



THIRTY
YEARS

OF POSITIVE
CHANGE BY
DESIGN

SCHMIDT DESIGN GROUP, INC.

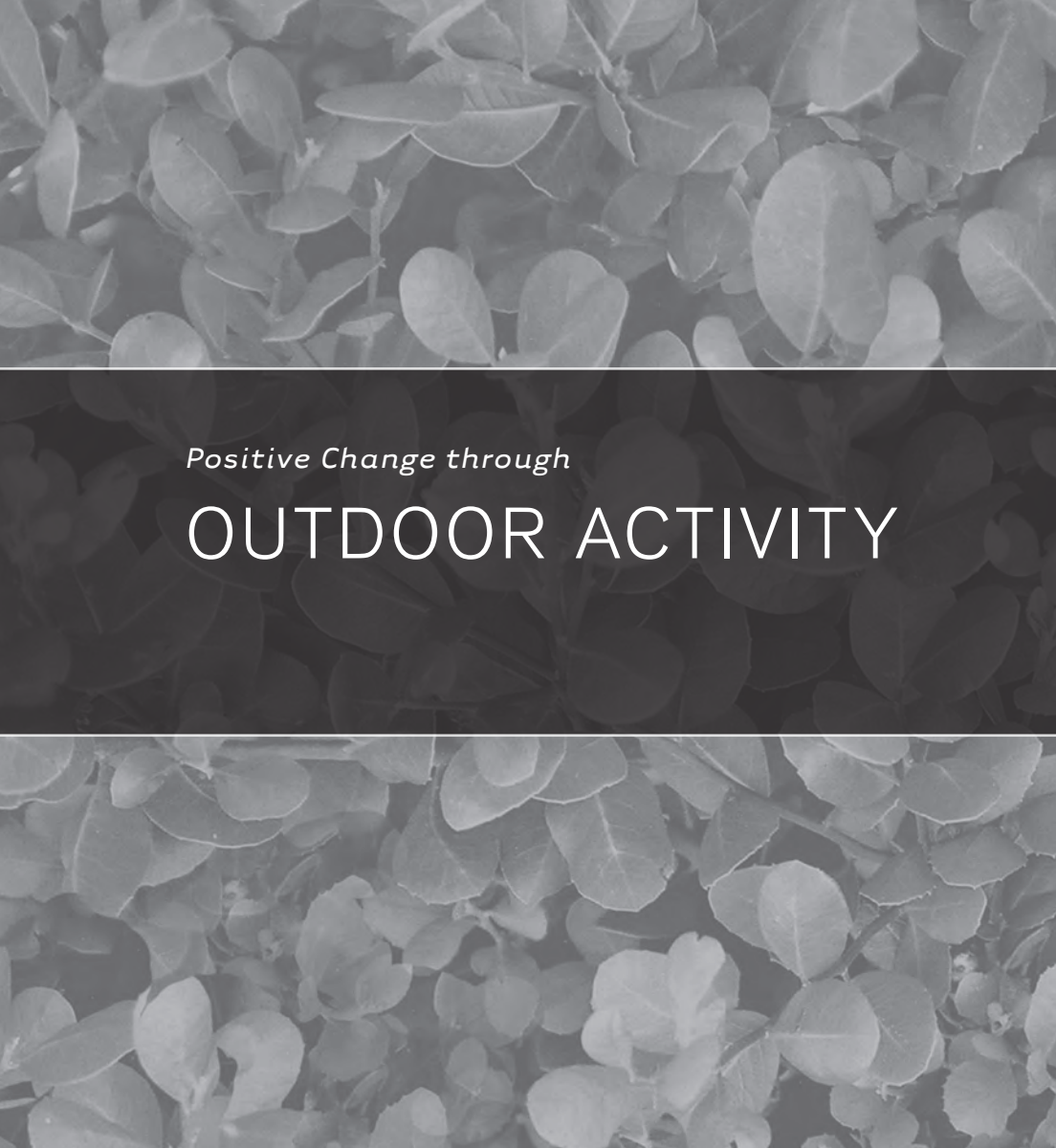


To our Clients, Friends and Family,

As we celebrate 30 years of service at Schmidt Design Group, Inc., it is with great satisfaction that we look back on the places we have created and the positive impact we have had on the communities in which we have worked. Whether it is our work or that of our colleagues, clearly, quality design is a catalyst for *Positive Change*. In the following pages, we explore a few of the ways in which design has the power to address many of the issues of our day and, in doing so, make our world a better place.

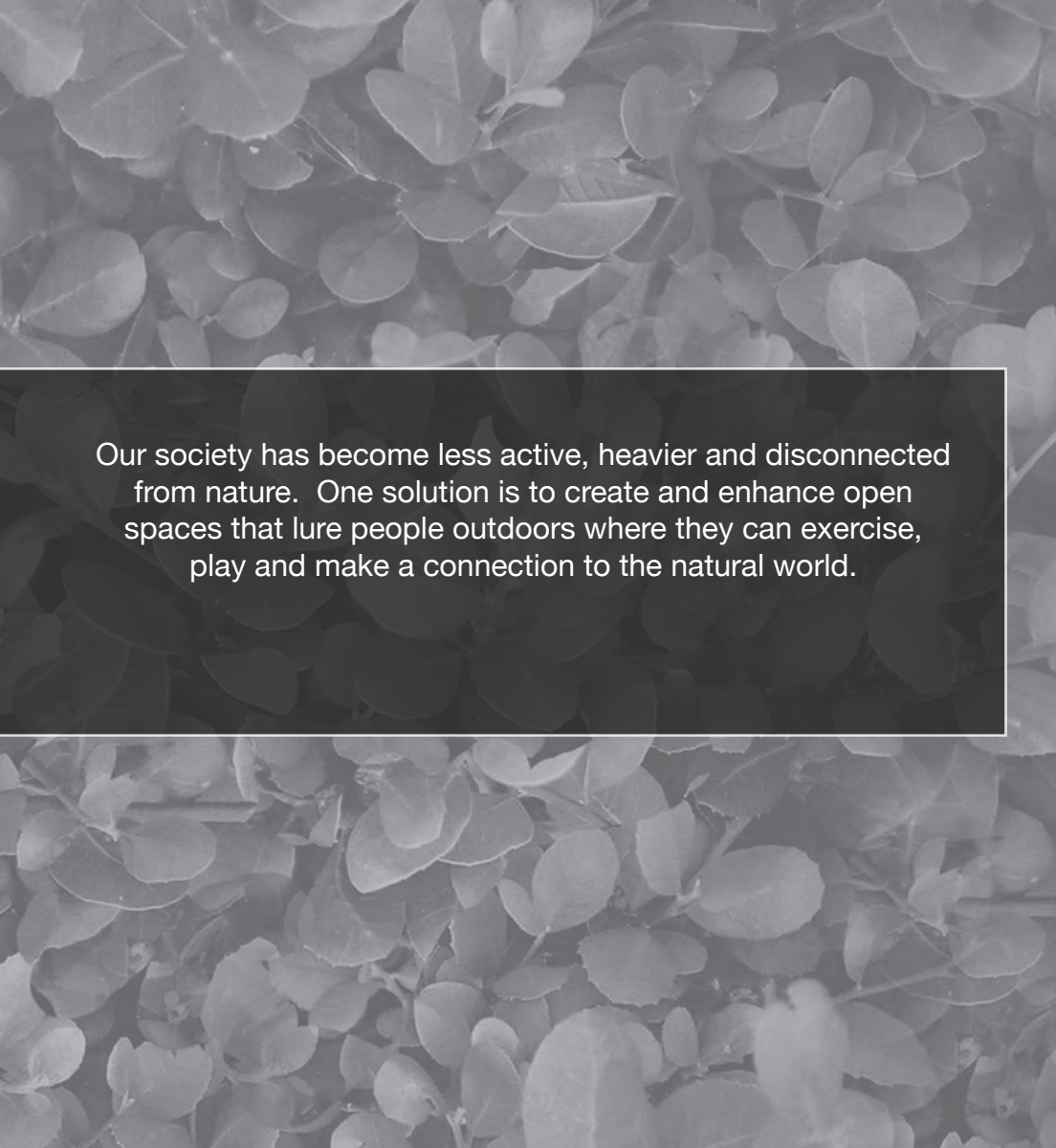
We owe a great depth of gratitude to our enlightened clients, dedicated staff, agency partners, quality consultants and especially our families who support our passion for meaningful work. Thank you!

We hope you enjoy *30 Years of Positive Change By Design*.
Glen Schmidt, FASLA, and staff



Positive Change through

OUTDOOR ACTIVITY



Our society has become less active, heavier and disconnected from nature. One solution is to create and enhance open spaces that lure people outdoors where they can exercise, play and make a connection to the natural world.





Ocean Air Community Park
Positive Change through
Community Engagement



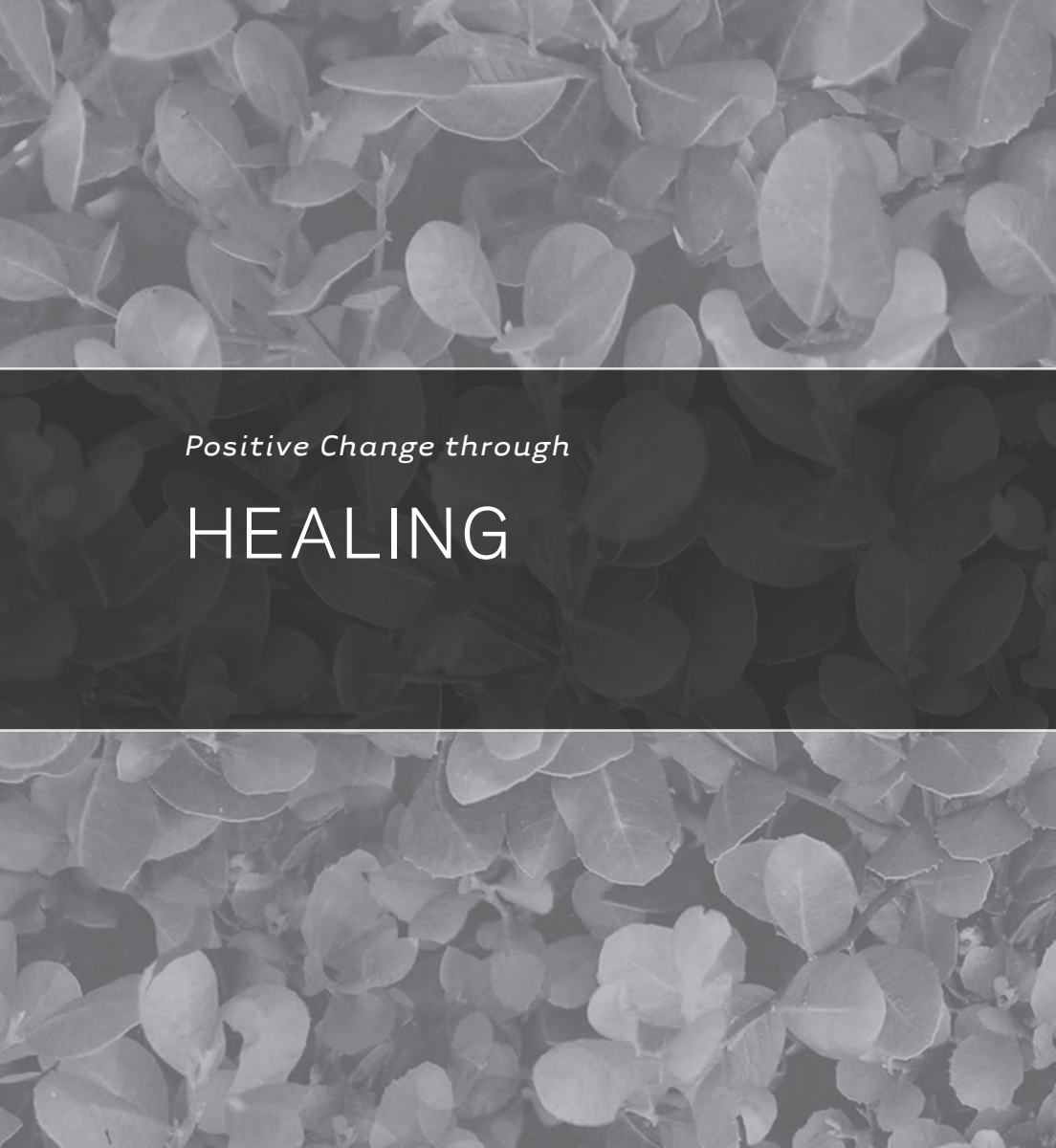


Lake Skinner Recreation Area
Positive Change through
Connected Play



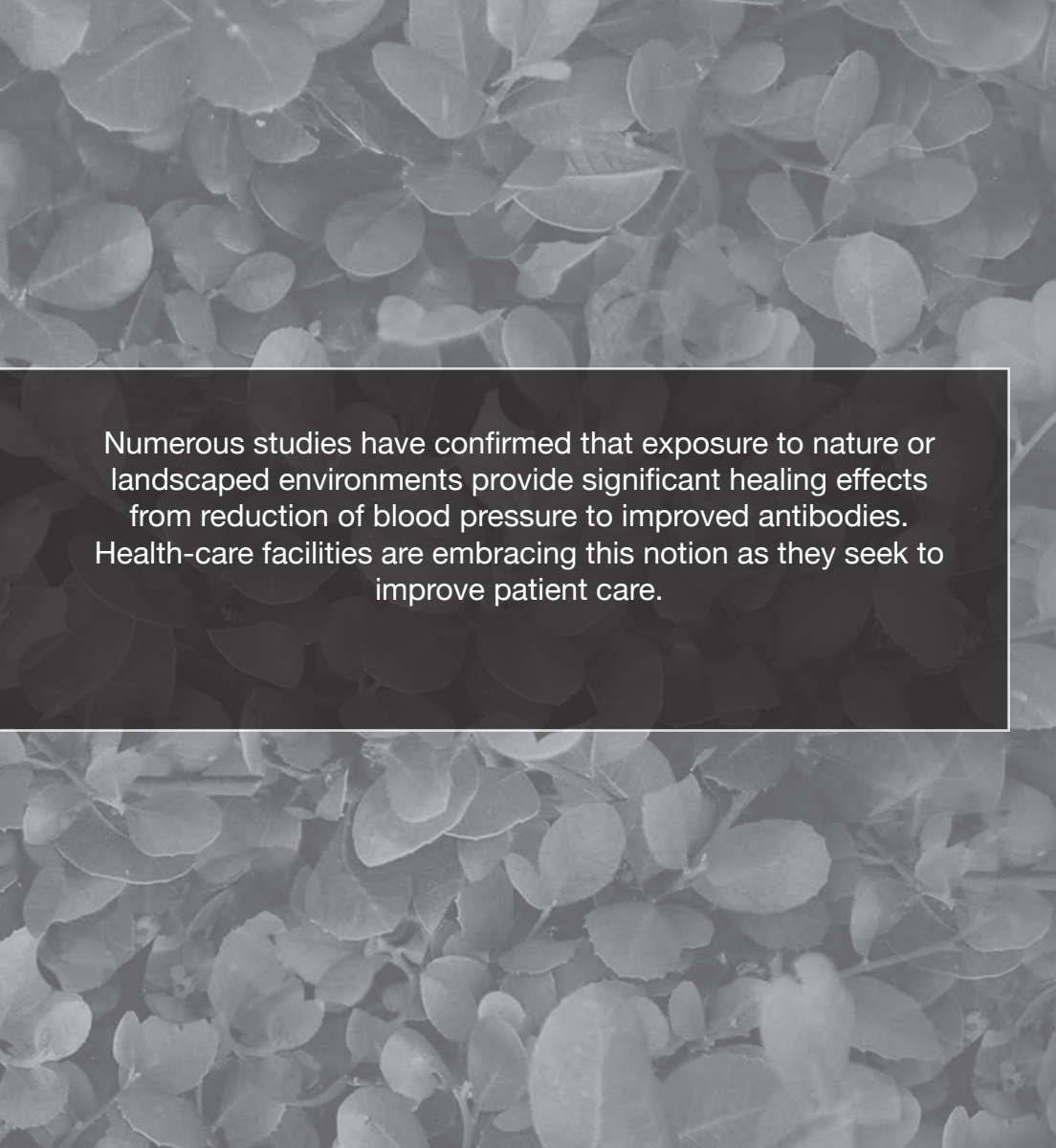


Mt. San Miguel Community Park
Positive Change through
Exercise and Play



Positive Change through

HEALING

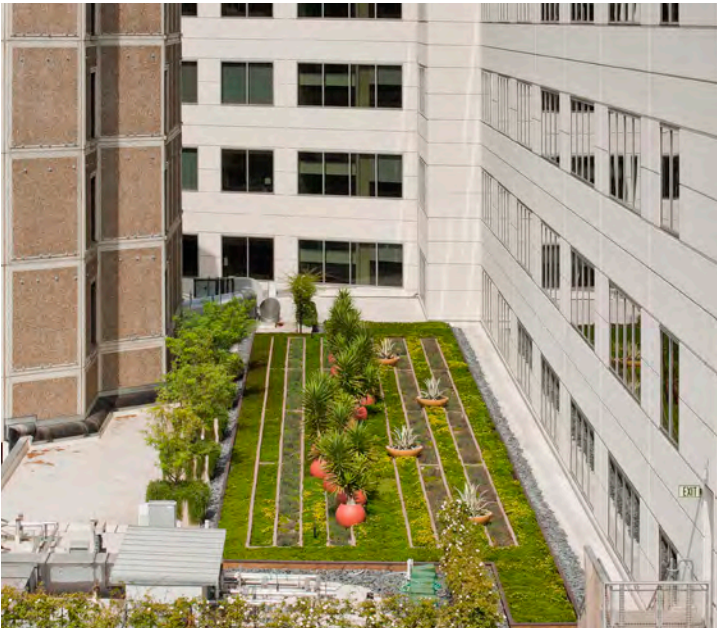


Numerous studies have confirmed that exposure to nature or landscaped environments provide significant healing effects from reduction of blood pressure to improved antibodies. Health-care facilities are embracing this notion as they seek to improve patient care.



Did They Put That There For Me?

This linear 5,000-square-foot green roof at **Sharp Memorial Hospital** in San Diego utilizes both landscape and music as inspiration. Composite lumber was used for frames that depict staves of music filled with low-Sedum ground covers. Large planters with Agave and Yuccas were then placed within the frames to depict both treble and bass notes of the first few bars of Beethoven's 9th Symphony "Ode to Joy." Soon after the roof garden's installation, a seriously injured woman was wheeled to her room's window as she began to regain her strength. She looked down at the green roof and, with a smile, said, "That's 'Ode to Joy'; did they put that there for me?" As it turns out, she is a retired music teacher.







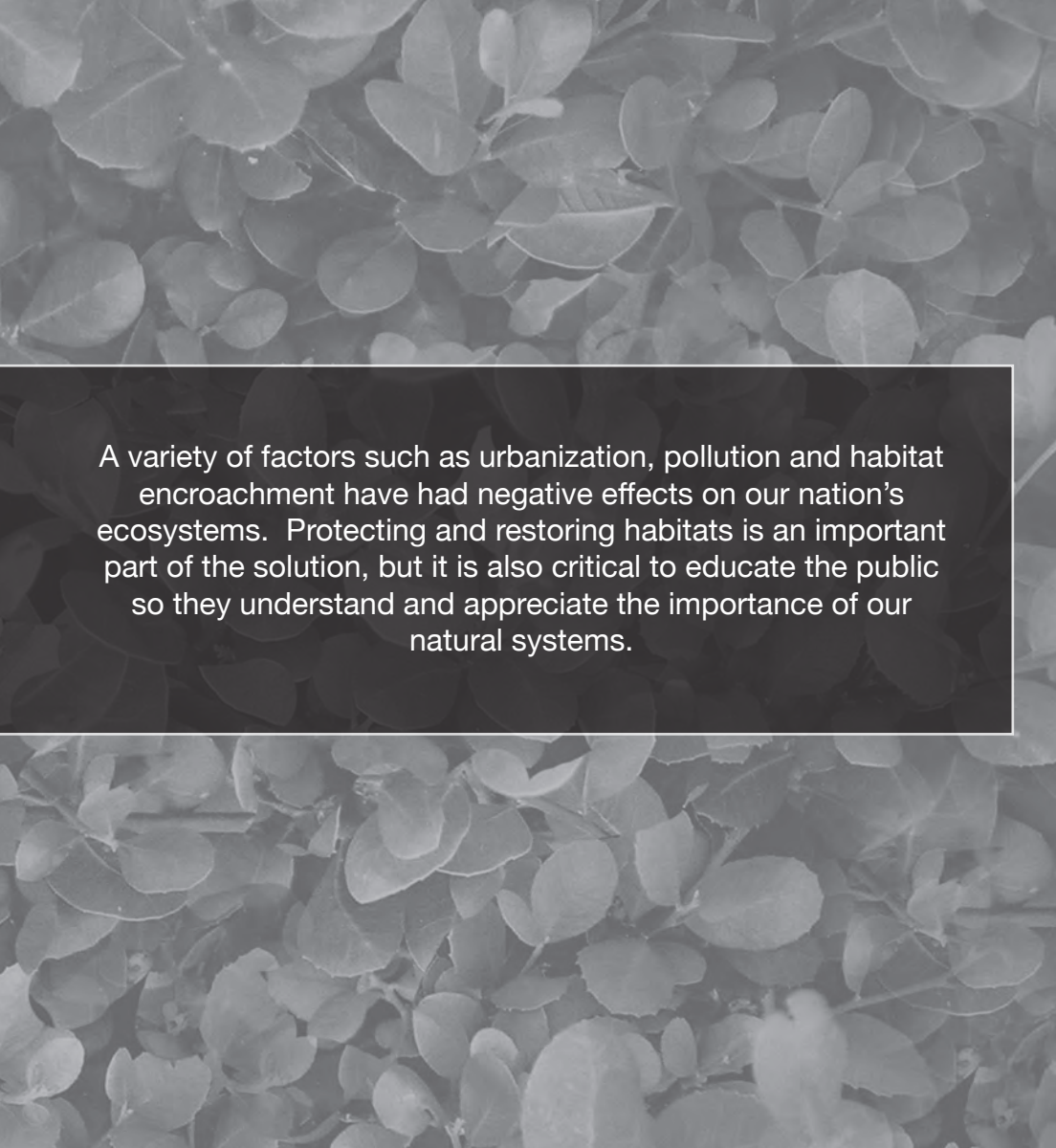


Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital Garden of Recovery
Positive Change through [The Healing Power of Landscape](#)

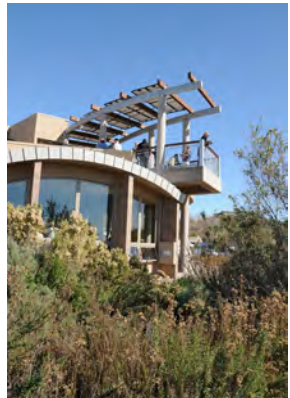


Positive Change through

RESTORATION
& EDUCATION



A variety of factors such as urbanization, pollution and habitat encroachment have had negative effects on our nation's ecosystems. Protecting and restoring habitats is an important part of the solution, but it is also critical to educate the public so they understand and appreciate the importance of our natural systems.





The San Elijo Lagoon Nature Center
Positive Change through
Interpretive Education





Salt Works Site Assessment
Positive Change through
Habitat Protection and Historic Restoration



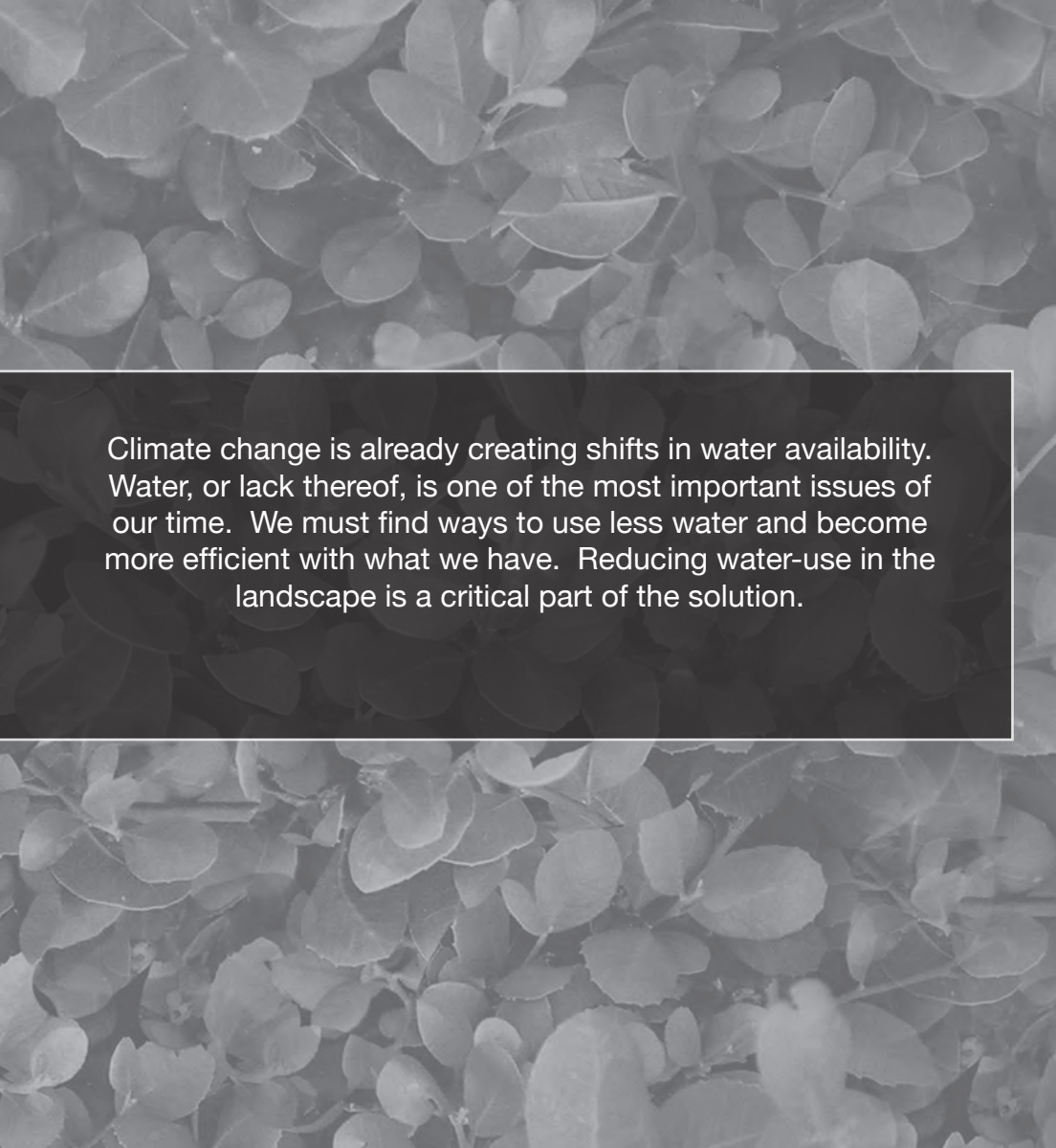
Big Challenge For a Small Canyon Park

West Lewis Mini Park is a small pocket park perched on an urban canyon that has been designed to thrive without supplemental irrigation. With global climate change and dwindling natural resources, creating livable and beautiful spaces without permanent irrigation is a challenge here to stay. The small park also contains another important message highlighting the connection between the urban fabric of our neighborhoods with our natural canyon lands and the wildlife that lives there. Etchings in pavement and interpretive education in the park provide information about the birds one may spot flying through the canyon below.



Positive Change through

WATER CONSERVATION



Climate change is already creating shifts in water availability. Water, or lack thereof, is one of the most important issues of our time. We must find ways to use less water and become more efficient with what we have. Reducing water-use in the landscape is a critical part of the solution.

A Homeowner's Guide to a WaterSmart Landscape



Review of the steps to a **WaterSmart Landscape**

Your WaterSmart landscape is a key part of our region's water efficiency goals. By converting your yard to a WaterSmart landscape, you not only have the potential to beautify your property, save money, and reduce maintenance, but you also help protect and even improve the health of our natural environment. Below is a summary of the key steps involved in completing a WaterSmart landscape renovation:

STEP 1

❑ **Identify your landscape target.** Identify your needs, plant and irrigation types in the beginning to guide you through the design.

❑ **Create a basic plan.** Making a plan visualizes your future landscape.

❑ **Test and condition your soil.** A soil test report shows you how to properly condition your soil before you plant so you can create a healthy environment for plant growth and help save water and reduce maintenance in the long run.

❑ **Review your WaterSmart landscape.** If you don't plan to install the whole WaterSmart landscape, you can verify that the product will be utilized. Include a planting and irrigation design. Minimize water use before you begin, and adjust if it doesn't meet your landscape target.

STEP 2

❑ **Implement your plan.** When implementing your plan, take your time; hire a professional if needed; get it right the first time.

STEP 3

❑ **Care for your WaterSmart Landscape.** Learn the best practices for maintaining your landscape and consider creating a maintenance schedule to help you keep on track. You can even use the money in existing landscape water that have not been upgraded.



BEAUTIFY YOUR PROPERTY

A well-designed WaterSmart landscape enhances the appearance of your property, transforming it into a vibrant neighborhood showcase.



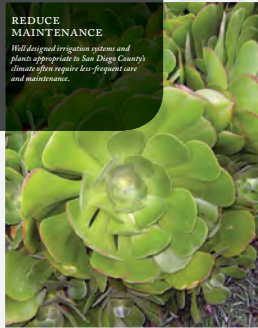
PROTECT NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

WaterSmart landscapes minimize runoff, reducing pollution to our coastal watershed. Improved regional water efficiency also has far-reaching benefits in California's Bay Delta region and the Colorado River Basin.



SAVE WATER

WaterSmart landscaping uses less water than traditional landscaping, which could potentially save you money on your water bill.



REDUCE MAINTENANCE

Well-designed irrigation systems and plants appropriate to San Diego County's climate often require less frequent care and maintenance.

What is a WaterSmart Landscape?

A WaterSmart landscape includes:

WATER EFFICIENT DESIGN

Proper landscape design is a key element. Begin with an overall target of how much water you want to save on your project.



This guide can help you identify a WaterSmart target for your landscape.

EFFICIENT IRRIGATION

Incorporate WaterSmart irrigation components - including Smart controllers, pressure regulators, rotating nozzles and drip - into your irrigation system to maximize water use efficiency.



Drip emitters are the most efficient method of irrigation.

CLIMATE APPROPRIATE PLANTS

Select plants that naturally thrive in San Diego County's Mediterranean climate, and are also appropriate for your specific soil and microclimate.



Succulents are especially very low-water use plants.

APPROPRIATE MAINTENANCE AND IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT

Know the needs and requirements of your water efficient landscape, and strive to manage water use within an established water budget. Monitor systems and make any repairs promptly.



Seasonal maintenance checks and controller updates can help conserve water.

*Previous Page
Tip Left: Bougainvillea sp. / Bougainvillea (low water use)
Tip Right: Lantana sp. / California Lilac (low water use)
Bottom Left: Eucalyptus poliochloa 'Nardus' (low water use)
Bottom right: Anemone sp. / Canary Island Rose (low water use)*

Homeowner's WaterSmart Landscape Guide (V1) | March 2011

Homeowner's Guide to WaterSmart Landscape Positive Change through Installing "WaterSmart" Landscapes

Letting Go of Lawns

Glen Schmidt, FASLA, established Schmidt Design Group, Inc. in 1983 hoping to specialize in **low-water-use landscape design** and broader sustainable design principles, which was not a common practice at the time. After 30 long years of advocacy and leadership, he is finally happy to see a wide acceptance of sustainable design in the landscape as well as more regionally appropriate plant palettes.

“We are finally witnessing the slow death of our sacred decorative front lawns,” Schmidt says. “They are being replaced with a far more dynamic, interesting and beautiful landscape appropriate for our region.”



↩ before ↑ after



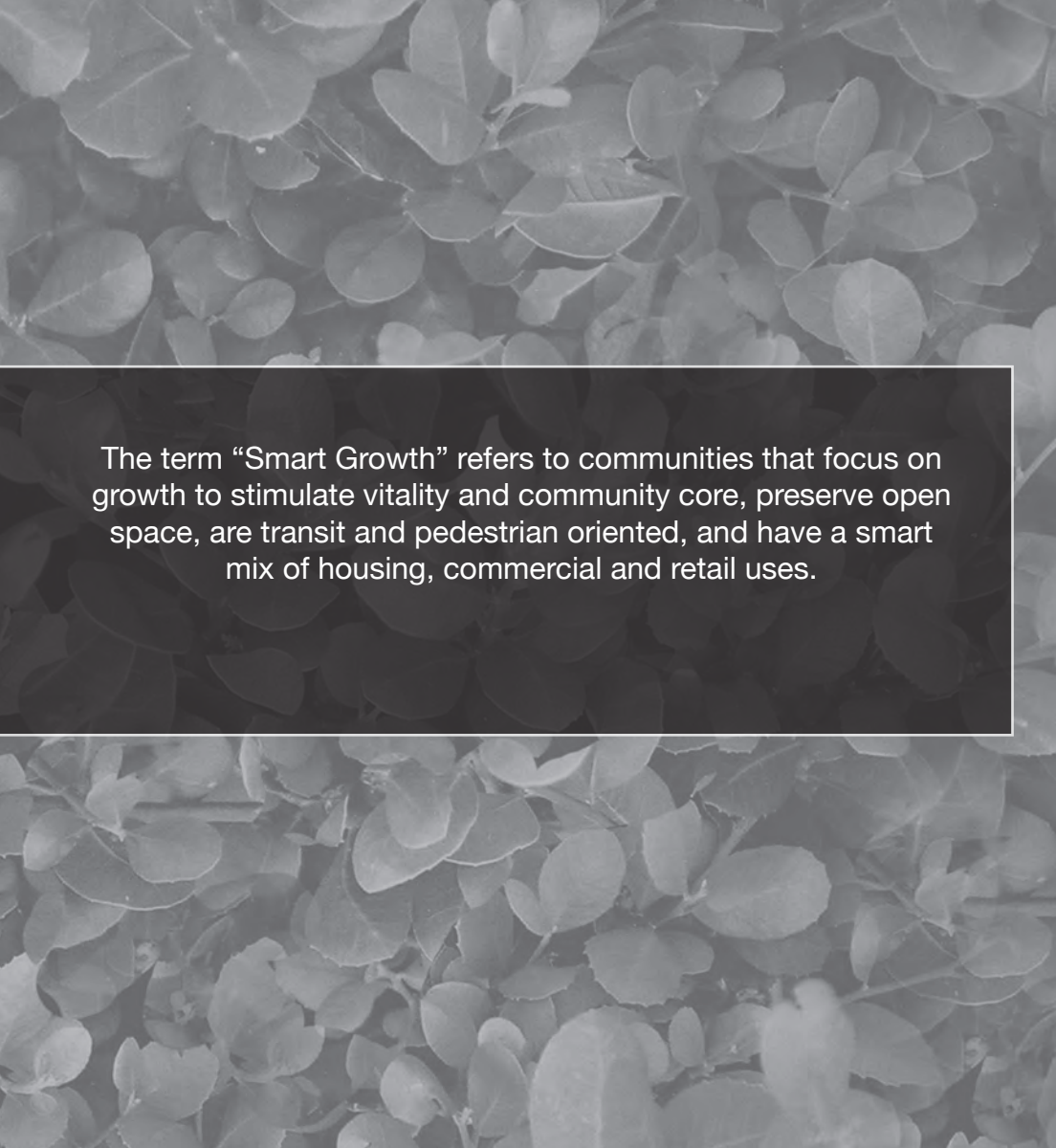
Water Lites
Positive Change through
Water Conservation Awareness





Positive Change through

SMART GROWTH



The term “Smart Growth” refers to communities that focus on growth to stimulate vitality and community core, preserve open space, are transit and pedestrian oriented, and have a smart mix of housing, commercial and retail uses.





Maple Street Pedestrian Plaza
Positive Change through [Improving Walkability](#)

Children's Park
Positive Change through
Creating Urban Open Space





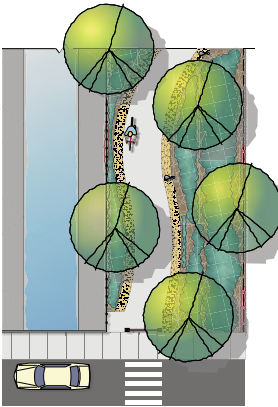


Figure 12: Meandering Trail Example



Figure 1: Study Area

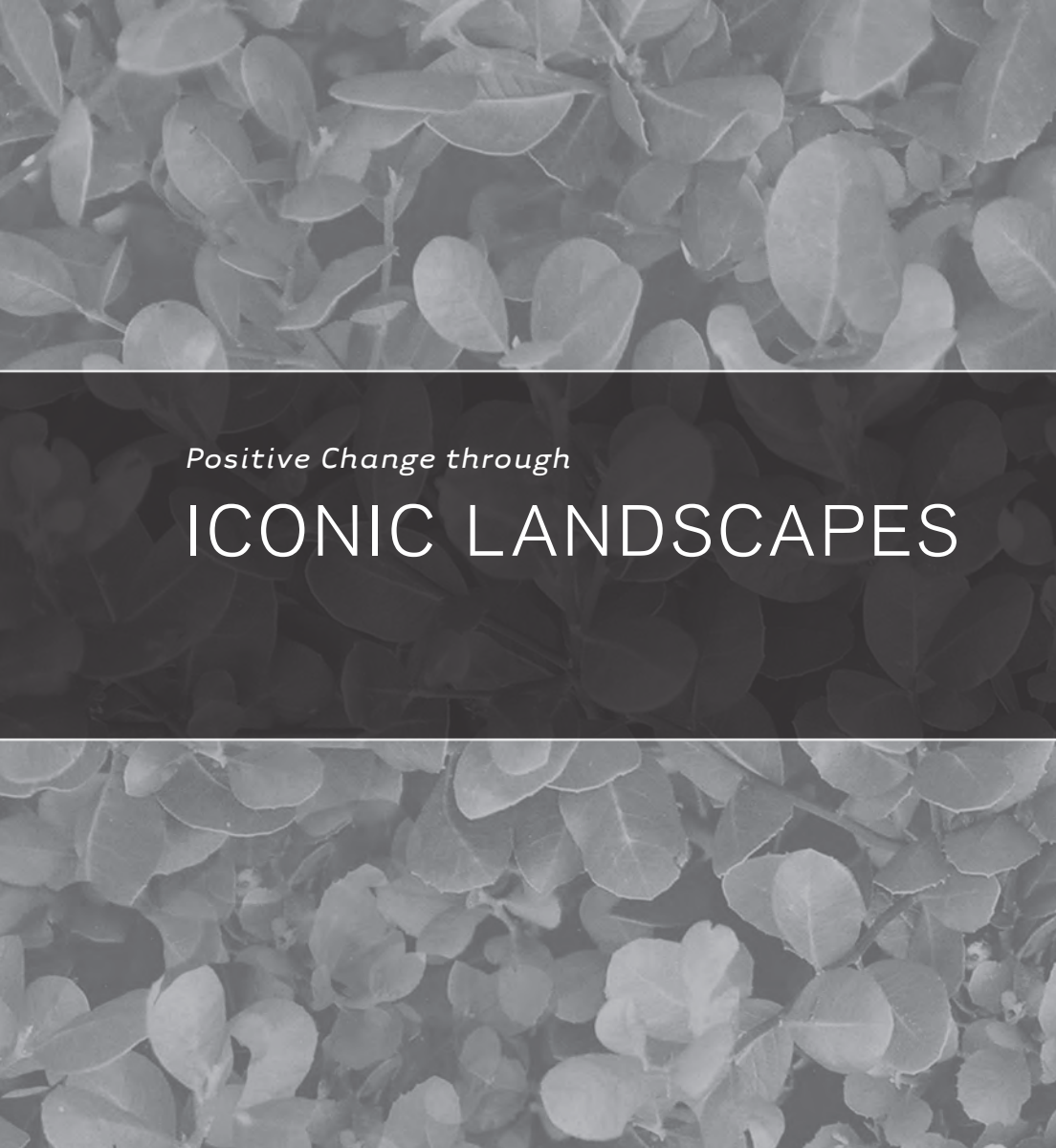


Escondido Creek Master Plan
Positive Change through [Building Community Connections](#)



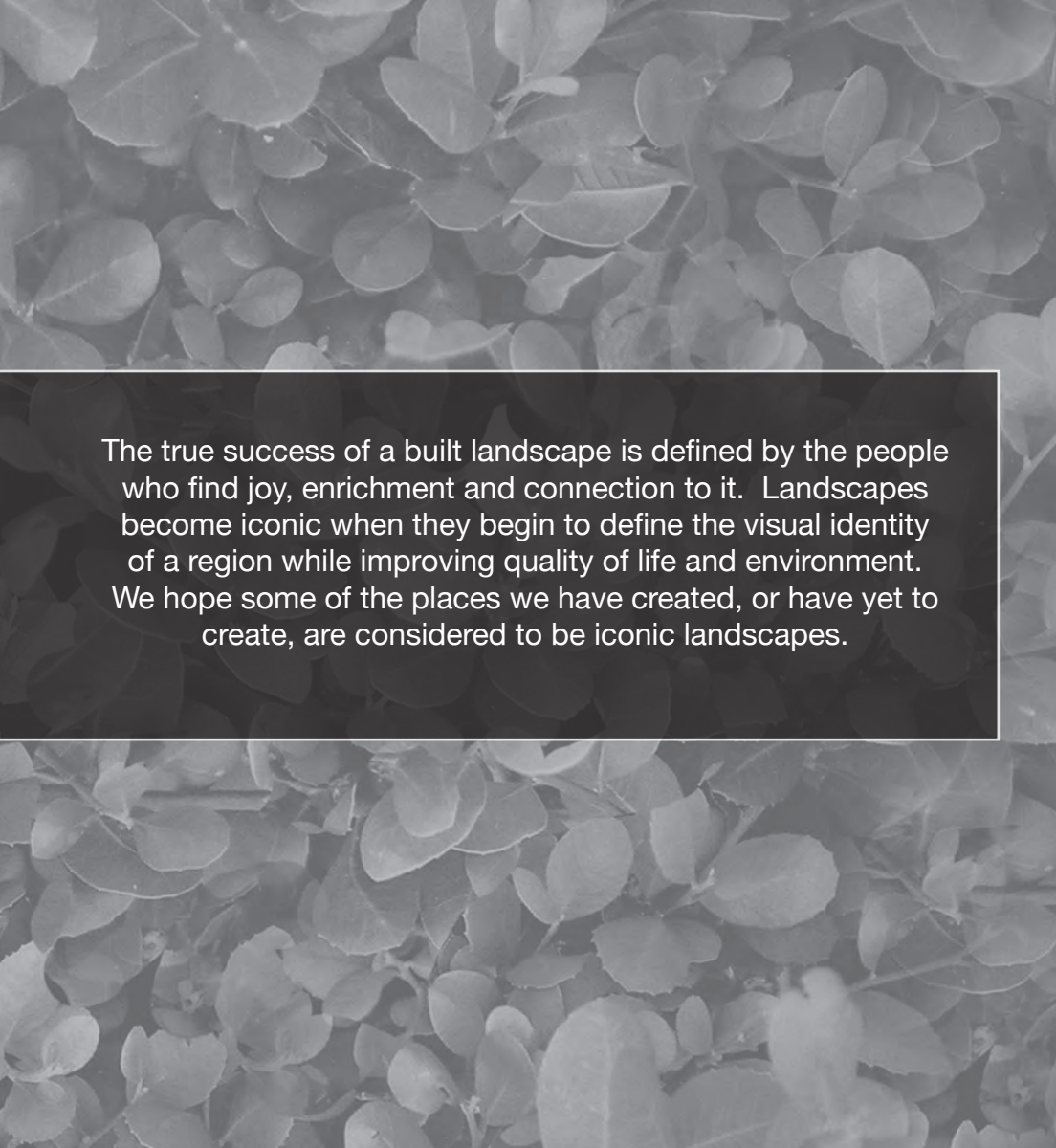
Lofts at 707 Tenth Avenue
Positive Change through [Urban Living](#)





Positive Change through

ICONIC LANDSCAPES



The true success of a built landscape is defined by the people who find joy, enrichment and connection to it. Landscapes become iconic when they begin to define the visual identity of a region while improving quality of life and environment. We hope some of the places we have created, or have yet to create, are considered to be iconic landscapes.



Clockwise from top left: Rendering of Horton Plaza by Walker Macy; Rendering of the County Administration Center Waterfront Park; Swami's Beach Access; The Silver Strand, "Nature's Bridge to Discovery"; Solana Beach Coastal Rail Trail; North Torrey Pines Golf Course



Positive Change through
Iconic Placemaking

The Next 30 Years of Positive Change

Schmidt Design Group, Inc. will continue to contribute toward a bright future for landscape architecture, the community and our environment. Stone Brewing World Bistro & Gardens symbolizes that bright future as a place that embodies sustainable practices while providing a rich experience for its visitors. In 2012, the iconic project was one of the first worldwide to achieve certification through **Sustainable Sites Initiative (SITES)**, a LEED-like rating system created to apply to sites with or without a building.

Our staff looks forward to opportunities to further enrich the world with iconic, artful and sustainable places. We will remain passionate and vigilant as we head into the next *30 Years of Positive Change By Design.*



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John Durant Photography - Sharp Memorial Green Roof,
Stone Brewing World Bistro & Garden, 707 Tenth Avenue, Solana Beach
Coastal Rail Trail, The Silver Strand "Nature's Bridge to Discovery"

Mark Lipsky / Flying Eye Photo - Mt. San Miguel Community Park,
Ocean Air Community Park

Walker Macy - Renderings of Horton Plaza by Joe Cordelle / Designed by prime
consultant Walker Macy, in collaboration with Schmidt Design Group, Inc.



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