



DWSD PERFORMANCE RATE REDUCTION PILOT

OVERVIEW

The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) charges property owners for stormwater drainage costs. For property owners with significant impervious surface, these charges can be significant. Drainage costs are currently billed to metered property owners; however, DWSD is reviewing their overall approach to drainage fees. Through this review process, DWSD may seek to incentivize stormwater management through the deployment of low impact development techniques including blue and green infrastructure. The DWSD Performance Rate Reduction Pilot seeks to pilot the use of innovative blue infrastructure as a means of cleaning and managing stormwater, exploring the policy and fee structure changes needed to allow Detroit to become a healthier, greener city and model for 21st century best practices in sustainable development and resiliency.

OBJECTIVES

- Manage stormwater runoff to the combined sewer system in an area affected by combined sewer overflow (CSO) discharges into the Detroit River
- Pilot the use of innovative blue infrastructure techniques that use natural systems to clean and manage stormwater
- Support a business-friendly Detroit through changes to policy and drainage fees for commercial property owners
- Improve quality of life for Detroit residents by providing additional community benefits such as recreation opportunities, natural species and wildlife restoration, groundwater recharging, and improved economic development potential
- Demonstrate Detroit as a global model for 21st century best practices in sustainable development and resiliency

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- E** LAND REGULATIONS, TRANSACTIONS, AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS
- D** CREATE NEW AND DIVERSE OPEN SPACE SYSTEM FOR THE CITY
- B** CREATE LANDSCAPES THAT WORK
- F** UTILIZE PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPES AS THE BASIS FOR A SUSTAINABLE CITY
- E** MAKE LANDSCAPE INTERVENTIONS CENTRAL TO DETROIT'S RENEWAL

RESOURCES

- Detroit Future City Implementation Office

EVALUATION METRICS

- Volume of stormwater managed

Initial meeting with DWSD, DEGC, and DFC

Initial pilot design

Policy reform

Implementation

SCHEDULE

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

2013

2014

INITIATIVE VITALS

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS:

Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD), Detroit Economic Growth Corporation (DEGC), Detroit Future City, Private sector property owners

DFC INITIATIVE TYPE: Partner

DFC REPRESENTATIVE: Chris Dorle

INITIATIVE SCALE: Commercial parking lot at 11300 Jefferson as initial pilot

INITIATIVE START: Summer 2014

RELEVANT PLANNING ELEMENTS:

Economic Growth, Land Use, City Systems, Neighborhoods, Land and Buildings Assets

DFC APPROACH

DFC will convene meetings with DWSD, DEGC, and technical experts to recommend an approach that efficiently manages stormwater but also improves the health and quality of life for Detroit residents, a key objective of the DFC Strategic Framework. DFC will work with DWSD and others to amend and create policies that enable this and future innovative blue and green infrastructure efforts to be scaled and replicated across the city.



Diagram Source: DFC Implementation Office