Engaging Communities to Transform Urban Spaces with Green Stormwater Practices
Workshop Outline

Setting the Context
Overview of Recent Projects
Community Engagement Strategies
Lessons Learned
“What used to be, say, a 1,000 year event (like [Superstorm] Sandy or perhaps Harvey) is now, say, a 30 year event, and will eventually become an event we see every few years if we continue on the course that we’re on,”

Huffington Post Article – August 2017
Flooding

Flood of March 2010
Urban Heat Islands

Pawtucket/Central Falls

Olneyville
Climate Safe Neighborhoods

Housing Discrimination and Climate Resilience in Pawtucket and Central Falls

Focus on Extreme Heat and Flooding
Recent Projects

W RW C - Parking Lot Retrofit - Before

90% Impervious
42 Parking Spaces

Entrances & Exits
- Westminster Street (x1)
- San Souci Drive (x2)

Catch Basin
WRWC Parking Lot Retrofit - Plan

- 6,000 SF of impervious surface removed
- 38 Parking Spaces
- Entrances & Exits
  - Westminster Street (x1)
  - San Souci Drive (x1)
- Bioretention Basin
WRWC - Olneyville Parking Lot - After
WRWC River Rangers Install
Community Partnership
Community Engagement Strategies: Job Training and Employment Programs

GroundCorp
Groundwork RI's landscape design-build and maintenance service.

GWRI Job Training Program
➢ OSHA 10 Construction Site Safety
➢ OSHA 40 HAZWOPER
➢ Confined Space Entry
➢ First Aid/CPR
➢ Lead RRP 8 hour
➢ Asbestos Supervisor Initial
➢ Introduction to Weatherization and Energy Efficiency
➢ Introduction to Wastewater Treatment
➢ Introduction to Indoor Air Quality/Mold/Vapor Intrusion

FREE Job Training Program!

Certifications include:
➢ OSHA 10 hour
➢ OSHA 40 hour (HAZWOPER)
➢ Lead Renovation, Repair & Painting (RRP) 8 hour
➢ Asbestos Supervisor 40 hour—Initial
➢ Introduction to Trenching and Excavation
➢ Introduction to Stormwater Management
➢ Introduction to Weatherization
➢ Introduction to Energy Efficiency
➢ Introduction to Indoor Air Quality
➢ Introduction to Mold/Microbial Growth
➢ Introduction to Vapor Intrusion

Any Rhode Island resident can apply. Must be over 18 years old and physically able to perform work duties.

Training Dates:
September 11th-November 3rd
Training runs Monday—Friday 9am—5pm
Program runs for 8 consecutive weeks
Location: PHA Education & Training Center
144 Dodge St, Providence, RI 02907
off Cranston St. in Caddell Court
GroundCorp Landscape

https://vimeo.com/307570834
GWRI Right of Way Bioswales

Dexter Street - first design

Allens Avenue - updated design
GroundCorp Jobs on Private Property

Job Training Residential
Backyard Depave Project

The Nature Conservancy Right of Way Depave
Maintenance of Green Infrastructure
GWRI Green Team Youth Employment

Resident Outreach and Interest Identification

Project Construction

Green Home Assessments

Project Installation
Pawtucket Central Falls Resiliency Planning

178 Surveys Collected
122 in English
56 in Spanish

- Email campaign
- In person interviews

Physical interviews were collected from BVCAP and Progreso Latino

Who Created the survey?

When asked what climate resiliency strategies people would like to see in your city?

- 84 High priority: More opportunities to grow your own food/buy locally grown food
- 107 High Priority: More plants, trees
- 116 High Priority: Increase opportunities to reduce waste, prevent litter, recycle, compost

Flooding: 116 somewhat-extremely concerned 23 not concerned

Lack of Parks and Open space: 130 somewhat to extremely concerned 38 not concerned

Limited Access to Healthy Food: 137 Somewhat-Extremely Concerned 32 not concerned

Lack of Trees: 144 Somewhat-Extremely Concerned 25 not concerned
Olneyville Health Equity Zone Video

https://vimeo.com/359888817/6c75fddfe?fbclid=IwAR3jdSAkxodmMOafzGqU1oWUBH9caipose5wYT71G7sGX72OX72crqKx4Wo&mc_cid=92c08db8a6&mc_eid=761d977642
Community Engagement Strategies: Education and Tours

Pleasant Valley Residential Driveway Depave Project

Trash Skimmer Education

Manton Avenue GI Tour with GIC
Community Engagement Strategies:
Educational Signage
Watershed Approach to Community Engagement

WRWC Greening the Greenway
WRWC Greening the Greenway
# Project Prioritization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>BA/Owner</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>CBA Area</th>
<th>Stakeholders</th>
<th>AMEN Partnership</th>
<th>Education Type</th>
<th>BD/RIP Efforts</th>
<th>Potential Partnerships</th>
<th>Additional Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project X</td>
<td>Infrastructure project</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>John Doe</td>
<td>Project Lead</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>Mayor's Office</td>
<td>City Manager</td>
<td>Community Board</td>
<td>Educational</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Y</td>
<td>Environmental conservation</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>Jane Smith</td>
<td>Project Manager</td>
<td>Infeasible</td>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td>State Department</td>
<td>City Manager</td>
<td>Community Board</td>
<td>Educational</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Additional Notes
- Project X requires immediate action due to environmental concerns.
- Project Y faces challenges in securing funding from private investors.

### Key Points
- Infrastructure projects are prioritized due to their impact on community infrastructure.
- Environmental projects face hurdles in getting approval from the state department.

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*Note: This table represents a simplified view of project prioritization based on various criteria.*
Community Engagement Strategies: Working with Municipalities

Providence DPW Review of Bioswale Design Plans

PVD Parks/WRW C Tree Filters
Lessons Learned

Paying people vs having volunteers

Iterate designs to improve project impact

Has to look good and be maintained to gain community support

Know the context of your project location, who will be maintaining GI, public or private land

Aggregate resources to bring to municipalities, businesses, and residents

In lieu of stormwater utility engage individual property owners based on interest (and ability to pay)
Thank you!

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http://www.greeninfrastructureri.org/