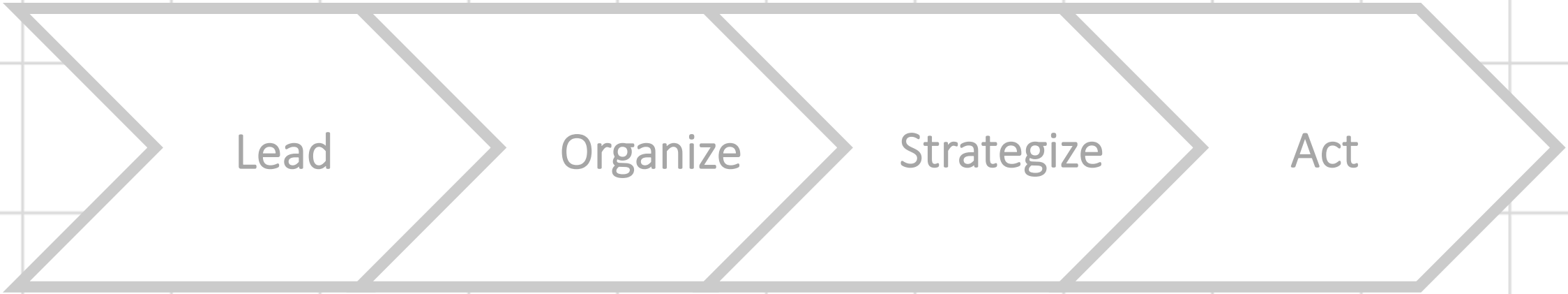
EcoDistricts Policy Toolkit



Training Workshop

Welcome – Who's in the Room?

- Organizations
- Professions

Acknowledgements

On behalf of the Urban Sustainability Directors Network (www.usdn.org)

City partners who contributed to shaping the Toolkit

- City of Boulder
- City of Austin
- City of Boston
- City of Burlington
- City and County of Denver
- City of Portland
- City and County of San Francisco
- City of Vancouver

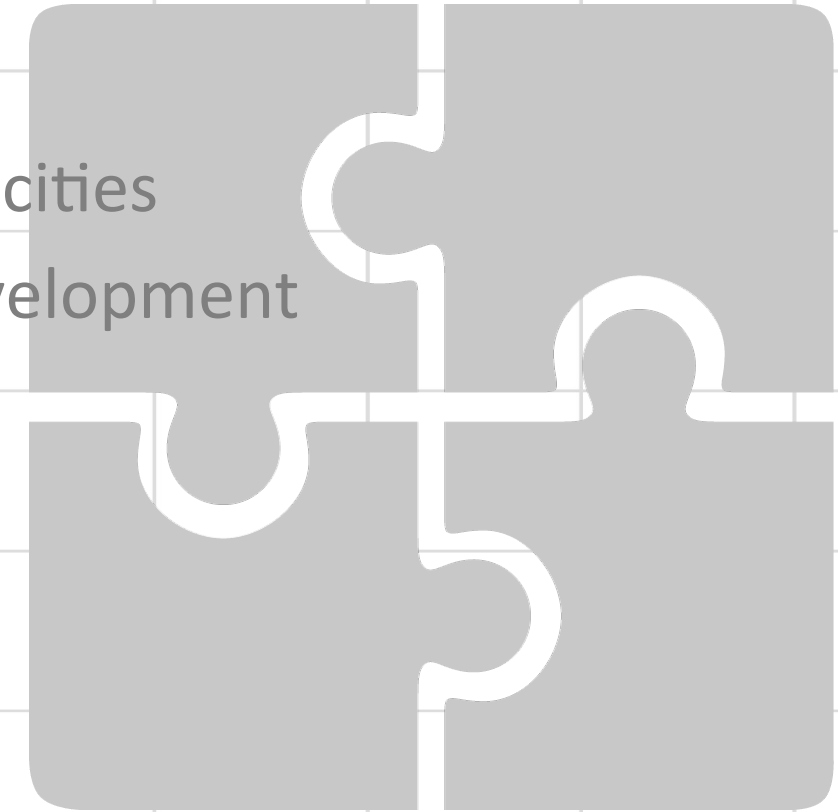
The Policy Toolkit

Part 1 EcoDistrict development and cities

Part 2 Organizing for EcoDistrict development

Part 3 Strategies and practices

Part 4 5 things you can do now



Agenda

	Introductions and overview
Part 1	EcoDistrict development and cities
Part 2	Organizing for EcoDistrict development
	Break
Part 3	Strategies and practices
Part 4	5 things you can do now
	Adjourn

TOOLKIT GOALS

- Establish conditions favorable for EcoDistrict policy-making
- Resources for all stages of the journey
- Internal capacity-building

Part 1 EcoDistrict development and cities

THE POWER OF DISTRICT-SCALE ACTION

- Identification with residents and businesses
- Tailor-made, context sensitive plans and projects
- Clear connections across sectors
- Nimble, agile in planning and implementing

WHY AN ECODISTRICTS APPROACH?

- Create places for people
- Build equity
- Attract innovation and investment

Creating place

- Belonging and well-being
- Social and civic engagement
- Economic multiplier

Building equity

- Vulnerable populations
- Access and participation
- Prioritized needs

Attracting innovation & investment

- Pilot testing
- More risk, less cost, quicker results
- Easier to replicate across community

THE LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

- Cities at the forefront of innovation
- Powerful brands
- Competitors

The city as a leader

- Leverage the brand or political capital
- Institutionalize emerging issues
- Recruit talent

The city as service provider

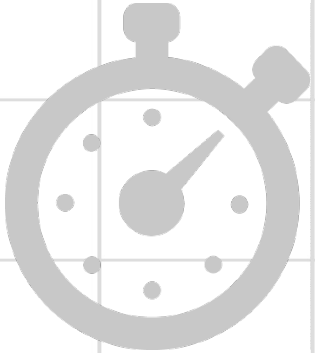
- Rethinking traditional roles
- New non-traditional roles

The city as innovator and enabler

- Open data initiatives
- Regulatory reform
- Partner endorsements

The city as an economic engine

- Greater equity and prosperity
- Purchasing policies oriented to social enterprise
- Asset lending for job creation



Flash exercise

3mins.

Share at your table: *how has the role of municipal government changed over the past 5-10yrs?*

STARTING POINTS

- Thinking
- Starting
- Doing

STAKEHOLDERS

- Political leadership
- Risk-taking
- Partnership maturity

TOOLS FOR MEASURING PERFORMANCE

- Many to choose from (more on that later)
- EcoDistricts process is tool agnostic

Part 1 summary

- District-scale approach benefits
- The leadership opportunity
- Many entry points
- Many stakeholders

Part 1 exercise

Select a recent district-scale policy initiative in your community.

- What factors impeded the effort?
- What factors facilitated it?

Part 2 Organizing for EcoDistrict development

WHERE DO ECODISTRICTS FIT?

- Where does district-scale development fit in your organization?
- Neighborhoods structure already in place
- Centralized silos that need bridging

WHAT ARE THE CIRCUMSTANCES?

- Political support
- Aligned stakeholder interests
- Compelling proposal

WHAT ARE THE POLITICS?

- City Council elected at large or by wards
- Map the political landscape

Takeaway

Understanding your corporate and political governance structures, and how your district project fits within them, are key and a good early task to complete.

WHAT'S YOUR STARTING POINT?

- Project
- Policy
- Program
- Stakeholder process

Know your "value-add"

- Role definition – what are you bringing to the table?
- Unique municipal powers and assets
- Play to your strengths

Takeaway

Know your role as a city, what you do that no one else can, where you are best positioned to achieve results, and embrace those opportunities.

The city as catalyst

- Early planning studies
- Database of assets
- Small-scale investments – urban acupuncture

Flash exercise

3mins.

Share at your table: *how do you best work with priviate sector developers?*

SOME FUNDAMENTAL BUILDING BLOCKS

- The district definition
- Your stakeholders
- Doing projects
- Defining success
- Building organization capacity

A definition – what are you talking about?

- Geography, people, institutions
- Adaptable existing mechanisms
- Self-determination by primary stakeholders

Geographic definitions

- Watersheds
- District heating and cooling service areas
- Walk-sheds
- Food-sheds
- Emergency/resiliency planning

Takeaway

The organizational ownership and empowerment of staff required to drive projects at the district scale requires clarity of overall objectives and outcomes, rather than project-specific marching orders.

Mobilizing stakeholders for success

- Key participants
- City as convener
- Aim for collaborative governance

Takeaway

Identify and mobilize key stakeholders early in the process. Get change-makers and active participants in the district involved.

Mobilizing based on project origins

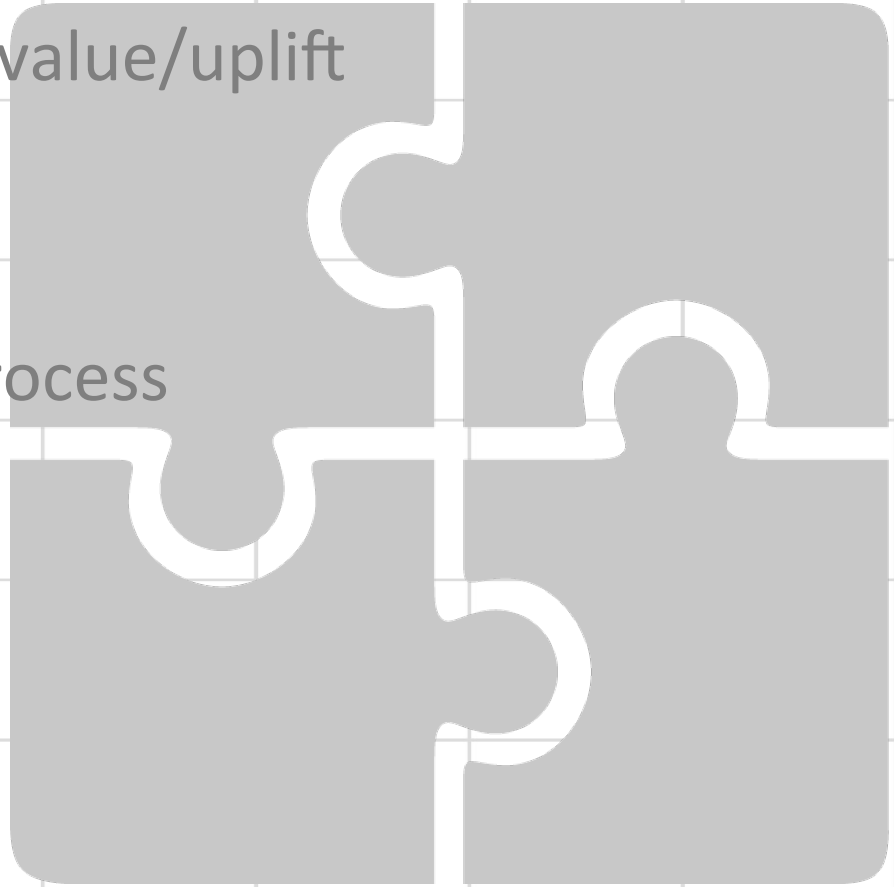
- Inside versus outside City Hall
- Leading/supporting/collaborating

Doing projects - from fragile to agile

- Clear goals/priorities
- Ability to build relationships
- Capacity to engage
- Power to do deals

Framework for deal package

- Assessing and capturing value/uplift
- Definition of public good
- Prioritized projects
- Clear decision-making process



Takeaway

The marketplace is rapidly changing, so engage or be disrupted. Your ability to shape outcomes for the public good will be affected by the capacity to engage, act, and react.

Defining ongoing success

- Stakeholder needs and aspirations
- Targets and opportunities
- Wide range of yardsticks

How to measure success?

- Overarching goals
- Existing plans with established metrics
- Urban sustainability rating tools

Tools for rating EcoDistrict performance

Cities

- CASBEE for Cities
- Comp Plans for Sustaining Places
- STAR Community

Neighborhoods

- 2030 Districts
- Enterprise Green Communities
- Living Community Challenge

Landscapes

- Cooperative Sanctuary
- Green Mark – Parks
- SITES

Transportation

- INVEST
- Greenroads
- Walk Score

Infrastructure

- CEEQUAL
- Envision
- IS Rating Tool

Special Purpose

- GRI – Const. & Real Estate
- H+T Affordability Index
- STARS - AASHE

Create a district-scale policy environment

- Community benefit agreements
- District energy franchise areas and policy zones
- Watershed-based policies
- Neighborhood-specific urban design guidelines

PART 2 SUMMARY

- Interdisciplinary team that understands the value-add
- Clear definition of success
- Being the catalyst
- Framework for doing deals

Part 2 exercise

A redevelopment project is proposed by a low-income housing developer, who needs surrounding neighborhood energy loads to make district heating feasible, plus regulatory help managing rainwater onsite.

- What's the best role for the city?
- What city entities does the developer work with?
- What kind of deal can the city offer?

Break

Part 3 Strategies and practices

Strategies across the country

- Case studies and snapshots
- Performance areas addressed
- Policy types
- Project leadership
- Web link

Policy types

- Regulations
- Partnerships
- Financial incentives
- Technical assistance
- Education and engagement
- Governance and stakeholder agreements
- Budgeting and investment

Project leadership

- Private
- Public
- Third sector

Performance areas addressed

- Social and economic equity
- Health and well-being
- Community identity
- Access and mobility
- Energy and water
- Habitat and ecosystem function
- Materials management
- Resilience

Case study locations

Backyard Habitat Certification Program

Location: Portland, Oregon

Summary: Provides assistance to residents of Portland and Lake Oswego to restore native wildlife habitat in their backyards.

Strategic Partners: Audubon Society of Portland, Columbia Land Trust and Friends of Tryon Creek

Financing: Public and Private

Capacity: Partnerships yield technical expertise and review of the certification criteria, incentives and discounts for participation in the program, and community outreach through local organization

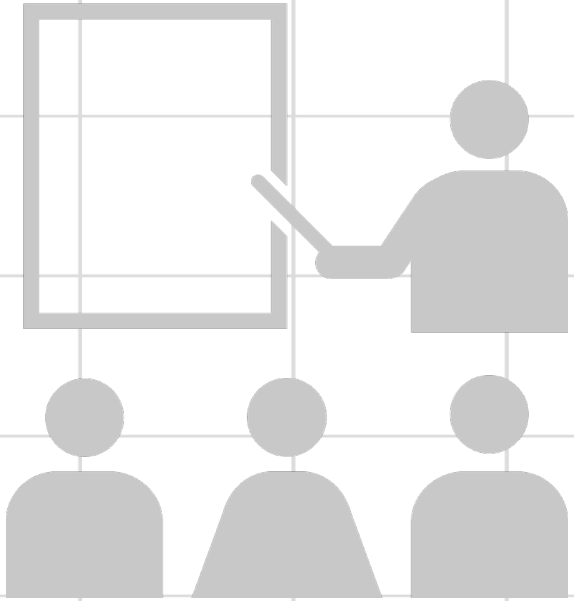
Backyard Habitat
Certification
Program

Backyard Habitat Certification Program

Barriers: Majority of the work done by members in the community, not the organization overseeing the certification

Lessons Learned:

- It's not a one size fits all approach
- Take advantage of the momentum of your highest achievers



Block Party in a Box

Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Summary: The People's Emergency Center awards Block Parties in a Box to community organizations and leaders to foster leadership and get people talking to their neighbors - helping to build communities.

Strategic Partners: The Knight Foundation, People's Emergency Center

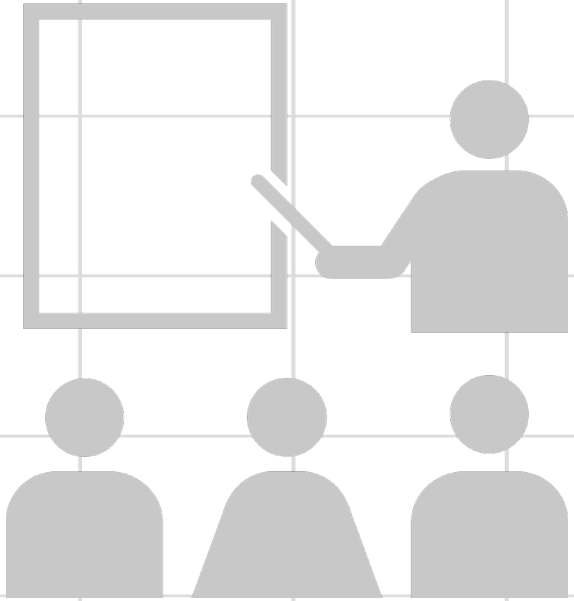
Financing: Foundation and local organizations

Block Party in a Box

Barriers: No steady source of funding, great community leaders may not be connected to funding

Lessons Learned:

- Opportunity to integrate with other programs
- Building these interactive boxes can become costly
- System needs to be in place to ensure programs are having a positive effect



Evergreen Cooperative

Location: Cleveland, Ohio

Summary: Creates community wealth and economic sustainability through leveraging local business and institution anchors purchasing power and stability.

Strategic Partners: Local government, universities, foundations, non-profits

Financing: Public-Private

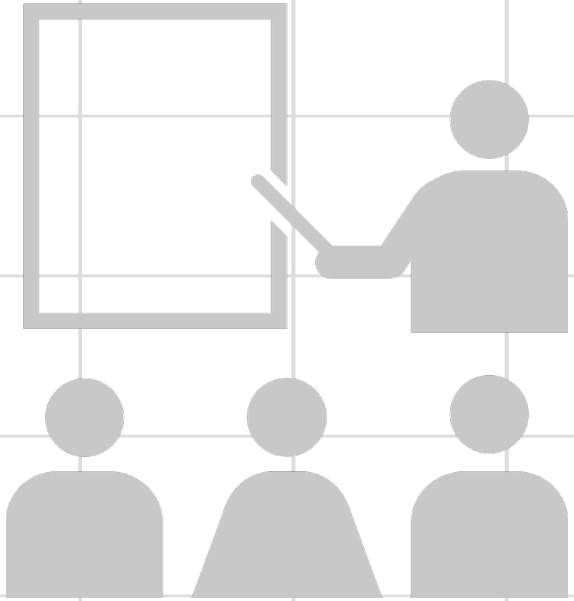
Capacity: Not a task that the neighborhoods could have most likely succeeded in alone. The development of this program took the combined efforts of many

Evergreen Cooperative

Barriers: Combination of successful businesses that agree to invest may be difficult to replicate

Equity: Established to provide increased equity and long term economic stability

Community Engagement: Building a business first and then reaching out to the community and creating a cooperative where employees are not simply hired as workers



Green Impact Zone

Location: Kansas City, Missouri

Summary: Created in response to an increase in disinvestment; the zone has worked on the weatherization of homes, installation of a smart grid, and has created sustainability strategies.

Strategic Partners: Local governments, universities, non-profits

Financing: Municipal

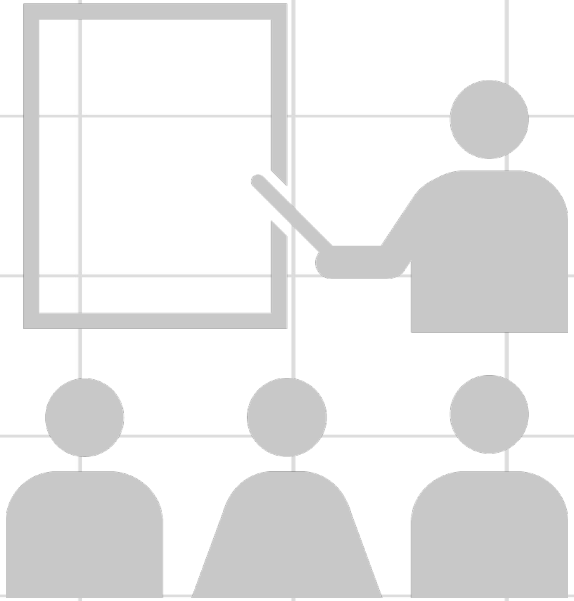
Capacity: Executive Director and six staff members

Green Impact Zone

Barriers: Culmination of circumstances will not fall into place everywhere

Lessons Learned:

- Dedicated staff was key to success
- Support from a well-known and trusted organization
- A cookie cutter approach is not the answer
- Must be a strategy to diversity funding



West Campus Parking Benefit District

Location: Austin, Texas

Summary: Parking meter revenue is returned to the district to finance improvements that enhance the quality of life and promote walking, cycling, and the use of public transportation.

Strategic Partners: Municipality and neighborhood association

Financing: Municipal and federal

Capacity: Requires significant initial expense, for meters and enforcement

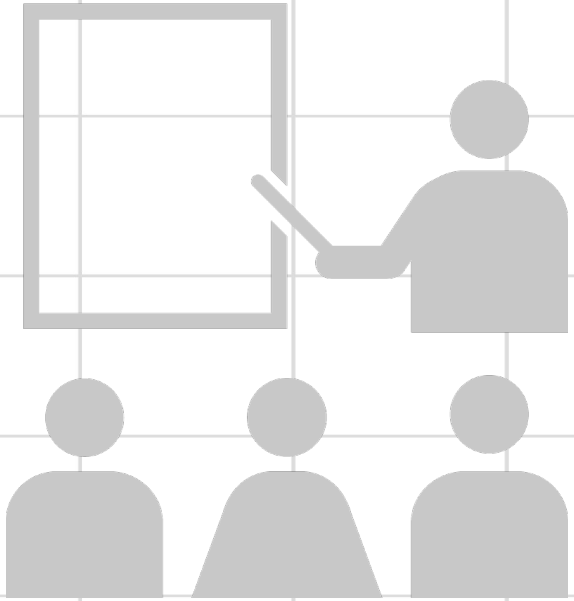
West Campus Parking Benefit District

Barriers:

- Must be supported by the community
- Impact that metering the once free parking spaces will have on areas residents

Equity: Everyone who wants a parking space pays; free parking is not taken advantage of

Community Engagement: Local businesses and residents



Renewable Energy Mitigation Program

Location: Aspen, Colorado

Summary: Requires large homes and businesses with energy intensive amenities to mitigate their negative effects; essentially a carbon tax.

Strategic Partners: City of Aspen and Pitkin County

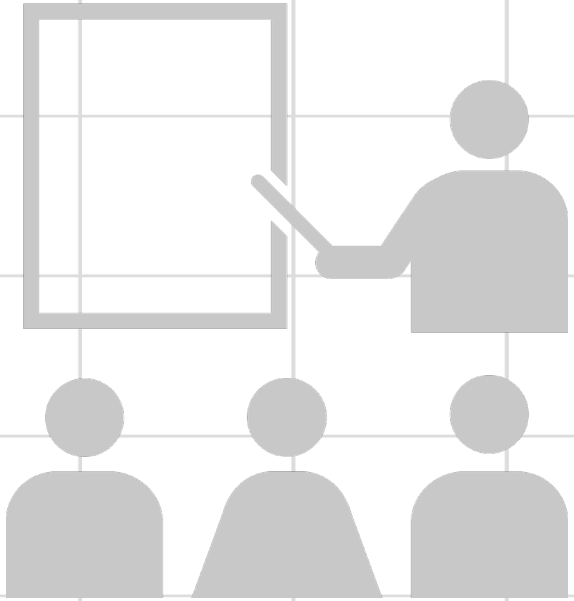
Financing: Municipal

Renewable Energy Mitigation Program

Barriers:

- Serious amount of collaboration
- Getting buy-in from their constituencies

Lessons Learned: Non-profit was integral to the success of the rebate program



SF Indicator Project

Location: San Francisco, California

Summary: Over 100 measures that can be used to assess whether or not neighborhoods have all of the necessary components they need to lead healthy lives.

Strategic Partners: City and County of San Francisco

Financing: Municipal

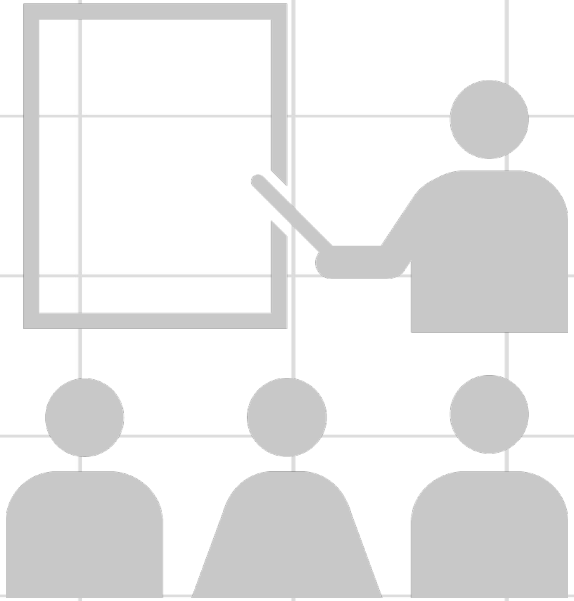
SF Indicator Project

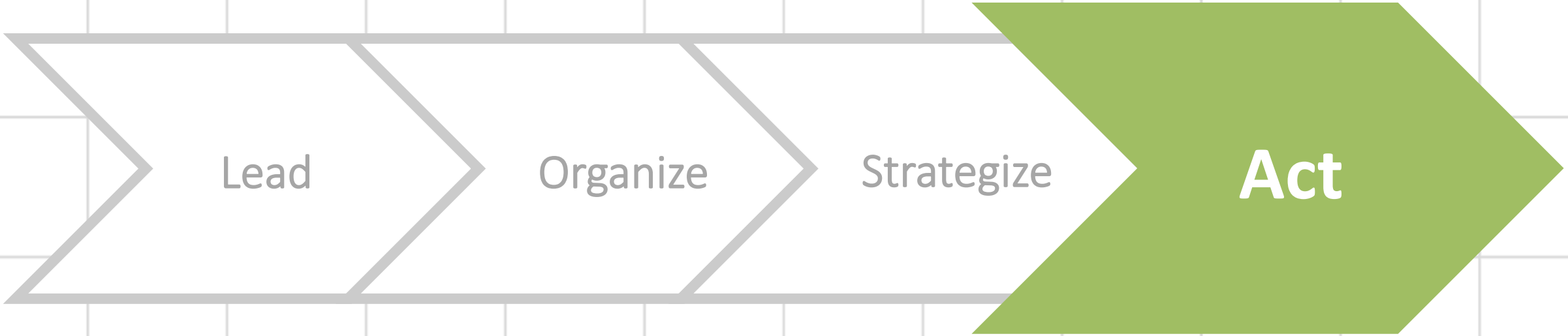
Barriers:

- Retaining individuals
- Individuals questioned the process, viewed this as duplicative or competitive
- Consensus driven decision making is challenging

Lessons Learned:

- Must be flexible
- Acknowledge the political context
- Be adaptive
- Engage early on
- Pick a name that aligns with vision
- Set goals





Part 4 5 things you can do now

Learn

- Read the EcoDistricts Protocol (www.ecodistricts.org)
- Explore other resources

Get connected

- Urban Sustainability Directors Network (www.usdn.org)
- Annual EcoDistricts Summit

Share, and build awareness

- Reach out to colleagues and peers
- Host a brownbag session
- Use the toolkit slide deck

Try it out

- Create a pilot project
- Fine-tune your approach

Institutionalize the thinking

- Organization names, position titles
- Permanent inter-departmental teams
- Embedded in procurement and investment processes

Wrap-Up

Takeaway summary

- Define the city's role
- Build organization capacity for success
- Create a deal-making mechanism
- Assemble feasible, robust strategies

Final Q&A

EcoDistricts

ecodistricts.org
1223 SW Washington St Suite 200 Portland OR 97205
(011) 503.863.2565

Practice Example Snapshots to be used as appropriate for Part 3

Snapshot locations

Additional Locations: Sweden, Denmark, Norway

Social and economic equity

Environmental justice mapping tool

Location: Minneapolis – St. Paul MN

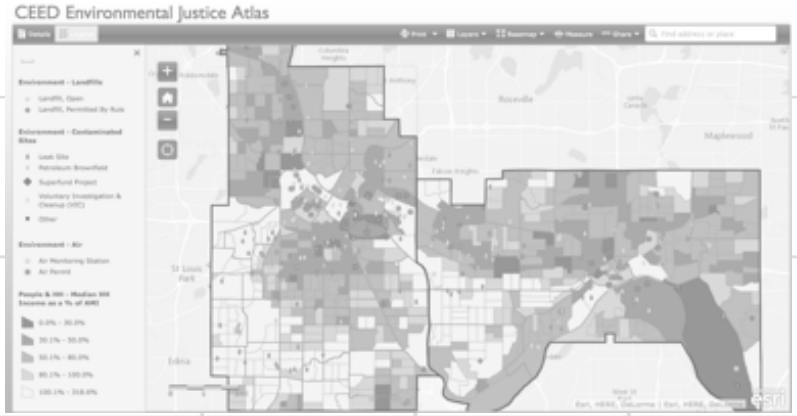
Policy: Partnerships; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Equitable Development; Health + Wellbeing; Energy; Materials Management; Community Identity

Lead: Public

Summary: an interactive web-based GIS that allows communities to understand what pollutants and toxins might be present in their neighborhoods.

http://www.ceed.org/latest-with-ceed/twin-cities-environmental-justice-mapping-tool-released/



Community Benefit Agreements

Project I: Revive Oakland in Oakland, California

http://workingeastbay.org/section.php?id=75

Project II: Connecticut Center for a New Economy in New Haven, Connecticut

http://www.ctneweconomy.org/about/history/

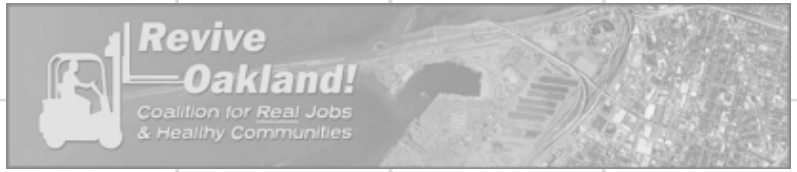
http://www.forworkingfamilies.org/sites/pwf/files/documents/YaleNewHavenHospitalCBA.pdf

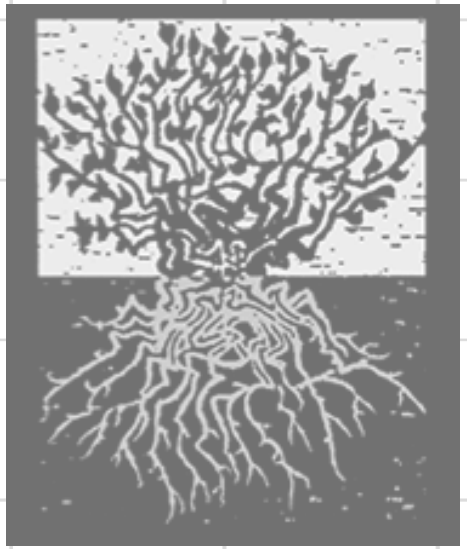
Policy: Partnerships; Regulations and Codes; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Equitable Development; Energy; Access + Mobility

Lead: Public and Private

Summary: Community Benefit Agreements (CBAs) are agreements between a developer and the community in which a development is being sited





Community Land Trusts

Project I: First Homes in Rochester, Minnesota

http://www.firsthomes.org/

Project II: Homestead Community Land Trust in Seattle Washington

http://www.homesteadclt.org/about-homestead/Our-History

Policy: Partnerships; Financial Incentives

Performance Area: Equitable Development; Community Identity

Lead: Third Sector and Private

Summary: Community land trusts (CLT) are often created with the intentions of helping to transform low- and moderate-income (LMI) neighborhoods.

http://www.urbanstrategies.org/foreclosure/Community_Land_Trust/CommunityLandTrusts_ brief.pdf

Health and well-being

Backyard Initiative

Location: Minneapolis, Minnesota

Policy: Partnerships; Education and Engagement. A similar program is the Community Benefit Programs at St. Joseph Health Sonoma County.

Performance Area: Health + Wellbeing; Equitable Development

Lead: Third Sector

Summary: Backyard Initiatives is a partnership between Allina Health, LISC-Twin Cities, and community members in the neighborhoods surrounding Allina Health's Headquarters, Abbott Northwestern Hospital, and the Phillips Eye Institute.

http://www.allinahealth.org/ahs/aboutallina.nsf/page/Brief_Backyard_Initiative

http://www.stjosephhealth.org/For-Community/Community-Outreach/Community-Benefits/Programs-and-Clinics.aspx

SEED Chicago

Location: Chicago, Illinois

Policy: Partnerships; Financial Incentives; Budgeting and Infrastructure Investment

Performance Area: Health + Wellbeing; Community Identity; Equitable Development

Lead: Public

Summary: SEED Chicago is a curated Kickstarter page from World Business Chicago that features small businesses and community development projects that benefit communities and Chicago as a whole.

http://www.worldbusinesschicago.com/seed-chicago http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/mayor/press_room/press_releases/2013/august_2013/ayor_emanuel_announcesreleaseoffooddesertdataandnewinteractiveef.html

SEED
CHICAGO

KaBOOM!

Location: Washington, D.C.

Policy: Partnerships; Financial Incentives; Technical Assistance; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Health + Wellbeing; Equitable Development

Lead: Third Sector

Summary: KaBOOM! is a national non-profit organization that partners with small 501(c)3 organizations that work in low income communities that lack a space for children to play.

http://kaboom.org/build_playground/build_it_kaboom_playground_grant

http://www.knightfoundation.org/media/uploads/publication_pdfs/KaBoom-executive-summary.pdf

KaBOOM! ®

it starts with a playground.

Freshmoves

Location: Chicago, IL

Policy: Partnership

Performance Area: Health + Wellbeing; Equitable Development

Lead: Third Sector

Summary: Freshmoves worked with the Chicago to secure an old bus, which was then retrofitted with refrigerators and shelves. The bus is now stocked with fresh produce and moves from place to place, ensuring that all have access to healthy fresh food.

https://www.facebook.com/freshmoves/info

NYC Green Cart Initiative

Location: New York City, New York

Policy: Partnership

Performance Area: Health + Wellbeing; Equitable Development

Lead: Third Sector

Summary: The NYC Green Cart Initiative (NYC GCI) is a partnership between the Tisch Illumination Foundation and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene which allows 1,000 additional mobile vendors to operate within the city.

http://www.lmtilluminationfund.org/grants/food/nyc-green-cart

New Columbia

Location: Portland, Oregon

Policy: Partnerships; Engagement and Education

Performance Area: Health + Wellbeing; Equitable Development; Community Identity

Lead: Third Sector

Summary: New Columbia is a Hope VI redevelopment project that was plagued by crime and social isolation. Once community relations were strengthened through various initiatives, there was a decrease in crime.

http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2014/06/new_columbia_states_largest_pu.html

Oakwatch:
The Oakland Code Enforcement Project

Location: Oakland, California

Policy: Partnership; Regulations and Codes; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Health + Wellbeing; Community Identity

Lead: Public and Private

Summary: Oakwatch is a partnership between Oakland community members, the Oakland Planning and Development Corporation, and a number of other city organizations. Their objective is to increase community livability and safety by enforcing building codes, parking violations, and excessive and disruptive behavior.

http://www.opdc.org/oakwatch/

AirBeat

Location: Roxbury, Massachusetts

Policy: Partnership; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Health + Wellbeing; Community Identity

Lead: Public

Summary: New Columbia is a Hope VI redevelopment project that was plagued by crime and social isolation. Once community relations were strengthened through various initiatives, there was a decrease in crime.

http://www.airbeat.org http://www.researchgate.net/publication/11435262_From_asthma_to_AirBeat_community-driven_monitoring_of_fine_particles_and_black_carbon_in_Roxbury_Massachusetts

Community identity

Sustainable Neighborhood Small Grant Competition

Location: St. Louis, Missouri

Policy: Technical Assistance

Performance Area: Community Identity; Energy; Water; Habitat + Ecosystem Function

Lead: Public

Summary: The city of St. Louis launched a competitive grant proposal process in May of 2013. Grants were being awarded to neighborhood groups that proposed projects aimed at helping to improve livability and quality of life at the local level.

https://stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/mayor/news/Building-Sustainable-Neighborhoods-Grant-Competition-Winners-Announced.cfm

DC Vibrant Retail Streets Toolkit

Location: Washington, D.C.

Policy: Partnerships

Performance Area: Community Identity; Access + Mobility

Lead: Public

Summary: The DC Vibrant Retail Streets Toolkit provides city agencies, non-profits, business owners and other stakeholders with the tools needed to evaluate the retail streets in the District and a suite of strategies to aid in improvement.

http://planning.dc.gov/DC/Planning/Across+the+City/Other+Citywide+Initiatives/DC+Vibrant+Retail+Streets+Toolkit

Cultural Programming

Project I: Williamsburg Walks in New York City, New York

http://nag-brooklyn.org/issuesprojects/williamsburgwalks/

Project II: East Somerville Community Placemaking in Sommerville, Massachusetts

http://arts.gov/national/our-town/grantee/2013/east-somerville-main-streets#sthash.lcJgangy.dpuf

Project III: AHA! in New Bedford, Massachusetts

http://ma-smartgrowth.org/news/placemaking-project-aha-nights-new-bedford/

Policy: Partnership

Performance Area: Community Identity; Access + Mobility

Lead: Public and Third Sector

Summary: Neighborhoods and local cultural organizations are banding together to transform their cultural attributes into celebrations in order to attract people into the area.

City Repair

Location: Portland, Oregon

Policy: Partnership

Performance Area: Community Identity; Materials Management; Equitable Development

Lead: Third Sector

Summary: City Repair is a group that formed out the growing realization that many modern cities lack public spaces or plazas for individuals to gather in.

http://cityrepair.org/about/

http://www.restreets.org/case-studies/share-it-square-sunnyside-piazza

People St

Location: Los Angeles, California

Policy: Partnership; Financial Incentives

Performance Area: Community Identity; Access + Mobility

Lead: Public

Summary: People St is program of the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation. The City provides materials and tools in a DIY Kit that community members and organizations can apply for to revitalize public spaces in their communities.

http://www.psfk.com/2014/01/diy-street-design-kit-la.html#!0a2Of

Little Tokyo Cultural EcoDistrict

Location: Los Angeles, California

Policy: Partnerships; Governance and Stakeholder Agreements

Performance Area: Community Identity; Equitable Development; Access + Mobility

Lead: Public

Summary: The Little Tokyo/Arts District Regional Connector has strategically brought together key stakeholders ranging from city departments to community-based organizations by co-creating a transparent governance structure and process with the hopes of being able to retain that 130-year cultural identity that makes Little Tokyo so unique and special.

http://www.kcet.org/socal/departures/la-in-motion/envisioning-little-tokyos-future-as-a-cultural-ecodistrict.html

The Village at Market Creek

Location: San Diego, California

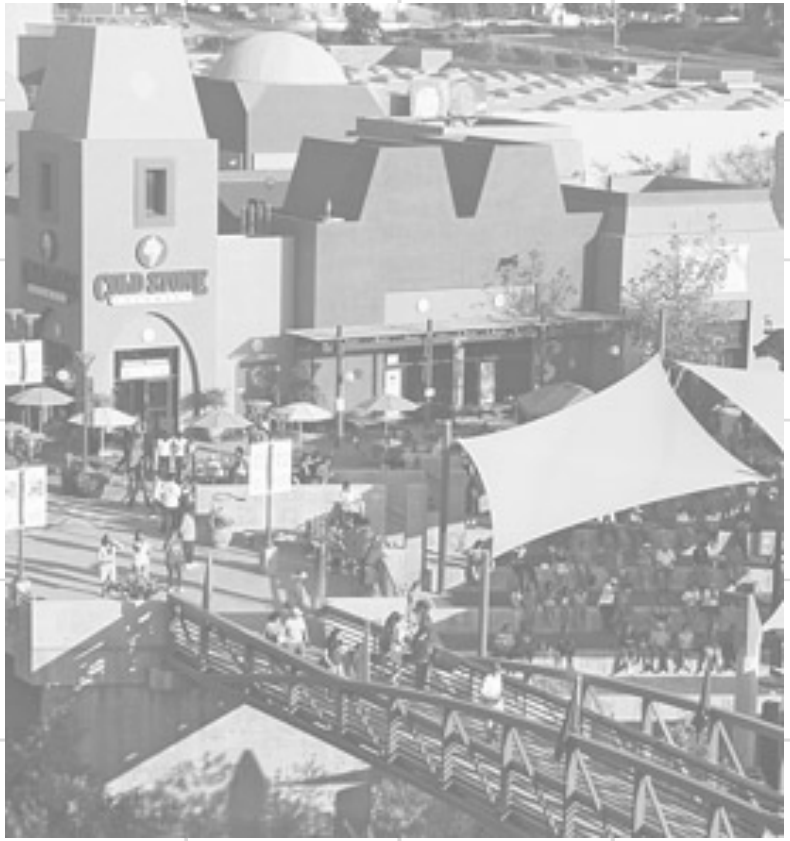
Policy Type: Partnerships; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Community Identity; Access + Mobility

Lead: Public

Summary: The Village at Market Creek is the result of a major planning project that was co-designed and implemented by community members. Partnering with the Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation and various sponsors at the local and national level, residents were able to set a vision for the 60 acre area which had suffered from decades of disinvestment and neglect.

http://www.thevillageatmarketcreek.com



Café au Play

Location: Portland, Oregon

Policy Type: Partnership

Performance Area: Community Identity; Equitable Development; Health + Wellbeing

Lead: Private

Summary: Café au Play is a great example of a neighborhood solving one of its needs through grassroots methods and determination.

http://cafeauplay.org/about/

Access and mobility

Parking Benefit District

Location: Portland, Oregon

Policy Type: Partnership

Performance Area: Community Identity; Equitable Development; Health + Wellbeing

Lead: Private

Summary: Café au Play is a great example of a neighborhood solving one of its needs through grassroots methods and determination.

http://cafeauplay.org/about/

Complete Streets Ordinance

Location: Portland, Oregon

Policy Type: Partnership

Performance Area: Community Identity; Equitable Development; Health + Wellbeing

Lead: Private

Summary: Café au Play is a great example of a neighborhood solving one of its needs through grassroots methods and determination.

http://cafeauplay.org/about/

Bikeshare Programs

Location: Portland, Oregon

Policy Type: Partnership

Performance Area: Community Identity; Equitable Development; Health + Wellbeing

Lead: Private

Summary: Café au Play is a great example of a neighborhood solving one of its needs through grassroots methods and determination.

http://cafeauplay.org/about/

Walking School Buses or Bicycle Train

Location: Portland, Oregon

Policy Type: Partnership

Performance Area: Community Identity; Equitable Development; Health + Wellbeing

Lead: Private

Summary: Café au Play is a great example of a neighborhood solving one of its needs through grassroots methods and determination.

http://cafeauplay.org/about/

Make Way for Play Toolkit

Location: Chicago, Illinois

Policy: Education and Engagement; Partnerships; Regulations and Codes

Performance Area: Access + Mobility; Health + Wellbeing; Community Identity; Energy

Lead: Public

Summary: The Make Way for Play Toolkit, developed through the Chicago Department of Transportation, was designed to encourage alternative transportation and recreation while also attempting to better energize the public right of way to promote active living.

http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cdot/supp_info/make_way_for_play.html

Neighborways

Location: Portland, Oregon

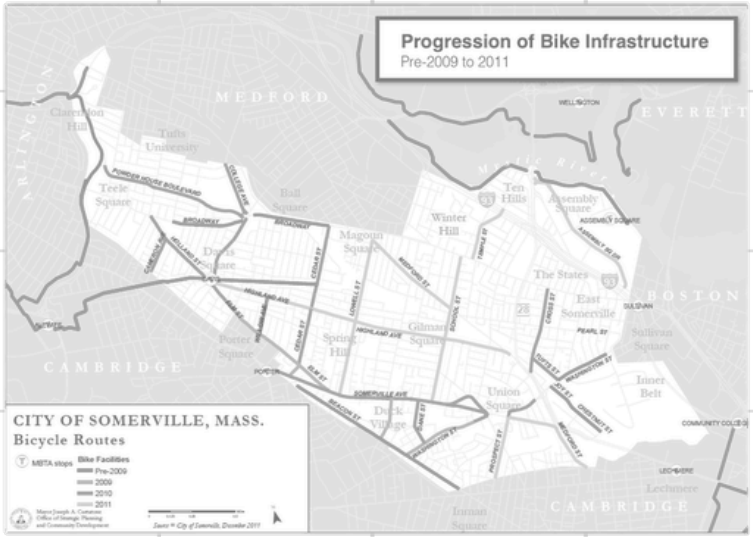
Policy: Partnerships; Regulations and Codes; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Access + Mobility; Health + Wellbeing

Lead: Public

Summary: Neighborways are streets that have been known to have low traffic volumes that are optimized to promote bicycle travel.

http://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/bicycle/BIKESAFE_32%20-%20Bicycle%20Bou...pdf#32%20-%20Bicycle%20Bou...pdf



Walkability Audits

Location: Portland, Oregon

Policy: Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Access + Mobility; Community Identity

Lead: Public

Summary: A walkability audit is an overall assessment of the pedestrian environment of a street, usually carried out by community groups, planners, or urban designers.

http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/index.aspx?NID=1893

http://www.walkscope.org

http://www.walkscore.com

Energy

Community Choice Aggregation

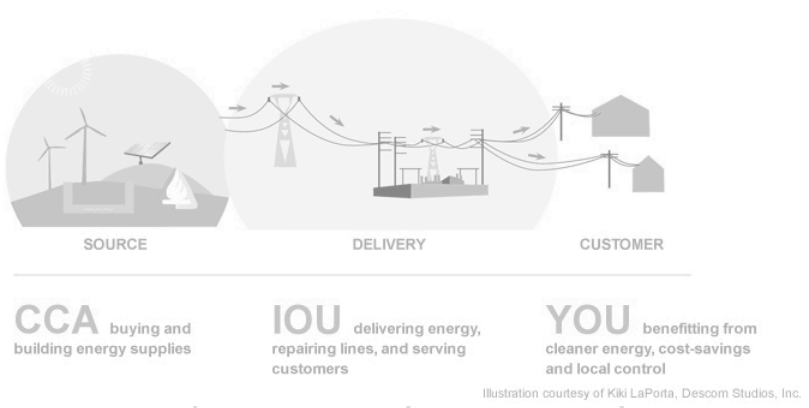
Policy: Partnerships; Budgeting and Infrastructure Investment; Financial Incentives

Performance Area: Energy; Equitable Development

Lead: Public

Summary: Community Choice Aggregation is an electric procurement system that—once enabled by state law—allows municipalities and counties to aggregate the buying power of a defined jurisdiction.

http://ase.tufts.edu/uep/degrees/field_project_reports/2013/Team_7_Final_Report_2013.pdf http://www.thesolarfoundation.org/sites/thesolarfoundation.org/files/TSF_CCAfactsheet_Final.pdf



Greenest City 2020 Action Plan

Location: Vancouver, British Columbia

Policy: Regulations and Codes

Performance Area: Energy; Access + Mobility; Water; Materials Management

Lead: Public

Summary: Vancouver, British Columbia has set a goal to become the greenest city in the world by 2020. The Greenest City 2020 Action Plan sets forth ten goal areas that have very specific 2020 targets.

http://vancouver.ca/green-vancouver/greenest-city-2020-action-plan.aspx

CITY OF VANCOUVER

GREENEST CITY 2020

PlaNYC: NYC Energy Efficiency Corporation

Location: New York City, New York

Policy: Financial Incentives; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Energy

Lead: Public

Summary: Through the PlaNYC process emerged the NYC Energy Efficiency Corporation (NYCEEC). This corporation was created as a way to leverage federal funding and commercial lending services to finance energy projects.

http://nytelecom.vo.llnwd.net/o15/agencies/planyc2030/pdf/planyc_2011_energy.pdf

Chicago Energy Benchmarking

Location: Chicago, Illinois

Policy: Regulation and Code; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Energy

Lead: Public

Summary: : The energy benchmark ordinance was passed in Chicago in hopes that by having information on energy performance and use, awareness could be raised.

http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/progs/env/building-energy-benchmarking---transparency.html

FortZed

Location: Fort Collins, Colorado

Policy: Partnerships

Performance Area: Energy

Lead: Public, Private and Third Sector

Summary: FortZed's mission was to transform the downtown area of Fort Collins, Colorado and the main campus of Colorado State University into a net-zero energy district.

http://fortzed.com/home

Water

RiverSmart Program

Location: Washington, D.C.

Policy: Financial Incentives; Regulations and Codes

Performance Area: Water; Habitat + Ecosystem Function

Lead: Public

Summary: The River Smart Program, which is run out of the District Department of the Environment, offers incentives to those who install technologies aimed at reducing stormwater run-off on their properties.

http://ddoe.dc.gov/service/riversmart-communities

Green Streets Program

Location: Portland, Oregon

Policy: Partnership; Budgeting and Infrastructure Investment

Performance Area: Water; Habitat + Ecosystem Function

Lead: Public

Summary: Portland has implemented the Green Street Program, in which the city installs stormwater management devices—like bioswales—in the public right-of-way.

https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/article/209685

High Point Redevelopment

Location: Seattle, Washington

Policy: Partnership; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Water; Habitat + Ecosystem Function

Lead: Public

Summary: Starting in 2000, Seattle began to implement small scale Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI), and in 2005 they began work to carry out their first neighborhood scale GSI. They worked with the Seattle Housing Authority and the Washington Department of Ecology to incorporate GSI into the 129-acre High Point Public Housing Redevelopment Project.

Link: http://www.seattlehousing.org/redevelopment/high-point/sustainable/

Potzdamer Platz Urban Waterscape

Location: Fort Collins, Colorado

Policy: Budgeting and Infrastructure Investment; Education and Engagement

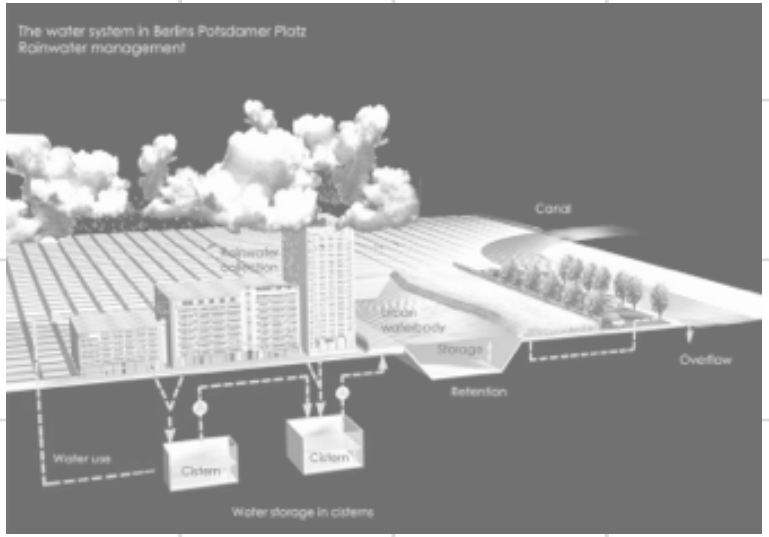
Performance Area: Water; Energy

Lead: Public

Summary: The Potzdamer Platz Urban Waterscape is a good example of rainwater harvesting at the district level. Six million gallons of rainwater are currently collected from the rooftops of 19 buildings in the area.

http://www.dreiseitl.com/index.php?id=82&lang=en

https://ilbi.org/education/Resources-Documents/Reports-Docs/WaterDocs/toward-net-zero-water-report (pg 56)



Porous Paving

Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

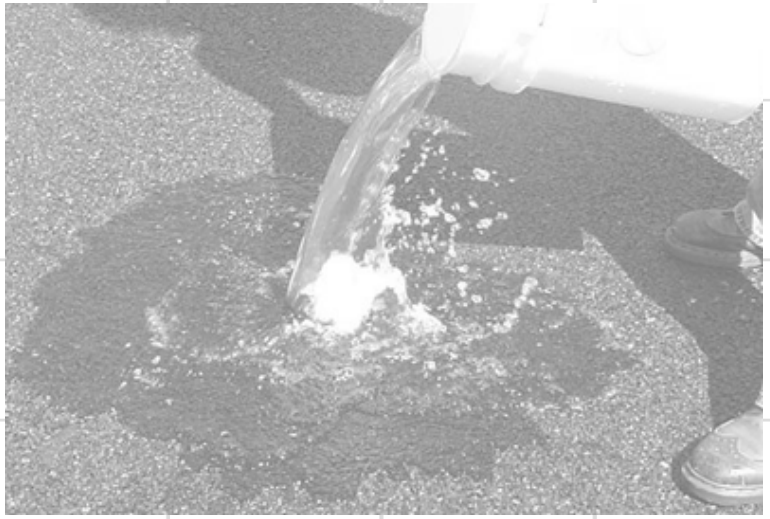
Policy: Partnership

Performance Area: Water; Access + Mobility

Lead: Public

Summary: Philadelphia's first porous green street on the 800 block of Percy Street replaced traditional impervious asphalt and reduces the amount of stormwater entering city sewers.

http://www.phillywatersheds.org/what_were_doing/green_infrastructure/tools/porous_paving



Habitat and ecosystem function

Depave

Location: Portland, Oregon

Policy: Partnerships; Technical Assistance; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Habitat + Ecosystem Function; Community Identity

Lead: Third Sector

Summary: This is a group that focuses on neighborhood-scale projects to promote green development, specifically through removing pavement.

http://www.depave.org

Friends of Trees

Location: Portland, Oregon

Policy: Partnerships; Technical Assistance; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Habitat + Ecosystem Function; Water; Community Identity; Access + Mobility

Lead: Third Sector

Summary: Friends of Trees is an organization originally based out of Portland but now running programs in Salem and Eugene, OR as well as Vancouver, WA. Their mission is to build community and improve the urban environment by increasing the number of trees planted within neighborhoods and throughout the community.

http://www.friendsoftrees.org

Wild Neighbors

Location: Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Policy: Partnerships; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Habitat + Ecosystem Function

Lead: Public

Summary: Wild Neighborhoods is a Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance program that works with experts from their partner organizations, such as Grand Teton National Park, Jackson Hole Fire/EMS, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and the Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation to reduce wildlife conflicts in neighborhoods, facilitate free movement of wildlife through residential areas, prepare homes for wildfires, and protect habitat near residential areas.

http://www.jhalliance.org/?q=WildNeighborhoods

GreenThumb

Location: New York City, New York

Policy: Education and Engagement; Technical Assistance

Performance Area: Habitat + Ecosystem Function; Health + Wellbeing; Community Identity; Equitable Development

Lead: Third Sector

Summary: GreenThumb is the largest community gardening program in the nation, providing programming and material support to over 600 community gardens in NYC.

http://www.greenthumbnyc.org/

Urban Beekeeping Programs

Policy: Partnerships; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Habitat + Ecosystem Function; Health + Wellbeing

Lead: Private

Summary: The East Cleveland Community Garden has expanded its events from simple garden education to hosting an extensive beekeeping program through the summer for both adults and teens in the neighborhood.

East Cleveland, OH: http://www.neighborhood-voice.com/neighborhood-news/east-cleveland/community-gardeners-bring-beekeeping-program-to-east-cleveland/

Oakland, CA: http://ecologycenter.org/events/introduction-to-backyard-beekeeping-2/

New York City, NY: http://www.honeybeesuite.com/tag/beekeeping/ (blog)

Residential Environmental Program Series

Location: Fort Collins, Colorado

Policy: Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Habitat + Ecosystem Function; Water

Lead: Public

Summary: As a way to encourage improved habitats at the neighborhood level the city of Fort Collins has implemented a free environmental program series to educate home and property owners on how to better landscape their property.

http://fortzed.com/home

Urban Ecology Center

Location: Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Policy: Partnerships; Education and Engagement

Performance Area: Habitat + Ecosystem Function; Health + Wellbeing; Community Identity

Lead: Third Sector

Summary: The Urban Ecology Center is an innovative organization with three locations in the greater Milwaukie area. A particular program of interest within the organization is their Neighborhood Environmental Education Project (NEEP), which serves kids in more than 44 urban Milwaukee schools each year.

http://urbanecologycenter.org/

http://urbanecologycenter.org/what-we-do/neep.html

http://www.urbangreenworks.org/tacolcy-park-wildlife-habitat

Materials management

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy

Location: Burlington, Vermont

Policy: Regulation and Code

Performance Area: Materials Management; Energy

Lead: Public

Summary: . This Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy has been cited as particularly innovative because of the shift to a centralized purchasing location at City Hall, with deliveries that will only be made once a week and a tote service to cut down on cardboard and other supplies used in the shipping process.

http://www.icleiusa.org/action-center/learn-from-others/EPP%20policy%20ADOPTED.pdf

http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@citycoordinator/documents/webcontent/convert_261511.pdf

http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=1882

Mandatory Recycling and Composting Ordinance

Location: San Francisco, California

Policy: Regulation and Code

Performance Area: Materials Management

Lead: Public

Summary: San Francisco has a goal of sending zero waste to the landfill by 2020. One of their monumental steps towards achieving this goal was making recycling and composting mandatory for all city residents and businesses.

http://www.sfenvironment.org/article/recycling-and-composting/mandatory-recycling-and-composting-ordinance

Virtual Warehouse

Location: San Francisco, California

Policy: Partnerships, Financial Incentives

Performance Area: Materials Management

Lead: Public

Summary: The City of San Francisco has created a Virtual Warehouse for its city offices to use. This website is a location for offices to post their excess or no longer needed furniture, office supplies and technology.

http://www.sfenvironment.org/article/municipal-recycling-and-composting/virtual-warehouse-re-use-depot-for-city-departments

Pay-As-Your-Throw

Location: Fort Collins, Colorado

Policy: Regulations and Codes; Financial Incentives

Performance Area: Materials Management; Equitable Development

Lead: Public

Summary: Municipalities all over the country use some form of a pay-as-you-throw program. The idea is simple: residents are charge a variable rate for trash collection, which is based on the amount of waste that they dispose of.

http://www.epa.gov/solidwaste/conserve/tools/payt/index.htm

http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/tools/payt/pdf/sera06.pdf

http://www.cityofdubuque.org/index.aspx?nid=503

Oakdale Neighborhood Recycling Campaign

Location: Dedham, Massachusetts

Policy: Education and Engagement

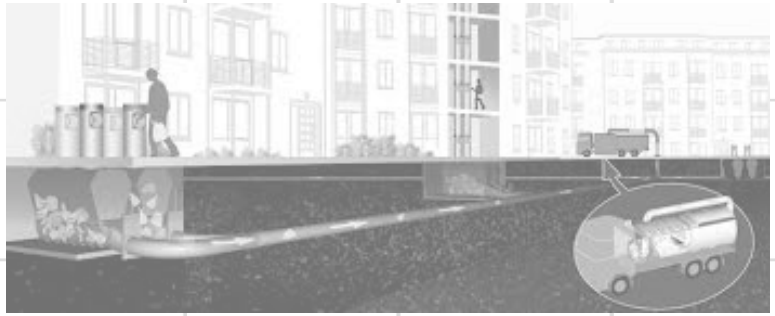
Performance Area: Materials Management

Lead: Public

Summary: The Oakdale Neighborhood Recycling Campaign was a small-scale pilot program carried out by volunteers and a number of city entities. The predominantly education-based campaign was structured around a community-based social marketing approach, which aims to remove barriers to an activity while also enhancing that activity's benefits.

http://www.acetiassociates.com/pubs/DedhamIIReportBody.pdf

Envac: Movac Mobile Vacuum System



Location: Sweden, Denmark, and Norway

Policy: Regulations and Codes; Partnerships

Performance Area: Materials Management; Access + Mobility; Energy

Lead: Public

Summary: Residents drop their trash into a communal chute, which is located either inside or closely outside of their building. All the trash—in some cases also compostable and recyclable materials—are stored in an underground storage facility. Pipes connect the chutes to docking stations located on the outskirts of the neighborhood, where specially designed trucks use suction to pull the waste through the pipes and into the truck.

http://www.envacgroup.com/ http://www.envacgroup.com/BinaryLoader.axd?OwnerID=01b105e7-8b2b-4669-aecb-babdd72e318e&OwnerType=0&PropertyName=Files&FileName=Movac+brochure_ENG.pdf&Attachment=True

Resilience

Wetrofit Program

Location: Chicago, Illinois

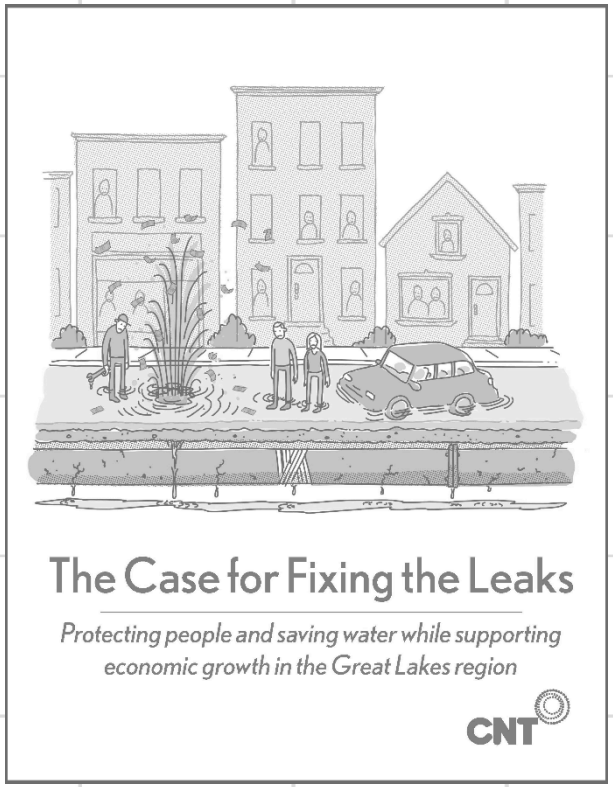
Policy: Education and Engagement; Technical Assistance

Performance Area: Water; Health + Wellbeing; Equitable Development

Lead: Third Sector

Summary: Run through the Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT), Wetrofit is a pilot program working with property owners that have experienced flooding. The main goal is to implement this wet-weather retrofitting service at the neighborhood scale to help reduce overall flooding.

http://www.cnt.org/water/projects/neighborhood-flood-reduction/



The Big U

Location: New York City, New York

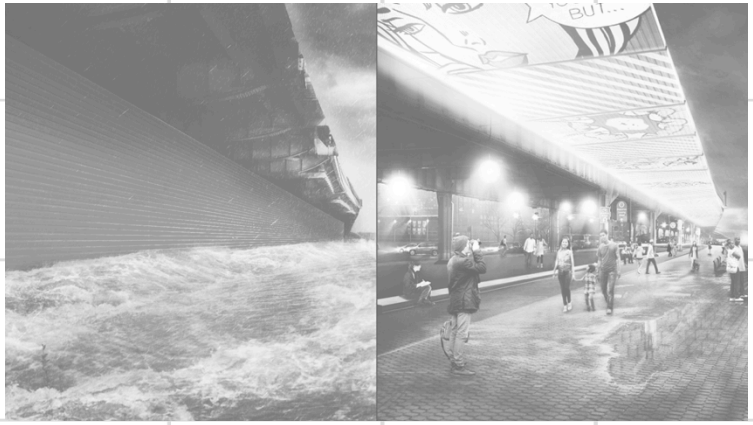
Policy: Budgeting and Infrastructure Investment; Technical Assistance

Performance Area: Health + Wellbeing; Community Identity; Access + Mobility; Water

Lead: Public

Summary: After Hurricane Sandy and the subsequent flooding of Manhattan, New York began to look into measures of prevention against such natural disasters. The Big U proposal, which recently won $335 million to fund implementation processes, addresses the idea of resiliency through design.

http://www.rebuildbydesign.org/project/big-team-final-proposal/



Sustainable Comprehensive Plan

Location: Greenburg, Kansas

Policy: Education and Engagement, Regulations and Codes; Budgeting and Infrastructure Investment

Performance Area: Equitable Development; Health + Wellbeing; Community Identity; Access + Mobility; Energy; Water

Lead: Public

Summary: Greensburg is the highest ranked community in the world in regards to LEED-certified buildings per capita, with about half a dozen buildings alone achieving LEED platinum certification.

http://www.greensburgks.org/residents/recovery-planning/sustainable-comprehensive-master-plan/view