Green Streets as Community Spaces

Adam Ortiz
Town of Edmonston &
Prince George’s County
Maryland
Key Point:
Everything is connected
Percent Black or African American
Median Household Income
Anacostia River Watershed
Key Point:
Environmentalism = our basic responsibility
Anacostia River
Key Point:
There is a downstream
Key Point:
Everything is connected
Early Innovation
FY2002 LID Project
Prince George’s County
Key Point:
History lives.
Residential Development: 1949
Residential Development: 2008
Total Developed Land Cover

District of Columbia
Key Point:
There is a downstream
When the basin's water level rises, pumps with Archimedes screws activate. The screws, positioned at 30-degree angles, twist and move water upward. Water flows through the levee system and into the Anacostia.
Key Point:
Streets are ear community spaces.
Key Point:
Everything is connected
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Partnerships

Seed funding and administration: The Chesapeake Bay Trust

Environmental Engineering: The Low Impact Development Center (Beltsville, MD)

ARRA Support: US EPA, Region III

ARRA Support: MD Department of Environment

Landscape Design: Neighborhood Design Center (Riverdale Park, MD)

General Engineering: G&C Consultants (Beltsville, MD)

Contractor: VMP Construction (Lanham, MD)
"Green Use Transfer"

In many towns and cities, the public space available for improvements is limited unless eminent domain is used. Here, the vehicle lane has been narrowed substantially, freeing approximately four feet of road width to be transferred for greener use without taking any private land. Sidewalks, bike lanes and raingardens will be installed where vehicle pavement was before.

4700 block, Decatur Street
Looking East
Key Point:
Streets are ear community spaces.
Local Green Job Creation

- $1.4M total project cost
- 70% spent on local business (<25mi)
- 60% spent on certified minority-owned firms
Sustainability
Stormwater Control

- LED lights saving 70% in energy costs
- Wind power saving 15%
- Substantial increase in biker and walkers
- 90% of street surface goes is handled by raingardens and permeable pavement
- Community unity and pride
Ripple Effects

• Prince George’s County: FY12 $17M Green Street Fund
• EPA: Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Initiative
• Chesapeake Bay Trust: Green Street Fund for 9 mod-low income communities for green streets / year
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