

Application and Implementation of Green Infrastructure in Parks.

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&

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The **Green Infrastructure (GI)** is based on the understanding that **land is a crucial component of the built environment** and can be planned, **designed**, developed, and maintained to **avoid, mitigate, and even reverse detrimental impacts.**



- SA's biggest crisis is the **scarcity of water**.
- **Increased population density** more flexible infrastructure is needed.
- Can not afford **efficient water runoff**:
“Shortest distance to big pipe straight to the river”
- Need to focus on improvement of **water quality**
- Reduce run off **velocity** and allow **filtering**.
- **Detention dams** are no longer the only mitigation measure
- **Stormwater treated as a resource – not waste**

Environmental Approach

Manage precipitation on site

Intent

Reduce negative impacts to aquatic ecosystems, channel morphology by **replicating natural hydrologic** conditions and retaining precipitation on site.

Re-integrate water into an ecological system

Intent

Conserve water resources and develop **strategies to integrate** water movement through the landscape in a **more ecological way.**

More **natural surface water and groundwater utilization.**

Urban Resilience through Water Management

Manage precipitation beyond baseline

Intent

Maintain site water balance, protect water quality, and reduce negative impacts to aquatic ecosystems, channel morphology, and dry weather base flow by **replicating natural hydrologic conditions.**

Providing **retention and treatment for precipitation on site.**

Urban Resilience through Water Management

Restore aquatic ecosystems

Intent

Support healthy functioning of aquatic ecosystems for fish, other wildlife, and people

by **allowing ecological function**, integrity, and resiliency of those ecosystems that have been degraded, damaged, or destroyed.

Urban Resilience through Water Management

Design functional stormwater features as amenities

Intent

Provide a connection to the local climate and hydrology by **integrating aesthetically pleasing stormwater features**

that are visually and physically accessible and **manage on-site stormwater.**

GI Green Infrastructure

SUDS Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems

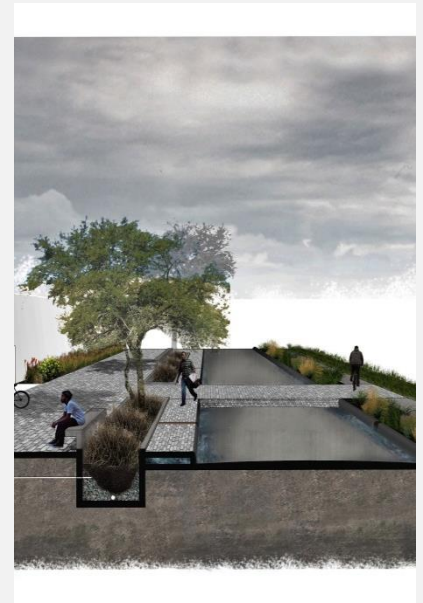
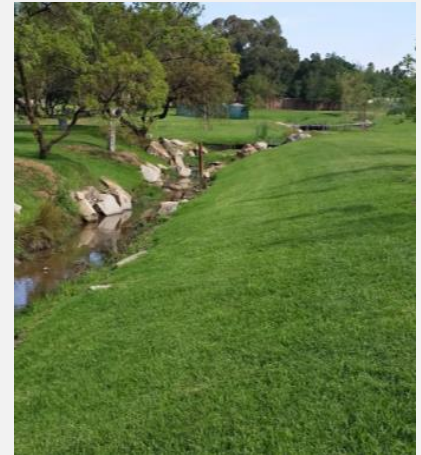
BMPs Best Management Practices

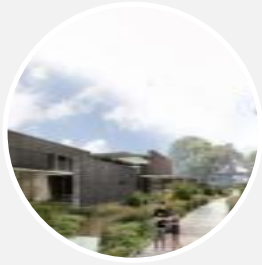
WSUD Water Sensitive Urban Design

LIDS Low Impact Drainage Systems

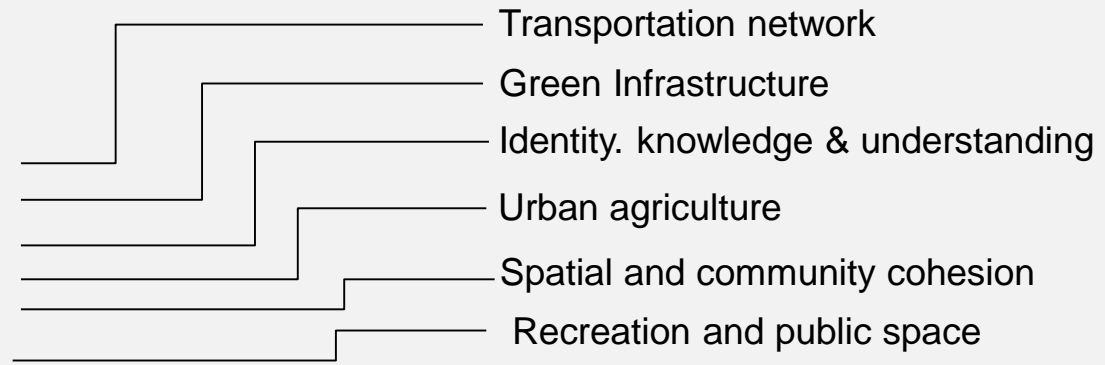
SQIDs Storm water Quality Improvement Devices

RG Rain Gardens

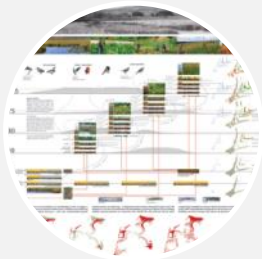
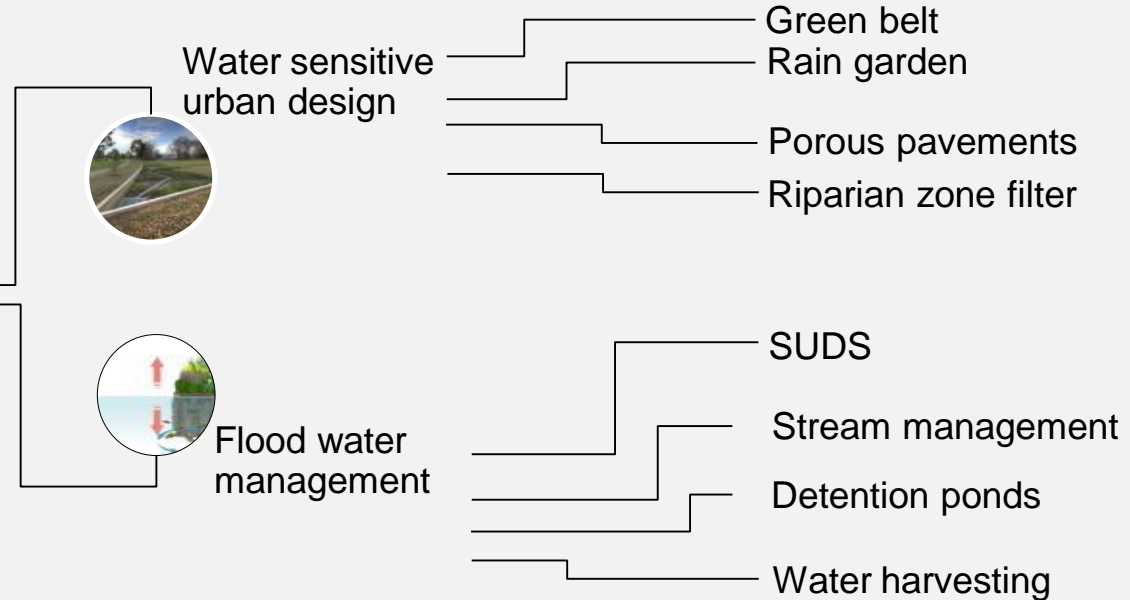




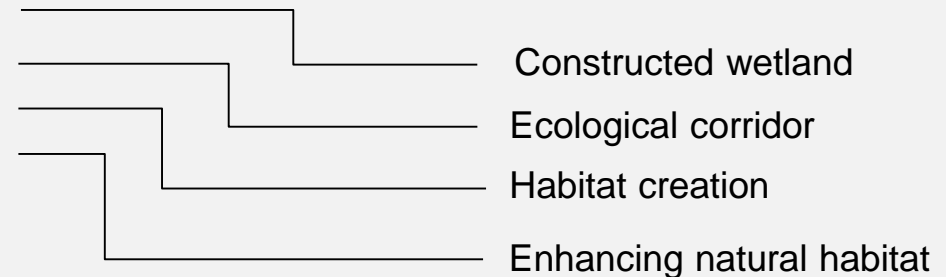
Productive Landscape for Humans

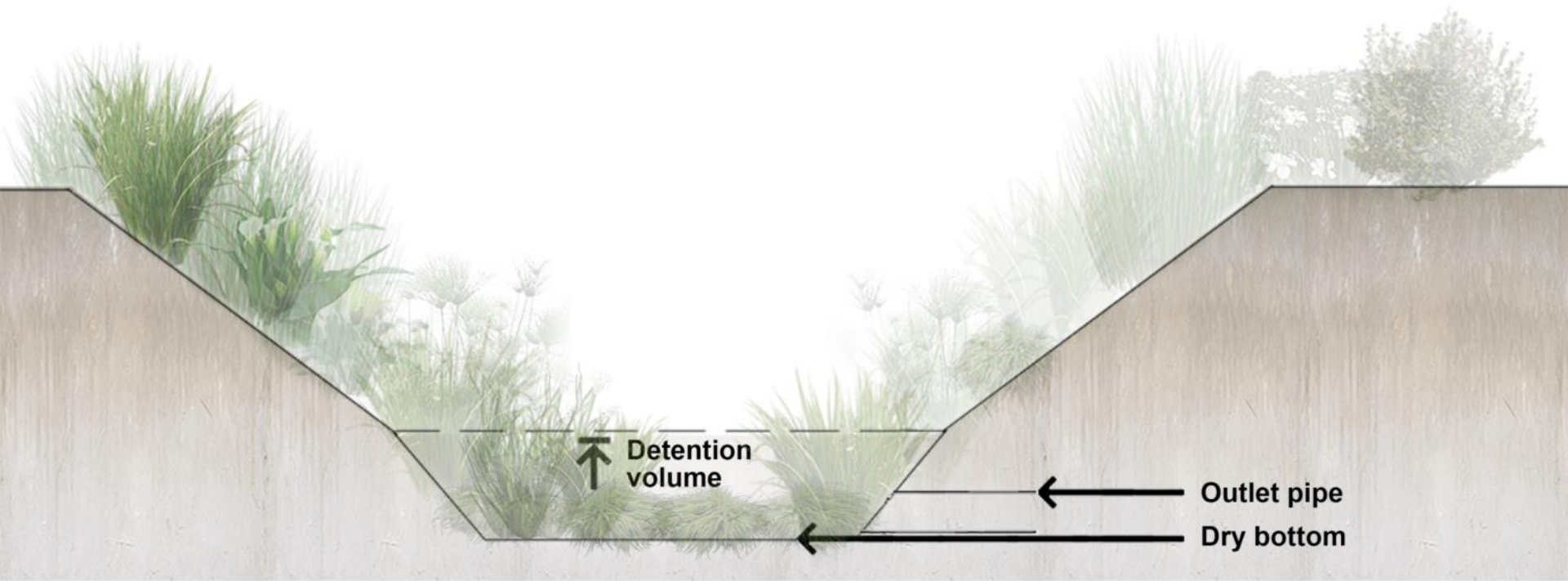


Water Management



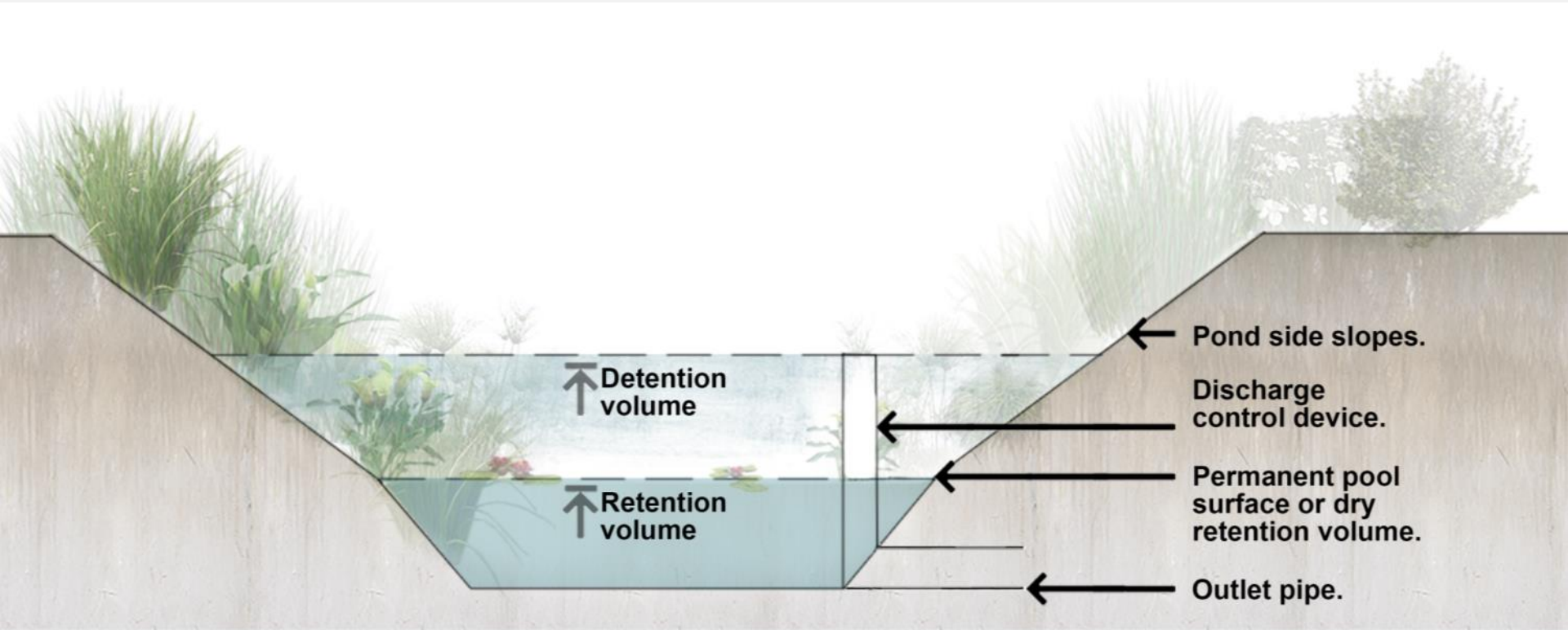
Ecological Biodiversity





Detention Ponds

- Increasingly stormwater ponds have systems of retention and detention.



Retention Ponds

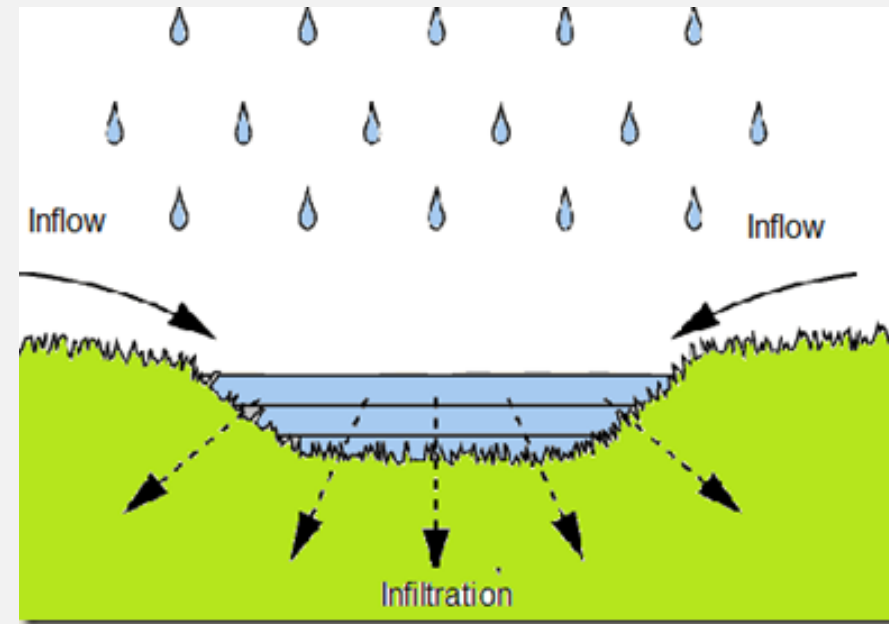
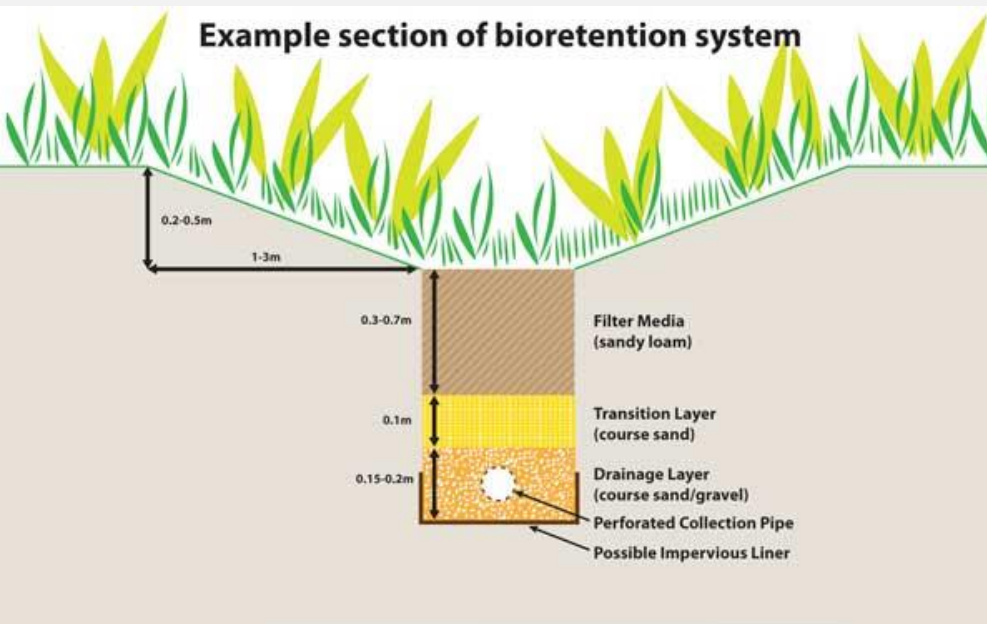
- Is an element in the landscape designed to remove silt and pollution from the runoff water before storing it in a system or releasing it in to the groundwater table.



Bioswales

- **Infiltration** is the process of which surface water enters the soil.

- **Filtration** is any operation that separated solids from fluids by passing through a medium that only the fluid can pass through.



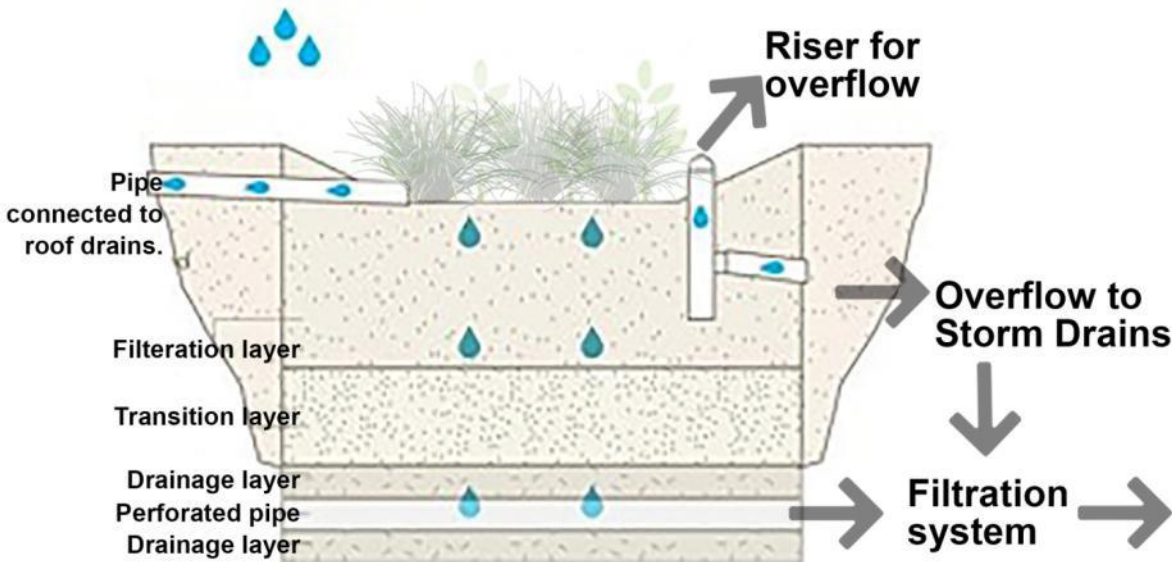
River Sands. 2010. *Bioretention Systems*. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.riversands.com.au/bioretention-system.php/> [Accessed 25 July 2017].

Online Civil Engineering. 2012. *Estimation of Infiltration*. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://civil-online2010.blogspot.co.za/2012/09/estimation-of-infiltration.html/> [Accessed 25 July 2017].

Infiltration vs Filtration

- **Rainwater Harvesting** is collection of rainwater from hard surfaces. Water is filtrated by plants and soil before it is then stored in reservoirs or tanks.

Rainwater collected from roofs and filtered, lead away to storage and re-used.



Bioretention system with rock pitching and overflow pit.

Rainwater harvesting

- Defined as **engineered wetlands** that utilize natural processes involving oxygen, wetland vegetation, soils and their associated microbial organisms to assist in treating an run-off and storm water.



G-Soil. 2012. *Can field wetlands trap eroding agricultural soil?*. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://gsoil.wordpress.com/2012/10/08/can-field-wetlands-trap-eroding-agricultural-soil/> [Accessed 25 July 2017].

Constructed Wetlands

The area after replanting.

Although some of the plants were dislodged, they established in other areas.



The area after rehabilitation was complete. None of the engineering is visible and the *T. capensis* is providing a variety of functions.



Rehabilitation – Planting Requirements



- Growth season of the wetland.

Plant selection



**Zola
Wetlands**

Soweto

ZOLA WETLANDS



ZOLA WETLANDS – filter zone



ZOLA WETLANDS – erosion protection



ZOLA WETLANDS – Add of planting



ZOLA WETLANDS – Planted swale



ZOLA WETLANDS - Rehabilitated swale



ZOLA WETLANDS – Swale maintenance

The site



PATERSON PARK

master plan

Future ablution building

Future children's Play area

Outdoor gym

Toddler play area

Monument area

Celebration pond





PATERSON PARK



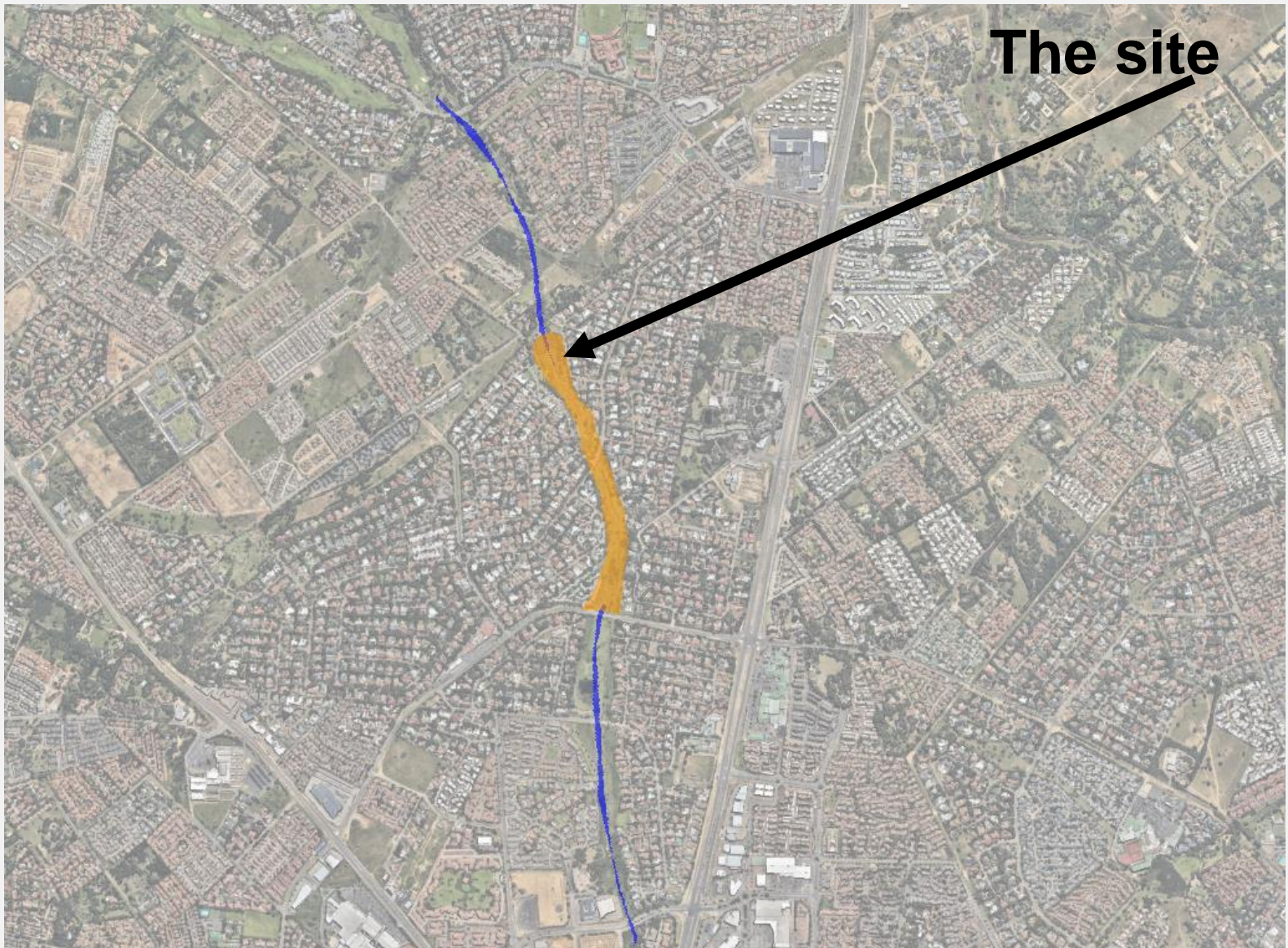
PATERSON PARK



PATERSON PARK



PATERSON PARK



The site

FOURWAYS GARDENS STREAM



If streams are not maintained and left to erode during each storm

FOURWAYS GARDENS STREAM – before



**PROPOSED
EXTENTION**

**EXISTING
STREAM**

FOURWAYS GARDENS STREAM



FOURWAYS GARDENS STREAM – construction



Single weir example.

FOURWAYS GARDENS STREAM – completion



Stepped weir example

FOURWAYS GARDENS STREAM



Embankment with & without rip-rap.

FOURWAYS GARDENS STREAM – completion



23m in width

FOURWAYS GARDENS STREAM – completion



Stream in flood, flash flood control successful.

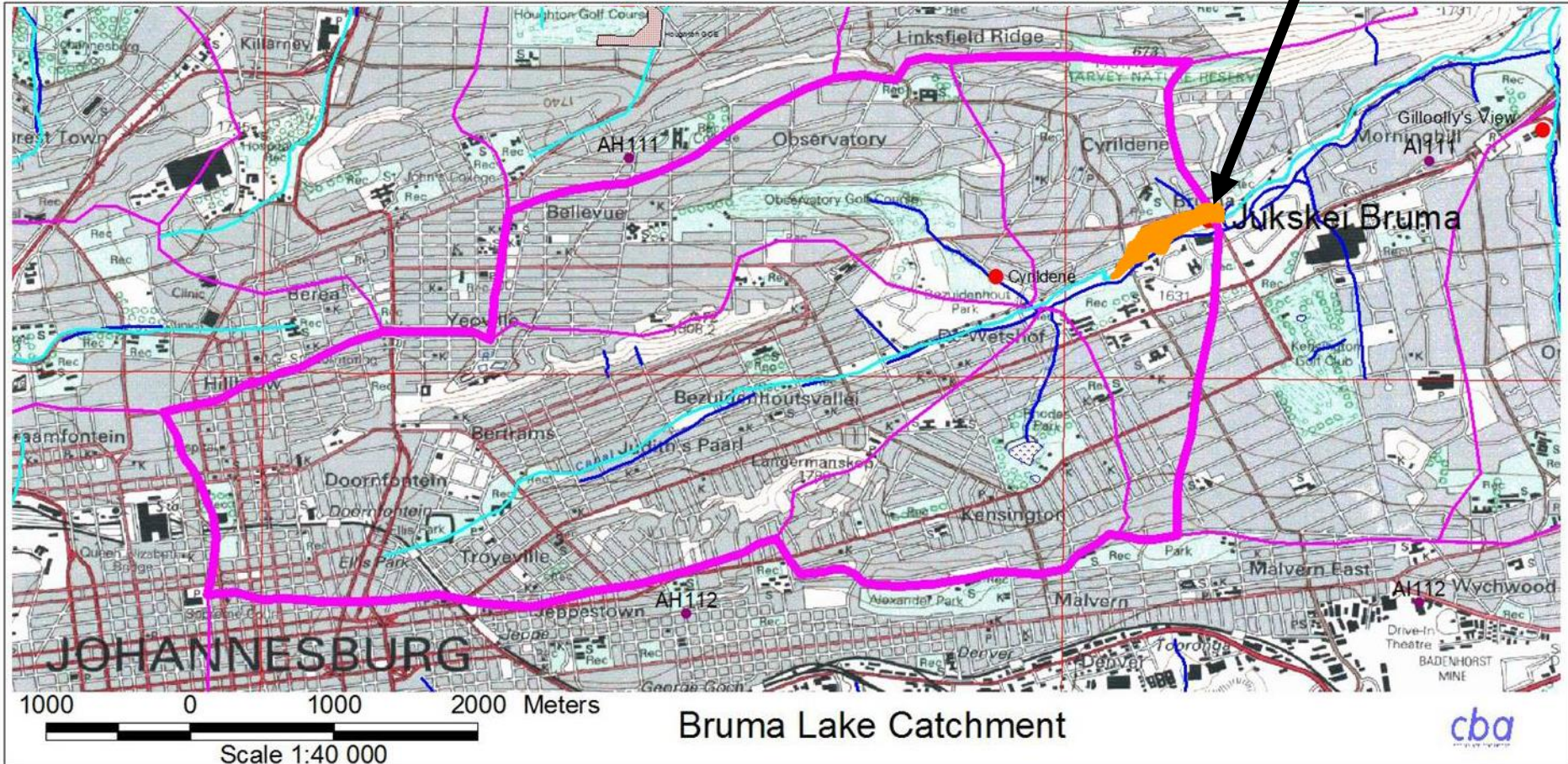
FOURWAYS GARDENS STREAM – completion



Stream after flood, flash flood control successful.

FOURWAYS GARDENS STREAM – completion

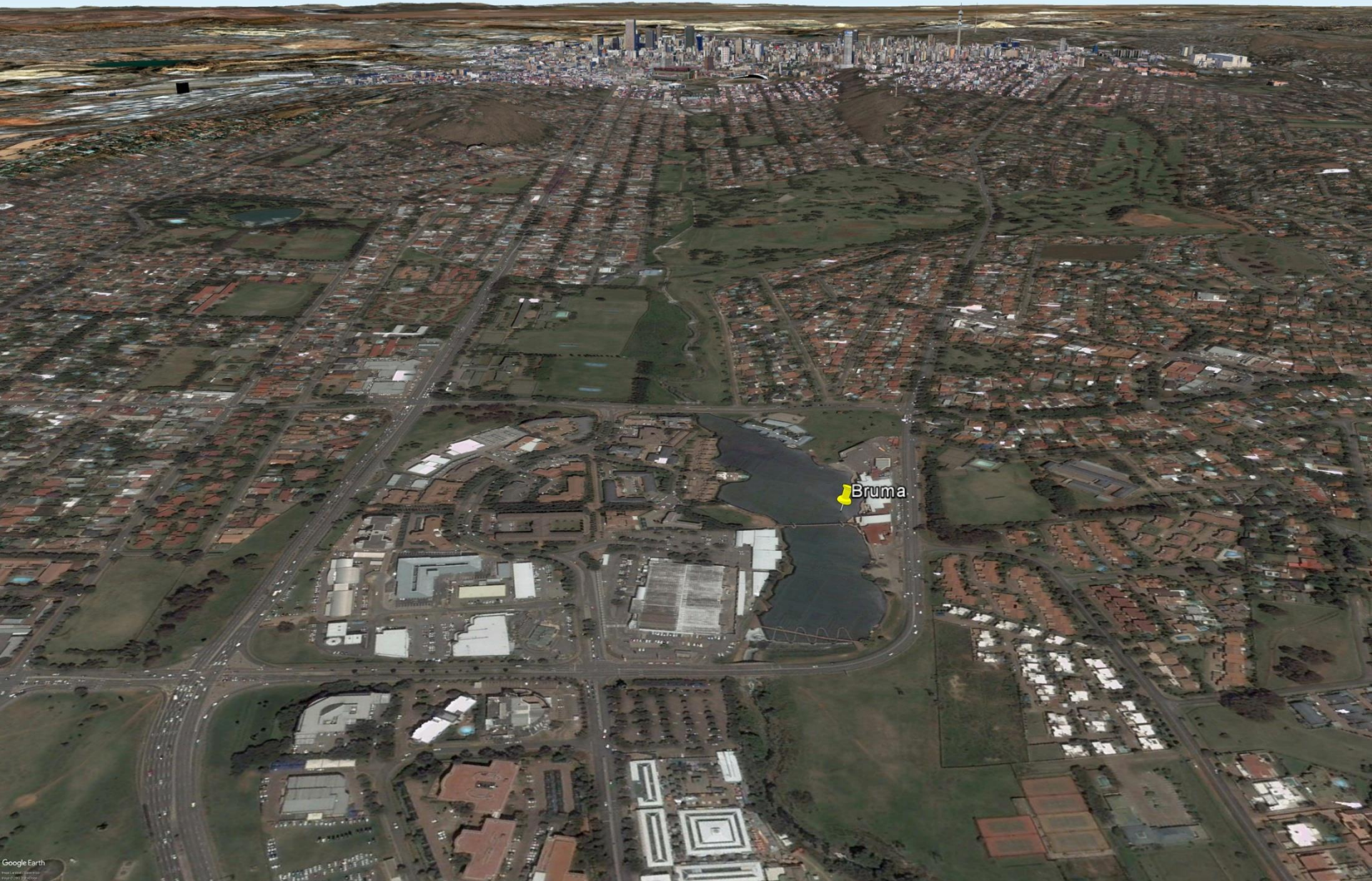
The site



BRUMA LAKE



BRUMA LAKE – original



Google Earth

BRUMA LAKE – before



BRUMA LAKE – completion



BRUMA LAKE – construction



BRUMA LAKE



BRUMA LAKE – construction of wetland



BRUMA LAKE – water quality after intervention



BRUMA LAKE – added recreation value

- **Water purification.**
- Green Infrastructure create natural sponge for the water, storing and slowly releasing the water.
- Allows for groundwater recharge.
- Water moves around the plants, allowing for more suspended sediment to drop and aeration.
- Harmful nutrients are often absorbed by the plant roots and by the micro-organisms in the soil.
- Heavy metals are locked into soil deposits

Value of Green Infrastructure

- **Water purification.**
- **Flood protection.**
- Slows the water's momentum and erosive potential.
- Holding excess runoff after a storm, then releasing it slowly.
- Size, shape, location and soil type determine the capacity.
- Lower flood peaks through delayed release.
- Wetland soils acts like a sponge, holding more water than any other soil type, but is also less erodible.

Value of Green Infrastructure

- Water purification.
- Flood protection.
- **Shoreline stabilisation.**
- Marginal planting help protect the banks from erosive forces.
- Wetland acts as buffer zone by dissipating the water's energy.
- Planting providing stability by binding the soils with their extensive root system.

Value of Green Infrastructure

- Water purification.
- Flood protection.
- Shoreline stabilisation.
- **Groundwater recharge & stream-flow maintenance.**
- Aquifers and groundwater is recharged or replenished.
- Groundwater provides water for drinking etc.
- During periods of drought or low stream-flow, the slow discharge of groundwater often helps maintain the minimum water levels.
- Wetlands located near rivers or streams may release water into these systems.

Value of Green Infrastructure

- Water purification.
- Flood protection.
- Shoreline stabilisation.
- Groundwater recharge & stream-flow maintenance.
- **Provides habitats.**
- Wetlands are some the most biologically productive natural eco-systems.
- Many of species are endangered and rely on wetland habitat for breeding, foraging and cover.
- These small animals and insects are an essential link in the greater environment.

Value of Green Infrastructure

- Water purification.
- Flood protection.
- Shoreline stabilisation.
- Groundwater recharge & stream-flow maintenance.
- Provides habitats.
- **Economic Benefits.**
- Green Infrastructure provide flood control and water treatment at a fraction of the cost of conventional infrastructure and increase land value.

Value of Green Infrastructure



IMPROVED AMENITY: “Parks working harder”

Thank-you...

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