SUSTAINABLE PARKING LOT
Parking Lot #54

NATIVE SHADE TREES – This lot’s large trees provide shading of the pavement and further reduce the heat-island effect.

WATER QUALITY – This parking lot improves the quality of stormwater runoff before it reaches the streams. The pavement and underground gravel beds filter out over 80% of the sediment and pollutants from each rainfall. The rain garden and the specially designed islands provide natural filters for the sediments and pollutants.

DRAINAGE – The pavement and storage system can retain and treat runoff from a 100-year storm (1% annual chance of occurrence) – that’s about 8 inches of rain in a day, or about 400,000 gallons of rainwater. The retained water percolates into the ground, providing water for plants and the subsurface ecosystem, rather than going directly into the City’s drainage system.

LED LIGHTING – Typical parking lot lights include bulbs that use a lot of electricity and need to be replaced every few years. The LED lights in this parking lot reduce the amount of electricity needed and the LED’s will last up to ten years.

LIGHT COLORED PAVEMENT – Dark pavements absorb and radiate heat from the Sun forming “heat islands” that unnaturally raise air temperatures. The concrete pavement used in this lot reflects the sun’s rays absorbs and radiates less heat.

FOROUS PAVEMENT – Traditional parking lot pavements are impervious, so almost all of the rainwater becomes runoff. Runoff drains quickly to our streams, creating erosion and flooding. The parking stalls along the center islands in this parking lot contain a different kind of pavement, called “porous concrete,” which is an engineered concrete that allows water to drain through to the subsurface.

WATER CONSERVATION – Drinking water is “potable” water and is a precious resource. Rain water is “non-potable” but it is a sustainable source of irrigation. This parking lot uses storm runoff for irrigation of the trees and shrubs.