

## **Prioritizing Green Infrastructure for Phosphorus Reduction within Boston's MS4**







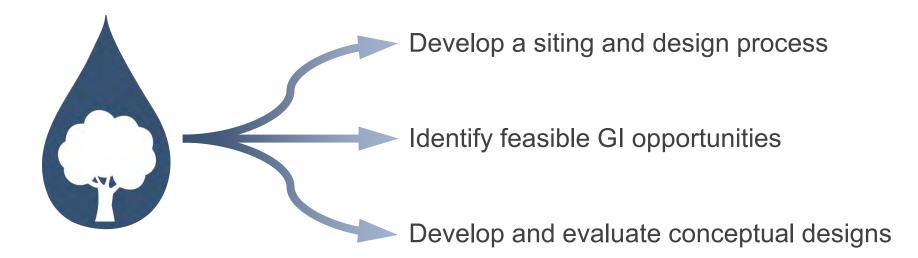
# Area Overview & Background

1,071 acres

Lower Stony Brook

Google Earth

### **Project Goals**



## **Project Elements**



## **Prioritization of Opportunities**



### **Area Assessment**

### **Objective**

Identify and track feasible GI opportunities and constraints throughout the entire study area

### **Approach**

Delineate drainage areas, conduct desktop analyses to rate implementation feasibility, and conduct site visits for 34 prioritized opportunities

### <u>Outcome</u>

Opportunities and constraints recorded for more than 1,500 drainage areas, resulting in more than 400 GI opportunities

## **Drainage Area Analysis**



Drainage areas characterized as:

- High Minimal constraint impacts
- Off-site High DA can be easily managed by an adjacent parcel
- **Medium** Some constraints however drainage area could still be managed with additional coordination
- Off-site Medium Drainage area may need to cross a street or need further investigation
- Low Drainage area is not suitable for GI nor can it
- Legend by another location

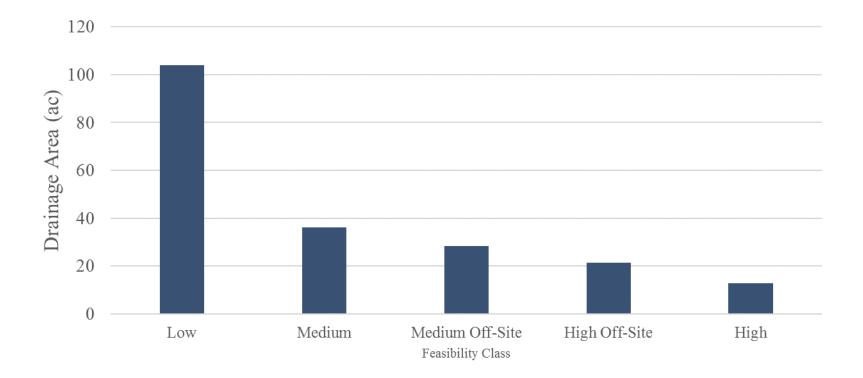
### **Drainage Area Feasibility**

- High Potential
- Low Potential
- **Medium Potential**
- **Off-site High Potential**
- **Off-site Medium Potential**

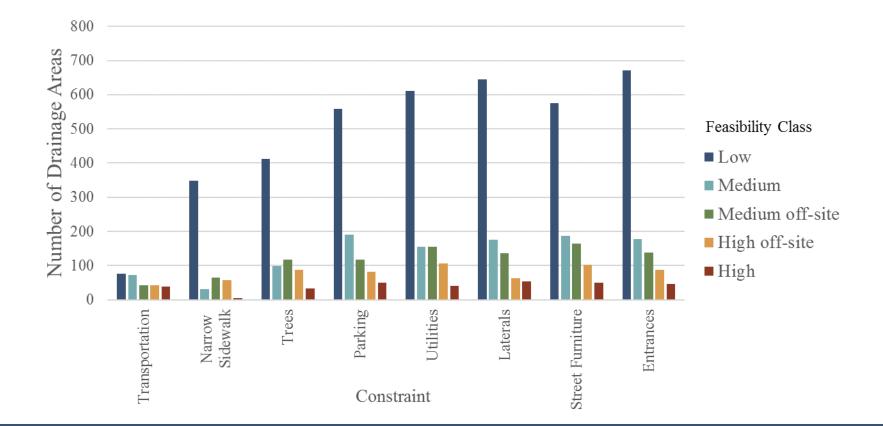
## **Drainage Area Tracking**

	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	<u> </u>	J	К	L	м	N	0	
		Drainage Area	On-site	Nearest		Street		Drainage Area					Alternative	0110	GI	-
	Study Area	ldentifier 🖵	or RC 🔔	Inlet Facility	Inlet	Feature 🥃	Street	Feasibility 🖵	Drainage Area (SF)	Constraints	Opportunities	Infrastructure	Green Infrastucture	GHD	Footprint (SF)	
1					reature 📫		reature 🔛				Wide Sidewalk, Grass	Туре 💆	Infrastucture ·		(ar) ·	
										Trees, Street Parking,	Strips, Additional					
										Possible Laterals, Street	Drainage, Degraded					
2	Lower Stony Brook	1000	BOW	18GCB24	1807910009	1707210016	1707210016	Medium Potential	10.627	Furniture	Sidewalk	Porous Pavement	Subsurface System	_	_	Roa
-										Trees, Street Parking,	Wide Sidewalk, Grass					
										Possible Laterals, Street	Strips, Additional					
3	Lower Stony Brook	1001	ROW	17GCB93	1707910004	1707210016	-	Medium Potential	3,124	Furniture	Drainage	Bioretention	Subsurface System	-	-	Roa
								•••••••		Trees, Utilities, Street			••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••			
										Parking, Possible	Topography, Additional					
4	Lower Stony Brook	1002	ROW	18GCB22	1807910026	1807210024	-	Off-site Medium Potential	809	Laterals, Street Furniture	Drainage	Subsurface System	-	-	-	Off-
			Î							Utilities, Street Parking,						
										Possible Laterals, Street						
5	Lower Stony Brook	1003	ROW	18GCB26	1807910036	1807210024	-	Off-site Medium Potential	4,080	Furniture, Entrances	Additional Drainage	Subsurface System	-	-	-	Off-
										Narrow Sidewalk, Street						
										Parking, Possible						
6	Lower Stony Brook	1004	ROW	18GCB21	1807910028	1807210024	-	Off-site Medium Potential	1,057	Laterals, Street Furniture	Grass Strips	Subsurface System		-	-	Off-
										Second Dedition Densible	Wide Sidewalk,					
										Street Parking, Possible Laterals, Street Furniture,	Additional Drainage, Ease of Drainage Area					
7	Lower Stony Brook	1005	ROW	18GCB104	1807910085	1807210024	-	Off-site High Potential	4,122	Laterais, Otreet Furniture, Entrances	Lase of Urainage Area Diversion	Porous Pavement	Subsurface System	_	_	Off-
		1000	nuw :	10000104	1001010000	1001210024	-	on-site nigh Fotential	4,122	Street Parking, Possible	Diversion	Forous Pavement	Subsurrace System:	_	-	-no
										Laterals, Street Furniture,	Wide Sidewalk,					
8	Lower Stony Brook	1006	ROW	18GCB58	1807910068	1807210035	-	Medium Potential	1.814	Entrances	Additional Drainage	Porous Pavement	Subsurface System	-	-	Roa
										Street Parking, Possible						
										Laterals, Street Furniture,						
9	Lower Stony Brook	1007	ROW	18GCB61	1807910066	1807210035	-	Low Potential	1,577	Entrances	Wide Sidewalk	-	-	-	-	
			·····							Trees, Narrow Sidewalk,	Ease of Drainage Area		••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••			
10	Lower Stony Brook	1008	ROW	18HCB1	1808910042	1808210041	-	Off-site High Potential	8,267	Utilities, Street Furniture	Diversion	Bioretention	Subsurface System	-	-	Off-
										Street Parking, Possible						
										Laterals, Street Furniture,						
11	Lower Stony Brook	1009	ROW	18HCB6	1808910210	1808210041	-	Low Potential	8,703	Entrances, Topography	Additional Drainage	-		-	-	
										Narrow Sidewalk, Utilities,	Course States From (					
10	Lower Stony Brook	1011	BOW	18HCB25	1808910212	1808210076		Off-site High Potential	8.512	Possible Laterals, Street Furniture, Entrances	Grass Strips, Ease of Drainage Area Diversion	Bioretention	Subsurface System			Off-
12	Lower Stony Drook	1011	HOW	1011023	1000310212	1000210076	-	On-site high Potential	0,312	Street Parking, Possible	Drainage Area Diversion	Diorecention	Jubsurrace bystem	-	-	-no
										Laterals, Street Furniture,						
13	Lower Stony Brook	1012	ROW	18HCB31	1808910198	1808210076	_	Low Potential	4,232	Entrances, Topography	Additional Drainage	-	_	-	_	
	201101 010119 07000	1012				10002100110		Low reserved		Utilities, Street Parking,			••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••			
										Possible Laterals, Street						
										Furniture, Entrances,	Wide Sidewalk,					
14	Lower Stony Brook	1013	ROW	18HCB28	1808910052	1808210076	-	Low Potential	5,212	Topography	Additional Drainage	-	-	-	-	
			·····					•		Street Parking, Possible	Wide Sidewalk,		••			
15	Lower Stony Brook	1014	ROW	18HCB44	1808910086	1808210006	-	Medium Potential	4,051	Laterals, Entrances	Additional Drainage	Porous Pavement	Subsurface System	-	-	Roa

### **Drainage Area Feasibility**

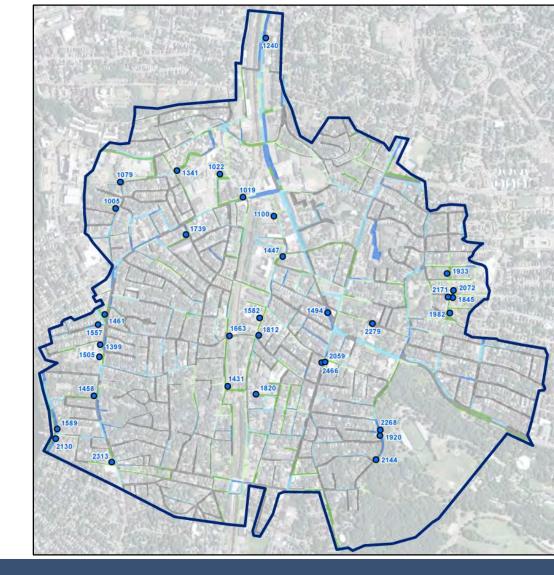


### **Constraints Encountered**

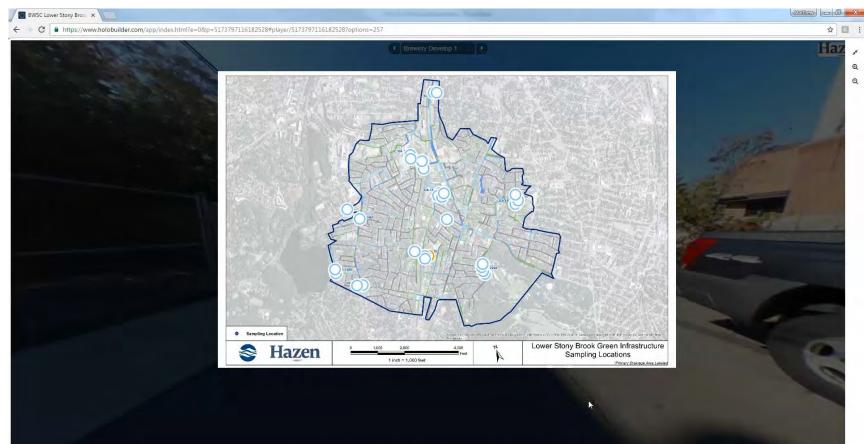


## **Site Visits**

- •34 Site Visited
- •3 sites eliminated concluding site visits due to constraints
  - Poor topography
  - •Numerous utilities
  - Transportation constraint
- •Mix of ROW and Off-Site Opportunities
- •31 proposed locations



## 360° Site Visit Tour



#### ..........

## **Site Suitability**



### **Objective**

Further evaluate GI feasibility and inform potential water quality benefits

### **Approach**

Conduct hand auger soil investigations and collect first flush stormwater samples at 10 prioritized sites

### <u>Outcome</u>

Sites had varying degrees of infiltration and phosphorus reduction capacity, which informed further prioritization

## Hand Auger Characterization and Infiltration Testing



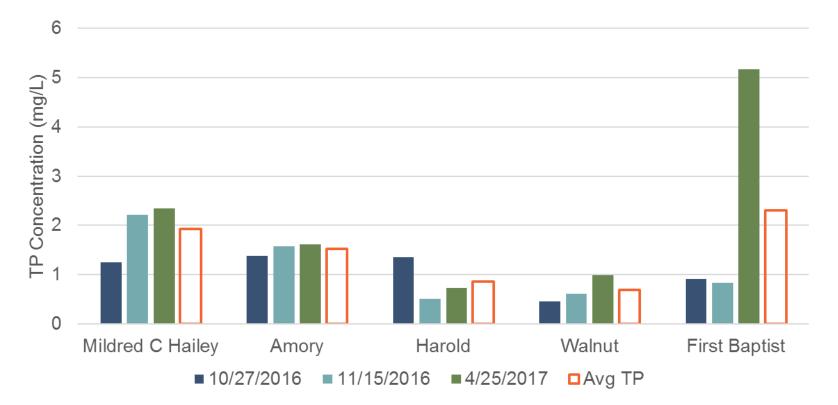


## **Soil Investigation Results**

Site	Raw Drawdown (in/hr)	Design Infiltration Rate (in/hr)
1447	5	0.6
1431	11	1.2
1589	13	0.8
1933	9	2.0
2144	30	4.3
1240	6	1.7
1022	0	0
2313	7	1.0
1820	3.6	0.5

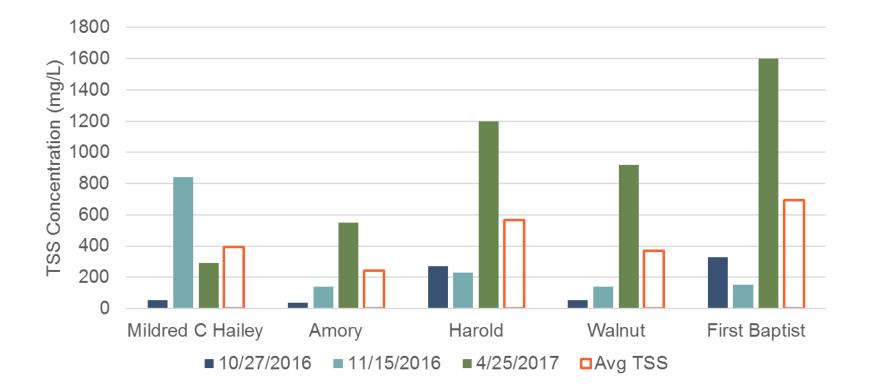
## **Storm Sampling Results**

**Total Phosphorus** 



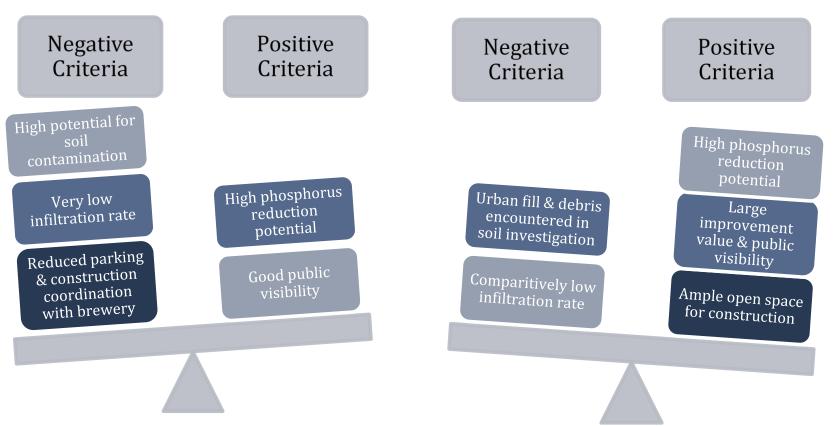
## **Storm Sampling Results**

**Total Suspended Solids** 



## **Site Suitability Prioritization**

### Selection Criteria for Site 1820



Selection Criteria for Site 1022

## **Green Infrastructure Design**

### **Objective**

Develop conceptual designs to present representative feasible opportunities and provide a basis for future design efforts

### **Approach**

Prepare a concept sheet package for 5 sites summarizing the proposed design and key future considerations

### <u>Outcome</u>

Multiple configurations of bioretention design within the ROW, public, and private properties

## **Types of Designs**

**Right-of-Way Bioretention** 

- Linear bioretention implemented within the ROW
- Treatment of adjacent ROW runoff through curb cuts and other diversions



Example: Walnut Ave.

## **Types of Designs**

**Small Catchment Bioretention** 

- Bioretention on a public or private property
- Treatment of adjacent areas < 1 ac
- Often sited in grassed areas, small parks, or other open spaces



## Example: Amory St. & Dimock St.

## **Types of Designs**

Large Catchment Bioretention

- Bioretention on a public or private property
- Treatment of adjacent areas > 1 ac
- Multiple drainage diversions, disconnections, and street crossings typical
- Often sited in vacant lots or other large open spaces



### Example: Harold St. & Hollander St.

## **Design Considerations**

Design Consideration	Description	
Deteriorating Site	Broken or overgrown sidewalk, abandoned lot, or area needing maintenance	
Drainage Diversion	Routing drainage from roof to ground level BMP or street drainage to parcel	
Programmatic	Active construction or existing use requiring consideration	
Transportation	Parking, bus lane, bike lane, driveways, loading zones, state route, or MBTA infrastructure	
Subsurface Utilities	Subsurface utilities within site, intersecting drainage crossing, or within close proximity	
Landscaping	Existing trees, bushes, or planters	
Surface Structures	Utility poles, enclosures, sidewalk furniture, etc.	
Topography	Steep grades, significant elevation drop/increase	

#### **Design Calculations**

- Estimate bioretention footprint
  - 5-7% of tributary area (43,560 ft<sup>2</sup>) = 2,178 3,049 ft<sup>2</sup>
- Calculate water quality volume

$$WQv = \frac{WQ_{Depth}}{12} * Area_{Impervious}$$
$$\cdot WQ_{Depth} = 1\text{-inch}$$

- WQv= 3,650 ft<sup>3</sup>
- Calculate drawdown time

 $Time_{drawdown} = \frac{WQv}{K * Bottom Area}$ 

- WQv = 3,650 ft<sup>3</sup>
- K = 7.3 in/hr (assumed from field investigations)
- Bottom Area = 3,073 ft<sup>2</sup>
- Drawdown Time = 1.95 hours
- Stormwater Handbook guidelines < 24-hours</li>
- Calculate storage volume

 $Storage = Area * (D_{Surface} + D_{Soil} * Porosity_{Soil} + D_{Stone} * Porosity_{Stone})$ 

- D<sub>surface</sub> = 9-inches
- D<sub>soil</sub> = 3-feet
- D<sub>stone</sub> = 1-foot
- Porosity<sub>Soil</sub> = 0.3
- Porosity<sub>Stone</sub> = 0.4
- Storage Volume = 6,300 ft<sup>3</sup> > WQv

- Estimate phosphorus load reduction
  - Calculate annual volume

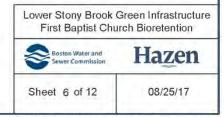
$$Vol = Rv * A * (\frac{P}{12})$$
  $Rv = 0.05 * (0.009 * \% Imp)$ 

- % Impervious = 90%
- Catchment Area = 43,560 ft<sup>2</sup>
- · Annual Rainfall = 44 in
- Annual Runoff Volume = 137,359 ft<sup>3</sup>
- Calculate annual TP load

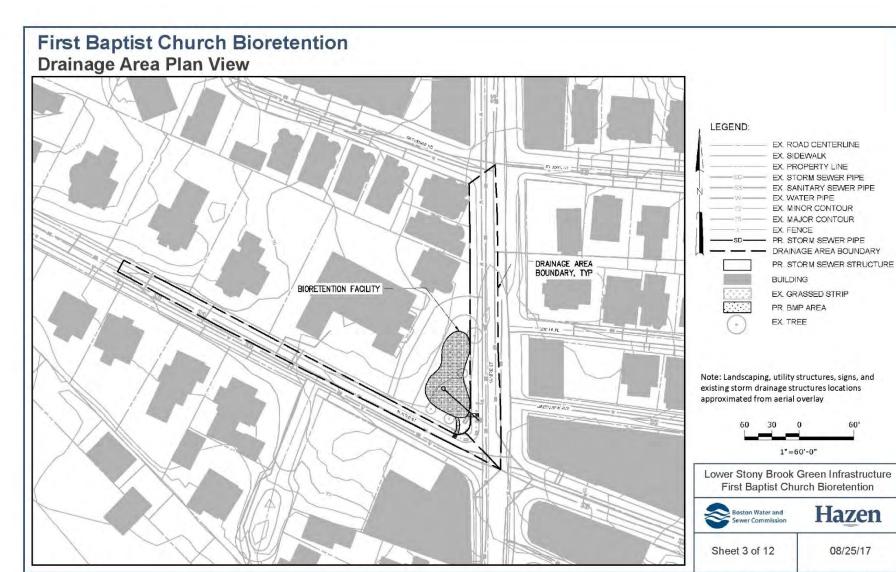
$$TP \ Load = Vol \ * \frac{EMC}{16018}$$

- Influent EMC = 1.74 mg/l
- Effluent EMC = 0.12 mg/l

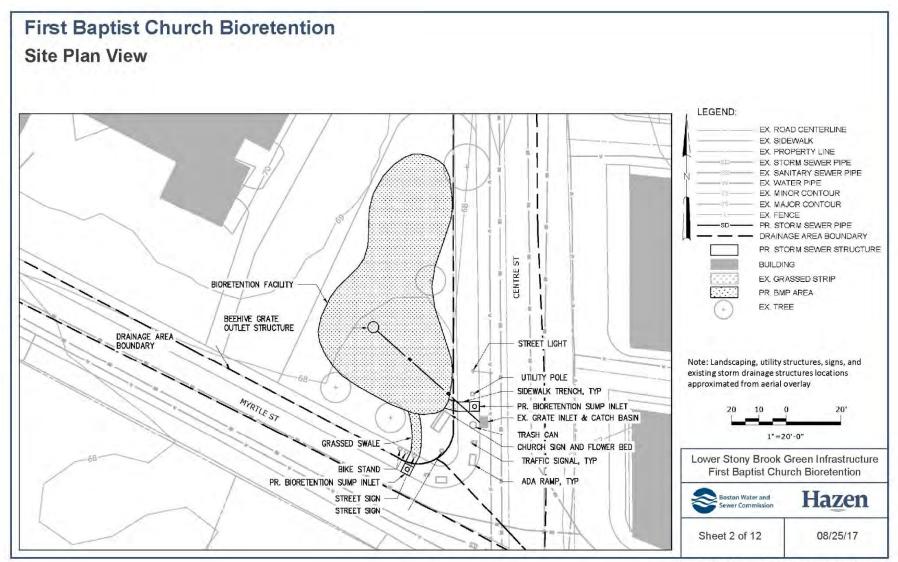
Component	Ratio	Volume	Load
Inflow	100%	137,359 ft <sup>3</sup>	14.9 lb/yr
Overflow	10%	13,736 ft <sup>3</sup>	1.49 lb/yr
Outflow	10%	13,736 ft3	0.10 lb/yr
Infiltration Loss	80%	109,887 ft <sup>3</sup>	0.82 lb/yr
Total Discharge	20%	27,472 ft <sup>3</sup>	1.60 lb/yr
		Load Reduction	13.3 lb/yr (89%)



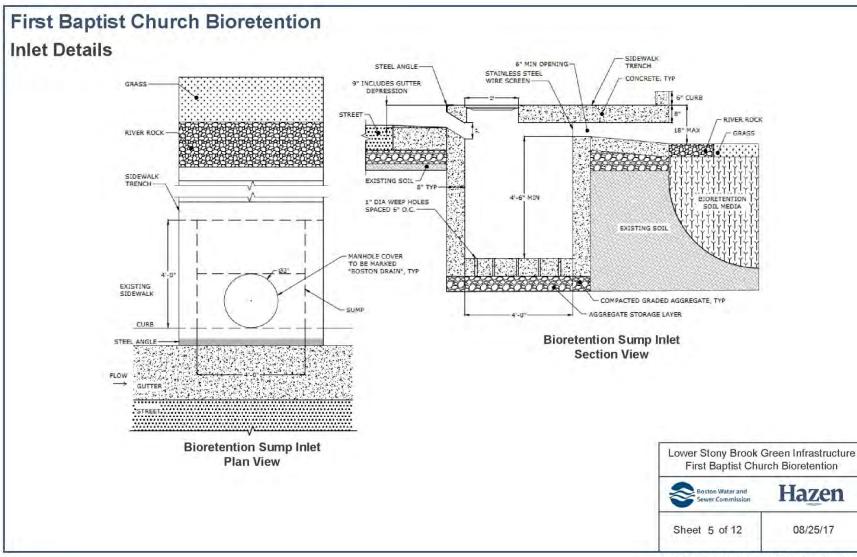
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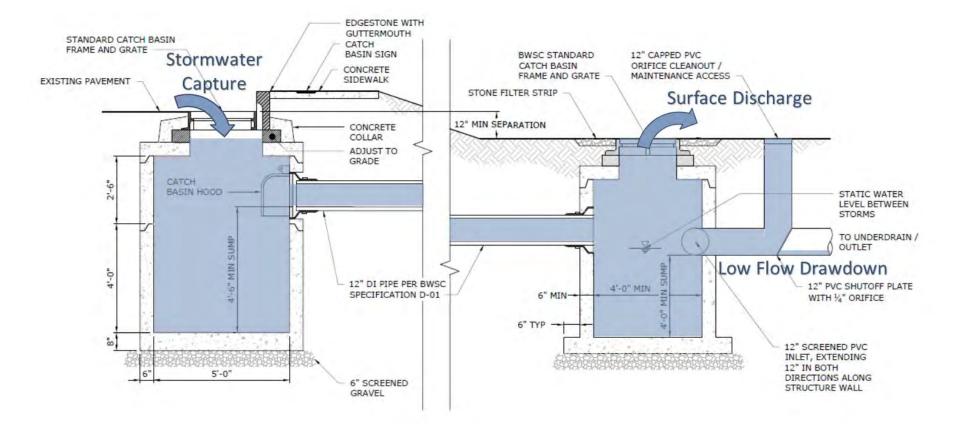


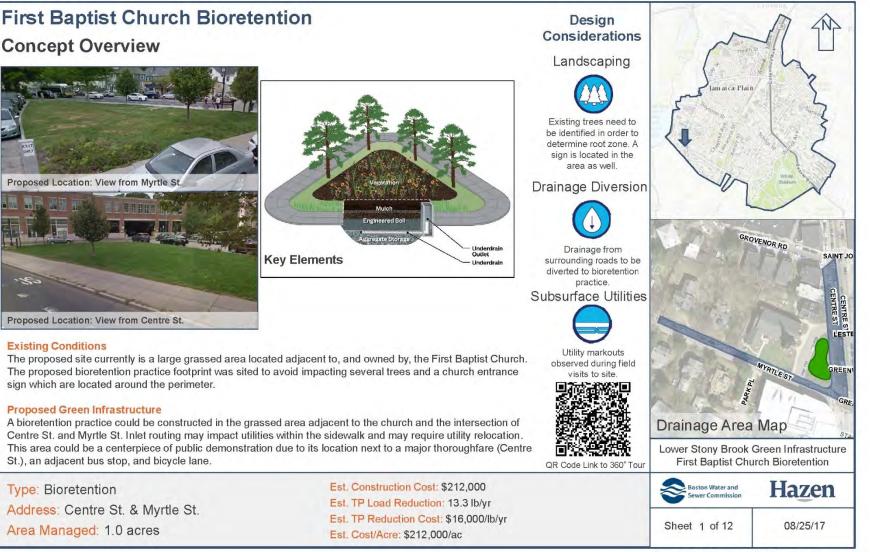
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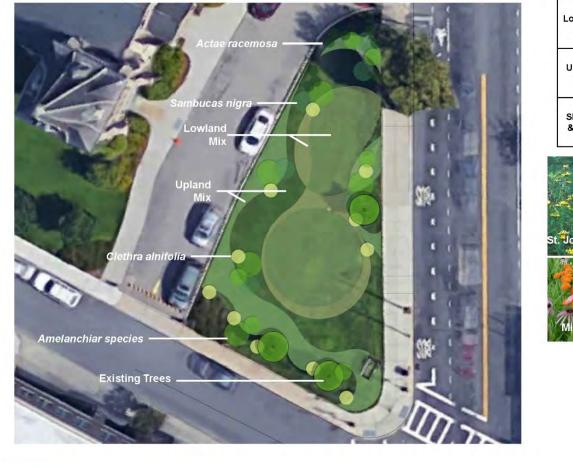
## **Stormwater Diversion Design**





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### First Baptist Church Bioretention Planting Plan



	Genus and Species	Common Name		
Lowland Mix	Andropogon gerardii Carex formosa Panicum virgatum Polygonum hydropiper	Big Blue Stem Handsome Sedge Switchgrass Marsh Pepper Knotweed		
Upland Mix	Asclepias tuberosa Eupatorium fistulosum Hypericum ascyron Monarda fistulosa	Butterfly Milkweed Joe Pye Weed Great St. John's-wort Wild Bergamot		
Shrubs & Tree	Actaea racemose Amelanchiar speicies Clethra alnifolia Sambucas nigra 'Eva ppaf'	Bugbane Serviceberry Sweet Pepperbush Black lace Elderberry		
-				
John*s-v	vort Cohosh Joe P	ye Weed Switchgrass		
Ĵohn*s-v	vort Cohosh Joe P	ye Weed Switchgrass		



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### **Construction and Material Specifications: Key Points**

#### Materials

#### Aggregates

- Shall be double washed and free of fines and foreign material.
- Shall have no more than 0.5% wash loss per AASHTO T-11 wash loss test.
- Shall have a minimum installed porosity of 0.4.

#### **Bioretention Soil Media**

- Shall be a homogeneous mix consisting of:
  - Sand: 85-88%
  - Silt and Fines: 8-12%
  - Organic Content: 3-5%
  - Clay Fraction: <2%
- Shall have a phosphorus content (Mehlich-3) of 15 60 mg/kg P.
- Shall have a minimum installed infiltration rate of 2 in/hr.

#### Underdrains

- · Shall be constructed of SDR 35 smooth wall PVC pipe.
- The minimum pipe diameter shall be 12 inches.
- A minimum of 4 rows of 3/8 inch diameter perforations shall be provided around the diameter of the underdrain pipe and the perforations shall be placed 6 inches on center.
- · Filter socks or geotextile fabric shall not be used to wrap the underdrain pipes.
- · Cleanouts shall be provided at the end of all underdrain lines.

#### Vegetation

 Plant size should be no less than 2.5" diameter at breast height (DBH) for trees, 3-gallon for shrubs, and 1-quart for herbaceous plants.

#### Mulch (if needed)

- Shall be placed in a uniform 3" layer above the bioretention soil media.
- Shall be triple shredded hardwood mulch, free of weed seeds, soil, roots, and other material that is not bole or branch wood or bark. No pine needles, pine bark, or wood chips shall be used.
- Shall be at least 6 months old.

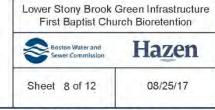
#### **River Rock**

- Shall be double washed and free of fines and foreign material.
- Shall be 1-3 inches, a neutral shade of white or brown, and free from jagged edges.

#### Execution

- The Contractor shall protect bioretention surfaces, excavations, and materials storage areas from severe weather conditions and contamination by dust, dirt, mud, cement, or other fine-grained material or sediment.
- · Bioretention areas shall not be used as sediment and erosion control facilities.
- The method of excavation shall minimize compaction and surface sealing of the bottom of the bioswale.
- Prior to installation of the stone base, the bottom of the excavation shall be scarified to a minimum depth of 6 inches to alleviate any compaction of the facility bottom. The soil shall not be saturated at the time of rototilling and the stone base shall be placed after the soil has been tilled and before rain is forecast.
- No equipment shall be used to compact any portion of the bioretention installation, except hand tools to encourage natural settling.
- · No equipment shall be driven over/in the bioretention area.
- Soil analysis shall be submitted to the Engineer for approval prior to placement in the bioretention area.
- Soil media shall be installed in lifts of no more than 12 inches. Water lifts lightly
  with a supply of clean water to encourage natural settlement. The surface of each
  lift shall be scarified by raking immediately prior to placing the next lift.
- After installation, the soil media shall be tested with a double ring infiltrometer (ASTM D3385) or Engineer approved alternative testing methodology to determine an actual drainage rate. The permeability should fall between 2 and 6 inches per hour.
- No fertilizer shall be added unless directed by the Engineer.

#### See separate specification documents for additional details



#### Maintenance Requirements

#### Litter and Debris

**Issue:** Litter and debris, such as fallen leaves or branches, may be dropped, blown, or carried by runoff into the bioretention area. Litter and debris are aesthetic nuisances and can affect plant growth and drainage performance; they also have potential to add phosphorus if not removed.

Task: All litter and debris should be removed from the inlets and bioretention by hand or with hand tools and disposed of off-site as trash or yard waste. Be careful not to trample bioretention plants during removal.

#### **Blocked Inlet**

**Issue:** Sediment, trash, or debris can collect within or immediately downstream of the inlet. Even a small sediment deposit can prevent runoff from entering the bioretention area.

Task: The inlets should be inspected monthly and after storm events with more than an inch of rainfall. Any sediment, litter, or debris collected at the inlet should be removed with a hand shovel and disposed of.

#### Erosion

Issue: The flow of water within the bioretention area could form small gullies or bare spots, especially around inlets and sloped areas.

Task: For small areas, less than 2" deep and 6" wide, use a rake to smooth the area and recover with mulch/river stone. For deeper or larger areas, add bioretention soil to make the surface even, smooth the area with a rake, and add mulch/river stone to the surface. If flow continues to cut into these areas, cover the surface of that area with 1" diameter stone.

#### Surface Clogging

Issue: Over time, the bioretention area may become clogged by sediment, leaf debris, and surface compaction, keeping standing water on the surface for too long. Standing water more than 48 hours after a storm suggests significant clogging. Task: Using a hand rake, work around the plants to remove and dispose of the surface mulch/river stone and top 1-2" of soil below the mulch/river stone. Replace the removed soil with bioretention soil meeting construction specifications and cover with mulch/river stone. This maintenance task should be done annually in the fall or if the bioretention soil is draining poorly.

#### **Snow Removal and Spring Restoration**

**Issue:** Piling snow on the bioretention surface may concentrate salts, damage vegetation, and compact bioretention soils.

Task: Minimize snow stockpiles over bioretention areas where possible. Bioretention should be inspected and maintained after each snow melt. Required maintenance after snow melt is likely to include removal of litter and debris, and removal or pruning of severely damaged plants. In the spring, test the bioretention for surface clogging and plant health and perform corrective maintenance as needed.

#### Weed Growth

**Issue:** Weeds may grow within the bioretention area, impacting aesthetics and crowding desirable vegetation.

Task: Consult planting plan and remove plants by hand that don't appear within the plan. Dispose of plant material as yard waste. Fill any holes within the bioretention soil and cover exposed soil areas with mulch/river stone.

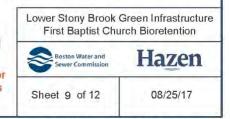
#### Vegetation Health

**Issue:** Bioretention plants may die or become damaged over time due to a variety of factors including foot traffic, constantly saturated soils, drought, snow, or contaminated stormwater. Healthy bioretention vegetation is important to maximize pollutant removal, infiltration rates, and aesthetics.

Task: Because the bioretention is a water quality feature, fertilizer and pesticides should not be used. Dead plants should be removed and replaced as soon as possible with a plant of the same species and similar size. When replacing plants, use bioretention soil meeting construction specifications to fill any holes. New plants may require watering during extended dry periods.







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### **Maintenance Checklist**

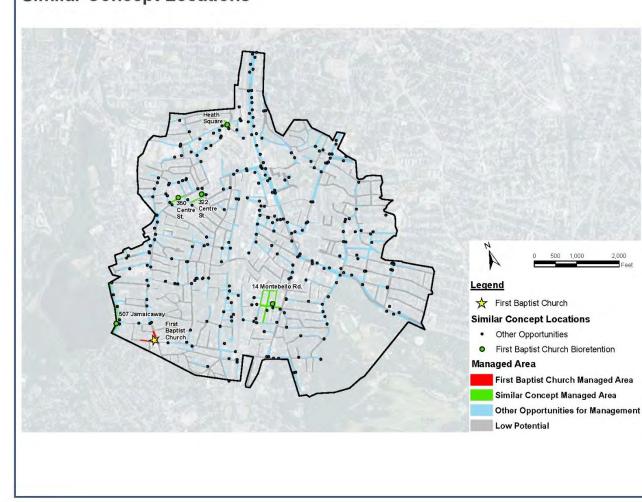
Date: Site:	Date: Site:				
Inspector:	Maintenance Coordinator:				
24-hr Rainfall: inches	Maintenance Note: Only check the items where maintenance was necessary and was completed. If needed maintenance was not completed, indicate the expected completion date. Weeds Removed:				
Inspection Inlet(s) clogged?  Yes No					
If yes, specify which inlets are clogged:					
Surface Water? 🗆 None 🛛 Ponded ( Inches)	Dead Plants Replaced: 🗆				
If surface is ponded, re-inspect 24-48 hours after rainfall Outlet structure clogged?  Yes No	Mulch Replaced:  Plants Pruned:  Trash Removed:  Outlet Structure Cleared:  Sump Inlet Structure Cleared:  Soil Surface Replaced:  Eroded Areas Repaired:  Gravel Splash Pad Repaired:				
Underdrain Riser Caps Missing? □Yes □No Noticeable Erosion? □Yes □No Noticeable Sediment Deposition/Surface Clogging? □Yes □No					
Plant Death? 2 Yes 2 No Plant Overgrowth? 2 Yes 2 No					
Trash/Debris Present?  Yes  No Weeds or invasive plants present? Yes  No					
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### First Baptist Church Bioretention Similar Concept Locations



#### Similar Concept Locations

5 other sites were identified with characteristics similar to the First Baptist Church Bioretention.

#### Summary of First Baptist Church Bioretention Similar Concepts

#### Number of Sites: 5

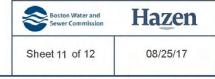
Area: 3.2 acres

% of Remaining DA: 3.3%

#### Characteristics:

 High public visibility off-site locations including churches and active parks & schools

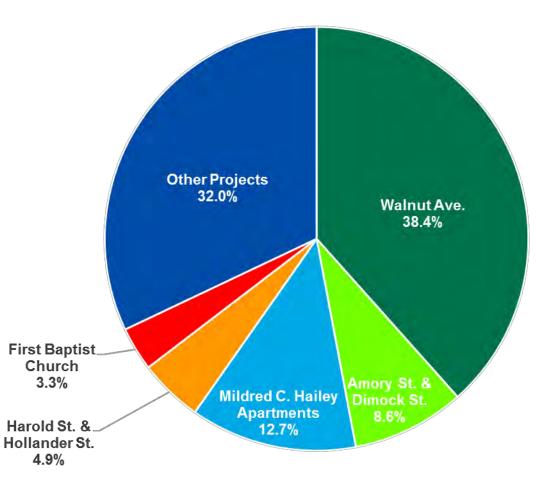
> Lower Stony Brook Green Infrastructure First Baptist Church Bioretention



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## **Similar Opportunities**

Site Name	Number of Sites	Area (Acres)	% of Remaining DA
Amory St.	29	8.1	8.6%
Harold St.	9	4.6	4.9%
Walnut Ave.	205	36.3	38.4%
Mildred C. Hailey	41	12.0	12.7%
First Baptist	5	3.2	3.3%
Other Projects	143	30.2	32.0%



## Conclusions

Value in area-wide approach

Simple, low-cost screening data

Mix of design configurations





Ben Agrawal <u>bagrawal@hazenandsawyer.com</u> Chuck Wilson, PE <u>cwilson@hazenandsawyer.com</u> Charlie Jewell <u>jewellc@bwsc.org</u>