



GREEN STREETS | GREEN JOBS | GREEN TOWNS INITIATIVE

The Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Partnership (G3) aims to stimulate the green jobs market and enable families to work where they live and play. Small to mid-sized communities can boost their local economies and protect water resources through the use of watershed planning, design and construction of stormwater best management practices.



Southeast Community Development Corporation Connecting Tree Canopies in Highlandtown

The Southeast CDC supports a community development agenda that promotes healthy, dynamic and diverse communities in Southeast Baltimore City. One of our target communities, Highlandtown, a densely populated row home community, has undergone a tremendous economic revitalization over the last 20 years.

Estimated Project Metrics



1,800,000 gallons of rainwater treated annually



350 trees planted



16,800 ft² of impervious surface removed



50+ residents participating in watershed educational presentations

New, young homeowners in Highlandtown have emerged as volunteers and leaders eager to advance a positive environmental and sustainability agenda. Many of these residents are eager to increase the tree canopy in Highlandtown, which is extremely low.

with support from the Southeast CDC to implement monthly block clean-ups.

Moreover, our Community School Coordinator at Highlandtown Elementary/Middle #237 manages a weekly Green Team of students that work on environmental projects in the school and neighborhood.

However, many of our senior residents or recently immigrated Latino residents—those who live on a fixed income or earn a low income and would most benefit from the environmental improvements of planting trees and reducing run off—are not as aware of the advantages of these practices. In the past year we've worked with Latino residents to create a Spanish-speaking committee of local leaders to become informed and lead the charge on common issues, as well as a separate subgroup in partnership with the Patterson Park Audubon Center to form a team focusing on cleaning and greening issues. Leaders of the committee and sub-greening group are directing efforts



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PROJECT ELEMENTS

- **Impervious pavement removal** – Rain hits impervious surfaces such as parking lots and roads, and because it cannot soak through, it instead runs off into storm drains or directly local waterways. The Highlandtown Community project will remove upwards of 1.6 acres of concrete pavement.
- **Native Trees**– In urban areas a single tree can intercept from 500 to 4,000 gallons per year. Trees not only treat stormwater, they provide a host of other benefits, including energy cost reduction in both summer (shade) and winter (proper placement can result in the reduction of energy use by 20-50%), aesthetics, property value enhancement, business traffic enhancement, and health benefits.
- **Conservation Landscaping**– Native plants and shrubs require less maintenance and absorb rainwater, hold soils in place, and provide food and habitat for birds, pollinators, and other wildlife.
- **Waterfront Partnership Trainings**– In partnership with the Southeast CDC, the Baltimore Waterfront Partnership, as a part of their Healthy Harbor Initiative, will provide presentations that educate urban homeowners about local watershed and water quality threats.
- **Educational Signage** – Signage will educate visitors about the various stormwater practices and features at the facility.
- **Green Jobs and Local Engagement** – The Southeast CDC will work in cooperation with the Baltimore City Forestry Division, Parks and People, the Waterfront Partnership, The Patterson Park Audubon Center, and the Highlandtown Business Association to install and maintain the street trees and plantings, as well as engaging local businesses and residents in educational sessions on the significance of our watershed.

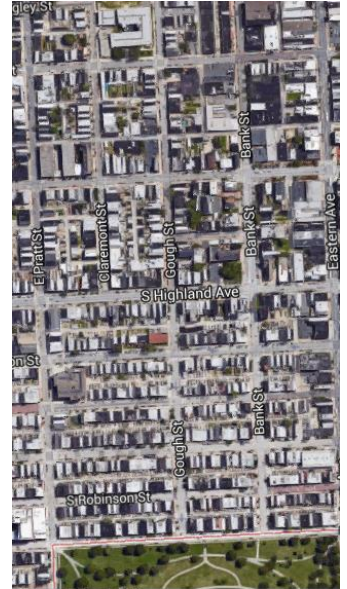


SUSTAINABILITY & GROWTH: CONTINUED COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The planting strips and large pits will be maintained by the owners of the businesses and residents that border the planting locations. The Southeast CDC will be responsible for coordinating with residents to maintain their tree pits. The Highlandtown Business Association has agreed to clean, weed, and mulch tree pits in the Eastern Avenue shopping district twice a year, with special attention given to the new trees planted in this area. We have also allotted funds in this grant for a two year watering service to all new CBT trees after planting, to ensure they have the best chance of survival (as watering during the first two years after planting is most critical to the life of the tree).

G3 Grant Awarded:	\$75,000
Total Project Cost:	\$182,500
Status:	Awarded

Current site conditions



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Project Partners: Baltimore City Forestry Division, Parks and People, The Waterfront Partnership, The Patterson Park Audubon Center, Highlandtown Business Association Chesapeake Bay Trust, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

For additional information: visit www.epa.gov and www.cbtrust.org.