

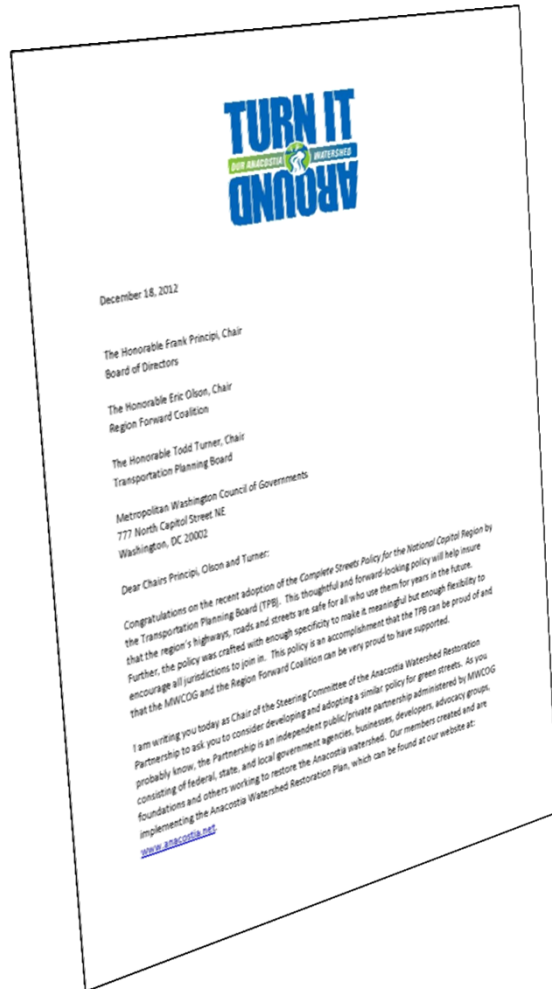
Briefing on a Draft Regional Green Streets Policy for the National Capital Region



Michael Farrell
COG/TPB Staff

TPB Technical Committee
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Item 8

Background on Request for TPB to Look at Green Streets



- December 18, 2012 letter from Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership
- Offered congratulations on the regional Complete Streets policy
- Suggested development of a similar Green Streets policy
 - Cited Prince George's County Complete Streets/Green Streets policy as an example

Green Streets Discussions

- January 11th – TPB Technical Committee
 - Suggested a stakeholders workshop
- Green Streets Workshop April 8th
 - 90 people attended
 - Findings:
 - Green Streets can be a cost-effective way to manage stormwater, have added benefits
 - A policy or directive from the top of a government or agency can help bring multiple departments and agencies together
- TPB Tech briefed May 3rd
 - Requested more information on current policies & practices
- TPB informed of the workshop at its May 15th meeting
- DTP and DEP staff then prepared a draft Policy Inventory, Green Streets Policy, and Policy Template.

Green Streets Policy Inventory

- Summary
 - Most of the TPB local member jurisdictions have a Green Streets policy or equivalent set of policies
 - Two have policies under development
 - Five do not have detectable Green Streets policies
 - DC and Maryland have Green Streets policies
 - Virginia has stormwater runoff requirements but no Green Streets policy
- Green Streets are less well defined than Complete Streets
 - No consensus definition, but common themes
 - No national organization like the National Complete Streets Coalition promoting Green Streets
 - Responses required interpretation
- Sources:
 - COG's Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) Annual Survey and pertinent websites (January and August 2013)

Data Gathered for the Inventory

Jurisdiction Name

Local stormwater requirement for highways and streets that is stricter than state requirement?

Green Street Policy?

Name of Program?

Status of Policy?

Green Street Website?

Green Street Unit within DOT?

Significant Green Street Projects?

Comments

Related web sites

State Requirements for Stormwater Management for Roads and Highways:

1. New

2. Reconstructed.

Related web sites

Draft Green Streets Policy for the National Capital Region



- Modeled on the TPB's *Complete Streets Policy for the National Capital Region* (May 2012)
 - Similar purpose
 - Promote the adoption of Green Streets policies and practices by the TPB member jurisdictions and agencies
- Definition
 - “Green Streets are an alternative to conventional street drainage systems designed to more closely mimic the natural hydrology of a particular site by infiltrating all or a portion of local rainfall events. A green street uses trees, landscaping, and related environmental site design features to capture and filter stormwater runoff within the right of way, while cooling and enhancing the appearance of the street.”
 - No consensus definition exists
 - Drew on various sources

Draft Green Streets Policy for the National Capital Region

- Policy Statement:

“The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board endorses the concept of Green Streets and strongly encourages its member jurisdictions and agencies that do not already have a Green Streets policy, or who are revising an existing policy, to adopt a Green Streets policy that includes common elements that the TPB believes reflect current best practices, as represented by the attached *Green Streets Guidance and Policy Template*.”

- Documentation and Reporting

- Within six months of adoption, conduct a survey of TPB member jurisdictions and agencies within six months and every two years thereafter
- Within two years, include information on the Green Streets features of transportation projects in the regional information clearing house

- Promotion

- Within six months of adoption, sponsor training on Green Streets

Attachment A: Draft Green Streets Guidance and Policy Template

- Modeled after the *Complete Streets Guidance and Policy Template* attached to the TPB's Complete Streets policy
 - Similar purpose
 - Provides general guidance, and a model policy
 - Adaptable to local circumstances, laws, and priorities
 - Incorporates language from Prince George's County Complete and Green Streets Policy, as well as elements from Green Streets policies in Portland, OR, and other cities.
- Policy Statement

Beginning on the effective date of this policy, all (insert jurisdiction or agency) financed and approved transportation projects in (insert Jurisdiction or Agency) shall use trees, landscaping and related environmental site design features to capture and filter stormwater runoff within the right of way, in a manner appropriate to the function and context of the facility.
- Inclusions and Exclusions

Next Steps

A. Gather Comments

- TPB Technical Committee, Jurisdictions, General Public
- Other Committees?
- September 27th deadline for comments on the first draft



B. Develop Revised Documents

- Bring back to TPB Technical Committee



Questions?

Michael J. Farrell
Transportation Planner IV
Metropolitan Washington Council of
Governments
202-962-3760
mfarrell@mwkog.org