





Water for a Growing Bay Area:

How the Region Can Create a Sustainable System for Water Management

Case Studies

Laura Feinstein, Ph.D. Sustainability and Resilience Policy Director SPUR May 6, 2021



Themes

Theme 1. Manage Demand with Conservation and Efficiency.

Theme 2. Diversify and Protect Local Water Supplies.

Theme 3. Create Better Systems for Regional Water Planning, Cooperation, and Governance.

Theme 4. Address Affordability Challenges.



Eight Case Studies, Four Themes

Case Study	Conservation & Efficiency	Local Water Supplies	Planning & Governance	Affordabili ty
Water Recycling in Santa Clara Valley Water District		X	X	
Stormwater Capture at Orange Memorial Park		X	X	
Groundwater Recharge at Coyote Valley		X	X	
Outdoor Water Efficiency Program by Daily Acts	X		X	
Onsite Water System and Efficiency at Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Commission	X	X		X
Reducing Fines and Fees at San Francisco Public Utilities Commission				X
Water Efficiency and Recycling at Google's Bay View Campus	X	X	X	
Water Neutral Development by Soquel Creek Valley Water District	X		X	



Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation in San Francisco

TNDC is a nonprofit affordable housing developer

Reduced its utility bills by installing leading-edge appliances, using technology and inspections to detect leaks, and installing recycled water plumbing and capturing rainwater.



Policy Recommendations:

Incentive Programs Should Cover Cutting-Edge Appliances: Toilet upgrades were key to meeting a goal of reducing water use by 20% by 2029, but incentive programs wouldn't subsidize upgrades of reasonably efficient toilets to cutting-edge efficiency (1.6 ->.8 gallons per flush).

Streamline Permitting for Onsite Water Systems: As the city gets more practice in permitting onsite water systems, it should standardize and streamline its permitting.

New Technology for Leak Detection: Advanced Metering Infrastructure and other software for leak detection cut down on water lost to leaks.

Stormwater Capture at Orange Memorial Park in San Mateo County

San Mateo Countywide Stormwater Resource Plan - capture and clean more stormwater before it discharges to the Bay

Stormwater projects have multiple benefits:



improve stormwater quality, reduce flooding, augment water supplies, and provide opportunities for community recreation

Policy Recommendations:

Reform or clarify Proposition 218 to make stormwater fees a type of sewer fee, not subject to the full process required of property-related fees.

Assess the cost-benefits of stormwater as a supply through a multiple benefits framework.

Include stormwater in future bond measures.



Thank You

Look for the full report, Water for a Growing Bay Area, in August.

