

Stormwater & Green Infrastructure Workforce Development

September 11, 2019

Local Government Forum

Problem Statement

Many local governments have a need for a trained and skilled workforce to implement, operate, and maintain practices to reduce flooding and polluted runoff. Overcoming this problem will help a community to:

- develop the best process to prioritize and effectively maintain best management practices, and
- develop a robust private and public workforce.

Several excellent workforce development models exist throughout the region and could be adapted and replicated to other parts of the region in order to facilitate growth in the local green economy.

Local Needs Identification

- Identify funding mechanisms (public, private, etc)
- Invest in community & human capital to create a successful workforce
- Build a replicate-able job training model
- Revitalize and reinvest in physical infrastructure

Recommendation #1

LGAC recommends that the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) partners charge each state or region (more localized) with conducting a needs assessment around the demands of the stormwater and related industries to implement, maintain and inspect BMPs and supply of the workforce.

Recommendation #2

LGAC recommends identifying the components of workforce development programs that create a successful job pipeline and work to replicate them in other programs as they're developed. Two specific strategies are (1) to connect training programs with the businesses and public agencies and build a relationship from the get-go, and (2) encourage public agencies to include credentials such as certificates or certifications criteria in job descriptions.

Recommendation #3

LGAC recommends that transferable credentials across the watershed should be developed in order to be most valuable to standardize the base requirements needed.

Recommendation #4

LGAC recommends the Chesapeake Bay Program consider promoting policy and incentives that support the installation, inspection, maintenance, and enforcement of green infrastructure, creating job opportunities to fill these roles.

Timeline for Report

- Draft report sent to Planning Team and LGAC 11/16 for feedback by 12/10
- Rest of December will be finalizing the Report
- January 2020-Final Report shared with LGAC, Planning Team, Forum Attendees, CBP Leadership

.....And then we beginning planning the 2020 Local Government Forum on Climate!!

Stay Tuned!