

## **PROJECT 3**

### ***ENHANCING Green Networks and Fabric***



Vision for greenways and habitat areas, Portland 2035 Comprehensive Plan (2016)

In this project, we will look into the future and make propositions for improving the quality, connectivity, and functioning of the green networks and fabric in your study area. This is an individual project.

#### **Learning objectives**

- Learn to think in planning and design terms— respond to the analysis of the study area with future propositions that will repair and improve on the existing conditions

#### **A. SITE-WIDE PROPOSITION**

Responding to your team's diagnosis of your study area, and the ideas for improvements from Project 2, each individual will make site-wide propositions for how to make significant improvements to the green networks and fabric of your study area. Feel free to discuss this with your team and coordinate your proposals.

- What strategies can be undertaken to improve the quantity and quality of the green network?
  - What are the opportunities to improve the connectivity between the green patches in your study area?
- + Anything else you wish to recommend...

#### **POLICY CONTEXT:**

Situate your propositions in the relevant policy context. Find at least three municipal goals, objectives or targets that your propositions support and help to accomplish (for example, the City's Goal 7 in Vancouver's Wild Spaces, or the target that everyone should be within a 5 minute walk of nature is another). See the lists of policy documents below.

Clearly list these goals or targets and state how your propositions help to accomplish them.

#### **DIAGRAM:**

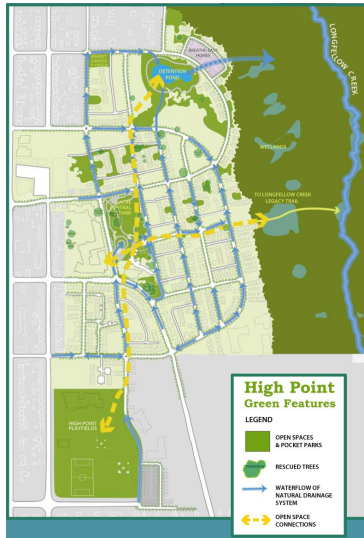
Create a diagram to explain your ideas. i.e. represent your site-wide propositions as one or more diagrams on a map(s) of your study area. Diagrams should include clear graphics with legends. Briefly explain the main concepts in the diagram.

OPTIONAL: Show how much your proposal will improve one or more of the metrics from project 2.

## B. ZOOM STUDIES

Each student will undertake a “zoom study”— a more detailed proposition for a small area of your study area. The purpose of the zoom study is to investigate in greater detail an aspect of the site-wide propositions. It should elucidate and support the site-wide propositions. These might be focused on improving the tree canopy, enhancing biodiversity introducing green infrastructure, improving biophilia etc. Most propositions should include multiple functions and ecosystem services.

- What can be done to improve the vegetative quantity and quality in your study area?
- What can be done to improve ecosystem functioning? biodiversity? hydrology?
- What can be done to improve the aesthetic and spatial qualities of green and public spaces in your study area?



Green Features Diagram. Seattle Housing Authority, High Point, Seattle.

The Zoom studies should look at an area of ~1 hectare (10,000 square metres).

### PRECEDENTS- part of Zoom Study:

Include a few example precedents with your zoom study— these are built works which both illustrate your propositions and provide grounding (real examples exist). These should be integrated with your zoom study.

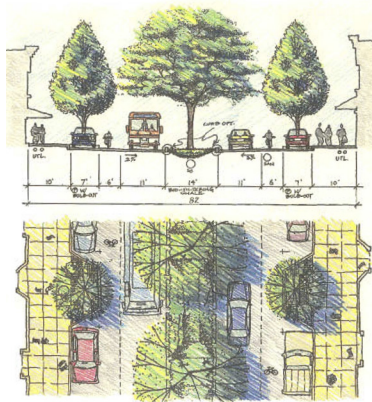


Figure 6-3  
Community Boulevard with Median Bio-Filtering Swale

*Precedent:* Any example built or professionally designed project which is instructive to your proposition and helps to illustrate what you have in mind is viable. Be sure to include both images and text explanation. Numerous examples have been presented in class. For example, Hinge Park is an example of both green infrastructure and habitat restoration. Properly source both the information and the images. See suggested web sites listed on the blog with this assignment.

### ECOSYSTEM SERVICES- part of Zoom Study:

Each student should comment on which ecosystem services were targeted with the zoom study proposal and how they will be enhanced through the proposition. Keep this succinct.

Portland Metro, Green Streets: Innovative Solutions for Stormwater and Stream Crossings, 2002.

### DELIVERABLES:

Each student will prepare a final report for Project 3. The report should include:

- name, project title, date, course name and number, etc.
- study site location in Vancouver
- diagram(s) and explanations of the site-wide propositions
- zoom study location in the study site
- precedent images and notes
- zoom study plan diagram and explanations
- ecosystem services summary
- list of references

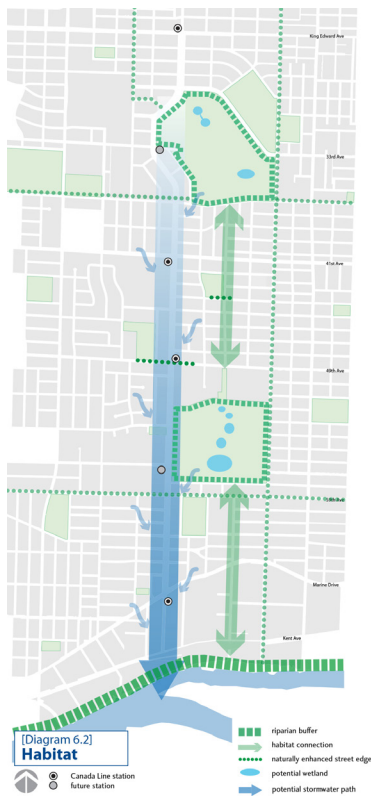


Diagram: Cambie Corridor Plan 2011, City of Vancouver

**GRADUATE STUDENTS:** Zoom studies should also include at least one cross-section drawing or additional illustrations such as diagrams and/or perspectives to more fully illustrate the proposition. Alternatively, a more in-depth precedent study is an option.

**!!! Design your report too.** Make sure the report is attractive, orderly, clear and well illustrated. It should be US Letter size, portrait or landscape format. Approximate page length- 6 to 10 pages. Submit a single PDF. File name: last name\_Project3

**DESIGN AND GRAPHICS ASSISTANCE:**

Two in-class work sessions are scheduled on April 1 and 3. Bring your ideas, partially completed projects and questions to class. Cynthia, Cindy and Michelle will be there to provide input and assistance.

**DEADLINES:**

**INTERIM DEADLINE:** Submit a rough draft of your site-wide propositions diagram with some explanatory notes (hand drawings are fine) + show the location for your zoom study. Also include a short description of your proposed zoom study- what will you emphasize, with what design/planning strategies?

Bring a paper (hard copy) submission to hand in during class **March 25.**

**FINAL SUBMISSION:** Final reports are due **Friday, April 12** by midnight.

**EVALUATION (25% of final grade)**

- Site-wide propositions are insightful, well grounded in context and logical responses to the background analysis by the team.
- Zoom study is thoughtful and grounded in team analysis and propositions
- Study includes adequate depth and is supported by precedents
- Study is well written and illustrated
- Ecosystem services summary is clear
- Final report is neat, well organized, clearly written and complete.

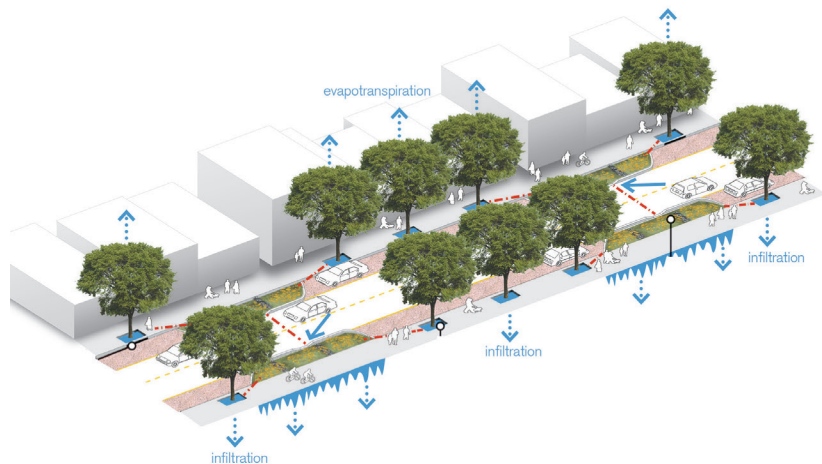


Illustration: NE Siskiyou Street, Portland OR. Source: *UACDC Low impact development a design manual for urban areas*, p. 20

**References:****Policy context City of Vancouver:**

City of Vancouver Greenest City Action Plan <http://vancouver.ca/green-vancouver/greenest-city-action-plan.aspx>

City of Vancouver Biodiversity Strategy > <http://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/reports/REPORT-BiodiversityStrategy2016-FINAL.pdf>

City of Vancouver Urban Forest Strategy & Tree Protection Bylaw <http://vancouver.ca/home-property-development/urban-forest-strategy.aspx>

City of Vancouver Integrated Rainwater Management Plan <http://vancouver.ca/home-property-development/managing-rain-and-storm-water-runoff.aspx>

Vancouver Park Board: Vancouver's Playbook: a plan for the future of our parks and recreation <https://vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/vanplay-parks-and-recreation-strategy.aspx> (this planning process is underway and not complete)

Arbutus Greenway web site <http://vancouver.ca/streets-transportation/arbutus-greenway.aspx>

Look up neighbourhood plans here: <https://vancouver.ca/home-property-development/neighbourhood-planning-projects.aspx>

Look up information about parks on the Board of Parks and Recreation web site <http://vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/parks-and-recreation.aspx>

**Other references:**

Austin, Gary D. (2014) *Green Infrastructure for Landscape Planning: Integrating human and natural systems*, Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge. (UBC online book)

Echols, Stuart and Eliza Pennypacker (2015) *Artful Rainwater Design: Creative ways to manage stormwater*, Washington DC: Island Press. (UBC online book)

Steiner, Frederick, Armando Carbonell, George F. Thompson, editors (2016) *Nature and Cities: The ecological imperative in urban design and planning*, Cambridge, MA: The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.

University of Arkansas Community Design Center (2010). *Low impact development : a design manual for urban areas*. (Library has hard copy. Partial digital copy online.)

Urban, James (2008) *Up by Roots: Healthy soils and trees in the built environment*, Champaign, IL: International Society of Arboriculture. (UBC Library: On reserve)

**Precedent examples:**

See the above reference books and the web links on the blog.