

GREENING LEGACY CITIES

Practitioner's Challenges

1. Risk of becoming trendy like urban agriculture
 - Concerns of becoming a temporary approach.
 - Reduction in grants/financial resources
2. Financial viability of urban agriculture
3. Quantifying & monetizing benefits of urban greening (UG) & green infrastructure (GI)
 - Holistic benefits of GI/stormwater
 - Stormwater performance
 - Cost/benefit life-cycle analysis of grey & green infrastructure → Maintenance costs over time
 - Economic productivity of urban greening
 - Predict property value increases and impacts → not enough data to project impacts
4. Installation and Operation & Maintenance Issues
 - Lack of standards/guidelines
 - Lack of qualified workforce for complex installations → need for training and management
5. Define right blend of greening strategies in declining neighborhoods
 - Urban design/architecture question
 - What threshold/scales of treatments/interventions can create/generate positive results/impacts?
 - Climate impact considerations (scale/design)
 - Public and civic spaces → critical or vital?
 - Devise a holistic network of UG initiatives → How do all of the pieces work and relate to each and people
6. Social concerns
 - Equity → *What does it mean?*
 - Is it just job/workforce development or is it more?
7. Resident education and outreach about:
 - Ownership/trajectory of land reuse
 - Land acquisition processes
 - Information on achievable reuse of UG/GI → Reasonable resident expectations
 - Information regarding GI maintenance
8. Community involvement and outreach
 - Involving resident next door
 - Customer service gap → neighborhoods are also customers
9. Land tenure/ownership
 - Need to learn more about different models
 - Influenced by type of greening intervention
10. Making the case of vacant property for nontraditional development
 - Policy & political considerations
 - Moving from just interim use
 - Brownfield economic development investments vs. community development
11. Local gov't regulations/municipal rules to facilitate or inhibit UG
 - Zoning for greening
 - Landscape design standards citywide
12. Management and business of community based urban greening
 1. Emerging
 2. Need to know more about needs
13. Transdisciplinary collaboration

Outstanding Issues

1. More research that explores transdisciplinary collaboration
2. Additional research on performance variables:
 - Stormwater functions
 - Biodiversity
 - Soil
 - Plant ecology (e.g. plant performance)
 - Biofuel
 - Recreation
4. Research on social dimension of UG
 - Link to UG menu and strategies
 - Social and institutional network analysis
 - Role of foundations & community based organizations
5. Creative-complex interplay of action/projects – tactical approaches
 - What is the impact of these actions?
 - What is the right blend of greening strategies?
 - How do we measure these interactions? → Research based in only one or two variables
 - Example of interaction variables
 - Health
 - Social/psychological interactions
 - Air quality
 - Property taxes
 - Sequestration
 - Social functions
 - Social cohesion and civic infrastructure.
6. Risks of long-term implementation/scaling
 - Pilots are not enough
 - Document change
7. Leveraging UG initiatives to change city practices/systems
 - Reform plans & policies
 - More cross city comparisons
8. Long-term assessment of community costs of current infrastructure
9. Regime change + social/policy movements

Team's Next Steps

- Upload results from projects
- Shared drive
- Tumblr
- Bio profile/Expertise
- What challenges organization is facing

Next Steps

- Professionalization of community of UG practice
- Design
 - Workforce
 - People intensive
 - Standards of performance within community context

Other Steps

- Systems + Urban Design
- Green infrastructure initiatives/Research
- Cobenefits and community values
 - Ecosystem services framework reference guide
 - Tracking change over time