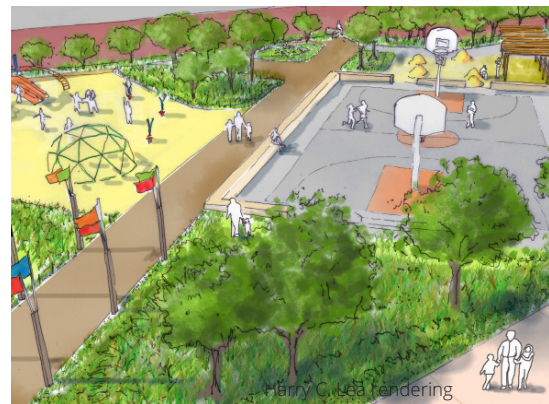


John B. Kelly rendering



Harry G. Leba rendering

## Giving Back: Our Work with the Community Design Collaborative

One of our favorite ways to provide design services to those who can't afford them is by working on projects with the **Community Design Collaborative**. The Community Design Collaborative (CDC), Philadelphia PA, is a volunteer-based community design organization that provides pro bono, preliminary design services to non-profit organizations. CDC projects act as the seeds that allow organizations to reach their dreams and grow to their full potential.

### INFILL Philadelphia: Transforming Urban Schoolyards

In May 2012, the Community Design Collaborative (Collaborative), AIA Philadelphia, Philadelphia Water Department, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency hosted a full-day design charrette with a special focus on green schoolyards. This charrette was part of *Infill Philadelphia: Soak It Up!*, a design initiative created to support the implementation

of Green City, Clean Waters and explore green stormwater infrastructure management practices for Philadelphia. The intent of the design charrette was to bring together school- and community-based groups, design professionals, and public agencies to collaborate on design concepts for two public schoolyards in Philadelphia which would serve as models for schools throughout the city. The two schools addressed in the charrette were the John B. Kelly Elementary School in Germantown and the Henry C. Lea Elementary School in West Philadelphia. The Design Charrette was intended to explore opportunities for introducing plantings, managing stormwater, enhancing the school curriculum, and providing recreational open space to support a healthy environment for the students, as well as the neighborhoods of both schools.

Key features addressed at both schools:  
 Stormwater remediation - A variety of natural habitats - Community gardens - Outdoor classrooms  
 - Active play space - Lighting and security - Service areas - Community use