Worksheet B: How Are Decisions Made and What Information Is Needed?

There are multiple people who might play a role in the project, whether to plan, implement, or maintain the new landscaping. Recall your company’s motivations from Step 1 and consider any co-benefits, beyond water savings, that you might want to incorporate into the sustainable landscape. These can inform decision making and any information needed to support that process.

Answering the following questions will help you better understand decision making. If you do not know an answer, seek input from your supervisor or coworkers.

**Property management**
Who owns the site? __________________________________________________________
Who has management control of the landscape? ______________________________________

**Financial management**
Who makes decisions about budget and finances for the site? List their name(s), position(s), and what role they play in budget decisions __________________________________________
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How would the project be funded?

- Are there any restrictions or requirements associated with this funding source? For example, is there a return on investment threshold, a certain number of bids required, or a certain timeline to follow?
- Are rebates available from the local water provider or stormwater agency? (See Box 2)

What other information would be needed? ______________________________________
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Compliance
Who influences or controls decisions around internal and/or external regulatory compliance, including enforcement of permits pertaining to stormwater management and/or outdoor water use? This could include the employee in charge within your company and/or regulatory agencies in your region (see Box 1 for guidance). List their name(s), position(s) if applicable, and the role they play in making decisions about the landscape.

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Landscape maintenance
It is important to understand the current approach to landscape maintenance at the site so you can assess whether it is appropriate for a new type of landscape. The following questions will help in that consideration.

a) Who maintains the landscape and irrigation system at the site?
b) Do they have sustainability experience? (refer to Box 4 for guidance)
c) If not, would they be willing to obtain training on how best to maintain a sustainable landscape?

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Other decision-makers
Are there any other people or organizations that may play a role in influencing the decision to convert to a sustainable landscape? For example: local watershed managers, neighbors adjacent to the site, etc. List their name(s), position(s) if applicable, and the role (if any) they play in making decisions about the landscape.

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This worksheet is taken from Sustainable Landscapes in California: A Guidebook for Commercial and Industrial Site Managers, available at: www.pacinst.org/publications/sustainable-landscape-guidebook