

# **Green Infrastructure for Resiliency**

#### Climate Resilience Webinar Series

## CONSERVATION FUND Kendra J. Briechle



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

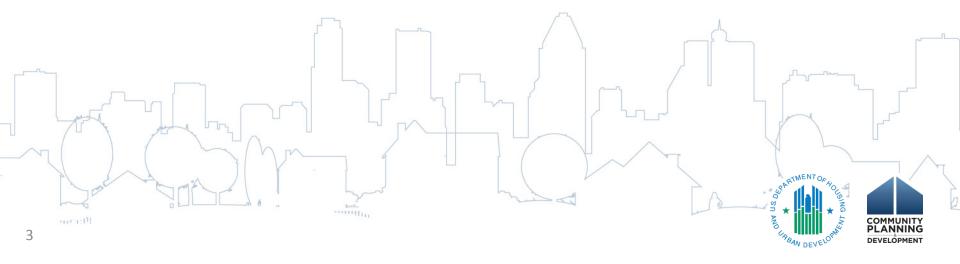
### Disclaimer

- This presentation is intended to provide communities and states with the tools and information to help in climate resilience planning and activities.
- Information presented in this webinar is independent of the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC). While we expect that this information will be useful to interested communities and eligible applicants, *it should not be construed as the definitive word on any singular approach to resilience*.
  - All NOFA NDRC questions should be sent to: <u>resilientrecovery@hud.gov</u>



#### Presenter

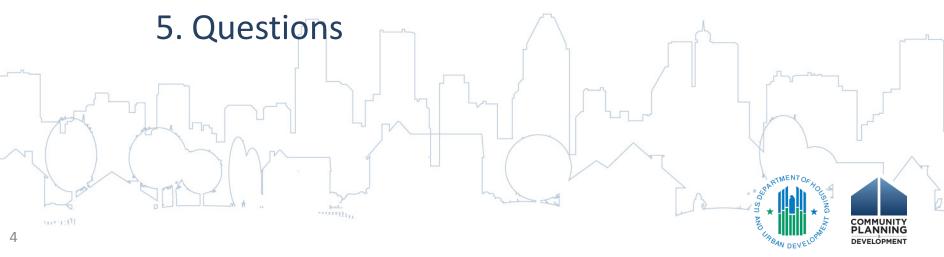
- The Conservation Fund
  - Kendra Briechle, Senior Training Associate, Conservation Leadership Network



### Agenda

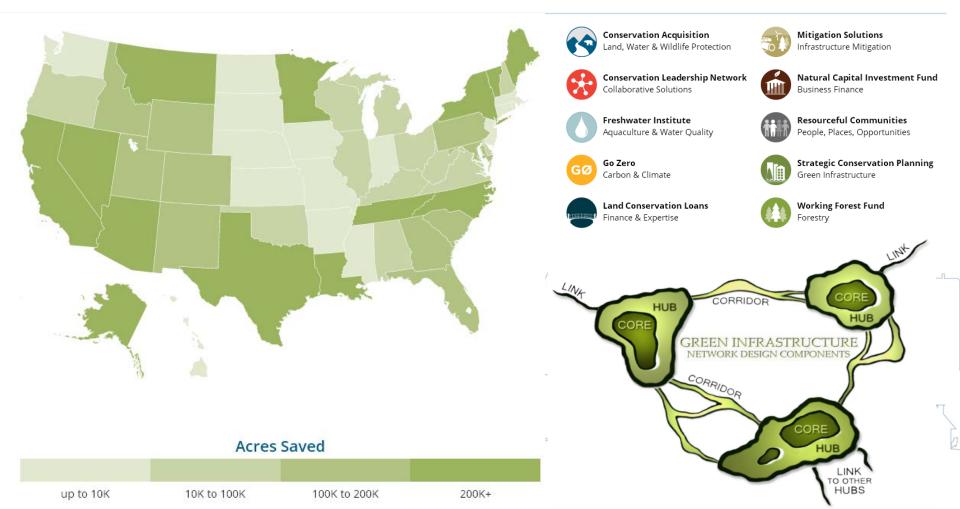
#### 1. Overview

- 2. Introduction to Green Infrastructure and its Connection to Resiliency
- 3. Methodology and Design Across Scales
- 4. Examples



### Conservation Fund

The Conservation Fund works at the intersection of conservation and community—we believe that environmental protection and economic vitality are inseparable.



### Collaboration across the U.S.

- Cities and their regions as ecosystems
- Common vision
- Coalitions shape green infrastructure priorities
- Collaboration and collective action



MISCONSIN

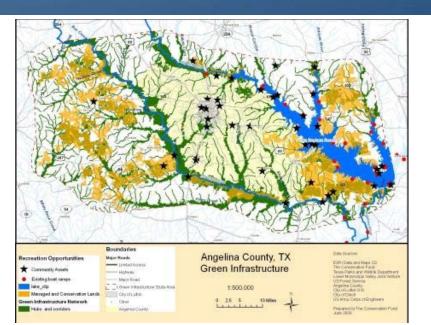
WATERSHEDS

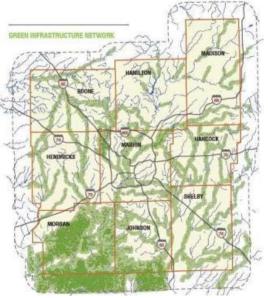
BAY AREA

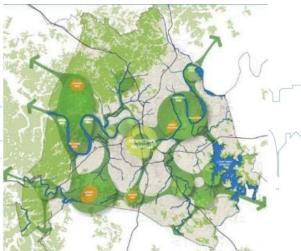
biodive

#### **Other Collaborative Initiatives**









Columbia MO | Angelina Cty TX | Central Indiana Milwaukee WI | Nashville TN

The Greenseams<sup>™</sup> Program PRESERVE GUDE 2001-2010 Ten Years In Review

### An Agenda for Green Infrastructure

#### Health | Livability | Economic Vitality | Resiliency



### Resiliency through Green Infrastructure

### **Opportunities**

- Green Infrastructure Network Design
- Regional Green Infrastructure Vision
- Ecosystem Services
- Climate Change Adaptation / Resiliency
- Re-Use of Vacant and Underutilized Lands





### The Green Infrastructure Approach

#### Green infrastructure helps us answer...

Which lands to conserve?

Where to permit

development?

Where to build roads and utilities?

Where & how to select

mitigation projects?

Conservation Fund

Green infrastructure benefits...

•*Proactive* not reactive;

• Systematic not haphazard;

•*Multi-functional not* Single Purpose;

• *Multiple Scales not* Single Scale, and

• *Scientifically defensible,* transparent decisionmaking process

# Green Infrastructure: Linking Regions and Landscapes

RURAL

A strategically planned and managed network of natural lands,

working landscapes,

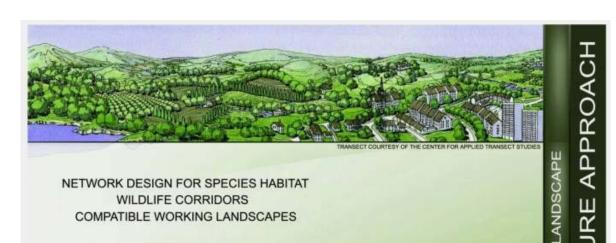
and other open spaces

that conserves

ecosystem values and

functions and provides associated benefits to human populations

Conservation Fund

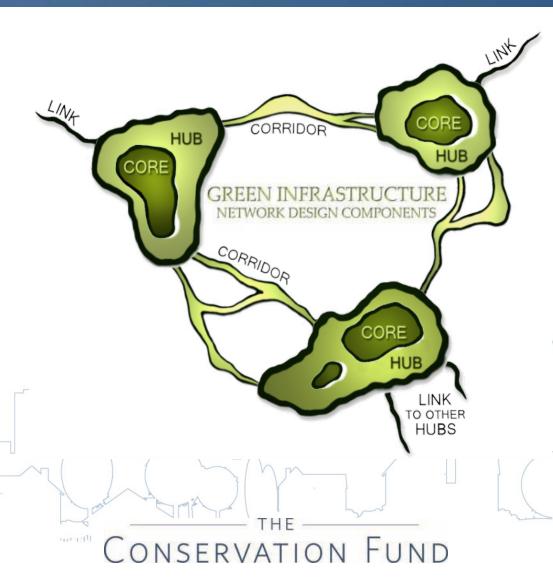


GREENSPACE FOR WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY GREENWAYS FOR RECREATION

LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT URBAN FORESTRY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Z

# Green Infrastructure Network: Protect | Restore | Connect



#### Cores:

- Contain fully functional natural ecosystems
- Provide high-quality habitat for native plants and animals

#### Hubs:

 Slightly fragmented aggregations of core areas, plus contiguous natural cover

#### **Corridors:**

- Link core areas together
- Allow animal movement and seed and pollen transfer between core areas

#### Sites:

Important microhabitats not captured by network thresholds and criteria

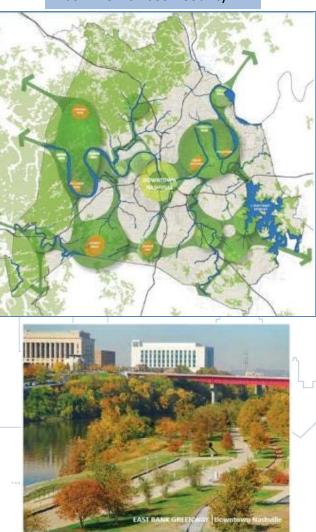


### Scales of Green Infrastructure Planning

#### Downtown Nashville



#### Nashville-Davidson County TN





**NiSource MSHCP WBource MSHCH** Core Aquatic Habitats een ketractractur stwork Design Core Vietlands Core Forests **Rap Prepared by** Aquatic Corridore Hubs Conservation Fund Vietand Conidor Securities 201

### **Regional Green Infrastructure Vision**

ation (Amundsen, Allen and

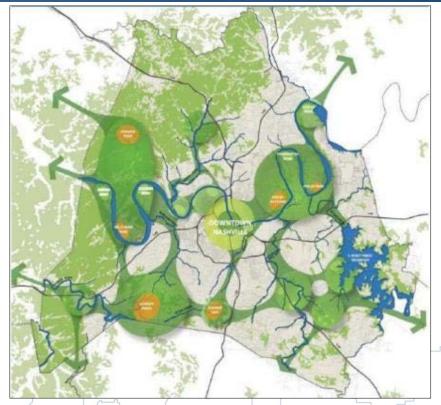


# Nashville/Davidson County Green Infrastructure Plan

#### NASHVILLE OPEN SPACE PLAN



Creating, Enhancing and Preserving the Places that Matter



 County's first open space plan, framework for goal protecting 22,000 acres of green infrastructure by 2035



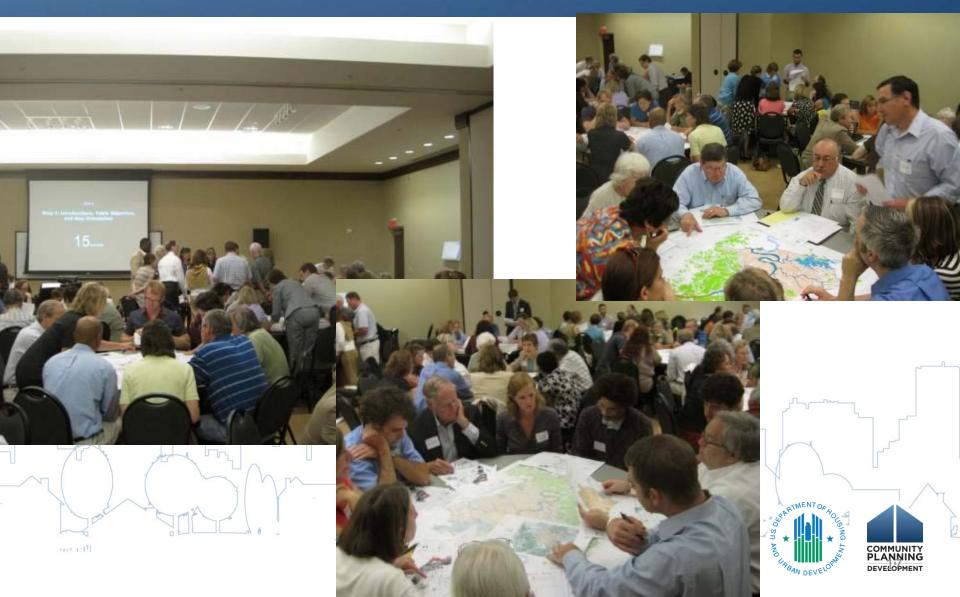
### Need for Resilience



#### May 2010 Record Floods in Nashville



### June—One Month after the Flood



# Green Infrastructure Vision: Nashville TN





**CONNECT WILDLIFE and WATER NETWORKS** 

SUPPORT URBAN and RURAL FARMING

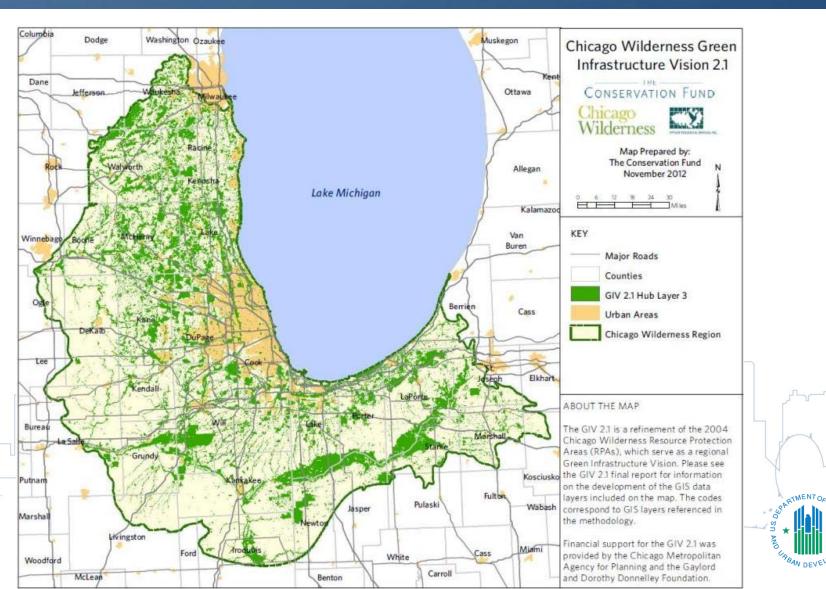


### Chicago Green Infrastructure Vision

COMMUNITY

PLANNING

DEVELOPMENT



# GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE VISION VERSION 2.3 ECOSYSTEM SERVICE VALUATION

 $\checkmark$  6 services mapped within the CMAP 7-county region:

- •Water flow regulation/flood control
- Water purification
- Groundwater recharge
- Carbon storage
- Native flora and fauna
- Recreation and ecotourism

✓ Extensive literature review of 9 ecosystem services

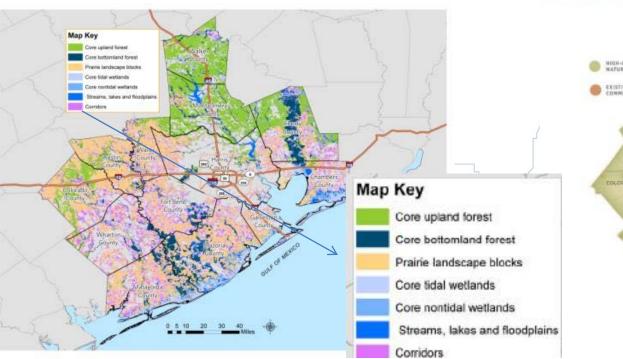
CONSERVATION FUND

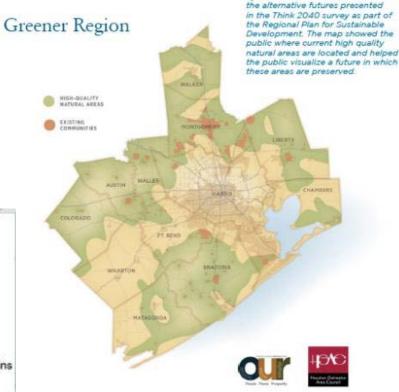
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

# Green Infrastructure & Ecosystem Services : Houston-Galveston

#### GI Network=62% land base

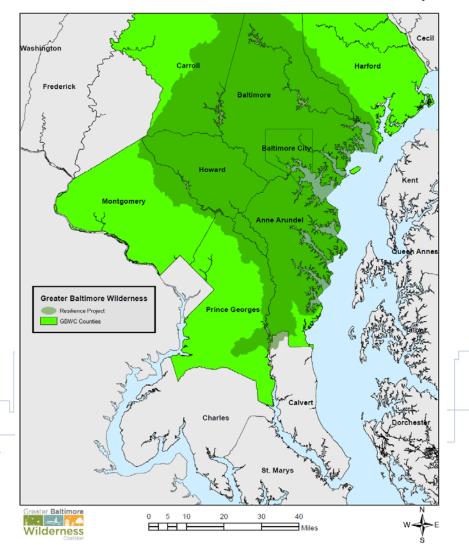
 provides ~91% of benefits for water quality, air quality, water supply, flood protection, and carbon sequestration.





### Greater Baltimore Wilderness

**Greater Baltimore Wilderness Coalition & Coastal Resilience Project** 





#### GBW Coalition & Resilience Project Area



# Combining State and Local Green Infrastructure

Greater Baltimore Wilderness Coastal Resiliency Project



# Green Infrastructure for Climate Change Adaptation / Resiliency

#### **Emerging Approach for Adaptation**

- Building <u>Resistance</u> Retain and expand high value ecosystems
- Building <u>Resilience</u> Recover from extreme conditions (i.e. temp./rainfall)
- Building <u>Realignment</u> –Connectivity from current to new conditions (i.e. allow range shifts and transition to new areas)

#### Strategy: Regional green infrastructure network design

Lerner, J. and W. Allen. 2012. Landscape-Scale Green Infrastructure Investments as a Climate Adaptation Strategy: A Case Example for the Midwest United States. Environmental Practice 14 (1): 45-56.

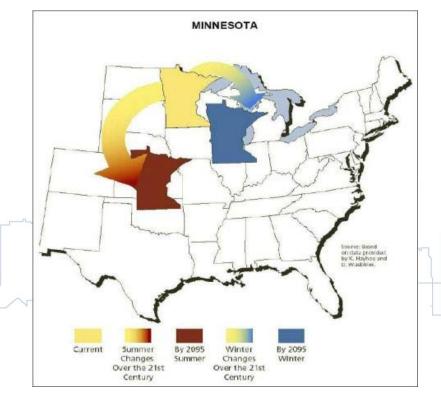


# Climate Change Adaptation / Resiliency

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

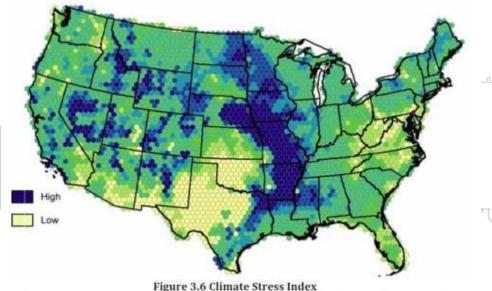
• Focus on multiple benefits and

'no regrets'



#### IMPACTS

- More extremes temperature and precipitation
- Range shifts
- Disturbances Floods, Wildfire, Insects, Disease



(Source: U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Wildlife Habitat Policy Research Program 2009)

# Los Angeles County: From the Mountains to the Sea, Forest to Ocean

#### The Emerald Necklace Expanded Vision Plan – Towards a Common Vision

• Green infrastructure, access to nature, river corridors with natural vegetation, non-vehicular transportation



# Vacant and Underutilized Lands Example: Amigos de Los Rios

#### AMIGOS DE LOS RIOS - EMERALD NECKLACE GROUP





#### **GIBSON MARIPOSA PARK**



PLANNING

DEVELOPMENT

### Green Infrastructure for Resiliency

# CONSERVATION FUND

Kendra J. Briechle Conservation Leadership Network 703-525-6300

kbriechle@conservationfund.org

http://www.greeninfrastructure.net

With the contributions of Will Allen and The Conservation Fund's Strategic Conservation Planning team

