Carlet, F. (2015). Understanding attitudes toward adoption of green infrastructure: A case study of US municipal officials. Environmental Science and Policy 51, 65-76

- This is a survey study of 256 local government engineers, planners, and other municipal officials
- The goal of this research was to identify attitudes that engineers, planners, and other local government staff have toward adopting GSI strategies in municipalities

Main points

1. For a municipality to adopt GSI BMPs, they need to think that it is useful to them to achieve its objectives and meet its performance goals.
2. If a municipality feels confident about possessing the skills (education and training) and resources to adopt the BMP, they are more likely to adopt it.
3. Perceived ease of use and compatibility with the city's goals and values influence their attitude about usefulness, but does not directly affect attitudes for adoption.
4. GSI is relatively new with little research to back up its performance
    a. Cities prefer well-established engineering practices
    b. Trust systems that have been tested and used
5. Stormwater management is a very conservative discipline
    a. Resistance to change is a barrier to adopting GSI
    b. Adopting GSI entails risk
6. Younger stormwater managers, planners, and city officials appear to be willing to accept the risks of GSI

Potential strategies to promote expansion of urban forestry as a GSI BMP

1. Promotion of high profile projects demonstrating UF as a viable strategy
    a. Comparing stormwater runoff volume in paired-catchment studies
    b. Comparing runoff volume between newly developed and undeveloped parcels
2. Develop education and outreach programs clearly articulating advantages of UF
    a. Include co-benefits of UF along with stormwater benefits
    b. Emphasize triple-bottom line
        i. Environmental – reduced pollution, energy conservation
        ii. Economic – increased business revenue, tax revenue
        iii. Health – increased exercise, reduced human health impacts
    c. Identify and recruit younger professionals to champion UF as a GSI BMP
        i. Increase their awareness and knowledge of the benefits of UF as BMP
    d. Increase public awareness and knowledge of
        i. Issues facing stormwater management
        ii. Benefits of GSI to manage stormwater
            1. Emphasize triple-bottom line

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