

Green Infrastructure Co-Benefits Strategy in the Next Plan

September 2, 2015



GO TO 2040 Green Infrastructure Targets

- Reduce acres of **impervious surface** by 75,000 acres
- **Conserve** 400,000 acres of open space
- Increase **park access** for all people to 4 acres per 1,000 people; increase park access for 70% of the region to 10 acres per 1,000 people
- Add 540 miles of new **greenways and trails**



GO TO 2040 Recommendations

- Integrate **land use** and **natural resources** planning
- Encourage use of **green infrastructure** and **stormwater infrastructure retrofits** to improve water quality and capture
- Prioritize direct **land protection** and **connectivity** of regional green infrastructure
- Protect **sensitive aquifer recharge areas**



Building off of GO TO 2040...

- Framing objectives of this strategy paper dive deeper into this topic and provide more geographic specificity:
 - Measure and maximize **co-benefits** that green infrastructure can provide for health, stormwater management, climate resilience, placemaking, or other environmental and social benefits
 - Expand our consideration beyond parks and open spaces to **other green infrastructure contexts**, from transportation rights of way to urban landscaping



Process

1. **Assess green infrastructure co-benefits** (September-November 2015)
 - Review **peer MPO and local government** green infrastructure policies
 - Research **measurements** of various green infrastructure co-benefits at different scales and contexts



Process

2. **Identify approaches to maximize green infrastructure co-benefits** (December 2015-February 2016)
 - Develop **context-specific** green infrastructure recommendations
 - Recommend **regional metrics** that can be used to assess progress on regional green infrastructure policies



Stakeholder Engagement

- ENR Committee will be the primary group providing input, guidance, and feedback for this strategy
- Committee members will have opportunity to present on relevant green infrastructure work that can shape the strategy (ideas?)
- **Key milestones and touchpoints**
 - **October:** presentation/discussion of co-benefits measurements
 - **December:** presentation/discussion of green infrastructure for different contexts; review 2-page memo outlining initial policy directions
 - **February:** final presentation of strategy paper



For more information

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