

Transformative Governance of Urban Social-Ecological Systems

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•The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author and do not represent the views or policies of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Green Infrastructure (GI)

- Parks, green roofs, wetlands and trees
- Engineered plant-soil systems
 - * Rain gardens





Soil surveys





- Adaptive Management (AM) Framework
 - AM = Iterative process incorporates citizen and stakeholder input
 - AM: critical aspect of Adaptive Governance



Green Infrastructure. (GI)

Direct GI benefits:

- Reduction in runoff volume
- Increased detention capacity
- Restoration of natural hydrologic cycle



*Green Infrastructure (GI)

Co-benefits from GI:

- Aesthetics
- Recreation
- Pollination



Resilience

- For our purposes, urban watershed is in a degraded regime
- Resilience isn't a "good" thing here
- Must erode the resilience of the degraded regime
 - transform watershed to a more desirable regime that mimics the natural system



Adaptive Management

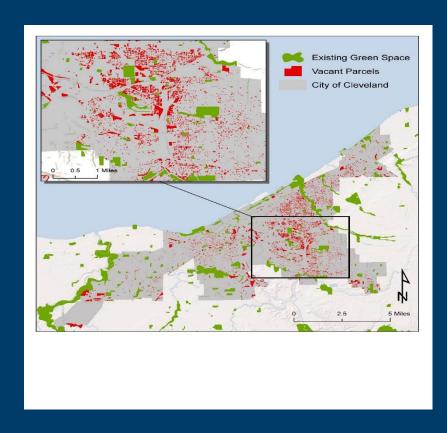
- Integration of resilience theory into natural resources management
- Alter management in response to monitoring



Adaptive Governance

- 1) Legislation and Accountability
 - *Adaptive Management
- 2) "Intermediaries"
 - *Bridging organizations (SVDC) and networks
- 3) Matching organizations to the appropriate scale
 - *Panarchy



















Cleveland: Slavic Village Project

- Phase 1: Collected baseline data
 - Gathered data on soils, hydrological and pollinators
- Phase 2: Control sites and treatment sites (i.e., implement GI in vacant lots)



Slavic Village Project

- Cleveland Botanical Garden is a key player in project
 - * 12 rain gardens into vacant lots
- Plants were selected for provisioning of ecosystem services (e.g., pollination)
- Ohio State University planted 30 vacant lots ("minimalist" GI)



Pollinators

- Trade-off between citizen preferences and best plants for pollinators
- Why? If citizens don't like what they see they will be less likely to stay engaged in work
- Worse.....might chop plants down

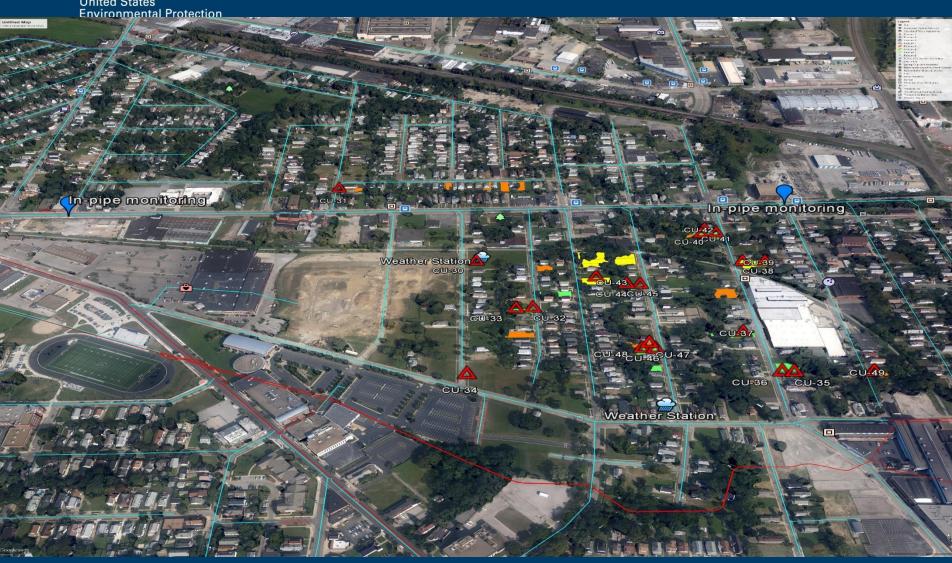














Barriers

AM and Urban GI

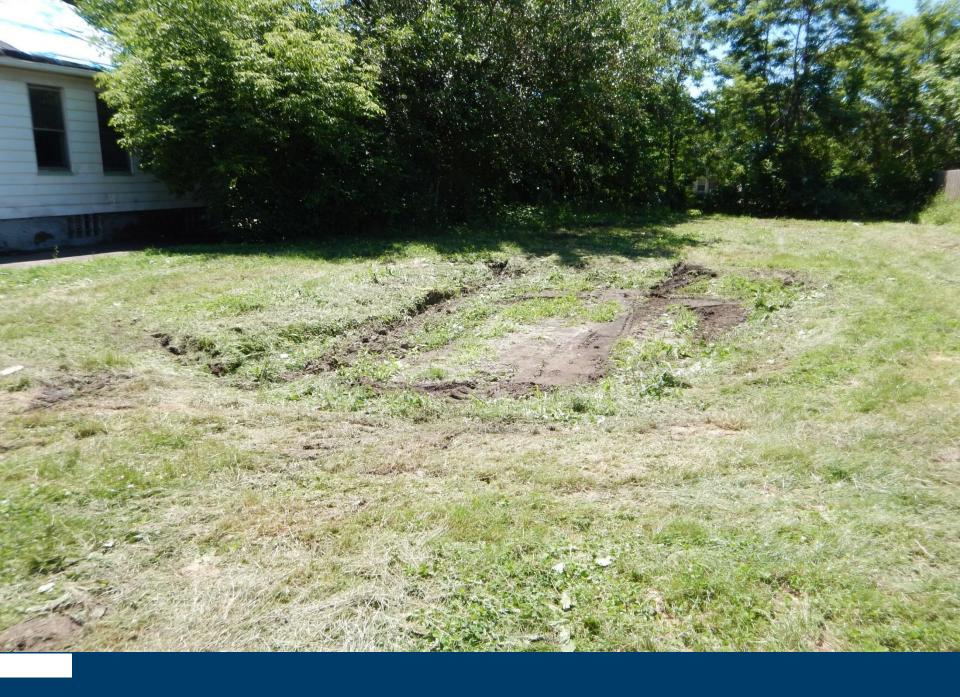
- High uncertainty
- High controllability



Barriers to GI

Problems with AM

- 1. Control NEORSD *MOU not binding
- 2. Distance



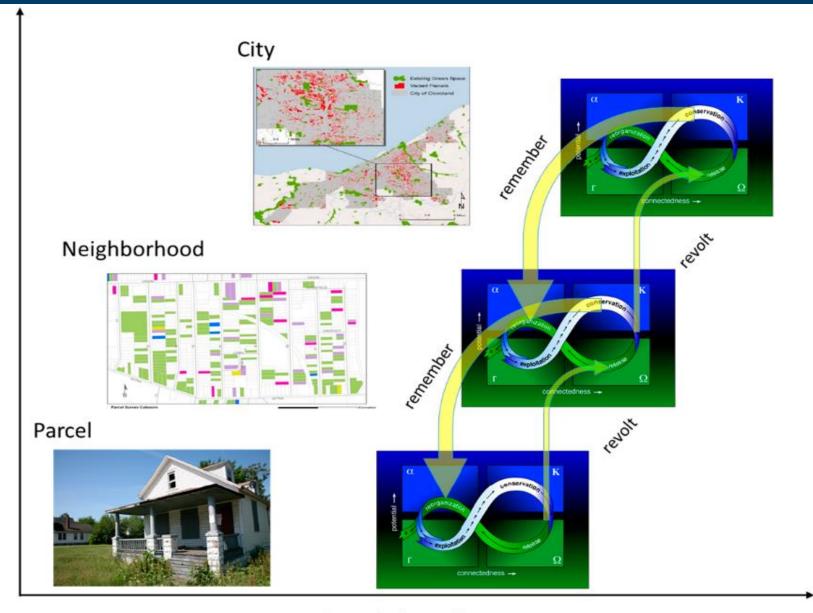


Bridges for GI

- Adaptive element
- Monitoring = capacity for adaptation







Spatial scale

Temporal scale