Intersection of Green Stormwater Infrastructure and Workforce Development

Southern California Water Coalition
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Presented by:
Victoria Johnson, Consultant, Workforce Development and Economic Inclusion
Jacobs Engineering
Workforce Development & Green Stormwater Infrastructure

+ Importance of workforce development in delivering green stormwater infrastructure (GSI)
+ Opportunities to address workforce shortages and concurrently drive economic growth
+ Employ communities where infrastructure investments are located
+ Generate green jobs
+ Address historic inequities
Renewing the Water Workforce

- Baby boomers projected to retire from the water sector at up to 50% in the next to 5-10 years
- 2.3 million young adults are out of work in large cities and counties nationwide, totaling 17 percent of young adults ages 18 to 24.
Underserved Communities in Utility Service Areas

Utility service areas nationwide include underserved communities disproportionately impacted by:

+ Historic redlining
+ Storm events
+ Flood-prone areas

These communities can benefit not only from GSI, but ratepayers can serve as resources to design, build and maintain GSI in their communities

+ Early exposure and education through STEM Programs
+ Skills building and training opportunities
+ Apprenticeships and Certifications
The goal is to develop stewardship strategies and programs to educate citizens and the next generation of workers to help:

- Develop workforce
- Promote capacity building
- Develop employment opportunities
- Skill building
- Knowledge transfer to foster sustainable practices in the long run to improve water quality

LA Green Stormwater Infrastructure Academy

Partnership with LA SANITATION and LATTC

Workforce development and GSI creates better outcomes
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Utility leader in the intersection of water infrastructure and workforce development

- Community Benefits Policy
- Environmental Justice Policy
- Water Workforce Legislation
- Social Impact Partners

Workforce development and GSI creates better outcomes
Water Equity Roadmap: Workforce Development
Community Benefits Program
  • Summer Works Program
  • Pipeline Academy
Community Benefits Procurement
Annual Workforce Convening
MSD JobLink

Workforce development and GSI creates better outcomes
City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management

- Water Equity Roadmap: Workforce Development
- STREAM Work
- Environmental Impact Bond
- Greening Youth Foundation

Workforce development and GSI creates better outcomes
Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority

• Water Equity Roadmap: Equitable & Resilient Water Management
• Camden Collaborative
• Greening Camden City
• Camden SMART (Stormwater Management and Resource Training) Initiative

Workforce development and GSI creates better outcomes
Water Equity Taskforce

7 cities anchored by utilities in partnership with community-based organizations to achieve water equity nationwide

- City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management
- Buffalo Sewer Authority
- Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority
- Cleveland Water / Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
- Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewer District
- Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District
- Pittsburgh Water & Sewer Authority

Workforce development and GSI creates better outcomes
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