

Riparian Corridor Training Needs: Survey Results Overview

Number of Municipalities in Santa Clara Valley: 14

Number of Completed Surveys Returned: 14

Survey Questions	Yes	No	Other
1. Has staff in your municipal planning department previously received training on riparian corridor protection?	7	6	Don't Know (1)
2. Do you feel there is a need for your municipality's planning staff to receive training on riparian corridor protection, or are you aware of a need for this training in other departments of your municipality?	11	1	No Opinion (2)
3. Which department(s) in your municipality, if any, are actively designing and constructing projects along creeks?	--	--	Public Works: 11 Parks: 4 Land Development: 1 Design & Construction: 1 Rarely Performed: 1 Planning Department: 1 ¹ No Response: 1
4. Does the following excerpt from the Santa Clara Valley Water District's Stewardship Plan (October 2005) remain an accurate summary of your municipality's riparian corridor policies? If not, please summarize recent changes.	7	6	No Response (1)

¹ A follow-up phone conversation clarified that the Planning Department reviews projects by others.

Riparian Corridor Training Needs Survey Results
Tally of Municipal Responses

Municipality	Completed Survey Received	Did Planning Staff Receive Previous Training?	Does Planning Staff Need Training?	Comments Regarding Training	Which Depts. Have Projects in Riparian Corridors?	Is Stewardship Plan Rip. Corridor Blurb Current?	Revisions to Stewardship Plan Riparian Corridor Blurb
Campbell	Y	Y	Y	None	Public Works	Yes	None
Cupertino	Y	Y (2006-07)	Y	Training needs: permit requirements	Public Works, Parks & Rec	No	The Water Resource Protection Ordinance (Municipal Code Title 9, Chapter 9.19) was attached to the completed survey.
Los Altos	Y	Y (dates vary)	N (Follow-up email explained that if training is offered they'd like to further staff's understanding)	(Follow-up email explained that previous training included minimizing non-point source pollution, controlling storm water quality impacts, development in floodplain, minimizing creek-side development.)	Public Works	Y	None
Los Altos Hills	Y	Y (Planning & engineering staff received training in 2005-06)	No opinion	Planning & engineering staff trained in 05/06.	None	N	Los Altos Hills City Council adopted an updated Conservation Element of the General Plan on April 26, 2007, that contains a section which specifically addresses protection of creeks and riparian corridors. The Conservation Element was attached to the completed survey.
Los Gatos	Y	N	Y	Needs: When & where are buffers required? What is permitted in buffer area?	Public Works	Y	None
Milpitas	Y	N	Y	None	Parks and Rec, Public Works, Land Devlpmt., Design & Const.	Y	None
Monte Sereno	Y	N	Y	None	Rarely performed	Y	None
Mountain View	Y	N	No opinion	Limited riparian corridors in city – general training may be useful.	Public Works (creek trail proj. under const.)	N	Mountain View adopted the Water District's Guidelines for Land Use Near Creeks and Streams. Will be revising General Plan over next few years and may include new or revised policies regarding riparian corridors.

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Palo Alto	Y	N	Y	None	Public Works	N	Notes to exceptions to the blurb: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Single family property is exempt from the 100 ft setback, except that undeveloped parcels southwest of Hwy 280 are not exempt. A creek ordinance and guidelines will be prepared addressing appropriate setbacks and creek conservation measures. ▪ Existing development within the 100-ft setback will be considered legal and nonconforming. With the 100-ft setback as a goal where feasible, redevelopment of such sites must be designed consistent with basic creek habitat objectives and make a significant net improvement in the condition of the creek.
San Jose	Y	Y (dates vary)	Y	Staff is trained on the Riparian Corridor Policy by supervising planners during project review.	Public Works; Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services	No response	None
City of Santa Clara	Y	Y	Y	Waterways mostly channelized, but watershed protection still an issue; all planners need training.	Parks and Rec, Public Works	Y	None
Santa Clara County	Y	Don't know	Y	None	Planning (per follow-up phone conversation, Planning reviews projects by others. Activities of other County departments is unknown.)	Y	None
Saratoga	Y	N	Y (If provided locally)	(Per follow-up phone conversation, training in Santa Clara Valley would	Public Works	N	Deleted sentence in blurb that begins "The City's Municipal Code does not specify a minimum buffer... ." Saratoga City Council adopted the

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				be considered 'local')			Water Districts Guidelines and Standards on May 2, 2007. Current zoning code requires minimum setback of 25 ft from the top of a protected creek bank. Applicants are referred to Water District where creek setbacks are less than 50 ft.
Sunnyvale	Y	Y (2007, as part of implementing <i>Guidelines & Standards for Land Use Near Streams</i>)	Y	Needs: understand dev. impacts on streams better; steps for commenting on site layout to minimize riparian corridor impacts.	Public Works (repairs/maint. nr streams). Parks and Rec may have creek path in future.	N	Blurb should start, "With the exception of Stevens Creek... ." Then add text specific to the Stevens Creek natural riparian corridor. Text should also reflect Sunnyvale's enhanced stream protection measures in 2007 when the City adopted Water District's Guidelines and Standards.
TOTALS	14 Received	7-Yes 6-No 1-Don't know	11-Yes 1-No 2-No opinion		11-Public Wks 4-Parks 1-Land Dev. 1-Design&Const	7-Yes 6-No 1-No Response	