



Green Infrastructure & Stormwater Management CASE STUDY

Oros Green Street Project

Location: Oros Street, Elysian Valley, Los Angeles, CA

Client: City of Los Angeles

Design Firm(s): North East Trees

Landscape architect/Project contact: Kathleen McKernin, ASLA, Director of Design and Planning

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ASLA Chapter: Southern California



Project Specifications

Project Description: The Oros Green Street Project captures stormwater runoff from private homes and a residential street and cleans it through a series of soil filtration and vegetative bioretention treatments before it gets into the Los Angeles River, while simultaneously improving and beautifying a neighborhood with new infrastructure and greenscape. It is an eco-friendly and innovative model of sustainability that manages and cleans storm and dry weather runoff and pollutants that traditionally went directly to the stormwater system (or the Los Angeles River). In addition to the bio-retention areas along Oros Street, Steelhead Park, an existing pocket park at the base of the street, was retrofitted with a bio-infiltration basin to treat runoff piped from the street.

Project Type:

Transportation corridor/streetscape
A retrofit of an existing property

Design features: Bioretention facility and bioswale.

This project was designed to meet the following specific requirements or mandates:
State statute

Impervious area managed: 1 acre to 5 acres

Amount of existing green space/open space conserved or preserved for managing stormwater on site: 1 acre to 5 acres

The regulatory environment and regulator was supportive of the project.

Did the client request that other factors be considered, such as energy savings, usable green space, or property value enhancements? North East Trees in partnership with the City of Los Angeles designed the project to be multi-beneficial and to include property improvements and enhanced green space.

Cost & Jobs Analysis

Estimated Cost of Stormwater Project: \$500,000-\$1,000,000 (Public funding: Federal, state, local)



Was a green vs. grey cost analysis performed? No

Cost impact of conserving green/open space to the overall costs of the site design/development project: Not applicable.

Our non-profit organization initiated the project in partnership with a municipal agency for the purpose of diverting and treating stormwater.

Cost impact of conserving green/open space for stormwater management over traditional site design/site development approaches (grey infrastructure)? Did not influence costs – not applicable. Our non-profit organization initiated the project in partnership with a municipal agency for the purpose of diverting and

treating stormwater.

Number of jobs created: In-house work

Job hours devoted to project:

Planning and Design: 5,591

Construction: performed by Bureau of Street Services, City of Los Angeles

Annual Maintenance: performed by Bureau of Street Services, City of Los Angeles

Performance Measures

Stormwater reduction performance analysis:

Water quality improvements capture and retain 100 percent of all storm events.

Community & economic benefits that have resulted from the project: The project enhanced participating residential properties along Oros Street by initiating new tree plantings, implementing parkway re-designs, and improving surface water drainage. The project underscored the neighborhood's connection to the LA River, and Steelhead Park (the pocket park at the base of Oros Street and adjacent to the LA River) was enhanced with new California Sycamore plantings, meadow plantings, and other design features.

Additional Information

Links to images: <http://www.northeasttrees.org/WatershedRehabOrosStreet.html>

As the first residential green street in Los Angeles, this pilot project has served as a model for subsequent green streets in the area, such as the recent Elmer Avenue Green Street project in nearby Sun Valley.