

Primrose Way Pollinator Gardens

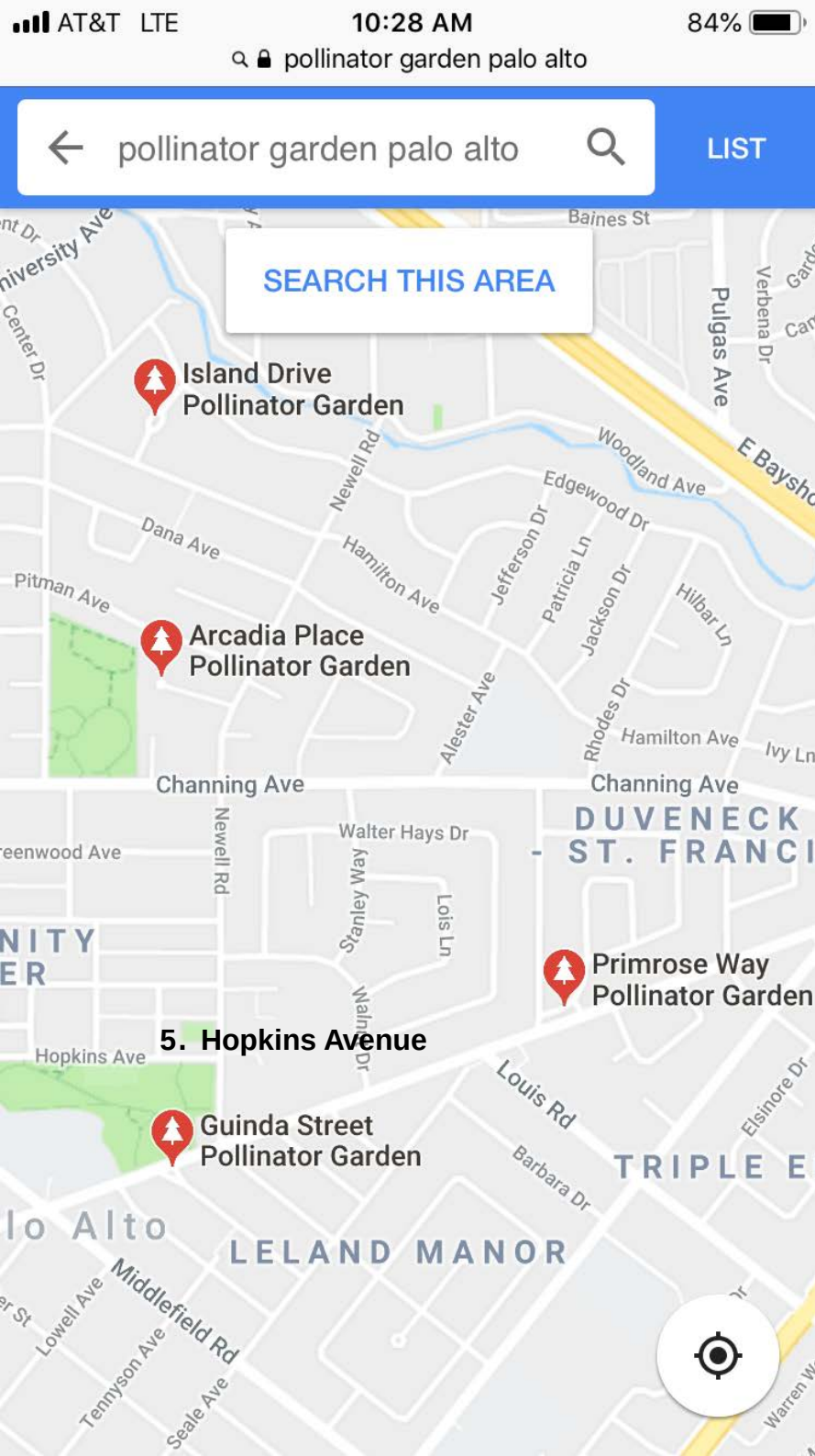


Presented by

Juanita Salisbury, PhD.
CA Landscape Architect #5161

January 28, 2020

Follow us on
Facebook and Instagram
Primrose Way
Pollinator Garden



The gardens are always open:

1. Primrose Way Pollinator Garden
2. Arcadia Place Pollinator Garden
3. Island Drive Pollinator Garden
4. Guinda Street Pollinator Garden
5. Hopkins Avenue Pollinator Garden

Google: “pollinator garden Palo Alto” for locations and virtual tours.

Palo Alto, 2016

The Primrose Way site before:

Grass, cherry and camphor trees and over 4,000 square feet.

Next to busy Embarcadero Road, the site provided an opportunity close by to where I live.

I approached Open Space and Parks to see if I could design and install a pollinator garden with **California native plants**.

I offered to do everything: Design, site preparation, fund-raising, volunteer coordination, installation and maintenance.



“Show us your plan” was the response, so I did.

Approval followed after a couple of changes.



A “Go Fund Me” site and a Palo Alto “Know Your Neighbor” grant provided funds, along with donated mulch and logs from the city. Boulders were also donated from a local building supply company. The neighborhood came out to help plant over 300 plants over several weekends in December, 2016.



Later, the city of Palo Alto created signage for the garden.

Information about the garden and links for more information are included.



The Primrose Way Pollinator Garden
“After” Spring 2019
Over 50 California native plant species and counting.



**The Primrose Way Pollinator Garden
“After” Spring 2019**



The Primrose Way Pollinator Garden Spring 2019

**Not only brought neighbors together
but also featured in the
California Native Plant Society's
2019 Going Native Garden Tour**

About 150 people attended.



December 2016



The Arcadia Place Garden “Before”

A 255 square foot cul-de-sac island.

The City of Palo Alto supplied the plants from my design. Installed and maintained by volunteers.



Outreach flyers were distributed to all the houses on the street for input beforehand.

**Arcadia Place Pollinator Garden
Spring 2019**



Over a dozen California native plant species and counting.



Island Drive 2017

**Another opportunity:
About 4,000 square feet.**

**The city of Palo Alto removed the non-native
ivy and added mulch.**

**A “Progress for Pollinators” grant from the
Happy Hollow Foundation provided
funds for acquiring plants.**



Island Drive 2017

Again, outreach flyers were distributed to the surrounding homes for feedback and input.

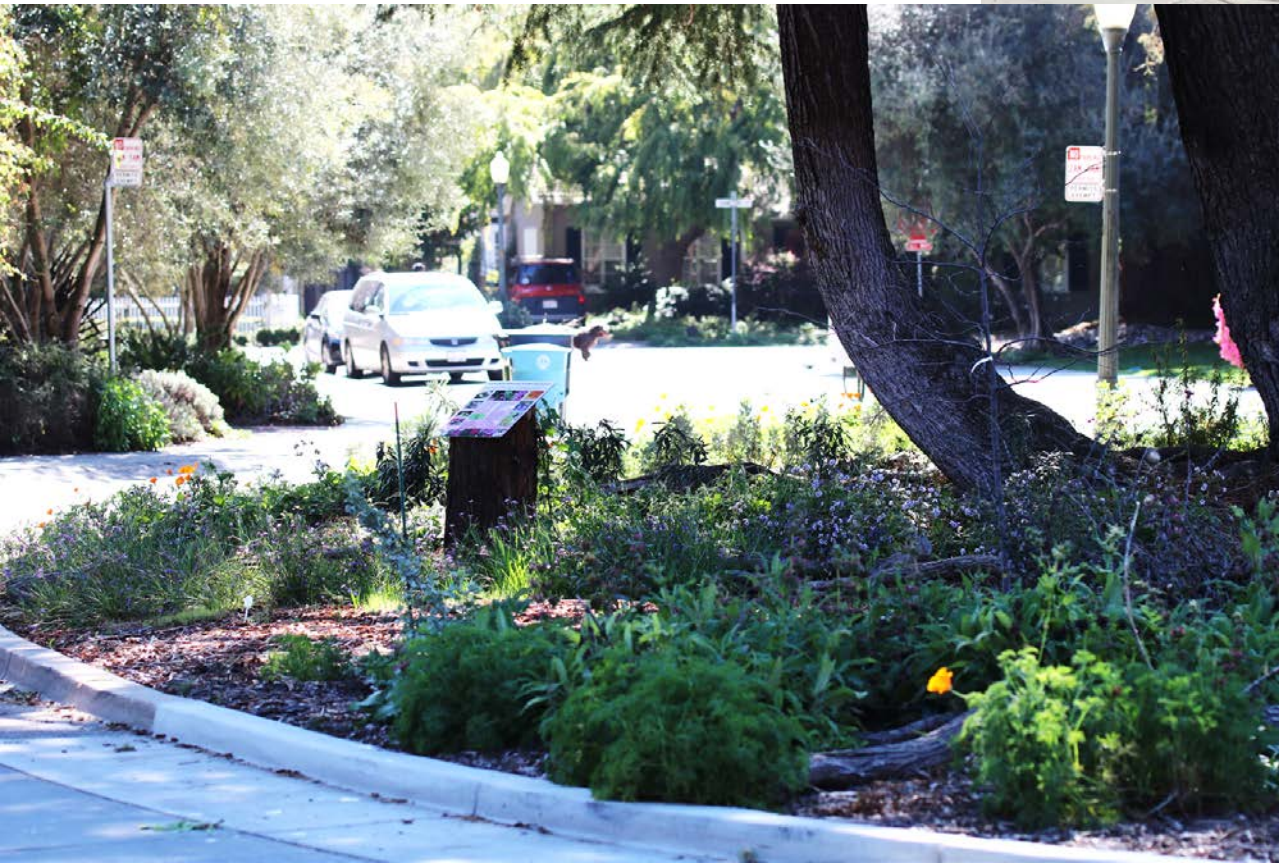
Installed and maintained by volunteers.



Island Drive 2019

Maintained by volunteers.

Over 72 California native plant species
and counting.



Island Drive 2019



Guinda Street 2018

← “Before”

About 2,000 square feet.

The city of Palo Alto removed the non-native ivy, added mulch and repaired existing irrigation.



Another “Progress for Pollinators” grant from the Happy Hollow Foundation provided funds for acquiring plants.

Over 20 plant species and counting.



Guinda Street Pollinator Garden Spring 2019



Hopkins Avenue “Before”

About 1,000 square feet.

The city of Palo Alto enhanced the existing irrigation and supplied mulch.

Another “Progress for Pollinators” grant from the Happy Hollow Foundation provided funds for acquiring plants.

Lots of volunteers came out to plant.



Hopkins Avenue
After, December 2019

**About 175 plants,
Over 20 species**



Why California Native Plants?

California is a Biodiversity Hotspot



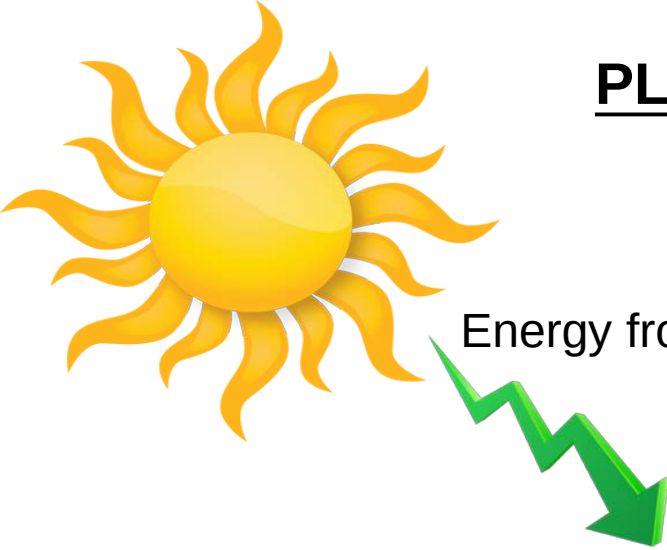
- Almost 8,000 species of plants, some found nowhere else on the planet—more than any other state in the US
- Approximately 1,600 species of native bees (4,000 species across the U.S.; honeybees are not native)—more than any other state in the US
- We have such a huge number of native plant species largely because of:
 - a. Our unique ecosystems in CaliforniaAND
 - b. Our 1,600 species of native bees.

Insect species including pollinators are declining world-wide.

In some areas of the world, insect species have declined 70%.

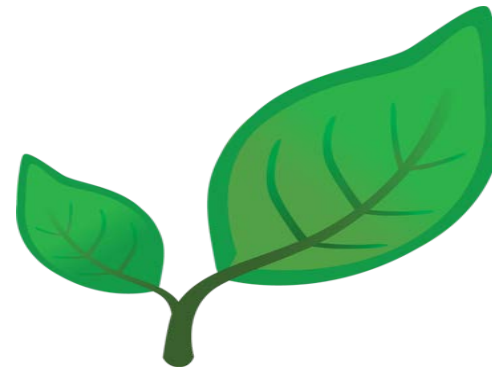
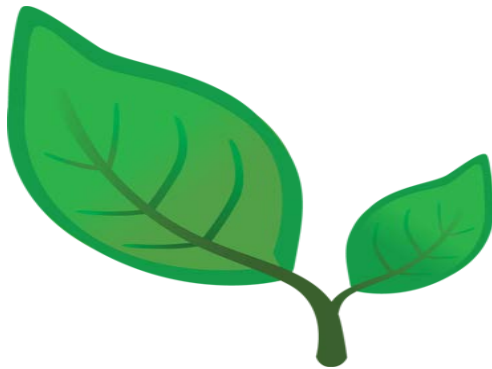
PLANTS ARE THE BEGINNING OF EVERYTHING

(plants are the primary producers of food
and the *basis of the food chain*)



Energy from the sun...

...is converted by plants (first trophic level) into food that is eaten by insects and other animals (second trophic level).



Floral
and
vegetative
resources

Insects provide food for baby birds and other animals.

Gardens with at least 70% native plant species are needed to sustain populations of birds because native insects will generally only eat native plants.

37% of animal species are plant-eating insects.

Many other animals rely on insects as food to access the sun's energy stored in plants.



Native Plant Gardens Optimally Solve Many Issues

Create community
Communicate care
Strengthen ecosystem resilience
Health benefits
Provide opportunities
Enhance neighborhoods
Education
Engagement
And more



Primrose Way Pollinator Garden



Pollinator Post

November 2019
Volume 1, Issue 1

The Primrose Way Pollinator Garden Group

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The Primrose Way Pollinator Garden Group (FWPGG) began in 2016, after the founder, Juanita Salisbury, a Palo Alto landscape architect, approached the city of Palo Alto about transforming an unused grassy area on Embarcadero Road into pollinator habitat.

"I volunteered to do everything: the design, fundraising, neighborhood outreach, volunteer coordination, site preparation, planting, and maintenance," said Juanita.

The city gave the go-ahead and a few months later, with the

help of donations, neighbors, a small grant, and many other volunteer hours, the Primrose Way Pollinator Garden was planted.

The city of Palo Alto liked the garden so much they asked the FWPGG to design a small cul-de-sac island on Arcadia Place.

Soon after Arcadia Place was planted, the Island Drive and Granda Street Pollinator Gardens were designed and installed. Both were funded by grants from the Happy Hollow Foundation's "Progress for Pollinators" Grant Program.

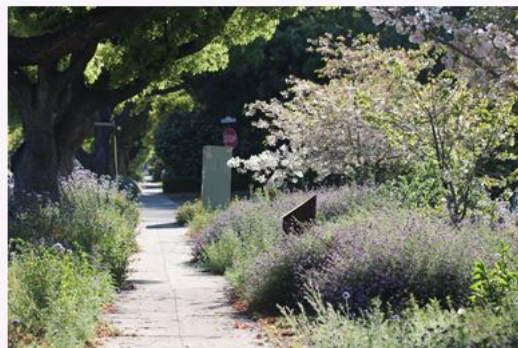
A fifth garden, the Hopkins Avenue Pollinator Garden also received a Happy Hollow Foundation grant and is being installed November 2019.

The gardens are all maintained by the FWPGG, which is made up of volunteers.

Funding for the gardens comes from private donations and grant funding.

All the gardens are always open to the public. See the map on the back page for locations.

Primrose Way Pollinator Garden
Spring 2019



In progress:

Partnering with the First Congregational Church and Grass Roots Ecology, across from the Primrose Way Garden, the parkway strip along Embarcadero Road in Palo Alto.

Inspired by the Primrose Way Garden, the church also installed its own pollinator garden.



Each garden installed helps to fulfill the Pollinator Pathways vision outlined in the Master Plan.

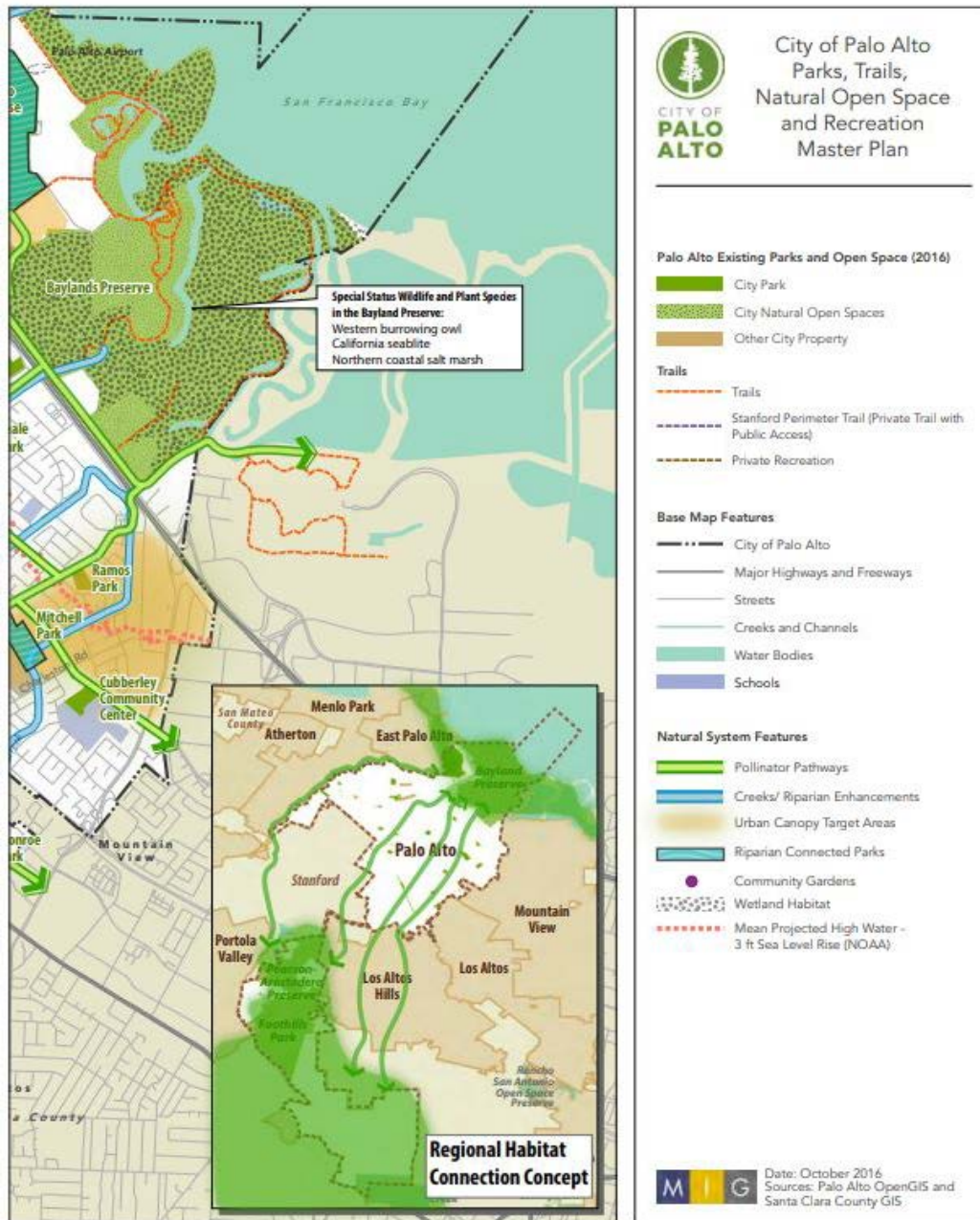
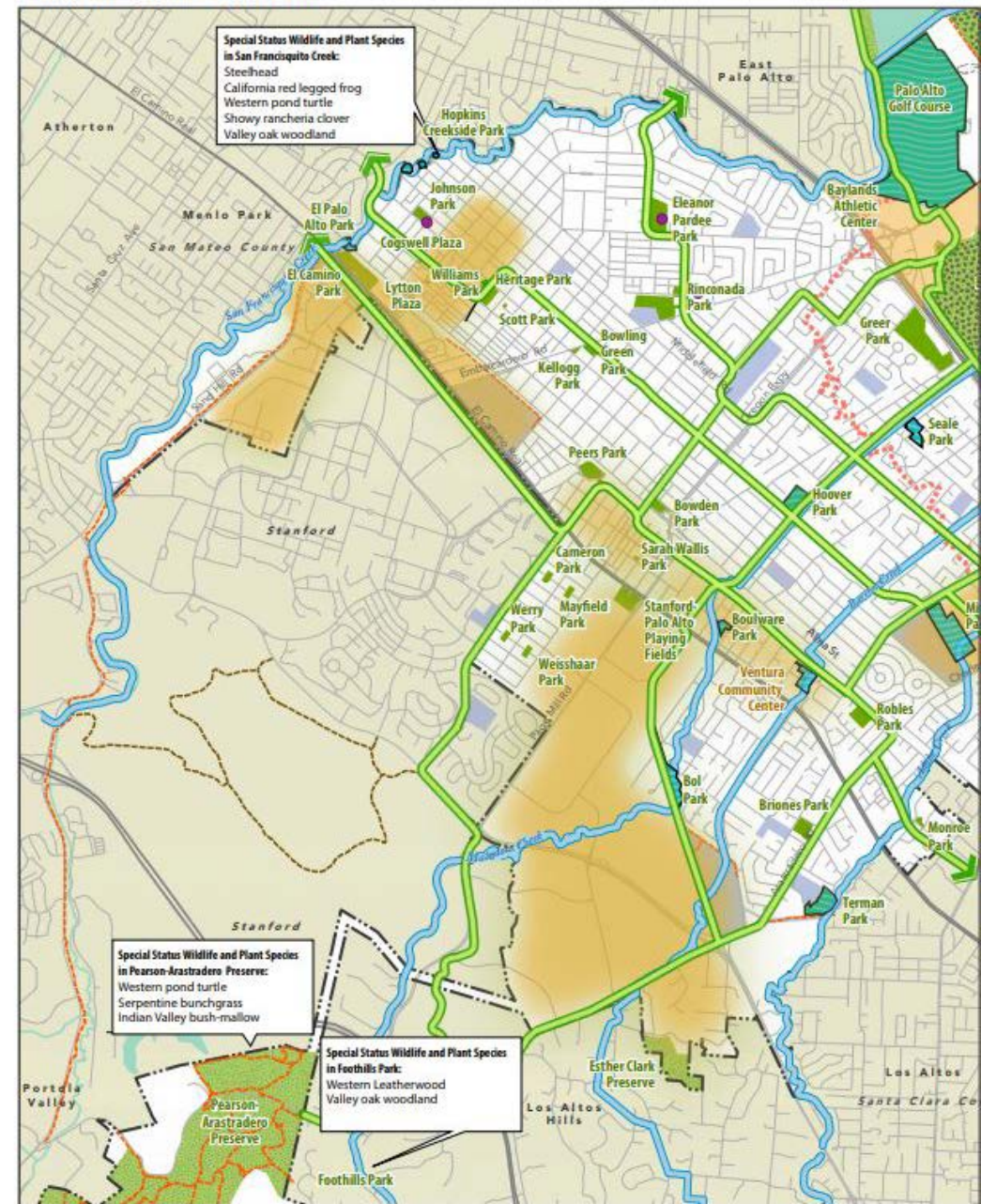


FIGURE 10: NATURAL SYSTEMS MAP



Palo Alto: A City of Abundance

