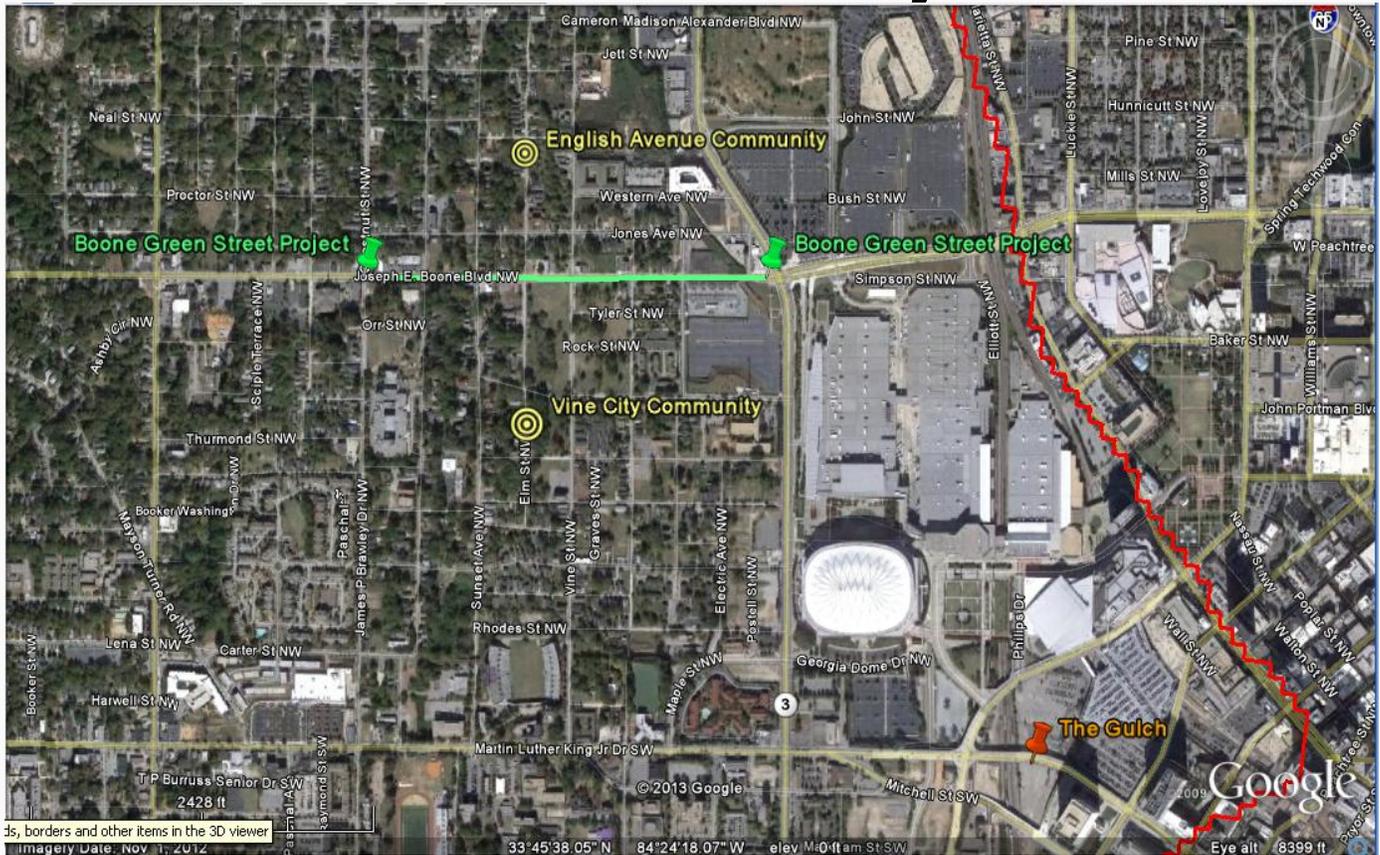


Proctor Creek's: "Boone Boulevard" Green Street Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

Project Purpose:	Conducting an HIA (Health Impact Assessment) in the Proctor Creek Watershed community of Atlanta, GA to assess the distribution of both environmental and health impacts as Green Infrastructure approaches to Community Revitalization move forward. After completion of the HIA, recommendations will be given to the City of Atlanta concerning the proposed Boone Boulevard Green Street Project.
What is HIA?	A health impact assessment is a tool used to objectively evaluate potential positive and negative health impacts of a policy or project before it is implemented and provide recommendations to minimize adverse health impacts and maximize beneficial impacts. HIA's ensure that health and equity are considered in the decision-making process and that impacted communities are engaged.
Scope of Research:	This project was selected as part of EPA's 2012 Regional Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (RESES) Research Program. The 2012 research projects were to focus on: Data and tools to support community decisions, Forecasting and assessing ecological and community health, Near-Term approaches to sustainable solutions for land and ground water contamination, and integrated solutions for sustainable outcomes in communities – actual community studies focused on transportation, building and infrastructure, waste, or land-use.
Scope of HIA:	This HIA will inform the Boone Boulevard—Green Street conceptual design led by the City of Atlanta's Department of Watershed Management.
Why:	EPA and its partners are evaluating solutions for flooding and related public health issues that deter development and community revitalization. This HIA (Health Impact Assessment) would inform decisions around Green Infrastructure approaches to Storm Water Management, Ecosystem Restoration, Economic development, and Community Revitalization. The main health issues for this scope of work are related to mold, mildew, repeated sewage backup, pervasive street flooding (creating ponding and mosquito problems), and creek and stream microbial/pathogen (E.coli, fecal coliform) contamination in Proctor Creek and its tributaries.
Background:	<p>The neighborhoods within this scope of work include but are not limited to the Vine City, and English Avenue communities which are within a ½ mile radius to the Boone Boulevard Green Street location. Proctor Creek consists of 9 miles of impaired waters (fecal coliform among other contaminants) and drains an area of approximately 10,198 acres to the Chattahoochee River. The subject area experiences overlapping environmental and public health issues including the significant number of abandoned and derelict properties, blighted sites, illegal tire dumping, Brownfields, lack of access to healthful foods, and pervasive flooding.</p> <p>Some of these same neighborhoods were also a part of a pivotal study conducted in 2010 by Park Pride that addressed a portion of the Proctor Creek drainage basin extending from "The Gulch," a large expanse of impervious surface area that include The Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC), The Georgia Dome, Atlanta Federal Center and CNN to the Atlanta Beltline. Flooding and blighted properties were addressed in this study by means of stormwater management, Transportation mobility, Brownfields revitalization, and greenspace enhancements.</p>
Project Team:	<p><u>EPA R4 Lead Contact:</u> <i>Tami Thomas-Burton, ORA-Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability, 404-562-8027</i></p> <p><u>EPA Office of Research and Development Contact:</u> <i>Florence Fulk, ORD/NERL - Chief Molecular Ecology Research Branch, Ecological Exposure Research Division, National Exposure Research Laboratory, 513-569-7379</i></p> <p><u>EPA R4 Core Research Team:</u> <i>Camilla Warren (RCRA-Brownfields), David Egeter, (RCRA-Brownfields), Maryjo Bragan (WPD - Watershed Coordination Program), Neil Burns (OPM- Ecologist/Spatial Analyst), Paul Wagner (APTMD – Air Program) and Tom Baugh (ORA - Regional Science Liaison).</i></p> <p><u>Other Partners:</u> <i>Michelle Marcus-Rushing, HIA Practitioner (Georgia State University Health Policy Center), Monica Robinson, Environmental Planner (Fulton County Health Department - Office of the Director, Health & Wellness) and Dr. Candace Rutt, HIA Practitioner (CDC – Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity).</i></p>



Location of Green Street Project



HIA Added Value

- Ensure health and equity in decision
- Engage impacted community members and stakeholders
- Assess community impacts and green infrastructure effectiveness

HIA Application & Future Direction

- Provide a model of interagency collaboration at the local, state, and federal levels
- Further enhance and test EPA's C-FERST HIA Roadmap under development
- Support future green infrastructure initiatives through documented benefits and impacts of the technology
- Gained experience in the use of HIAs can be applied to other environmental decision-making processes