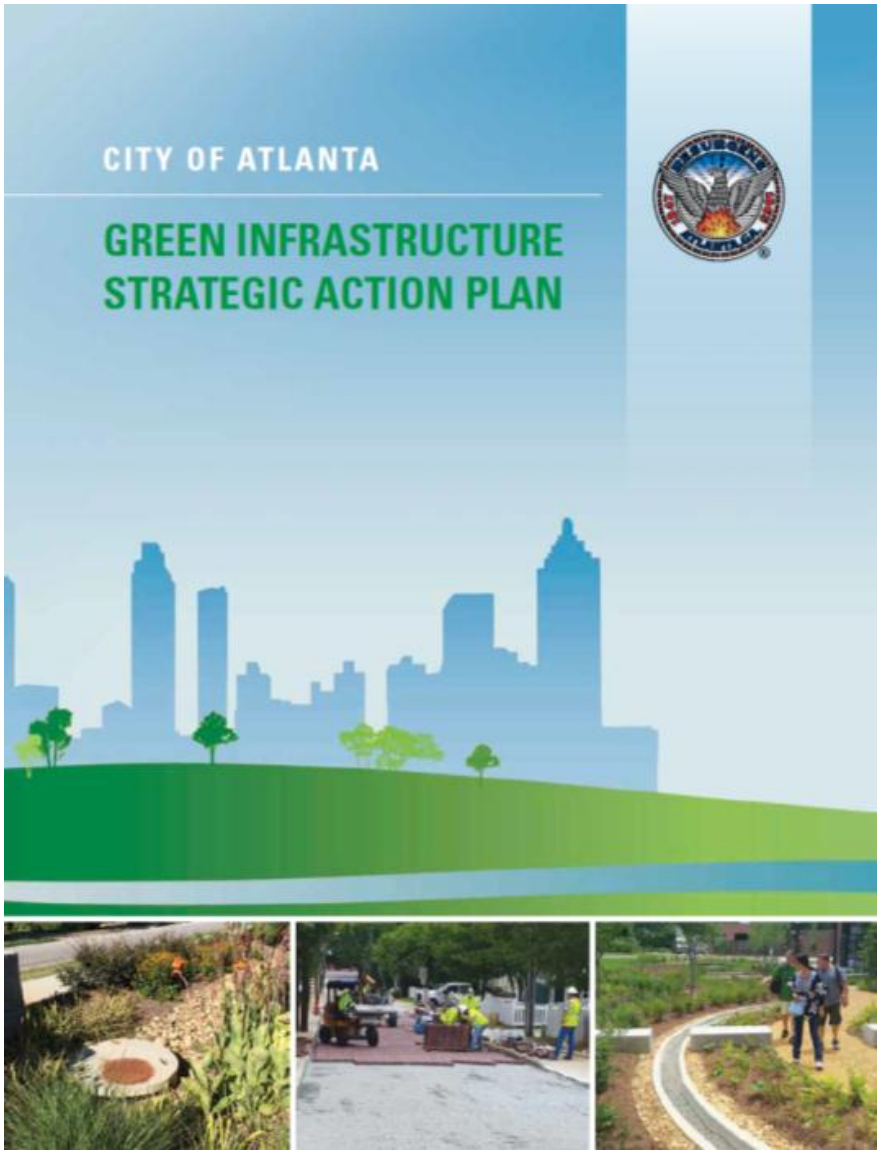

Mayor Kasim Reed

Green Infrastructure Strategic Action Plan

CITY OF ATLANTA DEPARTMENT OF watershed management

August 16, 2016

What is Green Infrastructure?

Gray vs. Green

Slow, Infiltrate, and Clean Stormwater

Reduce impervious surfaces

Promote infiltration

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Types of Green Infrastructure

Natural Green Infrastructure

- Wetlands
- Floodplains
- Forests
- Stream Buffers

Engineered Green Infrastructure

- Bioswales
- Rain Gardens
- Permeable Pavements
- Green Roofs

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Pioneer Projects 1990s-2011

Green Roof - Atlanta City Hall

Cistern & Green Roof - Southface

Bioretention - Adair Park

Bioretention - 14th St DWM office

Bioswale - Fernbank Museum

Porous Concrete - Felder St

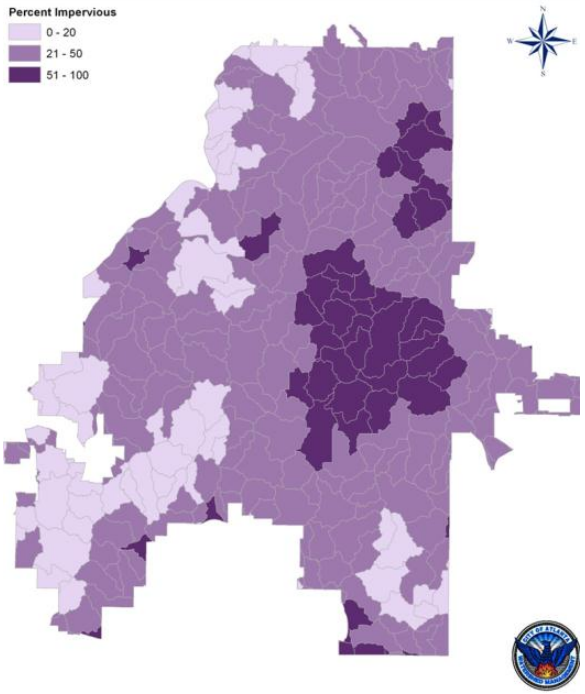
Pervious Pavers - English Park

Wet pond, wetlands bench, sewer capacity relief, urban reforestation - Historic Fourth Ward

Bioswale - Klaus Building - GT campus

Why Green Infrastructure in Atlanta?

- **Environmental Protection**
  - *Improves water quality*
  - *Supports Mayor Reed's sustainability initiatives*
- **Compliance**
  - *NPDES permit – Removing Barriers*
  - *Prepares the City for potential changes in federal stormwater rules*
  - *CSO Permits*
- **Community**
  - *Addresses drainage issues in redeveloping historic neighborhoods*
  - *Maximizes infrastructure investments by further reducing combined sewer overflows and flooding*



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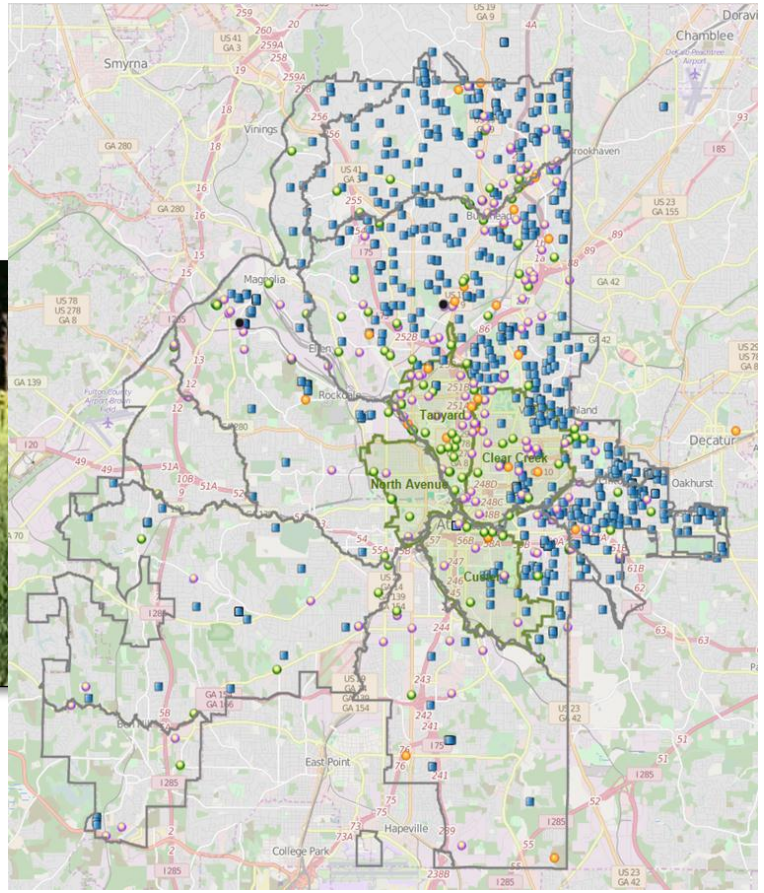
Amended Stormwater Ordinance

Requires green infrastructure
1 inch Runoff Reduction

- New development and redevelopment
- Commercial
- Single-Family

Bioswale - Edgewood Townhomes

Porous Concrete - Delia's Chicken Sausage Stand



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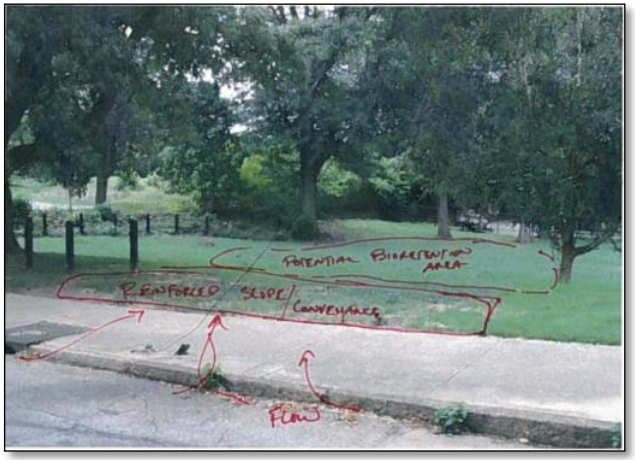
SE Atlanta GI Initiative



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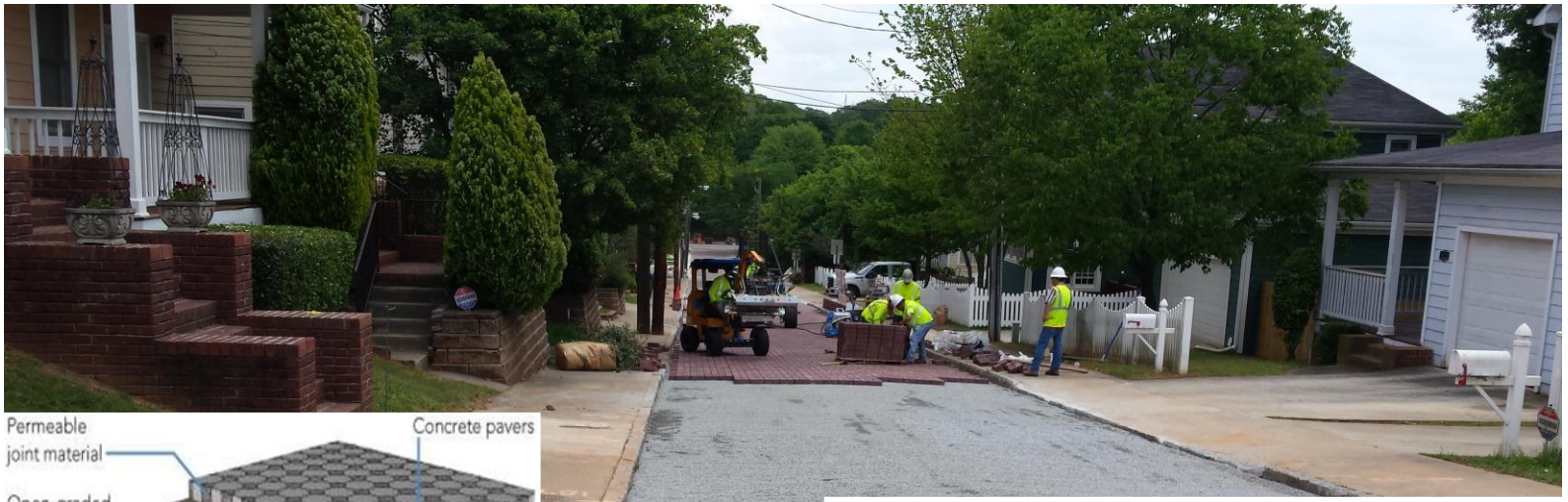
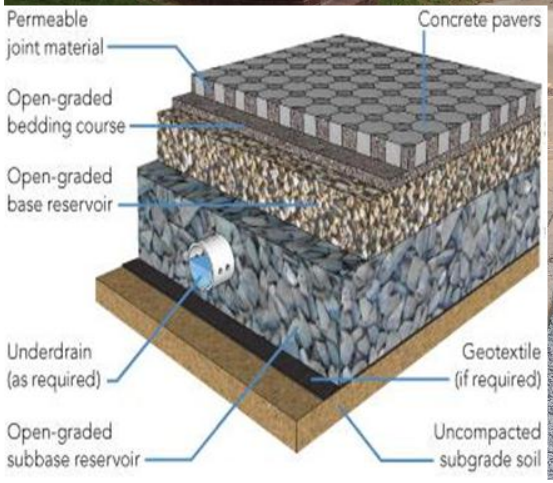
Permeable Pavers, SE Atlanta





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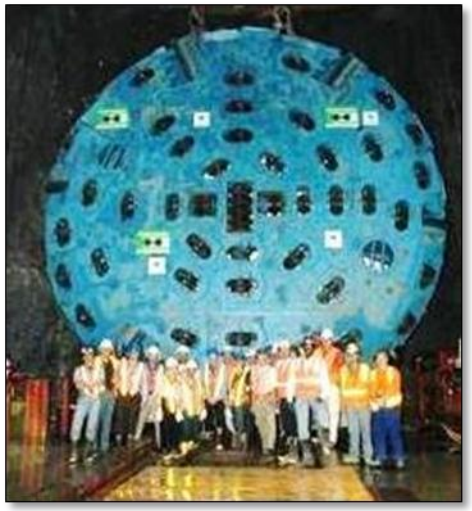

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What's Different?

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Philadelphia Peer Exchange

Dept. of Watershed Mgt
Dept. of Public Works
Dept. of Parks & Rec
Dept. of Planning

November 2012

InvestAtlanta
Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.
Park Pride
The Conservation Fund

Next Steps

- Formalize Green Infrastructure (GI) Working Group
- Develop a City-wide Green Infrastructure Action & Implementation Plan
- Commitment to maximize GI in City projects at all stages

Green Infrastructure Task Force

INVESTATLANTA
Atlanta's Development Authority

THE CONSERVATION FUND

American Rivers
Rivers Connect Us®

Atlanta BeltLine

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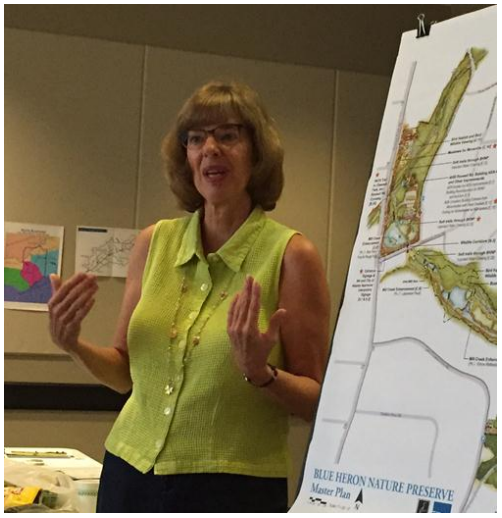
Green Infrastructure Task Force

Brown-bag Lunch Topics

Highlights from the Gray to Green Conference, Toronto 2013
Highlights from the Trends in Sustainable Stormwater Management workshop 2013
American Rivers: Green Infrastructure Across the U.S.: Success Stories, Lessons Learned, and Available Resources.
Highlights from The Conservation Fund's Green Infrastructure 201 course
Panel discussion: "GI Projects in the Right-of-Way."
GI in urban design
GI in the Flint River headwaters
Southeast Atlanta Green Infrastructure Initiative
Ga Tech's Eco-Commons Project
2013 Post Development Stormwater Mgmt. Ordinance
Three green roof case studies: the Nashville Convention Center; Emory University's Green Roof research; and the Chicago City Hall.
Stormwater management benefits of Blue Heron Nature Preserve



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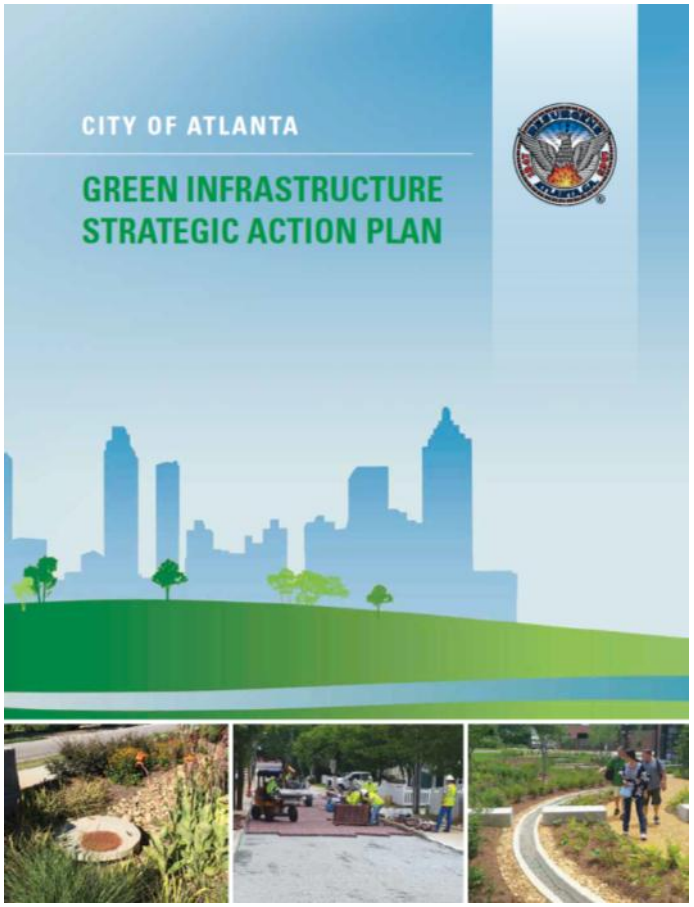
Strategic Action Plan



Green Infrastructure Strategic Action Plan Implementation

Actions:

- Project Implementation
- Policy, Funding, & Planning
- Partnering & Outreach
- Data Tracking & Technical Analysis

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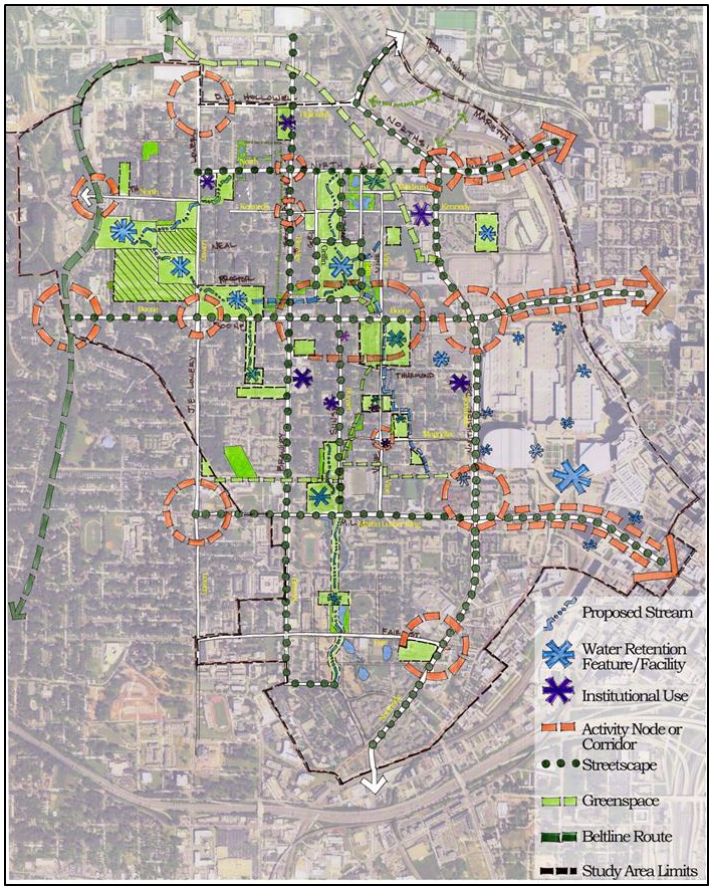
Action: **Project Implementation**

- CIP
- Complete Streets guidance
- Municipal Option Sales Tax (MOST) for stormwater
- TSPLOST, etc.

Action: **Policy, Funding, & Planning**

- Integration
- O&M Plan
- Code Revision
- Grants and Incentives



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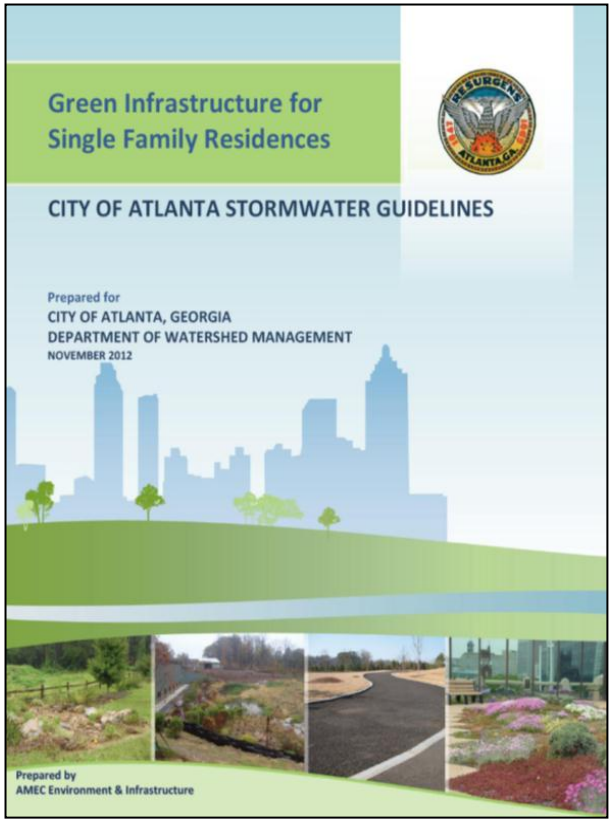
Action: **Partnering & Outreach**

- Public Involvement framework
- Advisory Committee
- Education resources
- Partnership “infrastructure”



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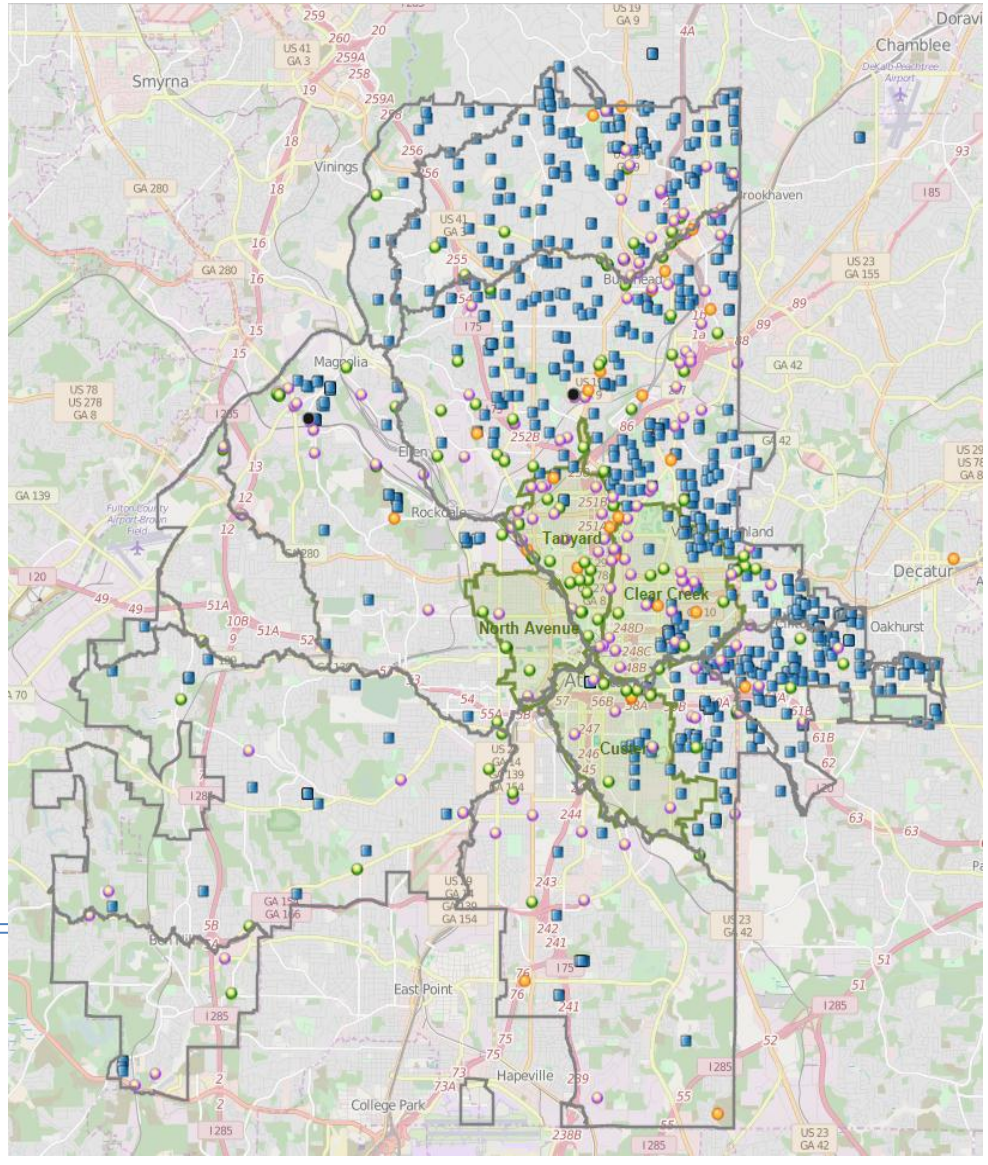
Action: **Data Tracking & Analysis**

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE GOAL:

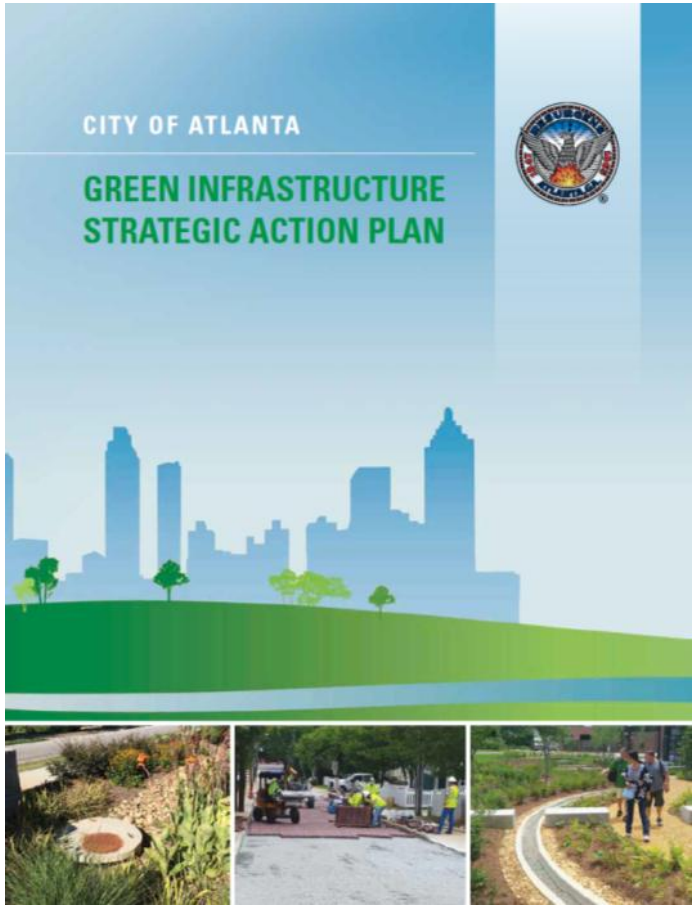
225 **Million Gallon Reduction of Runoff Annually**

(Annual 1% reduction in volume of runoff from a 1" storm)

- Citywide tracking system
- Goals and benchmarks
- Monitoring



atlantawatershed.org



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