

Agenda

- 1) Welcome and Announcements
 - a. ROW Bioswale Standards

- 2) Working Group Presentations *10 minutes each*
Q&A with Steering Committee *10 minutes each*
 - a. Green Jobs Working Group

 - b. Education and Engagement Working Group

 - c. Technical Advice and Research Working Group

 - d. Green Infrastructure Costs/ Benefits Working Group
 - i. Next Steps?

- 3) Break Out Sessions for Working Groups *40 minutes*

Summary Minutes

Welcome and Announcements

Mikelle Adgate, DEP Project Manager, welcomed the Green Infrastructure Steering Committee and announced that the Final Standards for Right of Way Bioswales have been added to the website.

Steering Committee Members asked if DEP will accept comments and changes to the bioswale standards. Members expressed concern that when private companies and organizations have tried to install green infrastructure in the Right of Way they have faced design challenges from City Agencies. DEP explained that the ROW Bioswale Standards feature multiple types of bioswales that can be used according to the initial hydraulic analysis and existing street conditions. DEP further explained that all green infrastructure in the ROW must go through an intensive approval process from the City's Departments of Environmental Protection, Transportation, and Parks and Recreation. The creation of ROW Bioswale standards allows City Agencies to give approved designs to Contractors so that green infrastructure can be installed quickly and efficiently. For site specific green infrastructure in the ROW, the Parks Department

will design and construct stormwater greenstreets. These stormwater greenstreets will also undergo an approval process with DOT and DEP. DEP further explained that the ROW Bioswale Standards will be continuously updated to reflect best practices in design and construction as well as monitoring results.

Steering Committee Members also requested an update of the Green Infrastructure Grant Program. DEP explained that construction has completed on the rooftop farm at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and that construction at Queens College was scheduled for completion in October. DEP also stated that three more Notice to Proceeds will be issued in the coming months and that most Green Infrastructure Grantees are currently in the design review phase of the program. Steering Committee Members asked if the Committee can provide oversight and guidance to the Green Infrastructure Grant Program to encourage funding for green infrastructure technologies other than green roofs. DEP explained that the review process for applications is closed to the Review Committee, and that there may be a conflict of interest given that many Steering Committee members apply for grants. DEP suggested that Steering Committee members attend workshops and connect with applicants to encourage alternative proposals.

Steering Committee members asked about the status of Local Law 5 reporting. Erin Morey, DEP Project Manager, stated that the update was due to the City Council on October 1st 2012 and that it would be posted to the website shortly after. UPDATE: The Local Law 5 report went live on the PlaNYC website on October 3rd, 2012.

GREEN JOBS

The Green Jobs working group presented their primary goals and objectives:

- Strengthen and increase connection between contractors/employers and workforce development groups/green job program graduates
 - Convene a meeting between employers and training/placement programs
 - Convene an advisory committee who can bring employers and graduates together
- Build local and green job workforce requirements into RFP for OGI's Green Infrastructure Grant Program
- Provide and/or increase opportunity for local contractors to work on local projects
- Standardize training for green infrastructure practices
- Better understand workforce development needs in New York City
- Better understand skills needed in the New York City workforce
- Analyze if current training programs are adequately preparing individuals for local New York City projects

The Steering Committee offered multiple suggestions for the group including:

- Connecting with the School for Green Careers
- Creating a matrix of relevant trades and certifications that are related to green infrastructure

EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The Education and Engagement working group presented their primary goal: “To have every New Yorker understand Green Infrastructure.”

The working group shared that they will focus their efforts on DEP’s priority areas and will review DEP’s outreach material. Their goal is to tailor a range of material for different audience levels. The working group also stated that they are reaching out to local organizations within the priority areas to tap into existing networks.

The Steering Committee provided feedback and launched a discussion on a new name for “green infrastructure.” Members discussed whether the term connects listeners to stormwater management and/or if it is accessible for general audiences. Steering Committee Members suggested the term “Urban Green Infrastructure” as a way to highlight New York City’s implementation strategy. Some members believed that the phrase should remove the word “infrastructure” and focus on “greening” which is generally understood by New Yorkers. Others disagreed and felt that the word “infrastructure” emphasizes the importance of the green infrastructure technologies. Steering Committee members also suggested creating CSO animation materials and accessing outreach organizations such as CUP to create outreach materials.

TECHNICAL ADVICE AND RESEARCH

The Technical Advice and Research working group presented their goals to:

- Focus on the multiple co-benefits of green infrastructure
- Connect with scientific groups working in green infrastructure
- Identify funding sources for monitoring and maintaining expensive monitoring equipment
- Follow the evolution of design changes and siting monitoring equipment to ensure reliable data collection
- Review the building code to look at rainwater harvesting protocols
- Recruit new members
- Conduct a bus tour of current monitoring systems

After the Technical Advice and Research working group presented, DEP suggested that the Cost/Benefits group be merged with it. Members of both groups agreed that it was a good solution given the overlap in objectives.

At that point all three working groups split off into break-out sessions to discuss next steps.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance

Larry Levine, NRDC

Philip Musegaas, Riverkeeper

Shino Tanikawa, NYC Soil and Water Conservation District

Rob Crauderueff, SWIM Coalition

Jamie Stein, Pratt

Esther Siskind, Solar One

Tim Eaton, Queens College

Dwaine Lee, The Horticulture Society of New York

Kristin Caringer, The Horticulture Society of New York

Lenny Librizzi, GrowNYC

Angelica Pasqualini, Columbia University

Stuart Gaffin, Columbia University

Daniel Avery, City Council

Angela Tovar, Sustainable South Bronx

Halina Steiner, dlandstudio

Rob Pirani, RPA

Mark Matsil, Trust for Public Land

Margot Walker, DEP Director of Green Infrastructure Partnerships

Sri Rangarajan, DEP Director of Water Quality Planning and Analysis

Erin Morey, DEP Deputy Director Wet Weather Planning & Water Quality Policy

Kathryn Prybylski, DEP Project Manager

Kerry Lowe, DEP Project Manager

Mikelle Adgate, DEP Project Manager, Green Infrastructure Partnerships