REINVENT PHOENIX

SUSTAINABLE GREEN SYSTEMS STRATEGY FOR THE DISTRICT OF EASTLAKE-GARFIELD

Partners:

City of Phoenix
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
St. Luke's Health Initiatives
ASU Global Institute of Sustainability
REINVENT PHX
Sustainable Green Systems Strategy
for the Eastlake-Garfield District, Phoenix
(2014—2040)

Report submitted to the City of Phoenix Planning and Development Department by the ASU-SOS Team for the project grant “Reinvent Phoenix – Cultivating Equity, Engagement, Economic Development and Design Excellence with Transit-Oriented Development”, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

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The transition strategy in this report is a set of coordinated interventions necessary to create sustainable green systems in the Eastlake-Garfield District. Sustainable green systems strive for fully functional stormwater, biodiversity, and resource management practices, as well as sustainable levels of thermal comfort, energy efficiency, and access to green space. The assessment of green systems indicates concern for high temperatures, low vegetation, and insufficient stormwater management. So, there are clear needs for interventions and investments to achieve sustainability goals. This strategy is based on achieving four specific goals of sustainable green systems, derived from sustainability and livability principles (HUD, 2009). The following table shows the goals with indicators, targets, and distances-to-target that the strategy covers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Sustainability Target</th>
<th>Current State Data</th>
<th>Distance-to-target</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 1 – Reduce stormwater loads and harvest water onsite</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permeable land</td>
<td>70.3% (1658 acres)</td>
<td>44% (529 acres)</td>
<td>26.3% (1129 acres)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 2 – Reduce potable water consumption</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor residential</td>
<td>30 GPCD</td>
<td>40 GPCD</td>
<td>10 GPCD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 3 – Reduce daytime temperatures</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface temperatures above 130°F</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>31.4%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 4 – Increase green systems benefits to health, mobility, and the economy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation coverage</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green streets</td>
<td>2 miles</td>
<td>0 miles</td>
<td>2 miles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This strategy details the interventions, actions, resources, potential barriers, and specifics on investments necessary to achieve these goals. Interventions are categorized into streets, buildings and sites, and open space. The following is a summary of each intervention and a sample of related critical actions.

**Streets Intervention and Critical Actions**

The streets intervention invests in green streets and green parking, and will increase length of green streets in the District to two miles through the following actions:

1. Complete green street pilot projects that connect Shaw Elementary School, and Garfield Elementary School to Van Buren Street.

2. Begin major green streets investments on Van Buren Street.

3. Build sustainable financing mechanisms for green streets in the District, such as a business improvement district or an in-lieu fees program for right-of-way and street improvements.

4. Support research that improves evidence for best practices in green streets and green parking implementation, including material use, vegetation and tree selection, and rainwater management.

**Buildings and Sites Intervention and Critical Actions**

The building and sites intervention invests in water
harvesting and reuse, natural and engineered shade, and cooling. The intervention, will reduce indoor residential District potable water use by 10 gallons per person per day, and achieve other vision targets through these actions:

1. Pass code updates that create density-dependent guidelines for water harvesting and reuse, natural and engineered shade, and cooling.

2. Design, finance, build, and test green systems pilot projects along major corridors and in neighborhoods.

3. Support research on next-generation water harvesting, water reuse, and engineered shade and cooling technologies.

4. Improve and develop incentive programs for cool building materials, water harvesting and reuse technologies, and energy efficiency.

Open Space Intervention and Critical Actions

Neighborhood water retention, green civic space, and green parking are the open space intervention investments. This intervention will increase permeable land by up to 500 acres in the District through the following actions:

1. Create open space pilots projects at Edison, Shaw, and Garfield elementary schools, and St. Luke’s Hospital to increase retention capacity with Silva cells, orchards, rain gardens, and other water harvesting and retention mechanisms.

2. Renegotiate the MS4 permit to allow for next-generation stormwater solutions in the District.

3. Create long-term funding structures, such as in-lieu feeds for trees and retention, that could be part of neighborhood associations (Garfield Organization, and Eastlake Park Neighborhood Association), Business Improvement District (BID) or Community Development Corporation (CDC).

Conclusion

This strategy also includes a database of implementation tools (financing tools, partnerships, codes, capacity building, and incentives) available to implement each intervention. There is a 5-year action plan with details on achieving critical, early wins, and getting the green systems transition off to a strong start. In summary, this strategy seeks to guide the District toward green systems that naturally manage stormwater on-site, reduce daytime temperatures, and provide safe, cool spaces for citizen recreation and transportation through interventions in streets, buildings, and open space.
Correspondence to Scope of Work

<table>
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<th>Scope-of-Work Items</th>
<th>Corresponding Report Chapter</th>
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<td><strong>Task 6.2 District and Sustainable Urban Design and Infrastructure Strategies</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Daytime Temperature</td>
<td>Chapters 4.2; 4.3; 4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potable Water</td>
<td>Chapters 4.2; 4.3; 4.4</td>
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<td>Typology</td>
<td>Appendix</td>
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<td>Locations</td>
<td>Chapters 3.3; Appendix</td>
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<td>Estimates of impact</td>
<td>Chapters 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4</td>
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<td><strong>Sub-Task 6.2: Recommended GS Investments</strong></td>
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<td>Recommended zoning, landscaping, engineering, storm water, and building code changes to promote energy and water efficiency.</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recommended zoning, landscaping, engineering, storm water, and building code changes to remove barriers to Green Infrastructure implementation</td>
<td>Chapter 4 (4.3 mostly)</td>
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<td>Estimates of energy and water savings from recommendations</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimates of street-level ambient temperature reductions from recommended materials and techniques</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated list of paving materials, building materials, and construction techniques to reduce day and nighttime temperatures and improve street-level thermal comfort and photo example of each material and technique</td>
<td>Vision Typology Document</td>
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<td><strong>Deliverables 6.2 Strategy Reports</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Livability outcomes</td>
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<td>Strategies to reduce the per-capita grid electricity consumption by at least 30 percent</td>
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<td>Strategy</td>
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Chapter 1 – Introduction

1.1 Green systems challenges in the Eastlake-Garfield District

The Eastlake-Garfield Transit District is just northwest of Sky Harbor International Airport, bordered by Interstate 10 to the north and east, Jackson Street to the south, and 7th Street to the west (Figure 1). Demographics are 85% split between Hispanic and White, with 15% African American (2010 Census). Two of Phoenix’s oldest neighborhoods, Eastlake and Garfield, make up most of the District. Garfield is bounded by 7th Street to the west, I-10 to the north, 16th Street to the east, and Van Buren Street to the south. Eastlake is bounded by 7th Street to the west, I-10 to the east, Van Buren Street to the north, and Jackson Street to the south.

In 1990, a partnership between the City of Phoenix and the Eastlake Task Force created the Eastlake Park Re-Development Plan to address deterioration of the neighborhood (City of Phoenix, 1990). Much of the land was neglected or vacant. Noise from planes, trains, and cars was a nuisance; and, criminal activity was high. The Re-Development plan made recommendations to demolish inadequate properties, and make structural, safety, and aesthetic improvements to improve the character of the area.

The District’s other neighborhood, Garfield, is over 75% Hispanic (2010 Census). Over the last 10 years, Garfield has steadily improved, led by a strong neighborhood association that aims to make it a desirable area of the City. The growing arts, culture, and grassroots...
development scene along Roosevelt Street (“Roosevelt Row”) has supported this resurgence. Residents include a diversity of newcomers: artists, gay couples, and young and Latino families. Outside the Garfield neighborhood, the District has not seen the same revitalization trends. Many residents live near vacant, commercial, or industrial property such as the Union Pacific Rail yard on the District’s southern border. Commercial zoning in this area is often ‘heavy commercial’, which can lower or stall appreciation of adjacent residential property values.

Eastlake-Garfield has six parks: Eastlake, Edison, Hochani, Kana, Sohu, and Verde (Figure 2), and Alwun House (12th Street and Roosevelt Street) is an urban oasis in the Garfield neighborhood. Members of the Alwun art center have undertaken multiple environmental projects, including planting 1,100 trees, and creating a “Green Art Park” in two vacant lots. The park will include gardens, art, and green space for the community (City of Phoenix, 2003). These projects, in the future, will contribute to mitigating UHI and green space issues throughout the District.

However, land use in Eastlake-Garfield consists largely of building footprints and parking areas, with insufficient landscaped area or vegetation to meet sustainable thresholds. Thus, the District is confronted with various challenges in achieving sustainable green systems. Stormwater management and efficient water use is of particular concern, because the Valley faces an uncertain water future. Eastlake-Garfield also faces high temperatures from the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect. Using building footprints and heights, Figure 3 shows shade and areas exposed to direct sunlight. Only Fortis College and a few buildings south of Van Buren are tall enough to create shade during the summer. Thus, many areas remain un-shaded throughout the day and experience higher temperatures.
Fortis College (18th Street and Taylor Street) is one of the warmer areas on the map. Black asphalt parking lots add heat gain. The bioswale and vegetation in the area is still young and thus far provides little cooling. The light rail station (12th Street and Jefferson) retains heat due to low and immature vegetation cover, and the black asphalt parking lot to the north.

The Motorola 52nd Street Superfund site is a major potential for Eastlake-Garfield’s green systems. Its groundwater contamination “plume” covers approximately the southern half of the District (Figure 4). The Superfund site’s groundwater treatment facility is in the eastern part of the District, near Interstate 10. Currently, groundwater and soil vapor monitoring are underway.
1.2 Profile of the “Reinvent Phoenix” grant

“Reinvent Phoenix” is a City of Phoenix project in collaboration with Arizona State University and other partners, and funded through HUD’s Sustainable Communities program. This program is at the core of HUD’s mission to “create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all.” It specifically strives to “reduce transportation costs for families, improve housing affordability, save energy, and increase access to housing and employment opportunities” and to “nurture healthier, more inclusive communities” (Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities, 2012). The program explicitly incorporates principles and goals of sustainability/livability (HUD/DOT/EPA, 2009):

1. Enhance economic competitiveness
2. Provide more transportation choices
3. Promote equitable, affordable housing
4. Support existing communities
5. Coordinate and leverage federal policies and investment

In this spirit, from 2012–2015, Reinvent Phoenix aims to create a new model for urban development in Phoenix. The goals for this new model are to improve quality of life, conserve natural resources, and maintain desirability and access for the entire spectrum of incomes, ages, family sizes, and physical and developmental abilities along the light rail corridor. Reinvent Phoenix aspires to eliminate physical and institutional barriers to transit-oriented development. To do so, the grant will work to catalyze livability and sustainability through capacity building, regulatory reform, affordable housing development, innovative infrastructure design, economic development incentives, and transformational research and planning.

Participatory research design ensures that a variety of stakeholder groups identify strategic improvements that enhance safe, convenient access to fresh food, healthcare services, quality affordable housing, good jobs, and education and training programs. Reinvent Phoenix focuses on six topical elements: economic development, green systems, health, housing, land use, and mobility (corresponding to the Livability Principles). These planning elements are investigated in five transit Districts (from east to west and south to north): Gateway, Eastlake-Garfield, Midtown, Uptown, and Solano. Planning for the Downtown District of the light rail corridor is excluded from Reinvent Phoenix because of previously completed planning efforts, partly using transit-oriented development ideas.

Reinvent Phoenix is structured into planning, design, and implementation phases. The project’s planning phase involves building a collaborative environment among subcontracted partners, including Arizona State University, Saint Luke’s Health Initiatives, Discovery Triangle, the Urban Land Institute, Local First Arizona, Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company, Sustainable Communities Collaborative, and others. While the City of Phoenix coordinates these partnerships, Arizona State University and Saint Luke’s Health Initiatives are working with residents, business owners, landowners, and other relevant stakeholders in each of the grant’s five transit Districts. This effort will assess the current state of each District, as well as facilitate stakeholder expression of each District’s sustainable vision for the future. Finally, motivated actors in each District will co-create step-by-step strategies to move toward those visions. Transit District Steering Committees, formed in the planning phase, will host capacity building for their members, who will shepherd their Districts through the remaining Reinvent Phoenix phases.

City of Phoenix staff and Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company will lead the design phase. Designs for canal activation, complete streets, and form-based code will complement the compilation of a toolbox for public-private partnerships to stimulate economic development along the light rail corridor. The design phase will take its cues from the public participation in the planning phase, and maintain ongoing monthly contact with Transit District Steering Committees to ensure the visions of each District are accurately translated into policy and regulations. These steps will update zoning, codes, regulations, and city policies to leverage the new light rail system as a major asset. The design phase is crucial for preparing an attractive environment for investment and development around the light rail.

Finally, the implementation phase will use the city’s partnerships with the Urban Land Institute, Local First Arizona, and Sustainable Communities Collaborative to usher in a new culture of development in Phoenix. With the help of all partners, transit-oriented development can be the vehicle to renew Phoenix’s construction industry, take full advantage of the light rail as a transformative amenity, and enrich Phoenix with a livable and dynamic urban fabric.
1.3. Sustainable Green Systems Research

This sustainable green systems strategy aligns with HUD’s Sustainable Communities program goals, as stated above (see Livability Principles above). Sustainable green systems strive for fully functional stormwater, biodiversity, and resource management practices, as well as sustainable levels of thermal comfort, energy efficiency, and access to green space. Sustainable green systems are specified in the following four goals:

1. Reduce stormwater loads and harvest water on-site
2. Reduce potable water consumption
3. Reduce daytime temperatures
4. Increase green systems benefits to health, mobility, and the economy

In pursuit of these goals, we employ a transformational planning framework (Wiek, 2009; Johnson et al., 2011), conducting sustainable green systems research in three linked modules. We start with a thorough assessment of the current state of green systems in 2010/2012 against principles of livability and sustainability (current state assessment); in parallel, we create and craft a sustainable vision for green systems in 2040 (visioning); and finally, we develop strategies for changing or conserving the current state of green systems towards the sustainable vision of green systems between 2012 and 2040 (strategy building). The framework is illustrated below.

Because of the broad impacts of green systems and the close link with other planning elements, the central meaning of green systems often remains poorly defined. Green systems employ natural elements to perform ecosystem services, such as stormwater management, microclimate modification, and improvement of air and water quality, among others (Benedict & McMahon, 2006; Rouse & Bunster-Ossa, 2013). They include building footprints, rights-of-way, public streets, parking areas, landscaping, vegetation, stormwater, water use, and shade patterns affecting local climate conditions. As articulated in Phoenix’s tree and shade master plan, green systems are the interconnected web of parks, streets and canals that help to sustain an active, cool, and healthy city (City of Phoenix, 2010).

Green systems range from passive water harvesting to porous pavers, and from street trees to a large District park. They provide economic, social, and environmental benefits: they reduce energy costs; improve air quality; strengthen quality of place and the local economy; reduce storm water; improve social connections; promote smart growth and compact development; and create walkable neighborhoods. Green systems are solution multipliers that solve many problems with one single investment (City of Phoenix, 2010). According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2013, website), “green infrastructure is an approach that communities can choose to maintain healthy waters, provide multiple environmental benefits, and support sustainable communities. Unlike single-purpose gray stormwater infrastructure, which uses pipes to dispose of rainwater, green infrastructure uses vegetation and soil to manage rainwater where it falls. By weaving natural processes into the built environment, green infrastructure provides not only stormwater management, but also flood mitigation, air quality management, and much more”. With the intent to avoid duplications, overlap, and confusion, we follow in this report with this definition of green systems: natural and engineered systems that provide ecosystem services in a given district (Cook, 2007).
1.4. Objectives of the Strategy Study

The strategy presented in this report directly refers to the green systems challenges detailed in the assessment report (Golub et al., 2013). It proposes interventions that address these challenges, significantly improve green systems, and achieve the vision and goals of sustainable green systems in the District (detailed in the visioning report). In accordance with the mandate of Reinvent Phoenix to contribute to sustainable community development, this strategy study actively pursues the improvement of green systems conditions, following sustainability and livability principles (Gibson, 2006; HUD/DOT/EPA, 2009).

The guiding question of the sustainable green systems strategy study is: What evidence-supported interventions provide fully functional stormwater, biodiversity, and resource management practices, as well as sustainable levels of thermal comfort, energy efficiency, and access to green space in the District?

The specific objectives are:

1. Link sustainable green systems goals and targets to evidence-supported interventions and investment options.

2. Detail interventions with the actions, actors, assets, and coping tactics (for barriers) needed to achieve sustainable green systems goals and targets.

3. Highlight investment options designed to achieve sustainable green systems goals and targets.

4. Compile a set of exemplary implementation tools for the investment options.

5. Outline a five-year action plan to implement the interventions and investment options.

Additional objectives include:

1. To develop a process and content template for sustainable strategy development research that can be reproduced in the other four transit districts and thus guide the Reinvent Phoenix strategy development activities.

2. To enhance capacity in strategy development among planning professionals and collaborating partners to use in subsequent initiatives and projects.

3. To enhance capacity in strategy development for students and faculty to use in other research projects, teaching programs, and professional projects.
We acknowledge that the term strategy is being used in a variety of contexts. In context of Reinvent Phoenix, a strategy is defined as a set of interventions *coordinated among different stakeholders with the intent to transforming the current state of a system* (e.g., a city, a neighborhood, a company) *into a sustainable one* (Wiek & Kay, 2013). The following document details the coordinated interventions necessary to achieve a sustainable state for green systems in the District. Each intervention includes investments and implementation tools that residents, businesses, organizations, and city government need to employ in order to achieve the desired outcomes. Conceptually, we differentiate different levels of the strategy, including interventions, investment types, and investment tools (Fig. 3). The strategy is composed of several (coordinated) interventions. An Intervention offers several investment types. For realizing an investment types, different implementation tools can be used.

The specific procedures for building a transition strategy have been detailed in Wiek and Kay (2013) and Kay et al. (2013), and are here applied to green systems as follows:

1. Summarizing the inputs or ingredients for the strategy, i.e., the current state assessment, the vision, and a theory of change. All three elements need to be specified such that progress can be measured. Key information pertains to the gaps between the current state and trends for green systems on the one hand, and future goals and targets (vision) on the other hand. For example, for the indicator “indoor residential potable water use,” the current state might be 46 gallons per capita per day, but the target is 30 gallons per capita per day. The 16-gallon gap between the current state and the target state specifies the gap the strategy needs to bridge.

2. Developing a set of coordinated interventions to achieve desired outcomes. Each of the specific goals for sustainable green systems requires specific interventions. For example, to achieve the goal of reducing daytime temperatures, the intervention of shade and cooling on streets and parking lots seems promising. The transformational planning framework is goal oriented and thus the vision, the current state assessment, and the strategy all start with stating the goals of sustainable green systems. Yet, the strategy

![Hierarchical structure of the strategy for sustainable green systems](image)
aims at coordinating interventions that achieve multiple objectives at the same time. For example, shade and cooling on streets and parking lots does not only pursue reduced daytime temperatures, but can also contribute to stormwater management with vegetative shade. Thus, from the perspective of implementation it is more useful to use the interventions as organizing principle, and design interventions in ways that they contribute to as many goals as possible. Thus, we describe each major intervention separately by:

a. Stating the goals and targets the intervention pursues.

b. Identifying the intervention points, i.e., drivers that cause the problematic current state. Systemic relevance of the intervention point and feasibility of intervention at this point are important criteria for the selection of intervention points. A potential intervention point could be building codes that lack to incentivize cooling technologies.

c. Specifying key components of each intervention, i.e., intervention actions, actors, available assets, resources needed, potential barriers, and implementation tools. Components can be identified through using best practices examples across the United States, interviews with city staff, residents, local experts, and academic literature.

d. Describing specific investment types that offer different pathways within an intervention. For example, the streets intervention captures both green streets and green parking (two different investment types). For realizing an investment type, different implementation tools can be used.

e. Describing implementation tools, clustered in tools for financing, capacity building, partnerships, rules (codes), and incentives. We provide key information on the implementation tools, so that residents, developers, and city staff are able to select among available tools. Similar to interventions and investment types, the majority of tools can be used to implement multiple investments. For example, a community development corporation can be used to support green streets efforts.

3. Providing evidence for the effectiveness and efficiency of the proposed interventions, investments, and implementation tools. Evidence is required to ensure that intervention, investments, and implementation tools are selected that are likely to be capable of “getting the job done.” Evidence can be provided by local experts, academic literature, or cases of other cities.

4. Detailing actions for a specific 5-year action plan that specify the roles and responsibilities for residents, developers, and city staff, as well as for the Steering Committee.

Data for this strategy document comes from two primary sources:

1. Data inputs for the strategy are drawn from multiple sources as this study builds from the current state assessment and the visioning study.

2. Data about the core components of the strategy is based on input from local experts (see acknowledgements, above) and academic literature.
Chapter 3 – Strategy Inputs

The following chapter includes a summary of the current state and the vision for sustainable green systems in the Eastlake-Garfield, as well as a specific theory of change that are the inputs for the strategy.

3.1. Summary of the Current State Assessment

The most immediate green systems concerns for the Eastlake-Garfield District are high temperatures, low vegetation, and stormwater management. Sustainable green systems strive for fully functional stormwater, biodiversity, and resource management practices, as well as sustainable levels of thermal comfort, energy efficiency, and access to green space. The Eastlake-Garfield District struggles with unsustainable states in each of the four goal domains, while there are few positive aspects (Golub et al., 2013).

1. **Insufficient stormwater is managed on-site by green systems.** Natural systems capture only about half the sustainable level of stormwater run-off, and there is nearly no rainwater harvesting in the District. Water quality targets were unattainable.

2. **Sustainability of potable water consumption is moderate.** Indoor residential potable water use has a low distance-to-target, and outdoor use easily exceeds the target. However, distribution of use within the District is uneven, and there are trade-offs between low outdoor use and sufficient vegetation coverage. Given commercial and industrial diversity, water consumption targets for these sectors were unattainable.

3. **Daytime temperatures are very high.** Nearly a third of Eastlake-Garfield has surface temperatures above 130°F, and 64.9% is 105–130°F, making nearly the entire District above 105°F. High temperatures worsen the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect, and drive a variety of health problems.

4. **The social and economic benefits of green systems for health, mobility, and biodiversity can improve significantly.** The District has no green streets and low tree canopy cover, but has only a medium distance-to-target for green open space. Adding green streets, shade, and strategically placed parks to the District would help achieve the preceding goals, as well as improve health, mobility, and biodiversity.

In summary, the District is in need of green systems that naturally manage stormwater on-site, reduce daytime temperatures, and provide safe, cool spaces for citizen recreation and transportation. Thereby, tradeoffs between different green systems features require special attention when crafting sustainable green systems visions and strategies. For example, vegetation that cools and beautifies residential homes also increases water use.

Data from our Eastlake-Garfield stakeholder engagement efforts confirm that temperatures are high, and that more shade is needed. Residents enjoy the District’s quality parks, but agree that more trees would improve the District. There is support for shaded green streets that increase walkability. Some residents feel that Garfield could improve storm water management in order to further cool the neighborhood. In concert with safety concerns (Hager et al., 2012), these factors make green systems in Eastlake-Garfield insufficient to provide safe and comfortable recreation and mobility for citizens. Though stormwater management also poses challenges, stakeholder input prioritized temperatures and shade.

HUD has operationalized its mandate through *Livability Principles* (2009). Interpreting the assessment results in light of the livability principles indicates the following set of priorities:

Stormwater management, temperatures, green space, green streets, and shade are indicators that have a high distance to target, and are closely tied to the principles.

- **Livability Principle 1** aims at providing safe transportation options. The current state data indicates insufficient shade for comfortable bus stops, which may reduce ridership. There are also no green streets in the District.

- **Livability Principle 2** aims at supporting equitable housing. The current distribution of residential outdoor water use suggests that vegetative cooling and aesthetics may be inequitable in Eastlake-Garfield.

- **Livability Principle 3** aims at economic competitiveness. Green systems provide higher quality of life through better health outcomes, increased recreation options,
and better urban aesthetics. Current state data shows low tree canopy cover and no green streets, leading to economic disadvantages relative to places with more robust green systems.

- While Livability 6 aims at valuing communities and neighborhoods. Current state data for the Eastlake-Garfield District paint an un-shaded, extremely hot, un-walkable picture, in direct contradiction to HUD’s wish to “invest in healthy, safe, walkable neighborhoods.”

The analysis of the driving forces behind the unsustainable states summarized above suggests a variety of promising intervention points outlined in this report.

3.2. Summary of the Vision for Green Systems in Eastlake-Garfield

The vision for green systems in the Eastlake-Garfield District is to sustain a network of buildings, open spaces, streets, and canals that support healthy and prosperous neighborhoods through vegetation, building materials, quality design, and water management. The vision for green systems is part of the overall vision for the Eastlake-Garfield District (Wiek et al., 2013), which describes a sustainability future for the District. Key excerpts are provided below:

In 2040, the Eastlake-Garfield District is culturally diverse, with active streets and exciting, innovative businesses. Visitors notice the inclusive feel, entrepreneurial spirit, and historic preservation that have been the District’s aesthetic for years. Buffered by an extra curb, people bike alongside traffic, and walk on wide, shaded sidewalks to local businesses and Verde and Eastlake Park. Successful local business development programs are responsible for the local business along 16th Street, Van Buren Street, and around the 12th Street light rail station. North High graduates started both, and most of their young staff bike from rehabilitated historic homes in Garfield.

The specific vision for sustainable green systems in the Eastlake-Garfield District is derived from this vision and is aligned with the five sustainable green systems goals mentioned above (1.3). It reads:

In 2040, lower temperatures and transportation networks make Eastlake-Garfield walkable, bikable, and safe. Solar-covered shade structures and native species on roofs reduce temperatures, making for a pleasant environment and lower building energy costs.

After sunset, pedestrians stroll wide sidewalks, crossing well-lit and safe streets. Buffered bike lanes on Van Buren Street, and other streets, make bicycling safe and comfortable. Eastlake, Verde and Edison parks are easily accessible by bike or on foot, and neighborhoods work with the police to keep them safe. People come from all over the valley to Dia de los Muertos in Verde Park and Juneteenth in Eastlake Park.

Through the visioning process, three transition areas were selected in which to make the vision spatially explicit:

1. 12th Street Station Area – In 2040, the 12th Street station area is walkable and bikable. Narrowing existing vehicle lanes on Washington and Jefferson Streets have made pedestrians and cyclists safer and more comfortable. Green and complete streets host pedestrians and bicyclists traveling to and from the light rail stations at 12th and 16th Streets. There’s safe, easy access to open space for active recreation and sports near the 12th Street station. In 2040, small parks dot the area, and provide space for family recreational activities. Sports programming and informal pickup games keep smaller spaces lively, and cultivate a healthy community without the expense of a large sports facility. The square between Washington Street and Jefferson Street is a popular weekend destination.

2. Van Buren Street Corridor – With bike lanes, on-street green parking, and wide tree-lined sidewalks, 2040’s Van Buren Street is a valley-wide attraction where residents and visitors spend the day, and well into the evenings, comfortably browsing local shops. Trees and awnings provide shade during the day, while pleasant on-street lighting makes for safe late-night dining or friendly gatherings at the local pub. Less traffic and more crosswalks have made 2040’s Van Buren Street a safe environment for pedestrians and cyclists. Reasonably priced parking structures and on-street metered green parking offers better access to commercial property while minimizing the need for large parking lots. This parking strategy channels revenue back into the corridor for maintenance and beautification.

3. 16th Street and Van Buren – People bustle around 2040’s Van Buren and 16th Streets, headed to an array of services in proximity to residents’ homes. A lane of Van Buren Street in each direction has become buffered bike lanes and widened sidewalks, connected by prominent crosswalks. In 2040, residents and
visitors enjoy beautiful, shaded sidewalks and lower temperatures while they walk and bike to their favorite restaurants and shops. A variety of open spaces dot the community and host popular family friendly events, like concerts in the park, outdoor movie nights, and afternoon scavenger hunts.

A more detailed map captures desired green systems development in three interventions: streets, buildings and sites, and open space.

In order to craft actionable strategies, the qualitative descriptions of a sustainable state for green systems in the Eastlake-Garfield District should include quantitative targets. For each of the four green systems goals, Table 1 contains one or two critical targets that the strategy is designed to achieve.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Sustainability Target</th>
<th>Current State Data</th>
<th>Distance-to-target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 1 – Reduce stormwater loads and harvest water onsite</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permeable land</td>
<td>70.3% (1658 acres)</td>
<td>44% (529 acres)</td>
<td>26.3% (1129 acres)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 2 – Reduce potable water consumption</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor residential</td>
<td>30 GPCD</td>
<td>40 GPCD</td>
<td>10 GPCD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 3 – Reduce daytime temperatures</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface temperatures above 130°F</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>31.4%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 4 – Increase green systems benefits to health, mobility, and the economy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation coverage</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green streets</td>
<td>2 miles</td>
<td>0 miles</td>
<td>2 miles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.3. Theory of Change

The theory of change of this strategy is that additional investments in green systems can support increased vegetation, which can decrease surface temperature and support quality of life and economic development. This strategy includes interventions of streets, buildings and sites, and open space.

Streets, vacant lots, and open spaces are intervention points where rainwater retention, cooling capacity, and social benefits can be increased with green systems investments. The desired outcome of increase permeable surface, reduced daytime temperatures, increase vegetation coverage can be achieved through the interventions of streets, buildings and sites, and open space.

Investments in improving the stormwater collection on streets, and cooling highly trafficked corridors are important early priorities that will move the District towards the permeable surface target. Investments in using open space for District water retention, incorporating next-generation cooling technologies, and moving towards storing and/or using all stormwater on site may take more time to implement, but could have significant impact on achieving the green systems sustainability targets, such as reaching the desired reduction in surface temperatures. The following strategy will describe how these interventions and corresponding investment types can be enacted over the next 30 years to produce sustainable green systems in the District.
### 4.1. Linking Sustainable Green Systems Goals to Interventions and Investment Options

As described before, the overall and specific sustainable green systems goals are the reference point for developing the strategy and its interventions. Yet, the strategy aims to coordinate interventions that achieve multiple objectives at the same time. The interventions of streets, buildings and sites, and open space all contribute to achieving the four goals of sustainable green systems. Thus, from the perspective of implementation it is more useful to use the interventions as organizing principle, and design them in ways that they contribute to as many goals as possible. Therefore, we describe each intervention separately in the subsequent sections, detailing the specific investments, actions, resources, implementation tools, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Reduce stormwater loads and harvest water onsite</strong></td>
<td>Widespread use of porous materials, and right-of-way bioswales will reduce impervious surfaces, will allow rainwater to be stored in the right of way.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Reduce potable water consumption</strong></td>
<td>Green streets and street parking will reuse rainwater, lower reliance on irrigation, and lower temperatures and UHI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. Reduce daytime temperatures</strong></td>
<td>Green streets, shade, and cooling (including using cool construction materials) can all reduce daytime temperatures. Zoning and codes can cool hot blocks though promoting shade, and cool material usage.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.2. Streets Intervention

Street and right-of-way improvements are critical interventions for the Eastlake-Garfield sustainable green systems strategy. Green streets and green parking investments manage stormwater and increase permeable land, vegetation, and cooling capacity.

4.2.1. Core Components

The following describes the impacts, actions, resources needed, potential barriers, and timeline for the streets intervention.

Aspired Sustainability Impacts

Through this streets intervention, the following specific sustainable green systems targets will be achieved by 2040:

- 2 miles of green streets
- 150 more acres of permeable land
- 10% increase of District vegetation coverage (~120 acres)
- 75 less acres of temperatures greater than 130°F

Intervention Points

Currently, the extensive street system contributes to high temperatures (urban heat island), and reduced economic and social activity in the Eastlake-Garfield District. By promoting cooling, the streets intervention creates more walkable corridors. The streets intervention can also divert water from the streets, buildings, and sites to bioswales in the right-of-way and in neighborhood water retention areas.

Intervention Actions

The following actions are critical for accomplishing the targets outlined above. These are critical actions that will likely need to take place in the first ten years of the transition. Further details on the actions necessary in the first five year are available in Section 3.5. The following actions are critical in meeting the milestones set in the timeline below.

- Complete green streets that connect Garfield and Shaw Elementary schools to Van Buren Street, and improve streets near St. Luke’s Hospital.
  a. Complete the 13th Street green street pilot project with the Shaw School.
  b. Finance and design a similar project with the Garfield Elementary for 13th Street north of Van Buren Street.
  c. Work with St. Luke’s Hospital and the Luke Krohn Housing property to create model green streets near and on their campuses and develop green parking on existing parking lots.
- Make major green streets investments on Van Buren Street
  a. Seek city, state, and philanthropic funding for Van Buren Street improvement and create a long-term maintenance and street conversion fund with adjacent property owners.
  b. Market importance of the investment of a green street connection from Tempe to Downtown Phoenix to incentivize development and services along Van Buren Street.
- Build sustainable financing mechanisms for green streets in the Eastlake-Garfield District.
  a. Create a business improvement district (BID) along Van Buren Street that can pool money from local businesses, landowners, and organizations to pay for addition street improvements.
  b. Neighborhood associations contribute to creating street water retention systems with shade trees (building off the 9th Street example in the Garfield neighborhood with the support of Watershed Management Group).
- Support research that improves evidence for best practices in green streets and green parking implementation, including material use, vegetation and tree selection, and rainwater management.
- Design and seek funding to develop green street projects that build off successes along Van Buren Street and near schools.
d. Build off of success of Van Buren Street initiatives to finance and design 24th and 40th Street green street improvements.

e. Produce a feasibility study for neighborhood water retention on green civic spaces at local schools, the Greyhound Park, and hospital campuses.

- Create educational programming on the multiple benefits of green streets and parking at Gateway Community College and local elementary schools, businesses, and non-profits.

Resources

The following resources are needed to support the streets intervention. Assets (resources that already exist) are in italics:

- Arizona Public Service (APS) and Salt River Project (SRP) Tree and Shade Program

- City of Phoenix Departments
  - Neighborhood Services (NSD) to work with schools and neighborhoods
  - Streets and Transportation (STD) to work on design and engineering

- Educational Institutions that can be involved in pilot projects
  - Edison, Shaw, and Garfield Elementary Schools and the Phoenix Elementary School District
  - The Global Institute of Sustainability (GIOS)

- MAG funding to study green street interventions on Van Buren Street

- Eastlake Park and Garfield Neighborhood Associations (Can support pilot projects)

- Watershed Management Group (WMG) (Can support pilot projects)

- More staff and capacity for organizations like WMG that can support and develop funding for pilot projects

- Development of state and federal funding streams for street improvement, air quality mitigation, and urban heat island reduction

Barriers

- Lack of a funding mechanism to design, build, and maintain green streets

- Current codes and standards that include restrictive rules (i.e. concerning water harvesting)

- Concerns that street retrofits will disturb automobile flow

- Concerns about rain water management in streets

- Existing infrastructure and utilities often prevent planting trees and shaping basins/swales

- Lack of education and understanding about green streets

Intervention Timeline

This timeline outlines a transition towards Eastlake-Garfield’s sustainable green systems vision driven by streets over the next 30 years. Much can change during this time; thus, this transition strategy must be revisited and updated. Some of the actions listed as happening by 2025 or 2030 may be feasible before the stated date and could possibly be addressed sooner. The purpose of this timeline is to demonstrate a possible sequence (pathway) to achieve the 2040 vision, with the recognition that some things may come faster or slower. The “By 2020” section includes major milestones that could be accomplished if all of intervention actions in the list above are implemented or at least underway.

By 2020

- Make Van Buren Street a regional model for green streets and green parking.

- Connect the Shaw and Garfield Elementary schools to Van Buren Street with green streets.

- Design and finance green street improvements to 16th and 20th Streets.
• Include durable green parking materials in the above projects.

By 2025

• Neighborhood associations and the Van Buren Street BID have their own green street programs that have privately funded several green streets

• Complete 16th and 20th Streets green street improvements.

• Green streets around Van Buren Street are demonstrating positive impacts.

By 2030

• Design and finance green street improvements Fillmore, Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Washington Streets.

• Local BID and neighborhood associations have designs and financing models to finish all target green streets by 2040.

• All street parking in the District is green parking due to material used and proximate shade trees.

4.2.2. Investment Types

4.2.2.1. Green Streets

Green Streets can support an increase in permeable surfaces, on-site infiltration, and improved stormwater quality. Green streets have the added benefits of providing attractive streetscapes, increased canopy coverage, lowering temperatures and supporting biodiversity.

Implementation Tools (See Section 4.5. for details on each tool)

• Financing - Capital investments, Department of Transportation (DOT) funding (i.e. TIGER grants), and private investment

• Partnerships - BIDs and neighborhood initiatives

• Codes - Right-of-way codes

• Capacity Building - Watershed management training

• Incentives - Tax credits and expedited permitting

4.2.2.2. Green Parking

Green Parking is on-street or on-site parking that redirects and/or stores stormwater, usually through the use of pervious surfaces. Green parking can include stormwater management tools such as bioswales and rain gardens. Green parking offers a cleaner alternative to traditional parking lots that contribute to poor water quality and flooding.

Green parking can significantly increase pervious surfaces, and contribute to better stormwater quality. Green parking can also support shade and cooling efforts.

Implementation Tools (See Section 4.5. for details on each tool)
• **Financing** - Capital investments, DOT funding (i.e. TIGER grants), BIDs, Community Development Block Grants, HOME Investment Partnerships Program, and private investment

• **Partnerships** - CDCs and neighborhood initiatives

• **Codes** - Land use ordinance, capacity building, and watershed management training

• **Incentives** - Tax credits and expedited permitting

### 4.3. Buildings and Sites Intervention

The building and sites intervention for the Eastlake-Garfield sustainable green systems strategy addresses the significant potable water use, and contributions to high surface temperatures from buildings and sites. Water harvesting and reuse, and natural and engineered shade and cooling systems are important investments that can be made in new construction and retrofits of buildings to reduce potable water use, and surface temperature, and increase vegetation and social benefits.

#### 4.3.1. Core Components

**Aspired Sustainability Impacts**

Through the buildings and sites intervention, the following sustainable green systems targets will be achieved in Eastlake-Garfield by 2040:

- **Potable water use reduction of ~10 gallons to 30 gallons per capita per day**
- **500 more acres of permeable land**
- **10% increase of District vegetation coverage (~120 acres)**
- **125 less acres with surface temperatures greater than 130°F**

**Intervention Point**

Buildings are a good mechanism for engineered shade and cooling, while sites are excellent opportunity for natural shade and cooling. Building and sites present important intervention points for reducing potable water consumption, partially through well-designed rainwater harvesting and reuse mechanisms. Building and sites that use natural and engineered shade and cooling investments have the opportunity to produce positive environmental, social, and economic benefits, such as meeting places, enjoyable retail opportunities, and increased biodiversity.

**Intervention Actions**

The following actions in the first ten years of the transition are critical for accomplishing the impacts listed above. Further details on the actions necessary in the first five years are available in Section 3.5. The following actions are critical in meeting the milestones set in the timeline below.

- **Pass code updates that create density dependent guidelines for water harvesting and reuse, and natural and engineered shade and cooling that is dependent on the density of the area. Form-based codes designate transect zones densities from 1 (least dense) to 6 (most dense).**

- **Design, fund, and build strong examples of water harvesting and shade and cooling investments on private property.**
  
  a. Create clear urban examples of onsite retention and cooling in transect zones 3—6.

  b. Market building and sites green systems success stories.

  c. Deliver education and capacity building programming that uses pilot projects to teach the benefits of water harvesting and reuse, and natural and engineered shade and cooling.

- **Create an awards program that honors the most successful uses of the new code.**

- **Use the success of pilot projects to pass more progressive building and site codes for the District.**

- **Support research into next-generation water harvesting, water reuse, and engineered shade and cooling technologies.**

- **Improve and develop incentive programs for cool building materials, water harvesting and reuse technologies, and energy efficiency.**
• Experiment with additional benefits of natural shade and cooling, such as food production, (e.g. on-site citrus or mesquite groves).

Resources

The following resources are needed to support the building and sites intervention. Assets (resources that already exist) are in italics:

• City of Phoenix Departments
  o Planning and Public Works for code updates
  o Neighborhood Services for enforcement

• Reinvent PHX for new code

• Private property owners for investment

• American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) for design and developer consultations

• Research to prove impact of water harvesting, and shade and cooling investments

• Training for builders and tradesman

• Incentive structures such as tax credits for use of certain materials or water systems

Barriers

• Lack of financing mechanisms

• Current codes

• Lack of education and understanding (designers & city staff)

• Climate change including increasing UHI impacts could make using natural vegetation more water intensive

• Lack of resources for maintenance

• Expense of cooling technologies

Intervention Timeline

This timeline outlines a transition towards Eastlake-Garfield’s sustainable green systems vision driven by building and sites over the next 30 years. Much can change during this time; thus, this transition strategy must be revisited and updated. Some of the actions listed as happening by 2025 or 2030 may be feasible before the stated date and could possibly be addressed sooner. The purpose of this timeline is to demonstrate a possible sequence (pathway) to achieve the 2040 vision, with the recognition that some things may come faster or slower. The “By 2020” section includes major milestones that could be accomplished if all of intervention actions in the list above are implemented or at least underway.

By 2020

• A new form-based code with effective rules and regulations for water harvesting and reuse, and natural and engineered shade and cooling

• Successful engineered cooling, and water harvesting pilot projects for single-family homes the Garfield neighborhood, and mixed-used developments along Van Buren.

• A marketing campaign that includes awards for effective implementation of water harvesting and reuse, and natural and engineered shade and cooling.

• Funding secured for Arizona State University for research on next-generation technologies (for water harvesting, and engineered cooling), with some money for smaller scale research projects at elementary schools in the District.

By 2025

• New projects that test the effectiveness of next generation technologies, such as nanotechnology enhanced cooling materials, and innovative building monitoring systems

• Experiments with multi-functional natural cooling systems, such as school based mesquite groves and citrus orchards.

• Research relative educational outcomes for schools investing in building and site green systems, and relative talent retention of businesses who make similar investments.
• Creation of an incentive program that promotes the use of best available technologies.

• A marketing campaign that highlights the second phase of successful pilot projects and experiments in the District.

By 2030

• Updated code that builds upon lessons learned from pilot projects and uses new heat mapping to target areas in the District where aggressive cooling investments are needed.

• A regenerative code that adjusts standards for cooling and water management projections.

4.3.2. Details on Investment Options for Buildings and Sites

4.3.2.1 On-Site Reuse and Harvesting

Bioretention basins, tree pockets, water harvesting, and greywater systems are landscape and building elements that collect, filter, and slowly release water. Reusing “greywater” from non-toilet inside uses and capturing and “harvesting” rainwater both reduce potable water use in and around buildings. Greywater includes wastewater from bathtubs, showers, bathroom sinks, washing machines, and laundry tubs. (It does not include wastewater from kitchen sinks, photo lab sinks, dishwashers, or laundry water from soiled diapers.) Greywater is typically used for landscaping outside, or for flushing toilets inside. Water harvesting captures and stores rainwater for later use in landscaping around the building.

This investment contributes to potable water use reduction with appliances that use less water, and substituting the use of outdoor potable water with stormwater and greywater when possible. This investment can also increase permeability promote cooling. In general, properly designed and constructed retention cells achieve excellent removal of heavy metals, moderate storm water discharge, enhance wildlife habitats, and act as windbreaks and noise absorption.

Implementation Tools (See Section 4.5. for more details)

• Financing - Capital investments, Maricopa County flood control funding

• Partnerships - BIDs and neighborhood initiatives

• Codes - Building codes (plumbing requirements)

• Capacity Building - EPA training, Water Use it Wisely Campaign

• Incentives - Tax credits

4.3.2.2. Natural Cooling and Shade

Trees and other vegetation help cool the environment and reduce UHI. They help lower surface and air temperatures, with shaded surfaces 20—45 °F cooler than areas without shade. Trees and other plants are most useful when placed in strategic location where they shade buildings and fenestrations. They may also be placed in parking lots and along the street where surfaces may be hotter.

Trees and vegetation can reduce surface temperatures and support thermal comfort. Cooling effects can reduce UHI and energy use.
Investment Tools (See Section 4.5. for more details)

- **Financing** - Private financing
- **Partnerships** – BIDs and neighborhood initiatives
- **Codes** - Building codes
- **Capacity Building** - APS and SRP Tree Programs
- **Incentives** - Tax credits

### 4.3.2.3. Engineered Shade and Cooling

Mitigation strategies start with the location of buildings, and their orientation to the path of the sun. Facades can limit sun exposure where necessary. The placement of buildings may also create passive cooling systems, which reduce the demand for energy. Engineered cooling materials and practices also include choice of materials, vegetation, and other green infrastructure components (Giguere, 2009). Green roofs, walls and parking lots may be both reflective and pervious, especially in parking lots (Giguere, 2009). Cool zones with misters and other engineered cooling technologies can also be used. All of these components help provide shade and reduce energy demand and temperatures. Shade prevents heavier materials from absorbing the sun’s energy and contributing to UHI. Engineered shade and cooling can support thermal comfort and reduce surface temperatures, energy use, and UHI.

**Investment Tools** (See Section 4.5. for more details)

- **Financing** – Capital investments, and private investment
- **Partnerships** – BIDs and neighborhood initiatives
- **Codes** – Building codes (cool material and shade requirements)
- **Capacity Building** – Cool material training
- **Incentives** – Tax credits

### 4.4. Open Spaces Intervention

The open space intervention refers to investments at large sites including parks, parking lots (or other underutilized lots), and open space on publicly-owned land, such as hospitals and schools.

#### 4.4.1. Core Components

**Aspired Sustainability Impacts**

Through the open space intervention, the following sustainable green systems targets will be achieved by 2040:

- **500 more acres of permeable land**
- **5% increase of District vegetation coverage (~60 acres)**
- **200 less acres with temperatures greater than 130°F**

**Intervention Points**

Open spaces are a critical point of intervention to cool the District, provide social and economic benefits, and retain rainwater runoff. Given that open space is often publicly owned, it is possible to make the argument that this space needs strong investments to maximize its benefit to residents, and businesses in the Eastlake-Garfield District. Schools, hospitals, and new construction of large-scale mixed-use development are important open spaces to make initial investments.

**Intervention Actions**

The following actions are critical in the first ten years of the transition for accomplishing the impacts listed above.
Further details on the actions necessary in the first five years are available in Section 3.5. The following actions are critical for meeting the milestones set in the timeline below.

- Create pilot open space projects at Edison, Shaw, and Garfield Elementary Schools, and St. Luke’s Hospital to increase retention capacity with silva cells, orchards, rain gardens, and other water harvesting and retention mechanisms.

- Design, finance, and construct a civic space pilot project using silva cells that tests capacity for structured water management in a dense area of the District, such as 12th Street and Washington Street, 16th Street and Washington Street, or 12th Street and Van Buren Street.

- Fund research on the effectiveness of technologies and vegetation in pilot projects.

- Commence a campaign to market pilot project successes, emphasizing the importance of water management and the need for increased public space.

- Renegotiate MS4 permit to allow for next-generation stormwater solutions.

- Create long-term funding structures, such as in-lieu feeds for trees and retention, which could be part of a neighborhood association (i.e. Garfield Organization), BID (along Van Buren Street), or CDC (i.e. Downtown Phoenix Partnership).

- Produce a feasibility study for neighborhood water retention on green civic spaces at Edison, Shaw, and Garfield Elementary Schools; Edison, Verde, and Eastlake Parks; and St. Luke’s Hospital.

Resources

The following resources are needed to support the open space intervention. Assets (resources that already exist) are in italics:

- Reinvent PHX to provide goals, and best practices
- APS & SRP shade tree program for increase trees
- Global Institute of Sustainability (GIOS) to research effectiveness of investments
- Watershed Management Group to develop pilot projects
- American Society of Landscape Architects to design projects and create an awards program
- Private capital
- Nurseries for discounted trees and vegetation
- Schools (Garfield, Shaw, Edison, and ASU Prep) to grow additional plants
- Construction companies for discounted or pro bono work to reduce grade

Barriers

- Labor and time requirement to regrade schools and parks
- Existing infrastructure (expensive and challenging to retrofit existing spaces)
- Lack of capacity and understanding of developers who favor cost-cutting mechanisms
- Lack of current organizational capacity (BIDs, CDCs, and neighborhood associations) to manage and finance needed investments

Intervention Timeline

This timeline outlines a transition towards Eastlake-Garfield’s sustainable green systems vision driven by open space over the next 30 years. Much can change during this time; thus, this transition strategy must be revisited and updated. Some of the actions listed as happening by 2025 or 2030 may be feasible before the stated date and could possibly be addressed sooner. The purpose of this timeline is to demonstrate a possible sequence (pathway) to achieve the 2040 vision, with the recognition that some things may come faster or slower. The “By 2020” section includes major milestones that could be accomplished if all of intervention actions in the list above are implemented or at least underway.
By 2020

- A new form-based code with effective rules and regulations for water harvesting and reuse, and natural and engineered shade and cooling that supports using open space for green systems (e.g. using open space as retention for zones 5—6)

- Successful pilot projects at Edison, Shaw, and Garfield Elementary Schools, and St. Luke’s Hospital that lower the grade of large portions of each property to improve its water retention capacity

- A marketing campaign including awards for effective implementation of silva cell-based civic space, neighborhood water retention, green parking on open space

- New MS4 permit that allows for neighborhood retention

By 2025

- Experiments with multi-functional natural cooling systems and water retention, such as school based mesquite groves and citrus orchards

- Updated code that builds on lessons learned from pilot projects and uses new heat mapping to target areas in the District where aggressive cooling investments are needed

- Invest in 2—3 new open space opportunities, such as an urban forest in Edison Park

By 2030

- A regenerative code that adjusts standards for cooling and water management projections

- A new marketing campaign that highlights successful the second generation pilot projects and experiments in the District, and gathers support for public investment in open space projects critical for ensuring cooling targets will be met by 2040

4.4.2. Details on Investment Types for Open Space

4.4.2.1. Neighborhood Retention Basins

Neighborhood retention basins are landscape elements that collect large amounts of water (e.g. parks, golf courses, or other uses). They filter water and slowly release it back into ground water. This investment can be placed near a dense urban area where on-site retention is not possible due to building density.

This investment contributes to permeability, and can be used to promote cooling. In general, properly designed and constructed retention cells achieve excellent removal of heavy metals, moderate storm water discharge, enhance wildlife habitats, and act as windbreaks and noise absorption.

Implementation Tools (See Section 4.5. for more details)

- Financing – Capital investments and Maricopa Flood control funding

- Partnerships – BIDs, CDCs, and neighborhood initiatives

- Codes - Land use ordinances, capacity building, watershed management training

- Incentives - Tax credits and expedited permitting

4.4.2.2. Green Civic Spaces

Green civic spaces include parks, plazas, open space, and public greens that redirect and/or store stormwater with pervious surfaces, bioswales, rain gardens, and vegetation (including trees). Green public spaces allow the Eastlake-Garfield District to be intentional in using open space and stormwater to beautify and contribute to cooling.
Green open space can significantly increase the amount of pervious surfaces in a District, and can contribute to higher stormwater quality. Green open space can also support shade and cooling efforts.

Implementation Tools (See Section 4.5. for more details)

- **Financing** - Capital investments, DOT funding (i.e. TIGER grants), BIDs, and private investment
- **Partnerships** - CDCs and neighborhood initiatives
- **Codes** - Land use ordinances
- **Capacity Building** - Watershed management training
- **Incentives** - Tax credits and expedited permitting

4.5. Details on Implementation Tools for Green Systems
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technical Program Title</th>
<th>Sub Type</th>
<th>Intervention Investment Option</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Sources / Examples / Links</th>
<th>Reduce Stormwater Loads and harvest water on site</th>
<th>Reduce potable water consumption</th>
<th>Reduce daytime temperatures</th>
<th>Improve the social and economic benefits of green systems</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Market Tax Credits</td>
<td>Tax Credit</td>
<td>Buildings, open spaces</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>CDC / Community Development Entity</td>
<td>Any</td>
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The following plan details the aforementioned intervention actions that government, non-profits, businesses, residents, and members of the Steering Committee can take to implement the sustainable green systems strategy. Actions are not sequential, but the sub-actions (a, b, c, etc.) are sequential. Actions are designated short-term (year 1), mid-term (1—3 years), or long-term (3—5 years).

Work with local schools and their districts on green systems pilot projects and educational outreach

1. Complete a 13th Street green street pilot project with the Shaw and Garfield Elementary School that connects the schools with Van Buren with street trees, bioswales, and engineered shade. (1—3 years)

2. Create educational programming about the evidence for multiple benefits of green systems at Edison, Shaw, and Garfield Elementary School, and ASU Prep Academy with Arizona State University, businesses, and non-profits. (1—3 years)
   a. Partner the Global Institute of Sustainability with local school Districts and Gateway Community College to create a green systems educational working group (GIOS)
   b. Gather data from local pilot projects
   c. Create initial round of testing materials and test with students

3. Create pilot open space projects at Edison, Shaw, and Garfield Elementary Schools, ASU Prep Academy, and Verde, Eastlake, and Edison parks with silva cells, orchards, rain gardens, and other water harvesting and retention mechanisms. (3—5 years)

Streets and Transportation Department, Planning Department, and Downtown Phoenix Partnership work on large-scale green streets and civic space projects

1. Seek city, state, and philanthropic funding for Van Buren Street improvement and create a long-term maintenance and street conversion fund with adjacent property owners. (year 1)

2. Make major green streets investments on Van Buren Street through extending Gateway green streets improvements through Eastlake-Garfield to 7th Street. (3—5 years)

3. Design, finance, and construct a civic space pilot project using silva cells that tests capacity for structured water management in a dense area of the District, such as 12th Street and Washington Street, 16th Street and Washington Street, or 12th Street and Van Buren Street. (3—5 years)

Incentivize and market to developers to create open space and building and sites green systems investments

1. Pass code updates that create density dependent guidelines for water harvesting and reuse, and natural and engineered shade and cooling that is dependent on the density of the area. Form-based codes designate transect zones densities from 1 (least dense) to 6 (most dense). (Planning Department) (year 1)

2. Renegotiate MS4 permit to allow for next-generation stormwater solutions. (Public Works Department) (year 1)

3. Create an awards program that honors the most successful uses of the new code, including new technologies (Planning Department) (1—3 years)

4. Develop, Design, and building buildings with state of the art green systems technologies (3—5 years)
   a. Create clear urban examples of onsite retention and cooling in transect zones 3—6.
   b. Market building and sites green systems success stories.
   c. Deliver education and capacity building programming that uses pilot projects to teach the benefits of water harvesting and reuse, and natural and engineered shade and cooling.
Chapter 5 – Discussion and Conclusions

5.1. Strengths of the Current Transition Strategy

This sustainable green systems strategy has been developed based on a community-informed sustainability vision, a detailed sustainability assessment, and a theory of change. These inputs were then processed into evidence-supported interventions and investments to transition green systems in the District from its current state to a sustainable state of fully functional stormwater, biodiversity, and resource management practices, as well as sustainable levels of thermal comfort, energy efficiency, and access to green space. The strategy adopts a long-term perspective that needs to be coordinated with short-term actions and clear roles and responsibilities to be successful.

5.2. Testing Strategy, Interventions, Investments

More work needs to be done to further understand the drivers of the green systems challenges, and to specify the vision for sustainable green systems in order to further enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of interventions and investment options. Further research needs to scrutinize barriers to implementation and potential coping strategies, such as less expensive ways to improve the grade of properties for water retention or how to overcome common maintenance challenges with street trees. This strategy report is intended to provide a basis for use-inspired research that will lead to a culture of evidence-supported policy making as it pertains to sustainable green systems in Phoenix.

Testing interventions and investments is critical to the success of the strategy. The Steering Committee and supporting staff needs to monitor which interventions are the most effective and efficient. Pilot projects can help determining the sustainability impacts of each investment. For example, an early pilot project in the investment of green streets near District schools can help develop an understanding of the ability of that investment to achieve the specific targets, including shade and porosity. If financing, design or construction of those pilot projects proves to be difficult, then investment in green systems on buildings and property may be a better investment to reach those targets. A culture of experimenting with and testing of investment options can lead to effective and efficient policy making that demonstrates the highest impact with limited resources.

5.3. Coordination Across Strategies

There is the need for a broader transition strategy across all sectorial strategies (six planning elements), as the green systems strategy depends on other strategies. For example, strong economic development strategies will allow for more resources to be used to improve the green system of the District. If the economy of the District is strong, then businesses and property owners may be willing to pay in-lieu fees for water retention or street trees, but if economic development is weak then it is much less likely that adequate resources will be available to achieve the goals of this strategy. If these strategies are not pursued in concert, it is possible that these targets will not be reached.

5.4. Anticipating the Next Set of Interventions, Investments, and Implementation Tools

Interventions, and investments are not static. It is most likely that over the course of the next several decades that different interventions, investments, and implementation tools need to be used to achieve the green systems targets set forth. The Steering Committee and supporting city staff should attempt to anticipate possible future interventions, investments, and implementation tools that are not yet utilized in the current strategy. It is also likely that new financing mechanisms such as crowdsourcing or TIFs become viable options, and could be essential implementation tools to reach targets of green systems. While this strategy provides a solid set of intervention and investment options, it is important that these options are continual tested and monitored, while emerging options are explored.

5.5. Crafting the Next 5-year Plan

It is also important to understand that there is a lot of uncertainty about what will occur in the future that might make aspects of this strategy obsolete. Therefore, it is important that the strategy is regularly revisited and revised. Every 5-year cycle should give the Steering Committee, City of Phoenix Departments, and other stakeholders the opportunity to revisit progress towards
the goals and targets, and craft a new five year plan. This will give stakeholders an opportunity to decide on critical actions that include what roles and responsibilities need to be fulfilled in the next five years. Lessons from the previous five years should inform the creation of the next five years, so that realistic expectations are set for what the group can accomplish in this timeframe. While the long-term view of this strategy is important in terms of ‘keeping the eyes on the prize’, it is critical that the Steering Committee and other stakeholders in the District organize their efforts around short-term action plans.
References


Project Report to the Reinvent Phoenix Project, City of Phoenix.


Planning Advisory Service Report, Number 571. Chicago.

