



North Central Texas
Council of Governments

Urban Forestry Stakeholder Meeting: Urban Forestry Master Plans 101

May 14, 2024

*This project was funded by the U.S.
Environmental Protection Agency
through the Texas Commission on
Environmental Quality.*

Alyssa Knox, NCTCOG
aknox@nctcog.org



North Central Texas Council of Governments
Environment
& Development

www.nctcog.org/WaterResources

Procedures for Workshop

- The workshop is being recorded and will be posted to NCTCOG's Environment and Development YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@NCTCOGED>
- If you submitted an RSVP for this, you will receive an email with the presentation slides and the recording when it is available. If you did not RSVP and would like these materials, please email aknox@nctcog.org.
- Please keep your microphone on mute until the Question-and-Answer period at the end of the presentation.
- Thank you!

A photograph on the left side of the slide shows a person's hands wearing yellow work gloves, carefully planting a small evergreen sapling into the soil. The person is wearing a light-colored, short-sleeved button-down shirt. The background of the photo is a blurred forest floor with fallen leaves. The slide itself has a dark blue background with a green geometric pattern on the right side.

Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction
 - Rachel McGregor, Lead Forester, Texas Trees Foundation
- Time for Q & A after presentation

Speaker Introduction

Rachel McGregor

- Lead Forester,
Texas Trees Foundation

Urban Forest Master Plans

May 14, 2024



TEXAS TREES
FOUNDATION

AGENDA

About Texas Trees
Foundation

01
Introduction

02
What is an
Urban Forest
Master Plan?

03
Future
Opportunities

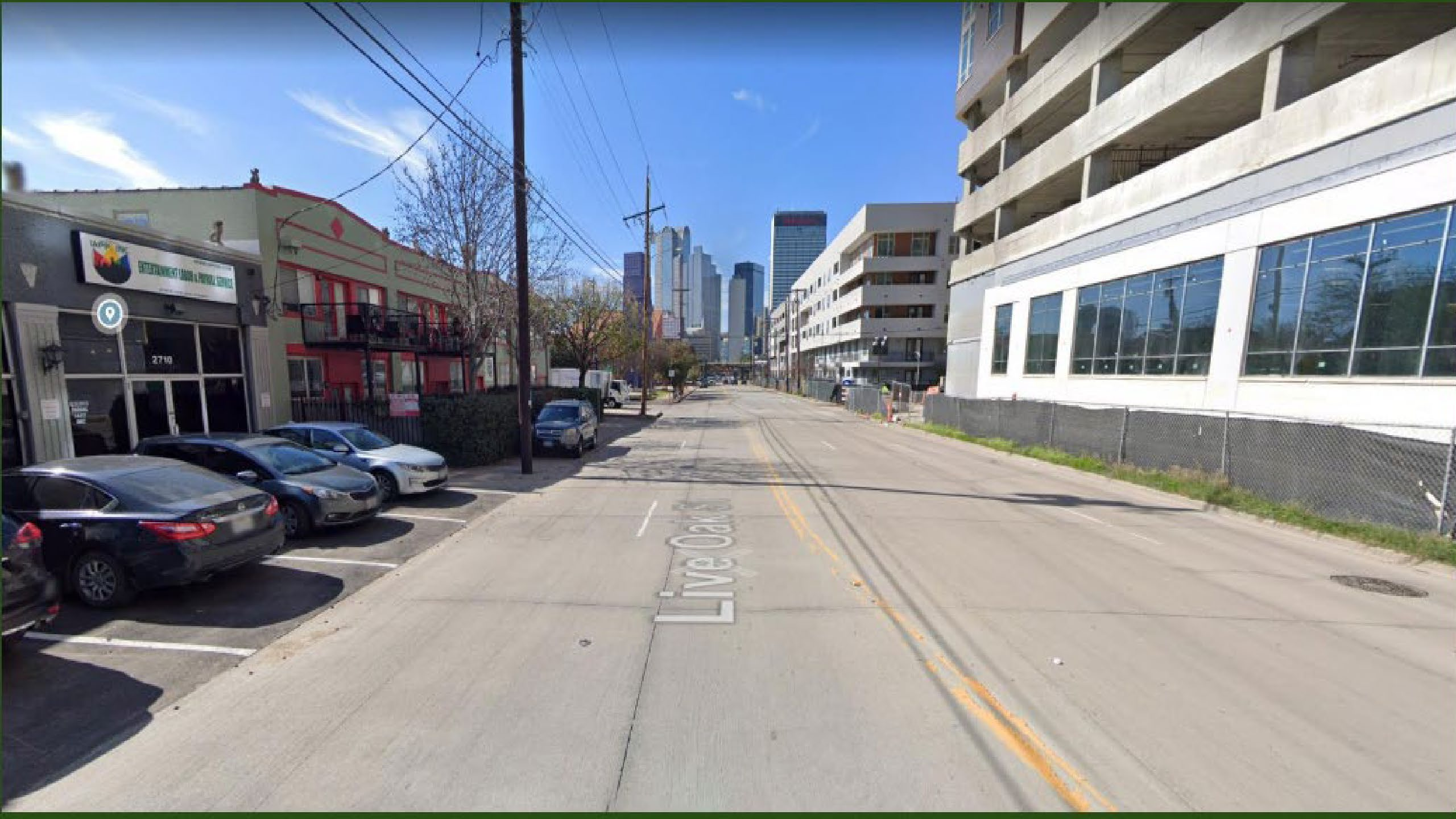
Future
Opportunities

01



Introduction









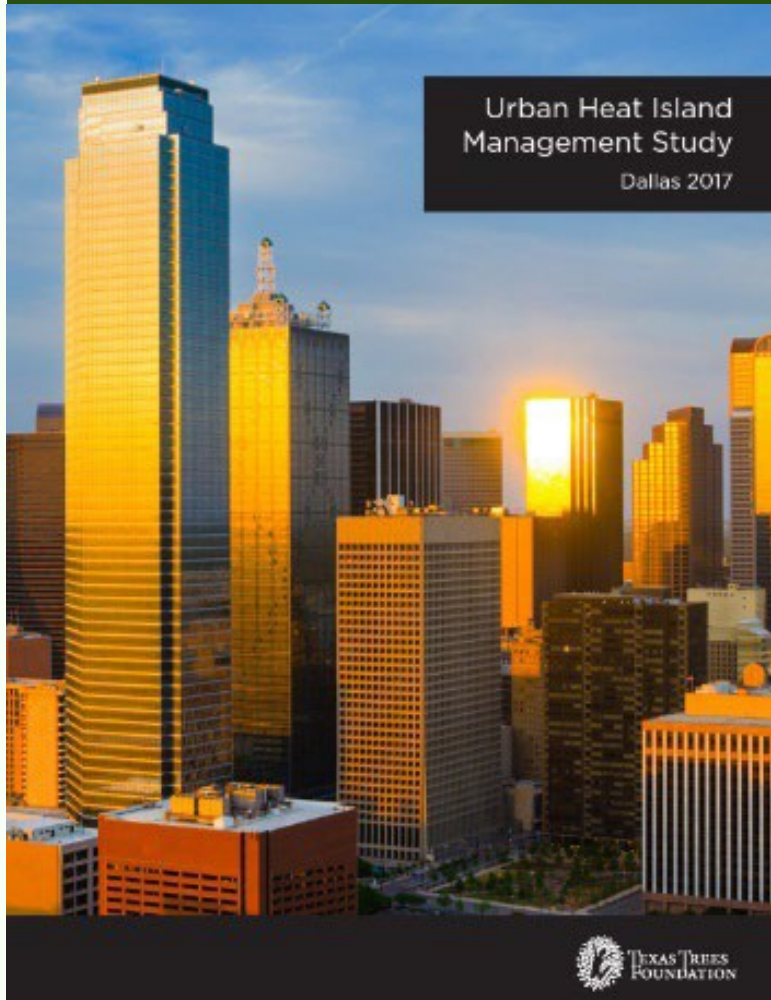
About Texas Trees Foundation

The Texas Trees Foundation (Texas Trees) serves as a catalyst in creating a new green legacy for North Texas through transformational, research-based plans that educate and mobilize the public to activate the social, economic, environmental, and health benefits that trees and urban forestry provide for a better quality of life.

Texas Trees Foundation

Values Consulting Services

Research & Planning



Education & Partnership



Implementation



Program Portfolio

PEOPLE

texastreesfoundation

Follow

668 posts

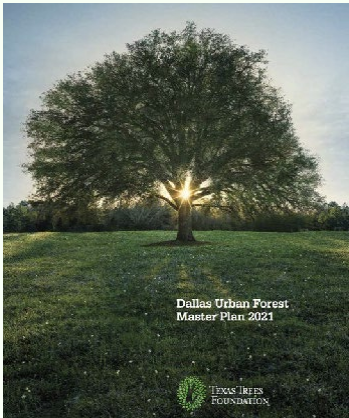
1,831 followers

231 followi

Texas Trees Foundation

Committed to preserving, beautifying neighborh
tree planting. #TTF #CoolSchools #SWMD linktr.e
3000 Pegasus Park Drive, Ste. 740, Dallas, Texas 75
linktr.ee/texastrees

Comms
& Education



Consulting



Workforce



Cool Schools



Volunteer
Plantings



Major Capital
Projects

TREES

Neighborhood Greening

What is the Urban Forest?

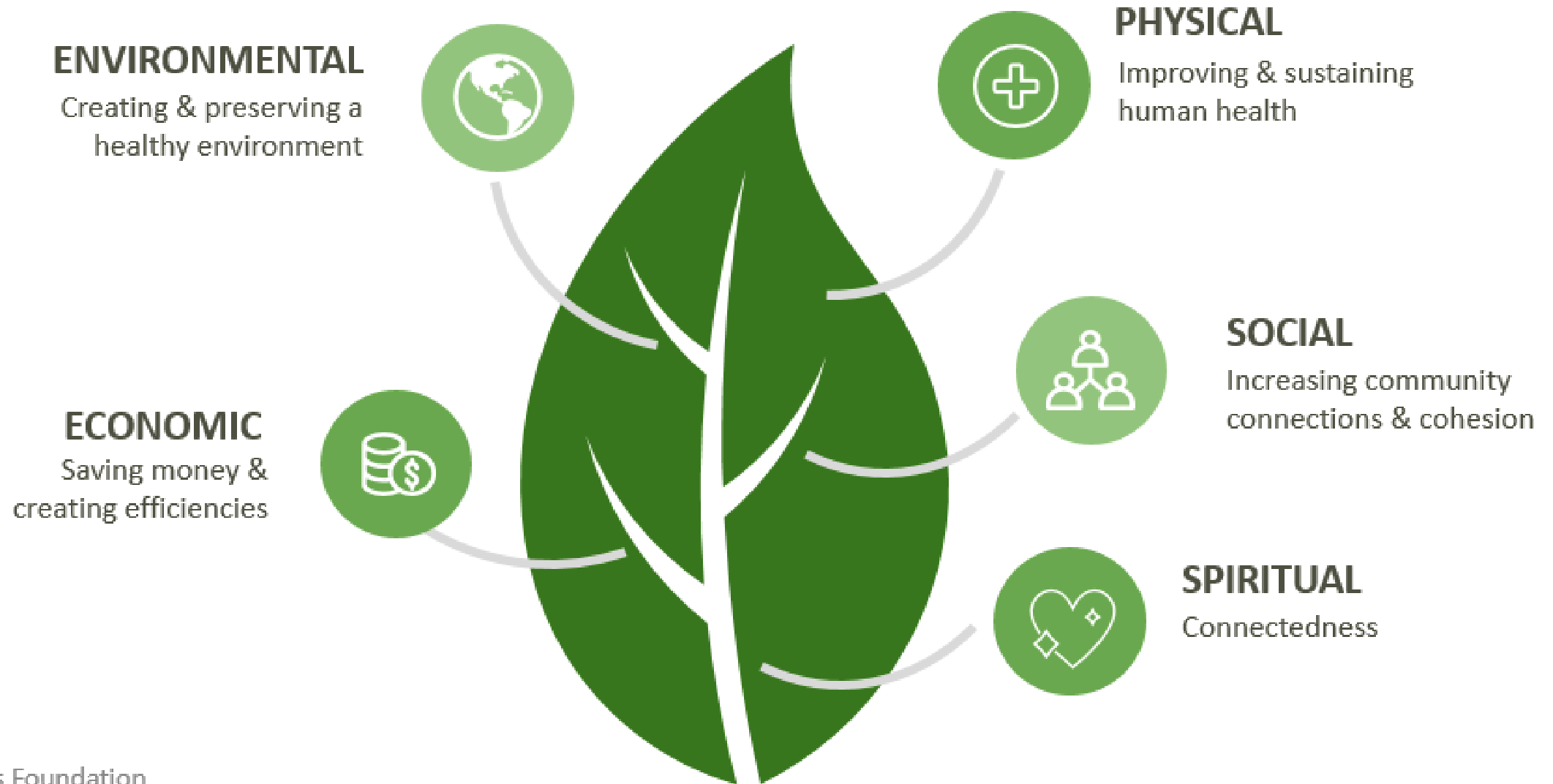
- The sum of all woody and associated vegetation in urban and suburban settings
- Ecosystems within and around urban areas

Forests on a gradient: Rural → Suburban → Urban

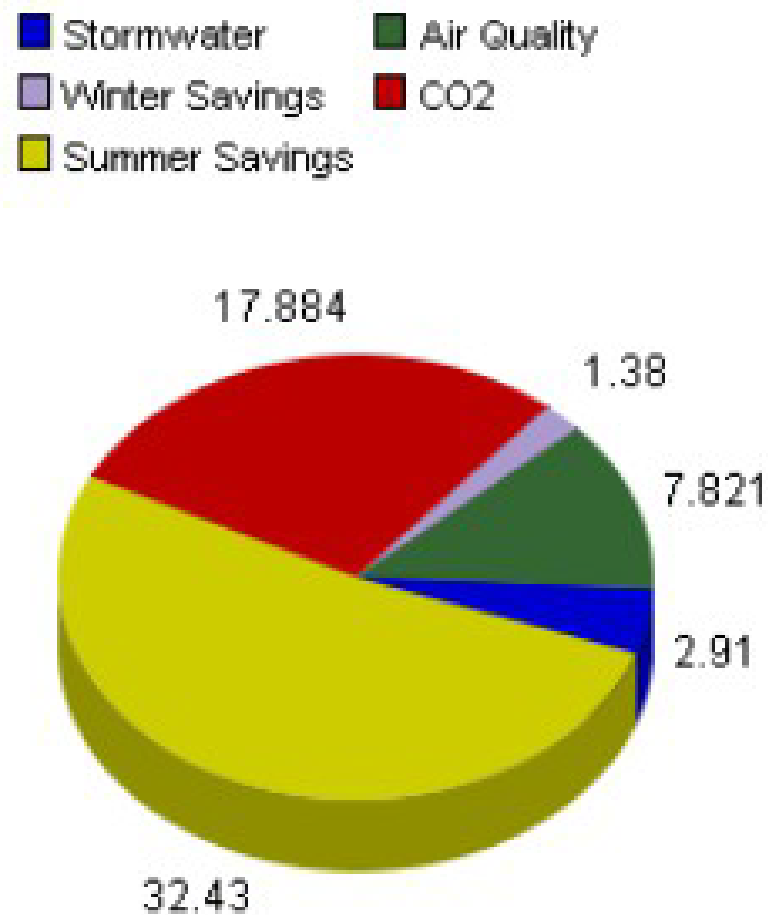
- Examples of urban forests:
 - urban parks, street trees, landscaped boulevards, gardens, greenways, river corridors, wetlands, nature preserves



The Power of Trees



Trees Add Value to Properties



Numbers are in US Dollar
Breakdown of tree benefits

This 24-inch diameter chinkapin oak will provide overall benefits of \$62 in the current year.

While some functional benefits of trees are well documented, others are difficult to quantify (e.g., human social and communal health). Trees' specific geography, climate, and interactions with humans and infrastructure are highly variable and make precise calculations that much more difficult. Given these complexities, the results presented here should be considered initial approximations to better understand the environmental and economic value associated with trees and their placement.

Benefits of trees do not account for the costs associated with trees' long-term care and maintenance.

If this tree is cared for and grows, it will provide \$65 worth of annual benefit in 50 years. See 'Future Year (2073)' tab at left for details.

Microclimate
Matters to
Human
Comfort

Effect of
Shade on
Surface
Temperature

Select Heat Data Pegasus Park, Parking Lot

SITE	Surface Temp F Shade	Surface Temp F Sun
Grass	101.8	104.7
Light Color Concrete	109.9	122.1
Exterior White Car	114.2	134.6
Woodchip Mulch	107.0	146.1
Exterior Black Car	113.7	157.6

Thursday, July 21, 2022
Recorded Time: 4:15PM – 4:22PM
Recorded Air Temperature 100/95F
Weather Conditions: Sunny
Data captured by infrared thermometer

Pegasus Park Parking Lot

Sensor Locations



KEY

TH = Temperature and Humidity Sensor

MRT = Mean Radiant Temperature Sensor Globe

Anon = Anemometer (wind flow/direction)

Challenges Facing Our Urban Forest

- Extreme weather
- Pests and diseases
- Flooding
- Soil compaction
- Maintenance requirements
- Conflicts with sidewalks and utilities
- Insufficient space for roots and canopy



02



What is an Urban Forest Master Plan?

Urban Forest Master Plan

Background:

- An **UFMP** is a roadmap that creates a shared vision for the future of a tree canopy.
- **Long-term plan**
- **Urban forest goals and Recommendations.**
- **Action steps and Timeline**

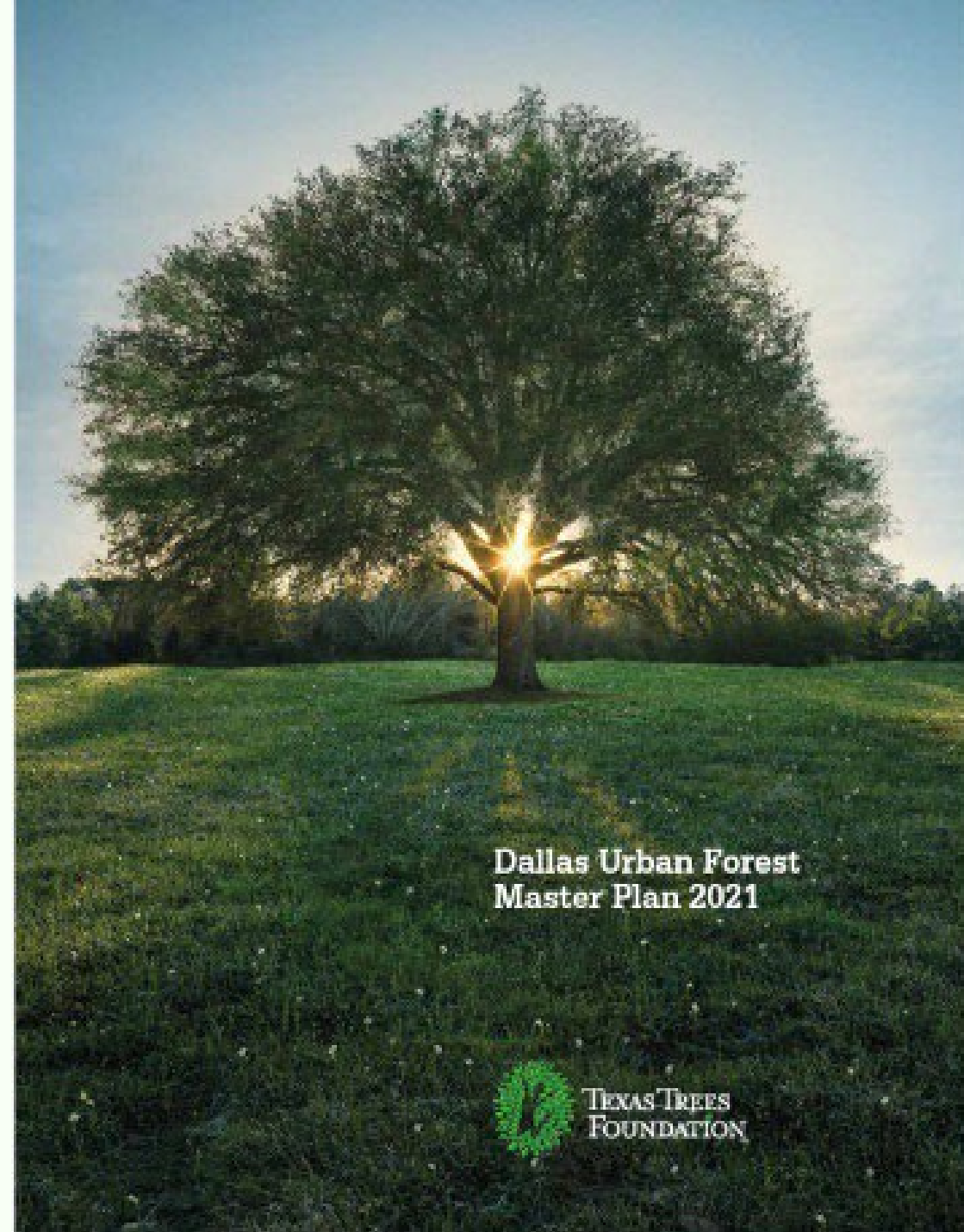


FORT WORTH
URBAN FOREST
MASTER PLAN
2023



Urban Forest Master Plan, Why?

- Educates
- Prioritizes key data into recommendations
- Aligns Stakeholders



UFMP 5 Step Process



Step 1.

Project Initiation

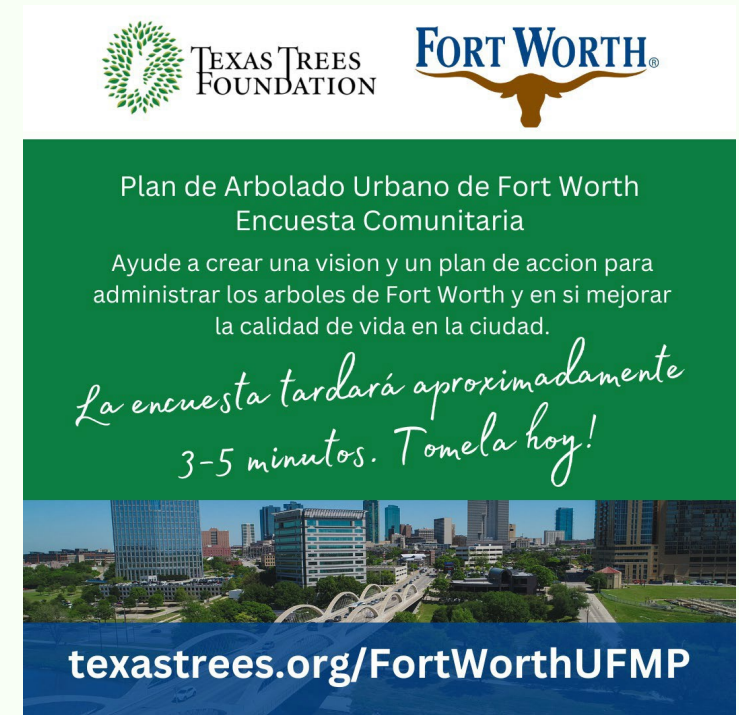
- Project Team
- Steering Committee team
- Begin collection of plans, policies, ordinances, budgets, and other relevant documents and photos.



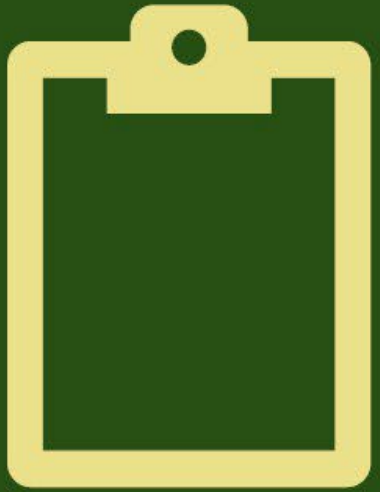
Step 2.

Stakeholder Engagement

- Educational materials
- Identify local community and industry groups
- Identify local events
- Schedule focus group meetings and community workshops
- Schedule meetings with relevant city departments



Primary Engagement Activities



**Bi-Lingual
Community
Survey**



**Pop-Up
Events**



**Virtual
Community
Workshops**



**Focus
Groups**

Supporting Engagement Activities



**Promotional
Videos**



**Social Media
Postings**



**Email
Blasts**



**Press
Releases**



**Neighborhood
Association
Meetings**



**Interviews
with News
Media**



**Flyer
Distribution**

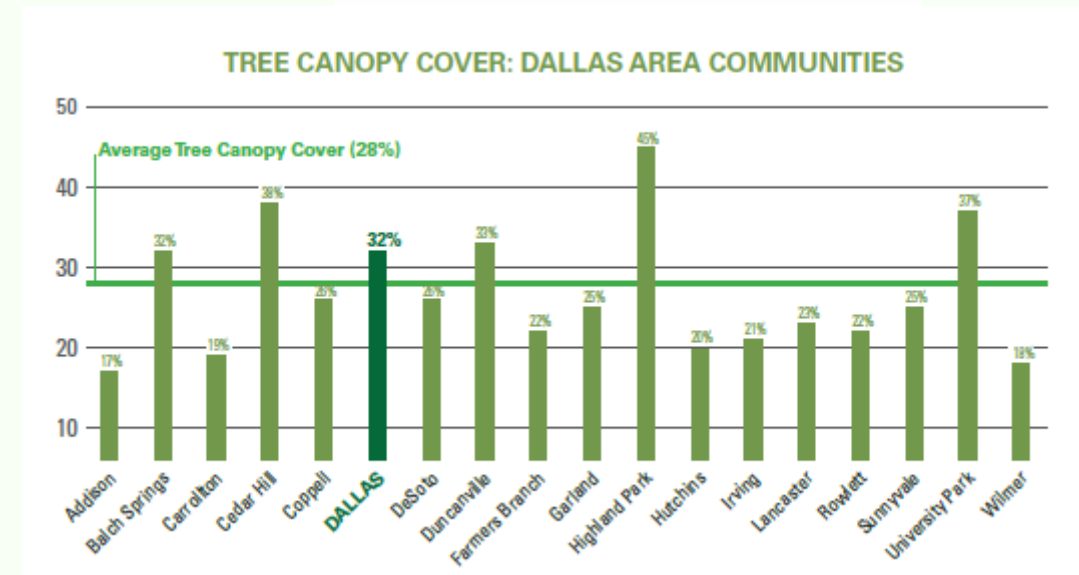
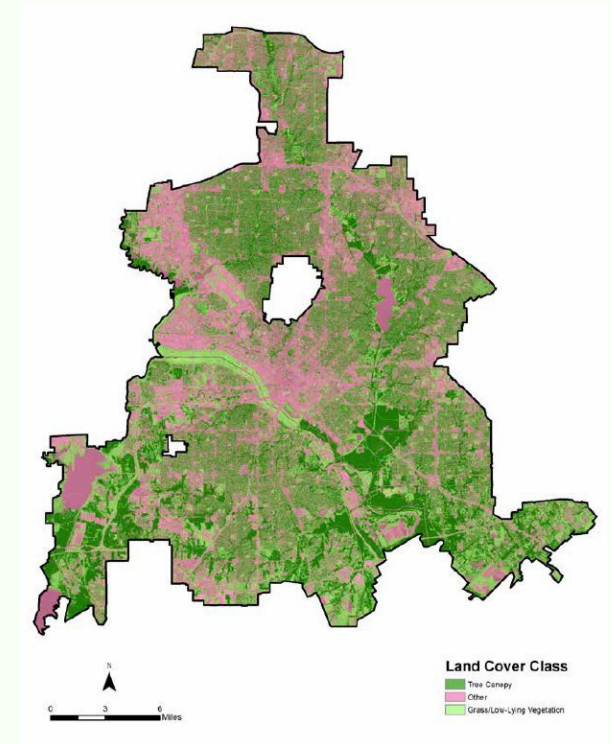


**Project
Website**

Step 3.

Data Review and Analysis

- Assess canopy cover
- Review available tree inventory data
- Review city plans for impact on urban forest
- Benchmark tree canopy and ordinances/policies relative to other cities and industry standards
- Incorporate stakeholder input
- Keep project team and Steering Committee updated



Step 4.

Plan Development

- Utilize findings from data analysis, document review, and stakeholder input to develop draft plan to include:
 - What do we have?
 - What do we want?
 - How do we get there?
 - Specify Action Steps and Short-Term Targets
 - How are we doing?
- Submit draft plan to Steering Committee, city leadership, and focus groups members for review.
- Allow for 2 review cycles.

DALLAS URBAN FOREST MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

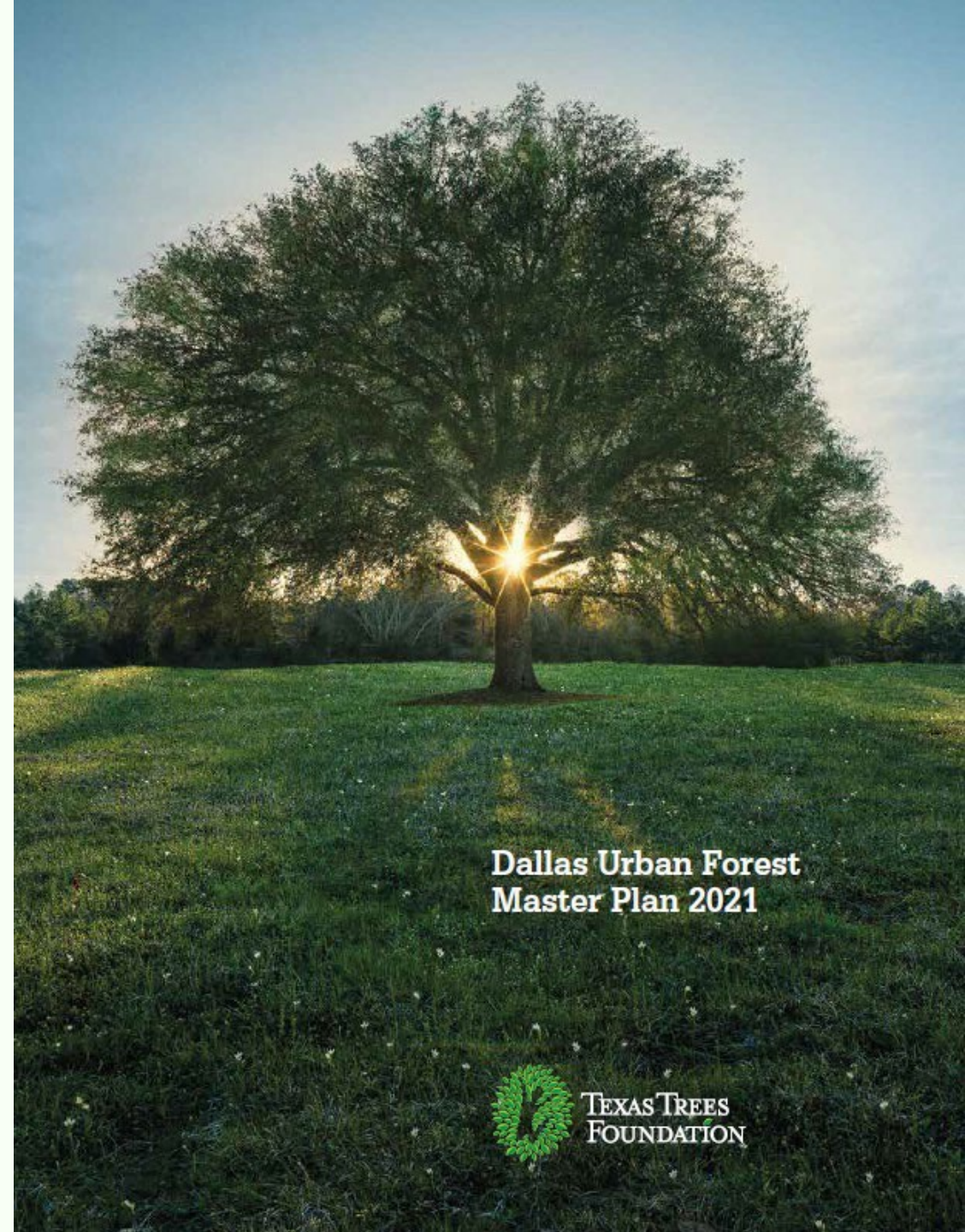
01. **Complete** a comprehensive tree inventory of all right-of-way and park trees.
02. **Centralize** the City of Dallas's urban forestry programs and activities.
03. **Create** a Storm Response and Recovery Plan for the City of Dallas.
04. **Strengthen and support** existing relationships and partnerships.
05. **Work** towards development of a City Urban Forest Management Plan.
06. **Ensure** Dallas regulations, best-management practices, and guidelines are in place to support tree canopy growth, protection, and preservation.
07. **Develop and implement** a strategy to maximize investment and resources to meet Dallas's desired level of service for urban forestry programs and management.
08. **Create** a plan to strategically plant and care for trees to ensure equitable access to tree canopy across Dallas.
09. **Create and implement** a management program to monitor and address environmental threats to Dallas's urban forest.
10. **Develop and implement** a public engagement, outreach, and education plan.
11. **Formulate** a strategy to manage wood waste and identify the highest and best use of wood from trees removed by the City of Dallas.
12. **Strengthen** working relationships and partnerships with private utilities, organizations, and contractors whose activities impact trees by instituting regular dialogue and project coordination.
13. **Enhance and develop** programs that encourage and support active participation by residents and volunteers in the planting and care of Dallas's urban forest.
14. **Review and update** the Great Trinity Forest Management Plan.



Step 5.

Plan Adoption Process

- Provide the city with PowerPoint presentation and talking points for internal briefings.
- Present plan to the city council in electronic or printed format as directed by the city.
- Once adopted, post Plan on project website.



Dallas Urban Forest
Master Plan 2021





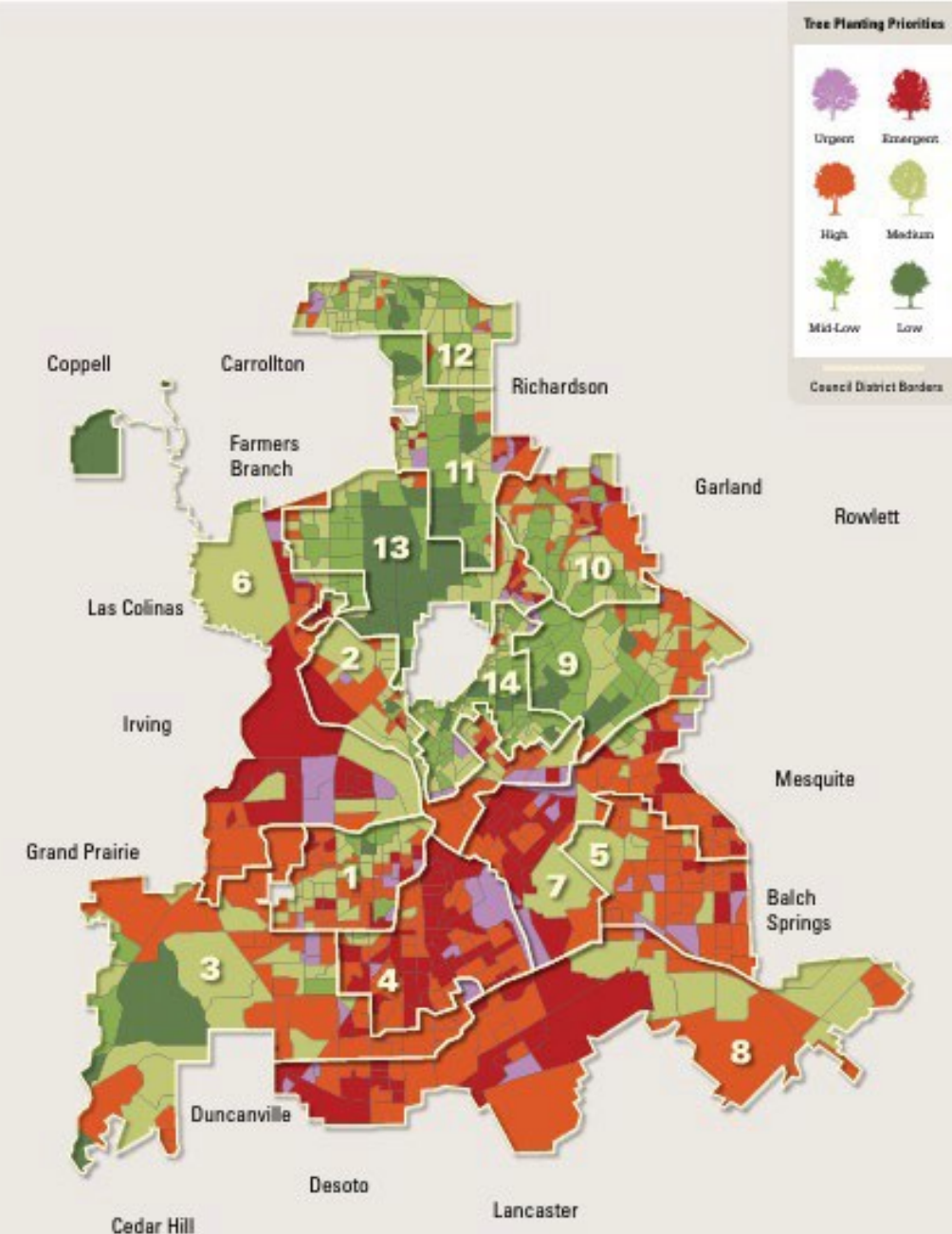
03



Future Opportunities

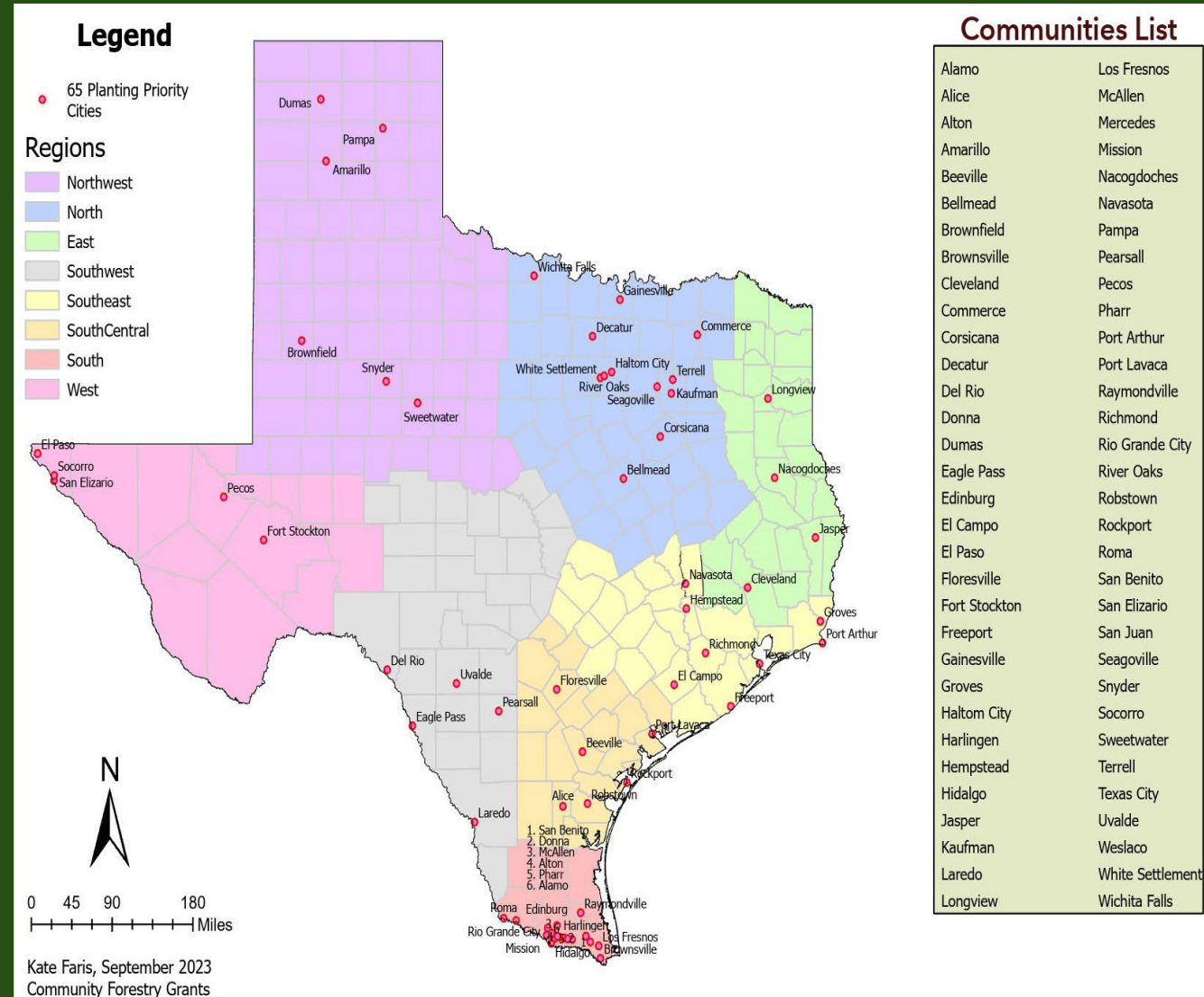
Priority Mapping

- ❖ This report provides a guide for decision-makers, city staff, developers, builders, and other stakeholders to better identify where trees should be strategically planted, using five key categories 1) Demographic, 2) Health, 3) Urban Heat Island, 4) Economic Development, and 5) Air Quality.
- ❖ These maps utilize Urban Tree Canopy data and can prioritize tree canopy preservation areas as well.



Geospatial 65 Grant-Texas A&M Forest Service

- ❖ Awarded geospatial analysis- Texas Trees Foundation, Dallas, for a statewide project
- ❖ Timeline: May 2024-April 2025
- ❖ Top Goals-
 - ❖ Increase tree canopy
 - ❖ Engage and educate communities
 - ❖ Provide cities with resources to develop and implement impactful tree planting programs
 - ❖ Build capacity within cities to support urban forestry plantings and goals
 - ❖ Future urban forestry initiatives

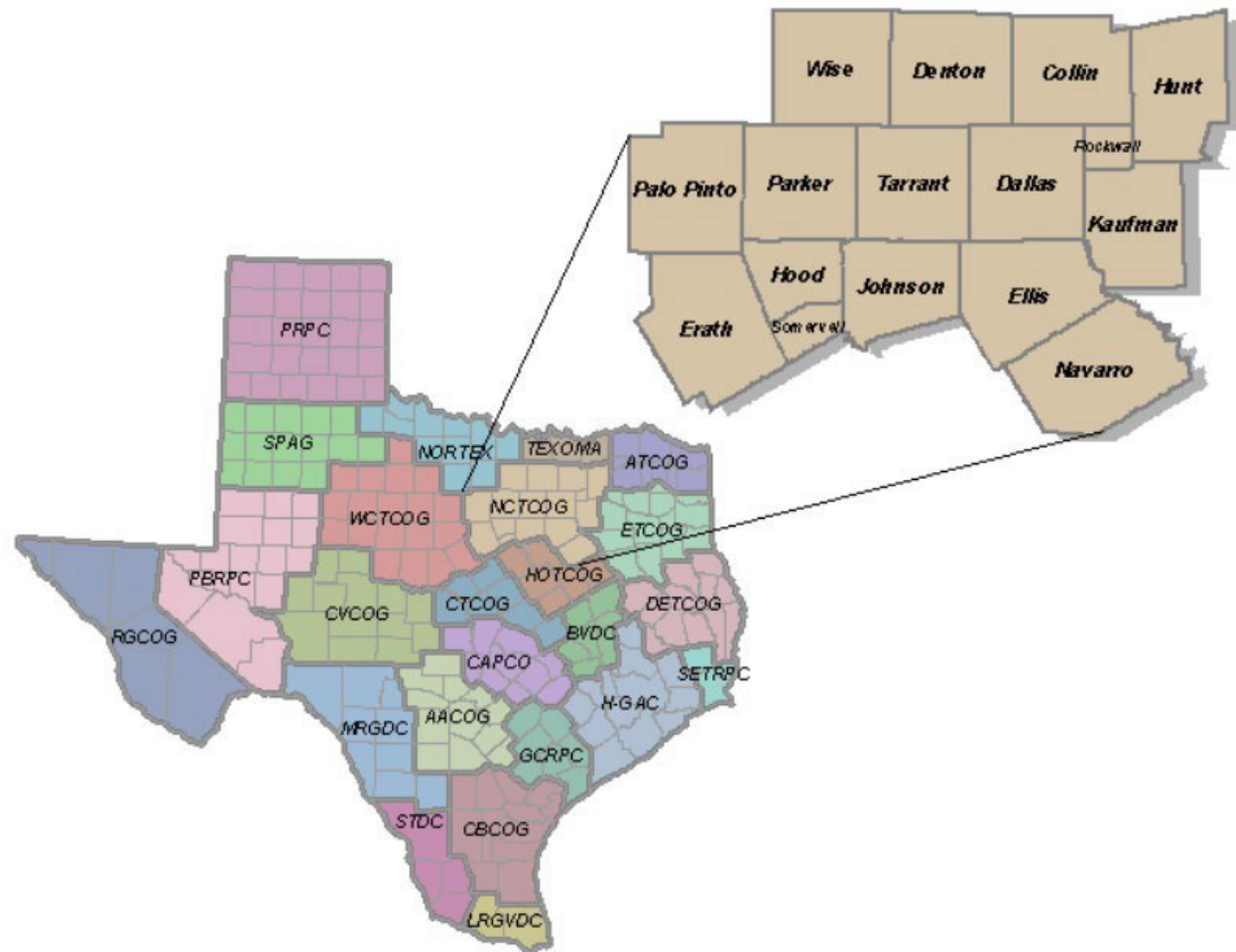


65 Planting Priority Cities

Regional Urban Forest Master Plan

- TFS, TTF, and NCTCOG (a state agency, an NGO and a regional government entity) would like to develop more UFMP's and Priority Planting Plans in communities throughout the North Texas region.
- The ultimate hope is that there may be a *regional* UFMP developed someday.

NCTCOG Region Map



Future Partnership Opportunities

Research & Planning

Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP)
Priority Planting/Preservation Maps
Public tree inventory
Public Tree Management Plan
Ordinance/Policy Review
Create an Urban Forestry Board

Education & Partnerships

Public educational events
Volunteer engagement
Update recommended tree list to
climate resilient species
Collaborative Fundraising

Implementation

Planting Events
Cool Schools Program in Partnership
with ISD
Sponsored Neighborhood Tree
Plantings/Giveaways

If We All Work Together, We can Be The Change!

Research and Planning



Education and Partnership



Implementation



THANK YOU!



TEXAS TREES
FOUNDATION

Wrap-Up

- Don't forget to join us on June 5, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. for the *Urban Forestry Stakeholders Meeting: Forestry in Your Community*.
 - [Add to Calendar](#)
- If you submitted a RSVP for this meeting, you will receive an email with the presentation slides.
- If you did not RSVP and would like these meeting materials, please email aknox@nctcog.org.

Staff Contacts

➤ Alyssa Knox

Environment and
Development Planner II

AKnox@nctcog.org

817-695-9221

➤ Corinne Buckley

Environment and Development
Planner

cbuckley@nctcog.org

817-704-2510

➤ Cassidy Campbell

Environment and
Development Program
Manager

Ccampbell@nctcog.org

817-608-2368

➤ Susan Alvarez

Environment and Development
Director

Salvarez@nctcog.org

817-704-2549



North Central Texas
Council of Governments

Thank you for attending!

May 14, 2024

*This project was funded by the U.S.
Environmental Protection Agency
through the Texas Commission on
Environmental Quality.*

Alyssa Knox, NCTCOG
aknox@nctcog.org



North Central Texas Council of Governments
**Environment
& Development**

www.nctcog.org/WaterResources