \$225,000. Community greening projects will be disbursed over a three-year period, with the bulk of funding (90%) for first-year project implementation and the remainder (5%/year) for ongoing maintenance and reporting for two years. Innovative compost projects are primarily research based and will last one to two years.

**Climate Action Now! (CAN!) (fiscal: San Francisco Parks Alliance)** will replace a portion of paved parking area and plant fruit trees at James Lick Middle School at Noe and Clipper Streets. Located in San Francisco's Noe Valley, the school serves 650 youth, primarily Latino and African American from the Mission and Bayview Hunters Point neighborhoods. CAN! will also remove pavement and plant a rain garden at Independence High School and Flex Academy, co-located at 7th Avenue @ Irving. The schools serve approximately 300 youth from around the City. Co-benefits include youth development, healthy food, reduced run-off and reduced heat island effect.

**Friends of the Urban Forest** will plant 200 trees throughout the City and create permeable surfaces through the installation of sidewalk gardens along public rights-of-way, with a focus on southeastern neighborhoods that have lower tree canopy compared to other neighborhoods. All projects will involve the participation of local households, small businesses owners, public schools and city agencies. Co-benefits include improving neighborhood walkability and building community through participation in projects, as well as providing workforce development opportunities for youth.

**Lawrence Berkeley National Labs (fiscal: Matter of Trust)** will determine the feasibility of using thermophilic composting as an alternative to the City's current practice of using incineration for the

disposal of pharmaceutical waste, as well as identify the impact of composting on the decay of pharmaceutical compounds that are likely to be found in compost from human and animal waste material. This information will help establish the safety of human and animal waste composting strategies for reducing greenhouse gases and other beneficial reuses of composted biosolids.

**Literacy for Environmental Justice** will install approximately 4000 deep-rooted native plants at Sunrise Point in the Candlestick Point and Recreation Area in Bayview Hunters Point. The project supports the creation of campgrounds and will ultimately provide outdoor educational activities to school groups from throughout the City. Co-benefits include youth and workforce development and increasing neighborhood sea level rise resiliency.

**Permaculture Institute/Buena Vista Park Foundation (fiscal: Matter of Trust)** will incorporate compost on several diverse sites around the city and assess the carbon sequestration benefits. Sites will include Buena Vista Park and in San Francisco's southeast sector. In addition to research on sequestration benefits, the projects will provide erosion control and water conservation. Co-benefits include youth development and providing fresh produce.

**Pomeroy Recreation and Rehabilitation Center** will double its current garden space and plant 8 fruit trees. Co-benefits include providing fresh produce, creating community gathering space and providing hands-on activities and vocational training to developmentally delayed individuals from throughout San Francisco.

**Starr King Open Space** will remove approximately 7600 ft<sup>2</sup> of pavement and restore native vegetation on Potrero Hill at 23<sup>rd</sup> and Carolina Streets. Co-benefits include increasing public safety by eliminating car presence in the open space, building community through project participation and creating learning opportunities for students from the adjacent Starr King Elementary School.

**Urban Sprouts (fiscal: San Francisco Parks Alliance)** will remove hard-packed soil and plant 20 fruit trees at an underutilized garden space at June Jordan School for Equity. Located in San Francisco's Excelsior at Brazil and LaGrande Streets, the school serves 250 primarily low-income Latino, African-American and Asian youth from the southeast sector. Co-benefits include youth development and providing fresh produce.