

WHAT  
CHALLENGES  
FOR G.I.  
IN YOUR  
COMMUNITY?

# CHALLENGES

□ DEVELOPMENT

□ MAINTENANCE

↑ WORKFORCE

↑ DEV. TRAINING

↑ GROUNDWORKS

↑ DOING MAINTENANCE

WINTER? - BUILD PLANTING  
BOXES!

PERMEABLE PATHS!

BALLOT MEASURE  
FOR PARKS!

TOOL SHARE NETWORKS

DEVELOPERS!

REQUIRE GI

MAKE CASE TO DEVELOPERS

MAPS, MAKE GOALS CLEAR

\$ → \$  
COUNTERACT THE DYNAMIC

CORING CITY FARMS

# KEY CHALLENGES

(What funding/program barriers are hindering maintenance?)

Workforce

Seasonality issues for workforce dev

How do we find partners that understand seasonal? Workforce development

training/skillset lack in GI contracting

Lack of affordable well-trained contractors to perform

sector challenge

Free of combining job training programs with...  
Cohorts

funds

Finance/policy for O'm

Lack of targeted funds & lack of GI maintenance training

No funding for long-term maintenance

capacity

Program (region of destination)

Development of holistic program (local govt, city, school)

Lack of accountability and oversight at and across city agencies

Decentralization of GI installation & maintenance

How do we connect with the right folks in communities to drive investment in maintenance

Finding organizations that can manage maintenance work - Movers projects?

Maintenance is sole responsibility of the landowner when on private property.

Contracts

backlog projects to know what need  
↳ Ownership of GI asset

parallel

Future better that politicians and decision maker do not "win"

disrupting contracts

NGO responsible went out of business

It's not grass eating (or the what we do)

Programs are looking for smaller communities & few regional solutions

Very long property easements that make it difficult for low income communities to connect

# OPPORTUNITIES

(How might we structure funding or program design solutions?)

## Centralization

- consistent inspection w/ on call contractors in w/ program
- accountable public agency w/ \$\$\$

- Fresh Coast Resource Center  
(skills/resources gap assessment)

- Launch NOLA (up training) equipment > shared  
Program stays involved thru establishment

HSC - share out maintenance survey results  
- Train a well qualified/knowledgeable workforce

## Funding

- Build costs into upfront costs of project
- Surety bond?
- punitive structures don't work
- pooled funds - various beneficiaries

## Workforce

- mitigate seasonality - union protection (how to deal w/ outsourcing???)
- seasonal matching
- snow plow winter
- housing
- invasive species removal

How to fund  
Maintenance?

Understanding  
Cost vs Benefit  
of type of use  
and how to use them

Market for those  
who have been  
through workforce  
development program

Knowing all the  
types of options  
and how to advocate  
for them

MAINTENANCE!!

O+M issue: can't do  
more projects if you  
can't take care of the  
ones you have

Dense cities have a death  
of space

Research is missing monitoring  
& evaluation → going beyond  
models & understanding  
what is happening in reality

Construction costs → high in  
some cities

Winter maintenance: Youth  
did permeable paving.  
Homeless only people out there  
consistently & wanted to  
learn more

Money follows money

financially maintenance

sometimes public space is  
too developed → hard to fit in GI

dense development

monitoring & eval GI

What challenges do we face in green  
infrastructure initiatives?

- City push-back on GI transparency
- connectivity (mapping a network of  
green spaces, not just related lots or  
green spaces)
- money follows money
- contamination, caps in how deep  
in the ground you can permeate
- encouraging developers to incorporate GI
- maintenance - City is relying on residences  
for upkeep but these residences also have  
9-5 can't commit the time
- equity issues
- bringing things up to scale

racial  
equity challenges + GI

- money following other  
money in New Orleans,  
GI becomes concentrated  
in affluent white communities  
GI/natural assets in  
black communities are neglected
- GI + gentrification/displacement  
context in Seattle.