

Green Roofs for a Vibrant Minnetonka: A Strategy for Implementation

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 AGRO 5321 – Ecology of Agricultural Systems

MINNETONKA'S GOALS

- Build a greener city
- Attract a younger population
- Manage storm water run off
- Make green roofs attractive to businesses and building owners

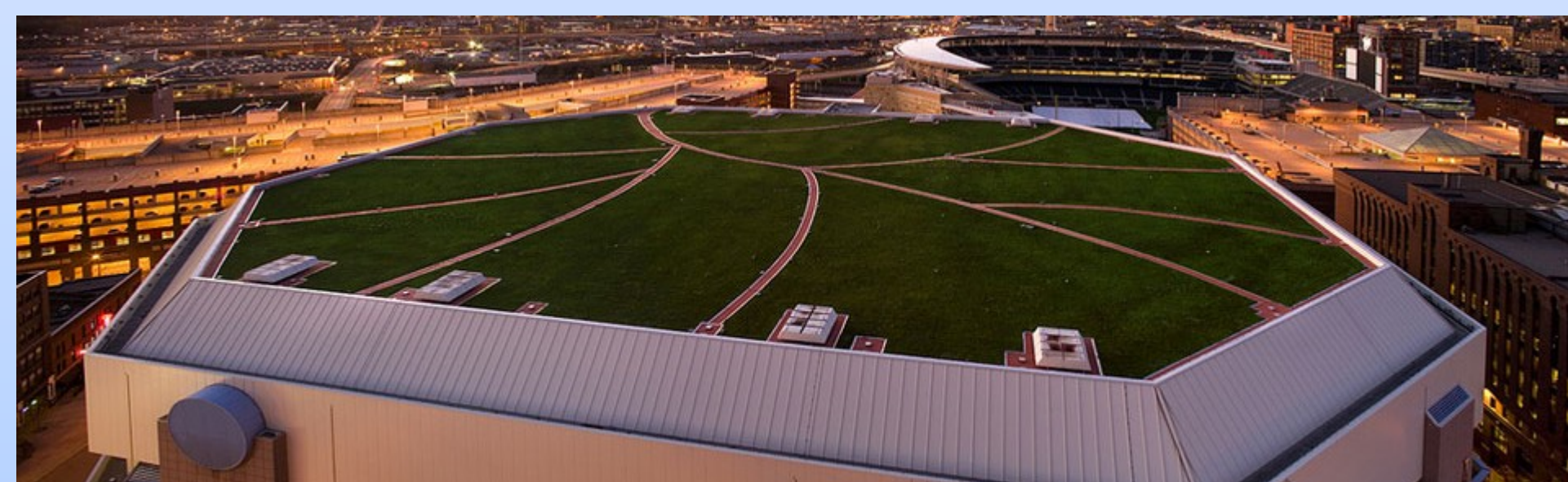
GREEN ROOFS IN THE METRO AREA



R.C. Knox Memorial Garden
 City of Saint Paul
 St. Paul



Metro Building
 Roof, LLC
 Minneapolis



Target Center, Minneapolis

METHODOLOGY: Soft Systems Analysis

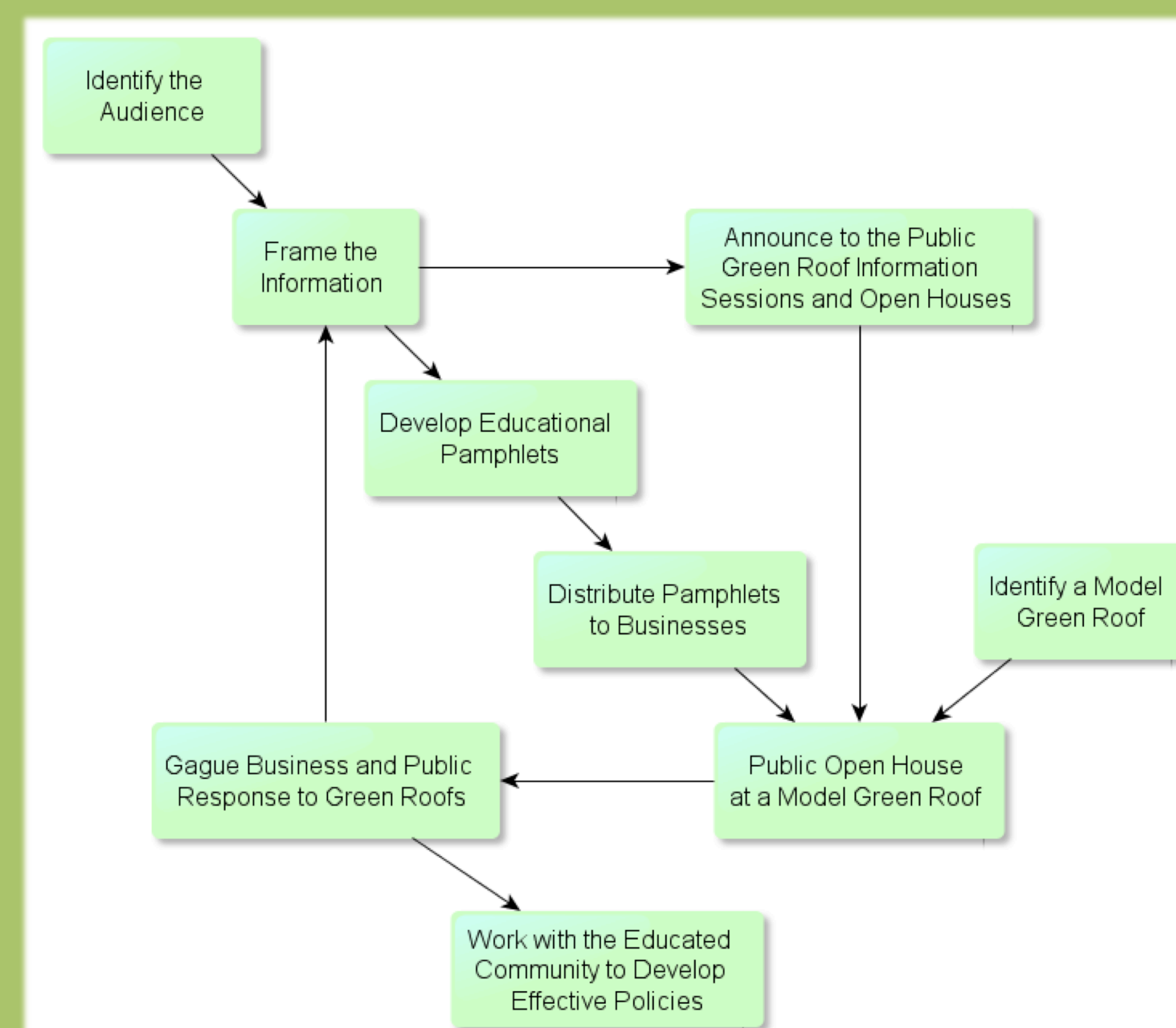
- Assess knowledge and perceptions of green roofs among Minnetonka businesses and building owners, policy makers, and design firms
- Map communication, decision making, and power ties among stakeholders
- Identify key interventions and target networks and stakeholders

RECOMMENDATIONS

Use direct education and field workshops to inform stakeholders of the benefits, costs, and feasibility of green roofs

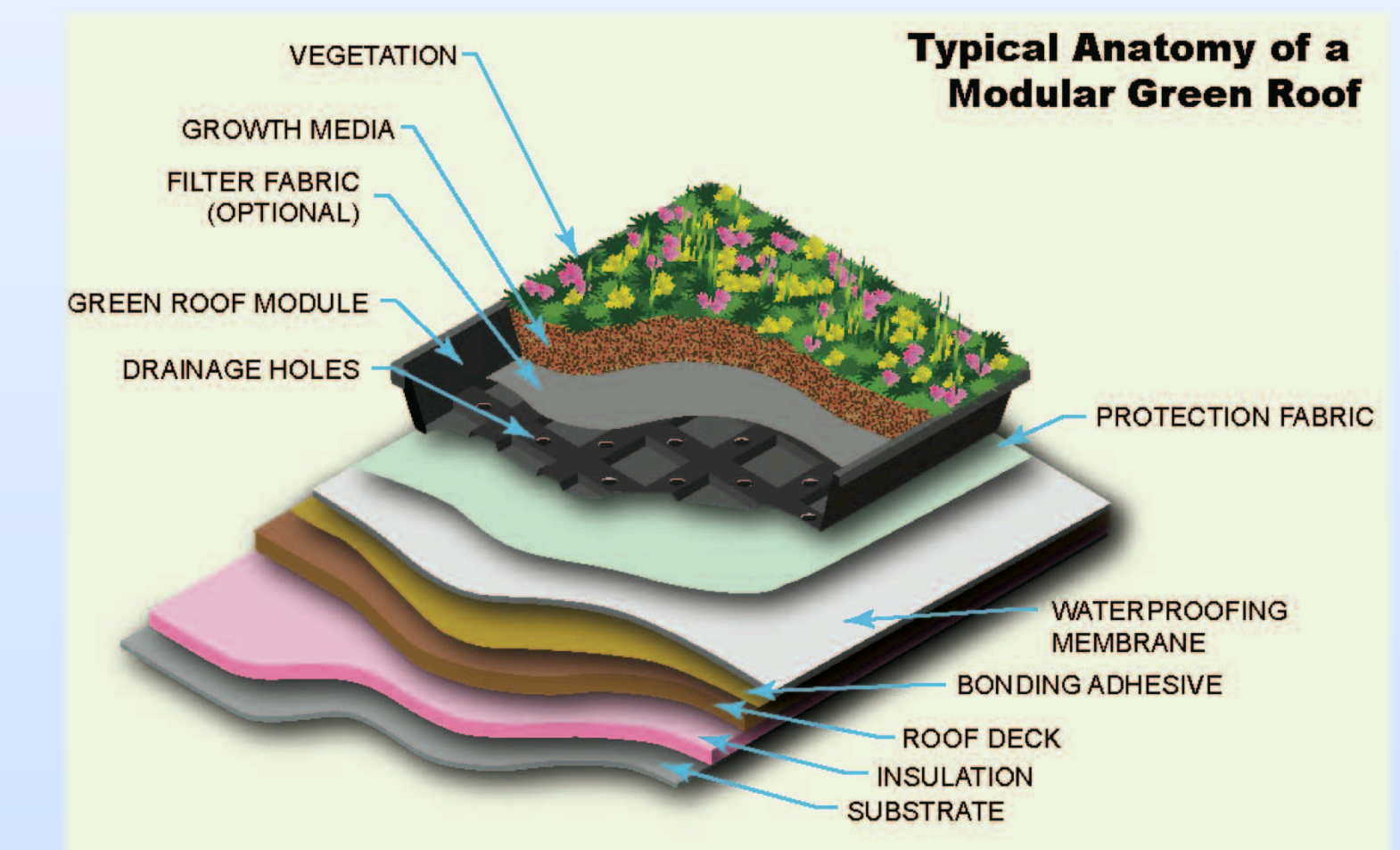
Implement incentives to encourage businesses to view green roofs as an investment rather than an extra cost. Initially, this could include subsidized consulting from green roof firms

Commission research and studies on the context-specific costs and benefits of green roofs in Minnetonka



Proposed Intervention Process

BENEFITS OF GREEN ROOFS



EHS Journal

- Lower municipal storm water management costs
- Lower heating and cooling costs
- Increased PR for businesses
- Increased biodiversity
- Improved air and water quality
- Conveniently located, park-like space

"...if we had green roofs in our building, we'd be in the newspaper!"

"...we need more education and marketing streamlined for this kind of climate."

"... the challenge is getting them to see beyond the upfront costs. An important criteria is that they need to want to do it for aesthetic reasons. Without this or without incentives it won't be cost effective. The city needs to pass on their savings."