

## Amber Grade:6

# Why We Want More Green Space , What It Can Cause, and The Benefits Of Having A Green Space

## Why We Want More Green

**Space:** Why We Want Green Space:  
We Want More Green Space because the results indicate that access to green spaces in schools are important to mental well-being. It would also help us students when they are stressed. Also

gardening is a way to get over stress as well.

## What Could The Result of Having a Green Space Could

**Cause:** Does Green Space Make Better Students?: The answer is YES! According to Chicago Researchers they say “Students had lower stress and better attention levels when they had views of trees and grass and a chance to enjoy them.” It will also help a lot with stress and you can be able to enjoy your time outside. :D

## The Benefit Of Having A Green

**Space:** There are many benefits for having a green space so here are some of them. When we have a garden we can grow many plants, veggies, fruits etc and have healthy snacks and create



very healthy types of foods with the garden. Also if we were to have garden space we could be able to relax and do our zoom classes and homework outside other than being stuck inside a classroom sitting on our desk and getting normal air but If we have our garden we can

get ~*FRESH AIR*~. Also it would be an amazing spot to chill and it would increase the amount of kids who spend their breaks outside.

## In Conclusion,

I hope this gives you a reason to consider helping Wilmington Middle School Steam Magnet with our green space project. So please consider helping us. We promise you will make all of the students happy !

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,



This is what our school is near.

And having trees will help with young kids not having to smell such a bad smell.

Last year in Sixth grade I spent most of my lunch inside and barely went outside because it would smell so bad outside. So I am here to request more trees in Wilmington Middle School in California. It would make a big difference in our environment in and around the school. Please just think of how much better it would be to have cleaner air and more green around the school. I think more kids would be interested in the outside if there were more plants and trees outside.

When I return to school it would be awesome to have a place where I can enjoy the outside and talking with friends at the same time. More nature means more experience with the outside. Please consider it.

Sincerely,

Mikaylah  
Student at Wilmington Middle School Steam Magnet

Angel

with w

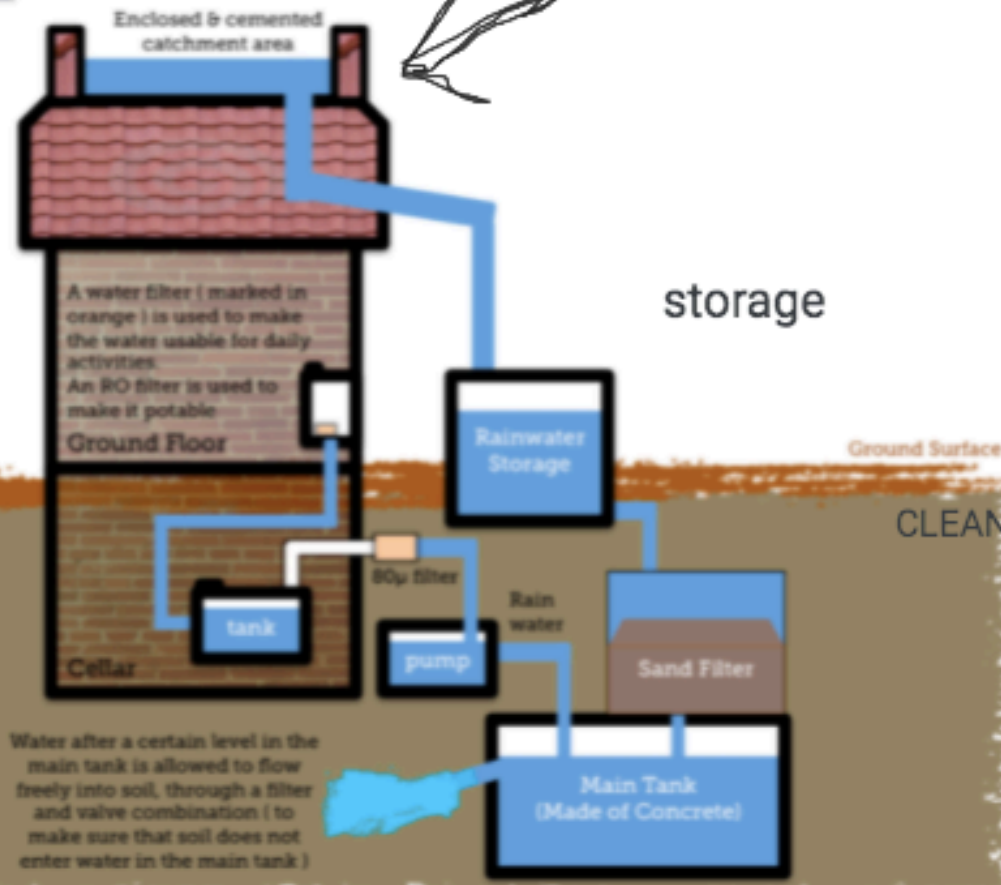
Rainwater

storage

Ground Surface

CLEANING THE RAIN WATER

Soil



Before

and

After



Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

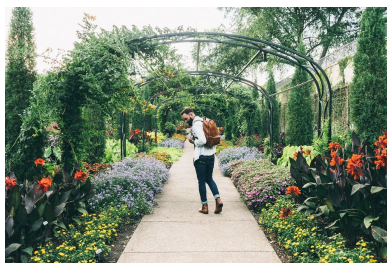
Hello, I just want to claim that with this money we can make our community garden better and greener. This whole year I noticed that I was inside more than outside. I regret being inside. I missed all the beautiful animals, flowers and trees, that you can see when outside. When I go outside I feel free and relaxed. I feel the green grass by my feet and see the birds flying. It's so beautiful, and between you and me, I like doing my homework outside. But when I see that the outside is dying and the air is getting poisoned with factory gas, I feel horrible.

Anyways I hope you give us the money because it will make us students and teachers happy. We can hangout and talk about our life, even maybe have lunch or a snack.

We can go from this



To this



When I return to school, I would love to have an outdoor space and enjoy. Thank you!

Sincerely, Kimberly

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

I hope you will accept this letter and send Wilmington Middle School Steam Magnet grant money. We really need it and would love it if you did. What we are doing is trying to build a garden and other tiny natural habitats around our school for when we go back we can enjoy sitting outside under a tree. The habitats will include a few benches where we can go and sit down under a tree surrounded by flowers of all kinds. This will help in making students relax and forget about class for a bit and will also allow students to read peacefully. The garden will include all types of fruits and vegetables that students can have and enjoy growing together, as we learn more about them.

We would also love the grant money because it would help plant trees all around our school making the air around clean and fresh, this helps a lot because our school is nearby the refineries and the port of Los Angeles, so it usually smells bad around, having more trees in our school and community would help change the way it smells in the morning and for the rest of the day. The grant money will really help out a lot because it will not only help the school, but will help out our whole community which has low air quality all the time, so with your help of the grant money we will be able to change a lot in our school and have a good start to change our community and add more trees and plants all around the place.

Sincerely, Jonatan





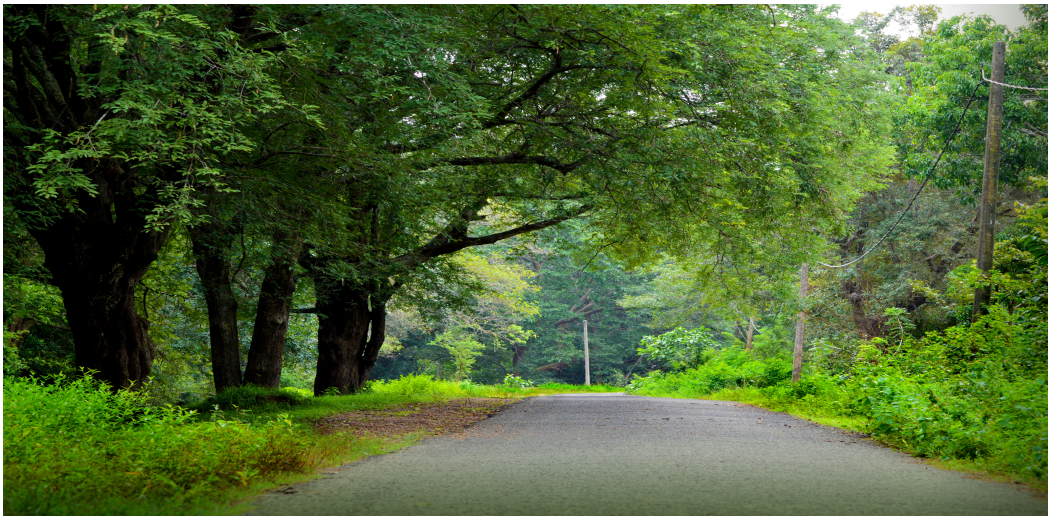


Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

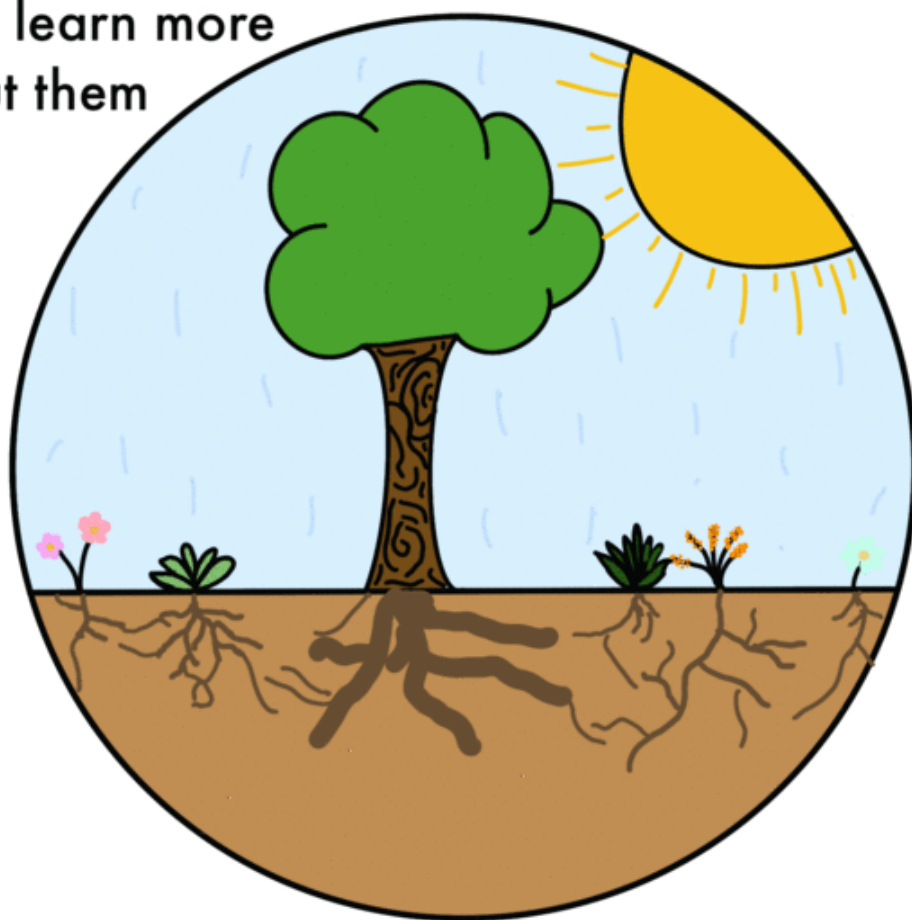
It'll be an honor, for us to get more Tree's, And Plants! In school, We had a few drills to stay inside for hours because there was something in the air pollution to the refineries we live near in that it'll be horrible to breathe in. It does suck that other schools have lot's of tree's and community gardens to make their school look better and healthier. And it will be better for the environment because our city would look cleaner and better and we can have better oxygen. If we have the money to buy all our supplies, We can have a team and start planting in the opening as soon as possible and the results can show faster and better! But we need your help with the money.

Now that we are in a pandemic , and it's slowly going down, we want our kids to be going out more! Like playing outside, in the park or backyard! But it isnt healthy, we can smell like all the gas coming from pickup trucks because we also live near a bunch of free ways. So we are asking California Ocean Protection Council, If we can plant trees for our environment to make the world a better place!

Sincerely, Chloy .



I want to watch plants  
grow, and learn more  
about them





Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

I myself am an 8th grade student currently going to Wilmington middle school steam magnet.

I am writing in support of my school. Wilmington middle school has very limited resources. Though all the teachers and staff try to make the lesson more interesting. If we had the available resources we need, students at Wilmington middle school steam magnet will benefit and learn more.

One thing at the school that can be improved is being able to have more green space and areas to do outdoor activities. I think that having more space to do outdoor activities and lessons will encourage kids to learn more and be outside instead of being in class all day. With the more space that we get the more it helps us on our health, mental health, and especially gardening. Going outside with more space can help us learn how plants grow, how to plant plants, how everything that can happen in a green space works.

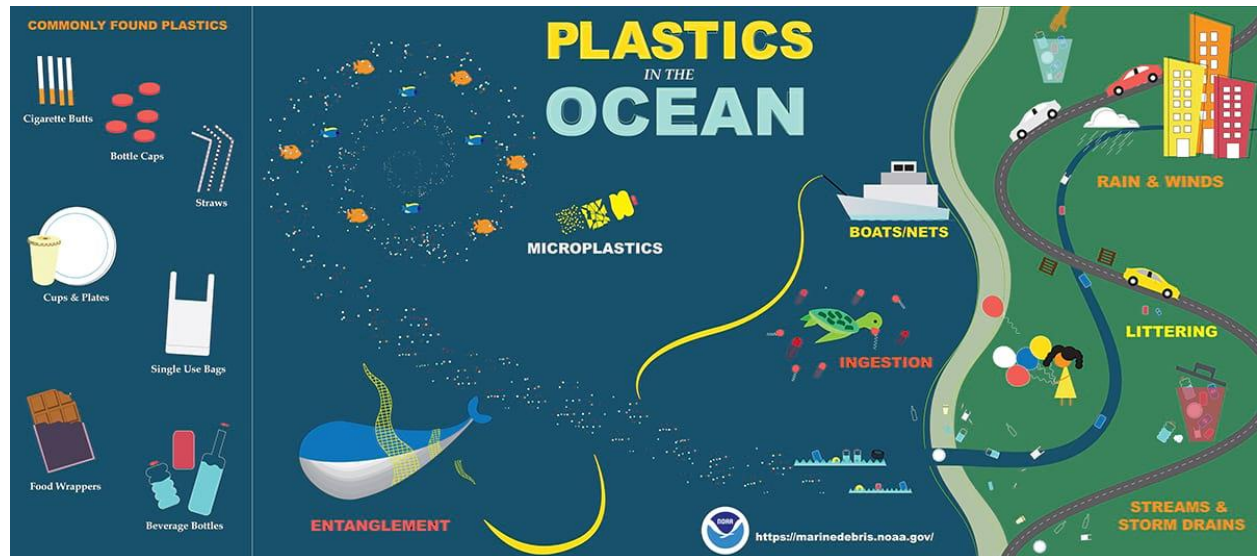
I hope what I just said will make you consider helping our school with a future project. It will really encourage kids to learn about the environment, nature, and improve our overall health

Sincerely, Adrian  
8th grade student

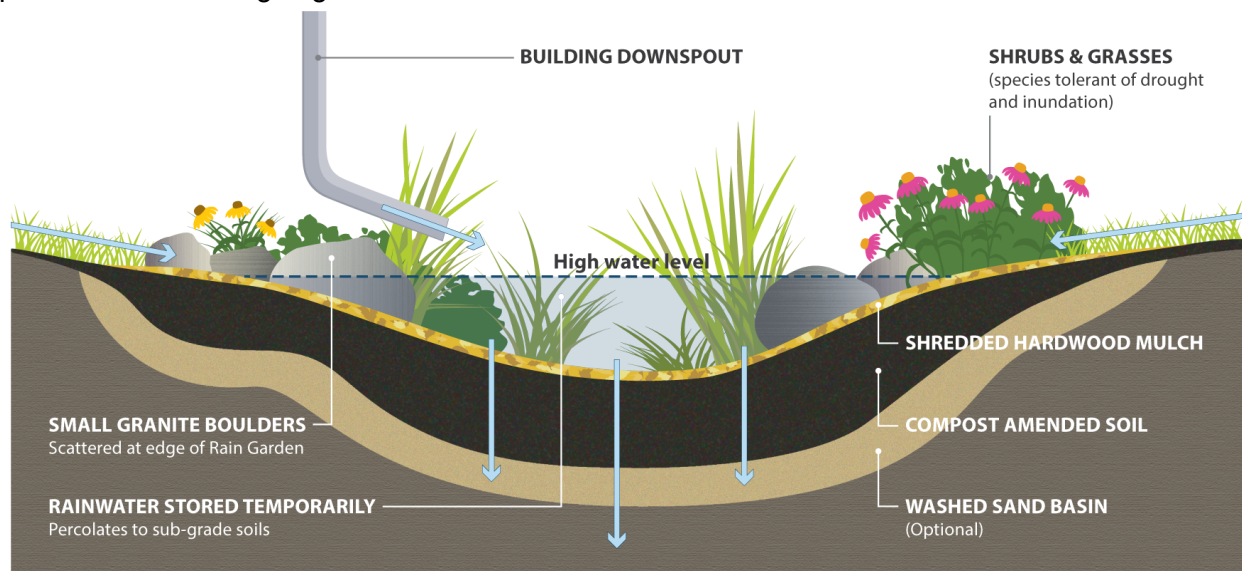
To whom this may concern,

I'm a student from Wilmington Middle School Steam Magnet. I learned a lot this year about our environment in my science class. Our environment is getting worse everyday and it affects us and any living thing on our planet Earth. But we can make a change. By protecting our oceans or by keeping it clean or protecting species and so many more ways we can.

One major thing that takes part in this crisis is plastic waste:



As you can see , plastic in one main problem. But there are many way we can fix this if we all work together. It can start from our homes like recycling out plastic to picking up trash cause someway our waste ends up in the ocean and it can harm our ocean and the environment. But my school is working on a project that can help our community. We are going to have a garden that will help in many was like growing vegetables and attract animals, but one major reason is to help waste from going to the ocean. So,we will be creating a water garden to prevent waste from going into the ocean.



Anonymous Wilmington Middle School Student

Dear California Ocean Council,

Having more trees and plants would be a wonderful idea. Sitting next to a fully grown tree is very calming and therapeutic. Hearing the wind moving the leaves is very calming personally. Just looking at small plants is just as enjoyable as watching TV. Having more trees is also good for the environment. The memories and conversations people could have with their friends and classmates. The art class can use these plants and trees as drawing references and the science classes could use them as a project or lesson. Sitting near a tree and doing work makes it more enjoyable and less stressful for some people. Seeing the trees change colors is beautiful. Stepping on crunchy leaves during the winter seasons is fun. We can also use the leaves as compost for the garden. Having more trees and plants could make the school look nicer. Having more plants and trees is a wonderful idea, thank you for reading.

-Callisto 8th grader



Dear California Ocean Council,

I think that we would benefit from this opportunity because as a member of a community where we are surrounded by a lot of refineries, I know that it is unhealthy and is affecting us all. This opportunity could help us because we could make our school more eco-friendly and have more greenery as well. We could create a vegetable garden so we could use those fresh vegetables in our school lunches, or we could give them away to the people who need them in this hard time because they're struggling with money. As we are in a pandemic, it is affecting everything from our lives to learning, to struggles. This could increase our moods as well and personally, I think that having more greenery around our school would brighten the mood. As some might know, trees filter out the air meaning that we could have safer and healthier air in our school because even though this won't filter out the air everywhere, it is always good to start with small spots like a school. Now I'm not sure about other kids but as a female who suffered from asthma, and a premature birth since I was a newborn, growing up in a community where the air isn't the cleanest was hard, especially since I also had to suffer from asthma attacks. Of course, there are plenty of people in our school that could still have asthma and planting more greenery could insure that they get to learn in a cleaner and healthier environment. We can also enjoy more greenery around our school because in our school campus, we have a spot with grass but only 3 trees. If we were to plant more trees there, it could become a nice space for students to enjoy while eating lunch or just hanging out with friends without having to stay in the sun. We could also start a gardening club where the students who love to garden can enjoy by planting and taking care of the garden to make sure it stays nice and healthy. We also have this huge space of grass in front of our school where kids wait for their rides back home. In that space, we only have a few trees which are spaced out. Adding and planting more trees there could provide us with a cool shade where they can wait instead of having to crowd under one tree or having to wait in the sun. In the end, I really hope that if we get this but if we don't get this opportunity, the school that does will benefit from this and have a healthier and/or greener campus for their students.

From, Priscilla T.







Dear California Ocean Council,

I think that it would be a great idea to start planting some more trees and plants around the school so we can be in a much healthier environment. I'm saying this because even though there is nothing wrong with the school we are pretty close to refineries and the port so if we plant trees they will help clear the air. It would also help kids focus better and bring up their spirits. For me being around a lot of nature and greenery helps with focus and it overall makes me happier in the moods.

Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished. —Lao Tzu

If you truly love nature, you will find beauty everywhere. —Laura Ingalls Wilder

Sincerely,  
Arielle



Joel. grade 7

I think there should be a bioswale near the lunch table because that would be nice and have a view while eating. Also I think there should be more trees for it could look nice and there would be more shade. Also I think they should plant more things around the school like flowers and nice things. Another thing is they should add more plants to the garden and maybe like some fruits for it could look nice and colorful.





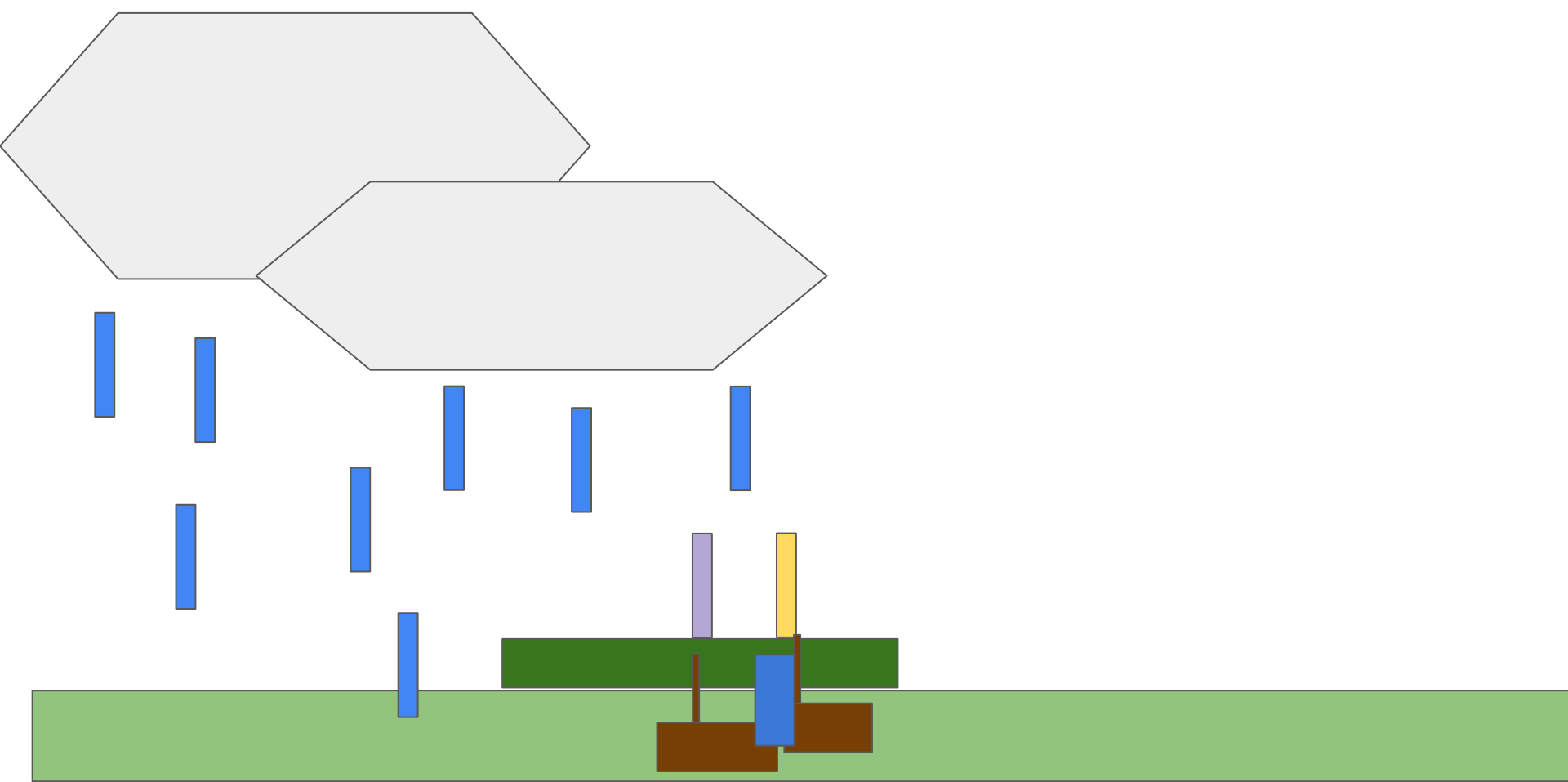
Mrs. M. Rodriguez  
😊



Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

Spending most of the last and this year in quarantine has been a difficult thing for us all. However, this has helped me connect with nature more. Being around plants, flowers and feeling the fresh air against my face, makes me really happy! Having a beautiful and natural environment, or as you may know it, bioswales, at the school would mean a lot to me. Not only does it make me happy, but it also helps nature. Bioswales, otherwise known as rain gardens, soak in all the rain water to fill the ground waters. This diverts water to the aquifer instead of to the ocean which carries along a large number of pollutants.

Sincerely,  
Paola



Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

Last year I spent a lot of time inside rather than outside and learned the beauty of nature and how amazing it is and beautiful to watch. I'd think having some nature in our school will bring joy to students' faces and for us middle schoolers we like to hang out with are friends, communicate, read, and have alone time in life and I'd think nature surrounding us would be a great spot.

As said by Rachel Carson "Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long life lasts".

When I return to school, I would love to have an outdoor space where I can hang out with classmates, friends, or maybe just myself and enjoy watching nature while the breeze passes through me.

Sincerely,  
Jolina

Dear California Ocean Council,

My Name Is Anthony And I Love Nature. Not just because its beautiful, but it helps our environment. Especially us Middle Schoolers because we like hang out with friends and be outside. Having A Garden for the school community would be great for the school and also the community around us. We Have the refinery's that pollute the air around us and we want to have the air clean and green for this community.

This would be an amazing win for us all!

Thank you,  
Anthony



I would  
enjoy more  
green space  
at the school  
to enjoy  
fresh air  
and see  
animals and  
insects  
by Agustín

Dear California Ocean Council,

I believe that it would be a great idea for the school to get more green space. For example, more green space would be very beneficial to the community and environment. There are lots of nearby refineries, which means with these new green spaces there would be more clean fresh oxygen. These green spaces would also make the school look very beautiful, they can be very eye-catching to people. In addition, I can personally say that being around nature and greenery helps me clear my mind, which helps me focus better. Students can come to these green spaces and release any stress they might have. Also, it would be a great environment for students to come to these green spaces to read, do homework, or spend time with friends.

Sincerely,  
Andrea G. Grade 7

Dear california Ocean Protection Council,

I would like you to allow the greenhouse garden at our middle school here in Wilmington, CA. The reasons why we want it is for the students myself included but also because we are surrounded by ports and by refineries. Because of this, the air quality is pretty bad, but if we were to add the greenhouse it could probably help us unite with nature and also help with the air, give a place for kids to read or for shenanigans. That is all I ask of you. Hopefully you understand. May you do the right choice.

Sincerely,  
Giovani





I would like to  
live a cleaner  
life.



From Dulce

Having a green space would be so much nicer for the school because it would look beautiful and not just that we also can be able to make more memories and we would hang out there having fun and admiring the garden how beautiful it is also since we're making more green space it would also make the butterflies come and drink nectar from the flowers and bees so not just the students would like to have a Garden space but we would also help the insects by having flowers also use students would be able to learn something about plants we would also have beautiful flowers there and butterflies i would like to see them come and go and we would also be helping them not just by having flower for them to drink nectar but some insects would lay there eggs there and have more of them.

First Name: Andrea

Dear Treepeople organization, I would enjoy a more green space at school because I just love nature. Nature makes me happy and I just find nature soothing. More green at our school wouldn't just benefit us but the community and the world because we will have a cleaner, better environment. With more green space at our school we can enjoy reading under a nice tree and just enjoy the life nature gives.

Julissa 6<sup>th</sup> Grade



First Name: Ella

Dear Treepeople organization, I would enjoy a more green space at school. I love nature, and feel like we should have more trees around the school. Trees not only help with the environment, they also help with mental health. For example when I see a tree I feel a warm feeling in my heart. So I would like trees at my school.

#growmoretrees #lovenature #natureisbeatuy



Angel.c grade 6

I think that making a green space at the school will be beneficial, for all student's and staffs. Considering we all need a quit time to relax and release stress from all sorts of things for example, people making you mad, being under lots of pressure, ~~time~~ facing lot's of changes, worrying about something, as well not having much control over the outcome of a situation. This are thing that we must take to consideration of building the green ~~space~~ space at school. Also I highly belive that making a green space at school would be good concentrate on reading. Not having to be in class for a good amount of time is of the bot out-standing. Last think why making a green place at school is good, is not only do to get time to appreciate thing. But you eat fresh



Dear California Ocean Protection Council,



My name is Salvador and I'm asking if you could plant or put more trees at my school Wilmington Middle school and as I asked if you could put more trees at our school because we would get more clean air and because the trees would look nice at our school please and thank you.

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

I would say it would be a pleasure to get the money for our school because I would do my work in a specific area and I would love to grow vegetables with my friends. Also it would be nice to have a sitting area to talk to friends or teachers/staff. Or it can be an area to write/draw and that's why I would say if my school Wilmington Middle School Steam Magnet gets the money to help our school.

Sincerely,  
Jonathan



I will add these flowers to the grass right here

Angel



I would put these bushes kinda like this in front of the school

Angel T



To the California Ocean Protection Council,

I am writing this to contribute to Wilmington Middle School STEAM magnet. I have been a part of my community for years, and students are dedicated to helping our school. Some things that can help better our school is planting more trees and recycling.

Recycling can help us save money for other activities. Waste reduction can provide a clean environment for staff, students, and teachers. Planting trees and other vegetation can produce cleaner air and reduce pollution. I think having these at our school would be a great idea because it will teach students to do this on their own and not be forced to.

Please think about and review our school. It will definitely help the school in the future, and it will guide students to participate in assisting to keep the surroundings green.

From,  
Alina  
(8th grade student)

Dear California Ocean Council,

Having greenery would be great for the community. Where we live there are lots of refineries and trees and plants can clean the air so it would help us a lot. And when you take a walk outside you can smell the fresh air around you. Having greenery would be great for the environment and community. And lots of people love nature and would like to hang out a bit in the greenery. Thank you for reading this letter.

Sincerely, Leslie

Victoria 6th Grade



Hello and Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

I am student at Wilmington Middle School and in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

I will be telling you ways about how we can benefit green space. I believe that green space will need a lot of determination but a way to get started would be to teach class about the environment. About plants, land, and many things related to that. I also believe we should start making activities that we normally do but more fun. Or something that would grab a student's attention. The way someone would grab my attention is by a prize. Not only that but a garden would be very nice. I know we do not have as much space, but we can make it work. Many kids will be outside and help with the garden. They will be active and will learn what teamwork is. They would also know how to plant and take care of a living thing. It will help a million and we would have more things to do.

We also live close to a lot of refineries. These refineries make the air around our school very polluted. If we had more green space or plants that can help clean up our air, it would make our health a lot better. Especially for kids who have asthma or breathing problems like those in my family.

I hope you will help our school out with our future projects.

From,  
Emely  
8th grade student



First Name: Charlene

Dear Treepeople Organization,

My school could really benefit from more green spaces at school. It's big, but has many empty, dull spaces. More green added to these spaces would make my school look a lot better, and definitely help the environment. There will be a lot more places to sit down and enjoy nature. I love reading, and having pretty, quiet spots to read sounds awesome. They could also be used to eat under, socialize, and do homework. Our school's Green Team may also give opportunities to more students to help them take care of the environment with all the new green space added to our school. Nature is beautiful and should be shared.

Christopher

I hope we can make our  
garden like this---->

I think all of us can help our garden this



*Dear whomever this may concern,*

*I think that Wilmington middle school should have this bioswale garden because if we get the garden it will be a nice place for students to come together to grow and learn about something hands-on. It will also be a nice place to just hang out and enjoy the fresh air and plants. Overall this would be a great idea not only for students but for everyone to get a real agricultural experience.*

*"The sun, with all those planets revolving around it and dependent on it, can still ripen a bunch of grapes as if it had nothing else in the universe to do." –Galileo Galilei*

*Sincerely, Leila*



First Name: Karyme

I feel like this opportunity to make our school more green, would have many good benefits for everyone. For example, some students find that being around trees and nature helps them relax, and it's calming/comforting for some. Plus a garden with trees, and plants, and all kinds of nature makes a good environment to create more oxygen, which would be great for all of us. I also think that this would be a great chance for students to learn more about nature. Because in my old elementary school, we had a garden. And each and every class would go once a week to visit and learn about fruits, vegetables, plants, trees, insects, and more. And the supervisor would let each student plant something in the garden. It just brought so much joy to the students. And I would love for the same thing to happen in this school as well. Overall it would just make our school much more beautiful. I hope this message showed you all the great things that can come from this garden. Thank you.



Dear California Ocean Council,

I will start off by saying this, There isnt much places to sit or relax at our school. The cafeteria is just a messy and loud place, and no person should do work in the cafeteria. The liberaria is sometimes just not open so if we have an place that is specifically made to relax and just hang out. I honestly love spots were I could just talk with my friends, and relax. Having greens will not only make our school look beautiful, but we can help the environment with all the greens. I feel like it will teach kids to be more productive and get there homework done, or just read a book. Something like that I would greatly appreciate

It would truly be a honor to receive this, since a lot of animals love to be around nature, and i like to be around animals in nature, and I think everyone would like to be around nature and all the glorious things that come with it.

Sincerely,  
Rodrigo Grade: 7



First Name: Alexander

Dear Treepeople organization,

In my personal opinion I think that people that just genuinely enjoy reading or hanging out with friends would benefit as nature is just simply a nice place to chill and relax. Furthermore, trees produce oxygen which would just help everyone in general. In addition planting vegetables and fruits would help others as the school would be able to give to those in need. Planting trees and other plants would also just help our environment and make our school look better. 🌲 🌳

12/04/12 6th Grade



Dear California Ocean Council,

I think planting more trees and plants would not only help our school, but our community. This would help our school and community by improving air quality since our air isn't so great due to all the refineries. I also think it would benefit the students as well since I usually feel very relaxed when I'm surrounded by nature and I think other students would agree.

Sincerely, Aisha



Dear Treepeople organization,

I think my classmates and I would benefit and enjoy more green space since it's a nice place to sit back and relax from stress or anything going on. It could be a place for students to read or study or even just talk to each other. In the cafeteria, outside or inside it is quite noisy so sometimes I can't hear what people are saying. We could use this spot as a safe space to just hang out with your friends and eat lunch. One of my teachers even wanted us to try to meditate out there. I'm not a big fan of meditation but I know I love to just go outside and feel the wind in my face. It makes me feel free from stress at home, school, and even inside my own mind. I'm sure other people, maybe even staff, feel this way too. I hope you will allow us to have this opportunity for my staff, classmates, and me.

From,  
Jazlyn



Moses  
8th Grade



First Name: Jesus

Dear Treepeople organization, I would encourage you to put a more green space in our school for the enjoyment of students and staff. If you take a quick look at our school you'll notice that the school doesn't have any greenery. Though there might be some like the garden that grows plants or the grass field, but it doesn't have any green space that's accessible that suit a more casual environment. A new green area will be very nice for the students that want to relax in a green area without having to worry about others ruining their time spent in that area.



First Name: AJ

Dear Treepeople organization,

I would enjoy a more green space at school because it will make our school look very nice and appealing. People would drive by and notice a nice clean green space. They may send their kids to our school because it looks very nice and positive. It would cause a lot of attraction in a good way and just make our school a more welcoming place. In conclusion, it would be really enjoyable and appealing to have a more green space at school.

**Alan**

Garden will be good for the school so the students can read there when they are done lunch so the students can just look at the new greens and watch them grow everytime read a book so it will help us by this so they can have somewhere they can read quite and just look at new thing they are growing with the new greens we got .



Fri, June 11 2021

Dear Ocean Protection Council,

A garden would help out so much at our school, just thinking about a nice relaxing garden makes me feel more relieved. It can help students who build up a lot of stress feel more relaxed. It can also be a good place to read, or eat lunch with friends and even go there to learn with your class! It would be incredibly amazing to have a place where students can feel free and fresh. At Wilmington Middle School, everyone shouldn't feel captured or bad of themselves, we feel free.

From a local Wilmington Middle School Student,  
Gabriela



First Name: Adrina

Dear TreePeople Organization,

A green space at school would be great. Growing the plants would create more oxygen which benefits us. Also plants/trees could be a nice addition to the school because it would make the environment nicer. It could also create a space for students to feel more relaxed since School could sometimes be stressful. Therefore I think a green space would be enjoyed by many students.



welcome  
To  
Wonder  
Peace

← Rose and  
Rocks →

Aldo



First Name: Alex

Dear Treepeople,

More green space at our school would be beneficial to all students. It can help reduce the stress of students. It would be a cool place to hang out with my friends. I could meet new people and interact with others. Overall, it'd be a cool place to relax and enjoy nature.

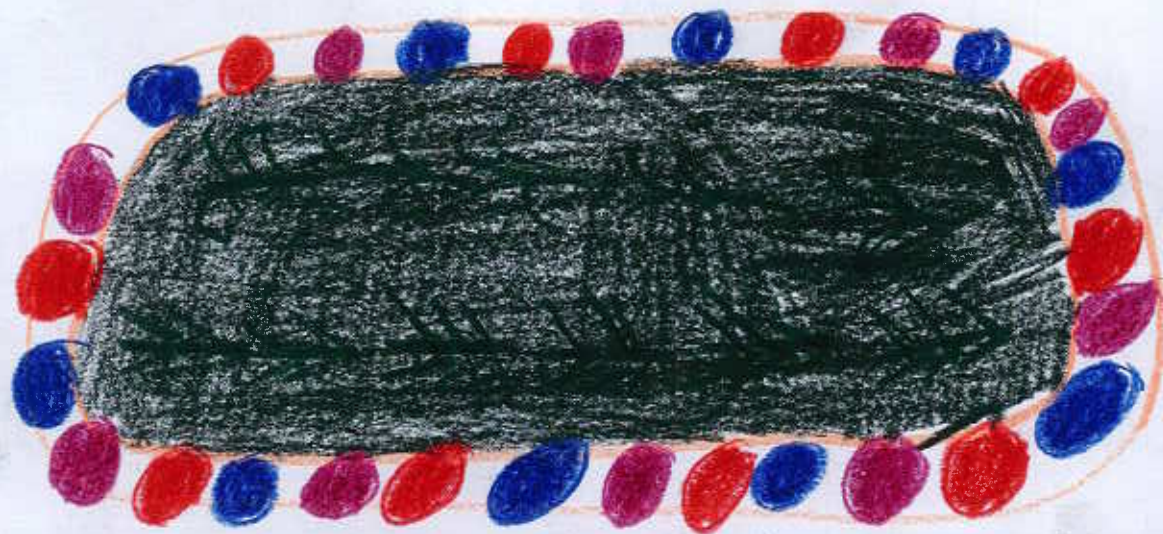
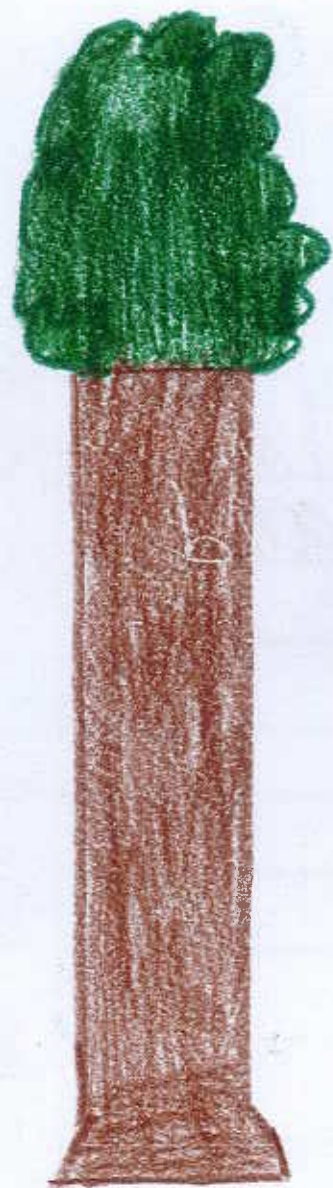


I would enjoy the benefits of the plants by being able to see all the plants while I do P.E or eat lunch. It would also benefit more because the meals for our lunch can be a lot more healthy and good for us.

Dear Treepeople organization, I hope we are the ones that you chose for building our garden. I would gladly be happy if you were able to help us so that we can have the benefit of a garden.

Sincerely,

Jacob



Angel  
Grade 8

A garden space would  
be nice to have lunch and  
hang out with my friends.



First Name: Jackeline

Dear Treepeople organization,

The benefits of having more green space at school are, one that having more green space can influence a more positive and calming environment around the school especially for the younger students. Having green space around could also help clean up the environment and make it cleaner and safer for students. Also people usually find having some green space around as relaxing and calming. Finally we can take care of the green space so it wont go dry or bad.

why we need a green space and the benefits of green space

nicholai



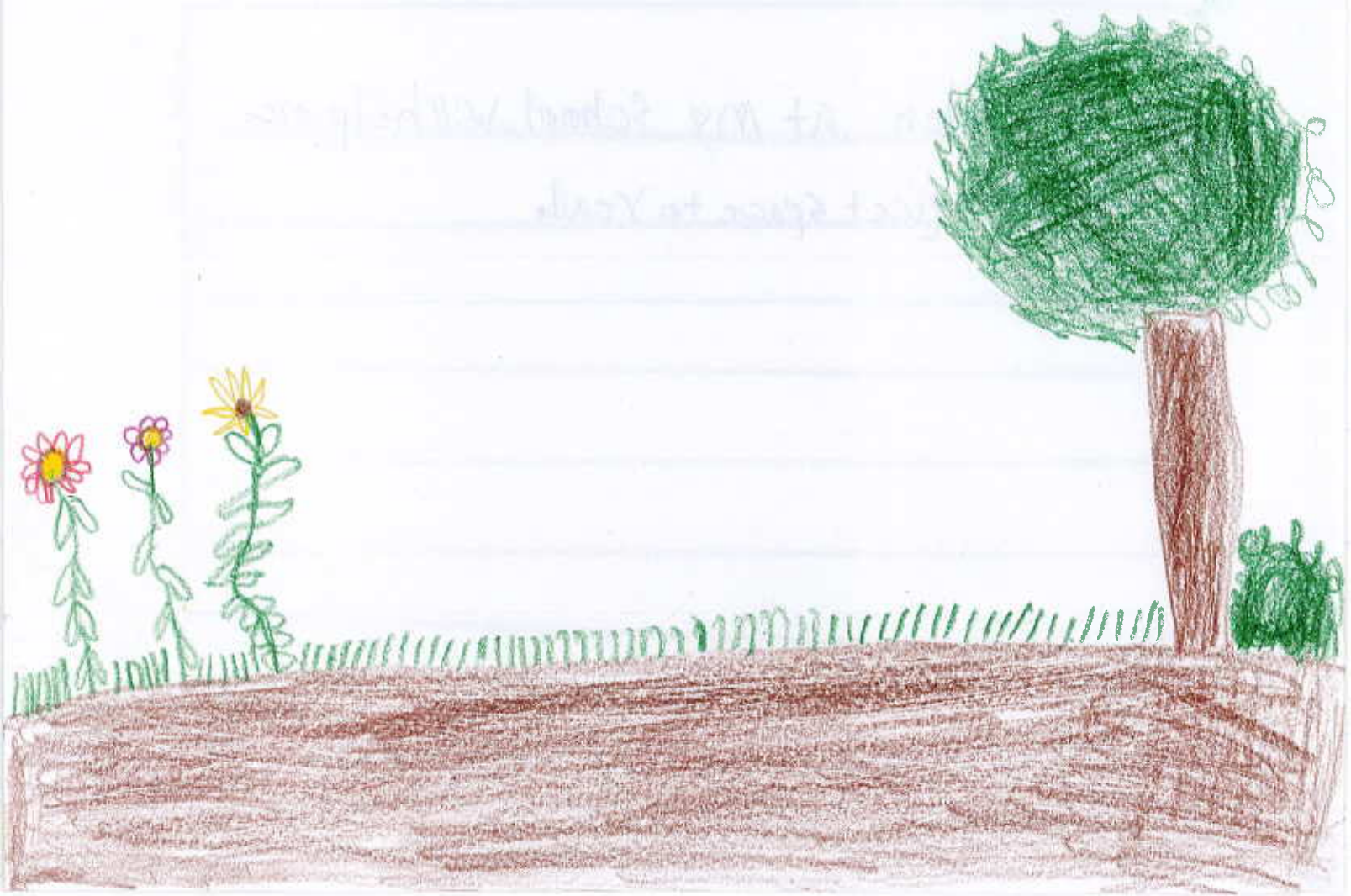
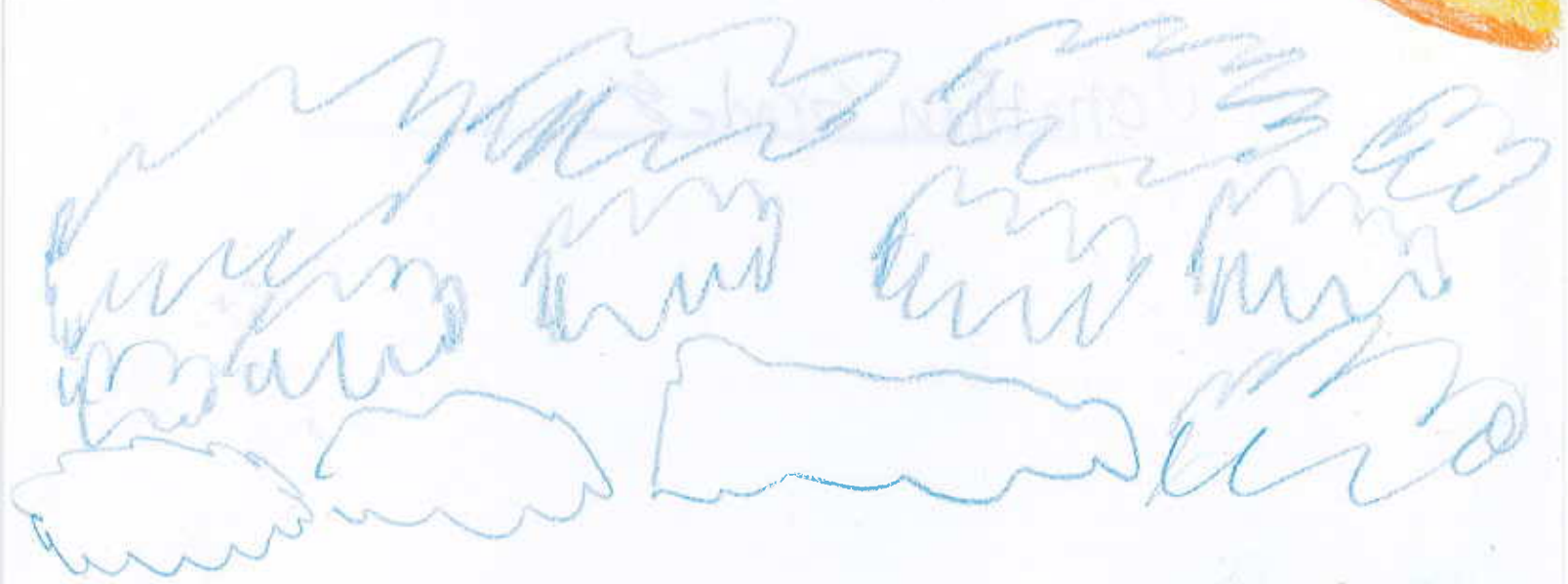
if we get a greenspace we will be able to relax and we can read books and it would be so good to be able to think in that space

To Whom It May Concern,

A green space at WMS STEAM Magnet would be great because with the green space they are going to put in benches so we can hang out there. That way we don't have to just be on the hot blacktop all day. And we could maybe have class in the green space instead of just a classroom. The green space would be a wonderful benefit for the bees and butterflies to collect their nectar and spread more plants life around Wilmington.

From,  
Jocelyn G  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade





Jonathan Grade 5

I garden at my school will help me  
find a quiet space to read.

Joel Grade 7

I really think it would be good to have a green space because there aren't a lot of them in Wilmington. Also, it would be good because it would be a good place to learn and sit and do your homework. I really think there should be a green space.



Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

Save the trees because they provide oxygen, improve air quality and suport wildlife.



Trees lower the air temperature.

Sincerely ~james

I would enjoy green space because we would be able to do our homework and be able to concentrate more and get good grades. We will also be able to relax with our friends and be able to talk and help each other out in homework and other stuff the place would also be peace and quiet. KAITLYN C. 7th grade



First Name: Luis

Grade: 7th

**How would you benefit and enjoy a more green space at school?**

Dear Treepeople organization, it would benefit me and other students because there would be more places to relax when you're waiting for someone to pick you up from school. It would also give it a good scenery for pictures for any occasion like culmination or someone's birthday. It would also benefit anyone who likes nature and birds because a lot more birds would be coming if there is more green. It would also be the perfect place for doing homework or reading a book.

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

I'm a student from Wilmington middle school steam magnet, My name is Lizeth and Why do we love trees? Well we love trees because they are a blessing to our environment and they are gonna make the world a better place. There also gonna Help us breathe better and everyone in the world would be happy with trees around us. The reason why is that we need to make a change in this earth. We need to change by help cleaning and keeping this beautiful earth clean.





First Name: michael

Dear Treepeople organization, I believe that our school would benefit from having more green space because if we were to have more green space we would be able to plant more plants in our garden. If we were to be able to make more vegetables in the garden we would be able to use it as food but that's not all we would be able to waste less money on food expenses and also have healthy food to eat.

In addition we can use some of the space to make room outside where students can go do their homework and read books. So it's basically a very calming environment where we do stuff like homework and reading. Which I think would be a really good aspect to the school and that's why I think we should be able to have more green space.

Romeo



I think the plants and trees should go in the garden area. And around the field so the students, staff's and teachers could look at them. I also think we should be able to walk in the garden area so we can look at the plant's. I also feel like the should be a water fountain in the middle of the plants. I kinda also want some of the big tree's around the field so there can be shade and student's can sit and eat there lunch there

First Name: mauricio

Dear Treepeople organization, having a more green space at my school would be enjoyed by many people including myself . I think some of the benefits of having a more green space would be that it could be a place to relax because school can be stressful at some points and having a relaxing place will help a lot of people.

Another benefit could be that it could be a place for students to do homework or work in general. Since it would be a place with a green scenery there could be less distractions allowing students to do work without interruptions and distractions. It would probably be used as a place to talk with friends before and after school.

First Name: Nyleen

Dear Treepeople Organization,

I and the people around me would benefit from the cleaner air that would come from the green garden. Where we live there are refineries around 5 as you should know refineries don't create any clean air. The clean air would especially help the students that have respiratory problems such as asthma. To add on the more green space would open doors to students who are interested in botany. Or even to students who are looking for a hobby, and or new ways to calm down. There are many more reasons why the green garden would help us but this is all I can put for this short letter. I hope you'll consider giving my school the chance to make this possible.

Sincerely,  
Nyleen



*I think we would all enjoy having a little more green space at school because it would look nice and some students Be would be able to do there work outside and enjoy the fresh air and then planting some fruit and vegetables and then we can eat them when there're done so I think that making a little more green space/garden in the school would be good for the school*



Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

Right now, I am a student at Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet and in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. If our school had more green space and areas to do outdoor activities more students would want to go to school because it would feel like a relief. We will also be able to learn more about nature and the environment, we would also be able to do more exercise if we had more open space.

I hope that you will consider helping our school with our future projects. It will really encourage more kids to learn about the environment and improve our mental and physical health.

From,

Xitlali

8th-grade student

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

During the year 2020 many students and administrators couldn't go outside due to the ongoing pandemic. Now as we can return to campus I would enjoy having a place outdoors to do my homework, talk to friends, and garden. I would love to admire the beautiful flowers and chill with my friends. When students have bad days they can benefit from that and go to the garden to calm themselves down. The scenery would look very peaceful and gorgeous. Not only that, but us students should have a place to do our work outdoors instead of just spending the whole day indoors.

Sincerely,  
Ruby

Michelle  
6/10/2021

## The Garden Ideas

Dear To Whom Who Is Reading This,

Something that I believe we should have in this garden are vibrant flowers and soothing music to look at. A reason for the vibrant flowers are because they are nice to look at and can sometimes be a comforting to be around to do work and assignments. A reason for soothing music is because music can make people either concentrate on work or it can be something that calms them and takes them into a different mindset. If you can put these ideas together it would target the kids or adults who like both of them and make them more comforting to go over there.

From,  
Michelle



"Like wildflowers; You must allow yourself to grow in all the places people thought you never would." - E.V.

*"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything." - Plato*





June 09, 2021

To whom it may concern,

Hi, how are you today? Well if you are also asking me well I am good and a little tired. But anyways I am writing this letter to you because I want to tell you why we should have a garden in our school. Ok so first things is that if we have a garden we can see lots of butterflies and bees and other animals live and enjoy being in our garden and maybe the animals that are there we can learn more about them. Also we can maybe be friends with them 🥰✨. But anyways the second thing is that our oxygen well be healthier with our garden the more plants 🌱 the better our oxygen well be it is not that great right now because of factories and stuff but if we try to make it better it can get better slowly but it still will be better. And another thing is that if we have a garden us the students can do our homework there or relax there and chill with our friends 😊. Also we can learn ourselves how to plant 🌱 things to so then when we go home 🏠 we can show our parents what we have learned from the garden 🌱. Well that is all I got to say 🐿️. But thank you for listening/reading my letter 🐿️.

Love,

Sayra ❤️

Sheyla     Grade : 6

I would love to have a nice space to do my studies or classes. It would be nice to have a nice green space to hang out with friends or read books. It might also make kids who go to the school might get excited to go to school knowing there would be a nice place to hang out or do work. Even teachers and staff can go to the garden and get to work or have peace and quiet too. That's why I think we should have an upgrade on the school garden.

Gardens can encourage more people to go outside. They make people feel happy because of all the pretty flowers or just the big trees. I think having a garden at my school would make it feel like you have a space to go and sit to just take in all the beauty and be very calming. It would be a really great place to just be with friends or even by yourself. I may not get to experience this garden, but future students should. School can be stressful and being stuck inside a classroom doesn't help. When you do get to go outside, having a place to go would be pleasant. If taken care of the right way, I know my school is more than capable.



To whom it may concern,

I think having a school garden would be a great idea. The school garden would make the school look a lot nicer, and it can teach kids responsibility by taking care of the garden. The school could really use this and I'm sure the students would enjoy it.

Victoria-Wilmington MSSM Student



Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

I'm writing to let you know that I support my school's green project. Because of all the refineries in our city, Wilmington isn't known as the most beautiful place. I support this green project 100% and you should as well because the past year has been miserable. We'd all like more green space at our school to learn about how to love and protect our environment. Also, I'd like to have a beautiful place where I can have a seat and read and just overall relax and enjoy nature. I hope you consider helping out are school.

Sincerely,

David

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

I support Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet's green project. It would be so nice to have a great spot to hang out with my friends. We also need more trees at our school. Beyond recycling, I don't know much about the environment, but funding our schools project can help me learn more about it. I'd like to become involved. Please consider helping us out with this.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Valerie





Xitlali, 7<sup>th</sup>



June 28, 2021

Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant

**RE: Communities for a Better Environment's Letter of Commitment for TreePeople's  
Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project**

To: California Ocean Protection Council

Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) submits this letter of commitment for TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project proposal in the port community of Wilmington (Los Angeles). Wilmington is one of the most impacted communities in the City of LA, with a majority of the Latinx population (92% of the total community population) surrounded by environmental injustices associated with the goods movement from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, and all phases of oil production (extraction—over 700 active wells, refining—five refineries, storage, and combustion—the 710 and 110 fwys.) The area's average CalEnviro Screen score is 92. This community experiences some of the highest regional cancer risks due to air pollution.<sup>1</sup>

The funding and implementation of the Wilmington Middle School effort will provide a seedling of resilience to this community. The transformation of the school's outside area from an existing asphalt, urban heat island into an environmental and educational project with natural service benefits for the community is an necessary action. TreePeople and CBE have an immense amount of collaborating experience with one another, and this established partnership will be leveraged to ensure community engagement and participation are critical components in the development of nature-based solutions for this project.

Communities for a Better Environment will commit to:

- A workshop for our Wilmington youth members
- A workshop for our Wilmington adult members
- Monthly updates to our Wilmington members
- Working collaboratively with TreePeople's project team before, during, and after project design and development
- Supporting project events (planning, preparation, and attendance)

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<sup>1</sup> Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study. (2008).[Interactive map of Estimated Risk in Los Angeles].Retrieved <https://scaqmd-online.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=e39304122af84990b3a337307e08ee>

- Recruitment members and residents to project events
- Disseminating communication pieces via various social media platforms

CBE believes this is an ideal project for fulfilling the intent of Ocean Protection Council's Proposition 1 Grant Program, which is to prioritize environmental justice communities. CBE is very supportive of this project as a means of providing resiliency the numerous historic environmental inequities this community has confronted. The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project will bring significant investment into a community that has historically faced numerous environmental justice issues.

Finally, through our past collaborations, CBE believes TreePeople to be well positioned to lead the implementation of this project. The organization has conducted urban greening projects around Los Angeles for several decades. Furthermore, our youth environmental justice program and TreePeople's educational programming allow for long-term programmatic outcomes for the school and community.

Sincerely,



Darryl Molina Sarmiento  
Executive Director  
Communities for a Better Environment  
6325 Pacific Blvd., Ste. #300  
Huntington Park, CA 90255



**/LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
***Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet***



**1700 Gulf Avenue**  
**Wilmington, California 90744**

**Telephone: (310) 847-1500; Fax: (310) 549-5307**

June 8, 2021

**RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project**

**To: California Ocean Protection Council**

The Staff members of Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet submits this letter of commitment for the Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople. This project will bring much needed improvements to our campus that will contain multiple environmental and educational benefits. TreePeople and the Los Angeles Unified School District have worked with our administration to identify campus improvements with the greatest benefit for our students and environment.

Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet will commit to:

- Collaborating with project partners to ensure the project is conducted efficiently, properly, and to the community's best interest.
- Maintaining the green infrastructure improvements made by this grant.
- Utilizing the green infrastructure improvements for environmental education and events.

Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet believes this is an excellent project for the Ocean Protection Council's Proposition 1 Grant Program. This project will significantly invest in a community that has historically and continuously faces numerous environmental issues. With the grant program's emphasis on environmental justice, Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet highly supports this project to be funded to begin addressing the numerous historic and on going environmental inequities.

TreePeople is well positioned to lead the implementation of this project. The organization has conducted urban greening projects around Los Angeles for several decades. Furthermore, the organization's educational programming will allow for even greater outcomes for our school and community in the long-term.

Sincerely,  
Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet Staff:

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet**



1700 Gulf Avenue  
Wilmington, California 90744

Telephone: (310) 847-1500; Fax: (310) 549-5307

Jorge Olmos, Principal

Alejandro Anaya, Assistant Principal

Paula Rendon, Assistant Principal

Javier Alvarado, Assistant Principal

Joana Alvarez, A-G Counselor

Domicruz Rivera, Pupil Service & Attendance Counselor

Chelsy Duffer-Dunbar, Psychiatric Social Worker

Alex Jaramillo, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Special Education Teacher

Daniel Fairchild, Magnet Coordinator

Carol Mitchell, School Psychologist

Mireya Carbajal, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math and Science Teacher

Jennifer Kopec, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math and Science Teacher

Pedro Delgado, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Physical Education & Leadership Teacher

June 10, 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Maricela Rodriguez, and I am a teacher from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will positively impact the environment, the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, and social-emotional. I have lived in Wilmington all my life and have taught at Wilmington Middle School for 21 years. I know that our school is many times an escape from home and the "outside" for our students and this project would give our students one more reason to want to come to school and feel safe. This is one more demonstration towards our students that we care about them and want to provide them the best that can be offered. Many times, students learn more from us when we SHOW them with actions, such as this green space, than the fact that we KNOW our subject. Also, students at this age love to be with their friends and this green space would provide a much needed ambiance for them. Our school is surrounded by refineries. Therefore, this green space would definitely let us forget about that. I can foresee myself taking my students to have a lesson, out in the open green space, and provide students the opportunity of new surroundings that can even promote more learning and participation.

I truly hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal. The following are the repeated good and maybe not so good, but honest, comments from my own students on how and why they would benefit from this project.

"To cover the ghetto."

"To breathe something other than refineries."

"To feel safe."

"To hang out with our friends."

"To learn."

"Because it's pretty and we need it."

Sincerely,  
Mrs. M. Rodriguez  
Mathematics Teacher

June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Anaclaudia Priggione, and I am a 6th grade teacher from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

As an educator, I find it so important to educate our students at every grade level, the importance of our environment, the world we live in, and how crucial it is to find ways to help save our planet. The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

This project will help bring some very much needed green space to our school. A place not only to help us teach from, but a haven for so many local wildlife, as well. As an educator in the Wilmington area for over 25 years, I know that for many of our students, school is the only time they go outside, because many of our families, worry about their safety. So getting to have this area, right at school, will be such a gift, to improve their health, to be surrounded by the beauty nature gives us, and to become advocates of protecting our environment.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely,  
Ms Anaclaudia Priggione



June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Joana Alvarez, and I am a Social Worker working as a Drop Out Prevention Counselor for Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am also a UC Agriculture and Natural Resources trained Master Gardener for Los Angeles County. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

As both a School Social Worker/Counselor and a LA Master Gardener I believe it is imperative for our school to have a green space that serves a multidimensional purpose. Wilmington is a city that is deprived a green space, clean air, and safe streets. So many students have told me how they use or would like to use a natural space to help them cope and deal with mental health and stress. I also believe it is imperative to expose our students to nature and educate them on sustainability practices which is what a bioswale type infrastructure would provide. Students and young people are the future and if we want to have a future that is sustainable, protected, and respected, we must teach them young, and time is of the essence. Wilmington is a community that faces many environmental injustices and deserves to have a space that promotes personal and environmental health. I can also say that I personally commit to teaching, promoting and caring for a new green infrastructure on our campus.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely, Joana Alvarez, Counselor and Master Gardener

June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Taimi Crowell and I am a teacher from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

Having worked full-time at Wilmington M.S. for 25 years, I am well aware of the poor air quality here, water run-off during storms (and even lawn watering), excessive heat on our blacktop, and need for students to understand ecology and what they can do about it in their own school and community. Furthermore, students will see how they directly benefit from good stewardship of the environment. The projects that can be completed with this grant money are long overdue and desperately needed.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.  
(Attached are statements from my students supporting this project.)

Sincerely,  
Taimi Crowell  
Teacher, Wilmington Middle School

June 10, 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Francisco Rojas. I am a teacher at Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet and would like to express my thanks for considering our school for a Green Infrastructure Project. Our school is located in the middle of the Los Angeles Harbor Area and is surrounded by refineries, petroleum and natural gas storage tanks and even a sewage treatment center. Needless to say, a little more environmental awareness and exposure is needed and would be greatly welcome.

I am excited to imagine how much Wilmington Middle School would benefit from the Green Infrastructure Project, which will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. My Students and the community are in such great need of increased environmental education and the Green Space imagined in this project would greatly enhance their appreciation and stewardship of the environment.

Included below are some illustrations of frogs that my students did after I taught them about the importance of amphibians as biological markers and how rare they are in our area.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Francisco Rojas

Teacher; Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet



Bryce



Briana



Juan



June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Sarah Borquez, and I am an English teacher from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

It has been a hope of mine and many others at our school for a while now to revitalize our campus garden. It is a large space that has not been used to its potential due to lack of funding and resources. This area would not help to beautify our school, but it will allow for additional hands on learning for the students here at Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. Learning how to grow their own food, about how to care for plants, and the benefits that green spaces have on our environment. Many students who attend schools today do not have a yard of their own where they can plant and grow fruits and vegetables, let alone flowers. This project would give these the youth in the community of Wilmington hands on experience and knowledge of how to grow and take care of our planet. Help us root a love for our planet within them through this project. The youth of today the future leaders of tomorrow! Let's grow a love for our planet by planting the seeds of knowledge and skills of how to care for it.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely, Sarah Borquez  
ELA Teacher  
Wilmington Middle School STEA Magnet

June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant – TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Jose Urquiza, and I am a teacher from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

I graduated from this Wilmington Middle School when it was a junior high school in the 1980's. Back then there was a refinery across from our school and it made the air smell very bad every day, even when we were running outside. The refinery is not here anymore but a garden would provide much needed clean air. The garden in our school would be great place for every student here. It would provide a place for science teachers to take their classes here to study the plants and how photosynthesis works. The art classes can come to the garden to appreciate the beauty of nature and get inspired to draw the plants and flowers here. It would also be a place to do some quiet reading and a place to just relax after the teaching day is over. I would have appreciated a garden in school when I was here and I'm sure all the students will appreciate now.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely,

Jose Urquiza, teacher

June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Ana Aranda, and I am an Office Technician from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

This is a wonderful opportunity for all students at Wilmington Middle School to experience growing their own vegetables. I am certain that it would bring them great pride and joy to know that they will have helped grow them. Also, they will be more willing to incorporate new vegetables into their diet. This will not only be a learning experience, but a "Healthy" experience as well.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely,

Ana Aranda,  
Office Technician

June 11, 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Dan Fairchild and I am the Magnet Coordinator at Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

Having worked at Wilmington Middle since 2002, I am keenly aware of the environmental issues that impact the school, from air quality and noise pollution to a lack of green spaces. When not in the classroom, our students spend most of their days at school on asphalt or concrete, with trees, plants, and other greenery few and far between. Even outside of school, the availability of green spaces within the community is limited. That is why this project is so important to the students and community of Wilmington.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Fairchild', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dan Fairchild

Magnet Coordinator

Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet



June 11, 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Evan Baughfman and I am a teacher from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

I look forward to being able to use this green space with my students. It would provide us with a different environment to perform our plays and puppet shows. The space would also help to beautify our campus and give kids much-needed shade and a sense of peace and relaxation. The blacktop and lunch benches can only accommodate so many! Additionally, this garden would assist in strengthening our air quality. The nearby refineries are choking this community!

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely,  
Evan Baughfman  
Theater Arts teacher

June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Jennifer Gomaa and I am a teacher from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

The students that I work with benefit from taking brain breaks from time to time to help alleviate stress and anxiety and to help with focus. Being able to take a break and take in nature at the same time could have a very calming affect on those who experience the daily pressure of being in the classroom.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Attached is a statement from one of my students supporting this project.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Gomaa  
Teacher

June 10, 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Marylin Williams and I am an administrator from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

During their development and planning stages, many urban cities made sure to include parks and other greenspace areas were within walking distance in their communities. The research based benefits of increased activity, both physical and mental, were key reasons for the inclusion of these greenspaces. To have a dedicated greenspace that would be accessible to our students, on a daily basis, at the school site, would be an awesome addition to our school.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the Tree People's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely,

Marylin Williams  
Administrator,  
Counseling

June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Gloria del Rosario RN, School Nurse, and I am the Nurse from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

This will be an amazing addition to our community to benefit in all aspects indicated above. I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely,

Gloria del Rosario RN, School Nurse



June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Ana Soto, and I am a 6<sup>th</sup> Academic Counselor from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely, Ana Soto, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Academic Counselor

June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Linda Giovia, and I am a special education assistant from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

This beautiful community is surrounded by many industrial hazards, such as; oil refineries, trucks delivering to port which contribute to unhealthy air quality. Wilmington deserves the benefits of this proposed project.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely, Linda Giovia, Spec. Ed Assistant

June 9, 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Maria G Torres, and I am a paraprofessional from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

I work with special education children, and I believe my students will benefit from this wonderful opportunity to see and contribute to how the world and themselves can make a difference in the world and make it better for them and for future generations.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

"we need more green places to go and walk" "Flowers are beautiful" "Trees make us breath better"

Sincerely, Maria G Torres Special Education Paraprofessional

June 10, 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Lourdes Castellanos and I am a teacher from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

Our students are growing up surrounded by contaminants and social emotional barriers, they need a green space, this will be their oasis. This community definitely deserves this! What a gift for future generations this could be!

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely, Lourdes Castellanos  
TEACHER



June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Tatiana Tomasevich, and I am a teacher from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

Seeing a space on campus like this would greatly student morale and not only that, but would also allow us to teach students about horticulture and green space concepts.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

My students also support this project as they would love to be able to literally get their hands dirty and learn in the process.

Sincerely,

Tatiana Tomasevich  
Elective/Math Teacher

June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Amparo Hernandez and I am an English Language Arts teacher from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres. With the enormous amount of stress students enduring with school closures due to the pandemic, it would be wonderful for students to be able to enjoy a new environmentally positive location on school grounds to enhance learning. I also believe that adding this project will help students avoid mental fatigue and become more resilient learners.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Attached are statements from my students supporting this project.

Sincerely,

Amparo Hernandez, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA

June 13th, 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Chelsy Duffer-Dunbar, and I am the Psychiatric Social Worker at Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chelsy Duffer-Dunbar". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chelsy Duffer-Dunbar  
Psychiatric Social Worker

June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Domicruz Rivera and I am the PSA Counselor from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

This would create a healthy and nurturing space for our students. A green space that they can use to learn outdoors and spend some quality time in a garden of positive thoughts. At the same time it will provide fruits and vegetables for students to grow themselves and then take home and eat, I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely, Domicruz Rivera PSA Counselor



June 2021

To : California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant – TreePeople’s Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Oralia Mendoza, I am a teacher from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure project, nature -based, multi- benefit project, will greatly expand the much- needed tree canopy, improving air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment , but the school , school culture and the community of Wilmington as the whole in physical academic , social- emotional , and recreational spheres.

This will be a great opportunity for my math students explore real life mathematics problems with garden cost , measurement, geometry, surface area , and determining the best buy to save money.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople’s Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this proposal.

Sincerely ,  
Oralia Mendoza  
NBCT

June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Alex Jaramillo, and I am an SDC Math Teacher from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

The additional green areas would provide a much-needed contrast to the negative environmental effects of the surrounding refineries, the port of Los Angeles, and the manure plant all within the immediate vicinity of our school. The green spaces would provide my students with outside areas in which to conduct research and projects when I incorporate the outside areas into my lesson plans in order bring learning to life and therefore more relevant. I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely, Alex Jaramillo SDC 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Teacher

June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Carol Wilson Mitchell, and I am a school psychologist from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely,  
Carol Wilson Mitchell  
School Psychologist

June 9, 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Cristina Soto, and I am the Literary Coach at Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely,  
*Cristina A. Soto*

June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Jessica Narez and I am the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Academic Counselor from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely, Jessica Narez, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Academic Counselor



June 2021

To: California Ocean Protection Council

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

Dear California Ocean Protection Council,

My name is Teresa Williams, and I am a Senior Office Technician from Wilmington Middle School STEAM Magnet. I am writing this letter to express my strong support for Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project, a nature-based, multi-benefit project, will greatly expand the much-needed tree canopy, improve air quality, increase stormwater capture and stormwater recharge, reduce urban runoff, improve urban watershed health, and increase habitat for local wildlife. This project will not only positively impact the environment, but the school, school culture, and the community of Wilmington as a whole in the physical, academic, social-emotional, and recreational spheres.

I hope that the California Ocean Protection Council selects the TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project to receive funding for this project proposal.

Sincerely,  
Teresa Williams, Senior Office Technician



**June 18, 2021**

**RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project**

To: California Ocean Protection Council

Los Angeles Unified Board Member Tanya Ortiz Franklin submits this letter of support for the Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople. This project will bring much-needed improvements to Wilmington Middle School that will contain multiple environmental and educational benefits.

Board Member Ortiz Franklin believes this is an excellent project for the Ocean Protection Council's Proposition 1 Grant Program. This project will significantly invest in a community that has historically faced numerous environmental issues. With the grant program's emphasis on environmental justice, Board Member Ortiz Franklin highly supports this project to be funded to begin addressing the numerous historic environmental inequities.

TreePeople is well-positioned to lead the implementation of this project. The organization has conducted urban greening projects around Los Angeles for several decades. Furthermore, the organization's educational programming will allow for even greater outcomes within the school and community in the long term.

Sincerely,

Tanya Ortiz Franklin  
LA Unified Board Member



**LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*Facilities Services Division*

June 30, 2021

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant

To Whom It May Concern:

The Los Angeles Unified School District ("District"), is pleased to provide this letter of support for TreePeople's application being considered by the Ocean Protection Council ("OPC") for a Proposition 1 Grant ("Grant") for funding of the potential development of a Community Green Infrastructure Project ("Project") on the campus of Wilmington Middle School ("Wilmington").

The District believes the proposed Project at Wilmington will help advance the District's goals of, among other things, creating campus green spaces to support our students' learning environment, combat the negative effects of climate change, lessen the urban heat island effect, reduce storm water run-off and improve air quality.

The District supports the general concept of the proposed Project, provided there are no instruments recorded on title of a District facility or property. Although the District has not approved the Project or its final design, we look forward to reviewing the design as it is further developed by TreePeople and our staff. As always, the design will need to comply with District standards, policies, as well as all laws, rules, and regulations for public school construction.

Once the Grant is approved, and prior to implementing the Project, TreePeople will be required to enter into agreements with the District for the Project, which agreements may include, but not be limited to, development and maintenance agreements. The District will not be providing any funding for the construction of the Project, and any front-funding required to cover District costs will not be allocated without prior approval of the District's Board of Directors ("Board"). At the expiration of the maintenance obligations of TreePeople, the District will accept responsibility for the continuing maintenance of the Project in accordance with the District's annual maintenance and operations budget, and only as specified in a written agreement executed by all applicable parties.

The District strongly supports the proposed Project and the efforts of TreePeople to add additional green space at Wilmington.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Hovatter", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Hovatter  
Chief Facilities Executive  
Los Angeles Unified School District

Cc: Aaron Bridgewater, LAUSD Director of Facilities Planning and Development  
Robert Laughton, LAUSD Director of Facilities Maintenance and Operations  
Al Grazioli, LAUSD Director of Asset Development

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0064  
(916) 319-2064  
FAX (916) 319-2164

E-MAIL  
Assemblymember.Gipson@assembly.ca.gov



COMMITTEES  
BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION  
HUMAN SERVICES  
INSURANCE  
TRANSPORTATION

June, 18, 2021

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

To: California Ocean Protection Council

I write today to support the Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople.

As you may know, Wilmington, and many communities in the 64<sup>th</sup> Assembly district, are disproportionately affected by multiple environmental issues and issues related to environmental justice.

The Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project is an excellent candidate for funding by the Ocean Protection Council's Proposition 1 Grant Program because it significantly invests in Wilmington and addresses issues of environmental justice as well as numerous historic environmental inequities.

TreePeople, with particular emphasis on the community of Wilmington, is an organization positioned to collaboratively lead the implementation of this project with the input and direction from local children, parents and families. The organization's track record conducting urban greening projects around Los Angeles for several decades is essential to ensuring grant dollars are used appropriately, with accountable practices and outcomes.

Sincerely,

Mike A. Gipson  
Assemblymember, 64<sup>th</sup> AD

Lw/AAW

CAPITOL OFFICE  
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 2059  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TEL (916) 651-4035  
FAX (916) 651-4935

INGLEWOOD DISTRICT OFFICE  
ONE WEST MANCHESTER BLVD.  
SUITE 600  
INGLEWOOD, CA 90301  
TEL (310) 412-6120  
FAX (310) 412-6125

SAN PEDRO DISTRICT OFFICE  
302 WEST FIFTH ST.  
SUITE 203  
SAN PEDRO, CA 90731  
TEL (310) 514-8573

SENATOR.BRADFORD@SENATE.CA.GOV  
WWW.SENATE.CA.GOV/BRADFORD



COMMITTEES  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
CHAIR

APPROPRIATIONS  
BANKING & FINANCIAL  
INSTITUTIONS  
ENERGY, UTILITIES &  
COMMUNICATIONS  
GOVERNMENTAL  
ORGANIZATION

June 23, 2021

California Ocean Protection Council  
California Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Ocean Protection Council Proposition 1 Grant - TreePeople's Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project

I am pleased to offer support for the Wilmington Middle School and Community Green Infrastructure Project that is being proposed for funding by TreePeople. This project will bring much needed improvements to Wilmington Middle School that will contain multiple environmental and educational benefits.

This is an excellent project for the Ocean Protection Council's Proposition 1 Grant Program. This project will significantly invest in a community that has historically faced numerous environmental issues. With the grant program's emphasis on environmental justice, I highly supports this project to be funded to begin addressing the numerous historic environmental inequities.

TreePeople is well positioned to lead the implementation of this project. The organization has conducted urban greening projects around Los Angeles for several decades. Furthermore, the organization's educational programming will allow for even greater outcomes within the school and community in the long-term.

Sincerely,

**Senator Steven Bradford**  
Representing the 35<sup>th</sup> District, California State Senate