Green Infrastructure (GI) Lab
Discussion Summary: New Bedford

October 2019

Goals + Target Setting

Group 1

- Goal: two prototype parks by 2025, maintain by corporate and/or neighborhood sponsors for long-term care, working with a “friends” group or neighborhood association.
- Targeted pocket parks
  - Map vacant lots/foreclosed properties
  - Target locations within a ten-minute walk in dense neighborhoods
  - Measure co-benefits that can be increased by development into a pocket park using a green/grey formula, e.g.: recreation, water quality, social cohesion, mental health benefits, safe space prospects, youth employment/engagement, dog feces, standing water, litter, opportunity for endowments/trusts, FDIC community funds, empower “friends” groups statute politically/socially

Group 2

- Timeframe: 2030
- All municipal projects shall integrate GI to the extent practicable
- 75-80% of municipal projects to have GI element included by 2030
- Unit – element of GI included (# of projects) with one or more GI elements
- Outcome
  - demonstrate projects that will educate and set standard for development
  - long-term resiliency benefits
  - environmental, public health, watershed benefits
  - experience gained implementing GI projects

Group 3

- Transformation/alternation of neglected properties along GI lines through tax incentives, code enforcement
- Timeframe = now
- Murals depicting GI vision/possibilities (large/public) – coordinate with existing mural initiative city-wide
- Promote green street approaches to streets, parking lots, extend
- Promote LID and GI in new housing and commercial developments

Group 4

- Increase tree planting – correct species by place
- By 2060, every block will be treed with the right tree in the right place to save energy, reduce CO2, manage stormwater and enhance community aesthetics
GI Action Planning

Short Term

• Use the NB Beautiful/NB resilient logos
• Communication – crowdsourcing information and contribution
• Coordination of community groups
• Update policies and regulations (site plan review, stormwater bylaw)
• Install interpretive wayfinding signage (app) (self guided tour, changeable)
• GNBVT students assistance
• Partner with U Mass in civil engineering/sustainability on projects
• Establish GI vision (MVP, FEMA, HUD green works)
• Education/outreach – NBHS/NBVT/etc

Long Term

• Workshop for developers on GI BMPs and standards
• Workshop with DPI crews on O&M
• Plan for interconnected greenways (blueway, greenway)
• Include GI in master plans (OSRP master plan)
• Stormwater management fees
• Corporate sponsorships – DIFs, neighborhood associations
• Ordinance adoption
• Pilot GI program
• Scale up