

Attachment 9

Water Quality and Other Expected Benefits

Other Benefits

This phase of the overall project will improve flood protection and complete the restoration constructed in the Reach 1A, Phase 1 portion of lower Mission Creek between State Street and Mason Street.

The benefits, other than flood damage reduction, associated with the project are water quality, environmental and aesthetic, and are purely qualitative in nature, thus no monetary value is assigned to these items.

Water Quality

This project will provide significant rehabilitation of the creek. Rehabilitation will improve water quality by increasing natural soils and plants for infiltration and treatment.

Environmental

The proposed project will significantly contribute to the enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat. This project includes the removal of non-native invasive plants and replacement with native riparian species. The existing conditions of the creek banks and bottom will be modified to facilitate wetland habitat and migration of southern steelhead, while improving habitat for the tidewater goby and other fish, amphibians, benthic invertebrates and wading birds. The Southern California steelhead and tidewater goby are listed on the endangered species list. Because the impact to the population of these species has not been quantified, the benefit is qualitative.

Aesthetic Benefits

The proposed project would improve the visual appearance of the channel itself and of the surrounding creek banks. The Mission Creek banks would be revegetated using native riparian plant species. Some of the creek bank protection has deteriorated and would also be replaced with Historical Landmarks Commission approved hardscape/landscape materials. This would improve the appearance of landscaping and improve the aesthetic appeal of the creek. Improved creek conditions will also likely attract more local birds and wildlife, which also improves the aesthetic appeal of the creek.