# **Resident-First Revitalization**

Collaborating with Communities for Maximum Impact



# Inclusive decision-making strategies at different scales



**City-Wide** 



#### Neighborhood



Block

Philly Tree Plan

Green Vision Plan

Unity Park

2

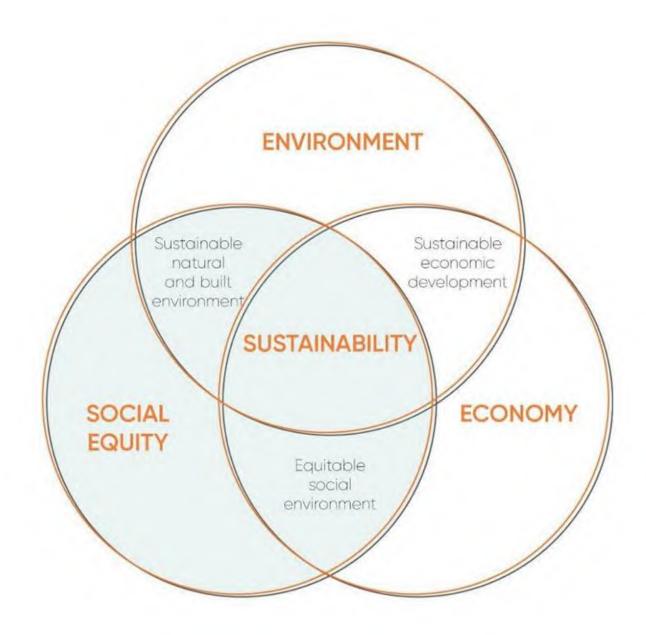


# Why Community Collaboration?



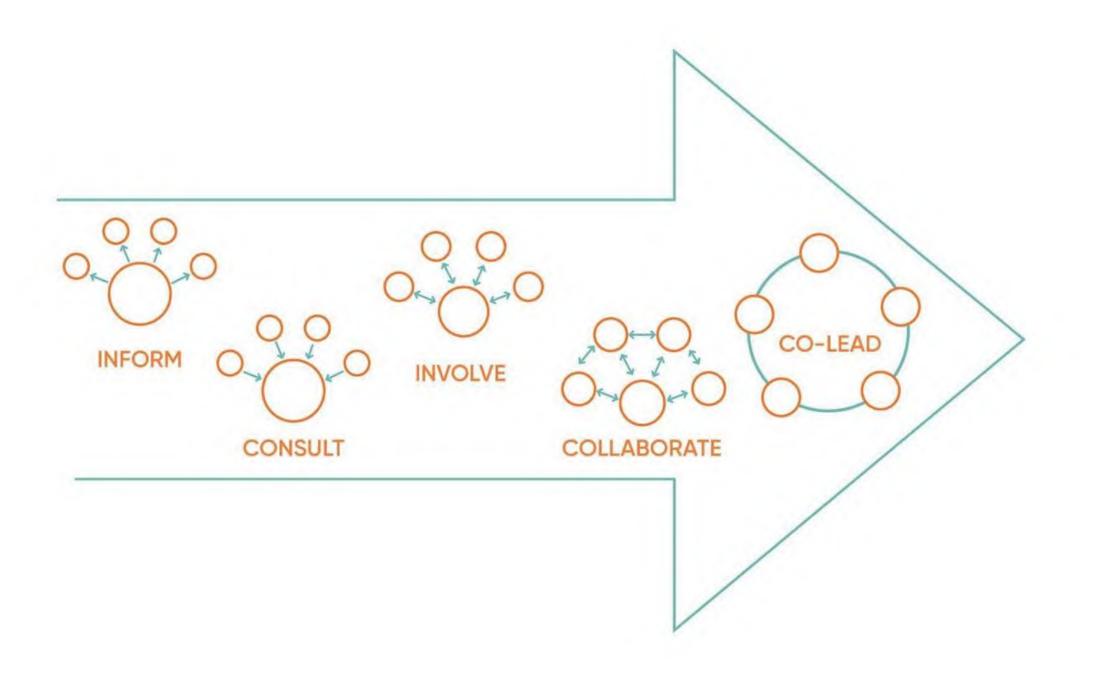
"Landscape architecture involves the planning, design, management, and nurturing of the built and natural environments. With their unique skill set, landscape architects work to improve human and environmental health in all communities. They plan and design parks, campuses, streetscapes, trails, plazas, residences, and other projects that strengthen communities."

https://www.asla.org/aboutlandscapearchitecture









# What is the **PURPOSE** of the engagement?

# What level of involvement is there for **DECISION MAKING**?





# Philly Tree Plan

Growing Our Urban Forest

# Philly Tree Plan

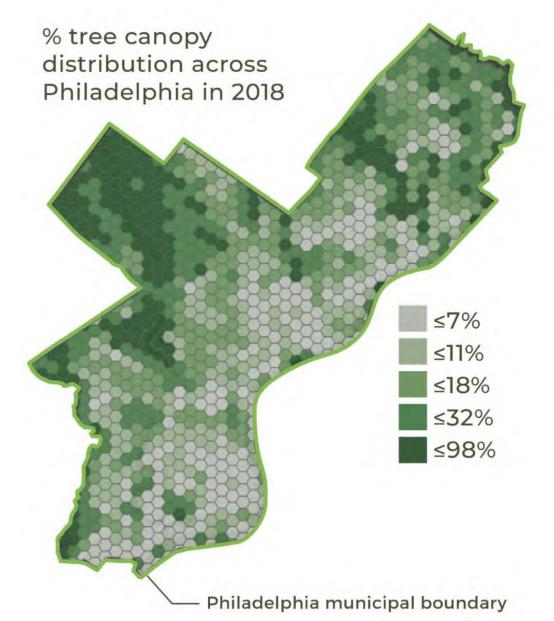
**Growing Our Urban Forest** 

**Guiding values** 

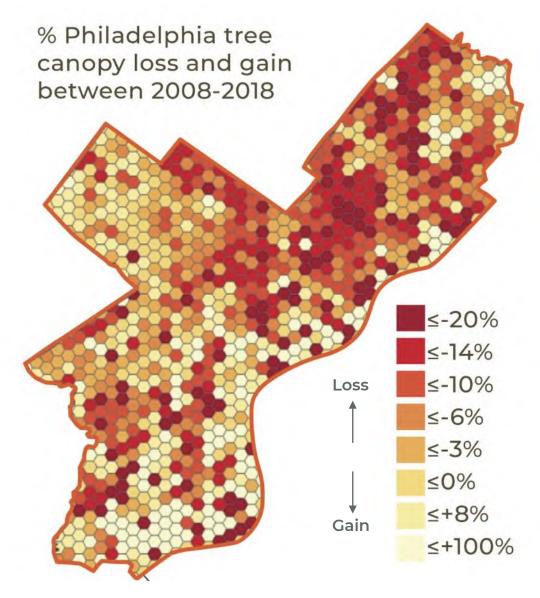
Environmental Justice Community Engagement Sustainability







## **6% CANOPY LOSS**

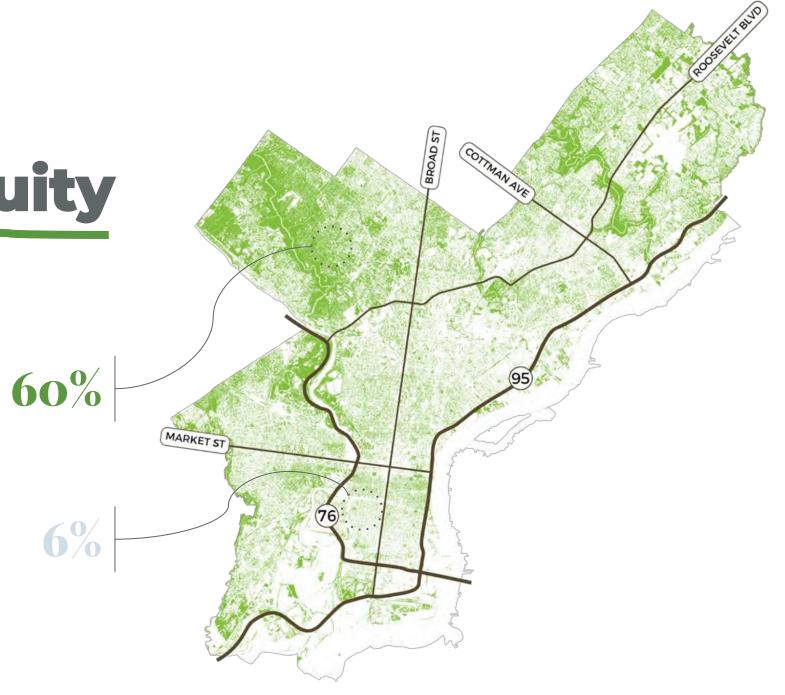




# Crisis of canopy equity

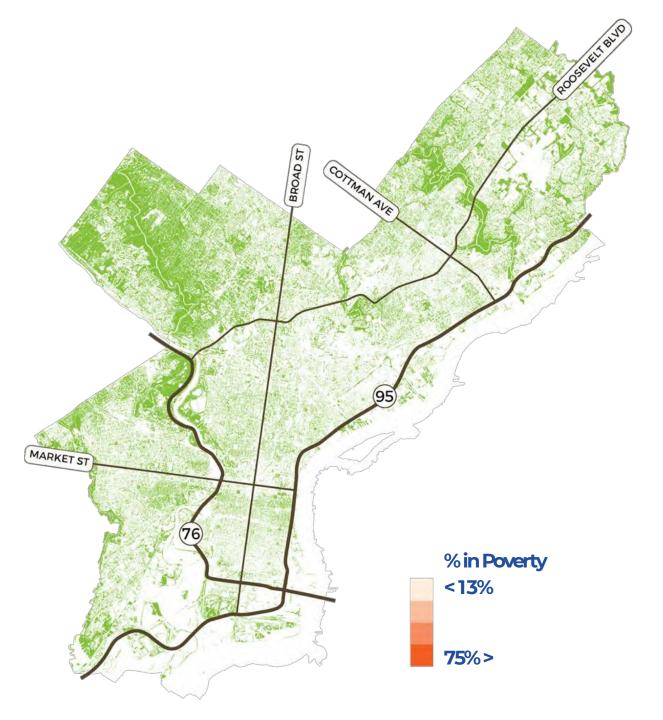






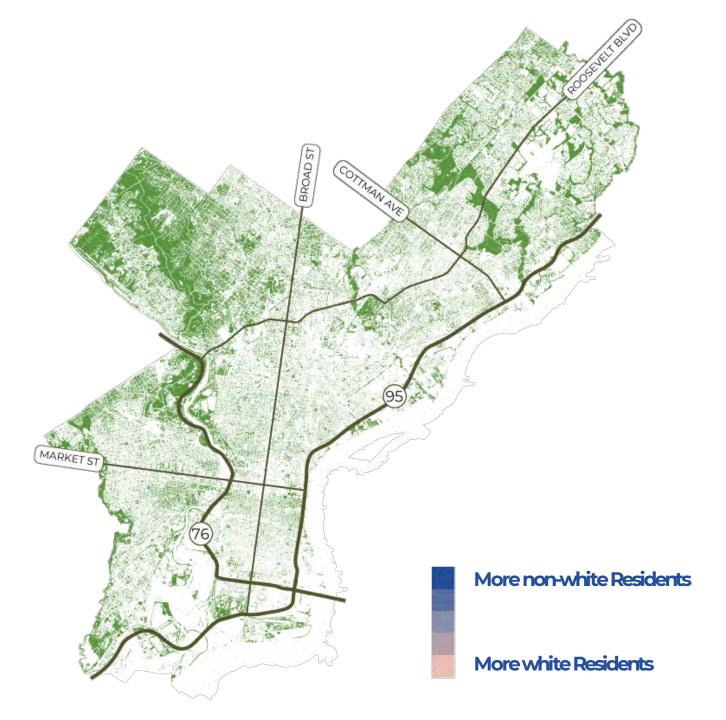


# Fewer trees in places with higher rates of poverty



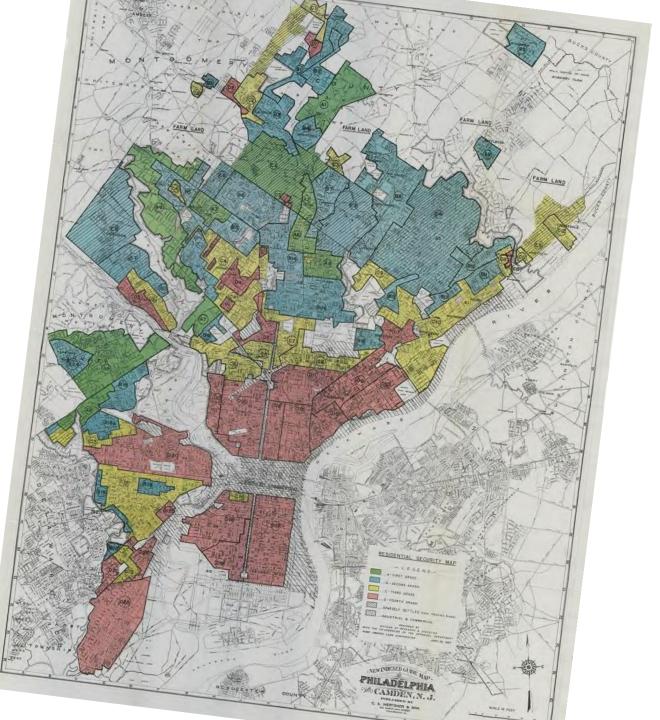


# Fewer trees in neighborhoods with more Black and Brown residents





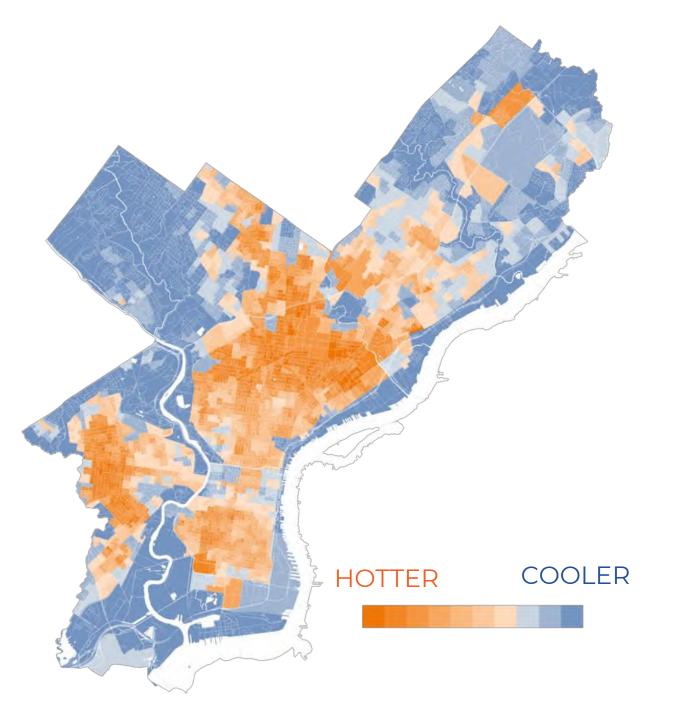
# How did we get here?





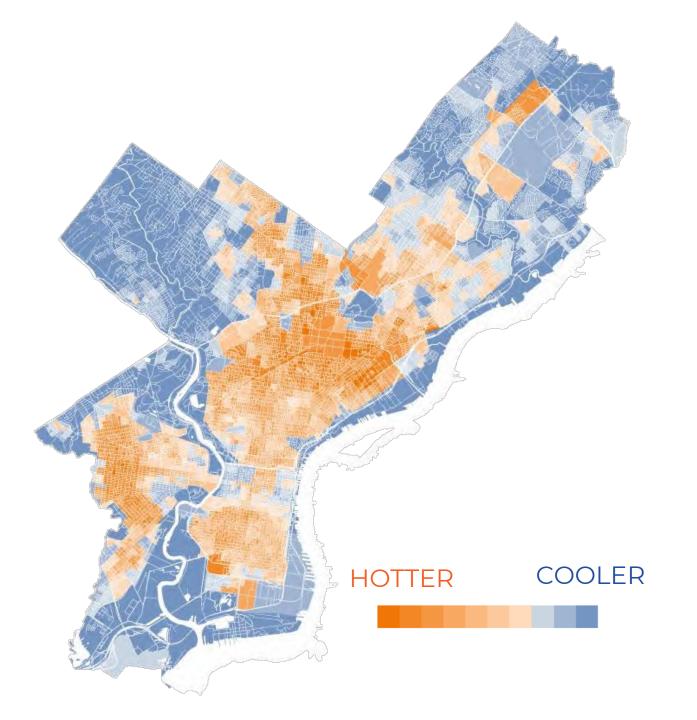
# There is a 22 degree difference

# between the hottest and coolest places in the city





# HOLC "hazardous" and "declining" designations aligns with heat pressures







# **Planning for equity**

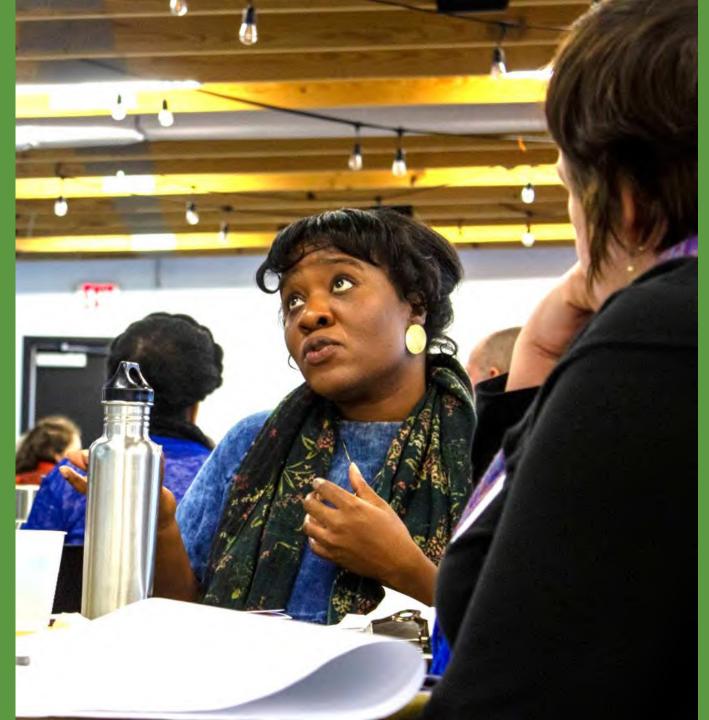
- Community Voices Committee
- City-wide Survey
- Community Meeting Tour
- Stakeholder Workshops
- Virtual Open House & Engagement Hub
- Neighborhood Ambassadors
- Instagram Photo Challenge





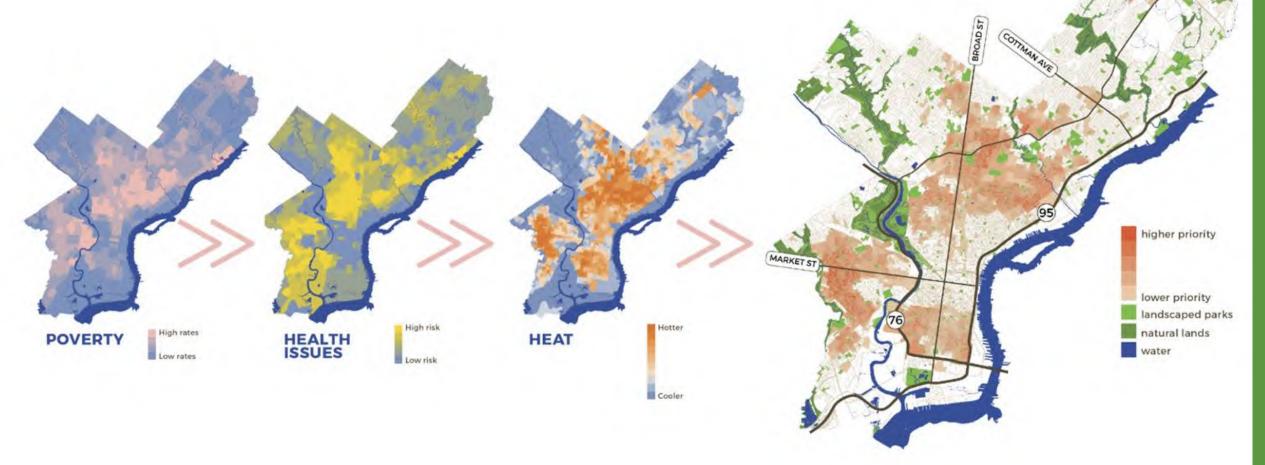
# **Community Voices Steering Committee**

- Branding
- Mapping
- Survey testing / outreach
- Engagement strategy review
- Ambassadors recruitment
- Plan review





# **Reparative approach**





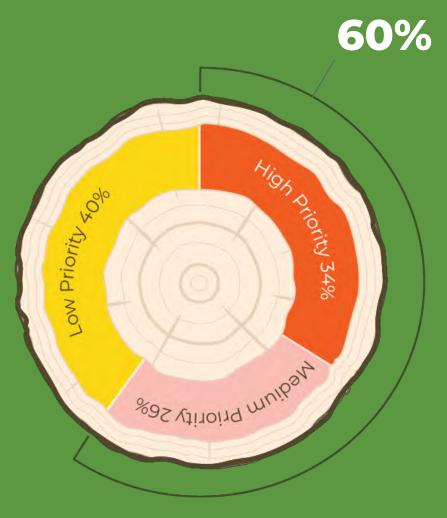




We received **7,046** survey responses in **8** different languages.



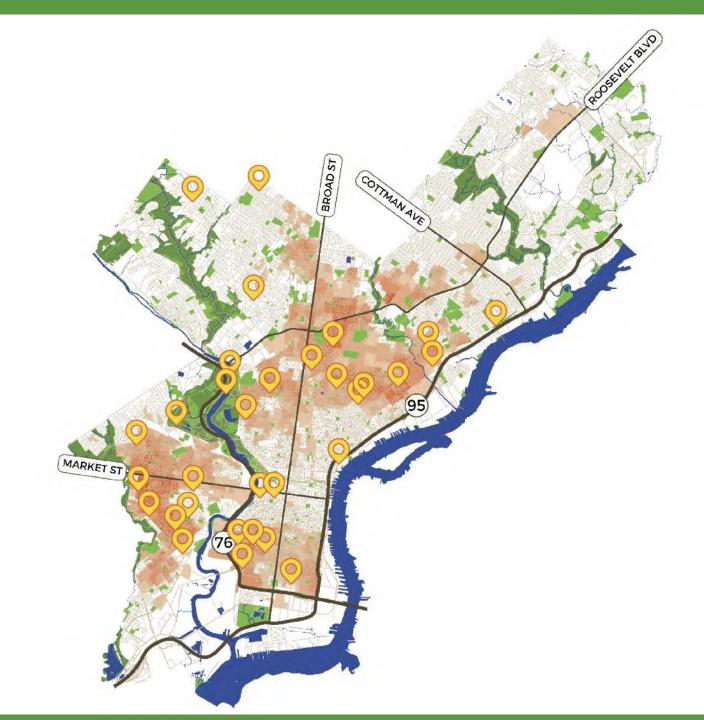
10 paid community members made over 3,000 phone calls and sent 10,000 text messages to residents of priority areas.







847 residents shared
their thoughts during
an open discussion at
32 separate
community meetings.







Over 122 organizations participated in 7 stakeholder workshops.





## **Philly's Urban Forest**

What is the urban forest and why does it matter?

Start here to learn what the the urban forest is and why it is important.



An explanation of why the urban forest is not equally distributed.



What is the Philly Tree Plan and how will it support communities?

#### www.tinyurl.com/phillytreeplanhub





22 ambassadors from
5 different neighborhoods participated, gathering
62 interviews with friends and neighbors about how trees impact their lives.











Trees make people feel good about where they live.

- Ambassador interview

An ancient tree often carries the memories of several generations of a family. - Survey, 19113

people without financial means cannot pay for safe and proper maintenance.

- Survey, 19130

66

Create livingwage jobs based on stewardship of trees. - Survey, 19147

It doesn't seem like all the trees being planted are in the right conditions for them to thrive.

Need to be able to have direct lines of communication between communities and the City. - Survey, 19149

#### 66

If you grew up with something, you know the value. If you didn't, or you weren't taught, you don't see; it's as simple as education.

- Ambassador interview

In Chinese culture, the Ginko tree is a symbol of scholarship and learning. I love to see Ginkgo trees in my neighborhood and near schools because they remind me of all the young scholars in our community.

- Survey, 19130





#### COORDINATE support for trees



PROTECT the existing and future urban

# COMMUNICATE

with residents and improve customer service

GROW the urban forest equitably across the city

REDUCE the burden of trees on residents

### ADVOCATE

for communities to benefit from the urban forest

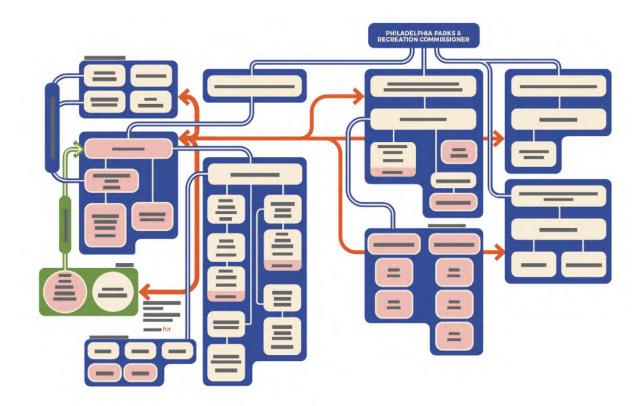


### CELEBRATE

& support the ways communities are engaging with trees



#### **CITY: Improving coordination and staffing up**



**66** You have to nurture the trees that exist before

you can even think about adding more.

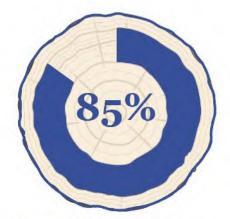
- Ambassador interview



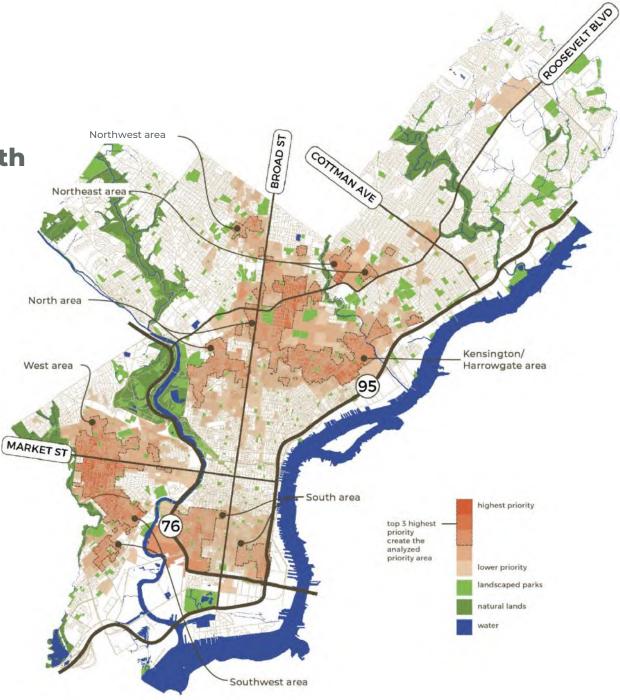


#### **PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS:**

**Community-led canopy growth** 



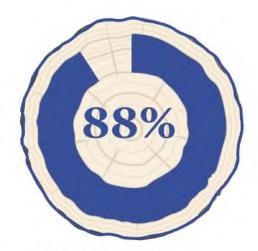
85% of survey responses support direct payments to community groups for tree maintenance and planting





#### **PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS: Environmental education & workforce development**





88% of survey responses **support more green jobs** and job training for Philadelphia residents



### **COMMUNITY: Maintain community leadership**



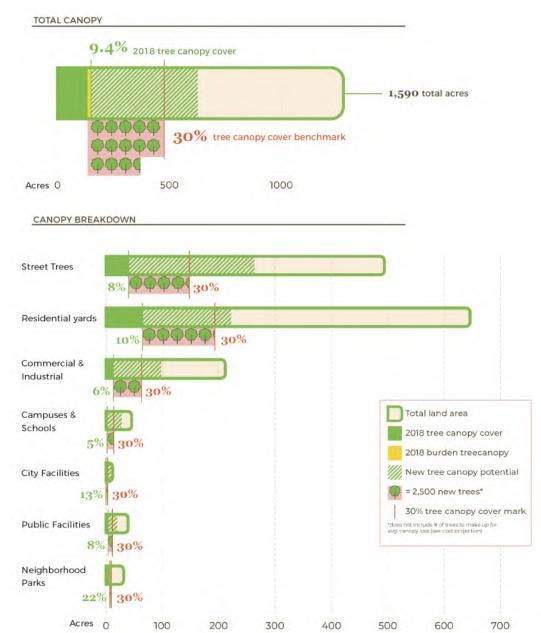
# 66

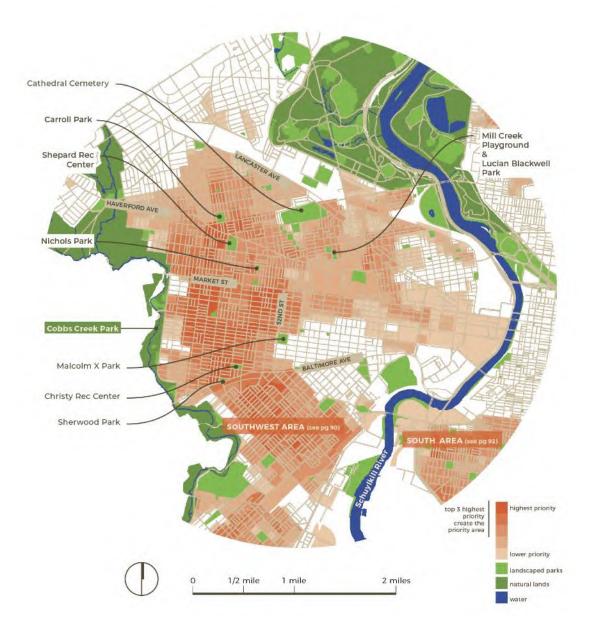
Basing our work in environmental and climate justice brings people in and creates space for collaboration and coalition building.

- Sharrieff Ali, Community Voices Committee member



### Neighborhood level planning





**Resilient Communities Stormwater Initiative** 

# **Resilient Communities Stormwater Initiative**

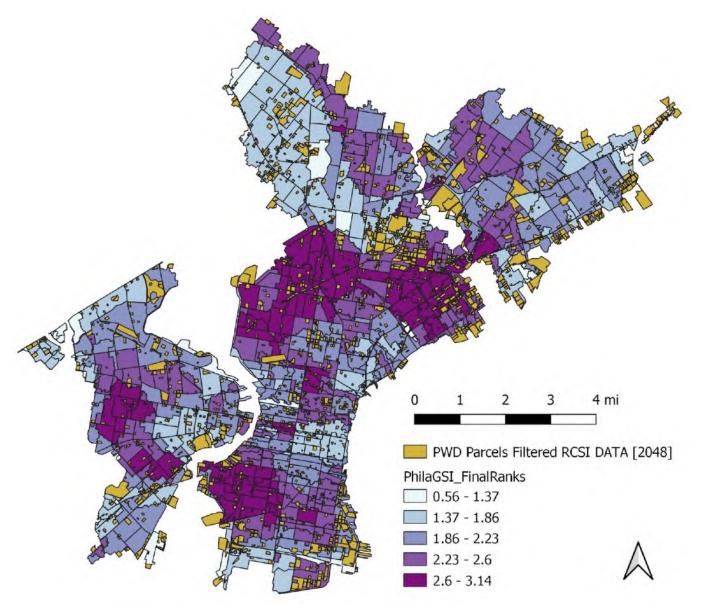
A William Penn Foundation funded grant project to amplify the impact of Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) on quality of life issues in underserved communities.

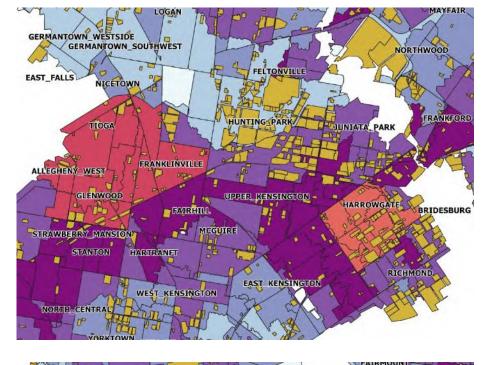
### **RCSI** Partners

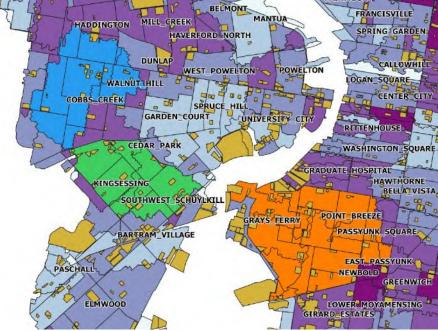
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Academy of Natural Sciences
- Clean Water Action
- The Sustainable Water Resource Engineering Lab
- Peer Environmental
- Greenprint Partners
- Hinge Collective



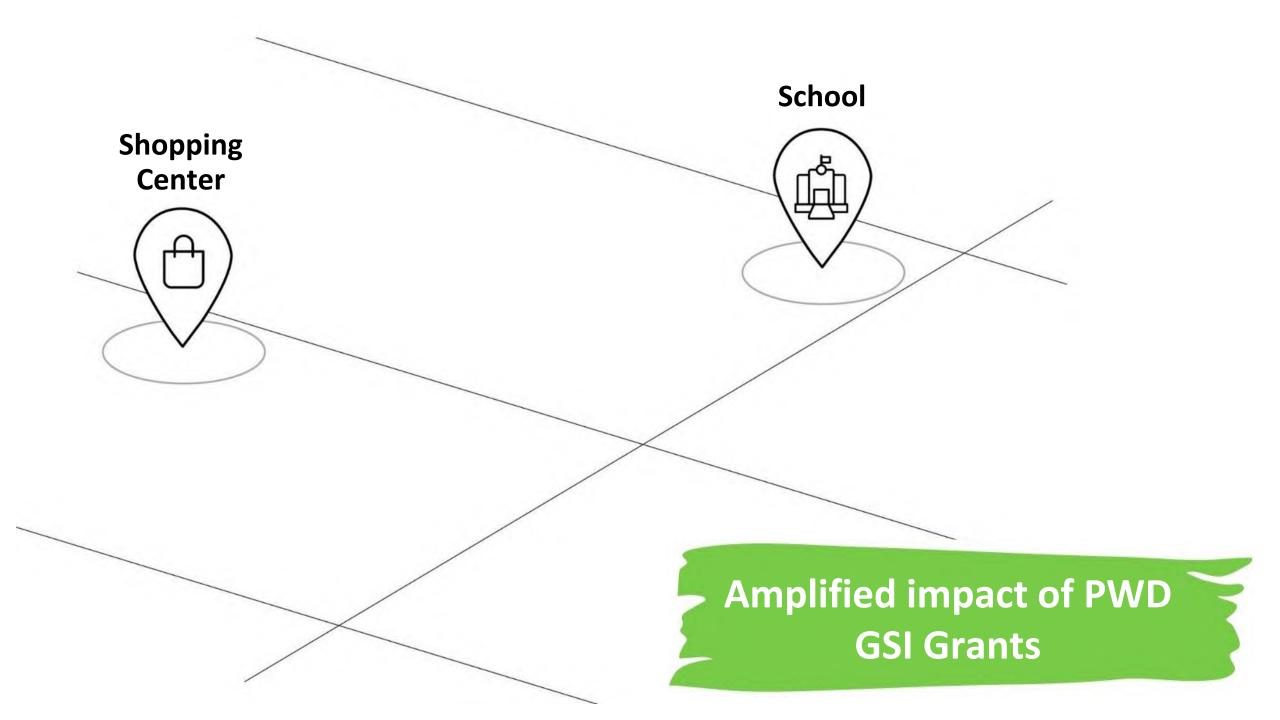
# **Identified GSI priority areas**

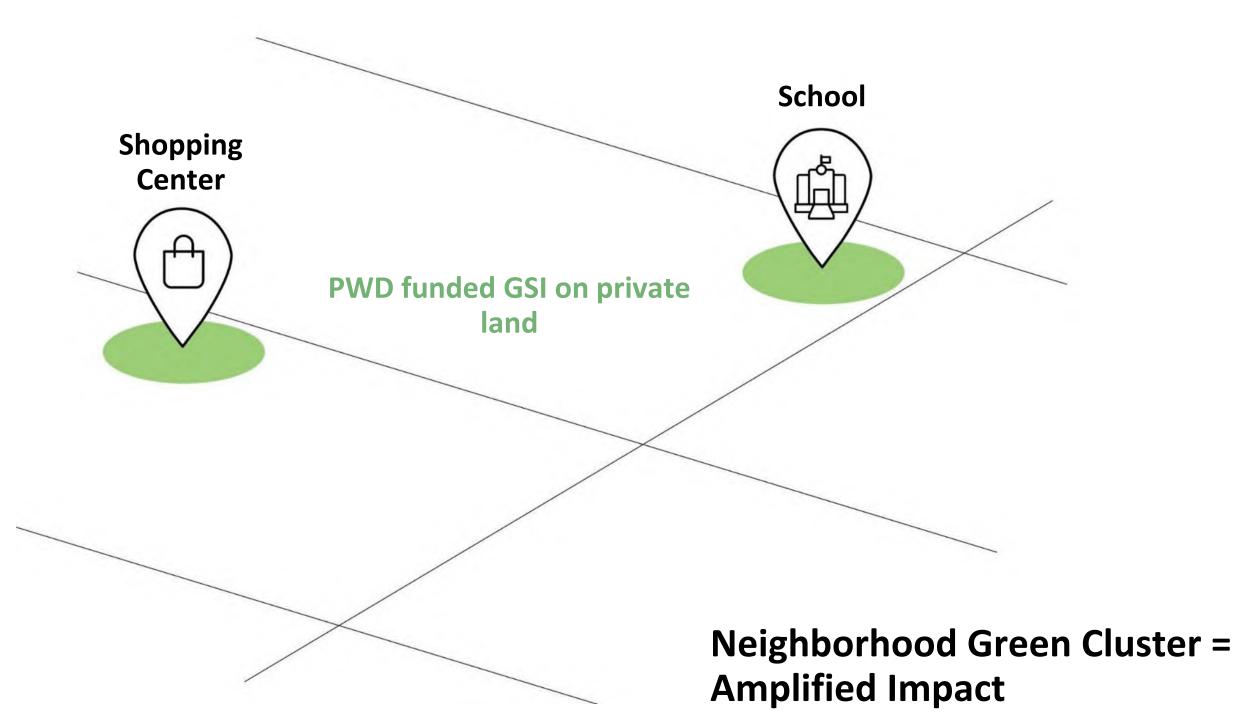


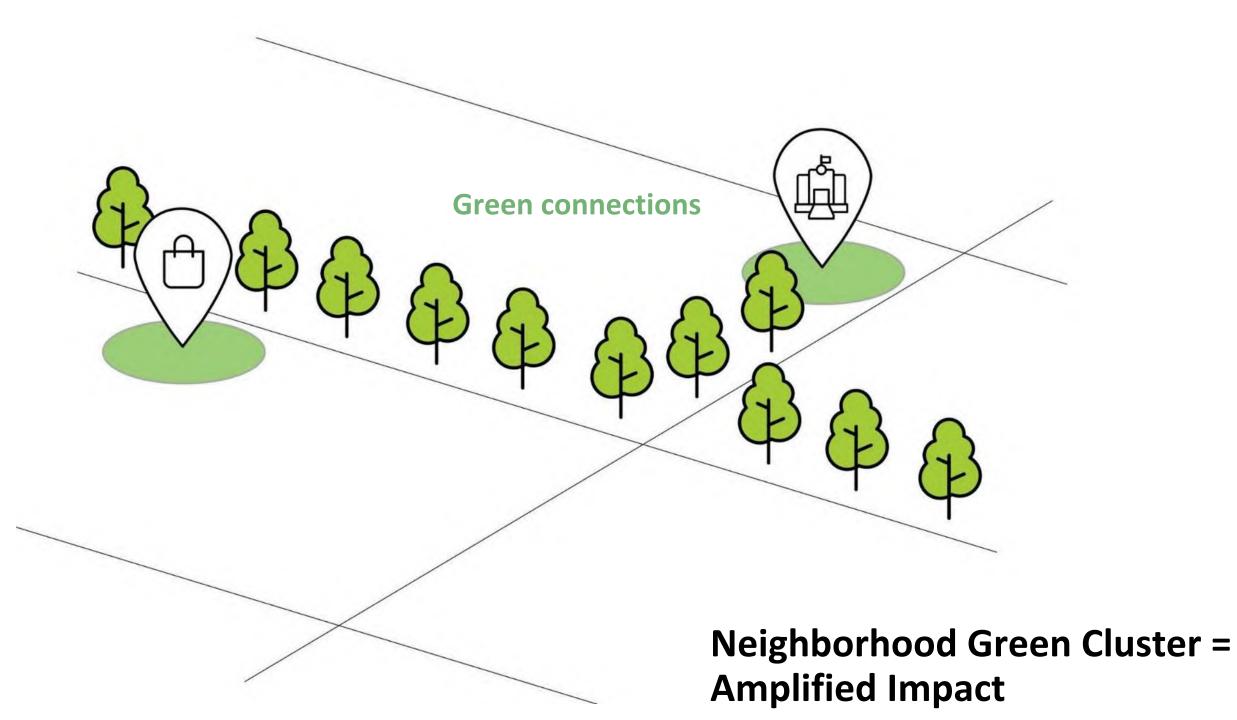


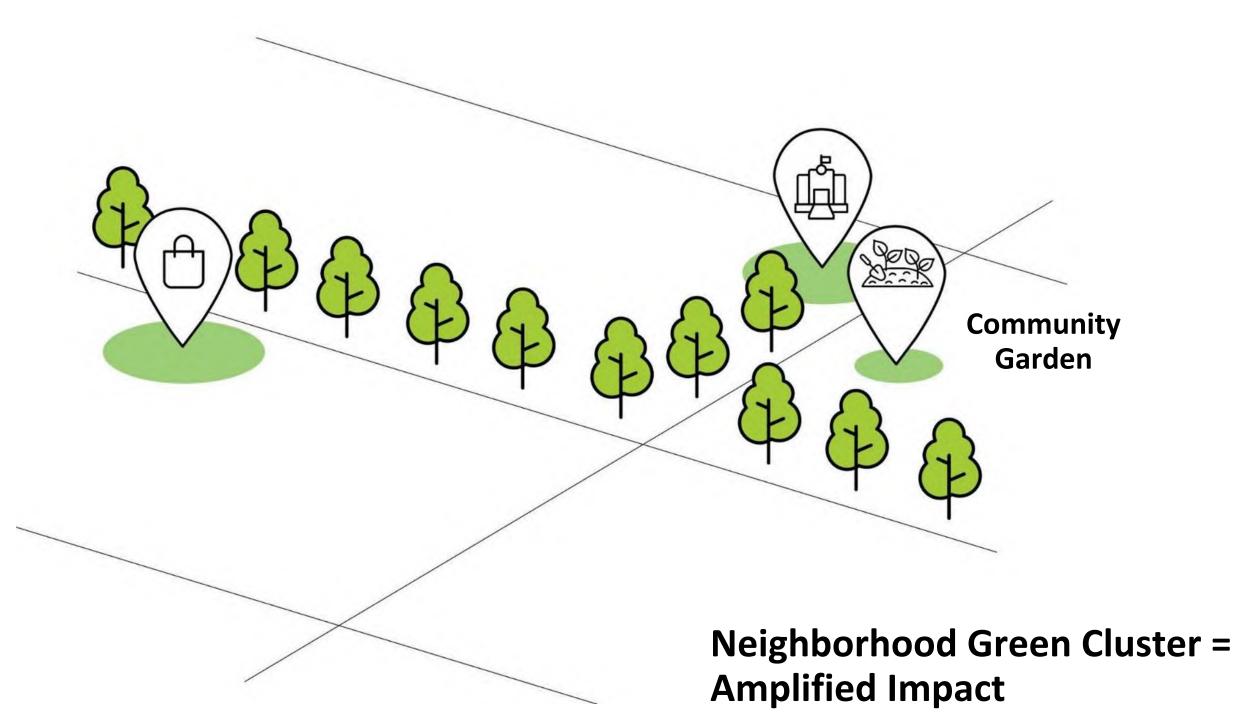


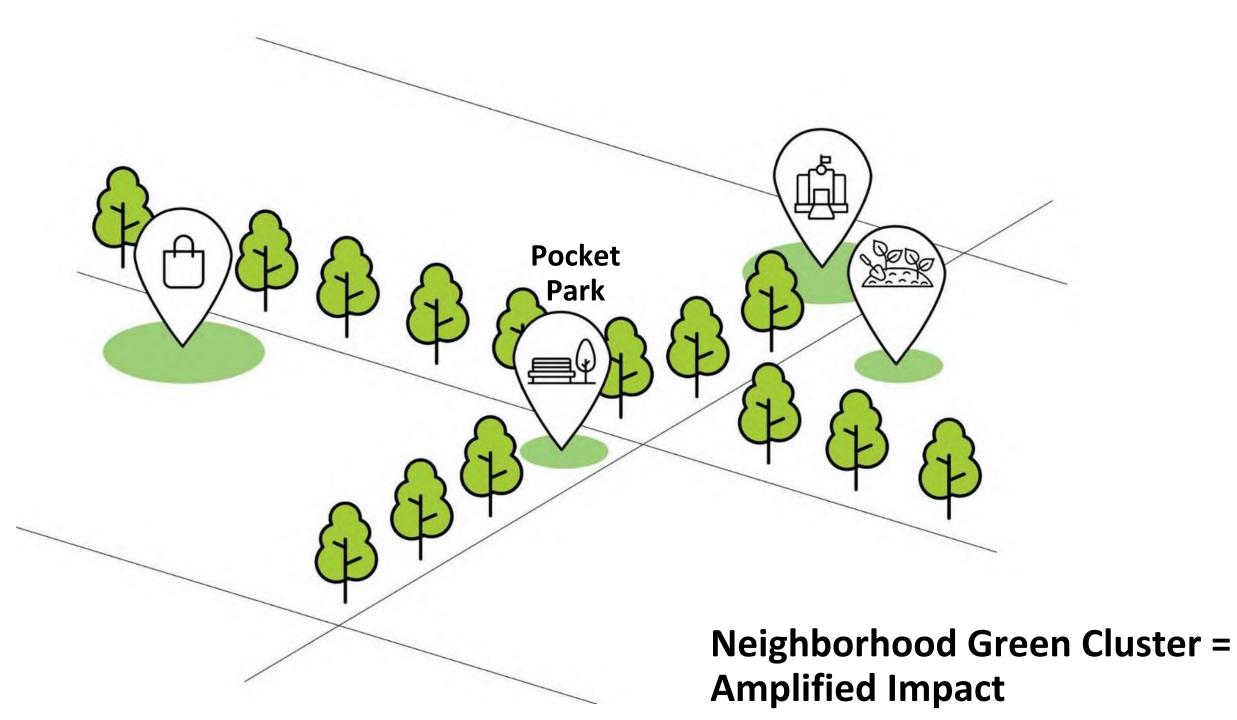


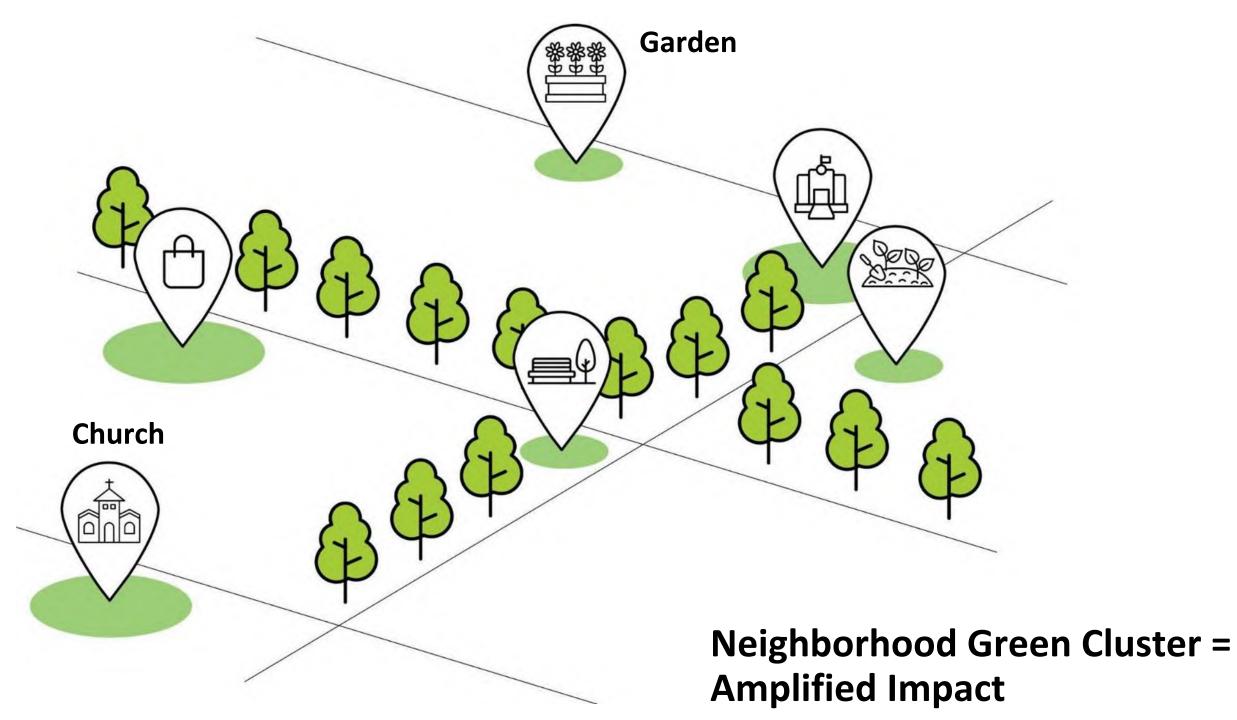




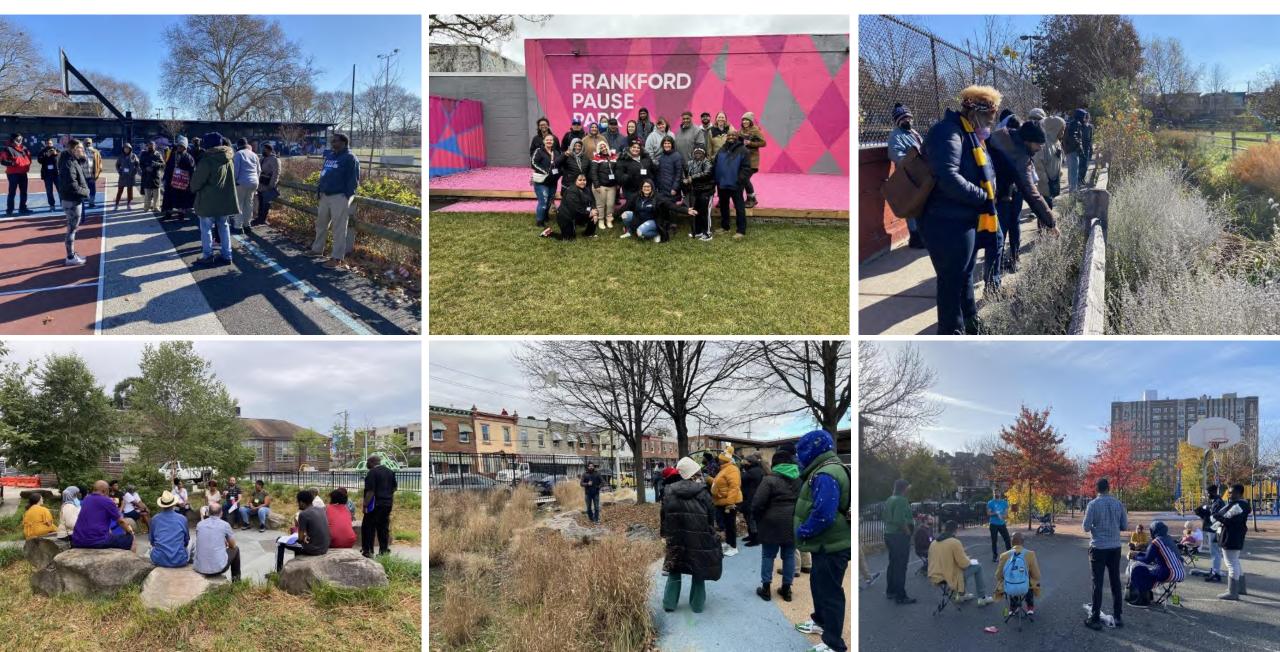








# **Convened Neighborhood Greening Roundtables**



### **Neighborhood Greening Roundtables**







**GSI Van Tour** 

Resource Provider Networking Greening Discussion

### **Developed** a free guide for residents

# Get your Philadelphia CLEAN & GREEN RESIDENT RESOURCE GUIDE



go to: tinyurl.com/PhillyCleanGreen or scan the QR code

#### PLANT A GARDEN

#### Get an Affordable or Free Garden



 PHILADELPHIA YARDENS
 (West + Southwest Philadelp
 Contact: Christopher Flound
 https://yardens.life/ (West + Southwest Philadelphia) Contact: Christopher Flounders, info@yardens.life

Who is eligible: Residents of West and Southwest Philadelphia

Philadelphia Yardens increases access to healthy food, builds community around food security and gardening, and rebuilds urban soils. They convert residential grass yards and ornamental spaces to beautiful food-productive gardens that support the urban ecosystem. Their services are rendered on a 'Pay-What-You-Can' sliding scale. No prospective clients will be turned down due to an inability to pay.

#### Two installation options are available:

1) The In-Ground Philly Yarden: This solution works best for folks who have a sizable yard (at least 50 sq ft) and for sites with soil suitable for food growth. The conversion process takes upwards of 1 year (to analyze, design, and install).

2) The Container Philip Yarden: If your space is not suited to an In-Ground Philip Yarden consider a container garden. The installation process is much quicker. Philadelphia Yardens often works with block captains or other neighborhood leaders to install containers in bulk on a given street.

#### Get Free Compost + Mulch



FAIRMOUNT PARK ORGANIC RECYCLING CENTER The City of Philadelphia Hours + P: (215) 685-0108 3850 Fo tinyurl.com/FairmountPark-RecyclingCenter

Hours + Location 3850 Ford Rd, Phila., PA 19131 Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sat: 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Closed Sun.

Who is eligible: Anyone

City residents can get up to 30 gallons of free organic materials per year. Residents who want more than 30 gallons can buy the extra material. Available items include screened leaf compost, mulch, wood chips and other organic materials.





LEAD SOIL SAMPLING IN THE PHILADELPHIA REGION Center of Excellence in Environmental Toxicology (CEET) University of Pennsylvania Program Contact: Adrian Wood, adrian.wood@pennmedicine.upenn.edu Program Contact: Adrian Wood, adrian.wood@pennmedicine.upenn.edu P: (215) 898-6221 https://ceet.upenn.edu/leadsoilmap/

Who is eligible: Anyone

Citizen scientists can submit soil samples for lead testing to CEET. This program is doing a systematic assessment of soil lead in Philadelphia. Visit the program website for more information about how to collect and submit a sample, and to see test results on the map.



Soil TESTING Penn State Agric Contact: aaslab P: 814-863-0841 Penn State Agricultural Analytical Services Laboratory Contact: aaslab@psu.edu P: 814-863-0841 https://agsci.psu.edu/aasl/soil-testing

Who is eligible: Anyone

Soil tests for lead and other contaminants are available to assist farmers, gardeners, municipalities and others to develop environmentally sound soil management programs.

#### Minimize Exposure to Soil Contaminants



GROWING SAFELY IN PH Philadelphia Food Policy Ad Contact: fpac@phila.gov. tinvuri.com/erowsafephilasc GROWING SAFELY IN PHILADELPHIA'S URBAN SOIL (PUBLICATION) Philadelphia Food Policy Advisory Council, Philadelphia Parks & Recreation tinyurl.com/growsafephilasoil

Who is eligible: Anyone

Urban gardening produces healthy and low-cost food for residents. This guide provides best practices for growing food safely in urban soil.







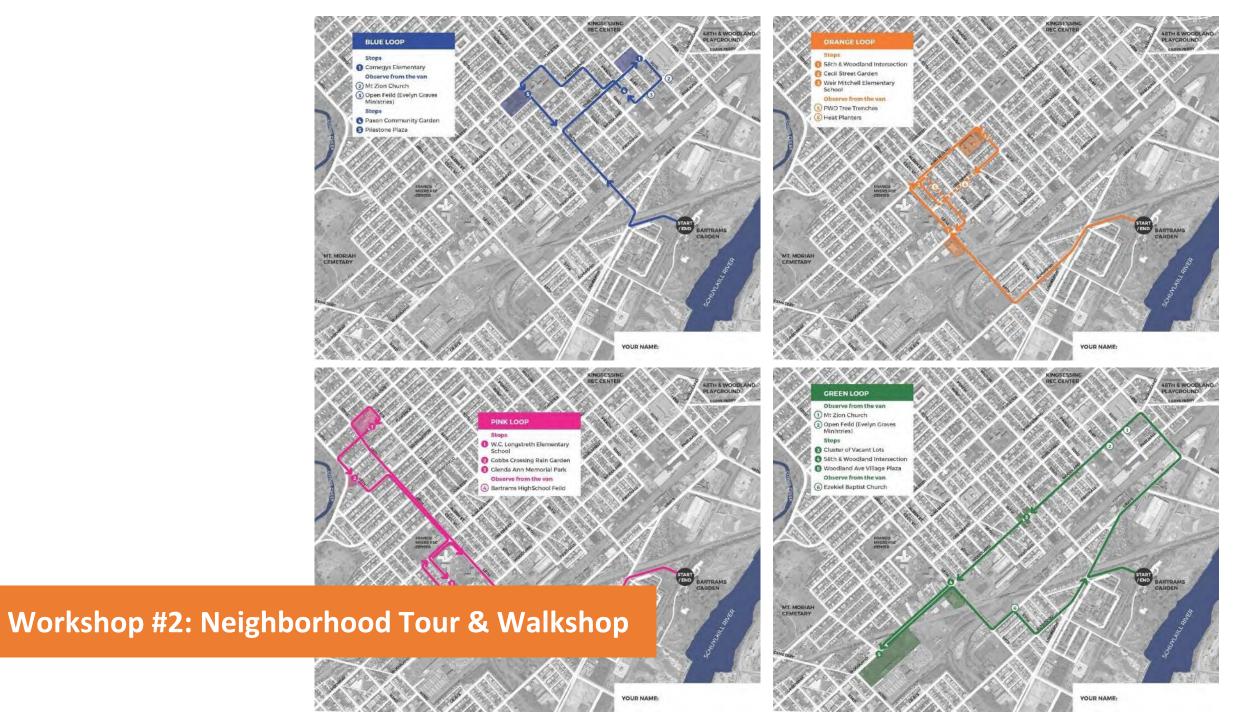


# Community Workshop Series

**Understanding GSI priority areas and community needs** 



Phillies









### THE COMPONENTS OF THE GREEN VISION PLAN

### **GREEN MAPS**



### **PROJECT PAGES**





Location Stool Greenway Ave Owner: School District of Philadelphia RCD Issemiland: The Nature Conservancy Listimisted Greened Acres (185-209

#### WORKSHOP FINDINGS

- The patient is an interpretant existing table a frame for youth and a high price by the generiting. Schedysical is basiling with activity, with leak and tenders unable using it during non-actival frame.
   Receiver confirmed that the gale is usually open, making the
- yord screetifie to the community lifer action hours. • The playproard director mean initialized in 200 in partmentation
- with Lagise Pagenizard Build, send there are indenig community gardene on the corner of Upland and 5 (20h S).
  - Here strates in wederd. The school is well strates with stress inwe fast well strates both due to be location under were. Canopy them in the inflocing of will provide a sum which is the instrumeting contracting.
     There is a lower for tandoor expressed is educational value and
  - Internet contents of activity of a strang lands.
     Intractionaria CCC carring and regionering the following amendian
  - were most name. Genutiwul stateu trach care, and legitaing + Waald Wanta see the garden leganded with additional resources
  - to select with managements • Salety is a concern deeler lor additional lighting and speed tumps for improved onless.

#### SUPPORT REQUESTS

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 Sheet Repairy in
 Sheet Repairs
 Sheet Repair

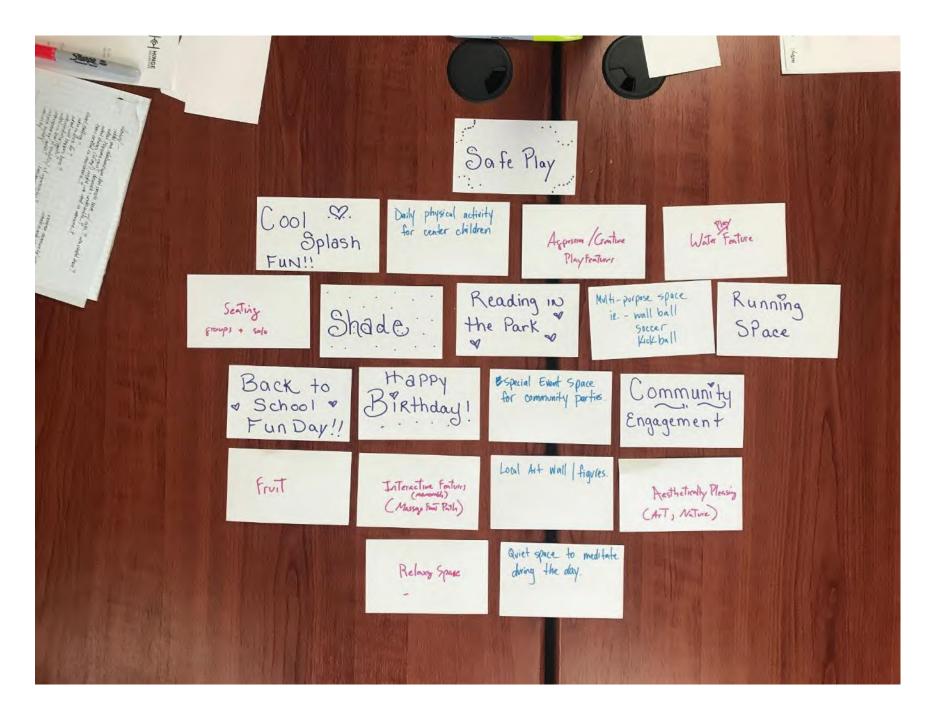
### SUPPORT REQUEST RESOURCE DIRECTORY

REQUEST	RESOURCE PROVIDER	WEISTE	DESCRIPTION	ELICIERTY
MAINTENANC	16-578557 1855			
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MAINTENAN	CE-VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE			
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NANACEMEN	IT OF BLOCAL DUHPING			
	COMMUNITY SHE IMPROVEMENT INFOCREM (SSIP) CITY OF PHELICIELINES		Entropy the Dayland Johnson to be caused watered task and taxes. Level supplies and other track pickup to ELO-constructed deem opc	Whitedelphin metrics & buctweens
	PLC/MDCME	飁	LandCav's 'Dison and Cales' program targets wears propile in neighborhoods eithout open or green spaces. PriCithen hnee backs who clean and more the backwas per month hom April Hosciph Orticles	layan
	STREETS & WALKAUDS EDUCATION ENFORCEMENT PROCEASING COTY OF THE ACCEPTION		Educate local burraways and topitment managemetical their regranding for lenging their properties clean. Work with communities photoxic hefforis. Panol diverts to entropic little bay, kaus warmed and clockers.	Logas

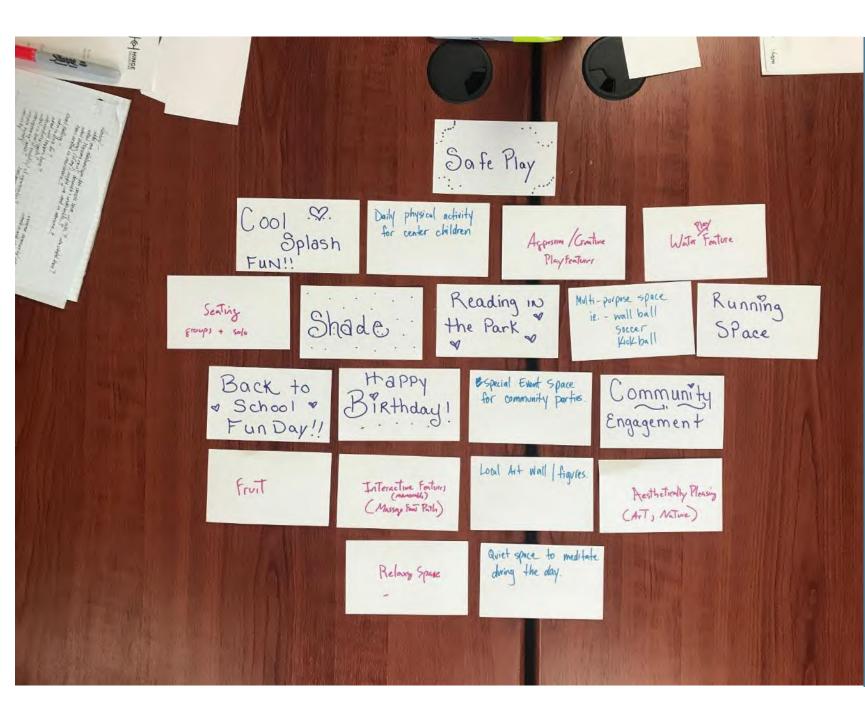


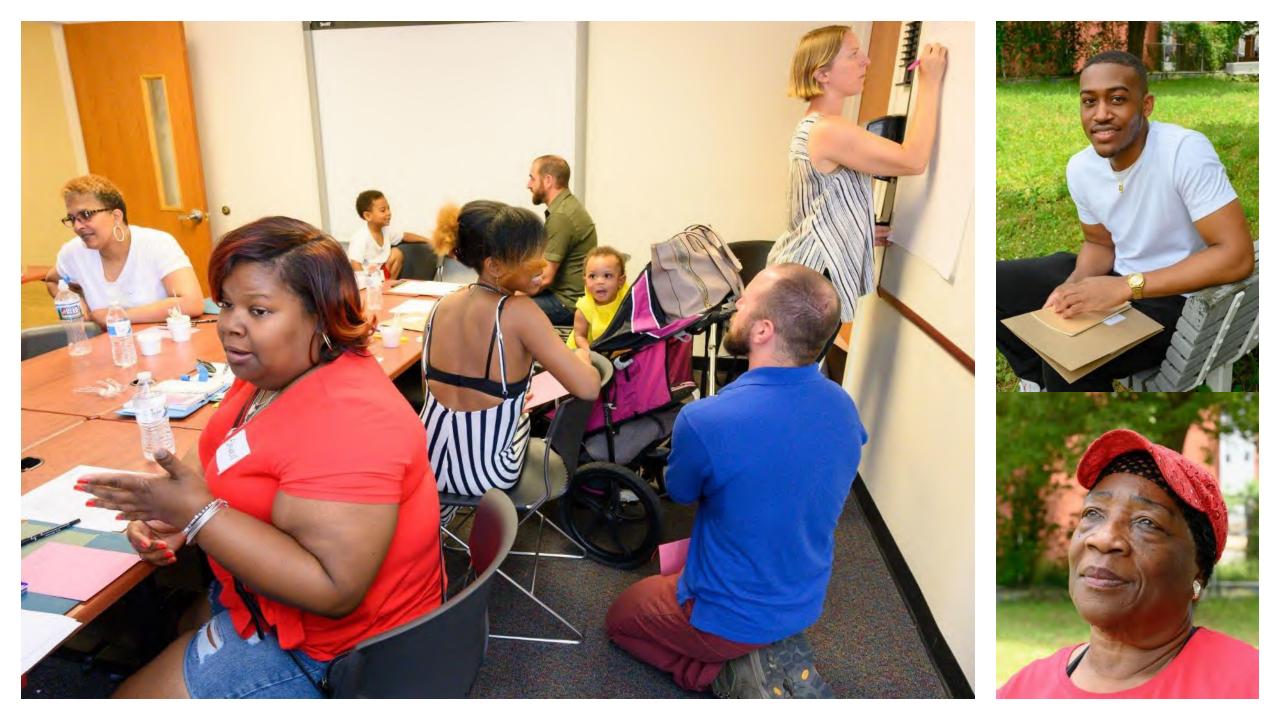






To create a safe place for children to play in a variety of ways, where caregivers feel comfortable and welcomed, that is centered around a water feature, which is free for all, beautiful, relaxing, and can be used for all types of community events.









outh IST Street, 15" Cu

- Tell me about an adventure or What are the things that Tell me about a place outside where va When were you most proud to be from your Tell me about a time that you visited as Tell a stary about a place in the neighbar Describe your favorite street in the neighbar What was the most thrilling, or even dan What was the most thrilling, or even dan

me up with your own. g sumple se makes you feel most at home in your neighborhood? are the things that you miss when you leave your neighborhood? It are the things that make you feel like you belong in a place? at are things that make you feel like you weren't welcome in a place, and why?

























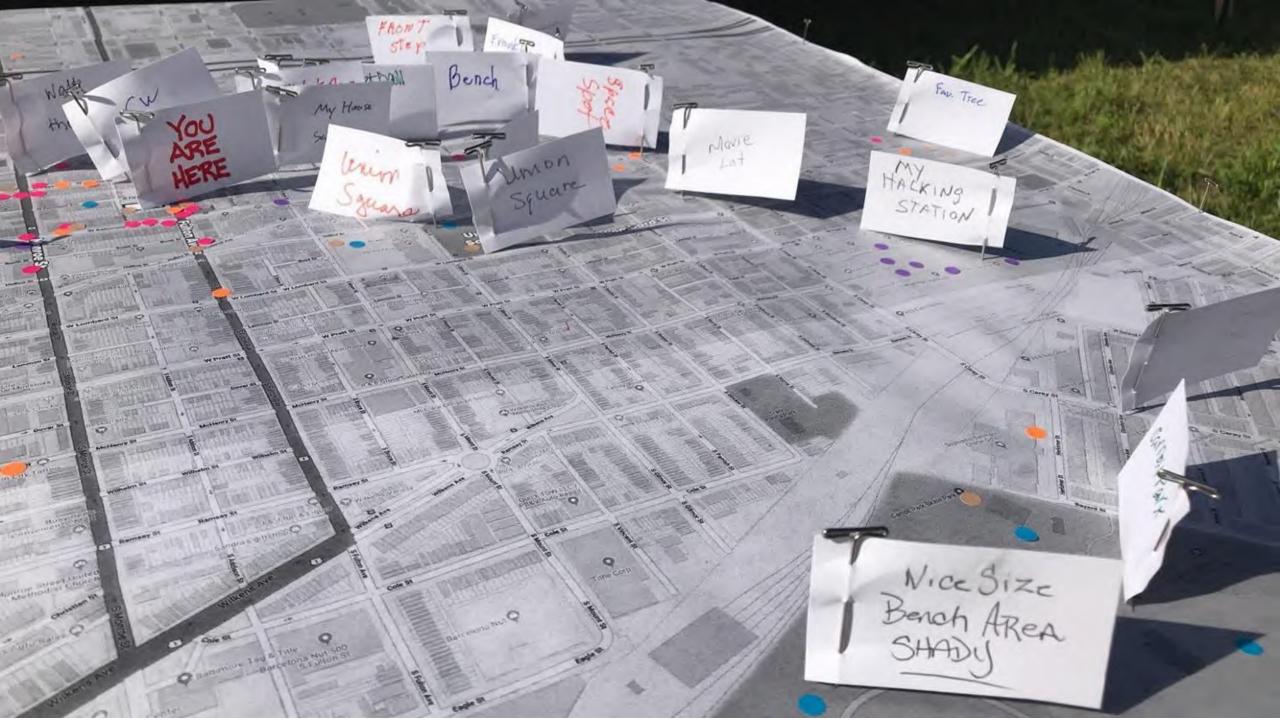














## childhood memories

Most people were long time residents of the neighborhood

Fond memories of playing on the block and being "raised by the whole block"

Fondest memories of spending time with grandparents, parents, uncles, aunts

Most exciting or fun childhood memories were with large peer groups

Older generations had more freedom to play outside.

All the same games: tin can alley, four square, hot butter beans

Younger generations played outside with friends even when the weren't supposed to.

Memories of playing outside yearround

Rec centers and playgrounds played an important role in supporting childhood freedom and activity.

## feeling welcome

EVERYONE said they felt welcome when people said "hello"

Most people knew everyone, or almost everyone on their block

Most people missed their neighbors when leaving the neighborhood

## escoping stress

Most people were relaxed in private spaces; porches, back yards, and houses

Going to local natural areas was also mentioned multiple times

## ways things can improve

Everyone noted how the drug trade has had a huge effect on safety

Almost everyone talked about how neighbors used to spend more time outside together and be a more close-knit community

Everyone wanted more safe places for children to play

More opportunities for families to spend time together

Multiple mentions of wanting to bring back block parties

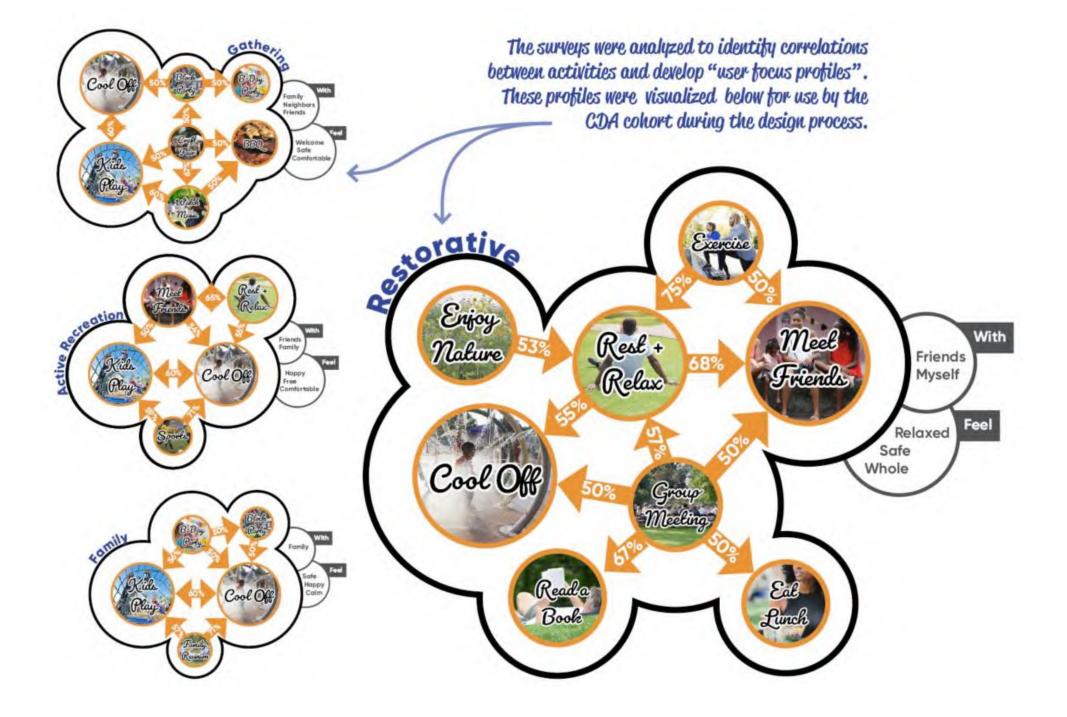
More cleanliness of the streets

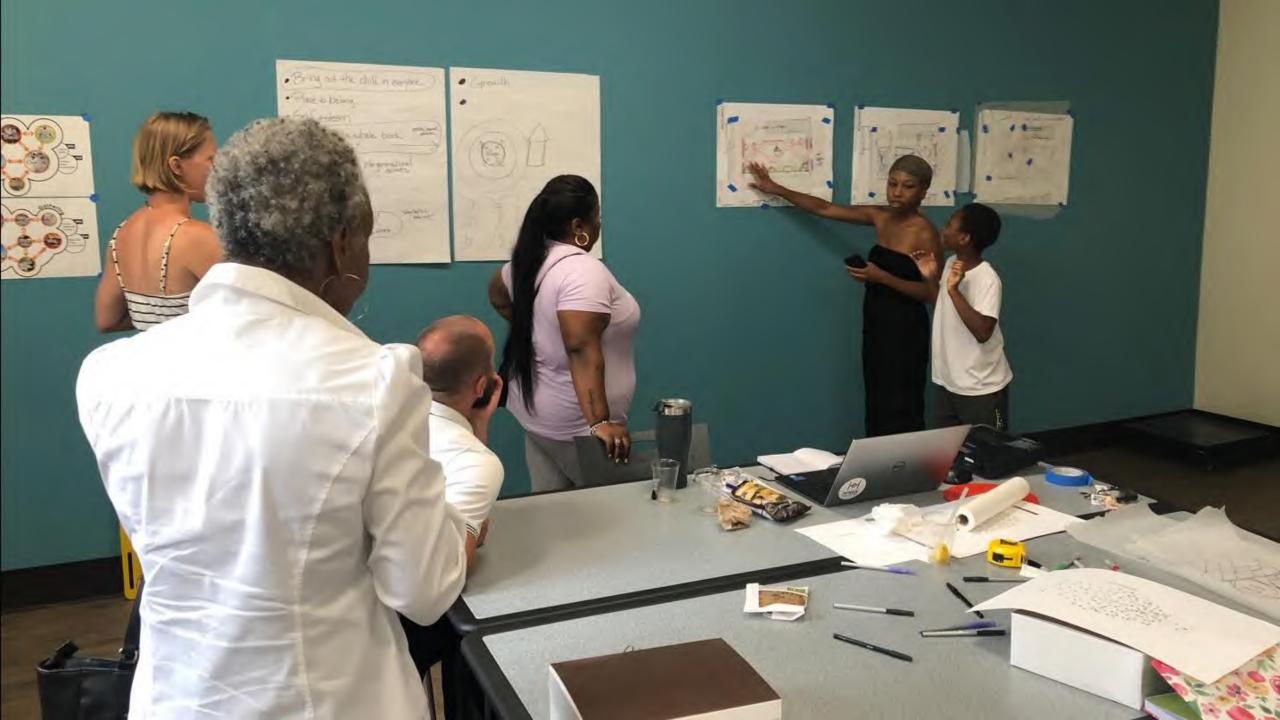
More parental involvement in the lives of their children

"On Poppleton St everybody knew everybody. Everybody looked out for each other"

"If I could change anything about the playgrounds it would be to have the parents be there with their kids"

"We made our own block parties at the playground. No fighting just fun."







PARK GOALS

\*Recreate a "village" atmosphere where community acts as a large family. Encourage Interactions between generations. Provide a variety of comfortable spaces for caregivers to watch children. Invite community elders in with shaded places to sit and meet. \*Provide a place to regularly meet neighbors.





**KEY DESIGN FEATURES** Iconic entry pavili Swinging benches \*Series of both tranquill and intense water play opportunities Central picnic area •Rotating rope climber Many children can use play equipment at one time

•Relaxation garden with aromatic plants Meeting and gathering spaces for all ages

SHARE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BELOW:



### PARK GOALS

·Build a strong community by providing a place for frequent community led events and block parties to take place. Provide a flexible space that is comfortable and engaging for everyday use. Create a neighborhood icon . Connect to the neighborhood with graphic pavement and open entryway. Support events of all sizes.



POST YOUR COMMENTS ON THE IMAGE ABOVE





The Child in Everyone

### PARK GOALS •Encourage caregivers to be involved with their children. Invite community in of all ages and abilities to play at their own comfort levels. •Transition from relaxing front area to playful back area. •Give everyone in the park permission to be playful. Accommodate small social gatherings.

SHARE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BELOW:



POST YOUR COMMENTS ON THE IMAGE ABOVE



What do you think of this theme? Pre vites



### **KEY DESIGN FEATURES**

•Ground mural .Grand open lawn •Elevated stage with amphitheater seating Large picnic plaza Custom net and platform climbing structure •Rubber mounds for imaginative play Water spray loops Retain all existing trees

### SHARE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BELOW:

PROMET

Pininght



POST YOUR COMMENTS ON THE IMAGE ABOVE

What do you think of this theme?

PRIVILEE















e













Photo credit:Sahar Coston-Hardy







Photo credit:Sahar Coston-Hardy

20

EEA





# HOW WILL YOU ENGAGE WITH THE COMMUNITIES YOU SERVE?

What is the purpose of the engagement? Who

is the audience you re trying to reach?

What level of involvement is there for decision making? What

is the timeline?



# FREE DOWNLOADS:

# www.hingecollective.com



# Engagement Essentials

All forms of community engagement require significant time for developing an appropriate strategy, lostering community relationships, interim self-reflection, willingness to change course it necessary, follow-through, and transparency. But selecting the best engagement strategy for the project will allow the design team to leverage the knowledge, experience, and skills of the community members which will increase the impact of the project all while fostering resiliency in the community. This guide provides five of the essential elements of a quality engagement plan.

# Alternatives to Public Meetings

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4523 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19139 P. 215,668,2273





