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**Beautification Advisory Committee (BAC)** 170 Santa Maria Avenue • Pacifica, California 94044-2506 www.cityofpacifica.org

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## Planting Guidelines for California Natives

- 1. If possible, water the area to be planted to make sure moisture is in the soil before planting. Don't water the day of, or the day before planting.
- 2. Water all planting material before planting. Preferably the day before planting.
- 3. Dig hole 3 times as wide as the root ball, but not deeper. Plant should fit in the hole with the top of the root ball ½" to 1" higher than the top of the soil.
- 4. After removing the plant from its container, gently pull the roots apart to encourage the roots to grow outward.
- 5. For California native plants amend soil with sandy soil mix if needed, or just use domestic soil to back fill the planting whole. Do not use any compost or fertilizers.
- 6. Bury the root ball by pushing soil into the planting hole. Push down the soil firmly with your hands to fill voids in the planting hole.
- 7. If installing a drip system, make sure there is an emitter on top of the root ball of the plant, or place emitter on the high side of a plant, an inch above the root ball.
- 8. Apply 3" of mulch to all planting areas, covering any drip system pipe. Keep mulch a few inches from the base of the plant, but make sure root ball is covered.
- 9. Water plants generously after planting.