MEMO

Submitted by: **Judy Kelly**
Director, San Francisco Estuary Partnership

Subject: **Adopt Resolution Confirming CEQA Determination for San Pablo Avenue Green Stormwater Spine Project**

Date: **March 1, 2013**

Executive Summary

The San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) is the project manager for a multi-city demonstration project to retrofit portions of the San Pablo Avenue right-of-way with green infrastructure facilities. Green infrastructure is a term describing an emerging stormwater management approach that emphasizes the use of landscaping and permeable surfaces to capture, treat, and slow stormwater runoff. The San Pablo Avenue Green Stormwater Spine Project includes the cities of Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito, Richmond, and San Pablo. The project builds on the successful rain gardens pilot project in El Cerrito completed in the summer of 2010. It also implements the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan for the San Francisco Estuary, while contributing to greener infill development and more sustainable, livable communities.

The project is funded by the California Department of Transportation and grants from the EPA, the Department of Water Resources, and the California Strategic Growth Council.

ABAG, as the parent organization of the SFEP, is the Lead Agency responsible for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The SFEP staff has made factual findings to support a determination that the project is Categorically Exempt under CEQA's Section 15301, Class 1 exemption and ABAG's Legal Counsel concurs with staff conclusion that the project is therefore exempt.

Recommended Action

Adoption of the attached Resolution authorizing the filing of the Notice of Categorical Exemption under CEQA is requested.

Next Steps

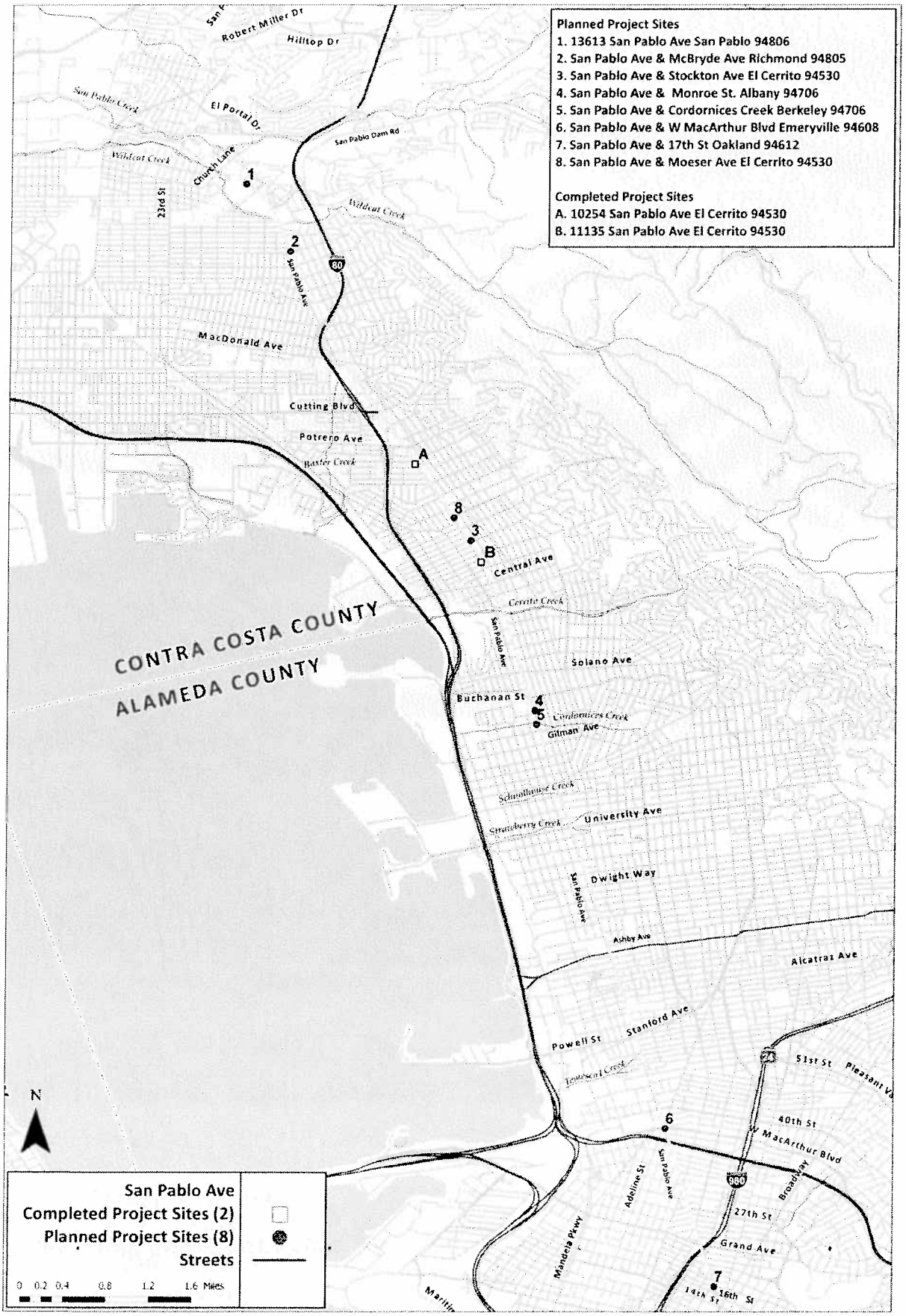
Upon adoption of the resolution, SFEP will file the Notice of Exemption with the Contra Costa County Clerk's Office and the Alameda County Clerk's Office.

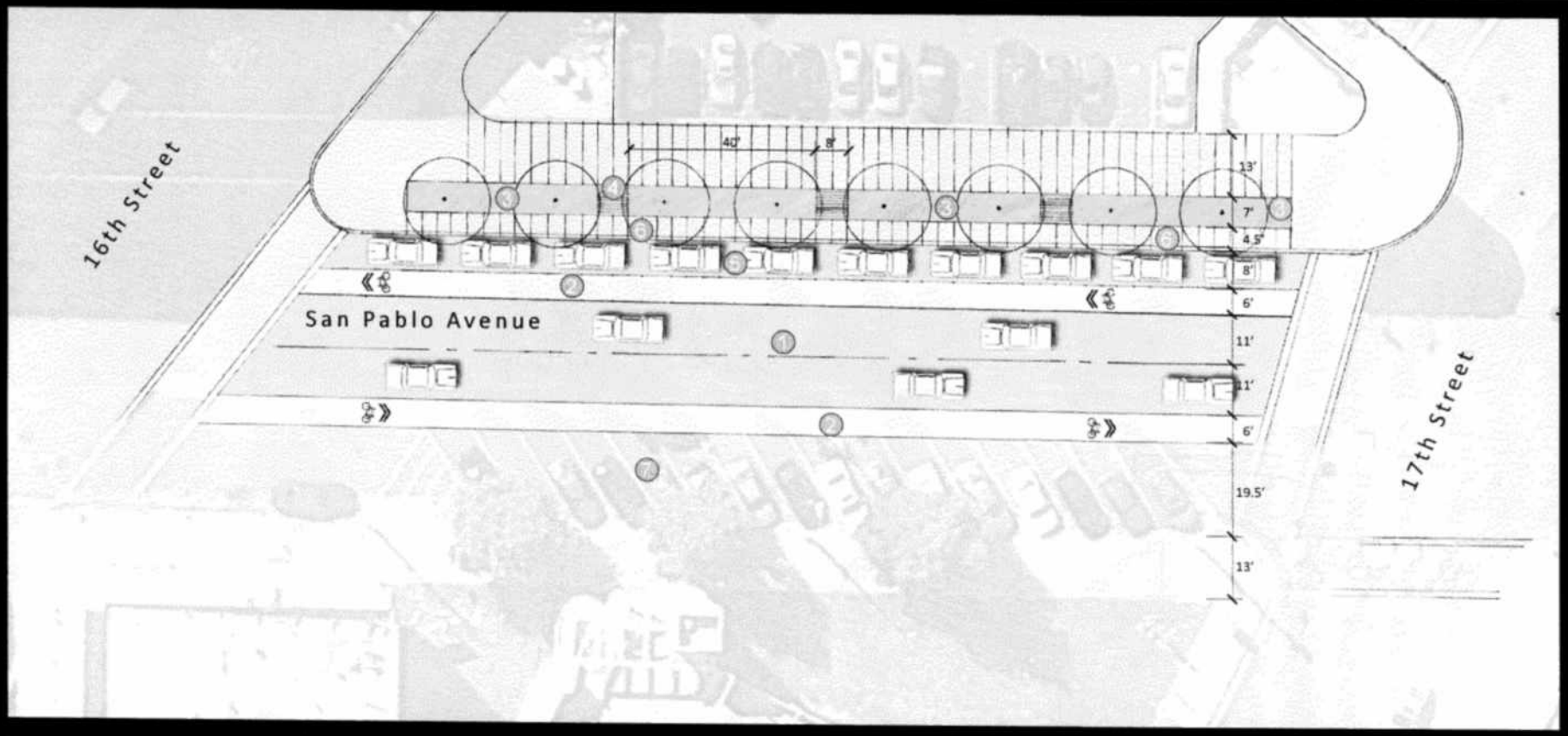
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2050 Oakland, California 94604-2050 (510)464-7900 Fax: (510) 464-7970 info@babag.ca.gov
Location: Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter 101 Eighth Street Oakland, California 94607-4756

San Pablo Avenue Green Stormwater Spine
Selected Project Sites

November 2012

San Francisco Estuary Partnership





Stormwater Improvement Concept Plan

Scale: 1"=20'
January 2013

1. Existing median is removed and travel lanes remain as asphalt.
2. New painted bike lanes are proposed on both sides of the street (by others)
3. Stormwater planters and street trees accept runoff from both San Pablo Avenue and adjacent private property.
4. Boardwalks allow pedestrians to access parking and sidewalks.
5. Parallel parking configuration allows for greater space efficiency along the street.
6. A 4.5' egress zone allows pedestrians to safely exit their vehicles and pay parking meters.
   The existing ADA marked parking stall is retained at this location.
7. The east side of San Pablo Avenue could be converted to mirror west side improvements in the future.

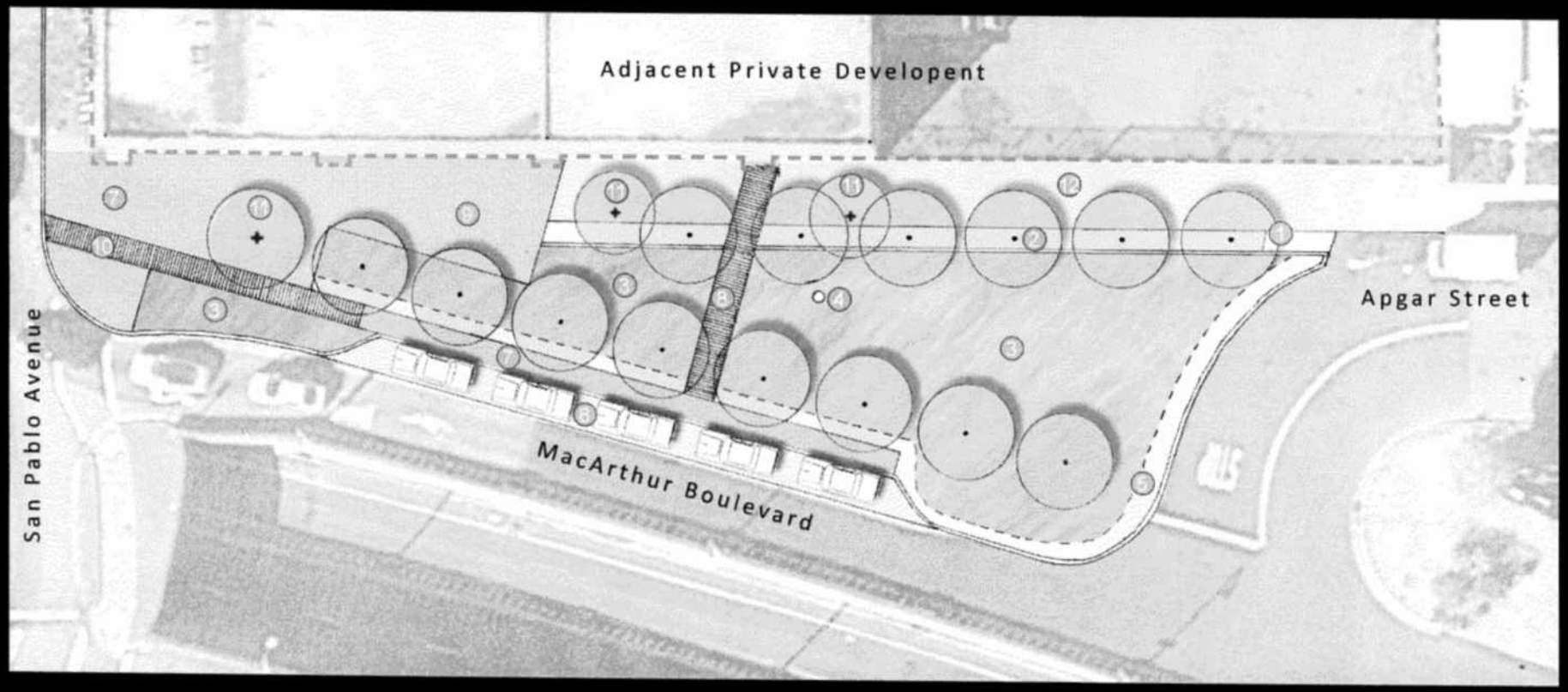
San Pablo Avenue Green Stormwater Spine Project

City of Oakland, California

[nev-o-non]
Nevue | Ngan | Associates

QUADRIGA
landscape architecture and planning inc.

WILSEY HAM



Stormwater Improvement Concept Plan

Scale: 1"=20'
January 2013

1. Entry point of stormwater flow from Apgar Street.
2. Low-flow green gutter. Higher flows spill over a small retaining wall into larger adjacent rain garden.
3. Rain garden landscape area.
4. Existing sewer manhole location.
5. Side slope landscape transitions grade from street level to the basin's finished elevations.
6. On-street asphalt parking zone (Capacity is for five vehicles)
7. New sidewalk paving to match existing brick paving along San Pablo Avenue (by private development?)
8. Pedestrian boardwalk crossing over rain garden system.
9. Expanded sidewalk area overlooks rain garden cells and allow for addition space for cafe/plaza seating.
10. Overflow from rain garden system.
11. Existing street trees to remain.
12. Sidewalk zone to be paved with standard scored concrete.

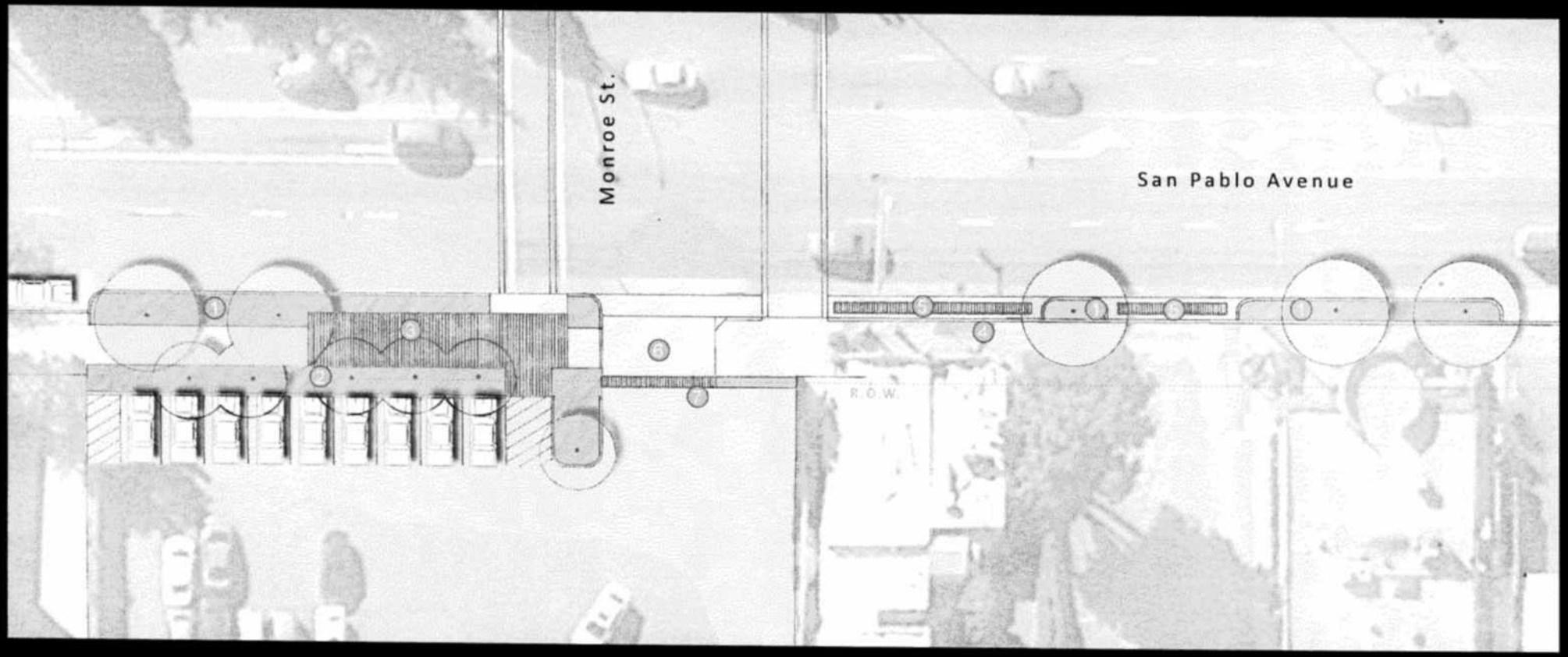
San Pablo Avenue Green Stormwater Spine Project

City of Emeryville, California

[nev-u-non]
Nevue|Ngan|Associates

QUADRIGA
landscape architecture and planning, inc.

WILSEY HAM



Stormwater Improvement Concept Plan

Scale: 1"=20'
January 2013

- Stormwater curb extensions capture runoff from San Pablo Avenue.
- Sidewalk planters capture stormwater from private parking lot. This will require acceptance and coordination of improvements with private owner.
- A boardwalk allows stormwater to be stored under sidewalk zone using Silva Cell technology.
- Existing bus stop remains in current location.
- Stormwater overflow from stormwater curb extensions is captured within a series of grated green gutters within parking zones/ driveway zones.
- Existing driveway is modified.
- Combination speed bump and trench drain system conveys runoff into sidewalk stormwater planter.

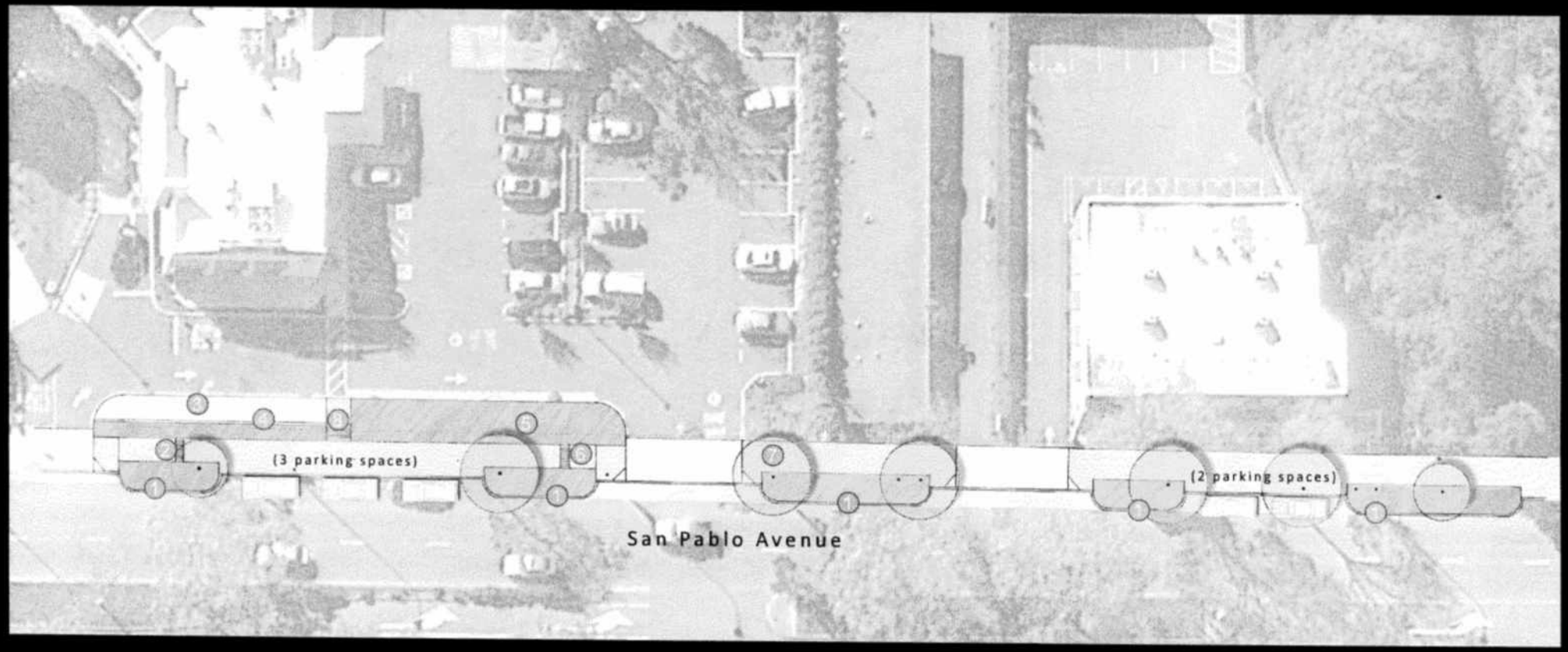
San Pablo Avenue Green Stormwater Spine Project

City of Albany, California

[nev-o-non]
Nevue|Ngan|Associates

QUADRIGA
landscape architecture and planning, inc.

WILSEY HAM



Stormwater Improvement Concept Plan

Scale: 1"=25'
January 2013

1. Stormwater curb extensions capture runoff from San Pablo Avenue.
2. Grated trench drains allow stormwater to flow into adjacent sidewalk planter.
3. Existing private landscaping/signage/utilities are retained.
4. Sidewalk planter accepts stormwater from San Pablo Avenue. A small concrete curb wall helps provide grade separation and protection of existing signs and utilities. This will require acceptance and coordination of improvements with private owner.
5. An existing vegetated swale is modified to capture stormwater from both San Pablo Avenue and McDonald's parking lot. This will require acceptance and coordination of improvements with private owner.
6. Grated trench drains allow stormwater overflow to flow into a stormwater curb extension in San Pablo Avenue.
7. All existing trees are retained with streetscape improvements.
8. Boardwalk allows stormwater to follow under pedestrian pathway.

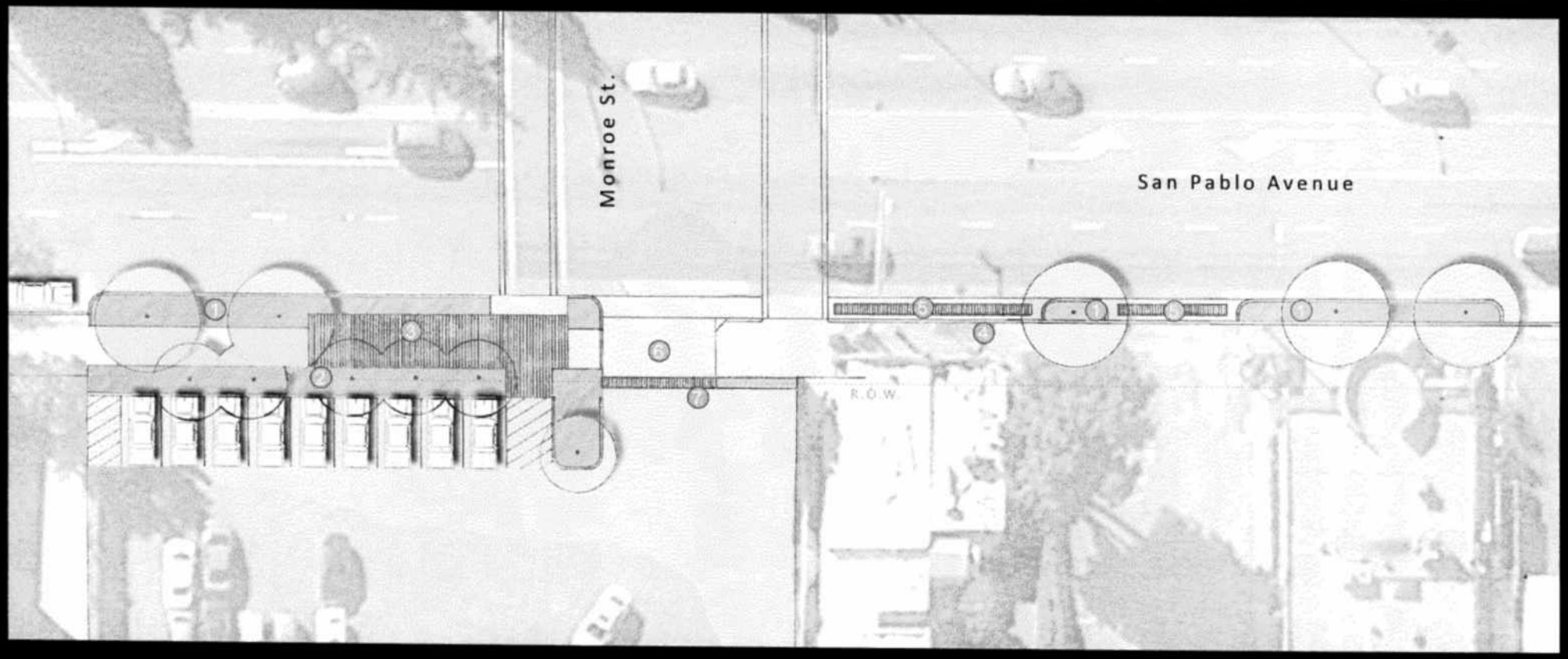
San Pablo Avenue Green Stormwater Spine Project

City of Berkeley, California

(nev-a-non)
Nevue|Ngan|Associates

QUADRIGA
landscape architecture and planning inc

WILSEY HAM



Stormwater Improvement Concept Plan

Scale: 1"=20'
January 2013

1. Stormwater curb extensions capture runoff from San Pablo Avenue.
2. Sidewalk planters capture stormwater from private parking lot. This will require acceptance and coordination of improvements with private owner.
3. A boardwalk allows stormwater to be stored under sidewalk zone using Silva Cell technology.
4. Existing bus stop remains in current location.
5. Stormwater overflow from stormwater curb extensions is captured within a series of grated green gutters within parking zones/ driveway zones.
6. Existing driveway is modified.
7. Combination speed bump and trench drain system conveys runoff into sidewalk stormwater planter.

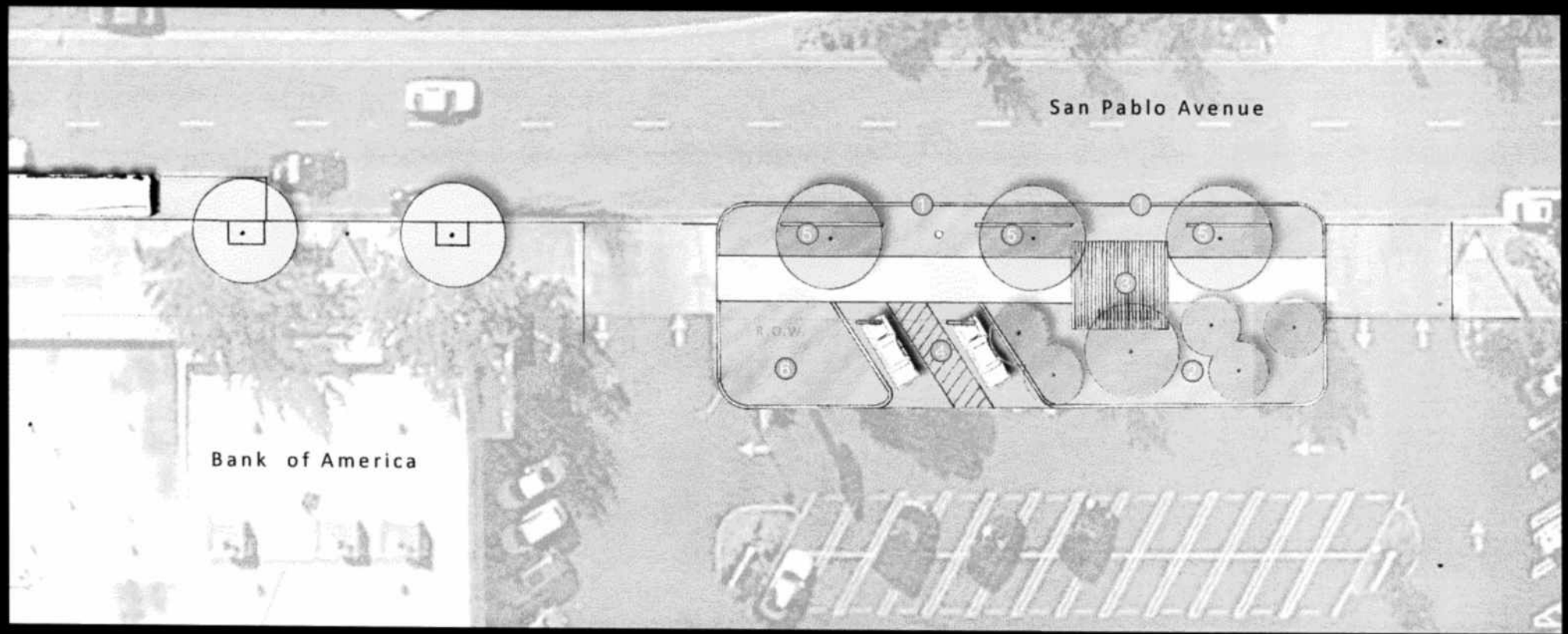
San Pablo Avenue Green Stormwater Spine Project

City of Albany, California

[nev-O-non]
Nevue | Ngan | Associates

QUADRIGA
landscape architecture and planning, inc.

WILSEY HAM



Stormwater Improvement Concept Plan

Scale: 1"=20'
January 2013

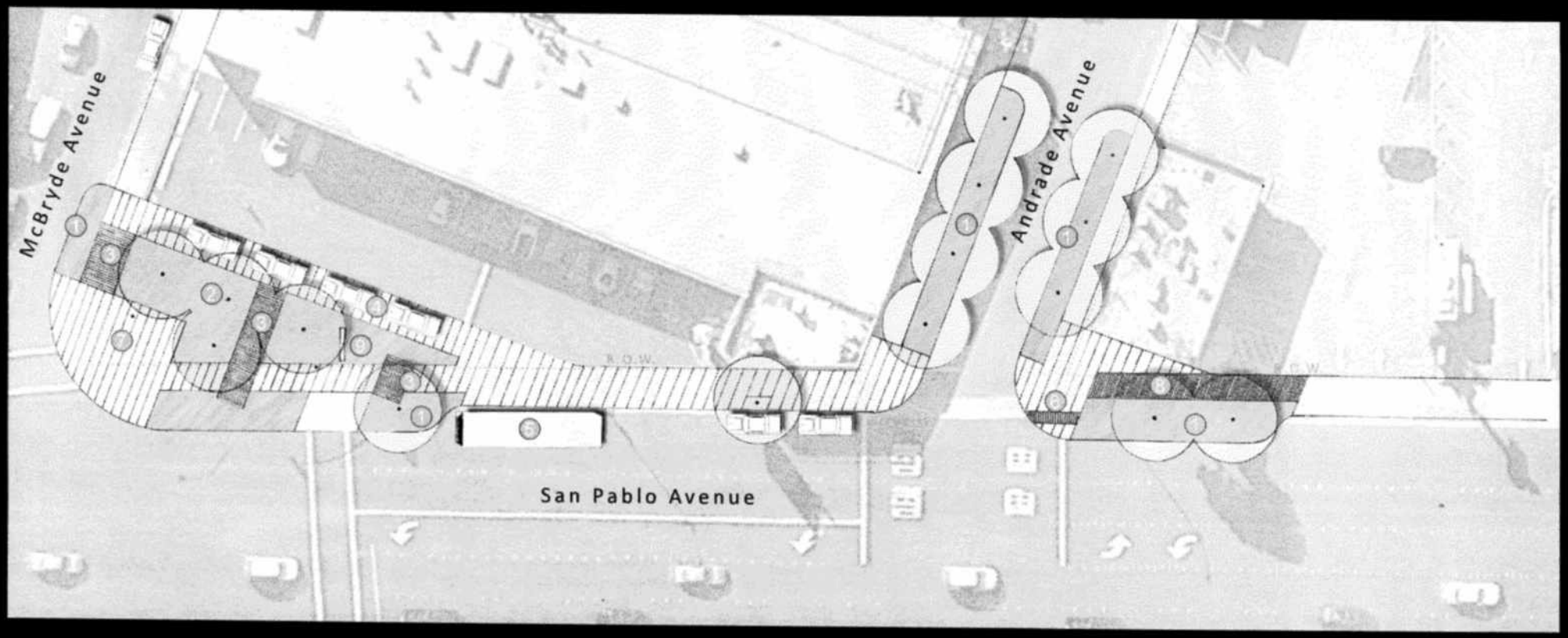
1. Stormwater curb extensions capture runoff from San Pablo Avenue.
2. Sidewalk rain garden captures stormwater from private parking lot. This will require acceptance and coordination of improvements with private owner.
3. A boardwalk allows stormwater to be connected between the curb extension and rain garden.
4. Existing ADA accessible parking spaces to remain at current location.
5. Existing large canopy street trees to remain. Stormwater facility is graded to allow existing street trees to remain.
6. Sidewalk rain garden captures stormwater from private parking lot. Existing signs and utilities will need to be protected.

San Pablo Avenue Green Stormwater Spine Project
City of El Cerrito, California

(nev-ü-non)
Nevue|Ngan|Associates

QUADRIGA
landscape architecture and planning, inc.

WILSEY HAM



Stormwater Improvement Concept Plan

Scale: 1"=25'
January 2013

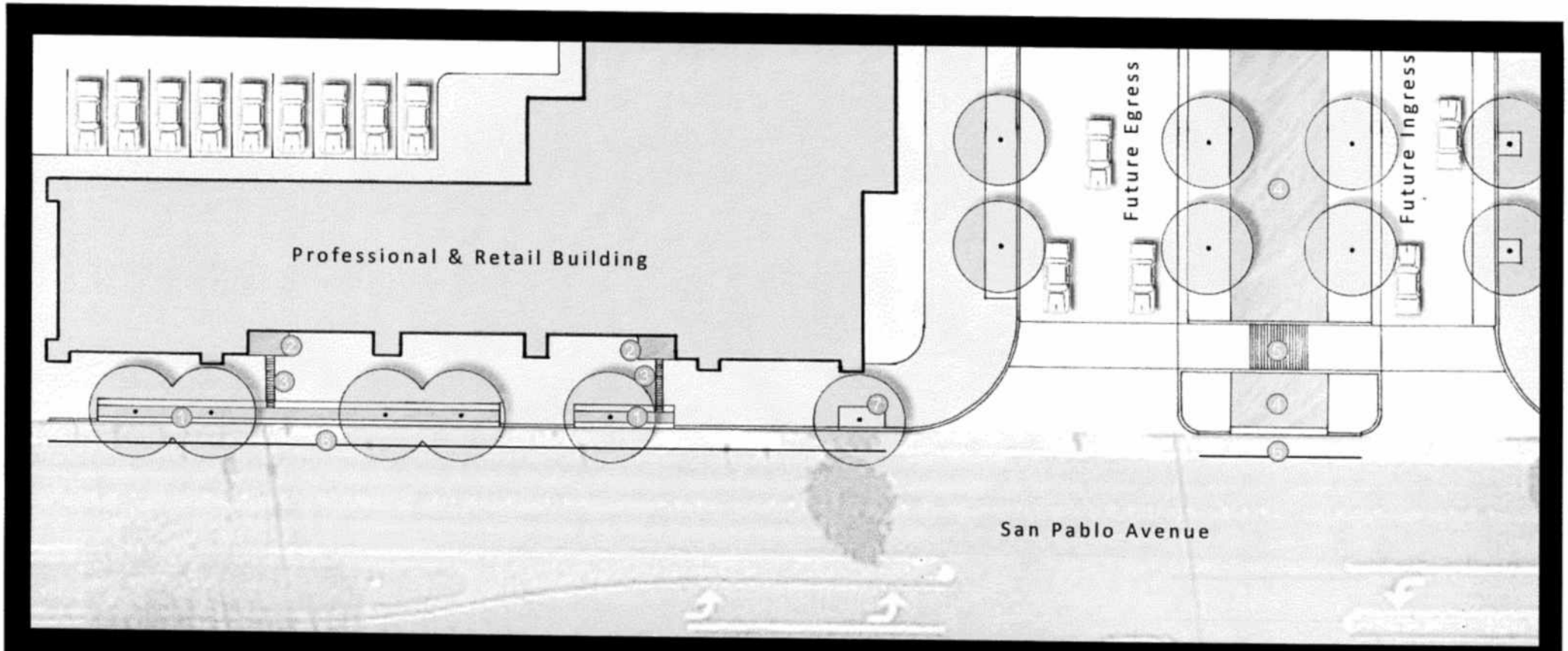
- Stormwater curb extensions capture runoff from San Pablo Avenue, Andrade Avenue, and McBryde Avenue.
- A new rain gardens capture stormwater from private parking lot. This will require acceptance and coordination of improvements with private owner.
- Boardwalks allow stormwater to be connected between the curb extensions and rain garden.
- Existing parking spaces are modified to allow for only parallel parking, however, additional parallel parking is allowed on McBryde Avenue
- Existing bus stop is adjusted to this location.
- Trench drains used for stormwater conveyance.
- A new corner plaza for placemaking opportunity (art, pedestrian seating, other amenities by others).
- Boardwalk allows for additional stormwater storage adjacent to stormwater curb extension.
- Existing private signage/utilities are to be protected within rain garden.

San Pablo Avenue Green Stormwater Spine Project
City of Richmond, California

[nev-ō-non]
Nevue | Ngan | Associates

QUADRIGA
landscape architecture and planning, inc.

WILSEY HAM



Stormwater Improvement Concept Plan

Scale: 1"=20'
January 2013

- Stormwater planters capture runoff from San Pablo Avenue. Each planter has a flush curb condition next to bike lane for sheet flow of stormwater.
- Future potential improvements include sidewalk planters that capture stormwater from a portion of private rooftop.
- Future potential improvements include trench drains that convey rooftop stormwater overflow to street stormwater planters.
- A large street median rain garden captures runoff from San Pablo Avenue. The rain garden entry has a flush curb condition next to bike lane for sheet flow of stormwater.
- A boardwalk allows for stormwater conveyance under the pedestrian crossing
- Existing bike lane is retained.
- Existing street tree is retained.

San Pablo Avenue Green Stormwater Spine Project

City of San Pablo, California

(nev-u-non)
Nevue|Ngan|Associates

QUADRIGA landscape architecture and planning, inc.

WILSEY HAM