

# **Green Infrastructure Co-Benefits Strategy Update**



# Goals

1. Integrate regional-scale GI networks with site-scale practices and benefits
2. Measure and maximize co-benefits that GI can provide for various other environmental, social, and economic benefits
3. Expand our consideration of GI to a variety of green infrastructure contexts, from transportation rights of way to urban landscaping, and partner with a wider range of stakeholders for implementing our vision





**Your Feedback Needed!**



# Potential Green Infrastructure Categories

- **Regional open space:** regional parks, county forest preserves
- **Municipal parks**
- **Privately owned green spaces:** residential backyards, subdivision common open spaces, school campuses, office parks
- **Underutilized land:** Vacant lands, brownfields
- **Green stormwater infrastructure:** green infrastructure in rights-of-way, roadway design, street trees, parking lot landscaping



# Potential Co-Benefits

## Direct outcomes

- Recreation
- Stormwater management
- Placemaking

## Secondary outcomes

- Air quality
- Climate mitigation and resilience
- Reduction of heat island effect
- Public health





# **Green Infrastructure Activities at Peer MPOs**



# 1. Identification of Priority Areas

- Green infrastructure vision
- Sustainability and natural resource action plans
- Greenways and trails plans
- Priority conservation areas



## 2. Technical assistance

- Planning support for local or sub-regional planning
- Development of resources, guidebooks, and toolkits





# 3. Provision of Data and Information

- Inventory of existing natural resources and conditions
- Ecosystem service valuations
- Committees to coordination local green infrastructure and conservation projects



## 4. Integration of site-scale GI

- Complete streets projects
- GI in major capital projects



# Stay tuned!

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