Alleviating Flood Damage to Critical Hospital Infrastructure through Stream Restoration At Jewish Hospital and St. Mary's Foundation in Louisville, Kentucky

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> > August 22, 2023



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### **Project Team**













## The Flood

- August 2009 JHSMF experienced near 100-year flood event
- Flooded hospital basement housing mechanical/electrical
- Shut down hospital and required patients to be transferred
- Flooded southwest parking lot damaging numerous vehicles



# Scope of Project

- Conduct a hydraulic and hydrologic study
- Determine flood flow conveyance improvements to protect hospital and infrastructure
- Utilize natural channel design techniques for restoring stream channel
- Provide for a native riparian buffer zone along restored stream channel
- Ensure project is aesthetically pleasing



### Project Area





### Project Area





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### **Existing Conditions - Hydraulic Constraints**

- Wooden pedestrian bridge
- Small 7'6"x9' box culvert for parking lot access crossing
- Mostly blocked 12'x7' box culvert at Bluegrass Avenue
- Elevated streambed downstream of 12'x7' box culvert



### **Existing Conditions - Stream**

- Intermittent streams with 260 to 510-acre drainage areas
- Low stream slopes from 0.3% to 0.5%
- Streams overwidened, incised and entrenched with vertical eroding banks
- Stream corridor overgrown with invasive shrub species



### **Proposed Solution**





### **Proposed Solution**

- Restore 1,530 lf of stream utilizing NCD principles with floodprone benches
- Replace 7'6"x9' RCBC with 16'10"x8'3" arched open bottom culvert
- Replace existing pedestrian bridge with elevated wider spanning bridge
- Install additional 12'x4' floodflow conveyance box culvert
- Elevate south parking lot
- Construct concrete floodwall adjacent to utility building



## **Proposed Solution**



- Establish bankfull channel with riffle/pool morphology and stable planform/geometry
- Increase channel slope
- Create floodprone benches for flood flow conveyance
- Utilize in-channel structures such as boulder j-hooks and log vanes
- Utilize bioengineering techniques
- Stream restoration construction activities completed in Fall 2015



#### Bankfull Channel with Floodprone/Floodplain Benches

- Provides low flow channel to prolong and maintain deeper base flow
- Allows frequent overbanking to reduce in-channel shear stress
- Vegetated floodprone/floodplain benches allow for filtering of overbank flows



#### <u>Riffle/Pool Morphology</u>

- Riffles provide both grade control and in-channel aquatic habitat
- Turbulent flow through riffles increase dissolved oxygen in water
- Pools provide slower velocities and allow organics to settle and provide food for aquatic organisms
- Pools provide deeper water aquatic habitat



#### **Boulder J-Hooks and Log Vanes**

- Provide both vertical and horizontal grade control
- Provide in-channel aquatic habitat
- Reduce near-bank shear stress and protects outer streambanks from erosion



#### Branch Layering and Live Staking

- Uses quick growing, natural woody cuttings to provide streambank stability and outer streambank protection
- Provides natural armorment of streambanks and protects against streambank erosion
- Provides shading of stream channel and aquatic habitat



## BEFORE

# DURING

# AFTER













### BEFORE

## DURING

# AFTER













## BEFORE

## DURING

# AFTER













### Summary

- Successful project
- Has protected hospital and infrastructure from flooding
- Improved stream function
- Increased in-stream habitat
- Enhanced riparian zone
- Aesthetically pleasing



Contact Us

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