

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC WORKS

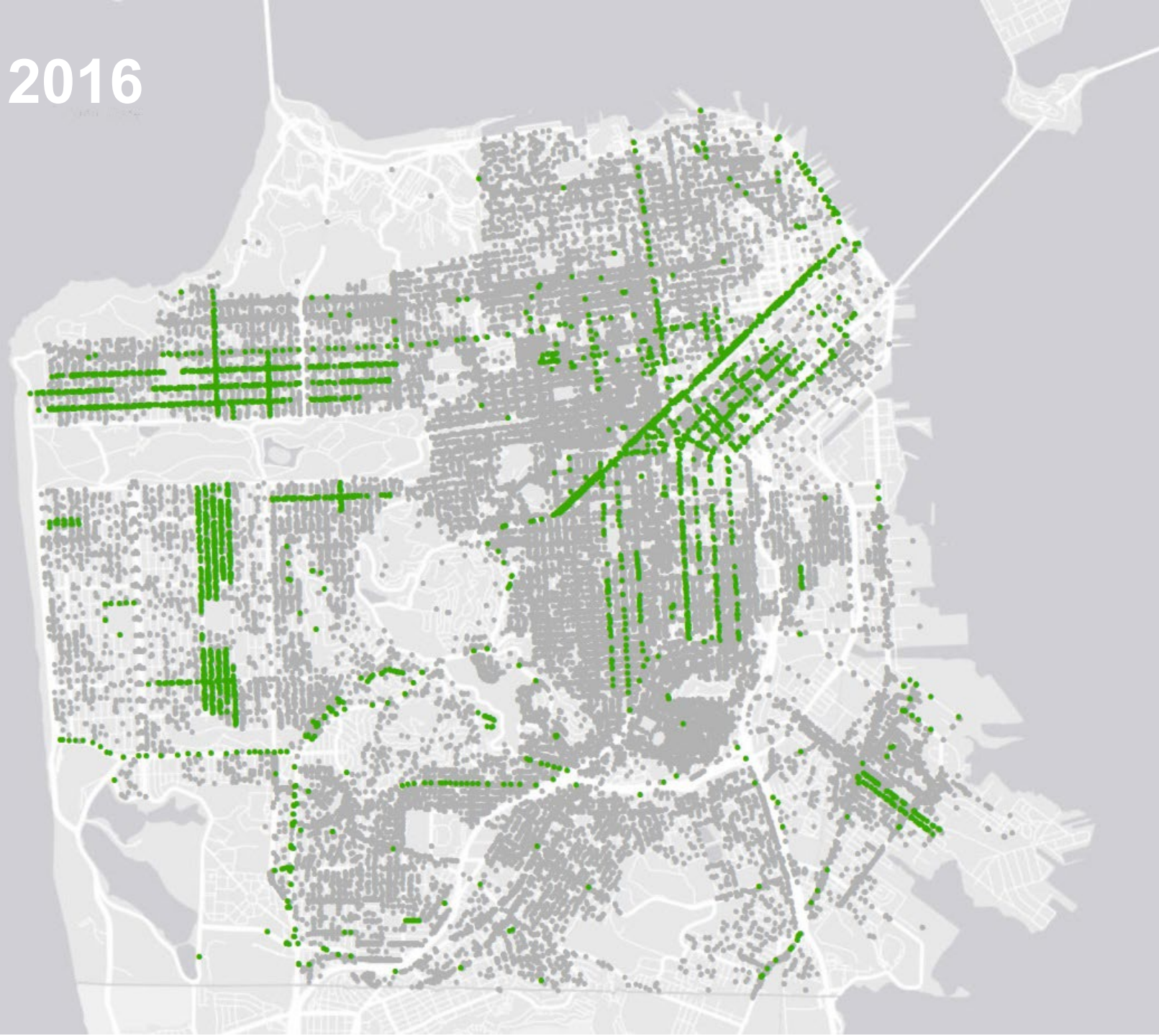
CARING FOR OUR URBAN FOREST: STREET TREE MAINTENANCE & PLANTING

OCTOBER 14, 2021

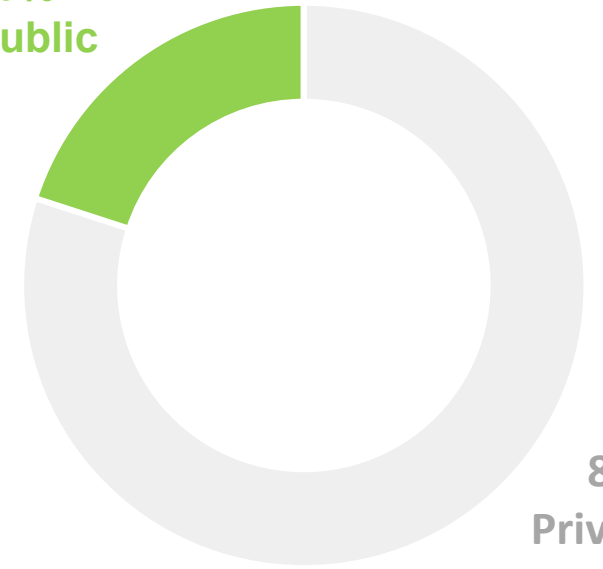
NICHOLAS CRAWFORD
ACTING SUPERINTENDENT-
BUREAU OF URBAN FORESTRY



2016



20%
Public



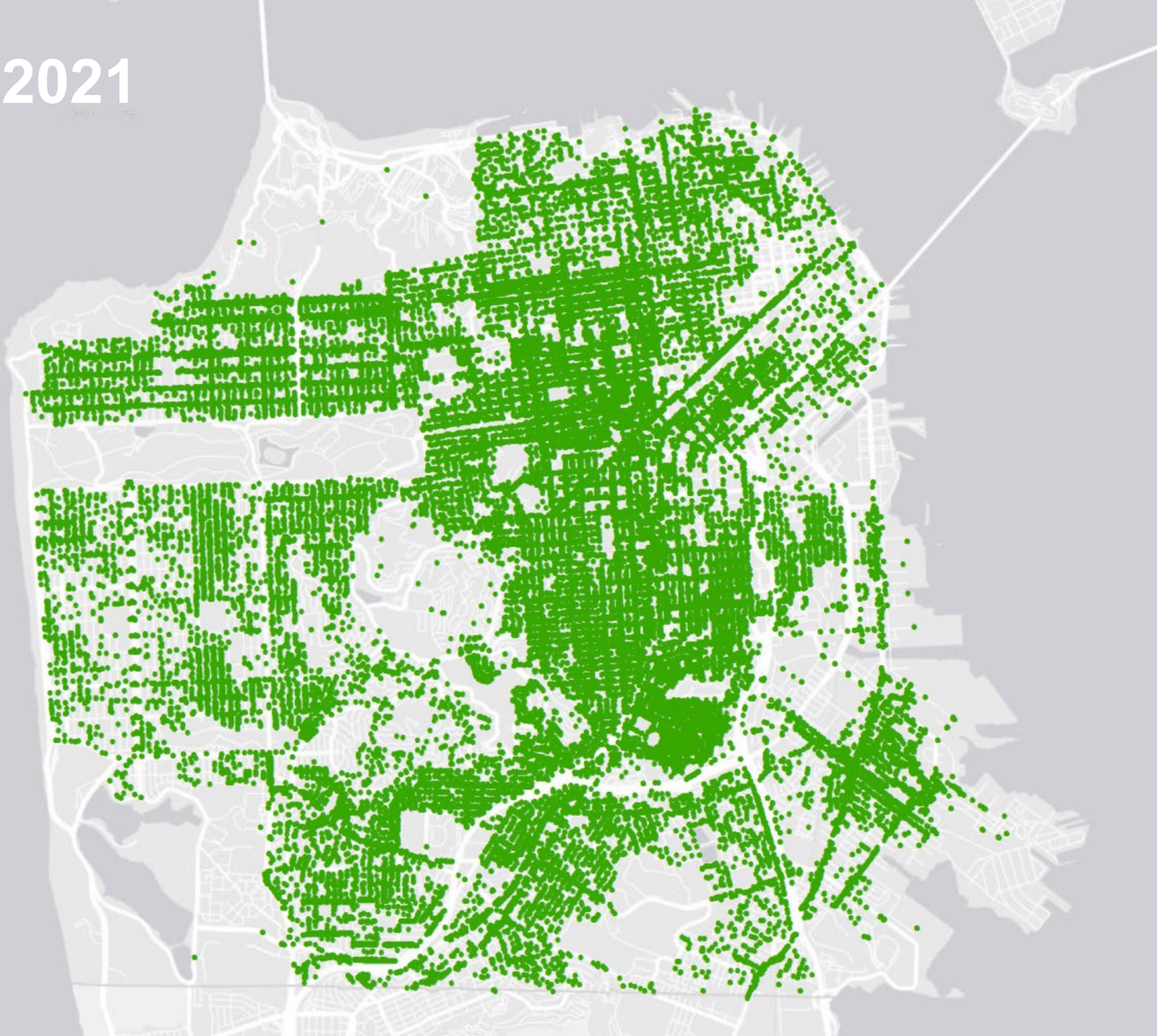
80%
Private

Five years ago,
we were only funded
to care for

28,000

street trees

2021



San Francisco's program
to care for the City's

125,000

street trees

and repair sidewalks
damaged by tree roots.

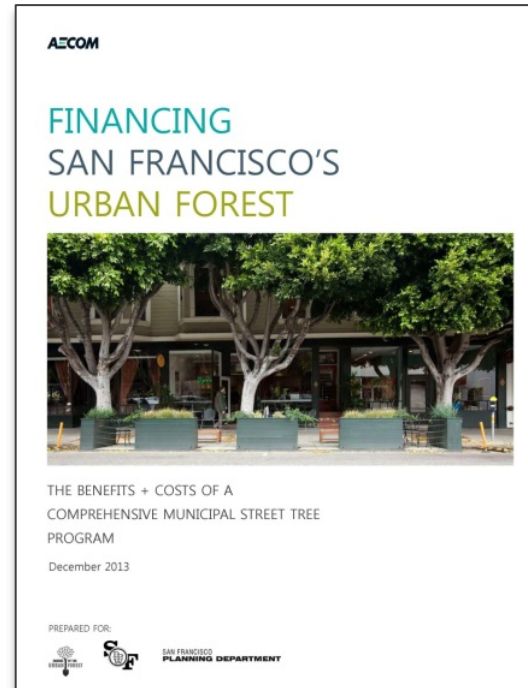
San Francisco Chronicle

For now, property owners stuck with maintaining SF street trees

By Lizzie Johnson and J.K. Dineen | July 20, 2016 | Updated: July 20, 2016 5:18pm



PREPARE A CREDIBLE SOLUTION: **URBAN FOREST PLAN**



2012

URBAN FOREST PLAN

2013

FINANCE STUDY

2016

BALLOT MEASURE

BALLOT MEASURE (2016)

E

Responsibility for Maintaining Street Trees and Surrounding Sidewalks

Shall the City amend the Charter to transfer responsibility from property owners to the City for maintaining trees on sidewalks around their property as well as sidewalks damaged by the trees, and pay for this by **setting aside \$19M** per year from its General Fund, adjusted annually based on City revenues?

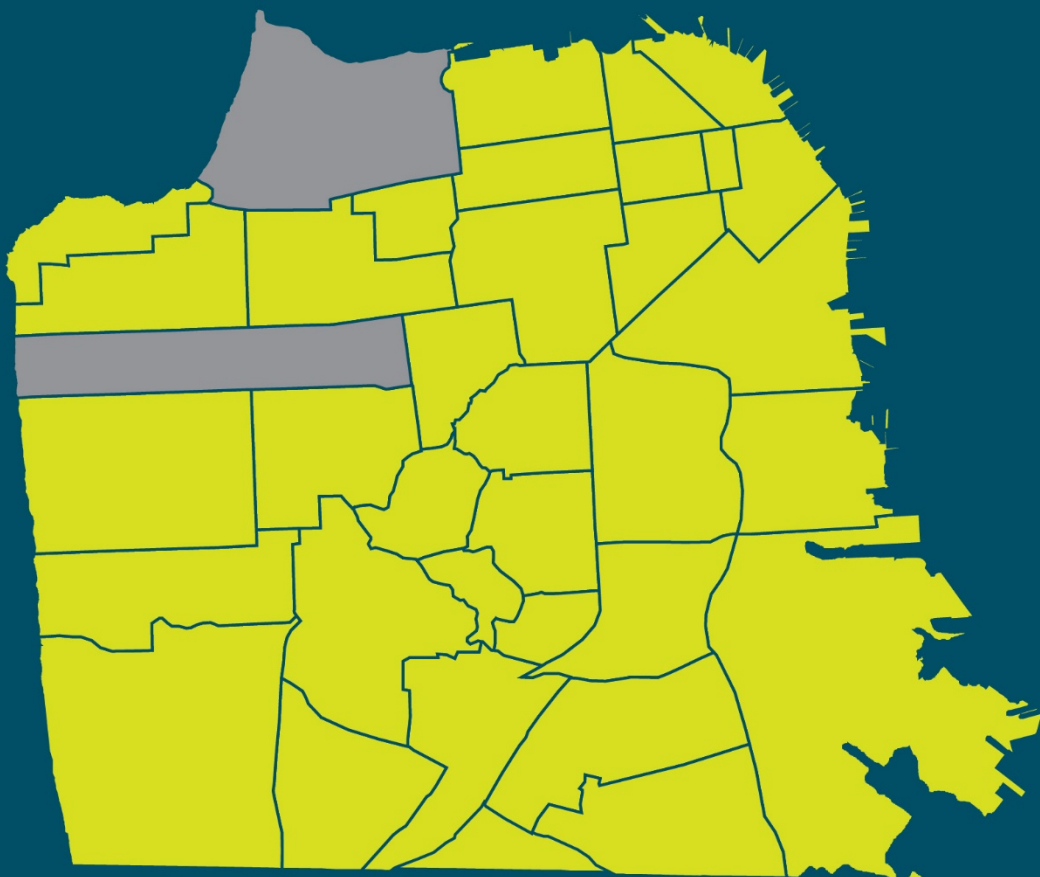


79%

APPROVAL

STREET TREE CENSUS (2017)

ALL OF THE STREET TREES IN SAN FRANCISCO ARE COUNTED!



STREET
TREE
TICKER



1 2 4 7 9 5

street trees

COMPLETED NEIGHBORHOODS 33

VACANT PLANTING SITES 39,582

DIFFERENT TREE SPECIES >500

SIDEWALK DAMAGE LOCATIONS 31,147



UPDATED FEBRUARY 15, 2017

PROGRAM START-UP



HIRING



EQUIPMENT

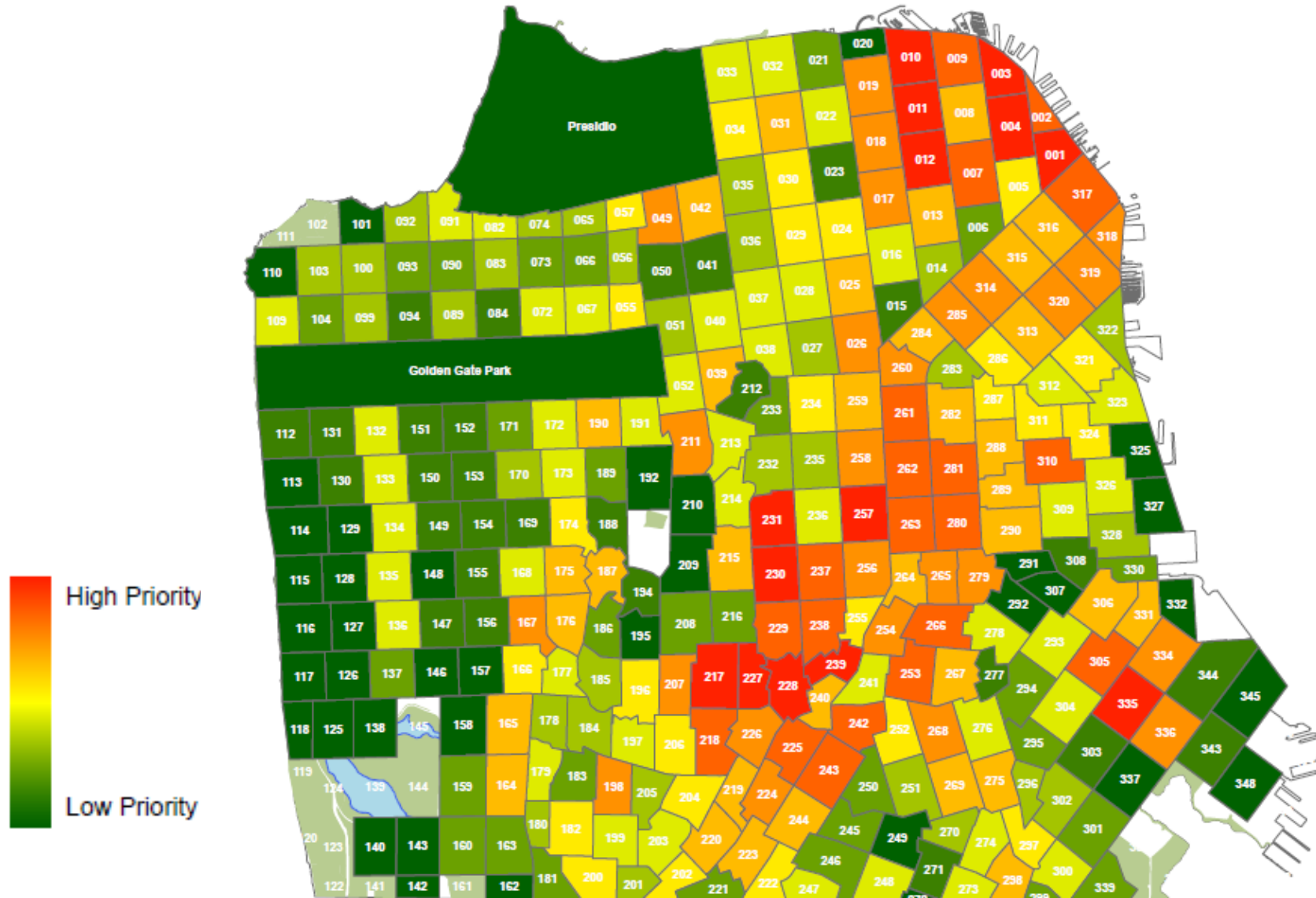


CONTRACTS

TREE MAINTENANCE AND PRUNING



“WORST FIRST” TREES



TREE PRUNING CONDITIONS



TREE PRUNING CONDITIONS



Damage from vehicles

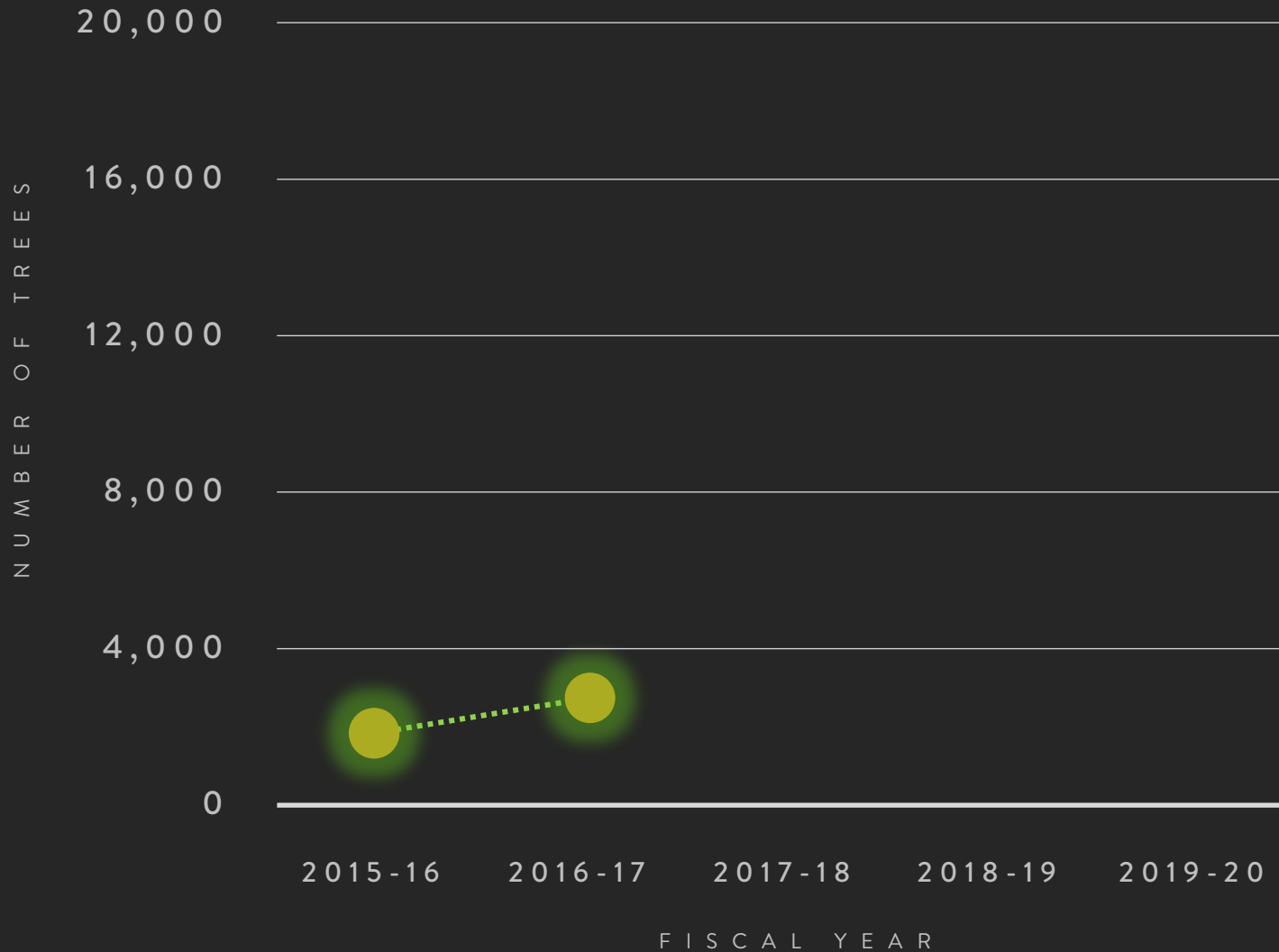


Immediate safety concerns



Sidewalk damage

TREES MAINTAINED ANNUALLY



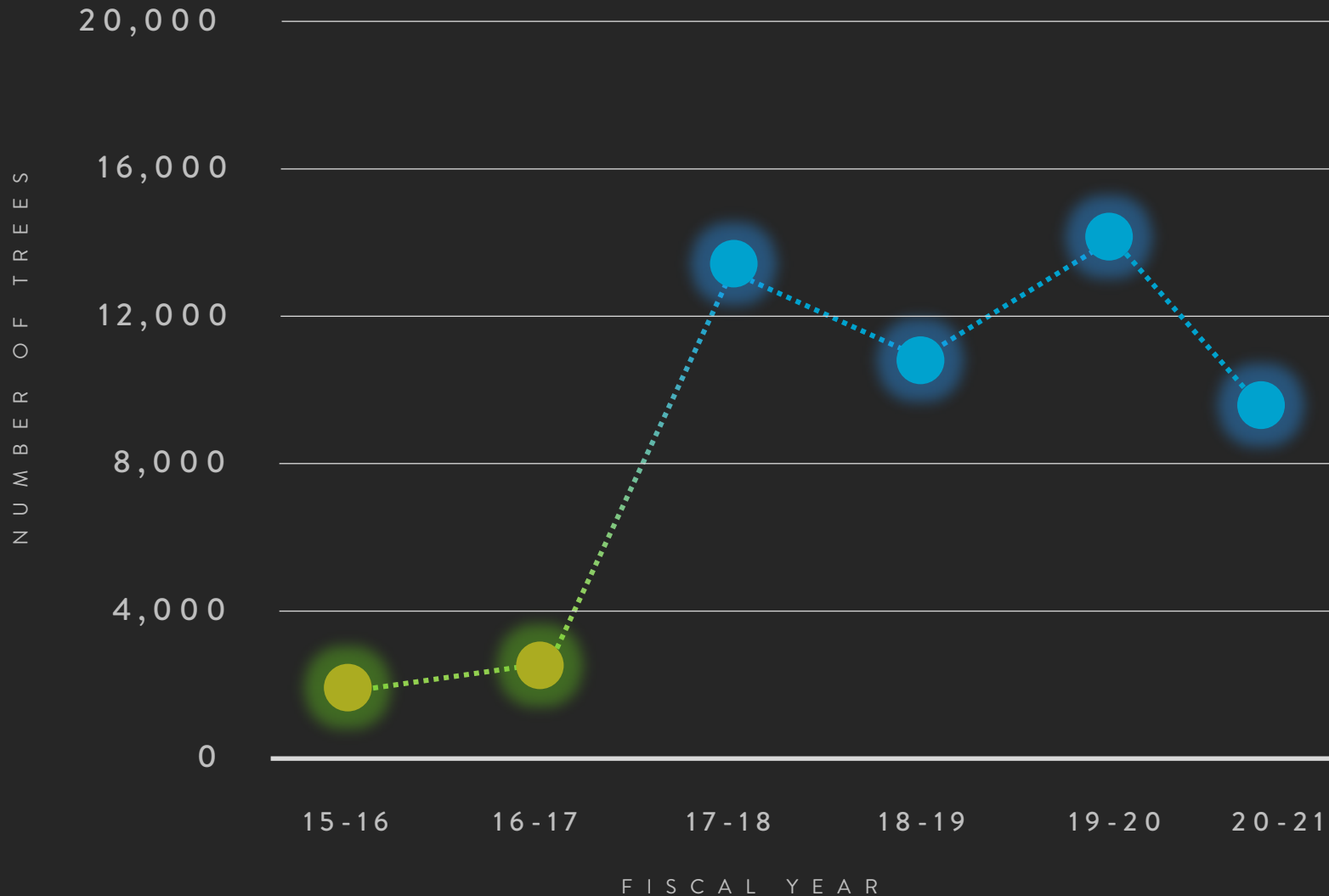
2,102

maintained FY15-16

2,372

maintained FY16-17

TREES MAINTAINED ANNUALLY



2,102

maintained FY15-16

2,372

maintained FY16-17

13,159

maintained FY17-18

11,615

maintained FY18-19

14,302

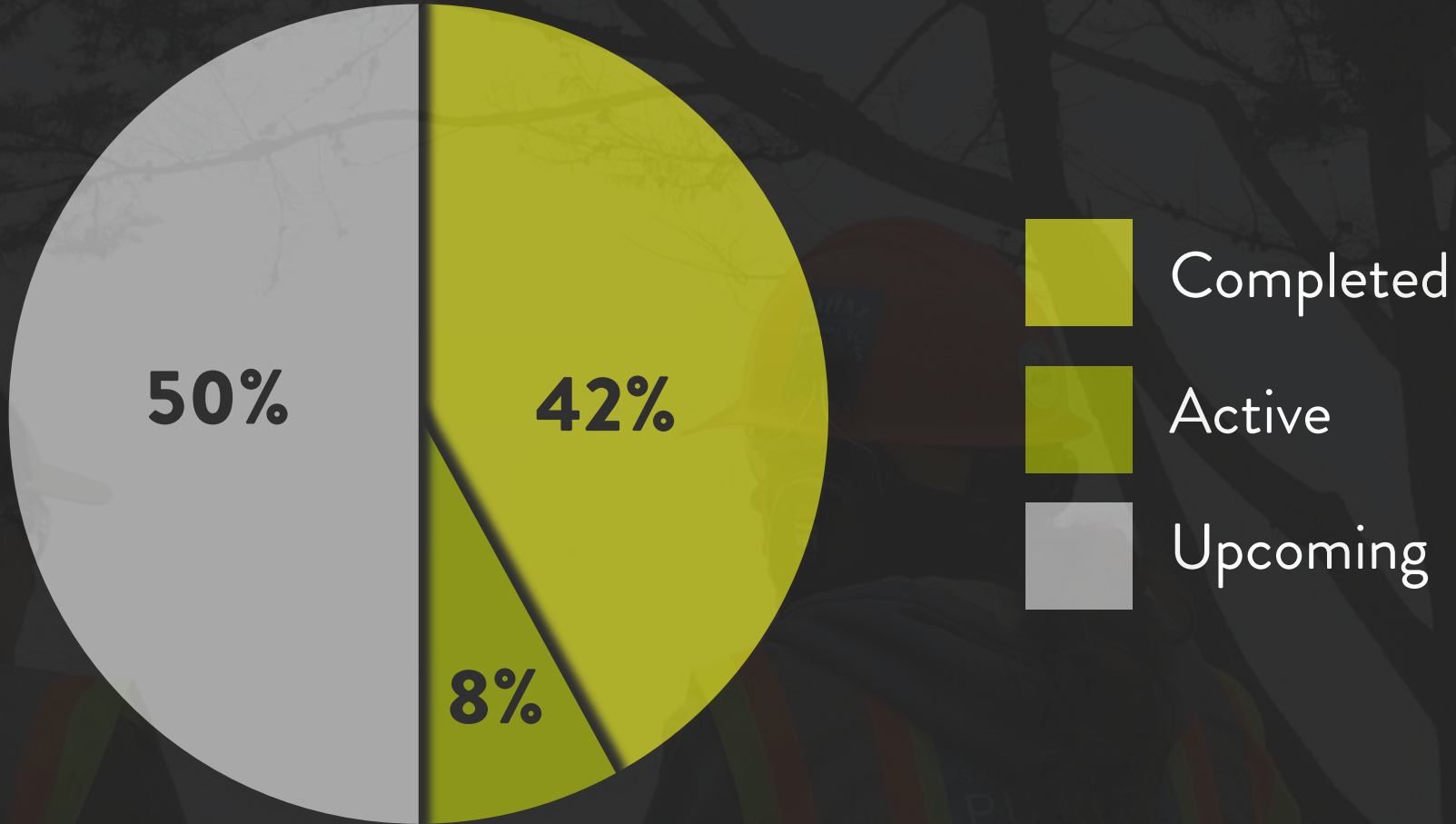
maintained FY19-20

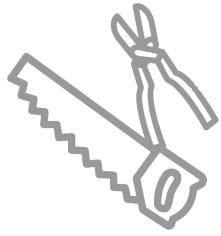
9,265

maintained FY20-21

StreetTreeSF

MAINTENANCE COMPLETED AS OF JUNE 30, 2021





Maintained
54,409

Street trees to date



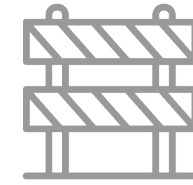
Removed
6,852

Structurally unsound, hazardous
and dead street trees



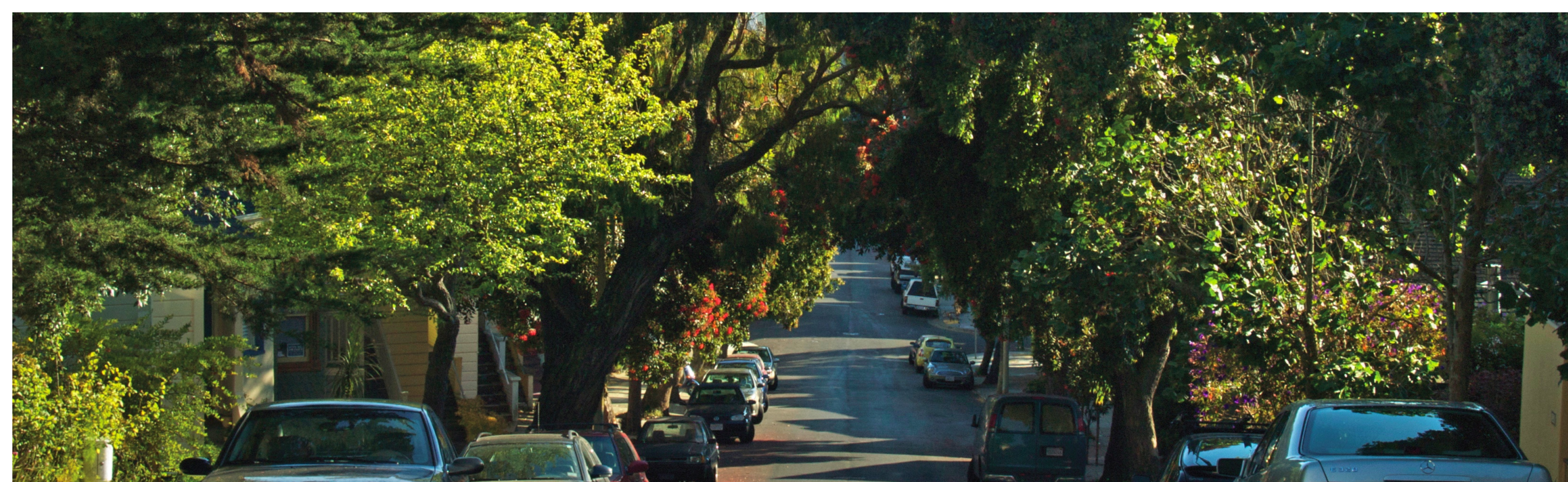
Repaired & Replaced
535,000

Square feet of sidewalks
damaged by trees



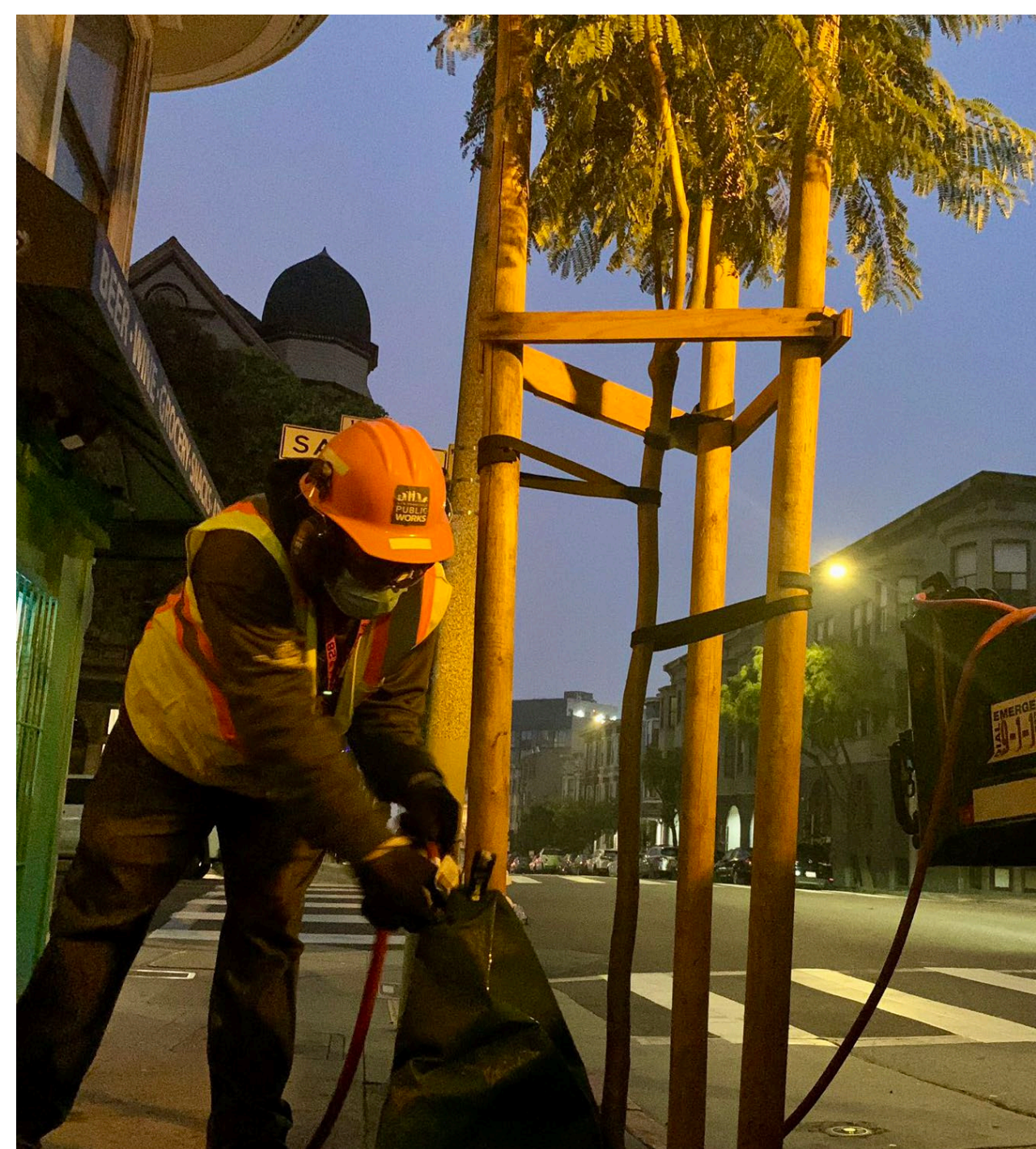
Made Safe
40,000

Sites that posed tripping hazards
due to tree-related damage





TREE WATERING



TREE WATERING



Bureau of Urban Forestry

1,200 trees per week
62,400 visits per year

Friends of the Urban Forest

500 trees per week
26,000 visits per year

Clean City

2,400 trees per week
124,800 visits per year



TREE PLANTING

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF SUCCESS



San Francisco Chronicle

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LOCAL // BAY AREA & STATE

SF's budget for new trees surges, but city falls far short of planting goal

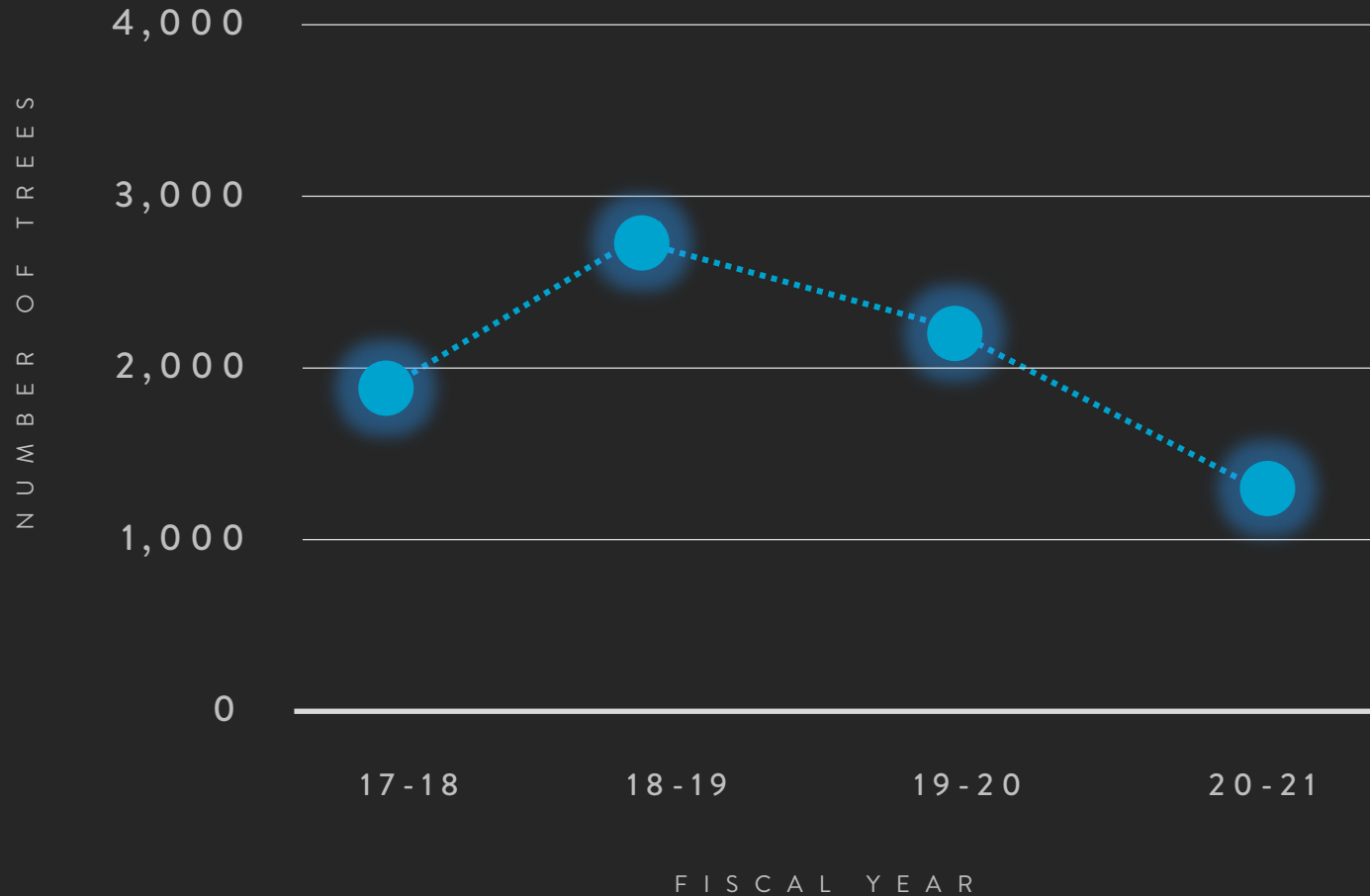


Dominic Fracassa | June 28, 2019 | Updated: June 28, 2019 4 a.m.



- Removals have created need for thousands of replacement trees
- No funding for planting included in proposition / ballot measure

TREES REMOVED ANNUALLY



1,938

removed FY17-18

2,807

removed FY18-19

2,107

removed FY19-20

1,157

removed FY20-21

PLANTING

Participants in urban forestry programs are responsible for a significant portion of the city's tree canopy.

The Friends of the Urban Forestry vocational communities that take environmental field trips, long-term on-site planting, and as certified arborists.

Several years ago, from 19-26, in partnership with the organization which helps survivors of domestic violence with the opportunity to plant citywide.

The San Francisco City tree watering and landscape maintenance and well-being program to very San Franciscans. Paid general greenery training at a time every week landscape team more than 1,500 partners.

Tree planting continues after the tree is in the ground. Also trained to water to grow on City side planting creates a difference throughout their life.

STREET TREE

In order to significantly increase the Urban Forestry on a public parcel for growing, storing, for planting. Benefits opportunities as well as difficult to source. BUF is currently on and ongoing operations.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Planting large numbers of trees as identified in this Strategy. An estimated 4,000 trees were planted over twenty years to reach our tree planting goal. Historically, San Francisco community partners have planted trees annually.

Since the voter-approved funding for tree maintenance and care in a very limited way. Public Works is currently on and ongoing operations. Partners such as Friends of the Urban Forestry Action Now to carry out the planting citywide.



TREE PLANTING NEW JOBS AND

Planting large numbers of street trees planted annually to reach our tree planting goal. Historically, San Francisco community partners have planted closer to 1,500-2,000 trees annually.

Since the voter-approved funding for tree maintenance and care in a very limited way. Public Works is currently on and ongoing operations. Partners such as Friends of the Urban Forestry Action Now to carry out the planting citywide.

PRIORITIES & BENEFITS

Healthy tree-lined streets are a public good. Trees contribute to urban forest providing social benefits are listed below.

SOCIAL BENEFITS

- Create memorable and beautiful streets
- Strengthen communities
- Improve physical health
- Reduce violence and crime
- Connect people to nature (Urban Forestry)
- Calm traffic and promote pedestrian/bicyclist safety

PRESERVE & GROW URBAN TREE CANOPY

San Francisco's tree canopy is the lowest of any large city in the United States, at 13.7%. Planting street trees serves to preserve existing canopy (replacing trees that must be removed) and to grow the City's overall tree canopy to increase coverage citywide.



SAN FRANCISCO STREET TREE PLANTING STRATEGY

San Francisco Public Works' Bureau of Urban Forestry's (BUF) is committed to preserving and growing the City's tree canopy. This strategy identifies the citywide street tree planting goal, planting priorities, resources and partners needed to increase street tree planting in San Francisco.

BACKGROUND

In 2016, San Francisco voters passed the Healthy Trees and Safe Sidewalks ballot measure (Proposition E) and significantly changed the way street trees are managed in San Francisco. Responsibility for street tree maintenance shifted from property owners to San Francisco Public Works. Since that time, Public Works' StreetTreeSF program has been working to ensure everyone in San Francisco can enjoy a safer, healthier and more beautiful urban forest.

To date, Public Works' StreetTreeSF crews have:



Pruned
40,000

street trees



Removed
6,800

structurally unsound, hazardous and dead street trees



Repaired & Replaced
535,000

square feet of sidewalks damaged by trees



Made Safe
40,000

sites that posed tripping hazards due to tree-related damage



STREET TREE PLANTING GOAL

The City of San Francisco's Urban Forest Plan set a goal of increasing the street tree population to 155,000 street trees over twenty years.

155,000 street trees would bring San Francisco to "full stocking" of street tree locations - filling existing empty basins and most new potential sites with trees.

To achieve this goal and grow our urban forest, we'll need to plant an additional 30,000 trees beyond our existing 125,000 street trees. These trees will be prioritized for planting in areas that need them most.

New street trees are needed in neighborhoods with lowest tree canopy cover and higher vulnerability to the extreme heat and air quality impacts of climate change.

Replacement street trees must be planted to prevent tree canopy loss in neighborhoods where trees are removed for maintenance reasons or die of natural mortality.

Our goal is to have:

155,000

beautiful street trees by 2040

Current population of street trees:

125,000

30,000 new trees

50,000 replacement trees*

(*estimated 2% mortality annually)

We can achieve our goal if we plant:

4,000

trees annually for the next 20 years

1,500 new trees

2,500 replacement trees

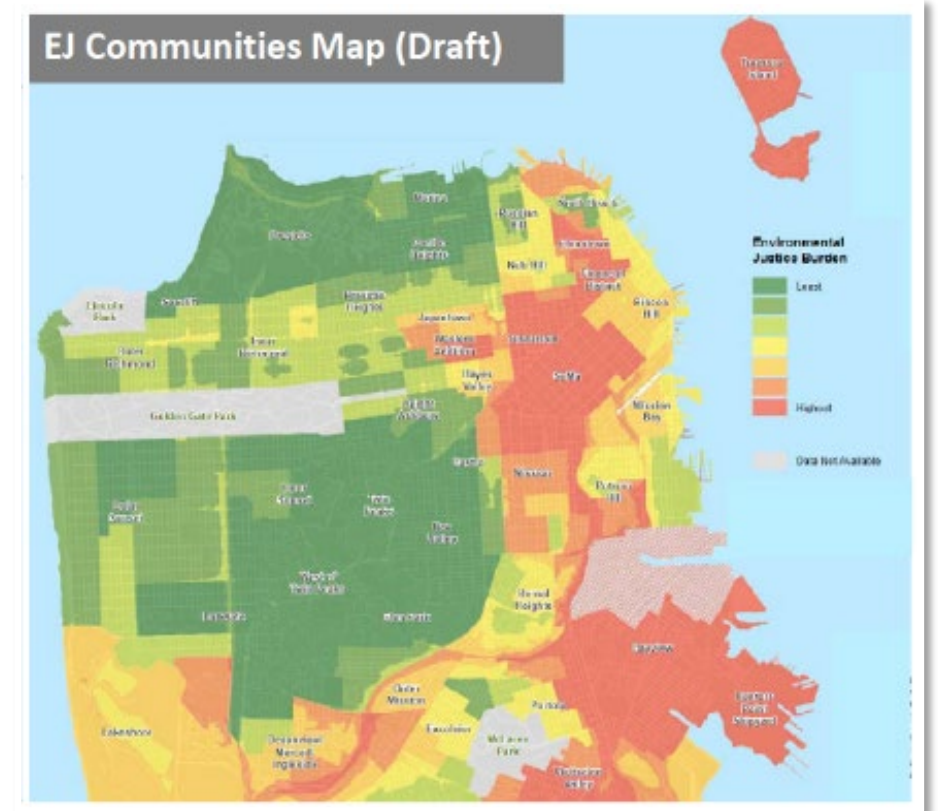


When we see San Francisco, we see
COMMUNITY

Need work? Get paid to clean and green.
Let us help you find that job!

CLEAN CITY
info@sfcleancity.com www.sfcleancity.com Call (415) 440-4409

The advertisement shows a man wearing a white hard hat with the 'CLEAN CITY' logo, safety glasses, and a blue and purple high-visibility vest. He is smiling while working on a metal trash can. The background is a blurred city street.



Preserve and Grow

**Urban Tree
Canopy**

Advance

**Racial & Social
Equity**

Promote

**Climate Resilience
& Adaptation**

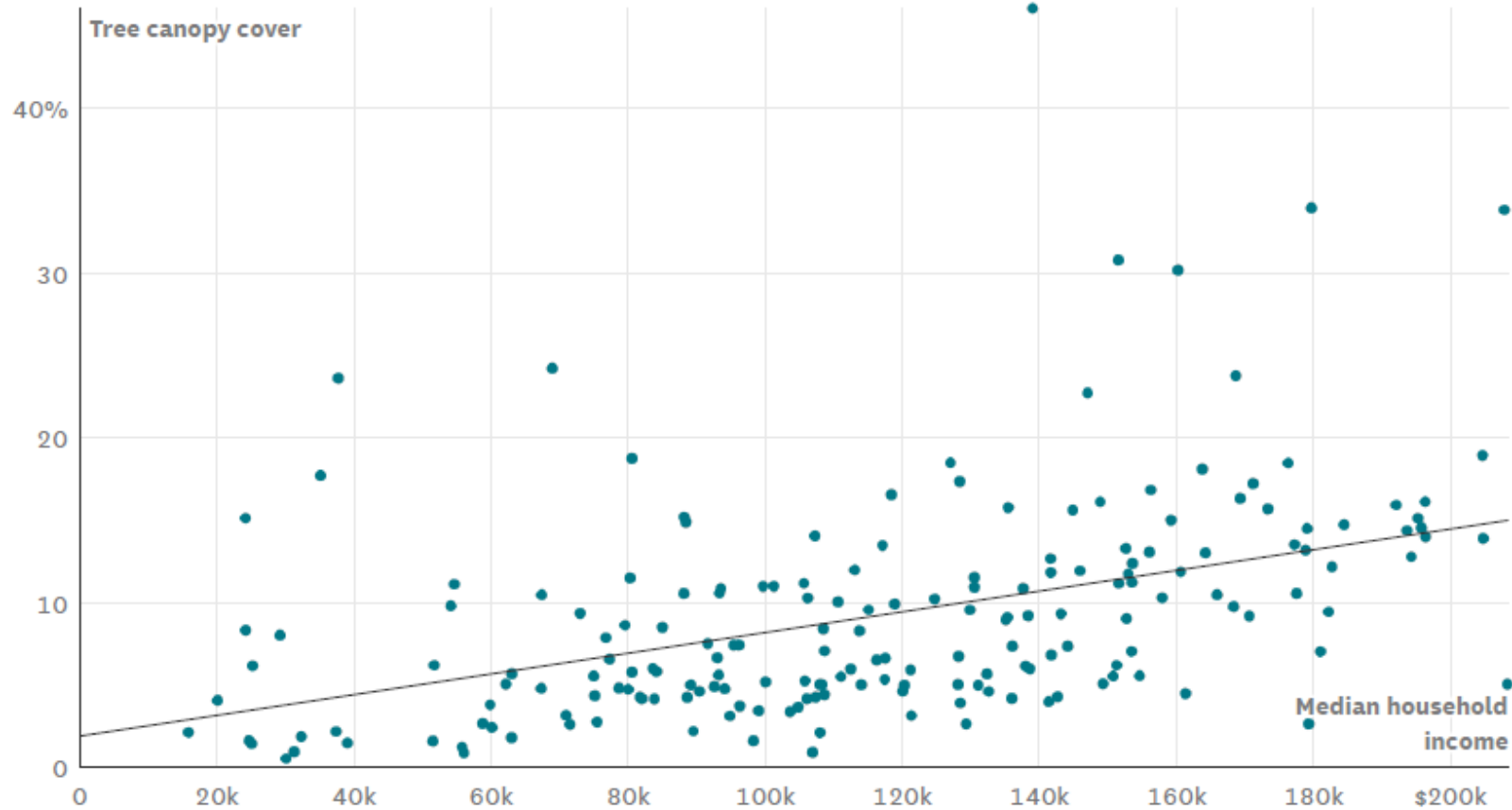


OUR FOCUS:

**ACHIEVE
STREET TREE
EQUITY IN ALL
SAN FRANCISCO
NEIGHBORHOODS.**

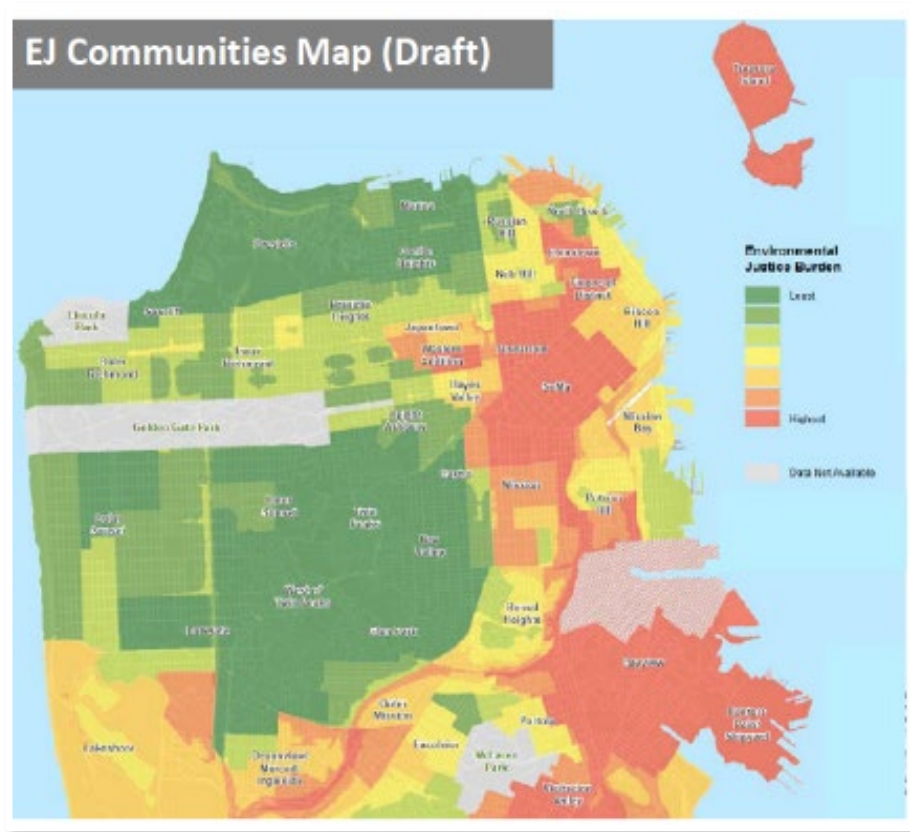
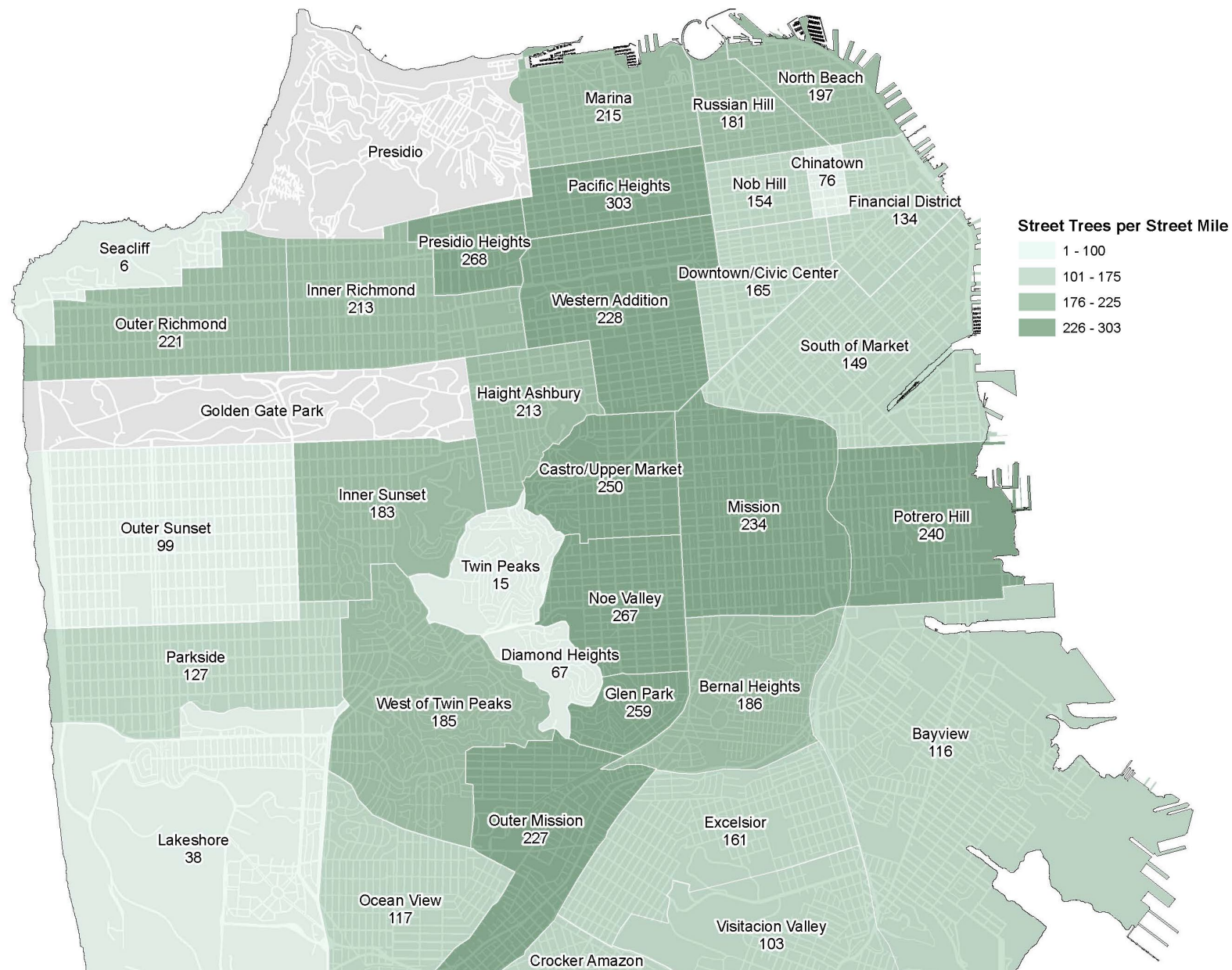
TREE CANOPY AND INCOME

Relationship between tree canopy and household income in S.F. census tracts

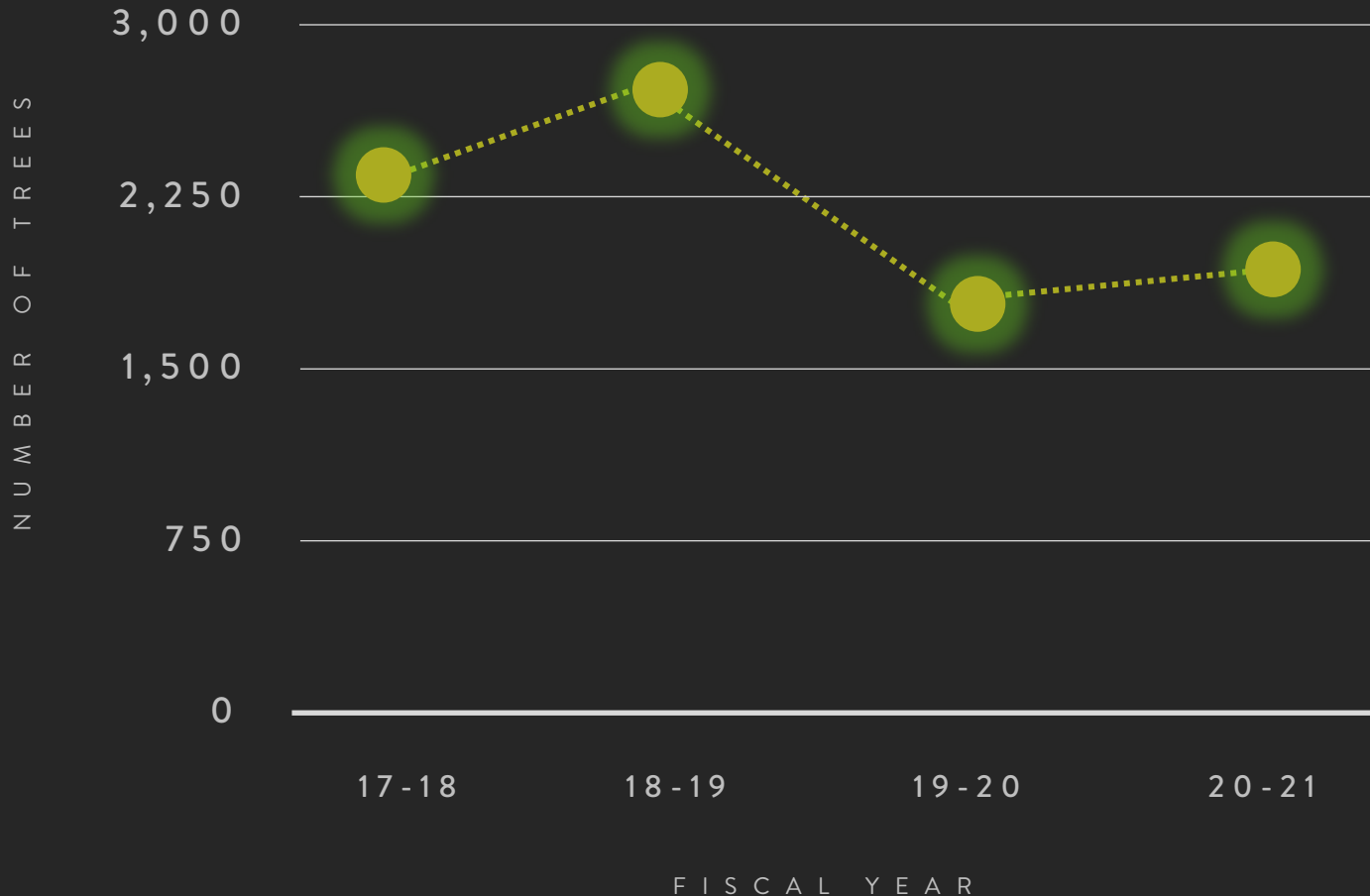


Source: San Francisco Chronicle (2021)

UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF STREET TREES



TREES PLANTED ANNUALLY



BUF, FUF, planting permits (for development, etc)

2,291

planted FY17-18

2,665

planted FY18-19

1,777

planted FY19-20

1,858

planted FY20-21*

*does not include Climate Action Now! planting numbers

Note: 642 streetscape trees over this period

A photograph of construction workers in safety gear, including high-visibility vests and hard hats, working at a construction site. The vests have a logo for 'SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS'. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES:

24TH STREET

(MISSION DISTRICT)



LOWER 24TH STREET FIGUS







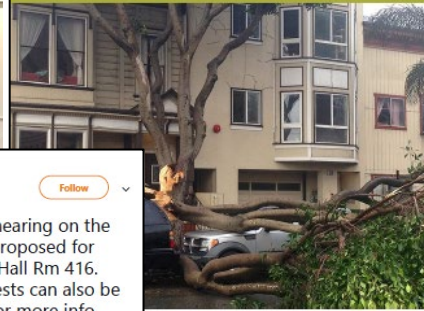






Zuckerberg San Francisco General
Reunión Comunitaria Trimestral:

Eliminación de árboles en Lower 24th Street



Join us for a walk-through of

Lower 24th Street's Proposed Tree Removal

San Francisco Bureau of Urban Forestry invites you on a walk-through with the City's Urban Forester to review each ficus tree planned

April 22, 2019
6:00 PM - Walk-through
Meet in front of Silverstone Cafe
3278 24th Street

SF Public Works @sfpublicworks

Join us for a public hearing on the lower 24th Street ficus trees proposed for removal: 6/5 - 5:30 PM - City Hall Rm 416. Can't make it in person? Protests can also be submitted by mail or email. For more info, visit [sfpublicworks.org/project/tree-r ...](http://sfpublicworks.org/project/tree-r...)

"The first fallen branch, which hit the street and brought our first responders. Photo courtesy of Katie McIngral."

"At this point the damage does not appear significant," said Maria Bermudez, the operations director of Mission Girls, who said the school should re-open on Monday. "There wasn't much damage to the roof, just the tiles."

Those nearby "when the tree split said they heard a loud crash and boom when the first branch fell."

"I was taking an order from a customer, and I heard something like a bomb," said Lamas Aboukous.

Street está bordeada de árboles en envejeciendo, en mal estado en riesgo de que caigan sus ramas. La recuperación importante de para las personas y las propiedades

Marzo 20, 2019 - 6:30 PM
1001 Potrero Avenue



Lower 24th Street Ficus Trees

Questions and Answers

Q 1. Why are you removing so many trees?

A 1. Each and every tree was evaluated on its own. There are many trees proposed for removal because Lower 24th Street is such a highly used corridor which creates a higher public safety concern.

Updated information: The number of trees proposed for removal has changed (decreased) since initial assessments of the corridor. Please see the next

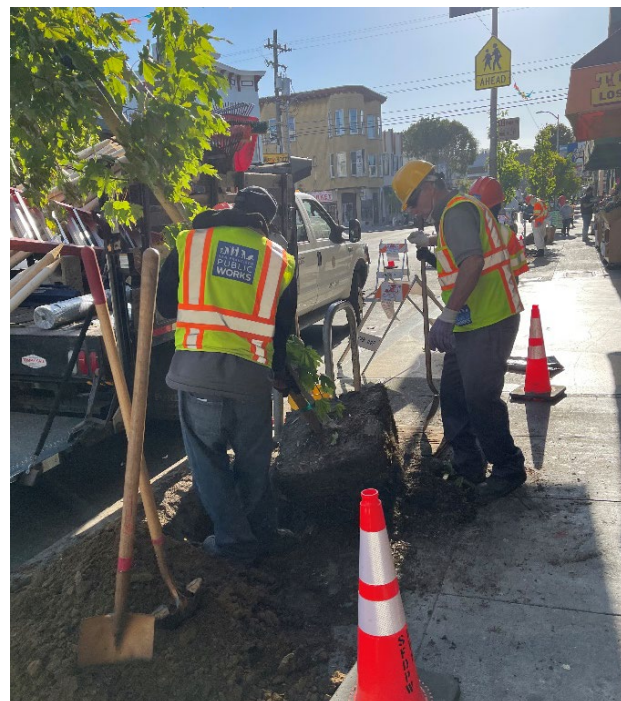


4/24/2019

Lower 24th Street ficus trees

1

Address	Street	Species	Recommendation	Replacement possible yes/no, reasons	Sidewalk repair required, yes/no	Pave over, yes/no	Reduce basin size to 4x4	Replacement Species (maple or ginkgo)	Notes
Potrero-Hampshire									
2700	24th St.	Ficus	Remove	Yes replace - end of bus zone	Yes	-	-	Ginkgo biloba	
2700	24th St.	Ficus	Remove	No replacement, bus zone & street light	No	Yes	-	-	
2700	24th St.	Ficus	Empty basin	-	Yes	-	Yes	Acer rubrum	
2700	24th St.	Ficus	Remove	Yes	No	-	Yes	Acer rubrum	Tree is in severe decline
2718-2722	24th St.	Ficus	Experimental Pruning	-	No	-	No	-	
2726-2734	24th St.	Ficus	Experimental Pruning	-	No	-	Yes	-	
2726-2734	24th St.	Ficus	Experimental Pruning	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	



A COALITION OF COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS COMMITTED TO A GREENER, CLEANER, HEALTHIER FUTURE

MISSION VERDE

A Calle24 Quality of Life Initiative



FREE STREET TREES FOR THE MISSION
為MISSION社区免费植樹
ÁRBOLES GRATIS PARA LA MISSION → 



Friends of the Urban Forest, in collaboration with Calle 24 and Mission Verde, will be planting trees in the Mission between April and July. You can be part of the process! Choose your tree and work with your community to plant trees in the heart of the Mission. Sign up for a free tree today!

城市森林的朋友们，我们将与Calle24与Mission Verde合作，一起进行四月至七月的植树活动。您可以成为我们的一份子！选择您喜爱的树，与您的社区在任务中心一起种树吧。注册即可今天获得免费的树一棵！

Friends of the Urban Forest, en colaboración con Calle 24 y Mission Verde, va a estar plantando árboles en la Mission entre abril y julio. ¡Usted puede ser parte del proceso! Usted podrá escoger su árbol, y trabajar con su comunidad para plantar árboles en el corazón de la misión. ¡Regístrese para recibir un árbol gratis ahora!

www.fuf.net/mission

Planting date / 植树日期 / Fecha de siembra: April-July / 4月-7月 / abril-julio

For more information / 有更多信息 / Para más información: info@fuf.net || 415.268.0772



STREET TREE NURSERY



STREET TREE NURSERY

STREET TREE NURSERY
NOW OPEN!



SPRITS

SPRITS

ACER - BIRCH

Bay Bridge
Oakland

Fourth Street
LAKESHORE

Touch-free
payments are now
a walk in the park.

adigen

street sf





FUNDING FOR PLANTING

FUNDING FOR TREE PLANTING

POLITICS + GOVERNMENT

U.S. Senate agrees to move ahead on \$550B in new infrastructure spending

BY: LAURA OLSON - JULY 28, 2021 4:30 PM



- Mayor's Capital Budget

\$2.5M

Bayview Planting Project
and Nursery "seed" funding

- Prop K Funding

- CAL FIRE Grants

- Trees 4 Community Recovery

City & County of San Francisco advocacy for
Infrastructure stimulus funds

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Public Works Tree Planting and Establishment Appropriated Annual Budgets by Funding Source					
Fund	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22 ¹
General Fund	750,000	1,325,000	772,500	572,500	3,000,000
Addbacks	-	47,000	1,280,000 ²	30,000	TBD
Market Octavia Impact Fees	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Prop K Local Grant	1,141,166	1,192,519	1,408,424	1,438,936	1,493,064
Total Budget	1,991,166	2,664,519	3,560,924	2,141,436	4,593,064
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mayor's Phase Budget and Prop K programming, not final 2. Due to COVID-19 rebalancing, \$500,000 was subtracted midyear 					

PW – Street Tree Planting and Establishment

The Urban Forest Master Plan, Phase I: Street Trees, adopted unanimously by the Board of Supervisors, recommends growing the street tree population by planting 2,500 trees annually, in addition to trees that need to be replaced. This requires Public Works to plant approximately 6,000 trees a year.

The estimated cost for street tree planting and establishment is \$172 million over the next 10 years. While \$16.7 million has been identified through Prop K and other local sources, an unfunded need of \$155 million remains.







SFPUBLICWORKS.ORG/TREES

#LoveOurCity | @sfpublicworks | #StreetTreeSF