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X. LANDSCAPE AND OPEN SPACE GUIDELINES

X.1. LANDSCAPE AND OPEN SPACE INTENT

RELEVANT EXISTING MALIBU POLICIES REGARDING LANDSCAPE AND OPEN SPACE

- **LAND USE PLAN 6.C.1** - The scenic and visual qualities of Malibu and the Santa Monica Mountains should be protected and, where feasible, enhanced.
- **LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 3.8.A.5.B** - Plantings shall be native and drought-tolerant
- **LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 5.4.A** - Native trees such as oak, walnut, sycamore, alder, toyon, etc should be protected
- **LAND USE PLAN LAND USE 6.C.6** - All new development shall be sited and designed so as to minimize grading, alteration of physical features, vegetation clearance, and adverse impacts on plant and animal life
- **ORDINANCE NO 343** - New and altered landscaping projects shall not exceed the Maximum Applied Water Allowance.

LANDSCAPE AND OPEN SPACE PRINCIPLES

- Allow landscape and open space to become the dominant experience in the Civic Center District and at each individual project.
- Maintain, restore, and reinforce Malibu Civic Center's native landscape (see Fig X.1).
- Build upon a native and drought tolerant plant palette.



Fig X.1. Existing Malibu policies call for standards that maintain, restore, and protect Malibu Civic Center's natural ecology.

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X.2. EXISTING LANDSCAPE CONDITIONS

THE MALIBU CIVIC CENTER IS IN COASTAL ZONE 24

- Mediterranean climate dominated by ocean influences
- Moist winters
- Summer fog, cool summers and humidity
- Mild year-round temptations
- Relatively low evapotranspiration rates
- Ocean salt, spray and wind from the ocean

THE CIVIC CENTER MICROCLIMATES

THE PLATEAU

- Relatively flat microclimate bound by the PCH, Civic Center Way, Cross Creek Road and Stuart Ranch Road (see fig X.2).
- Landscape is dominated by salt-tolerant trees and shrubs and kept low. If left alone, vegetation in the plateau would presumably return to brushy seashore habitat.
- Surface parking lots and building roofs radiate heat back into the air.
- Opportunity to integrate structures with the landscape

MALIBU CREEK

- Riparian corridor runs north - south alongside the Malibu Creek.
- The creek absorbs runoff from higher elevations.
- The landscape is dominated by Willows, Cottonwood, Sedges and Rushes that create shade and absorb heat (see fig X.4).
- Opportunity to enhance and protect the corridor

THE FOOTHILLS

- A relatively steep, southern-facing microclimate located to the north of Civic Center Way
- This hot and dry transitional zone has a varied landscape characterized by chaparral trees and masses of large, native shrubs (see fig X.3)
- Opportunity to grade and drain the hills while preserving the dramatic view.

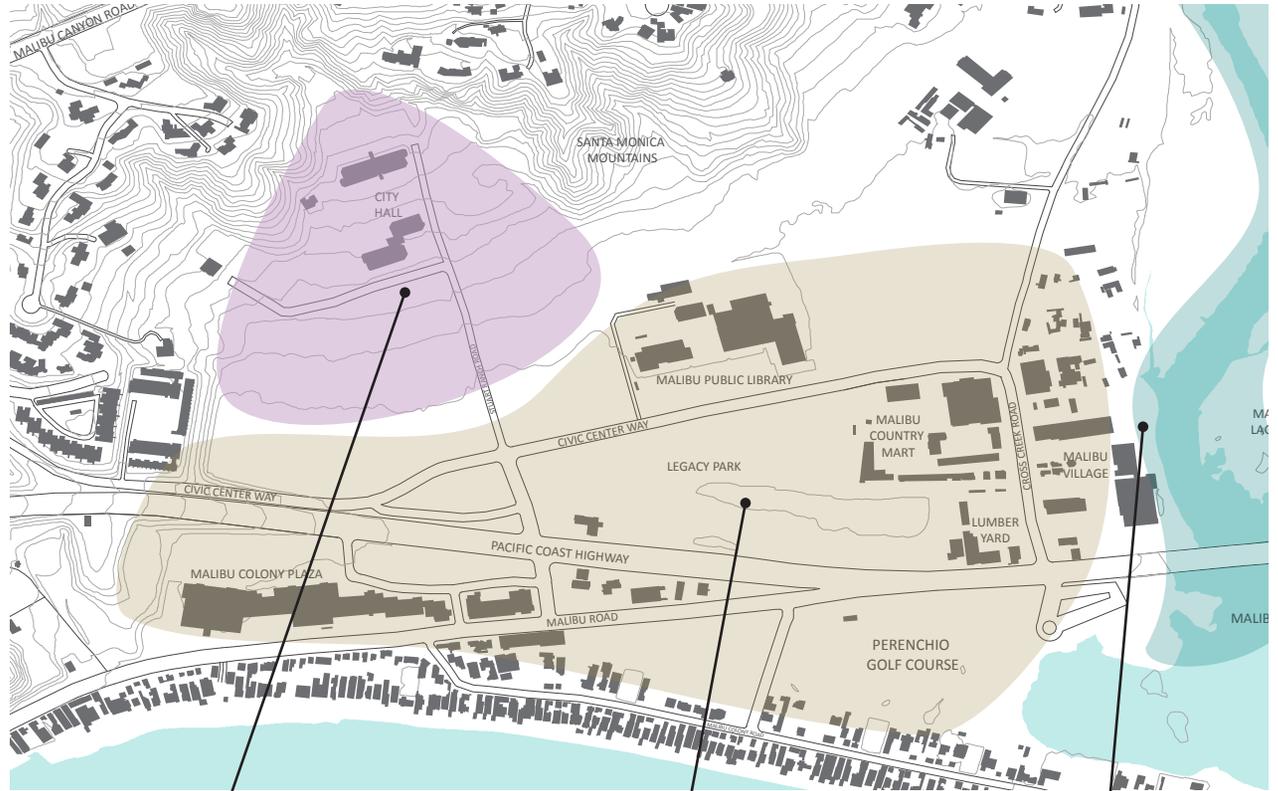


Fig X.2. The Foothills



Fig X.3. The Plateau



Fig X.4. The Creek

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X.3. LANDSCAPE DESIGN STRATEGY

- Planting should not materially change the character of the three identified microclimates in the Malibu Civic Center (see Fig X.5 - X.6).
- Plant selection and size should be varied to maintain the level of diversity seen in the natural landscape (see fig X.7)
- New landscape designs should be informal, simple, consistent, and blend with the greater natural environment of the Malibu Civic Center (see figure X.8).



Fig X.5. Coast live oak trees, toyons and coyote brush in the foothills.



Fig X.6. The Malibu Creek microclimate is a riparian habitat characterized by willows, cottonwoods, sedges, and rushes.



Fig X.7. Variation of plant type, sizes and colors create an informal design that blends into the natural landscape at the LA Arboretum



Fig X.8. At the Sea Ranch community, design standards insure that the built form is secondary to nature.

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X.4. PLANT PALETTE STRATEGY

- The majority of plants should be native to Southern California's coastal regions (see figure X.9).
- All plants should be drought tolerant and suitable to the Civic Center's three microclimates (see figure X.10).
- Plants should be chosen to provide year-round color and interest (see figure X.11).
- Plants should promote the infiltration and percolation of recycled water from the Civic Center treatment facility.
- Flexibility on the plant palette will be granted and the project shall be considered in compliance if the authorized review agency finds that the project meets key performance standards such as recycled water use, water conservation, consistency with the greater natural context, and the creation of a dominant landscape experience. (see figure X.12).



Fig X.9. Landscape designs should be limited to plants that are native to Southern California



Fig X.10. Plant choices should be suitable to the Malibu Civic Center climate zone and be self-sustainable in 2-3 years.



Fig X.11. Plants should provide year-round color and interest.



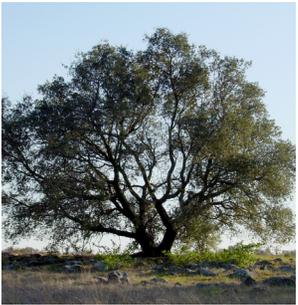
Fig X.12. Flexibility on plant palette will be granted if the project meets the districts goals such as this stormwater capture garden and butterfly habitat.

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X.5. THE PLATEAU'S PLANT PALETTE

This sage scrub and chaparral plant palette is highly suited for open spaces and green belt plantings in the southern coastal region. These plants were chosen because they grow best in well drained soils, sunny exposures and locations adjacent to the Pacific Ocean that brings fog and humidity.

TREES



Engelmann Oak
Quercus Engelmanni



Torrey Pine
Pinus Torreyana

BUSHES



California Sagebrush
Artemisia Californica



Coyote Brush
Baccharis Pilularis



Sage
Salvia



Lemonade Berry
Rhus Integrifolia

GROUND COVER + PERENNIALS



Deergrass
Muhlenbergia Rigens



Needlegrass
Nassella



The Beardtongues
Penstemon

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X.6. THE HILL'S PLANT PALETTE

The plant palette on the hills microclimate preserves and enhances the existing coast live oaks. These plants naturally occur with coast live oaks and add diversity and interest without damaging the valued native tree.

TREES



Coast Live Oak
Quercus agrifolia



The White Alder
Alnus Rhombifolia

BUSHES + GROUND COVERS



Toyon
Heteromeles arbutifolia



Coyote Brush
Baccharis Pilularis



California Lilac
Ceanothus



California Buckwheat
Erigeron Fasciculatum



California Coffeeberry
Rhamnus Californica



Sugar Bush
Rhus Ovata



Salvia
Salvia



Woolly Blue Curls
Trichostema Lanatum

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X.7. THE MALIBU CREEK'S PLANT PALETTE

A Cottonwood Woodland Plant Palette was chosen for the Malibu Creek because of its ability to improve the biological value of the Malibu Creek riparian corridor and its consistency with the vegetation chosen in Mariposa Land's vegetation restoration plan for the Malibu creek.

TREES



California Sycamore
Platanus Racemosa



Fremont's Cottonwood
Populus Fremontii



California Black Walnut
Juglans Californica

BUSHES



Mexican Elderberry
Sambucus Mexicana



Arroyo Willow
Salix Lasiolepis



Mulefat
Baccharis salicifolia



California Mugwort
Artemisia douglasiana

GROUND COVER + SUCCULENTS



Yerba Mansa
Anemopsis Californica



Giant Wildrye
Leymus Condensatus



Deer Grass
Muhlenbergia Rigens