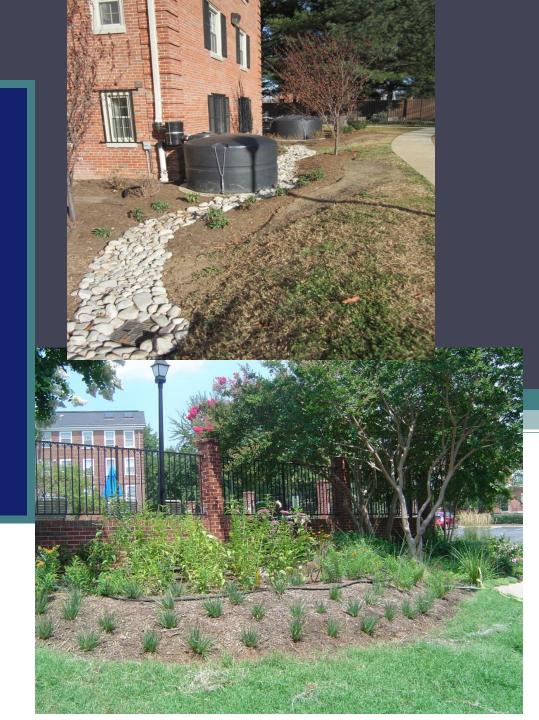
PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE CITIES & SUSTAINABLE URBAN WATERSHEDS THROUGHOUT THE BAY

A Proposal for the Principals' Staff Committee & Executive Council from the DC Chair

Principals' Staff Committee Meeting
March 7, 2013

VISION QUALITY PEOPLE JOBS JOBS LOCAL BAYSUSTAINABILITY JOBS ECONOMY
RESTORE LOCAL GREEN SUSTAINABILITY REVITALIZE PEOPLE IN NOVATE BAY CHESAPEAKE



The Challenge

- •The pace of progress in reducing & preventing pollution from the urban sector presents a challenge to the Bay Partnership in meeting its 2017 & 2025 goals.
- •Urban loadings continue to grow, despite 30+ years of effort; threatens to undermine progress in other sectors.
- high cost of urban retrofits and limited financing tools are a challenge to local governments, and slowed pace of permitting.





Challenges

• More sustainable, innovative management practices for wet weather pollution have been pioneered in select Bay watershed cities & counties.

<u>Challenges</u>

- More sustainable practices for wet weather pollution have been pioneered in select areas; let's take advantage of lessons learned in these cities and counties.
- Increased development across the Bay has made stormwater runoff the fastest growing source of pollution to the Bay and its rivers.
- According to the Chesapeake Bay Blue Ribbon
 Finance Panel Report of 2004, state & local strategies
 to address all stormwater pollution would cost approx
 \$15 billion to implement.
 - Approx 60% of the cost estimate (or \$9 billion), was for retrofitting SW management facilities in already-developed areas.



Examples of Innovative Leadership Actions throughout the Bay Watershed

- 'RiverSmart Homes' Program in Washington,
 DC
- Green Streets legislation in Prince George's County, MD
- Green Streets/Green Towns/Green Jobs
 Effort of the Bay Trust & EPA Region 3
- Lancaster, PA's green infrastructure plan linked to the CSO controls strategies; and Green Design Competitions, DC, Annapolis, MD
- Greening Capitols (Richmond, VA)



The opportunity exists to ramp these up on a larger scale using the leadership of the Executive Council.

The <u>Vision</u>: sustainable cities & counties driving sustainable urban watersheds

- Chair, Mayor Gray, DC, seeks to engage his colleagues in an initiative for Urban Sector Sustainability; and it ties in nicely with Mayor Gray's recently issued 'Sustainable DC Plan.'
- •Towns, cities, municipalities need to engage and meet the challenge (affordably) of the various Watershed Implementation Plans and the TMDL, which benefits those very local communities and waters.



Innovative Practices

RiverSmart Homes & LID efforts in Washington DC



Single Family row house Dupont Circle



American Society of Landscape Architects



Department of Interior, first of a six wing plan



Pepco Utility Building near Whitehurst Frwy

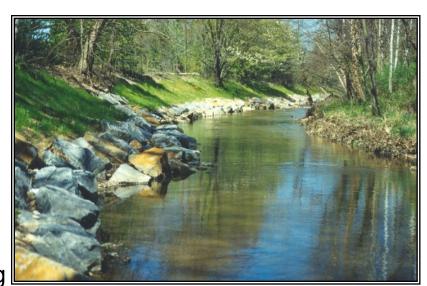
Trading Maximizes Sustainability

Problem of imperviousness is opportunity for trading to:

- •Maximize cost savings & flexibility for regulated sites.
- •Increase retention and accelerate restoration of waterbodies.
- •Increase socioeconomic benefits, with more LID (health, aesthetics, environmental justice, green jobs).
- •District may be able to take advantage of private market efficiencies to achieve other water quality requirements & goals.

Specific Goals

- Meet our urban sector pollution reduction commitments.
- Identify & support more affordable & sustainable techniques; esp for urban SW management
- •Assist cities & towns w/alternative financing tools in a way that supports local needs & values.
- •Create local benefits tied to Bay restoration: leading to creation of new jobs, improve local waters, provide multiple community benefits, combat the urban heat island effect.



Specific Actions: Sustainable Urban Watershed Approach

- Convene a Bay urban mayors/local leadership roundtable(s)
 - •Goal sign up more willing participants in Sustainable Cities & Urban Watershed Pilots to demonstrate innovative solutions addressing water quality, other city needs.

•Convene a local leaders/innovators roundtable to document the local benefits of applying green infrastructure to designs to meet community goals and urban SW management.

•Share the lessons learned across the Bay watershed.





RiverSmart Homes around town in DC





<u>Specific Actions – Sustainable Urban Watershed</u> <u>Approach</u>

- •Document DC and other locales as models for urban retrofit trading and offsets & incentives; in DC's example, to help ensure the most cost effective applications of greener stormwater controls through DC's model MS4 Permit.
 - •actively promote the transfer of knowledge from DC to other urban areas in the bay watershed on these market based tools to reduce site costs
- •Advance better, cheaper, greener technologies develop performance-based design standards to drive higher performing technologies for urban areas.
- •Share alternative financing tools including full exploration of public private partnership solutions. Engage the Finance Center at UMD and others
 - •Form a coalition of leaders of municipal leaders in the watershed to seek out more affordable, higher performing solutions.
 - •States should review their BMP manual with a goal of reducing impediments to innovation.

BAY PARTNERSHIP PROCESS STEPS:

DDOE briefing briefing for the PSC and Management Board on the vision and general outline for this effort – March 2013.

Specific Action Elements refined based upon input; ensure they are on the ground actions supported by the partners in the Bay Partnership – end of April 2013

Seek LGAC and CAC and STAC input to the scoping of this effort.

Draft a PSC/EC Action Item for endorsement and support – May/Jun 2013

Begin implementation upon endorsement of the PSC/EC.

Contact:

Dr. Hamid Karimi, Deputy Director
District Department of the Environment
1200 First Street, NE, 5th Floor
Washington, DC 20002
202-535-2277
Hamid.karimi@dc.gov