



GREEN NETWORK PLAN

NODES & CORRIDORS



Nodes

Nodes are **neighborhood hubs** where people and nature meet. They are softer, greener, outdoor gathering spaces for recreation, resting, community events and improved habitat. They are **destinations**. Nodes are connected to one another by corridors.

There are three types of corridors in the Green Network Vision Plan:

Corridors

Corridors are **green, linear spaces** that provide safe, comfortable movement within and between neighborhoods for both humans and wildlife. They may be tree-lined streets providing shade and cooling; or streams, trails, blue alleys or boulevards. Corridors connect nodes.

There are three types of corridors in the Green Network Vision Plan:

Community Nodes



Photo Credit: DPOB

These nodes **provide spaces for recreation, greening, new open space, and other amenities** that support neighborhood social fabric and local real estate markets.

Community nodes might be areas for new development, community open space, or nature areas. They might have a spacious park or a new spot for urban farms or gardens that contribute to the local economy. The

node might have a new playground, public art, or space for community events.

People Corridors

People-focused corridors will make **safe connections for residents who walk or bike** to schools, stores, parks, recreation centers, and more.

Corridors will include greening and elements such as street trees, median plantings, and bump-outs, improved sidewalks, protected bikeways, and improved and new trail connections.



Photo Credit: DOP Staff

Nature Nodes



Photo Credit: National Aquarium

Relatively scarce in a dense urban setting, Nature Nodes are **locations for enhancing and expanding habitat in forest patches, floodplain and wetlands** near the nature corridors. These nodes provide habitat “stepping stones” for wildlife as they move across the city.

The nature nodes attract important wildlife for pollination in wildflower gardens and woodland patches. They

provide habitat for wildlife that help keep our ecosystems healthy. They help catch, slow and clean rainwater. These nodes are cooler, shadier spots for people to spot urban wildlife like birds, butterflies, and fish.

Nature Corridors

Our **stream valleys**--the Jones Falls, Herring Run, and Gwynns Falls streams--define Baltimore’s landscape. These important Nature Corridors need to be preserved and enhanced, in order to support the health of our streams, Inner Harbor, the lower Patapsco River, and Chesapeake Bay. In some cases, these are the last semi-intact natural areas in the city.

The Nature Corridors also **provide habitat for important native wildlife**. We need to preserve and expand these corridors with increased native tree canopy and understory plantings, management of invasive species, and stream channel restoration



Photo Credit: Biohabitat

Existing Open Space and Anchor Institution Nodes



Photo Credit: DOP Staff

These nodes include **city parks, universities, cemeteries, hospitals, the Inner Harbor promenade**. These nodes are used for social gatherings, play, recreation, and habitat. The City and private landholders can manage their sites for ecological as well as educational stewardship and healthy living. These are also important catalysts for economic investment and revitalization.

These existing nodes are important amenities for recreation, respite, habitat, and water quality, as well as community health and wellness.

Parkway Corridors

These busy vehicular corridors include **parkways and boulevards, as well as streets that align with historic streams**.

The plan recommends that these important connections to the network include stormwater management and increased tree canopy, as well as wildflower and shrub plantings in medians and street edges.



Photo Credit: DOP Staff