



Emerald Corridor at Avondale

**A Mahoning County Land-Bank Green Infrastructure Demonstration Project presented by
The City of Youngstown, The Colony Youngstown, and Green Print Partners**



What is EC@A?!?!

- A vacant/blighted land repurposing project that consists of 12 parcels in a concentrated area along 3 blocks of one street that incorporates Green Infrastructure.

Goals of this project are to:

1. Mitigate stormwater runoff using GI practices
2. Create usable green spaces where local residents can host community events and gatherings
3. Create a training site where future cohorts of the Youngstown GI Certification program can get valuable, hands on experience
4. Effectively demonstrate the co-benefits of GI being used in an urban setting
5. Build resident ownership of the project
6. Hire Local Labor force workers who live in the area
7. Improve neighborhood conditions
8. Measure the Impact of the project

“WHY”

The City of Youngstown is currently under federal consent decree that mandates that it takes action to mitigate the flow of stormwater into the area’s natural waterways via the Combined Sewer System. Every year over **800 million** gallons of polluted stormwater runoff overflows into Mill Creek and Mahoning River causing harm to wildlife habitats and the ecosystem. Incorporating GI in the project will help to reduce the amount of runoff.

Data shows that the neighborhood surrounding the project site suffers from high crime, poor condition, lack of access high quality community green spaces, low property values, weak community moral, a poor economic status and joblessness. According to an urban study published [2015] in the American Journal of Public Health Titled “The Impact of Green Stormwater Infrastructure Installation on Surrounding Health and Safety” stated that “Exposure to trees, vegetation, nature, or green space in urban areas has been connected with multiple public health benefits, including reduced mortality, morbidity, stress, and mental fatigue”

Why Cont'd

The article goes on to say that “Another study found that increased tree canopy cover was associated with reduced incidents of shooting, theft, robbery, and burglary”. These findings have been attributed to GI as the developed (beautified) area is no longer considered welcoming to criminals for the carrying out of “sketchy” activities. The benefits of GI practices are especially effective in communities at or below the poverty line according to a 2015 Federal Urban Study sighting that in some cases gun and narcotics crimes are reduced by up to 30%.

Based on quantifiable data collected and studies conducted that measure the impacts of GI and GS practice in communities similar to the project area it can be assumed that the project will improve the Avondale corridor.

Strategic Planning

Long-term Collaborative Goals and Milestones 3 year term

Year 1 Develop/Install/Maintain GI and Green “Flex-Space” amenities after demolition of vacant blighted structures on E. Avondale; Record Baseline Data for Crime, Property Values, Home Ownership, Population, and Resident Engagement/Ownership/Hosting events

Year 2 Monitor/Maintain GI Installations, Record Data, Build Community ownership

Year 3 Monitor/Maintain GI Train residents and Transition to ownership to residents under grant program using maintenance funding as grant program, End of year three Quantify Data measure outcomes

Tactical Planning

- Collect community input for desired “Green-Space” amenities (picnic tables, walking trail)
- Develop Maintenance Guideline Manual for Emerald Corridor
- Plan community events around the project
- Identify community partners
- Develop Community GI Maintenance Training Workshop
- Host Homeownership workshops
- Host Resident Accountability workdays

Operational Plan

- Hire Project Manager
- Determine Site feasibility (typography, traffic, unique challenges)
- Establish Nodes for Data Collection
- Conduct Planning Phase and submit OSHA Safety Plan
- Hire resources to create design for the project
- Construction/Installation Phase

When (Timeline) The Future Starts TODAY!!

December 2018

- Determine Partners and Roles
- Assess Feasibility Study Information from AKRF

January 2019

- Develop Scope of Work and Cost Estimate
- Recruit volunteers and project workforce
- Send out letters of sponsorship request to businesses near the project area (Save-A-Lot, Banner Supply, Small Businesses)
- Engage Residents about the project

February 2019

- Planning Phase
- Design Phase
- Order Materials

March 2019

- Demolition of Structures

April 2019

- Commence Construction implementation phase

Where

121 E. Avondale

124 E. Avondale

132 E. Avondale

161 E. Avondale

218 E. Avondale

225 E. Avondale

226 E. Avondale

241 E. Avondale

247 E. Avondale

252 E. Avondale

254 E. Avondale

39 E. Avondale

40 E. Avondale

47 E. Avondale

Concept Considerations

Tree Planters

Curb Cut outs

Rain Gardens

Bioswales

Paver Walking Trails

Sidewalk Replacement

Retention Pond

Green Roof Open Pavillon

Information Signs

Budget (NIP)

EC@A Budget

Labor \$15k

Materials (Type subject to change per final design) \$20k

Engineering Design \$5k

Safety Plan \$In Kind

Equipment \$15k

Printed Materials for Resident Engagement

Workshops and other Communications \$1k

Contractor fees \$10k

Signage \$3.5k

\$69.5k

(\$2.5k miscellaneous)

Next Steps

Secure Funding

Finalize Timeline

Begin Design for site

Develop Scope of Work to be completed