



**2005-2006 Consolidated Grants – Proposition 40
Integrated Watershed Management Program
(IWMP) Implementation**

**City of Paso Robles
Salinas River Parkway Grant
Project Cost: \$2.4 million**

Final Report

*December 2010
(Revised February 2011)*



2007 Grant Summary Form

Date filled out: March 20, 2007

Grant Information: Please use complete phrases/sentences. Fields will expand as you type.	
1.	Grant Agreement Number: 06-163-553-0
2.	Project Title: Salinas River Parkway
3.	Project Purpose – Problem Being Addressed: The Salinas River is listed on the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board 303(d) list for Pesticides, Salinity / TDS / Chlorides and Sedimentation / Siltation. Potential pollutant sources include: agriculture, land development, road construction and urban run-off. Surface flows from the project area discharge into the Salina River and in close proximity to existing Municipal drinking water supplies.
4.	<p>Project Goals: This project proposes to permanently protect approximately 260 acres of land, including 1.5 miles of river frontage along the Salinas River corridor for long-term public ownership and management by the City of Paso Robles as part of the planned Salinas River Corridor Plan. This project also proposes to concurrently implement storm water remediation efforts to surface channels discharging directly to the Salinas River on public owned land adjacent to the acquisition project site.</p> <p>a. Short-term Goals: <u>Land Acquisition</u> – Protect the site through public ownership to avoid future urban development which is a primary cause of water quality and riparian habitat degradation. <u>Storm Water Remediation</u> – Reduce urban pollutants through bio-engineered practices applied to four urban storm water surface channels (approximately 2-acres of riparian area) that discharge directly to the Salinas River.</p> <p>b. Long-term Goals: Site control will allow the City to implement future off road vehicle protections, restoration and non-invasive recreational enhancements and educational opportunities relative to watershed management.</p>
5.	Project Location: Lat: 35.3736 ; Long: -120.4128 / Upper Salinas River Watershed
a.	Physical Size of Project: Acquisition of approx. 260 acres & 1.5 miles of river corridor. Restoration of 2 acres.
b.	Counties Included in the Project: San Luis Obispo
c.	Legislative Districts: Assembly 33 / Senate 15
6.	<p>Which SWRCB program is funding this grant? Please “X” box that applies.</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Prop 13 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prop 40 <input type="checkbox"/> Prop 50 <input type="checkbox"/> EPA 319(h) <input type="checkbox"/> Other </p>
Grant Contact:	
Name: Meg Williamson	Job Title: Assistant City Manager
Organization: City of Paso Robles	Webpage Address: www.prcity.com
Address: 1000 Spring Street, Paso Robles, CA 93446	
Phone: (805) 237-3888	Fax: (805) 237-4032
E-mail: mwilliamson@prcity.com	
Grant Time Frame:	
From: December 1, 2006	To: September 1, 2008
Project Partner Information: (1) Upper Salina-Las Tables Resource Conservation District; (2) The Trust for Public Land; (3) California Conservation Corps.	
Nutrient and Sediment Load Reduction Projection: NA	

2010 Grant Summary Form – Revised

Date filled out: November 30, 2010

Grant Information: Please use complete phrases/sentences. Fields will expand as you type.	
1.	Grant Agreement Number: 06-163-553-1
2.	Project Title: Salinas River Parkway
3.	Project Purpose – Problem Being Addressed: The Salinas River is listed on the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board 303(d) list for Pesticides, Salinity / TDS / Chlorides and Sedimentation / Siltation. Potential pollutant sources include: agriculture, land development, road construction and urban run-off. Surface flows from the project area discharge into the Salinas River and in close proximity to existing Municipal drinking water supplies.
4.	<p>Project Goals: This project proposes to acquire new property for its permanent protection, and to restore City owned properties adjacent to the Salinas River within the City of Paso Robles. Through fee title acquisition the project will protect between fifty (50) acres and two hundred twenty six (226) acres of land including river frontage for the purposes of preserving and improving the following resource values: water quality, riparian and aquatic habitat, flood control, and groundwater recharge. The site is also a cornerstone piece of the Salinas River Parkway – a proposed four (4) mile recreational and open space resource within Paso Robles. Therefore, the acquisition sites may also include recreational uses; however these used must be consistent and compatible with the primary purposes of the project funding. This project will also restore and enhance four (4) drainages to the Salinas River on publicly owned property that is contiguous to the purchase site.</p> <p>a. Short-term Goals: <u>Land Acquisition</u> – Protect the site through public ownership to avoid future urban development which is a primary cause of water quality and riparian habitat degradation. <u>Storm Water Remediation</u> – Reduce urban pollutants through bio-engineered practices applied to four urban storm water surface channels that discharge directly to the Salinas River.</p> <p>b. Long-term Goals: Implement future protections, restoration and non-invasive recreational enhancements/educational opportunities relative to watershed management.</p>
5.	Project Location: Lat: 35.3736 ; Long: -120.4128 / Upper Salinas River Watershed
a.	Physical Size of Project: Acquisition is 153.9 acres & 1.5 miles of river corridor. Restoration is a minimum of 2 acres.
b.	Counties Included in the Project: San Luis Obispo
c.	Legislative Districts: Assembly 33 / Senate 15
6.	<p>Which SWRCB program is funding this grant? Please “X” box that applies.</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Prop 13 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prop 40 <input type="checkbox"/> Prop 50 <input type="checkbox"/> EPA 319(h) <input type="checkbox"/> Other </p>
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Grant Time Frame:	
From: December 2006	To: December 2010
Project Partner Information: (1) Upper Salina-Las Tables Resource Conservation District; (2) The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County; (3) California Conservation Corps.	
Nutrient and Sediment Load Reduction Projection: NA	

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Disclosure: Funding for this project has been provided in full or in part through an agreement with the State Water Resources Board. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the State Water Board, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

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Acting under contract to the City, the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County prepared a Land Management Plan for the “Salinas River Parkway Preserve” to document current site conditions and make recommendations for the City’s on-going stewardship of those lands. The Plan outlines priorities and timelines for implementing protective measures for sensitive habitat areas, enhancements/restoration of degraded areas, and to provide opportunity for compatible recreational and public education/access.

As protected open space, this fee title acquisition will allow for future implementation of protective measures for over 1.5 miles of river corridor, creating a permanent riparian buffer from upland area drainages.



Restoration - This portion of the grant project was to restore and enhance four urban storm water surface channels that discharged directly into the Salinas River from east side residential and commercial development. These sites were located on property which was already owned by the City, enabling the work to proceed independently from the land acquisition component of the project. (See Figure 2 at left - Restoration Site Location Map).

The City subcontracted to the Upper Salinas – Las Tablas Resource Conservation District

(US-LTRCD) to assist with: a) environmental documentation and permitting, b) the generation of Restoration and Revegetation Plans and Specifications for the remediation and protection of the urban channels and surrounding habitat, c) creation and implementation of a public training plan for volunteers and a water quality short course

for the development/construction industry, d) creation of and reporting for the “Project Assessment and Evaluation Plan,” and e) installation of identified restoration improvements. Amoeba

The Grant scope required that a minimum of 2 acres of City property was to receive water quality improvement measures. During the design phase, the restoration plans were expanded to include six (6) key site areas, bringing the restored acreage total to just over 4.5 acres. In addition to vegetative bioremediation methods, the plans focused on reducing urban pollutant and siltation discharge through slope stabilization and the installation of physical barriers to off-road vehicle access. The six (6) interpretative signs that have been placed along the river parkway trail and restoration site areas focus on habitat and watershed value of the river corridor, keeping best management practices in front of the public.

View of ORV barrier fencing and planting at site #1



Both the acquisition and restoration portions of the project included multiple forms of public outreach, including: a) monthly organization and education of community volunteers to remove non-native vegetation, b) annual Creek Clean up days focusing on the 1.5 miles of the land acquisition site, c) development and teaching of best practices curriculum by the US-LTRCD to the construction community; and d) establishment

of an annual Festival of the Arts event developed to raise awareness of the river corridor through the arts. These outreach efforts are discussed in greater detail within the body of this report.

The project was originally proposed to be executed in a 2-year window, but spanned approximately 4 years as it was met with both funding and logistical challenges along the way. If not for the flexibility exercised by the Regional Board staff to entertain alternative measures to achieve the water quality protection goals stated in the grant, there would not have been the same level of success.

The success of the land acquisition and site restoration components of this project has resonated with the community, heightening their understanding of the importance of the river watershed as a resource. The City will strive to build on this new community awareness through implementation of steps identified in the Salinas River Parkway Preserve Land Management Plan.

II. Problem Statement and Relevant Issues

A report by the Regional Water Quality Control Board Watershed Management Initiative Chapter, January 2002 (RWQCB, 2002) identifies the Salinas River as a “highest priority watershed”, and the pollutants of concern as: nitrates, minerals, nutrients, pesticides, heavy metals and sedimentation. Factors effecting water quality include: over pumping of groundwater, agricultural activities, urban development and runoff, past mineral and gravel mining (RWQCB, 2002).

Results of the 2004 Watershed Action Plan found that water quality is deteriorating, stream flows are dwindling, and Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) use and trash in the river channel is damaging habitat. In addition, the Salinas River corridor is an underused resource for passive recreation and education.

The “land acquisition” portion of the project addresses those potential pollutant sources by eliminating future urban development and enabling future restoration efforts by placing key, riparian value acreage of the watershed under public stewardship. Future land management opportunities for the acquired land will include protection of water quality through restoring/enhancing riparian vegetation and diminishment of uncontrolled access by off road vehicles, thereby improving slope stabilization and minimizing siltation.

The “restoration” portion of the project addresses existing pollutant sources through enhancement of the urban storm water conveyance system where surface channels drain directly into the Salinas River across land already owned by the City of Paso Robles. Restoration efforts were to include: removal of non-native/invasive plant species, enhancement and revegetation of the channels to improve bank stability, and public education programs about the urban watershed.

III. Project Goals

The goal of the Project was to acquire and protect a critical 260-acre property directly abutting the Salinas River and to perform restoration on adjacent public lands, more specifically described as follows:

Acquisition Goals

The City’s Project Assessment and Evaluation Plan (PAEP) established two key goals for the land question portion of the project:

- 1) Expand existing City open space to provide for recreation opportunities, groundwater recharge, and wildlife habitat;
- 2) Provide public education on water issues and conservation and encourage community involvement in the Salinas River.

Photo shows acquisition site looking south from Niblick Bridge

The specific desired outcomes for these goals included fee title acquisition by the City of Paso Robles, aimed to protect approximately 260-acres of land, comprised of 1.5 miles of river frontage for the purpose of preserving and improving water quality. However, after further survey/study, the targeted site was determined to be only



226-acres in its totality. Later, the May 20, 2008 amendment to the Grant Agreement authorized a modification to the acquisition area as a minimum of 50 acres of key riparian area, up to 226 acres.

The target acreage was comprised of four separate legal parcels, and contained over 150 acres of channel and riparian lands in addition to over 70 acres of “upland” area that is currently dry farmed and had the highest potential for future urban development.

An additional desired outcome of the land acquisition was to raise community awareness of water related issues through educative programs that informed the public on the value of best management practices, preservation and restoration of the watershed.

Acquisition Techniques Used

The City’s pursuit of fee title acquisition was intended to create the greatest degree of stewardship/control over the watershed resource. Following the purchase, the conservation and enhancement of the site’s natural resources will be the dominant consideration. The adopted Land Management Plan (*see Appendix 1(s) - The Salinas River Parkway Land Management Plan*) is the tool which clearly prescribes how the City will address management issues and opportunities in the short and long term.

Long range management goals for the Salinas River Parkway Preserve (SRPP) include: Addressing erosion problems associated with impacts from sand mining, Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) trails, potential runoff of sediment and contamination from adjacent intensive livestock and farming operations; determining proper level of recreation;

addressing illegal trash and refuse dumping and homeless encampments; the protection and enhancement of native and sensitive species and habitats located along the river; controlling the proliferation of non-native vegetation; and public outreach, education and participation in activities promoting the protection of water quality and passive recreation uses. The public acquisition and conservation of the SRPP was the critical first step to addressing management issues.



Sample interpretive sign along River Parkway trail.

The public outreach component of the land acquisition to raise community awareness of the value of the watershed was critical to raising matching dollars for the purchase. The key technique was to create a Festival that celebrated the connection between art and the environment.

The inaugural 2009 *Festival of the Arts, Follow the River Paint the Dream* event was custom created to raise awareness of the River Parkway Grant and the need to raise matching funds to fully utilize the grant monies for site acquisition. The event employed art as a tool to generate community interest and respect of the river as an environmental resource worthy of preservation through land acquisition efforts. Portions of art sales from the 2009 event raised nearly \$8,000 for the river match grant effort. (See Appendix 2(g) - Progress Report #7 - Description of Festival of the Arts) for additional detail.

Acquisition Partners

During the course of the project, the City had two separate partners for the land acquisition segment. The City first teamed with *The Trust for Public Land (TPL)* in the writing of the grant application, scope of the grant contract, and early stages of property owner dialogue. Shortly after the grant contract was executed, the property owners reduced the amount of acreage they were willing to sell, and then later the entire acquisition site was sold to a new owner through a business reorganization/merger and sale. When land sale discussions faltered, the TPL found it necessary to redirect their resources to other projects.

In mid-2007, the City found themselves evaluating alternative acquisition possibilities with a new RWQCB Grant Manager and a new land acquisition partner, *The Land*

Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County (Land Conservancy). The Land Conservancy subcontracted with the City to assist in negotiations and performance of related land acquisition tasks such as securing appraisals, and attending meetings with the land owner(s). The Land Conservancy also wrote the “*SRPP Land Management Plan*” adopted by the City Council as its program for the long term stewardship of the newly acquired “Salinas River Parkway Preserve.”

Restoration Goals

The City’s Project Assessment and Evaluation Plan (PAEP) established three key goals for the restoration portion of the project:

- 1) Improve riparian corridors by increasing the area of native riparian vegetation;
- 2) Reduce the amount of sediment entering the Salinas River;
- 3) Reduce the amount of urban pollutants entering the Salinas River from the communities surrounding the project site;

The specific desired outcomes for these restoration goals included: increasing the native vegetative cover on channel banks from less than 30% to 90% at maturity; the stabilization of channel banks along the entire length of each stream and drainage channel; the elimination of one off-road vehicle access point along the project boundary with the Salinas River; and to provide education on water-related issues to a minimum of 100 community members, 200 school children, and 15 contractors.

Restoration Techniques Used

The Upper Salinas – Las Tablas Resource Conservation District evaluated best management tools available to achieving the stated goals and desired outcomes. As such, restoration and revegetation plans were designed utilizing bioengineering techniques identified in the NRCS “Streambank Soil Bioengineering Field Guide for Low Precipitation Areas.” (See *Appendix 1(y) - Restoration Plans and Specifications*).



Photo shows rock weir installation and slope stabilization to the head cut at site # 2 channel.

Best management techniques included in those design specifications are:

- 1) Returning stream banks to their natural form by performing minor grading where necessary;
- 2) Identification and removal of non-native species (most notably star-thistle) along channels and vicinity;
- 3) Stabilize banks through the planting/replacement of native riparian species;
- 4) Utilize temporary irrigation as needed for the Paso Robles climate;
- 5) Install wooden fencing and boulder placement to prohibit historic trespass patterns through stream bank corridors and to the River;
- 6) Organize, train and deploy volunteers to assist in various restoration programs.



Photo shows installation of willow stakes by student volunteers at Site #4 (Turtle Creek)

Restoration Partners

The City subcontracted with the Upper Salinas – Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (US-LTRCD) to assist with: a) environmental documentation and permitting, b) the generation of Restoration and

revegetation Plans and Specifications for the remediation and protection of the urban channels and surrounding habitat, c) creation and implementation of a public training plan for volunteers and a water quality short course for the development/construction industry, d) creation of and reporting for the “Project Assessment and Evaluation Plan,” and e) installation of identified restoration improvements.

The US-LTRCD subcontracted with the California Conservation Corps for portions of the restoration work, including: fencing install, planting and placement of mulch. Additionally, the community volunteer groups (and individuals) were key partners in achieving desired outcomes. Volunteer interest was generated through on-site notice postings, City website and word of mouth.

IV. Project Scope and Activities Completed

The project scope consisted mainly of three components: 1) Project Management & Administration; 2) Acquisition; and 3) Restoration.

Project Management & Administration Scope

The administrative grant scope duties were mainly performed by the Project Director, with ancillary support from other Paso Robles City staff, including: Administrative Assistant(s), GIS Analyst, City Engineer, City Planner(s), Maintenance Supervisor, and Maintenance Service Workers.

General Administrative tasks accomplished in carrying out the grant scope were:

- Execution of Grant Agreement
- Deviation Requests filed mid-project
- Amendment to Grant Agreement in September 2009
- Progress Report submittals – Attached as Appendices 2(a) through 2(j)
- Project Invoice submittals

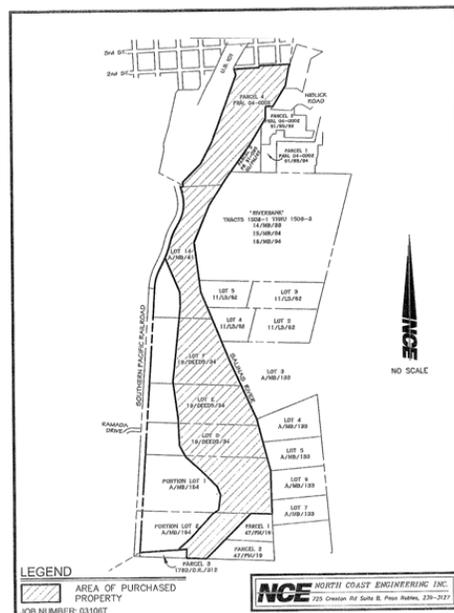
All work was accomplished by the contracted completion date of September 1, 2010. No funds were requested after October 1, 2010. The Final Invoice dated January 6, 2011 documents the City’s additional project match generated in the last two months of project reporting.

Acquisition Scope

The original project goal was to acquire what was thought to be 260 acres of river channel and adjacent riparian corridor. The target property included an “upland” portion that was zoned for industrial development, but in dry farm use. Later it was determined through survey map research that the target acquisition site (comprised of 4 separate parcels) was actually only a total of 226 acres.

Soon after the grant contract was executed negotiation dialogue was initiated. Representatives of then-owners Union Asphalt indicated a willingness to only sell 50-acres of their holdings. Learning this, the

Figure 3 – shows Boundary Survey of the acquisition site



City began researching and evaluating alternative acquisition sites along the river corridor that would have equal water quality resource protection value (*See Appendix 2(a) – Progress Report #1*). By the end of 2007 the 226-acre site was sold by Union Asphalt to a new owner, Triple P, LLC as part of a business merger/sale, rendering all previous acquisition dialogue moot.

The City had first partnered with the Trust for Public Land to facilitate the land acquisition negotiation with Union Asphalt, conduct fund raising, and execute the fee title transfer. When the interest by Union Asphalt faltered and the property later sold, the Trust for Public Land found it necessary to redirect their attention/resources to other projects and the City found a new partner in the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County (*See Appendix 2(b) – Progress Report #2*).

The City and Land Conservancy began to simultaneously pursue acquisition discussions with the new property owners (Triple P, LLC) and two other owners along the river corridor (Bunnell and Paso Panorama) hoping one or more would pan out. By February 2008, we were successful in obtaining a signed Letter of Interest from Triple P, LLC and new dialogue looked promising (*See Appendix 1(h) – Letter of Interest*). To assure the success of meeting Grant goals, the City filed a Deviation Request to pursue alternative acquisition sites along the river corridor (*See Appendix 2(c) – Progress Report #3*).

By September, 2008 the City had acquired an additional Letter of Interest from Ray Bunnell to negotiate acquisition of his 5.5 acre river corridor site. Although we had not heard back on the authorization of the first Deviation request, we continued pursuit of this parcel as it had viable water quality value (*See Appendix 2(d) – Progress Report #4*).

The Land conservancy assisted the City in procuring contracts with two (2) separate land appraisers for the Triple P, LLC site and the Bunnell site. The City later learned that the



Deviation Request had not been authorized as requested, and the City acknowledged that we would continue to pursue the Bunnell acquisition, but would only report as “match” those efforts that focused on the original target acquisition site. Notices to proceed were

issued to the appraisers and their work began December 2008 following a kick-off meeting held with the property owners to confirm appraisal base assumptions (See Appendix 2(f) – Progress Report #6).

In February 2009, a second Deviation Request was filed to formally and accurately



describe the size of the potential acquisition site. In this request, grant success was redefined as being able to acquire between 50 and 226 acres of land, including a key 50 acre riparian area cornerstone piece. It was also at this time that the City began a major community awareness campaign to highlight the River Parkway Acquisition goal, and the need to raise matching funds if we were to fully utilize the \$3.7 million State apportioned funds towards

acquisition. To accomplish this, the City custom created the *Festival of the Arts, Follow the River Paint the Dream* event which debuted on Memorial Day weekend 2009.



The Festival of the Arts event brought artists and environmental partners together to focus specifically on the Salinas River watershed. At the event, watershed/environmental partners had exhibit booths and “River Tours” were conducted via shuttle bus so festival goers could experience guided tours of the Restoration portion of the River Parkway Grant at Larry Moore Park. On display at the City’s River Vision / Parkway Grant booth was illustrative and related educational information to inform and excite the community about preserving the natural attributes of the river/watershed. In addition to generating interest for the over

5,000
festival

attendees, the City was able to accomplish fund raising through two methods at this Festival. First, we established a 50/50 proceed sharing agreement with our festival partner and Co-Host, Studios on the Park (splitting any festival proceeds from art sales and related “day-of” fundraising activities).



Secondly, the City created a fiduciary partnership with REC Foundation (“Recreation Encourages Community” Foundation) who are a non-profit that support recreation and outdoor environmental activities in Paso Robles. The REC Foundation established a separate Salinas River Parkway Fund where donations to the River Acquisition effort would be made to and tracked. These combined efforts generated close to \$5,000 in matching cash funds. Perhaps most importantly, the Festival has been established as



an annual event that will continue to focus on the environment and watershed health through a partnership with the arts. (See Appendix 2(g) – Progress Report #7). The 2010 event was again well attended and provided the backdrop to celebrate the final success of the River Parkway site acquisition and the 2011 Festival planning is well underway.

Photo shows City’s River Vision / Educational booth at Festival of the Arts. Donations via REC Foundation partners were accepted at the event.

In August 2009, the first two appraisals were completed (See Appendix 1(f) – Appraisals). The City and Land Conservancy met with the owners and the negotiations began in earnest. Based on the appraisal information, the City was able to develop various funding and purchasing strategies. It was at this time that the City Planning Commission made General Plan consistency findings under Government Code 65402 (See Appendix 1(k)) and work on the third “summary appraisal” and Phase I environmental site assessment began (See Appendix 2(h)- Progress Report #8). The third summary appraisal prepared by Todd Murphy of Schenburger, Taylor & McCormick confirmed that the first two appraisals had been conducted in accordance with proper industry standards and validated the base values for the acreage (See Appendix 1(g)).

The City was first only successful in negotiating a Purchase Agreement of between 102 and 112 acres of the 226 acre site. This agreement was approved by City Council and entered into on November 18, 2009 (See Appendix 1(n)). The property owners later reconsidered and an Amended Purchase Agreement for the approximate 154-acre site was entered into on December 2, 2009 (See Appendix 1(m)). A comprehensive description of the purchasing process, including: land appraisal, negotiations, purchase price, final purchase area mapping and land management plan was provided in a “Summary of Purchase” letter to Roger Briggs dated December 14, 2009 (See Appendix 1(i)).

The Amended Grant Scope (Agreement No. 06-163-553-1) required that the City acquire a minimum of 50 acres. The City was able to acquire 153.9 acres for a total purchase price of \$1.5 million, which equated to slightly less than the per acre appraised value. The acreage acquisition meets the primary goals and obligations of the Grant Agreement. As protected open space, this acquisition will allow for future implementation of protective measures for over 1.5 miles of river corridor, creating permanent riparian buffer from upland area drainages and future opportunity to curb



Photo shows typical riparian vegetation with off road vehicle trespass in riverbed.

illegal off-road vehicle use/trespass. A comprehensive description of the suitability of the land purchase in the context of grant goals, and the City's acceptance of hazardous material responsibility in the event of its discovery, was provided in a letter dated December 11, 2009 to Roger Briggs (*See Appendix 1(j)*).

The aforementioned December 11, 2009 letter also contained detailed description and documentation of the existing sand mining activity that affects the purchase site. There are 32.3 acres affected by an irrevocable and license agreement which allows a private party to remove sand from the premises (within the river channel and to stockpile outside the channel). No State funds were used for purchase of that portion of the site, as there are no assurances that the City can protect these lands in the future. The City will however, review and ensure the mining operations comply with all local, State and Federal regulations and permitting requirements.

In a letter dated December 15, 2010, to Roger Briggs, the City made formal request for the disbursement of \$1,500,000 in State Grant funding towards the Salinas River Parkway Preserve acquisition. With that letter the City delivered all work items required prior to release of funds, including: preparation of a Draft Land Management Plan (prepared by the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County), Draft Grant Deed, and Draft Record of Survey with legal metes and bounds description. (*See Appendix 2(i) – Progress Report #9*).

On May 19, 2010 escrow closed on the acquisition of 153.9 acres of the Salinas River Parkway Preserve (SRPP). The Grant Deed conveying the property to the City (*Appendix 1(p)*) recorded simultaneously with the Grant Deed Acceptance certification (*Appendix*

(r)) thereby finalizing fee title acquisition. The Final Settlement Statement from First American Title was the notification of close of escrow (*Appendix 1(q)*).

At the second annual Festival of the Arts, a brief acknowledgement ceremony was orchestrated to celebrate the Grant's success. Present for the event held on the steps of the Carnegie Library in downtown City Park with festival onlookers were: Regional Water Quality Control Board representatives, Paso Robles City Council members, Land Conservancy and US-LTRCD Board members, and a representative from the Will Family (Triple P LLC).



The Masters of Ceremony for the celebration were the news anchors for KCOY TV, and coverage of the event was televised. (*See Appendix 2 (j) – Progress Report #10*).

Project boundary mapping was accomplished through the preparation of a Record of Survey (*Appendix 1 (l) and 1 (m)*) and the establishment of GPS survey points documenting the boundary of the acquisition site. The GPS Information was provided on computer disk (CD) to the Grant Manager (*Appendix 1(b)*) and the Base Map of the purchase area boundary was generated by the Land Conservancy in conjunction with preparation of the Land Management Plan (*Appendix 1(t)*).

A Final Land Management Plan, dated June 2010 (*Appendix 1 (s)*) was adopted by the Paso Robles City Council on June 15, 2010. The Management Plan details the background, existing conditions and recommendations for the Salinas River Parkway Preserve (SRPP), addressing both opportunities and management issues that face the SRPP. The Plan includes short, mid and long term goals that the City can/will pursue to protect and enhance the resource consistent with the purpose of the River Parkway Grant.

Restoration

To fulfill the scope of restoration work identified in the grant the City engaged the services of the Upper Salinas Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (USLTRCD) to complete specific which included mapping, coordination, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) support, bio-engineering and monitoring design, public outreach, permitting, vegetation removal, remediation improvements and performance measurements. Each task is briefly summarized below. Details of each task are contained in the USLTRCD's Final Report (*see Appendix 1(y) - "Salinas River Parkway Water quality Enhancement Project" dated April 2010*).

Mapping and Evaluation of Site Conditions

Mapping and evaluation of site conditions was completed using the City of Paso Robles aerial contour maps. Working maps were then developed from the contour maps for project planning and engineering design. The USLTRCD documented GPS waypoints and generated base mapping for the restoration sites which were submitted to the Grant Manager as an Item for review (on CD) in Grant Progress Report #1 (*also, see Appendix 1(a) –GPS data for Restoration site*).

Coordination and Consultation with Agencies and Consultants

USLTRCD meets with DFG

The USLTRCD coordinated and consulted with various agencies and consultants to attain all proper studies, surveys, reports and technical assistance contracts and proposals necessary to begin restoration planning for the project site, including consultation for CEQA documentation and determination of “no-need” for Streambed Alteration Agreements (SAA) with the Department of Fish and Game (DFG).



Provide support for the CEQA environmental study

The USLTRCD prepared a CEQA support document that the City utilized in its finding for Categorical Exemption under Section 15333 of the California Environmental Quality Act. The City’s Notice of Exemption was filed in accordance with the State Office of Planning and Research (OPR)’s guidelines (*see Appendix 1(d) – Final CEQA documentation*).

Paso Restoration Project Progress Report



Preparing for the native grass sod at the Grassed Bio-Swale. Note new rock basin.



Grassed Bio-Swale after completion of new rock basin and planting of sod

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Design and Bio-engineer Restoration Work and Design Monitoring Performance Plan

The USLTRCD prepared a Draft Riparian Restoration Plan, dated July 30, 2007 (*see Appendix 1(u)*). The Draft plan was prepared utilizing bioengineering techniques identified in the NRCS “Streambank Soil Bioengineering Field Guide for Low Precipitation Areas” and submitted to the Grant Manager for review and comment. Later revised, the Final Riparian Restoration Plan, dated September 2007 was prepared (*see Appendix 1(v)*) and detailed the site specific restoration improvements.

Based on the prepared of the Final Restoration Plan and obtaining all necessary environmental clearances, the Grant Manager issued a Notice to

Proceed with the identified restoration work (*see Appendix 1(x) – email from Bill Hoffman, Grant Manager*).

Conduct Public Outreach and Education

The USLTRCD and City partnered in numerous public outreach projects, discussed in greater detail in the Public Outreach section of this report. However, specific to their scope of responsibility, the USLTRCD developed a Public Training Program (*see Appendix 1(w) for Public Training Program*) that included:

Pasco Restoration Project Progress Report

PROGRESS PHOTOS:



RCD working with Liberty High School Students planting natives along the south channel



CCC assists the RCD in constructing protective fencing around restoration areas

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- Volunteer coordination and training
- Interpretive sign content and placement
- Curriculum development and instruction of 3-day Water Quality Short Course
- Pursuit of educational partnering with local High School class (hands on)

Process and obtain permits

Due to the fact the project required enhancement and restoration work that affected a channel bank directly entering into the waters of the Salinas River it was necessary to consult with Department of Fish and Game (DFG) to determine whether a Stream Bed Alteration Permit (SAA) would be required. The DFG consultation resulted in

issuance of a letter dated August 16, 2007 with the DFG determination that no SAA would be required for the identified restoration work (see Appendix 1(e)).

Remove Non-native Vegetation

Throughout the duration of the project a major component of work was the removal of many prominent invasive weed species in the restoration areas receiving revegetation. These weed species included: Fiddleneck (*Amsinckia lunaris*), Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus L.*), Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*), Foxtail (*Setaria glauca*) as well as other non-native grasses and forbs.

The USLTRCD subcontracted with the California Conservation Corps (CCC) who used weed wackers and hand pulled non-native vegetation to clear a defined path for riparian planting sections and prepped for installation of erosion control measures.

Preparing site #1 – non-native cattail in channel



V. Project Performance (PAEP)

Measurements and Outcomes

A Project Assessment and Evaluation Plan (PAEP) was prepared by the USLTRCD (*See Appendix 1(c)*) and submitted to the Grant Manager prior to issuance of the notice to proceed. Table 2 (Project Performance Measures) of the original PAEP outlined desired project goals, outcomes, measuring tools and targets. A modified Table 2 is attached (*see Appendix 1 (bb)*) to show generated project outcomes.

Descriptions of measurements and outcomes for project components follow in this section.

Acquisition

Land acquisition success was to be measured by the successful conveyance of fee title to the City of Paso Robles.

The Amended Grant Agreement 06-163-553-1 required the City to acquire a minimum of 50 acres, and up to 226 acres, of river corridor. On May 19, 2010, the City closed escrow and completed fee title acquisition of 153.9 acres of river channel and riparian corridor that has come to be known as the Salinas River Parkway Preserve (SRPP).

The Grant Deed and Grant acceptance certification were recorded the same day. Under its new stewardship role, the City has adopted a Land Management Plan that will guide the future conservation, restorative and passive recreational opportunities for the property. Project Performance: The acquisition exceeded the minimum acreage acquisition requirements of the amended grant contract, but fell short of acquiring the full targeted site area. The linear configuration of the acquisition and its connectivity to other publicly owned lands provides significant future opportunity to implement the two key goals identified in the PAEP as follows:

Goal	Outcome
Expand existing City open space to provide for recreation opportunities, groundwater recharge, and wildlife habitat;	153.9 acres were acquired in fee by the City of Paso Robles, inclusive of 1.5 miles of linear river corridor and valuable riparian habitat.
Provide public education on water issues and conservation and encourage community involvement in the Salinas River.	City's SRPP Land Management Plan establishes policies for public stewardship, inclusive of: conservation, restoration and enhancement of water shed resource, and public education implementation.

Restoration

Restoration project success was to be measured by the completed restoration of 2 acres of open storm water drainage channels and their surrounding area. Further, this success was to be demonstrated through photo-documentation of the installed improvements and the progressive restorative changes resulting from removal of non-natives, installation of off-road vehicles barriers, and the re-contouring and planting of storm channels identified in the project area.

The Final Report Prepared by the USLTRCD dated April 2010 (*Appendix 1(y)*) contains detailed descriptions of restoration accomplishments. However, a brief summary of specific outcomes is as follows:

Acres restored

The grant contract required a minimum of two (2) acres of open storm water channels to receive restorative work. The Restoration Plan indicated this would be achieved through work on four (4) main storm channels (sites). Outcome: The completed project provided restoration to cumulative 4.5 acres by expanding treatment to two (2) additional restoration focus sites.



Above photo shows recontoured and revegetated Site #1 in 2011.



Above photo shows eroded banks at Site # 1 requiring minor grading and revegetation.

Project Performance: The number of targeted restoration acres was more than doubled.

Goal	Outcome
Improve riparian corridors by increasing the area of native riparian vegetation;	A cumulative total of 4.5 acres of site area received restorative treatment where non-native vegetation was removed and new native vegetation was introduced through either planting or hydroseeding.

Linear Feet of Fencing

Key to assuring that restoration areas were protected from further and future degradation was the installation of physical barriers to off road vehicles. Outcome: Approximately 1,850 linear feet of split rail fencing was constructed by the California Conservation Corps around the restoration perimeter and along the eastern edge of the river corridor. This installation has reversed the pattern of regular tire track disturbance through the channels and into Salinas River. Project Performance: The restoration scope did not identify fencing installation as a specific remediation goal. However, its physical presence has created the necessary protection to the newly installed planting and irrigation improvements.

Goal	Outcome
The elimination of one off-road vehicle access point along the project boundary with the Salinas River	1,740 linear feet of split rail fence was installed to deter ORV access from/to the River. Two chicanes were installed to allow for pedestrian access to the river.



Example of pedestrian chicane allowing access from the restoration site to the River.

Number of Plants Installed

A combination of hydroseeding, installation of biodegradable erosion control blanketing, and installation of various plantings was the intended method of bioremediation of newly contoured channel banks. Outcome: Approximately 1,000 native plants (from the plant list table contained in the USLTRCD’s Restoration Plan) were installed along with 1,740 feet of supporting drip irrigation pipe. Project Performance: While no specific quantities of



planting were identified in the PAEP, the targeted outcome was to increase native vegetative cover on channel banks from less than 30% to 90% at maturity. The USLTRCD’s Final Report photo documentation shows plant growth through July 2010 and was submitted with the City’s final reporting to the Grant Manager in December 2010. The July 2010 photo documentation shows that plants had not reached maturity yet, and as such, the Grant Manager asked for additional monitoring and documentation of vegetation performance after an additional 6 months (thus the February 2011 revision to the Final Report).

Photo documentation will show that while plants (trees/shrubs) are at less than the desired 90% coverage, the hydroseeding and recontoured banks have been successful in stabilizing sloped, thereby accomplishing the desired goal of stemming erosion and soil loss during storm water events. Photographs in this report section provide examples of planting progress and successful slope stabilization over time.



2007- Photo above shows removal of non-native vegetation at Site #1 to prepare for planting.



2007 – Photo above shows plant & irrigation installation at Site #1.



2011 - Photo at left shows same Site #1 planted & mulched.

Every project comes with lessons learned on how to improve performance. See USLTRCD’s Final Report (*Appendix 1(y)*) and the Lesson Learned section of this report.

Goal	Outcome
Increase the native vegetative cover on channel banks from less than 30% to 90% at maturity	Plantings installed between 2007 and 2009 currently exhibit less than the targeted 90% coverage, but will continue to grow over time. Mulch cover has supplemented the plantings in the interim.

2007 – Photo below shows site #2 looking east, cleared and prepared for new planting



2011 – Photo below shows site #2 replanted and continued spread of vegetative cover



Slope Stabilization and Channel Enhancement

Four (4) storm water channels were targeted for remediation enhancements (see Figure 2 – Site Restoration Location Map on Page 2). The main tool for sediment reduction was to repair active head cuts and recontour/revegetate the slope banks to stem further or future erosion activity. The main tool for reducing urban pollutants entering the channels was the revegetation of the recontoured channel slopes to naturally filter storm water flow before reaching the Salinas River. Outcome: Over 1,000 feet of slope bank was stabilized through grading to a 3:1 slope. Two rock “grade stabilization structures” (weirs) were installed to eliminate active head cutting. A grassed bioswale was installed at site #3 to filter concentrated runoff from a storm pipe outlet that runs under Niblick Road. Project Performance: It is inherently difficult to accurately quantify sediment load reduction and urban pollutant reduction. However, the health of each drainage channel has been significantly improved over the life of the project through such methods as: a) the removal of truckloads of existing sediments deposits and non-native vegetation that was clogging the channel’s natural flow; b) recontouring and revegetation of slope banks for drainage to be slowed and natural filtration to occur; and c) elimination of active head cutting that had been direct contributors to sediment loads to the Salinas channel. These methods are further described below.

The USLTRCD removed 35 cubic yards of compacted sediment from two segments of the storm channel within Site #2, and 5 cubic yards of sediment from the storm channel within Site #1. As such, a cumulative 40 cubic yards of sediment load was reduced from reaching the Salinas River channel. The contour grading and planting of those channel banks now prevents scouring or bank erosion activity to reoccur in those areas where sediment had been accumulating.

Another measure implemented to reduce sediment loading was the repair and restoration of active head cutting in the channel at Site #2. Two rock weir structures were installed and slopes were graded back and then replanted to remedy further



progression of the erosion activity. Had this project not arrested the progression of the head cut, the head cutting could have continued upstream to the limit of the developed properties (approximately 500 feet to the east) and could have delivered nearly 2,600 cubic yards of sediment into the Salinas River. This sediment load reduction result is characteristic of the restoration project's performance success.

Above photo shows rock weir installation at Site #2 stemming further erosion activity and reducing sediment loads from upstream

Goal	Outcome
The stabilization of channel banks along the entire length of each stream and drainage channel.	Over 1,000 feet of 3 of the 4 targeted storm channels have received slope bank stabilization through grading to 3:1 slope, installation of biodegradable erosion control blankets, and permanent hydroseeding and native plantings. The fourth channel (Site #4 - Turtle Creek) was planted with 3,000 s.f. of willow cuttings.
Reduce the amount of sediment entering the Salinas River.	The USLTRCD removed accumulated non-native cattails and 40 cubic yards of sediment deposits to improve channel health and eliminate potential for sediment load to reach the Salinas channel. An active head cut was eliminated at Restoration site #2 through installation of two rock weirs and recontouring/revegetating slope banks, potentially preventing 2,600 cubic yards of future sediment conveyed to the river .
Reduce the amount of urban pollutants entering the Salinas River from the communities surrounding the project site.	A grassed bioswale, approximately 40 feet by 14 feet wide, was constructed to slow and filter storm water drainage off the Niblick Road Bridge.

Photos of Site #2 head cutting repair are shown on following page.



2007 - Photo at left (looking south) shows Site #2 channel with 1:1 bank and active erosion.

2011 – Photo below (looking east) at Site #2 channel with recontoured 1:3 slope at right of picture with vegetative cover in place.



Public Education

Public education success was to be measured by the number of people reached through educative opportunities and the volunteer position success through number of volunteers recruited and volunteer projects completed. The USLTRCD developed a Public Training Plan that targeted partnership with local schools, volunteer outreach and training, and curriculum development and training for developers/contractors.

Outcome: The USLTRCD partnered on numerous occasions with Liberty High School (LHS) students to engage students in restoration work to install a sense of pride in their community and educating them on the importance of maintaining healthy water systems. In addition, the USLTRCD routinely held monthly Saturday volunteer days as an educational tool targeting the public to keep the Salinas River clean and distinguish between native vs. non-native invasive plant species. Also the USLTRCD created a curriculum for a 3-day water quality short course for contractors (also attended by City building and engineering inspectors).

Creek Clean Up Day 2010 – instruction to volunteers before they start clean-up activities



Goal	Outcome
<p>To provide education on water-related issues to a minimum of 100 community members, 200 school children, and 15 contractors.</p>	<p>Community volunteer recruitment surpassed the identified goals through combined efforts of Festival of the Arts (250 in both 2009 and 2010) and through monthly restoration volunteer recruitments (10 volunteers per month for 24 months = 240).</p> <p>Liberty High School class attendance over a three (3) year installation along with Creek Day attendance by Boy and Girl Scout troops met/exceeded school aged education goals. Liberty High School outreach = 130 students.</p> <p>The USLTRCD's 3-day short course was taught to 25 contractor/community members on October 30, 31 & November, 2007.</p>

Visual Monitoring Locations and Mapping

The USLTRCD photo-documented the condition of channel banks and restoration areas from pre-start to finish of work. These photos are contained in:

- USLTRCD Quarterly Reports – attached to each City Progress Report and which show the progression of the restoration and outreach activity;
- USLTRCD Final Report dated April 2010 – showing side by side comparisons of the six (6) restoration sites (*Appendix 1-(y)*);
- Final Photo Study Exhibit – showing GPS waypoints that correspond to photo documentation prepared by the USLTRCD for nineteen (19) locations within the restoration project area (*Appendix 1-(z) - GPS Site Map and Photo documentation*).

The photo-mapping exhibit (with GPS waypoints) and the corresponding photo documentation prepared by the USLTRCD show restoration site progress between June 2007 and July 2010. Additional photos from February 2011 were taken and incorporated into appropriate sections of this report at the request of the Grant Manager.

VI. Public Outreach

The community outreach and public education approaches used for the project were both traditional and non-traditional. Early on, the focus was on raising community awareness through fairly traditional activities, such as:

- Annual Creek Clean Up Day This countywide effort brought name recognition and momentum/exposure beneficial to the restoration effort. The first 2007 event attracted approximately 70 volunteers. At that event, the City and USLTRCD were able to generate a volunteer contact list and begin additional outreach. The annual Creek Clean Up event continued to gain/grow larger numbers of volunteers each year.
- Volunteer Recruitment & Training The USLTRCD developed a recruitment program that included posting/distribution/publication of informational flyers for once a month volunteer work days. These efforts yielded a steady stream of monthly volunteers (10-12 on average) to work an average of 2 hours one Saturday a month. The USLTRCD organized the work effort each month for such projects as: ongoing removal of non-native vegetation, planting and maintenance/upkeep.
- Partnering with Liberty High School The USLTRCD collaborated with John Seminick of the Paso Robles Unified School District to engage his “at risk” classes in hands on learning. The restoration project became an extension of the classroom with RCD docents providing training and guidance in the value of the Salinas River and the surrounding watershed. An average of 10 students a month over the course of three school years provided a valuable opportunity to partake in planned/organized restoration work. This program reached over 130 kids, instilling new knowledge and pride in the environment they were a part in restoring.
- Water Quality 3-Day Short Course The USLTRCD developed a curriculum for the development community (contractors, inspectors and interested citizens) which involved academic, practical and regulatory information. Speakers included a representative from the RQWQCB. The classes were held at City facilities (Senior Center) in the evenings. Over 25 individuals attended, including the City’s Deputy Building Official, Engineering Inspector, and Senior Building Inspector.

As the land acquisition portion of the project progressed, the City initiated more creative and non-traditional outreach and community engagement efforts. As described in greater detail in Section IV – Project Scope, the Festival of the Arts was a community wide festival custom created to shine a light on the Salinas River Parkway Grant through partnering with the art community. The 2009 inaugural Festival of the Arts drew more

than 5,000 attendees and engaged the assistance of 250 community volunteers. The event in the downtown park created a stage for the City to display illustrative and informational materials about the River Vision and Salinas River Parkway Grant. The event was also used as a fundraising method via: a) a fiduciary partnership with the nonprofit REC Foundation who accepted and held contributions to benefit the Salinas River corridor; and b) splitting Festival proceeds and depositing them in the REC Foundation fund.



The Festival of the Arts included a “River Tours” element where festival goers were shuttled from the downtown park to the restoration site for docent guided tours of the river’s history and the restoration work effort. An estimated 60 Festival attendees participated in the River Tours in 2009. The River Tours were repeated at the 2010 Festival of the Arts, again with guided tours and highlights of the habitat associated with the river corridor acquisition site, led by the California Native Plant Society docents.



The Festival of the Arts has become an annual event dedicated to a connection with the Salinas River and the health/importance of its watershed. The 2010 event attracted even more attendees than the first and included a “success celebration” to memorialize the completion of the 153.9 acre land acquisition.

VII. Lessons Learned

The two project components of this grant were very different in their scope. The acquisition had a long “fuse” that burned slow and sometimes unsteadily, relying on the final alignment of the property owner’s expectations with the appraised land value. The restoration portion on the other hand, was best designed to be focused and task specific. As the timeline



for the project stretched out (based on funding freezes by the State and later through City deviation requests) the project had moments where it lost focus. The project was ultimately a success, but the following are some of the lessons learned for future endeavors.

- Need to clearly define your work scope for your subcontractors The USLTRCD's work scope included the work task of creating a restoration plan. The scope of tasks within the restoration plan should have been more clearly defined to enable better communication and tracking of the work progress and completion.
- Longer timeframe to complete a project isn't necessarily better There were unseasonable hot spells (drought conditions) that presented during the planned implementation of the restoration planting. The delay for better conditions in the fall resulted in lost momentum and increased weed abatement needs. Irrigation was later installed, but perhaps should have been initially planned for.
- Pick strong partners with depth of bench and experience Both the City of Paso Robles and the USLTRCD had some struggles with staffing during the life of the project. The City lost the interest/partnership with the Trust for Public Land in the acquisition portion of the project, causing delays and regrouping. The USLTRCD lost staff involved in the early stages of design, and later their Executive Director, leaving others to piece together the project completion and reporting.
- Create a strong Project Management / Administrative team The City's Project Director had a limited administrative and project management staff to share task responsibilities with (and thus to meet deadlines). During the life of the project, the City and State were met with an unprecedented economic downturn. As a result, the City lost approximately 25% of its total staffing, reducing the ability for the Project Director to engage much needed assistance in project management and administrative/reporting. The ability for the Project Director to delegate and review work product/progress is a key item to project success and meeting deadlines.
- Don't give up when there are road blocks This project had the appearance of potential failure multiple times. Perseverance and creativity were a necessary component to ultimate success, specifically with regard to the acquisition. Keep your "eye on the prize" ~ be flexible and creative ~ then dialogue with the Grant Manager to be sure you can get there together.

VIII. Project Funding

Based on estimated land values and the original acquisition site calculation of 260 acres, the City requested and the State Water Resources Board's Grant awarded a \$4 million dollar budget with a distribution as follows:

Land Acquisition	\$3,700,000
Restoration	\$ 300,000

The ORIGINAL budget indicated:

	PROP 40	MATCH	TOTAL
Personnel Services	\$ 0	\$125,005	\$ 125,005
Operating Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Professional Consultant Services (US-LTRCD & Trust for Public Land)	\$ 90,000	\$240,000	\$ 330,000
Construction (Contracted Services)	\$ 210,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 275,000
Land Acquisition	\$3,700,000	\$ 900,000	\$4,600,000
TOTAL:	\$4,000,000	\$1,335,005	\$5,335,005

The amount of the land acquisition funds requested by the City (and correlating match) was dependent on a final purchase price for the site acquisition, which ended up at \$1,500,000. This, combined with the \$300,000 of funding for the Restoration portion of the Grant, resulted in the State giving a total of \$1,800,000 in Prop 40 funding.

To meet the match for the \$1.8 million in State funds, the City was required to provide \$600,000 in matching funds, with the modified total project cost established at \$2,400,000.

The MODIFIED budget:

	PROP 40	MATCH	TOTAL
Personnel Services	\$ 0	\$140,300	\$ 140,300
Operating Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,800
Professional Consultant Services (US-LTRCD & Land Conservancy)	\$ 90,000	\$ 25,900	\$ 115,900

X. Next Steps

The Salinas River Parkway Preserve Land Management Plan will be the City's guide to implementing phased advancement towards conservation, restoration and enhancement goals for the newly acquired 153.9 acres.

The Restoration site maintenance will continue with City resources and a focus on use of volunteer organization.

The City will continue to identify and pursue additional funding for complimentary projects to protect and enhance the Salinas River corridor, including:

- Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Program (EEMP) Grant – for the site restoration and construction of a recreational trail within the undeveloped section of Charolais Road right of way that connects to the Salinas River Parkway trail and restoration sites.

- North County Salinas River Master Trail Plan - in collaboration with the sister agencies within the County, the City will work with SLOCOG to plan for a master trail alignment and associated restoration enhancements using the river corridor as the connecting “spine” for all.