



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a Living Street?

Living Street designs promote healthy communities by transforming our streets into vibrant places for walking, bicycling, and socializing. Living streets combine elements of environmental engineering with pedestrian enhancements to create roadways that benefit and enhance the community.

What is a Complete Street?

Complete street design promotes pedestrian enhancements that makes road networks safer, more livable, and welcoming to everyone - including bicyclists, public transportation vehicles and riders, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities.

What is a Green Street?

Green streets use vegetated facilities to manage stormwater runoff at its source while enhancing community and neighborhood livability, and strengthening the local economy. Green Street strategies meet regulatory compliance and resource protection goals by using a natural systems approach to manage stormwater, reduce flows, improve water quality and enhance watershed health.

What is stormwater and why do we need to manage it?

Stormwater is rainfall that travels over the impervious surfaces of our built environment, including driveways, roadways, and roofs. As the water sheets across these surfaces, it picks up the automotive residues, pesticides and fertilizers, pet waste and trash that includes harmful pollutants to our receiving waterbodies.

Managing stormwater through filtering vegetation before it enters our drains helps reduce polluted stormwater entering our marshes, streams and bays. It also helps to divert stormwater from overburdened drainage systems and reduce flooding and backups. Vegetated retrofits can also reduce impervious surface so stormwater can infiltrate to recharge groundwater and surface water; increase green space; improve air quality and reduce air temperatures; and address requirements of federal and state regulations to protect public health and restore and protect watershed health.

What is Context-sensitive design?

Context Sensitive design heavily considers public input of local stakeholders, as well as community character considerations, into the development of design recommendations. The Cape Cod Commission utilizes a context sensitive design approach to implement design recommendations that keep a special place special. These are inherently recommendations which are site-specific, rather than a one-size fits all approach.

Where can I find more information about Living Streets, Complete Streets and Green Streets?

National Complete Streets Coalition:
<http://www.completestreets.org/>

American Society of Landscape Architects:
<http://www.asla.org/stormwatercasestudies.aspx>

Charles River Watershed Alliance:
<http://www.crwa.org/projects/stormwater/stormwaterBMPs.html>

MassDOT (GreenDOT):
<http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/greendot.aspx>

EPA Green Infrastructure:
<http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure/index.cfm>

Where can I find more information about this project?

The Cape Cod Commission staff will be posting materials, including tonight's presentation, on the Commission website: **www.capecodcommission.org**.

You can also contact the project team through:
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