

2013 Community Enhancement Project Grant Application

Application Checklist

Yes – Community Enhancement Project application completed & signed

Yes – Map of project site included

Yes – Project Budget attached

Yes – Project Planning Timeline attached

Application Deadlines

Community Enhancement Project applications are due February 8, 2013.

Applications can be emailed to c2e@watershedmg.org or mailed to:

Watershed Management Group
PO Box 44205
Tucson, AZ 85733

A Grant Workshop will be held on Thursday, December 6, 2012 from 5-6pm at the Water Resources Research Center (350 N. Campbell Ave.) for those interested in learning more about C2E and the Community Enhancement Project Grants. Please RSVP at <http://watershedmg.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=201>.

For more information on the Community Enhancement Projects and the application process, please refer to the Additional Information document available at <http://watershedmg.org/c2e>. For any questions, please email c2e@watershedmg.org.

Application for Community Enhancement Projects

Applicant Information

Name:
Address: City: Tucson State: AZ (Zip Code: 85710)
Phone: Email: _____

Project Information

Project Title: Henry Elementary WINS! – Wash Improvement & Neighborhood Sustainability
Project Location: 650 N. Igo Way, and surrounding neighborhood sites
Site Ownership: Tucson Unified School District, and public (City of Tucson)
Site Map: *(Include a map that illustrates the planned project design and the extent of project area.)-yes*

Project Description

1. How will the proposed project improve or enhance this site?

The proposed project will transform Henry Elementary School into a water harvesting and conservation showcase through hands-on action. Students, parents and neighbors will add native plants to restore and improve habitat on school grounds and adjacent waterways. This process is designed to educate these groups about neighborhood washes' existence and importance, encourage neighbors to plant more native trees and vegetation, remove invasive plants and litter, prevent illegal dumping, reduce pet waste, and mitigate the urban heat island. This complements recent volunteer-driven landscape improvements at the school and nearby, as well as the school's successful Safe Routes to Schools grant to improve walkability.

2. Is the project site physically connected to an urban wash or riparian area? Yes

3. Is the project site adjacent to a drainage (natural or man-made) that feeds into a wash or riparian area? Yes

4. Is your project within Tucson Water's service area? Yes

5. The overarching goals of the Tucson C2E program are to improve Tucson's quality of life, restore ecosystems and increase biodiversity. Please indicate how this project will enhance the surrounding ecosystem in support of the overall C2E program goals. (Mark all that apply) (See Additional Information document for more information.)

Yes – Adding new native habitat

Yes – Controlling stormwater runoff

Yes – Decreasing energy bills

Yes – Erosion Control

No – Growing food

Yes – Improving walkability

Yes – Increasing shade cover

Yes – Increasing soil moisture

Yes – Increasing wildlife

Yes – Mitigating urban heat island effects

Application for Community Enhancement Projects

Yes – Neighborhood Beautification/aesthetics

No – Reducing sewer & septic inputs

Yes – Restoring native habitat

Yes – Soil conservation

Yes-Other: Reduce stormwater pollution

Connection to Water Resources

6. If supplemental water is needed for the project, what type(s) of water will be used and where will it come from? (Types of water include potable, non-potable or reclaimed, harvested and grey water)

Some potable water may be used at the school and donated by adjacent neighbors for initial watering of trees and plants. The school has a reclaimed water irrigation system, so this project may include extension of reclaimed water irrigation in lieu of potable water. Passive water harvesting and cisterns are included to reduce long-term use of plumbed/metered water.

7. What water conservation practices (e.g. using correct watering rates, preventing water waste, phasing out irrigation) will be implemented during the project and after completion?

We will seek to minimize initial and ongoing watering to what the plants need, setting up a regular monitoring/watering schedule until monsoon rains arrive, and where appropriate, rock or wood mulch to retain soil moisture. As plants will all be native/low water use and will be planted with water harvesting techniques implemented, longer term will see irrigation phased out entirely.

Community Investment

8. Describe the organizational support for this project, including each partner's role and contribution to the project. List individuals and organizations.

- B.J. Cordova – Henry Elementary neighbor and parent of student; grantwriter and administrator for multiple past/current school grants. Will seek projected in-kind, TBA.
- Henry Elementary PTA – fiscal sponsor, connection to parent volunteer base
- Jon Ben-Asher–Henry principal, connects teachers/students & district administration
- City of Tucson – recent support of area grassroots improvements; would contact Transportation and Parks & Recreation departments again for permission & input
- Ward 2 Council Office – Supported past volunteer recognition and publicity efforts
- Watershed Management Group: possible expertise/consultation for design
- Tucson Clean & Beautiful/Trees for Tucson: education & discounts/deliver trees
- Neighborhood volunteers: typical event 15 volunteers from list of 40 area residents

Application for Community Enhancement Projects

9. What is the outreach plan for this project: (Outreach includes educating neighbors, providing volunteer opportunities, recruiting community members to become C2E participants and making the project visible and accessible.)

- Host open house/meeting with neighbors and school to discuss project plans
- Student art contest/winner's design used as part of sign
- Wash naming petition via PTA for two presently un-named washes; forward petition to local council office for endorsement and proposal for full city council approval; placement of signage at wash-street intersections to publicize washes
- Volunteer opportunities for planting, water harvesting workshops and project days, paint additional neighborhood wash railings to increase waterway visibility/aesthetics
- Neighborhood survey of washes/alleys to determine maintenance needs (graffiti, invasive plants, litter/dumping), and refer for volunteer help or owner cleanup
- Flyers, email and Facebook within school and to neighbors for project days
- Recruiting additional volunteers/groups and business donations from area
- Dedication ceremony for school/neighborhood improvements/wash naming
- Walking tours/project showcase days and site visits for residents/neighborhoods
- Expanded environmental education/curriculum opportunities for teachers/students

10. What is the project sustainability plan to ensure community engagement and site maintenance?

Henry PTA and/or neighbors plan to adopt public portions of the project for maintenance and monitoring via Tucson Clean & Beautiful Adopt-a-Park & Public Areas program. Ongoing monitoring at least twice monthly, continued volunteer projects approximately quarterly, and informal neighborhood/family volunteer efforts. Principal works with the school district on campus maintenance issues. Project design intended to be low-maintenance for the long term.

C2E Agreement

If your project is awarded funding, your group agrees to enter into a contract to carry out certain tasks, such as...

1. Complete the proposed project within the time period laid out in the Application Timeline and Project Description.
2. Create signage at the project site in collaboration with C2E partners; sign will include C2E name, logo, website and list of C2E partners. (Include signage in budget).
3. Submit quarterly invoices for reimbursement following the categories in the Budget. Other payment arrangements can be made if necessary.
4. Submit a one-page quarterly progress report with the reimbursement request.
5. Submit a final reimbursement and annual report once all work is completed.



Signature

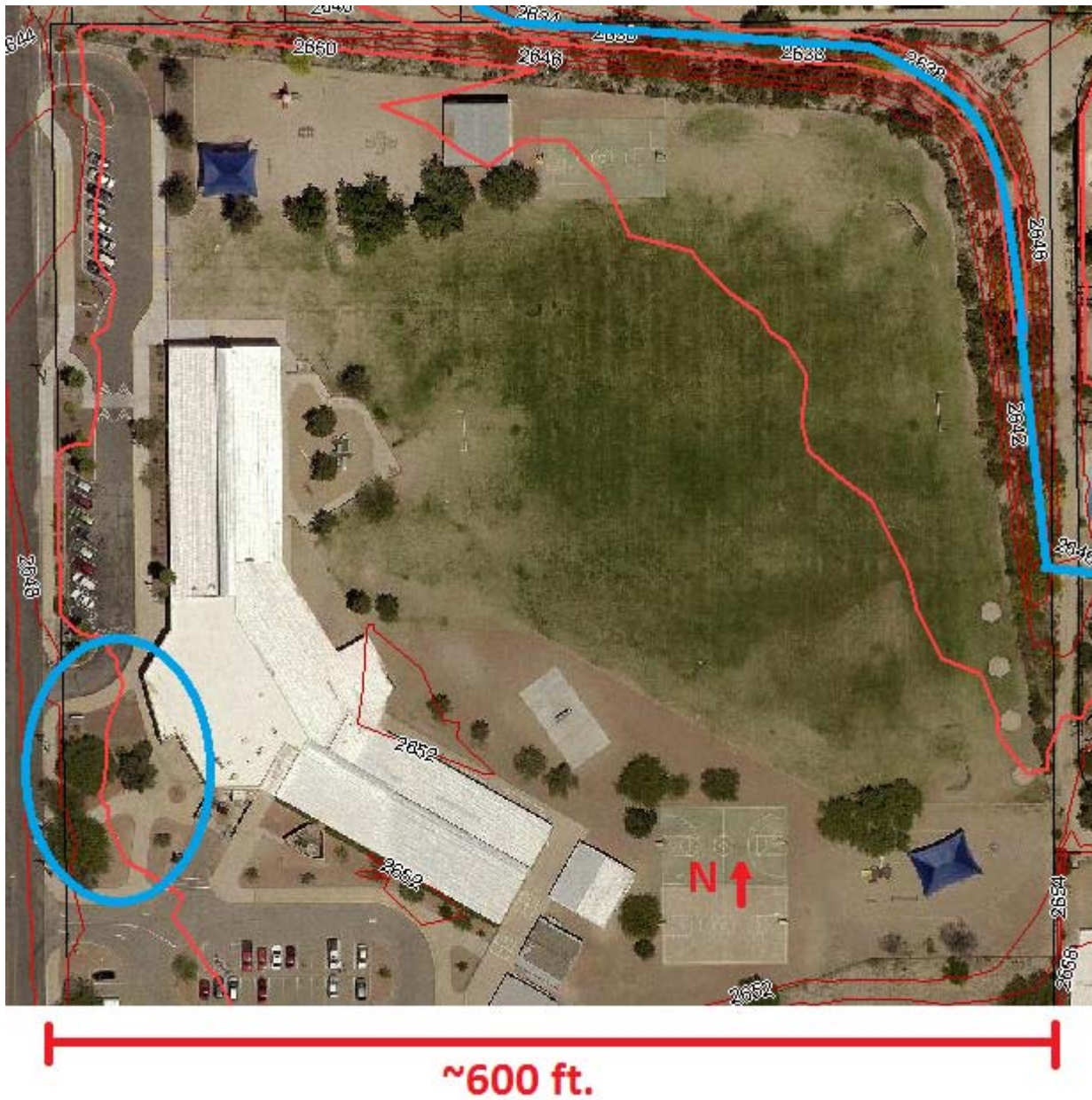
February 7, 2013
Date

Henry Elementary School – additional project background and notes:

- 1) The one-square mile neighborhood containing the school site has three named washes (Camino Seco Wash, Ricardo Small Wash, and Hidden Hills Wash) traversing the area generally from north to south, plus several additional un-named wash branches for which the neighborhood is the headwater. Two of those washes have Pima County-designated critical habitat: Ricardo Small Wash (just under ½ mile directly south of the school) and Hidden Hills Wash (1/2 mile southeast of the school as well as beginning just north of the next street north of the school, approximately 1/6 mile away).
- 2) While habitat through the neighborhood is somewhat fragmented by development that has taken place over the last 45 years, the neighborhood level wash network is also supplemented with urban alleyway connections and backyard habitat. This makes wildlife sightings regular in the neighborhood (coyotes, native/migratory birds & more).
- 3) The school is uniquely positioned between two constructed washes. One of these constructed minor washes begins approximately ¼ mile southeast of the school, passing in the median across from the school entrance, then continuing generally to the northwest. This wash has already received very minor waterway restoration work, turning a dusty, compacted-soil site into a street corner neighborhood amenity by adding boulders to block the vacant street corner to vehicular traffic, adding rock mulch and a few plants. Work on the previous project is complete but more improvement is possible.
- 4) During rainstorms, water gushes from the school cafeteria on to a sidewalk and uncontrolled across a landscaped area, regularly sending water and sediment across sidewalks in front of the school, in to the street and to a drain connected directly to the wash across the street from the school. This is one of the greatest on-campus needs for water harvesting to directly benefit watershed health and reduce school maintenance.
- 5) Another minor constructed drainage begins in the alley directly east of the school, and is on school property as it wraps around the eastern and northern side of the school playground before leaving school property and being channeled under a newer subdivision, re-emerging again a block away. The vast portion of this waterway is on school property and is heavily vegetated, but has never been actively managed as a school or neighborhood habitat resource. The school as well as neighborhood volunteer supporters have just recently removed a large stand of buffelgrass at the east side of the school along with minor litter, to restore and improve this habitat area. More volunteer efforts are intended to continue this effort, in tandem with proposed improvements.
- 6) The center of the neighborhood has a very active, informal walking culture, with neighbors taking advantage of the neighborhood sidewalks, washes and alley network. A Safe Routes to Schools grant has also been approved to improve walking accessibility within the neighborhood (particularly at wash crossings where vertical curbs are prevalent) and to connect major thoroughfare sidewalks to school/neighborhood.
- 7) Many neighbors also are walking dogs, most are conscientious about pet waste, but some are not. This is a problem throughout the neighborhood for sidewalks, alleys & washes.
- 8) There is no active neighborhood association in the area, but the school has implemented a neighborhood school model where it strives to be a center of activity. This school site has also received student populations from two nearby neighborhoods due to recent and pending TUSD closures, increasing site visibility considerably over the past three years.

Henry WINS - Wash Improvement & Neighborhood Sustainability

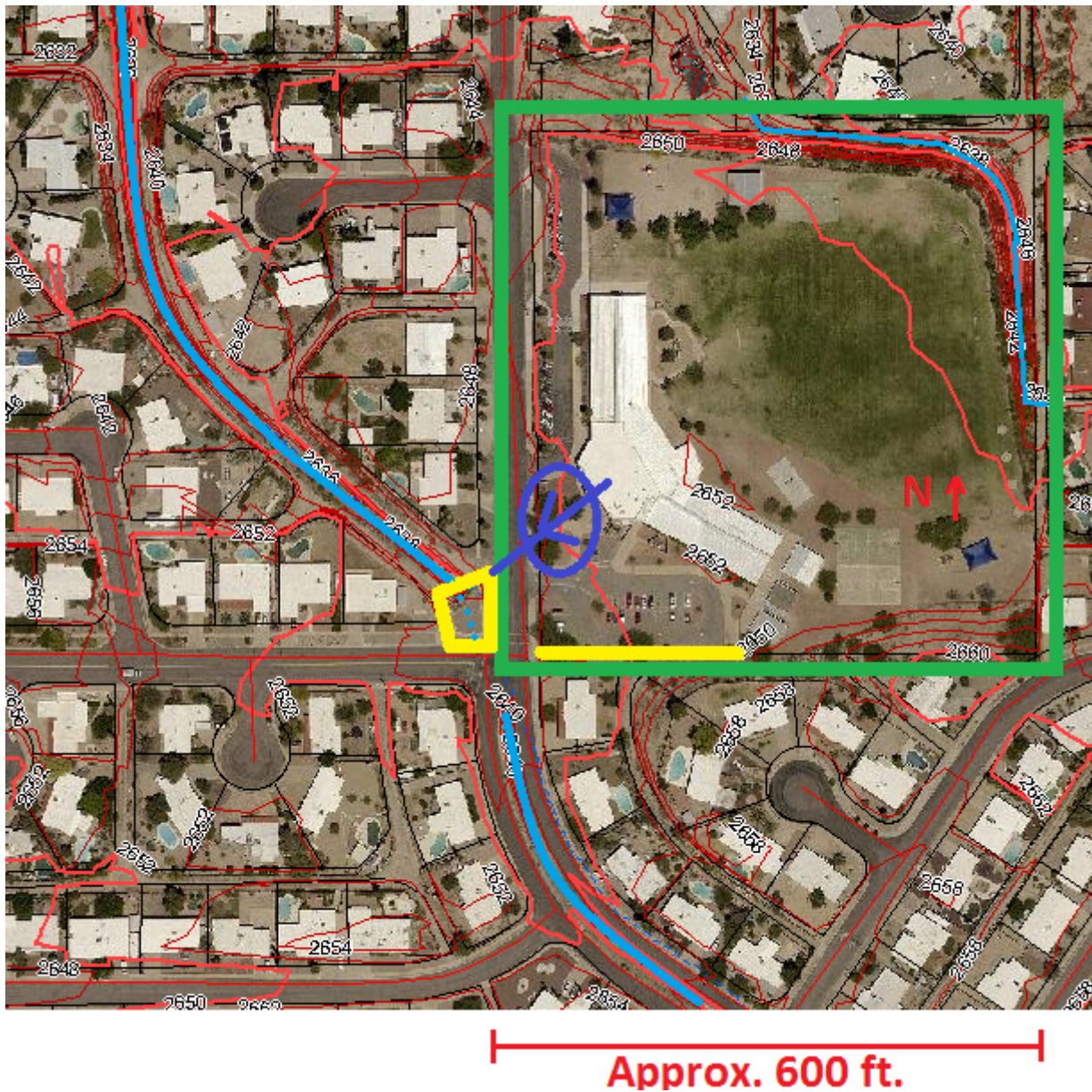
Map 1



Map 1: Henry Elementary School property, including potential wash improvements at north and east side of school, and water harvesting opportunity at southeast side of school.

Henry WINS - Wash Improvement & Neighborhood Sustainability

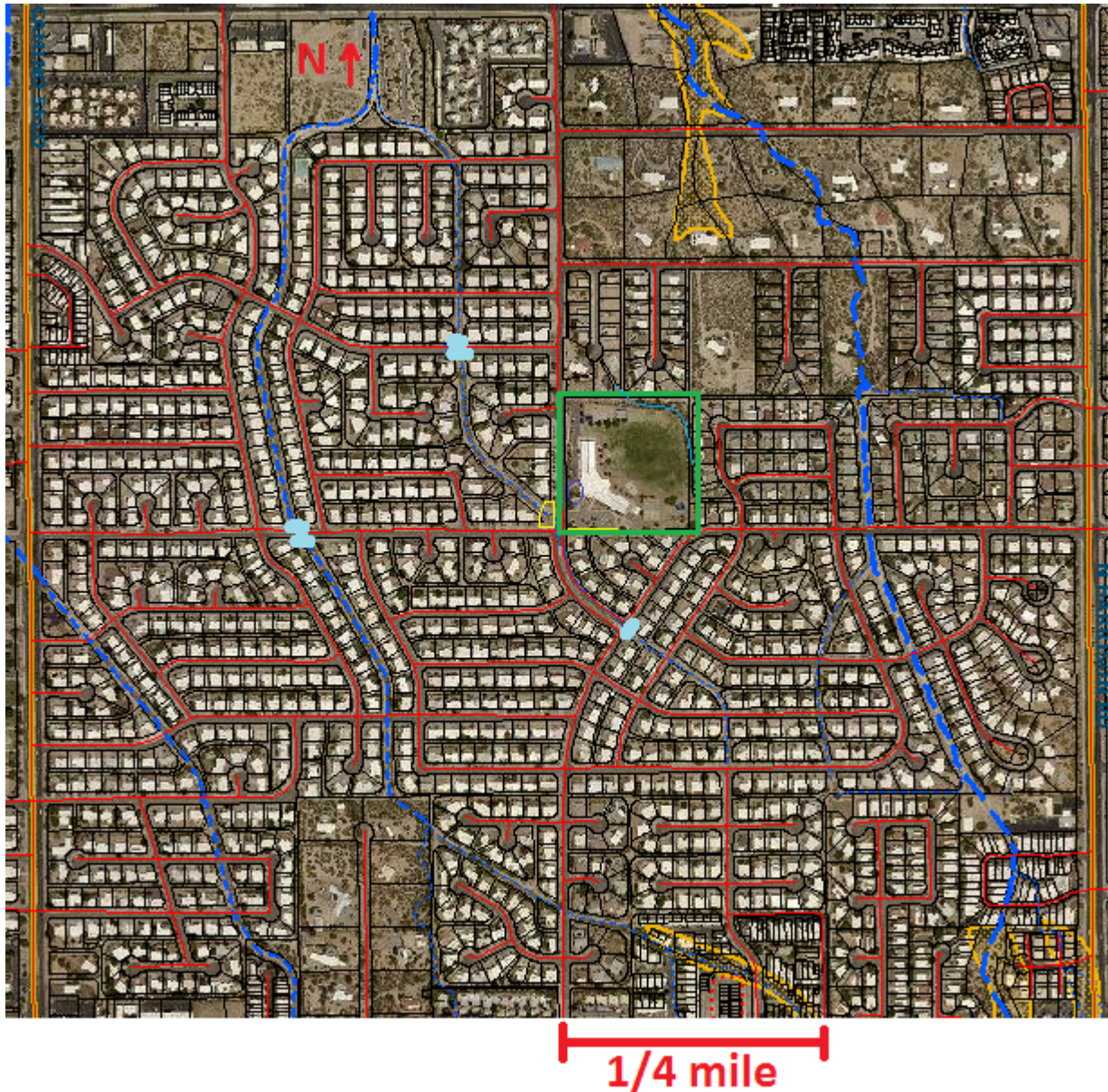
Map 2



Map 2: Henry Elementary School (Map 1 outlined in green), near the intersection of 5th St. and Igo Way; neighborhood context for small un-named drainageway across the street and direction of heavy water flow from school to adjacent wash. Recent, volunteer-driven landscape and beautification partial improvements at south side of school and street corner noted in yellow.

Henry WINS - Wash Improvement & Neighborhood Sustainability

Map 3



Map 3: Square-mile context of Henry Elementary School, bounded by Speedway Blvd. to the north, Harrison Rd. to the east, Broadway Blvd. to the south, and Camino Seco to the west. Shaded areas at north-central, and south/southeast areas indicate Xeroriparian C habitat designated by Pima County, targeted for additional tree plantings and neighborhood volunteer cleanup. Light blue – wash railings recently painted blue (Gollob at Igo, 3rd St. west of Igo, and 5th St. near Bedford). Map 1 outlined in green.

**Project Budget Template - Henry WINS - Wash
Improvement & Neighborhood Sustainability**

Name and contact of fiscal agent: Henry Elementary PTA - Regina Beem, Secretary

Item	Description	C2E Cost	Match
Direct Environmental Benefits			
Water Supplies (conveyance, irrigation systems, etc.)	Faucet, piping, installation, hoses; water donated school/neighbors	\$500.00	\$250.00
Professional staff time for design & implementation	May involve WMG, Tucson Clean & Beautiful, and others as needed	\$360.00	\$750.00
Contractors/labor to do project work	Professional work crew-remove nonnative trees/debris; install piping	\$600.00	\$600.00
Site materials (hardscape & structures)	Cisterns (school), gravel/mulch/landscape rock for swales/soil retention	\$4,500.00	\$800.00
Volunteer time (valued at @\$19.71/hr; only use for match)	250 vol. svc hours: project prep and 5 community vol. days anticipated	-----	\$4,927.50
Additional volunteer time	40 vol. hrs: Neighborhood wash maint. map-invasives/dumping/graffiti	-----	\$788.40
Plants	50 trees @\$35+100 ground plants@\$10; discounts/donations inkind	\$1,000.00	\$1,100.00
Pet waste station - refillable with reused bags	For street corner at wash; inkind install+pavers off sidewalk for access	\$500.00	\$150.00
	Total	\$7,460.00	\$9,365.90
Ancillary Project Needs (not to exceed 20% of total budget)			
Tools	All tools will be borrowed/provided inkind or purchased by others	\$0.00	\$500.00
Permits	A volunteer will pay for any minor permitting costs during project	\$0.00	\$100.00
Job and skills training/stipends, etc.	Stipend-trained youth (from Tucson Clean & Beautiful YARDS program)	\$150.00	\$200.00
Paint	Turquoise blue primer/paint in one for wash rails (5g = \$180 total)	\$155.00	\$25.00
	Total	\$305.00	\$825.00
Outreach/Education			
Signage	Project corner sign \$250+17 small wash crossing signs \$100 ea	\$1,750.00	\$200.00
Workshop/tour supplies	Additional supplies for special workshops and tours, plus donations	\$335.00	\$200.00
Workday supplies	Approx. \$75 per volunteer day, volunteers bring some items	\$150.00	\$225.00
	Total	\$2,235.00	\$625.00
	Project Total	\$10,000.00	\$10,815.90

Project Planning Timeline Template

	2013			2014	Date Completed (proposed)
Tasks	April-June	July-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan-March	
Finalize project design & have approved by C2E	X				April 2013
Project publicity & work day - initial (general litter cleanup/invasives/site maint.)	X				April 2013
Work plan approved by land owner(s)	X				May 2013
Wash naming nomination petitions/forward to council office for endorsement	X				May 2013
Project publicity & work day - 2nd (wash rail painting, contractor removal of invasive trees, and basic site preparation - water harvesting)	X				May 2013
Design cistern/water harvesting features	X	X			July 2013
Quarterly report & reimbursable 1		X			7/10/2013
Initial ordering cisterns		X			August 2013
Project publicity & work day - 3rd (cisterns- & water harvesting contouring prep)		X			September 2013
Council - Approval of wash naming?		X			September 2013
Student waterway art contest		X	X		October 2013
Quarterly report & reimbursable 2			X		9/10/2013
Order wash signage/work with city on placement; order rock			X		November 2013
Project publicity & work day - 4th (cisterns installation if not already complete; planting and rock work)			X		November 2013
Quarterly report & reimbursable 3				X	1/10/2014
Project work day - 5th (planting, planting, planting) Final rock				X	February 2014
Design & install overall project sign				X	February 2014
If needed, final work day				X	March 2014
Celebration/ribbon cutting/tours/volunteer recognition				X	March 2014
Final report & reimbursable 4				X	3/31/2014
Project implemented	X	X	X	X	3/31/2014
* project days and additional unscheduled volunteer maintenance days will continue to include cleanup/invasives removal/maintenance					

Please complete Project Planning Timeline template within this application or use Excel file template and attach separately. For more instructions, refer to the Additional Information document.