

We seek your guidance in developing this project.

Goal

Acting on existing priority goals identified by community stakeholders in the Duwamish Valley Action Plan, the Health Impact Assessment for the Lower Duwamish, and other guiding documents, we are organizing a collaborative, science-driven project in the lower Duwamish watershed. Elements that are supported in community priorities we're interested in include:

Measuring Air Quality - Collect information at different sites, working from identified locations of concerns: schools, parks, community facilities, and highly impacted areas. Data gathering could utilize moss or lichens as collectors of pollutants or other methods. Information collection could be completed by students, youth corps, or other community entities.

Assessing Mitigation Opportunities - How and where might green infrastructure mitigate the impacts of pollutants and still meet other benefits like noise reduction and health values? Assess neighborhoods, across land use types and jurisdiction for opportunity sites. Consider constraints (e.g. tree species or planting locations) Focus on needs, with priority to most vulnerable areas.

Implementing Mitigation – Plant trees or other green infrastructure with community members where most needed to address impacts identified, and meet other identified goals.

Evaluating Project Benefits - Consider tracking community perception of place, benefits to youth corps or program participants, pollution removal, and other co-benefits of green infrastructure.

Need

Overall, we endeavor to include learning questions identifying the specific things we want to learn from on-the-ground work. However, we need to collaborate to do this well. We want to reach out to partners (e.g. communities, PSCAA, Port) to implement a project, working from what is already available. We need your participation to help identify the best next project that can meet the identified goals, and also implement the project in a collaborative model meeting multiple objectives.

Background

This project is undertaken as one of many under the developing Green Duwamish Learning Landscape, a collaborative effort between communities, organizations, and scientists, to systematically collect information to help evaluate the effects of urban greening and monitor change over time. The content, methods, and operating structure of participatory research projects are considered for their social and environmental impact, and equity implications. Other objectives include leveraging funding to invests in areas of community concern, and consideration of potential displacement caused through green gentrification. For all projects we endeavor to establish monitoring and evaluate impacts. The US Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station has roughly \$40,000 committed to this effort. This funding is intended to support community group leaders who wouldn't otherwise have the financial capacity to contribute, as well as funding work to be completed on the ground.

Timeline

Project scoping and planning meetings throughout fall 2018.

Project implementation 2019, with all Forest Service funds spent by July 2019.

Project site monitoring and evaluation 2019 - ongoing.