Arlington's Green Streets Lessons Learned





July 28, 2014 MWCOG Green Streets Workshop

Arlington, Virginia



- 212,900 people (01/01/13)
- 26.5 square miles
- 8,252 persons/square mile
- Phase I jurisdiction
- 42% impervious cover
- 373 miles of storm sewers
- 32 miles of perennial streams
- 44% tree canopy cover
- Potomac River watershed

Green Streets – Strategic Facts

- County-wide retrofit assessment created a ranked inventory of ~1200 retrofit projects
- > 70% are Green Streets
- Impervious cover 42% is street or sidewalk
- > Optimistic TMDL compliance scenario 160 projects at a cost of ~\$50 million
- Benefits of retrofits are cumulative and long-term
- Investment in an overall green infrastructure strategy
- > 3 projects installed, 8 in design

1 Establish Partnerships

Master Transportation Plan

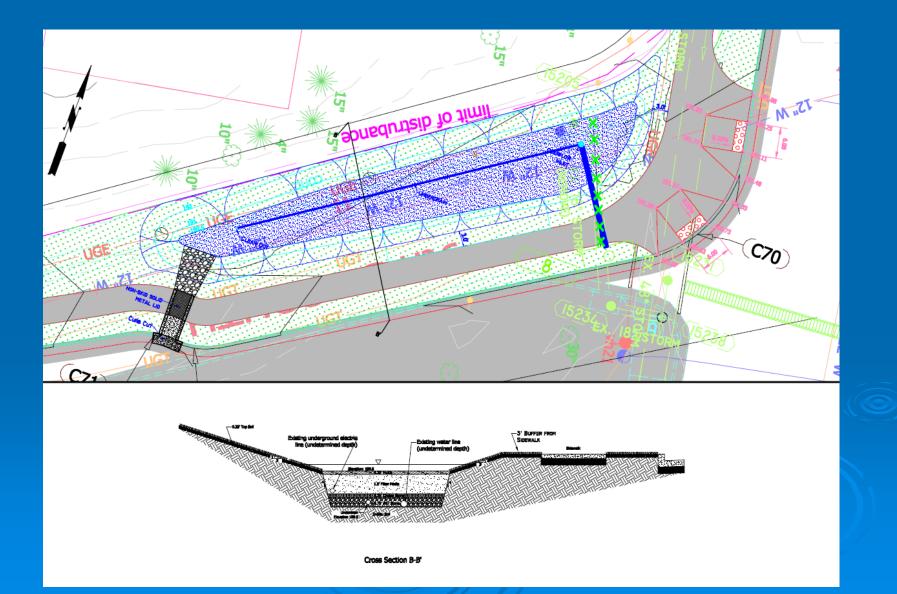
- Includes policy goal to reduce stormwater runoff from the street network
- Green Street facilities a key tool to achieve this goal
- > Neighborhood Conservation Program
 - Local street/pedestrian improvement projects
 - Major opportunity to partner







3 Utilities #&*%!

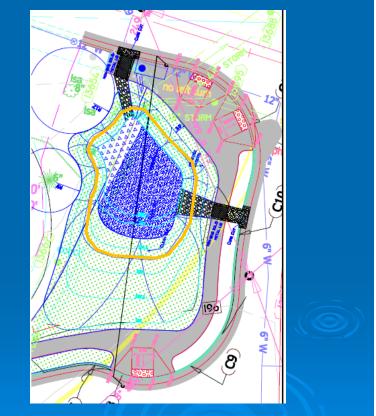






#5 You will never treat as much SW as you want to





Concept - 1300 sf

60% Design - 700 sf

#6 Pay Attention to Outreach

STORMWATER: Slowing It Down and Soaking It In

Thirteen rain gardens and two areas of pervious pavement were added to South Hayes Street as a part of the Pentagon City corridor improvements.





A complete street is a street that is designed to provide safe facilities to accommodate all expected transportation users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders of all ages and abilities, while also taking into account the scale and character of the street's setting.

The South Hayes Street rain gardens

- Catch litter before it enters the storm drain system.
- Clean and filter out pollutants from stormwater runoff.
- Provide a beautiful green space!

Pervious pavement

- Allows water to soak into the ground.
- Has a life expectancy of 15 years.
- Composed of natural architectural stone held together with binder (glue).

DID YOU KNOW...

- Anything that enters the storm drain flows untreated, directly to Arlington's streams and the Potomac River.
- Stormwater pollutants include sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus, oil, heavy metals, and litter.
- The rain gardens and pervious pavement slow down and filter stormwater, reducing runoff and the amount of pollutants that flow to the Potomac River and Four Mile Run.
- During a typical rainstorm, these areas will remove pollutants from 937 gallons of stormwater. That's equivalent to 60 full kegs of beer, five 26-foot moving trucks, or three semi-trucks of water.



ARLINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

To learn more about Arlington's stormwater projects, visit www.arlingtonva.us or contact: des@arlingtonva.us / 703-228-4488.

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#7 Aesthetics are Important







8 Plan for Maintenance

Initially, after any large storms
Thereafter, quarterly (at a minimum)
Remove sediment
Weed, inspect, replant, prune plants
Remove trash
Make sure underdrain, overflow all working correctly







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Green Streets

http://projects.arlingtonva.us/programs/stormwatermanagement/green-streets/