Green Infrastructure
Shared Services
OAI Mission

- Workforce Development
  - Pre-employment training
  - Incumbent worker training
  - Help people work safely, and advance in their careers
OAI High Bridge
Green Infrastructure Work

- Incorporating workforce development objectives into green infrastructure projects

- Provide training
  - With a focus on unemployed or underemployed individuals from disadvantaged communities

- Seek to place trainees in quality positions, perhaps with:
  - A private sector ecological restoration firm
  - A park district
  - A municipal department of public works

- Possible gateway to further career opportunities
High Bridge Work Closely Aligned with the CSC Workplan

- Training
  - NGICP
  - 8-Hour
  - Rainscaping
- Procurement and Contract Language
- Operationalizing Maintenance
  - Shared Services
Project Supported by Great Lakes One Water (GLOW)

27 Community Foundations Organized into 6 regional teams
Each team identified a priority project
The Lower Lake Michigan Team settled on the green infrastructure maintenance project concept
The GLOW Project

The Need:

- Green infrastructure maintenance is often overlooked or neglected
- Many owners do not have the staffing or necessary training
- Not cost-effective for any one community to hire green infrastructure specialists

A Solution:

- A team(s) of trained green infrastructure workers who can provide green infrastructure services to multiple jurisdictions
The GLOW Project

✓ Research
✓ Talk with G.I. owners
✓ Talk with possible implementation partners
✓ Training
✓ Pilot the shared services concept in NE IL and NW IN
  ▪ Two Years (2020 and 2021)
  ▪ Evaluate
✓ Scale up (2022)
Robbins Renewal

- OAI joined in as a partner on the Stormwater Park Project
- We will be responsible for establishing the Green Infrastructure (Phase 1)
- Grant from the Chi-Cal Rivers Fund
- We plan to take advantage of this opportunity for workforce development
  - We will provide training
  - We will contract for the green infrastructure work
  - We will seek to employ local residents
CSC Member Input

We are interested in your ideas/suggestions on:

- Green infrastructure sites in the Calumet area where maintenance would be beneficial
- Possible implementation partners
- Training
  - T&M Work Group working on curriculum for an 8-hour training
  - We may reach out to CSC members to help deliver the training
  - Recruitment