

PIC Grant – Final Report

Project Name: Green King

Date: December 7th, 2016

Photo & Video Documentation

[Click here to see the video](#) - [Click here to see the pictures](#)

Project Reflection:

The Green King Project has successfully created multiple new storm- water structures surrounding Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School in King Neighborhood, and led naturescaping projects around the S.E.I. and N.E.C.N. offices.

The community enjoys the enhanced space and we have received a lot of positive feedback from students, parents and neighbors. We have strengthened our relations with different partners and have provided an environmental education opportunity for neighbors and King School students, including hands-on activities like planting and mulching, and classes that enforced the ideas of green architecture to support water and soil conservation.

Partnering with many organizations we depaved and planted native plants covering XXXX sq.ft. of land. In the future, when plants grow, it will provide even more benefits attracting wildlife and reducing the heat island effect. Many neighbors got involved and some of them are now working in the next phase of the project. Educational activities with kids from King School were done (Planting of natives and teaching the importance of them in water conservation and the attraction of wildlife) and raised momentum to create more environmental education activities, including projected nature play activities.

Partnerships:

Depave: Logistics of the cutting and depaving tools.

NECN: Fiscal Sponsor, Community Outreach

King School PTA: Volunteers

King School: Education Activities

Architects Without Borders: Permit plans

PBES: Education on Native plants

Confluence Environmental Center: Volunteers

Jesuit NW: Volunteers

KNA: Project Management

Portland Timbers Army: Hard core volunteers

Friends of Trees: Volunteers

Groundwork Portland: Volunteer coordinators

Elemental technologies: Volunteers
New Seasons Green Team: Food Donations and Volunteers
Safeway: Food Donations
College Ready: Volunteers

Benefits to the watershed

- Physical/Ecological: Water run off control and increase of native plants
- Community Building: Partnership with many local organizations
- Education/Awareness: Students from King School benefited with hands on planting and learning about native plants and their benefits.

Project Successes

Provided volunteer opportunity within community, space depaved and restored, strengthened partnerships within community, flexibility and maintained management of the budget.

Green King has a more profound sense of accomplishment, and has seen more interest from neighbors looking to join the Green King Committee after the project. The project also helped to deeper partnerships with Fields For All (Timbers) and with Confluence Environmental Center.

The measures of success:

Square feet to be de-paved: 1170 sq. ft
Square feet to be restored with new native plants: 6120 sq. ft.
Number of volunteers > 200
Number of volunteer hours > 1000 hours
Number of people served: >3000
Number of youth reached: >80
Number of students involved > 100

Challenges on the project

One of the big challenges was the permitting and working with PPS, but the biggest challenge occurred after Project Manager Diego Gioseffi had an accident (not working in this project) that created problems in following the projected timeline. EMSWCD and NECN supported Green King and provided great flexibility in extending the project timeline, through these challenges we realized the importance of having more volunteer

coordinators and leaders, and that moved Green King forward to increase organizational capacity and to hire an Americorp to help us accomplish our goals.

Monitoring and Maintenance Plan

We plan to water through the first summers, have two planned weeding work parties per year: in the fall and in the spring.

We've had a good survival rate in most areas, except in the location very close to the school entrance, where we are putting signs to try to discourage kids from stepping on the plants; and also in the area next to NECN, the most sunny and hot areas, have low plant survival rate. We plan to water more often in these areas during the summer months.

We expect that in two years it will require very minimal maintenance and will be integrated as part of the overall maintenance of the area that the King School Garden Coordinator manages with Green King support.