

BOS Public Safety and Neighborhood
Services Committee

Tree Program Hearing

October 14, 2021

Lance Carnes

SaveSFtrees.org/water

District 3 --- 350 Broadway

This tree was not watered by
Public Works/BUF for 6
months.

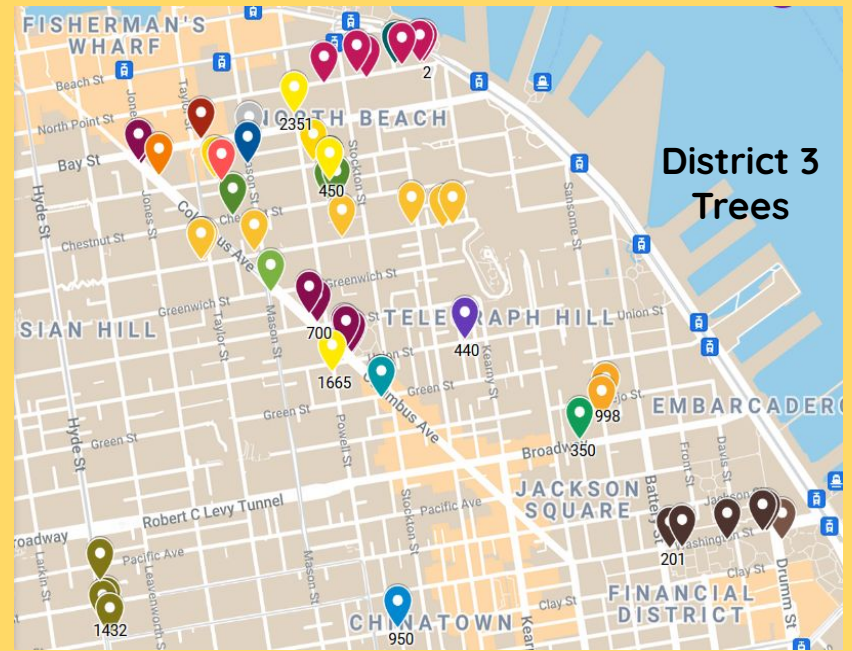
**BUF promises 20 gallons per
new tree per week for 3 years.**

[SaveSFtrees.org/water](https://www.SaveSFtrees.org/water)



I performed a tree watering audit using the Public Works District 3 tree watering list:

72 trees total,
only 20 watered,
about 28%



Public Works does not do tree watering audits.

[SaveSFTrees.org/water](https://www.SaveSFTrees.org/water)

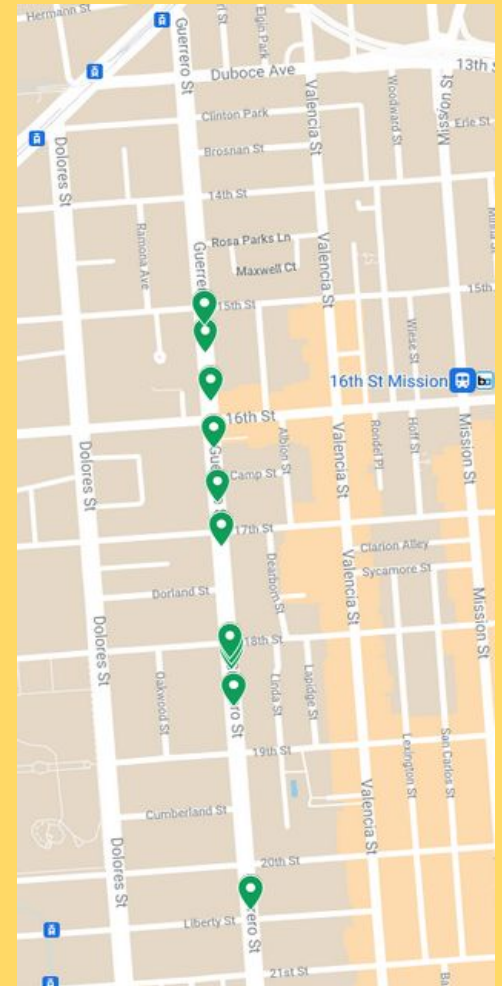
**District 8 --- Guerrero St
median**

79 trees and plantings

**Less than 5% were
watered**

Audited May thru August 2021

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Guerrero St Median

Left: Tree bag empty

Right: Plantings not watered

May -- August there was virtually no Public Works watering

Have seen neighbors watering with their own hoses --- at risk to their lives on this high-speed stretch!

SaveSFtrees.org/water



A Tree Watering Success story!

Mission Verde is a resident watering crew, regulated by Public Works. The 140-tree planting area is along 24th St between Potrero and Mission, including side streets.

By following Public Works' watering rules, **Mission Verde** has a **100% watering success rate**.

MissionVerde.org



[SaveSFTrees.org/water](https://www.saveSFTrees.org/water)



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**Mission Verde
volunteers
with water
pushcart and
hose.**

If BUF can get
100% watering
from a resident
crew, why not
better results
from its own
crew?

Questions and a way forward

Why are taxpayers paying **\$1.3 Million** to water 2,200 new trees, but only 30% of them are actually being watered? **Where is the extra 70% or \$900K going?**

The 2014 San Francisco Urban Forest Plan promised 50,000 new trees by 2034, or **16,500 new trees by 2021**. The total net gain as of 2021 is **only 300 trees!**

San Francisco sorely needs a new Urban Forest Plan.

SaveSFtrees.org/water



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