Sustainable Landscapes in Los Altos

By: Huck - Sahana - Luke

Contents

- Intro to sustainable landscapes
- Benefits & Goals
- Success in Cities and initiatives

- Habitat Fragmentation
- Proposal for Los Altos
- Next Steps

Project Brief

Sustainable Landscapes

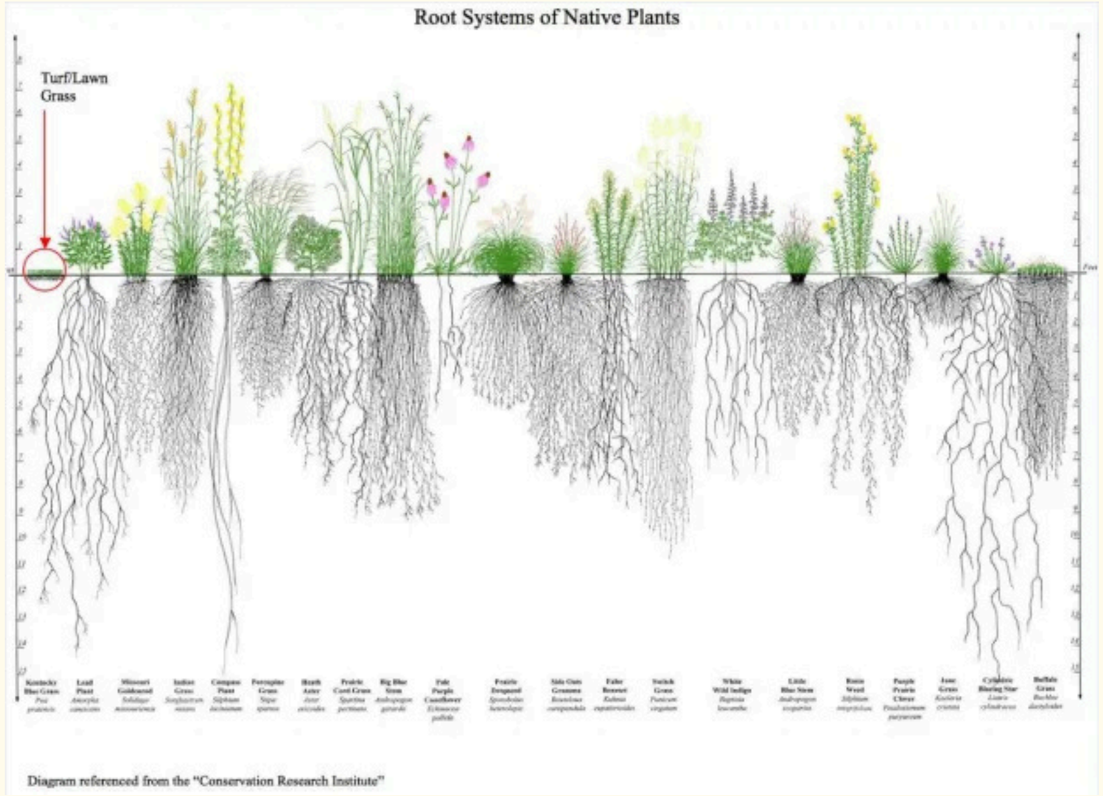
Local Examples

Redwood Grove Preserve

Pollinator Garden across from Loyola corners

Byrne Preserve

What are benefits?



Goals

Goal #1: Boost Biodiversity in our Urban Environment

Goal #2: Foster resilience to Climate Change (in our community)

Goal #3: Community Stewardship

Grassroots Ecology

Resilience

Climate Change

Urbanization

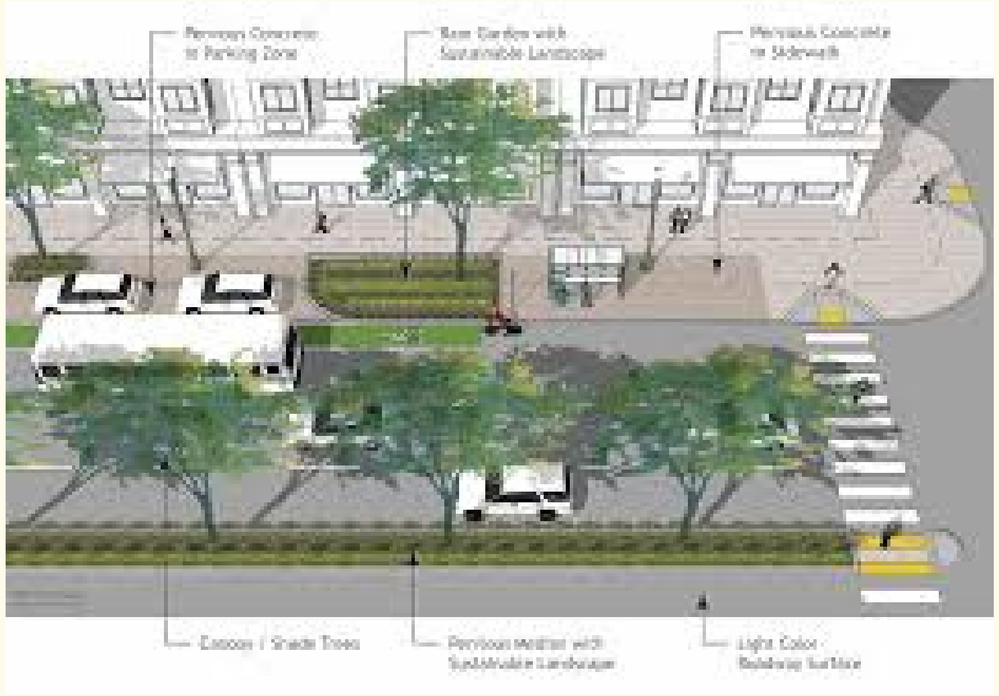
Biodiversity

Research

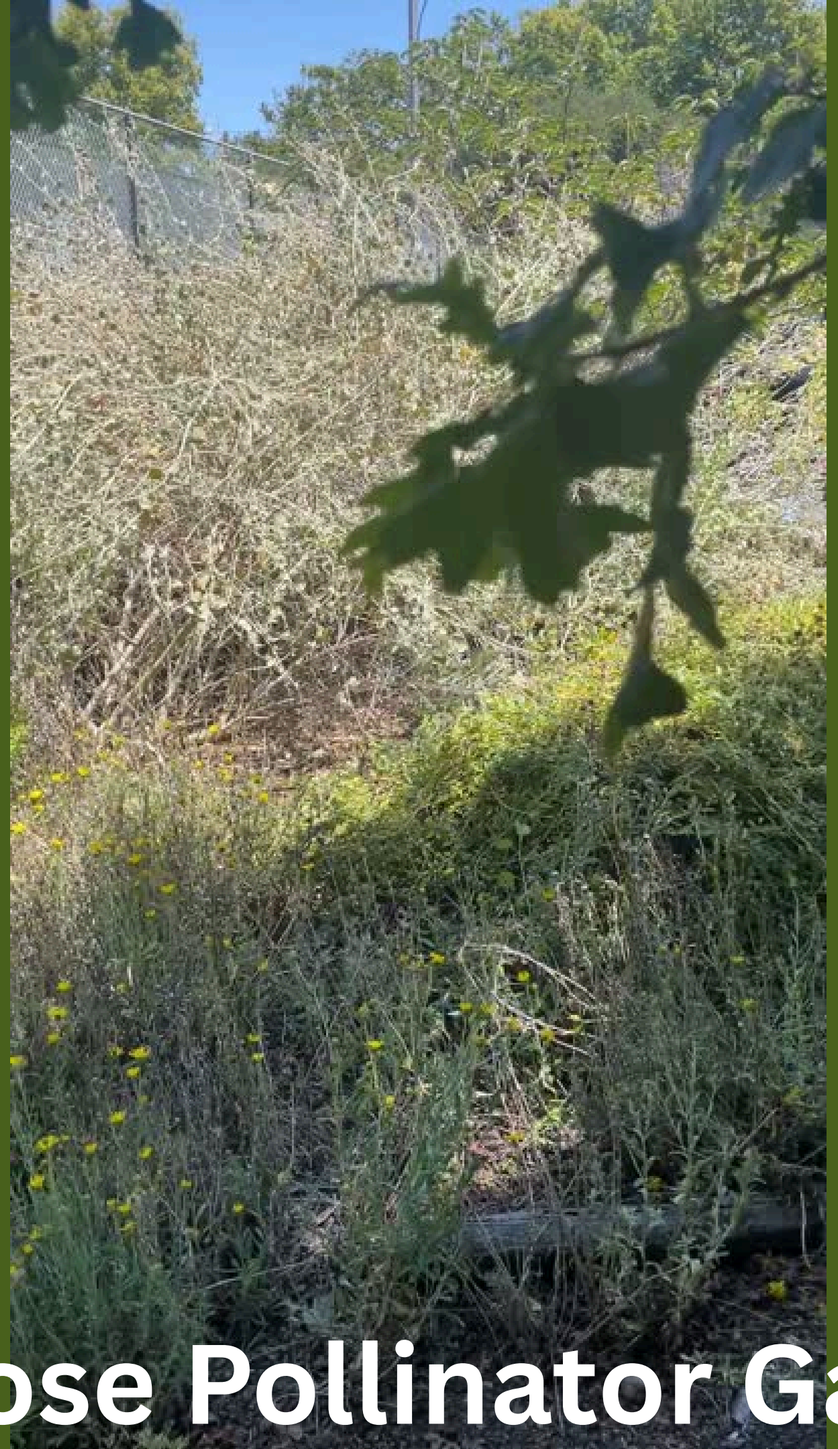
So what works?

Google Campus Landscaping in Mountain View

Green Infastructure in Redwood City



Pollinator Gardens in Palo Alto



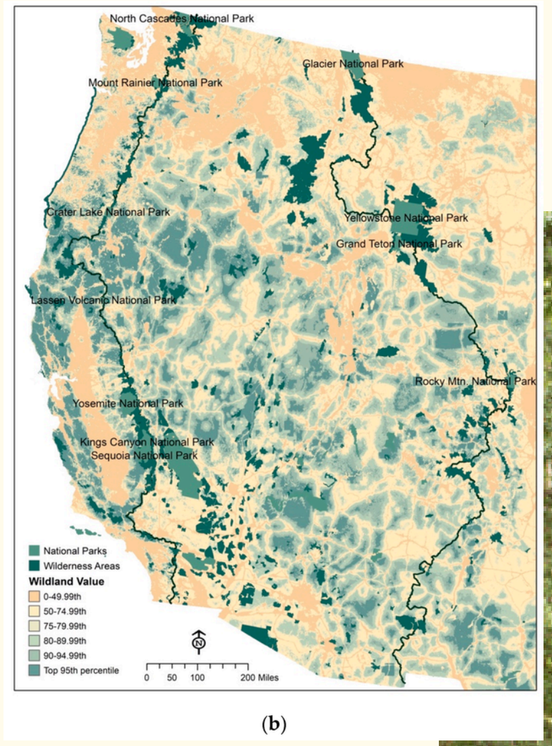
(The sound of success)

Primrose Pollinator Garden:

Proposal

Habitat Connectivity

- Each project supported increased habitat connectivity.
  - Measure of connection and easy mobility for wildlife between habitats.
  - Opposite is fragmentation.



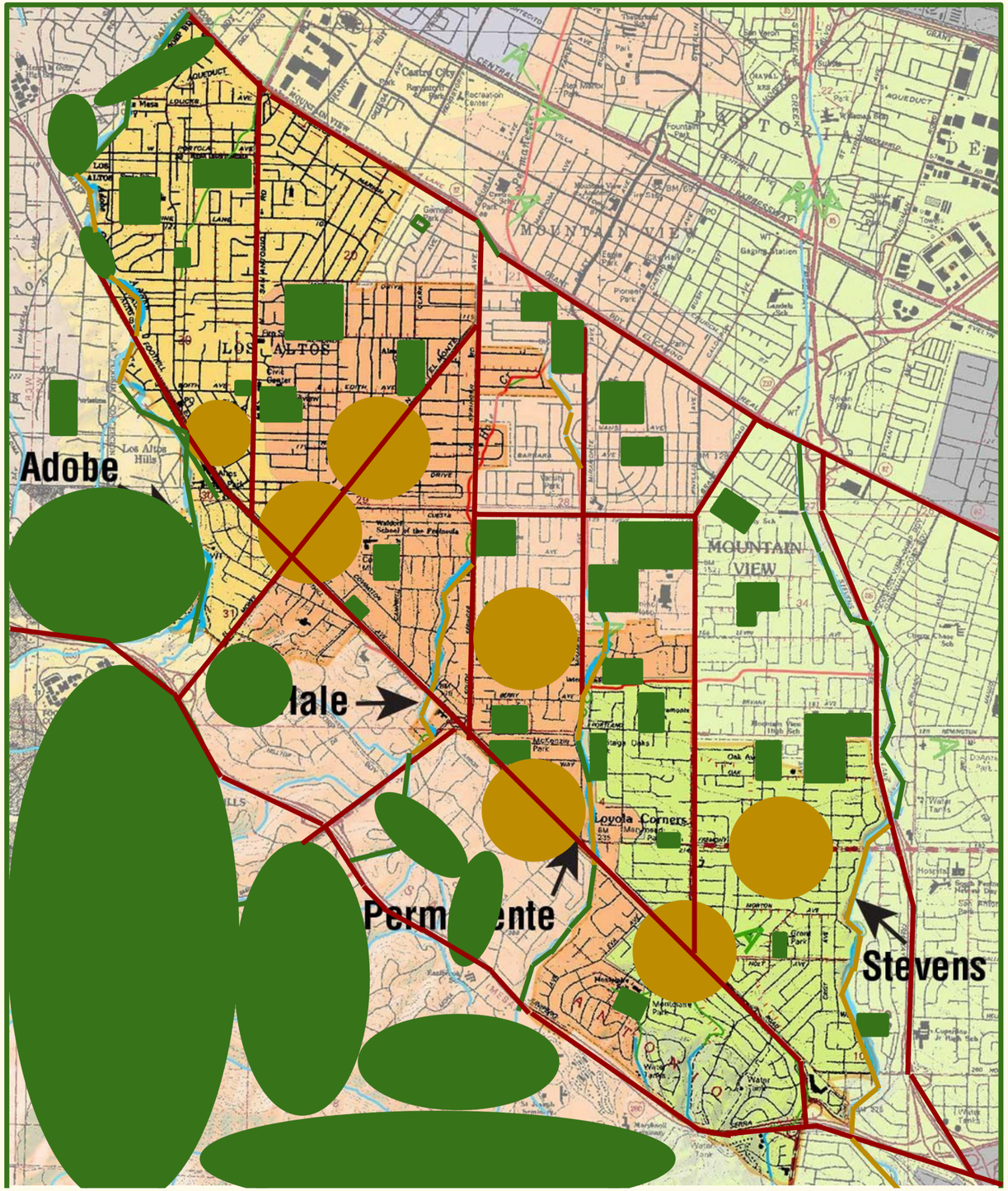
(b)

Addressing Habitat Fragmentation

- Identify possible connectivity corridors.
  - Small and large sites.
- Resource conservation.
- One of the most pressing issues destroying biodiversity
- Where is there the greatest need and what is most feasible
- Wildlife cooridors

Green space and habitat corridors

Barriers for wildlife



Gaps or in need of improvement

Proposal: Pollinator Gardens

- Designed to attract pollinators, providing food and shelter.
- Network of gardens could help stabilize native ecosystems.
- Suitable for small, unused urban spaces.

Proposal: Pollinator Gardens

- Large network, small spaces.
  - 5-10 minute walk apart.
- Native plants for native pollinators.
  - Water efficient.
- Boosts biodiversity by supporting native ecosystems.
- Supports community stewardship through resident involvement.

Garden Priorities

- Native plants.
  - Water conservation, disease resistance, local adaptation.
- Native pollinators.
  - Productivity, foundation of our local ecosystem.

Garden Priorities

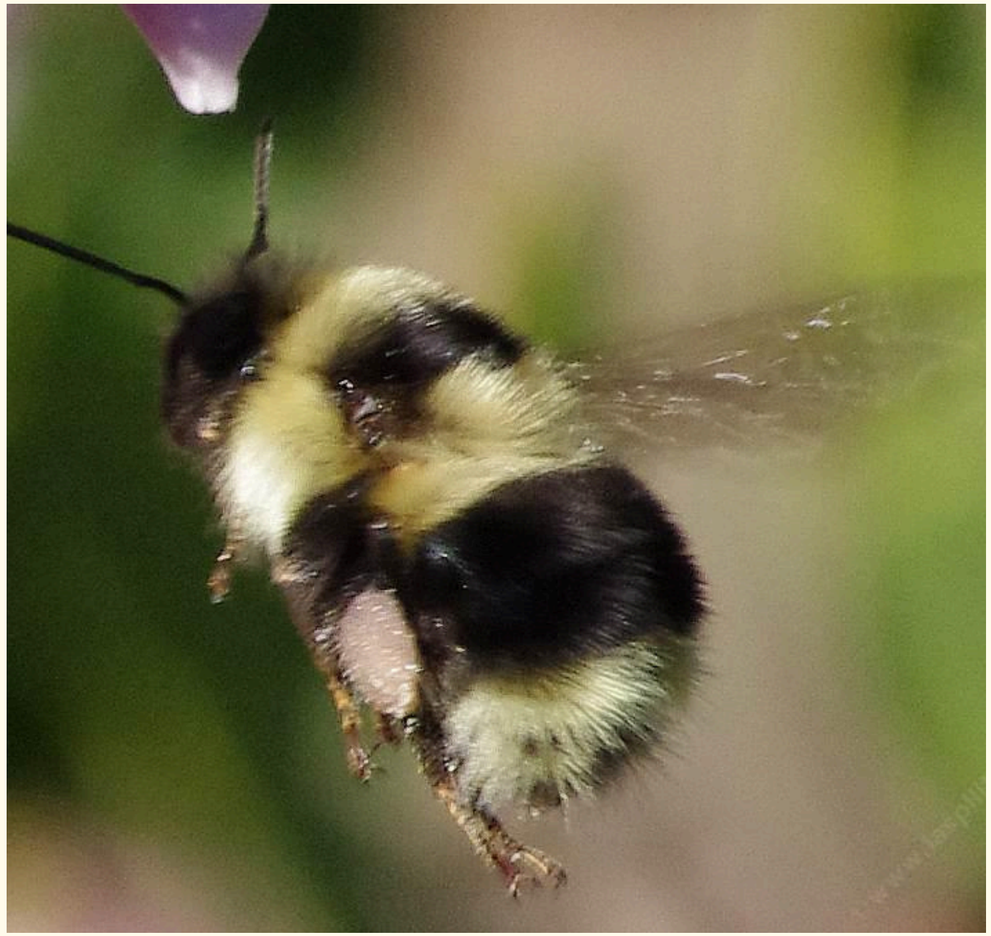
- Habitats and food.
  - Nesting native bees.
  - Bee boxes.
  - Water sources.
- Educate Los Altos residents.
  - Community outreach and volunteer projects

Important Plants

- Year round bloom.
  - Keystone genera.
- Variety of height/ecosystem levels.
  - Ground cover to canopy level.
- Multi-purpose plants.
  - Pollination, habitat, food.

Cost

- Around $450-550 for 100 sq ft.
  - Site preparation
  - Irrigation
  - Plants, natural materials
  - Signs, paths, built materials
- Possible funding sources
  - Happy Hollow Pollinator Grants
  - Xerces Society Plant Grant
  - Santa Clara Valley Water District Landscape Rebates



Implementation

- Elementary and middle schools
- Downtown area

Action

Access to rebate and spreading information so people know where to find them

Thank You

GreenTown - **City Council** - **Internship team**