

# Stakeholder Roles & Perspectives

This document contains backstories to the Stakeholder Roles and quoted perspectives from each stakeholder group. Students will be assigned or choose one of the following roles to represent for this case study activity. The quoted sources can be used as background for the stakeholder group, or students can find additional evidence on their own.

## Urban Farmer

- As an urban farmer, you both grow and sell your produce in an urban setting.
- Your farm is to the East of trailheads 2 and 5, and you hope the Greenway will bring more people to your local farm stand to purchase produce.
- You are also considering opening a permanent brick & mortar storefront in the near future to sell local produce alongside a co-op of other urban farmers.
- You see a Greenway as a better development alternative to a major road or highway, but you have concerns about the Greenway potentially increasing costs where you live, farm, work, and play.
- “What’s often referred to as food deserts more appropriately should be called food apartheid...The term desert has this connotation of a natural landscape, as if nature was responsible for making this void of food access. Nature didn’t do this.” Source: Garcia, S. 2021. Baltimore urban farm heralded for agricultural innovation in the area. *The Baltimore Sun*.



## Wildlife Enthusiast

- You enjoy exploring parks and natural areas and observing wildlife there.
- You know that the lakes and ponds especially are great places to see water birds, like herons and ducks, as well as turtles, fish and coyotes.
- You don’t want a paved Greenway to disrupt core wildlife habitats or bring too many people to them.
- “It’s hard to be in a place this beautiful and not be appreciative and happy.” Source: Griffin, M. 2021. Meet the bird man of St. Petersburg’s Sunken Gardens. *The Tampa Bay Times*.



## Parent/Teacher Association

- You are a group of parents who live in the less urban parts of town and have school-aged children 5-18 years old.
- You like the idea of the Greenway providing a potential transport route for your kids to get to school, but you have concerns about how safety will be addressed on and near the Greenway.
- You hope the Greenway will provide you and your kids access to parks both for recreation and physical activity as well as for local school field trips
- “Evidence shows that children who attend schools that promote physical activity and healthy eating perform better academically. What’s more, healthy school environments set the stage for children to adopt a healthy lifestyle into adulthood.” Source: National Parent Teacher Association - One Voice Blog, *New Resources Help You Celebrate Healthy Lifestyles*



### Resident Living Near the Proposed Route

- As an immigrant, Spanish is your first language and your English is at an intermediate level. You aren't convinced that this proposed route will provide access to people who may really benefit from the Greenway.
- You enjoy fishing in the lakes and in the parks on the weekends, and prefer when it's not crowded, as that can scare away the fish. You don't want a new Greenway to overcrowd the spots where you like to fish as a solitary activity.
- "As the private property owner at the west end of the trail I'm concerned trail users will mistake private property for public use[,] creating [a] liability hazard." Source: Public comments on the *Central Williamson Creek Greenway Project Overview & Vision Plan* in Austin, Texas



### Environmental Justice NGO

- Your focus at the NGO is on environmental justice (EJ) and the disproportionate impacts of industry on low-income communities in the area.
- You want to ensure that the communities with the least access to green spaces will be able to access the pilot section of the Greenway.
- "In my experience working with communities...just because you have a meeting where people can come and tell you things, it's not particularly useful unless you can use that information in the final decision." Source: Cox, J. 2021. Progress on environmental justice draws criticism in Maryland. *Chesapeake Bay Journal*.



### Local Business Owner

- You own and operate a shop in the more urbanized areas, where more people live, walk, work, and play.
- You hope that the Greenway will make it easier for people outside the urban center to arrive at your store.
- You have concerns about the Greenway potentially increasing rental costs for your building.
- "An improvement project that makes it difficult to access our businesses is counterproductive." Source: Simmons, K. 2021. Plans for Monroe Road Streetscape Rankle Existing Business Owners. *The Queen City Nerve*.



### City Bicycling Club

- As bicyclists, you need safer routes than many of the streets provide. Some streets lack bike lanes. You are interested in safety of the Greenway as well and would prefer to limit the number of major street crossings it has.
- A Greenway could help you more easily commute between home, school, work, and fun.
- It is nicer to bike under the shade of trees or along the water, rather than on the street, which can get hot especially in the summer.
- "We're making progress but we need more safe places for people to walk and bike." Boudin, M. 2021. Nonprofit working to make Charlotte a more 'pedestrian-friendly city'. *WCNC Charlotte*.

