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To our partners, supporters, and friends,

On behalf of the Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia's (SBN) Board and staff, welcome to the 2021 Excellence in GSI Awards Ceremony! Thank you for joining us!

The last year has underscored how critical diverse independent businesses are to our economy and the need for immediate and comprehensive action for racial and economic equity and climate resilience. Our current Presidential administration promises real leadership in getting the pandemic under control, recovering our economy, advancing racial equity, and addressing climate change, which makes me optimistic that we have real opportunities to accelerate progress towards a just, green, and thriving economy.

2020 was a very challenging year, so I'm grateful that we have our annual Excellence in GSI Awards to bring us together, albeit virtually. GSI and this community are always cause for celebration!

This year is a special one. Not only does 2021 mark SBN's 20-year strong commitment to empowering and advocating for our diverse local business community, but also the 10-year anniversary of Philadelphia's *Green City, Clean Waters* plan. *Green City, Clean Waters* continues to catalyze public and private investments in green stormwater infrastructure and offer a model for municipalities across the country. To commemorate this milestone, we are not only honoring the year's exemplary projects with an Excellence in GSI Award, but also ten years of outstanding Philadelphia-based projects with a Best of *Green City, Clean Waters* Award.

As demonstrated by the exceptional submissions we received, there are many great GSI projects in the region. After a series of lively discussions, our selection committee decided on our finalists and winners for 2021. These projects transformed playgrounds, parks, and gathering spaces; improved water quality; engaged neighborhood residents and visitors; and took creative and innovative approaches to stormwater management. As for our Best of *Green City, Clean Waters* category, a public vote determined the winner. Please take time to read through the program and learn more about these amazing projects and project teams!

Congratulations to all our finalists and winners. With your projects, you have improved our region over the last ten years! You continue to set a precedent for using GSI to create positive environmental, social, and economic change.

Thank you to our funders, members and sponsors, selection committee, everyone who took the time to submit a project and vote, and to each of you for being here and celebrating with us this evening. I hope you enjoy the program!

In partnership,

Anna Shipp, Executive Director

Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia

OVERVIEW

On behalf of the Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia (SBN), the GSI Partners are recognizing excellence in GSI in the following categories:

PUBLIC PROJECTS

Built projects managed in large part by public agency and/or on public property; this includes municipal, state, and federal.

INNOVATION

Processes, programs or technology that break new ground, by applying information, ingenuity, and initiative to significantly advance GSI impact.

BEST OF GREEN CITY, CLEAN WATERS

Submissions for this unique category were comprised of finalists from the past 10 years of projects, and winners have been determined by a public online poll.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Andrew Sawyers

Director of the Office of Wastewater Management, US Environmental Protection Agency

Andrew D. Sawyers is the Director of the Office of Wastewater Management at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, DC. He oversees the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program, the Clean Water Act’s mechanism for the permitting of municipal and industrial discharge into surface waters of the U.S. As the Director of OWM, Andrew is also responsible for multiple technical

and financial assistance tools for the development and maintenance of the country’s wastewater infrastructure, including WIFIA, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) and EPA’s Water Finance Center. He previously worked for the Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration where he managed the state’s Clean Water and Drinking Water SRFs and the Maryland’s Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund. Andrew has a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in Geography and Environmental Engineering.

CLOSING REMARKS



Randy E. Hayman, Esq.

Commissioner & CEO, Philadelphia Water Department

Mayor James Kenney appointed Philadelphia Water Department Commissioner and CEO Randy E. Hayman, Esq. in June 2019.

Hayman received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and a law degree from the Georgetown University Law Center. Before assuming his post in Philadelphia, Hayman was a partner at the environmental law firm of Beveridge & Diamond, headquartered in Washington, DC. He served as general counsel for 15 years at two major water utilities, the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority and the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District.

Agenda

5:30pm Virtual Networking	6:20pm Keynote Address by Director Andrew Sawyers	6:55pm Closing Remarks from Water Commissioner Randy Hayman	7:00pm Virtual Networking
6:00pm Opening Remarks from SBN’s Executive Director Anna Shipp	6:40pm Winner Announcements		7:30pm End

PLAN PHILLY

A project of WHYY

PlanPhilly is the proud media partner of The Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia's Excellence in GSI Awards. Congratulations to all of the nominees and finalists.

You are helping to build a brighter and greener Philadelphia.

**WHYY is your community.
WHYY is you.**



ABOUT SBN

About the Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia

The Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia is building a just, green, and thriving economy in the region. We empower the local business community to be change agents in the movement towards equity and climate resilience; and we advocate with them and on their behalf so an equitable and climate resilient local economy grows and thrives.

Since our founding in 2001, SBN has remained the region's only membership and advocacy organization playing the critical role of serving Greater Philadelphia's independent values-driven business community.

About the Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) Partners

The GSI Partners, a signature initiative of the Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia (SBN), is an active network of local businesses in the green stormwater infrastructure industry.

Formed in 2013, this initiative was catalyzed by the City of Philadelphia's comprehensive nature-based stormwater management plan, Green City, Clean Waters, which set a 25-year vision for environmental, social, and economic benefits for our city and region. SBN supports this triple bottom line plan and is working to ensure its maximum success.

Through our GSI Partners members, SBN is increasing public and private investment in GSI, fueling industry innovation, and encouraging local firms' use.

For more information about us, our members, and our network:

gsipartners.sbnphiladelphia.org

*We invite members and sponsors who are mission-aligned and want to support our work and gain visibility in the region's GSI industry. **Join our network!***



40th Street Trolley Portal

COUNTY: Philadelphia
 WATERSHED: Lower Schuylkill River
 ADDRESS: 3940 Baltimore Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19104



PUBLIC PROJECT

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

- Meliora Design
- Andropogon Associates
- International Consulting
- Tillet Lighting Design
- Mulhern Consulting Engineers
- Group G Architects

CLIENT

- University City District

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/MONITORING

- Domus Construction
- Mayfield Site Contractors

The 40th Street Trolley Portal Garden is one of the busiest public transit hubs in Philadelphia with more than 60,000 people commuting through the space per day. The overarching project goal was to transform a barren, lifeless paved expanse into a new, green public hub for West Philadelphia. Using strategic planting beds to help guide traffic safely through the site, while also accommodating security, maintenance, and construction access throughout, the design was able to reduce the paved area within the trolley turnaround space by more than 8,000 square feet, a nearly 42 percent reduction.

This project featured mounded micro-meadows edged by boulders that serve as seating areas for people, baths for birds, and nooks for small animals and insects, these mounded areas expand the feeling of the space, bring a manicured version of wild nature into the heart of the city, turning an unused void into the green core of the project. Also, a cafe and public seating area bring economic and social benefits to the area.

UCD's overall goal for this project was to bring a sense of dignity back to the public transit experience and to create a sustainable landscape that eliminated the severe drainage issues existing prior to the improvements. Despite its relatively small size, the project succeeds in improving pedestrian and rider safety, reducing the urban heat island effect, mitigating combined sewer outfall discharges, creating green jobs, and bringing a green, native, pollinator-friendly planting design to the heart of Philadelphia.

This project was also eligible for the Best of Green City, Clean Waters Public category.

Wissinoming Park

COUNTY: Philadelphia
 WATERSHED: Delaware Direct
 ADDRESS: 5700 Frankford Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19124



PUBLIC PROJECT

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

- Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc.

CLIENT

- Philadelphia Water Department

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE

- AP Construction, Inc.
- Philadelphia Water Department

Wissinoming Park, operated by Philadelphia Parks and Recreation (PPR), is an expansive neighborhood park encompassing 40 acres of land which houses several playing fields, tennis courts, hockey rinks, basketball courts, picnic areas, and a playground which are heavily utilized by the community. Historically, the park was part of a privately-owned estate which included two headwater streams and a variety of rare trees imported from all over the world.

A sloping wetland establishes a new community asset that will grow and transform as it adapts to the community's needs. The most immediate upgrade provided by the sloping wetland will be in the form of aesthetic enhancement by incorporating 78 native trees, 452 shrubs, and 21,000 herbaceous plants. The GSI system is bordered by a meadow which provides a natural transition between the wetland and surrounding open areas. The removal of invasive vegetation and dead trees was incorporated into the design to improve sight lines and safety within the park while providing ecological uplift. Educational signage informs the residents about the Green City, Clean Waters plan, and the benefits associated with the dynamic nature of a wetland; the wetland area could also be used by community groups and schools to function as an outdoor environmental classroom. The sloping wetland will provide abundant opportunities for the community to enjoy activities such as bird and wildlife watching along the updated trail system.

The GSI at Wissinoming Park project is a marquee example of PWD's successful implementation of their overall strategy, from planning through design, construction, and monitoring/maintenance, that epitomizes the accomplishments of the first ten years of GCCW.

This project was also eligible for the Best of Green City, Clean Waters Public category.

Kingsessing Recreation Center

COUNTY: Philadelphia
 WATERSHED: Lower Schuylkill
 ADDRESS: 4901 Kingsessing Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19143



PUBLIC PROJECT

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

Stantec
 Philadelphia Water Department

CLIENT

Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/MONITORING

Gessler Construction Company
 Philadelphia Water Department
 Green Up, AKRF

The Kingsessing Recreation Center is a large community center for those of the Kingsessing neighborhood in southwest Philadelphia. The center offers both indoor and outdoor amenities to the community, including an after-school program and summer camp for kids. The Philadelphia Water Department project was only the first phase of the future updates to the recreation space, as part of the City of Philadelphia's Rebuild Program.

The overall project consists of nine total systems, four of which are in the Kingsessing Recreation Center park limits and five systems located on the surrounding neighborhood streets. The systems around the recreation center include three rain gardens and one subsurface storage trench. Systems were selected and sited to accent the gateways, at Chester Avenue & 51st Street and Kingsessing Avenue & 51st Street, into the recreation center site. The rain garden at Kingsessing Avenue & 51st Street was shaped so that it would promote movement to both destinations. The plantings include biologically diverse species which were selected to promote wildlife habitat and attract pollinators to increase connectivity to the community garden. The path that divides the system into two rain gardens takes advantage of the grading and continuous plant species between the two systems to create the illusion that a user is walking "through" a single garden space. Beyond the systems inside the park are green corridors that connect the neighborhood surrounding the Kingsessing Recreation Center to public green space.

Overall the Philadelphia Water Department project at Kingsessing Recreation Center helped rejuvenate the existing landscape, providing more plantings that not only add to the aesthetic but also provide stormwater management to the site.

This project was also eligible for the Best of Green City, Clean Waters Public category.

Hancock Playground

COUNTY: Philadelphia
 WATERSHED: Delaware Direct
 ADDRESS: 147 Master St, Philadelphia, PA 19122



PUBLIC PROJECT

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

SALT Design Studio

CLIENT

Philadelphia Parks and Recreation
 & Rebuild Philadelphia

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE

Seravalli, Inc.
 Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

OTHER

Rodriguez Consulting, LLC
 D'Huy Engineering, Inc.

Located in a transitioning section of Philadelphia, about 2.5 miles north of Center City, Olde Kensington is a neighborhood that was once home to warehouses and boisterous industrial activity. Now primarily residential with a shifting demographic to younger families, Hancock Playground is surrounded by single and multi-family rowhomes.

The population surrounding Hancock is multi-generational, proud of its diversity and industrial history, and yearned for more green space. From the outset, utilizing this public recreational facility to increase equitable access to green space in a densely populated urban neighborhood was a driver for design. The project intent was trifold: providing creative play and fitness experiences for all ages, increasing urban green space, and making a welcoming place for neighbors from all walks of life. By providing equipment and space for flexible programming, the site improvements offer amenities for a range of abilities and ages. The revamped site program focuses on a holistic approach to community socialization and recreation. The Hancock Playground project demonstrates a multitude of sustainable strategies to clean and infiltrate stormwater, increase carbon sequestration, and create vital plant and animal habitat.

Hancock Playground fulfills the triple bottom line: increasing socially equitable community access to public green space and promoting neighborhood engagement; decreasing pollution from entering urban waterways; and creating an environmentally resilient, multi-generational recreation space for residents of all ages and backgrounds. These goals are reproducible and can be implemented elsewhere, meaning the impact can reach further than the local need in Philadelphia. This urban playground is now a vital green footprint in an urban desert, and the centerpiece of a thriving Olde Kensington neighborhood.

This project was also eligible for the Best of Green City, Clean Waters Public category.

Green City Inlet Filter

LOCATION: Philadelphia



INNOVATION

PRIMARY

ACF Environmental

CLIENT

Philadelphia Water Department

PARTNERS

Fabco Industries

The City of Philadelphia “Green City, Clean Waters” program is seeking to manage tens of thousands of acres of impervious area including thousands of miles of streets through the implementation of decentralized green stormwater infrastructure systems.

Philly has been faced with the enormous task of developing a plan to maintain the existing green stormwater infrastructure systems that have been installed as well as improve the standard designs for future projects to make maintenance safe, efficient, and effective. What drives the success of the program in Philadelphia is two-fold: effective collaboration and that the voice of maintenance has a seat at the table and helps drive design.

The ACF Environmental team was tasked by PWD to develop a series of green inlet filter devices to overcome challenges of the past - improving durability and performance balancing both the goals of design and maintenance. Over a period of 12 months, ACF with their industrial design partners, Fabco Industries, worked through an extensive R&D process with several rounds of prototyping, review and comments from PWD to close in on the optimal solution for the variety of different styles of drains in the City. The result of this process was the “Green City Inlet Filter,” which collects and traps curb-line sediment, trash and debris and prevents them from entering downstream waterbodies and GSI assets, contributing towards the goal of clean water and sustainable systems.

These units are now used by PWD maintenance for in-house and sub-contracted maintenance related activities in existing GSI assets, specified by local design engineers, and installed by site work contractors for both on street and public park retrofit projects.

This project was also eligible for the Best of Green City, Clean Waters Innovation category.



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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
**EXCELLENCE IN GSI
AWARDS FINALISTS**



AKRF delivers integrated water solutions through smart science, creative problem solving, and the design of sustainable, resilient infrastructure.



Lea Elementary School

WATERSHED: Lower Schuylkill

ADDRESS: 4700 Locust St, Philadelphia, 19139



Renovations to Lea Elementary School, the recipient of a PWD SMIP grant, concentrated on capturing and infiltrating stormwater, increasing tree canopy, and establishing a strong identity for Lea through a revitalized landscape.

SALT's cost-effective design manages stormwater from the both the school yard and the public right of way, and, through a series of multi-purpose interventions, maximizes opportunities for both students and teachers for play and education.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

International Consultants, Inc.
Meliora Design
SALT Design Studio

CLIENT

West Philadelphia Coalition of Neighborhood Schools School District of Philadelphia

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

Think Green, LLC
Philadelphia Water Department
School District of Philadelphia
West Philly Coalition of Neighborhood Schools

John H. Taggart Elementary Schoolyard

WATERSHED: Delaware Direct

ADDRESS: 400 West Porter Street, Philadelphia, 19148



In 2013, Trust for Public Land selected the John H. Taggart Elementary School, a multicultural school whose vision is to "create a nurturing, supportive environment in which children can achieve and grow."

The final plan combined stormwater management elements such as rain gardens and permeable multipurpose play and recreation space, with habitat enhancements and community garden beds.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

TEND Landscapes
Trust for Public Land

CLIENT

School District of Philadelphia

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

Rockport Construction
Philadelphia Water Department

Penn Street Trail

WATERSHED: Delaware Direct

ADDRESS: Spring Garden to Ellen Street portion of Penn Street Trail



The goals of the Penn Street Trail were to encourage a healthy lifestyle by providing a safe, convenient and enjoyable venue for active recreation along the waterfront; and promote and encourage the use of non-motorized forms of transportation.

The project is now looked upon as the example for how to design a safer street through a protected approach by incorporating bicycle, pedestrian, place-making, and GSI elements within a public right-of-way.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

NV5

CLIENT

Delaware River Waterfront Corporation

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

AP Construction
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
Delaware River Waterfront Corporation

Panati Playground

WATERSHED: Delaware Direct

ADDRESS: 3101-27 North 22nd St, Philadelphia, PA 19132



Panati Playground is a park redevelopment and expansion project led by Philadelphia Department of Public Property (DPP) and Philadelphia Parks & Recreation (PPR).

Since reopening, the playground has become an avenue for flexible open space and a safe location for community collaborative events, including festivals, outdoor concerts, movie nights, and voting stations.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

Gilmore & Associates

CLIENT

School District of Philadelphia

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

Rockport Construction
Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

Heston Gardens

WATERSHED: Lower Schuylkill

ADDRESS: 5451-5459 Hunter Street, Philadelphia, PA 19131



Heston Gardens represents a vacant lot that was transformed into a public park and recreational area. The new park features a rain garden that captures, manages, and stores stormwater runoff from the adjacent roadways. The park also includes a walking path, gazebo, benches, and a vibrant mural.

PWD and the Hestonville community envisioned an area that would help manage stormwater, be a focal point of the neighborhood, and would support the continual growth and greening of the city. This project accomplished that in spades.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

Stantec
Philadelphia Water Department

CLIENT

Philadelphia Water Department

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

Petrongolo Contractors, Inc.
Philadelphia Water Department

Chester Arthur Schoolyard

WATERSHED: Lower Schuylkill

ADDRESS: 2000 Catharine St, Philadelphia, PA 19146



In 2015, Friends of Chester Arthur (FoCA) commissioned SALT Design Studio (SALT) to design a renovation of the Chester Arthur Schoolyard that implemented green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) and integrated the fledgling STEM curriculum into a schoolyard landscape, while also addressing the bigger issues of place-making, sustainability, and how urban schoolyards can transform learning environments.

The Chester Arthur Schoolyard renovation reflects the mission of the school through its landscape, by repositioning the outdoor learning environment as an essential component to an integrated and holistic approach to primary education.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

SALT Design Studio
Cornerstone Consulting
Engineers & Architectural,
Inc.

Ann Rothman Structural
Engineering

InLand Design

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE

Brightline Construction

Philadelphia Water
Department

School District of
Philadelphia

University of New Hampshire
Stormwater Center

CLIENT

School District of
Philadelphia

Jose Manuel Collazo Playground

WATERSHED: Delaware Direct

ADDRESS: 130-160 Westmoreland St, Philadelphia, PA 19134



The Trust for Public Land, Philadelphia Parks and Recreation, and the Philadelphia Water Department collaborated to transform this site into an attractive community asset that reflects the cultural heritage of the neighborhood.

This project enhances long term climate resiliency through solutions that are multi-benefit and geographically suitable while also creating a safe haven for play in the community.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

Stantec Consulting

CLIENT

Trust for Public Land

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

Gessler Construction
Philadelphia Water Department

“Back in 2011, it became evident that there was no one representing local, private green businesses and nonprofits who were, in some cases, risking their livelihood in support of the basic goodness and sustainability of Philadelphia’s Green City, Clean Water program. SBN’s GSI Partners emerged in 2012 and has taken an important leadership role in advocating for GSI in Philadelphia and our region ever since. Thank you, GSI Partners!”

—Howard Neukrug P.E. UPenn Professor,
former Commissioner and CEO of
Philadelphia Water

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BEST OF GREEN CITY, CLEAN WATERS

Cira Green

WATERSHED: Lower Schuylkill
ADDRESS: 2930 Chestnut St, Philadelphia, 19104



CIRA GREEN is Philadelphia's first elevated public park and first blue-green roof. As such, it's more than just an amenity for the adjacent Evo Tower and the [now completed] FMC Tower; it is an integral element of the developing Schuylkill River greenway.

Through its innovative stormwater management technologies and encouragement of social interactions, Cira Green creates a new paradigm for green roof structures and provides technical and spatial inspiration for the design of dense urban locations.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

Erdy McHenry Architecture
 Pennoni
 Roofmeadow
 Tim Haahs & Associates

CLIENT

Brandywine Realty Trust

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

EDA Associates
 Hunter Roberts Construction Group
 Sean's Landscaping
 Roofmeadow Services, Inc.

Winner determined by online vote

Bethesda Presbyterian Church

WATERSHED: Lower Schuylkill
ADDRESS: 808 Red Lion Rd, Philadelphia, 19115



This project creates an important first step in enhanced participation and engagement of faith-based institutions across Philadelphia in helping to meet and solve the City's water quality challenges.

AKRF worked closely with the congregation to incorporate the community's belief that "to plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow," while maximizing environmental benefit, improving aesthetics, and minimizing construction costs.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

AKRF
 CGC Consulting
 HAKS Land Surveying

CLIENT

Bethesda Presbyterian Church

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

S. Veccione and High Quality Builders
 Bethesda Presbyterian Church
 Girl Scouts of America
 GreenUp (AKRF)

Central Green @ The Navy Yard

WATERSHED: Delaware Direct
ADDRESS: 1001 Intrepid Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19112



Central Green is a 5-acre privately funded public park, intentionally designed to be an amenity for current and proposed commercial, industrial, and residential tenants of the Navy Yard in Philadelphia, as well as for the Navy Yard's 100,000 annual visitors.

Central Green aims to support the development of the Navy Yard by creating a sustainable, social, and active environment for employees and the surrounding community.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

Environetics
 James Corner Field Operations
 Pennoni

CLIENT

Liberty Property/Synterra
 PIDC
 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

Bittenbender Construction, LP
 C Caramanico & Sons
 Geostructures, Inc.
 Larry Weaner Design Associates
 Molly Construction
 NovaCrete
 Tim Craul

Frankford Friends Nature Learning Lab

WATERSHED: Delaware Direct
ADDRESS: 1515 Orthodox St, Philadelphia, PA 19124



The goal of the Nature Learning Lab at Frankford Friends Elementary School was to create an outdoor learning space for the elementary school students, while simultaneously implementing green stormwater infrastructure.

Using entirely non-structural BMPs, a landscape was created that completely manages its own runoff through absorptive soils and native vegetation, while providing educational play space for children. Students now enjoy natural objects, water features, native plants, outdoor gathering spaces, and active play spaces.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

Think Green, LLC
 Meliora Design

CLIENT

Frankford Friends School

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

Think Green, LLC

BEST OF GREEN CITY, CLEAN WATERS

Shoemaker Green at the University of Pennsylvania

WATERSHED: Lower Schuylkill
ADDRESS: 33rd Street at Smith Walk, Philadelphia, PA 19104



The site captures ninety-five percent of the site's rainwater through an integrated landscape system that includes the conveyance, filtering, and storage of stormwater for reuse as irrigation.

The design of Shoemaker Green stems from a systems-based thinking that integrates natural systems with man-made systems to function as a whole. Shoemaker Green has become what green infrastructure seldom is: a monitored, high-performance landscape that captures, filters, and effectively delivers clean water back to the environment.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

- Andropogon Associates
- Meliora Design
- Stantec
- Keast and Hood
- Tillett Lighting & Design
- International Consultants, Inc.
- Irrigation Consulting, Inc.
- Craul Land Scientists

CLIENT

University of Pennsylvania

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE

- P. Agnes
- University of Pennsylvania
- Andropogon Associates

Woodmere Art Museum

WATERSHED: Wissahickon
ADDRESS: 9201 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19118



Seeking to increase its parking area and create a space for outdoor sculptures, Woodmere Art Museum's SMP does just that, while also reducing flooding and improving water quality in the Wissahickon Creek watershed.

The project contributes to improving water quality in the Wissahickon Creek watershed by reducing degradation of the environment, reducing flows that contribute to channel erosion, protecting property, reducing flooding, and contributing a highly visible example of how to achieve environmentally sound land use.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

- NTM Engineering, Inc.
- Matthew Baird Architects, PLLC

CLIENT

Woodmere Art Museum

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

- Meco Constructors
- Dale Corporation
- Brightview
- Woodmere Art Museum

Drexel Perelman & Korman Plazas

WATERSHED: Lower Schuylkill
ADDRESS: 32nd & Market St, Philadelphia, PA 19104



Meliora Design led the removal of 8,000 square feet of impervious cover, replacing nearly 1.2 acres of existing impervious surfaces with porous pavers. Designed to improve pedestrian flow and to reintroduce nature-based features into the landscape, these two sites now provide increased shade and natural beauty via 120 new trees, while also managing stormwater. The project also features over 1,000 linear feet of public seating.

PLANNING/DESIGN TEAM

- Meliora Design
- Andropogon Associates

CLIENT

Drexel University

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE

- Hunter Roberts
- Bittenbender Construction
- Drexel University
- Meliora Design

Congratulations to the finalists!

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Winner determined by online vote

Cira Green

PRIMARY: Roofmeadow



As Philadelphia's first elevated public park and first blue-green roof, Cira Green represents an evolutionary innovation in design, particularly for shallow landscapes. This project casts a vision for the region in which challenging surfaces can inspire revolutionary design solutions.

By artfully integrating an innovative and unobtrusive stormwater management strategy into this extensively paved, high-traffic park, BRT and the design team created a new standard for city living which leverages the roof plane for unparalleled amenity spaces that also aggressively manage stormwater.

PARTNERS

- Erdy McHenry Architecture
- Hunter Roberts Construction Group
- Sean's Landscaping
- EDA Associates
- Roofmeadow Services, Inc.

CLIENT

- Brandywine Realty Trust

Smart Stormwater Management Technology

PRIMARY: OptiRTC



When Cintas discovered that its property's on-site stormwater retention basin did not meet current Philadelphia Water Department regulations or earn stormwater credits towards the Stormwater Management Service Charge, it engaged OptiRTC (Opti) to improve the performance and function of the basin and to create a long-term operations and maintenance plan for the entire property.

Using technology to monitor and forecast weather events to create more efficient systems signifies a bright future for how innovative technologies can continue to improve GSI performance.

PARTNERS

- Wood.
- PEER Environmental, LLC
- Philadelphia Water Department

CLIENT

- Cintas Corporation

Philadelphia Parcel Viewer/ Credits Explorer/ GARP Aggregator- Property Manager

PRIMARY: Azavea

PARTNERS

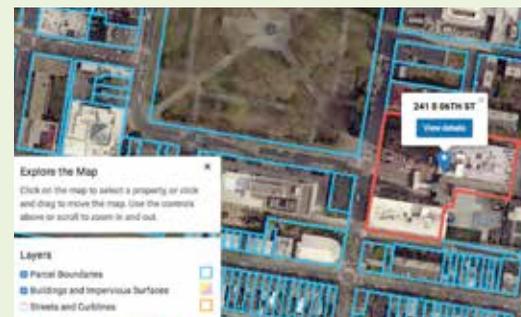
- Philadelphia Water Department
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology

CLIENT

- Philadelphia Water Department

The scalable and replicable nature of Azavea's innovative stormwater management software tools makes their use by other municipalities easily implemented, demonstrating how data and software technologies can dramatically improve the implementation, and therefore success, of stormwater management plans.

The Philadelphia Parcel Viewer application was developed to support the PWD's new nonresidential stormwater billing system that relates a property's burden on the sewer system directly to its stormwater charge by using the property's impervious surface cover as the basis for the fee.



Sandmeyer Regional Stormwater Facility

PRIMARY: Infrastructure Solutions Services (ISS)



Utilizing funding from PWD's Greened Acre Retrofit Program (GARP), the project successfully aggregates and manages stormwater on private property, allowing twenty properties to meet their stormwater management compliance obligations.

The completed facility is comprised of two infiltration basins that treat over 50,000,000 gallons of stormwater runoff annually. A separate storm pipe captures runoff from the impervious surfaces of the thirty parcels along Sandmeyer Lane to be piped into the basin during storm events.

PARTNERS

- Water Logs, LLC

CLIENT

- Sandmeyer Lane Businesses

BEST OF GREEN CITY, CLEAN WATERS

Community Academy of Philadelphia Charter School

PRIMARY: Infrastructure Solutions Services (ISS)



The Community Academy of Philadelphia Charter School, located within the Tookany-Tacony Frankford watershed, lies on a 5.21-acre parcel, very little of which is green space. Without vegetation to naturally absorb runoff, the school has been required to pay extremely high stormwater fees.

In addition to the enormous stormwater management benefits, the project also functions to make underground GSI visible to the next generation of students and Philadelphia's workforce. ISS's goal is to promote GSI to young people while providing related educational activities and curricula to demonstrate how they can be a part of the solution.

PARTNERS

Community Academy of Philadelphia

CLIENT

Community Academy of Philadelphia

Kelly Green Project

PRIMARY: Kelly Green Project



Together, the Kelly Green Project, along with Asarum LandDesign Group has been working to transform the John B. Kelly school grounds from a vacant blighted landscape to a healthy vibrant play, education, and community gathering space.

Employing a socially engaged design and planning process to cultivate community buy-in, ownership, and stewardship, the project is revolutionary in that it builds the capacity for project success through design, construction, environmental literacy innovation, and educational programming, while also embracing a process that employs incremental steps to achieve a vision that continues to be caused.

PARTNERS

Asarum LandDesign Group

CLIENT

John B. Kelly School

Green Infrastructure Living Laboratory

PRIMARY: Drexel University's Green Infrastructure Living Laboratory (GILL)



The Green Infrastructure Living Laboratory (GILL) is taking a Smart City approach to GSI monitoring with a focus on low-cost, DIY solutions that use the latest communication technology to perform real-time, remote sensing. The research team transmits and stores data in the cloud to create actionable responses related to irrigation, maintenance, and the optimization of GSI systems.

GILL's technology has huge environmental and economic implications, contributing to avoided costs of plan replacement, maximizing GSI system efficiency and leak detection, both which have major benefits for property managers and developers.

PARTNERS

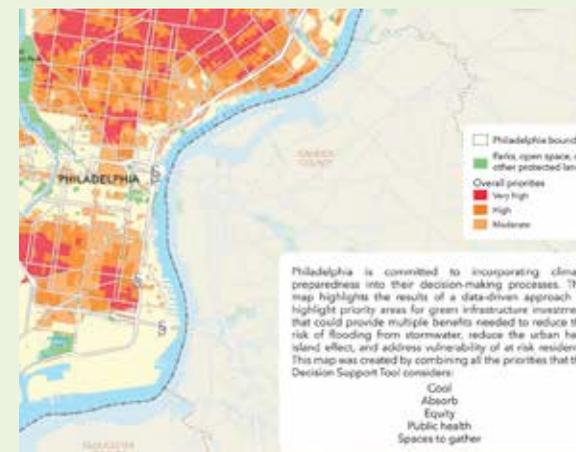
Philadelphia Water Department

CLIENT

Private Property Owners and Philadelphia Water Department

Climate-Smart Cities

PRIMARY: The Trust for Public Land Charter School



In 2018, The Trust for Public Land (TPL) and its partners developed an innovative geospatial decision support tool (DST) to revolutionize the role of GSI in creating a healthy, vibrant, equitable, and climate-prepared Philadelphia. This publicly available tool is designed to help decision makers in the public and private sector make data-driven decisions on where, when, and how to create multi-benefit green infrastructure projects that provide a maximum return on investment.

In total, the decision support tool identifies as far as the parcel level to identify locations where GSI projects can meet multiple environmental, social, and economic objectives.

PARTNERS

City of Philadelphia
School District of Philadelphia

CLIENT

Cities, NGOs, Developers, and businesses



Thank you!

TO ALL OF OUR NOMINEES, COMMITTEE MEMBERS, VOTERS AND GUEST SPEAKERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THIS YEAR'S AWARDS

AND

Congratulations

TO ALL OF OUR EXCELLENCE IN GSI AWARD WINNERS!

Restoring History through Innovative GSI: JMT recently completed the GSI design for Wissinoming Park in Lower Northeast Philadelphia for the Philadelphia Water Department.



JMT is proud to support SBN. Congratulations to the 2021 GSI Awards recipients.



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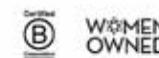


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Photo: The Nature Conservancy/Steve Weink