

CENTRAL GREEN STREAMWAY

STATE PROGRAM: Kansas Department of Environment

ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT: City of Lenexa

ASSISTANCE AMOUNT: \$1.1M

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Lenexa received \$1.1 million in CWSRF ARRA funds for the Central Green Streamway Project, which is part of the city's Vision 2020 planning strategy that emphasizes sustainable, livable communities through sound management of wastewater and stormwater infrastructure. The city introduced its Rain to Recreation program in the summer of 2000, and it has been nationally recognized for its innovative approach to stormwater management, natural resource conservation, and stakeholder outreach and involvement in natural resource management. The success of this program relies heavily upon the support of community members, local businesses, and nonprofit groups working together to enhance the quality of both natural and built environments. Lenexa's visioning strategy specifically identifies the need for innovative stormwater management planning, maintenance programs, efficient methods of irrigation, watershed protection, and continuing environmental education for community stakeholders.

The Central Green Streamway Project echoes this vision and implements green stormwater management with a bioengineered step pool streamway, a constructed wetland, native vegetation plantings, and a water reuse irrigation system within the City Center North facility. The streamway will safely convey stormwater from the City Center development through the City Center North development while creating a usable public gathering space, enhancing infiltration, and allowing for increased bioremediation of stormwater runoff. The constructed wetland will help mitigate the impacts of stormwater in the Parkhurst neighborhood, the downstream streamway, and in Shawnee Mission Lake. Other components of the project include constructing trails adjacent to the streamway and planting native vegetation. The Central Green Streamway will help Lenexa fulfill its Vision 2020 goals of providing common open space for the community and beautifying the neighborhood while improving water quality.

To read more about this case study, please visit https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-04/documents/green_infrastructure_projects_and_state_activities.pdf.