

GREEN CALCULATOR

OVERVIEW

The goal of the “Green Calculator” is to create a tool that quantifies the expected benefits of green land-based interventions on vacant lots that is specifically suited to the Detroit context. The tool is also intended to capture the expected environmental benefits of land based interventions compared to the ‘do nothing approach’ on vacant lots where these interventions are implemented. While there are numerous “green calculators”, these are often focused on a national context or on quantifying the costs and expected benefits of greening interventions in conventional developments. In addition, these calculators are not fully representative of the Detroit specific context.

OBJECTIVES

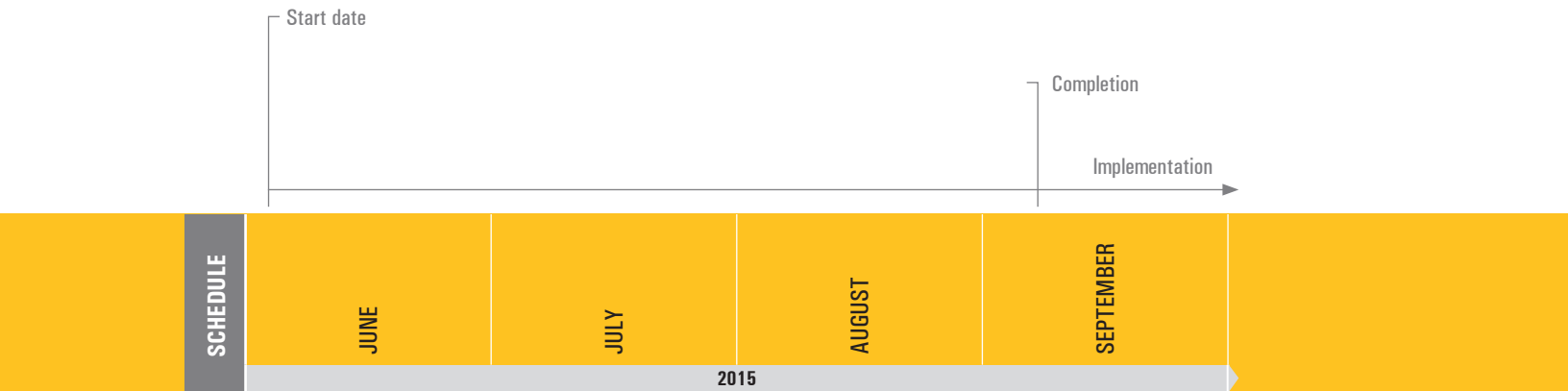
- Create a Detroit specific tool to quantify the expected benefits from land based interventions.
- Provide community partners with a tool to measure the expected effects of land based interventions.

EVALUATION METRICS

- Completion of a user friendly green calculator
- Number of community partners and organizations using the calculator

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- C2** INTRODUCE NEW AND INNOVATIVE LANDSCAPE-BASED DEVELOPMENT TYPES
- D1** IMPLEMENT BLUE AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS
- D2** ENCOURAGE REUSE OF VACANT LAND WITH PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPES
- B2** BRING HEALTH AND SOCIAL BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH LANDSCAPES AND GREEN FACILITIES TO LOWER INCOME GROUPS WITH POOR ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION
- D3** DEPLOY A VARIETY OF LOW COST, LOW MAINTENANCE OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS
- B1** REUSE VACANT LOTS TO ENHANCE NEIGHBORHOOD STABILITY.
- E2** FORM PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES, AND INDIVIDUALS TO HELP MAINTAIN LAND
- E3** REFINE SET OF LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE TYPOLOGIES AND DEVELOP COST ESTIMATES TO IMPLEMENT



INITIATIVE VITALS

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS:
LAND, Inc.

DFC REPRESENTATIVE: Erin Kelly

INITIATIVE SCALE: Citywide

INITIATIVE DURATION: June 2015 to
September 2015

RELEVANT PLANNING ELEMENTS:
Neighborhoods, City Systems, Public Land

DFC APPROACH

Detroit Future City Implementation Office reviewed and assessed a range of existing tools to identify what is currently available to individuals and groups looking to quantify the benefits of interventions on their property. These examples were used to identify what inputs are important to track for the creation of a Detroit specific green calculator. During this process a range of conditions and inputs were identified to measure the benefits for the existing condition of the vacant lot, with whatever may currently be on the site, as well as the expected benefits from the intervention on that site. The DFC Green Calculator will identify the difference in expected benefits between the existing condition on a site and the expected benefits from an intervention on that same site.