SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC WORKS

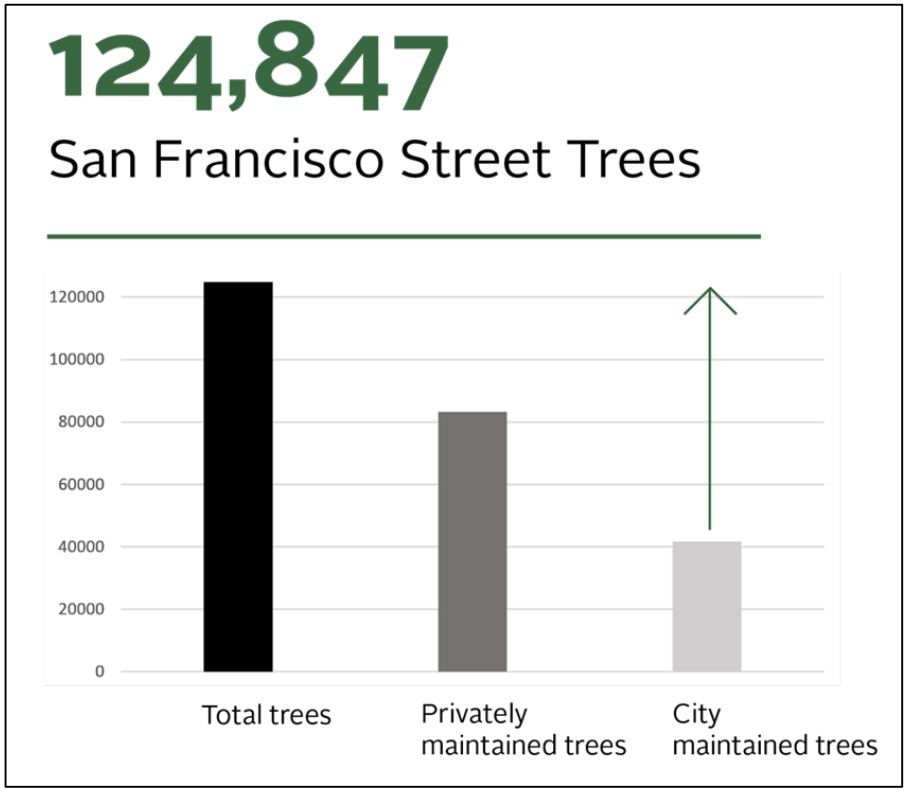
STREET TREE MANAGEMENT & CANOPY GROWTH

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
November 14, 2019

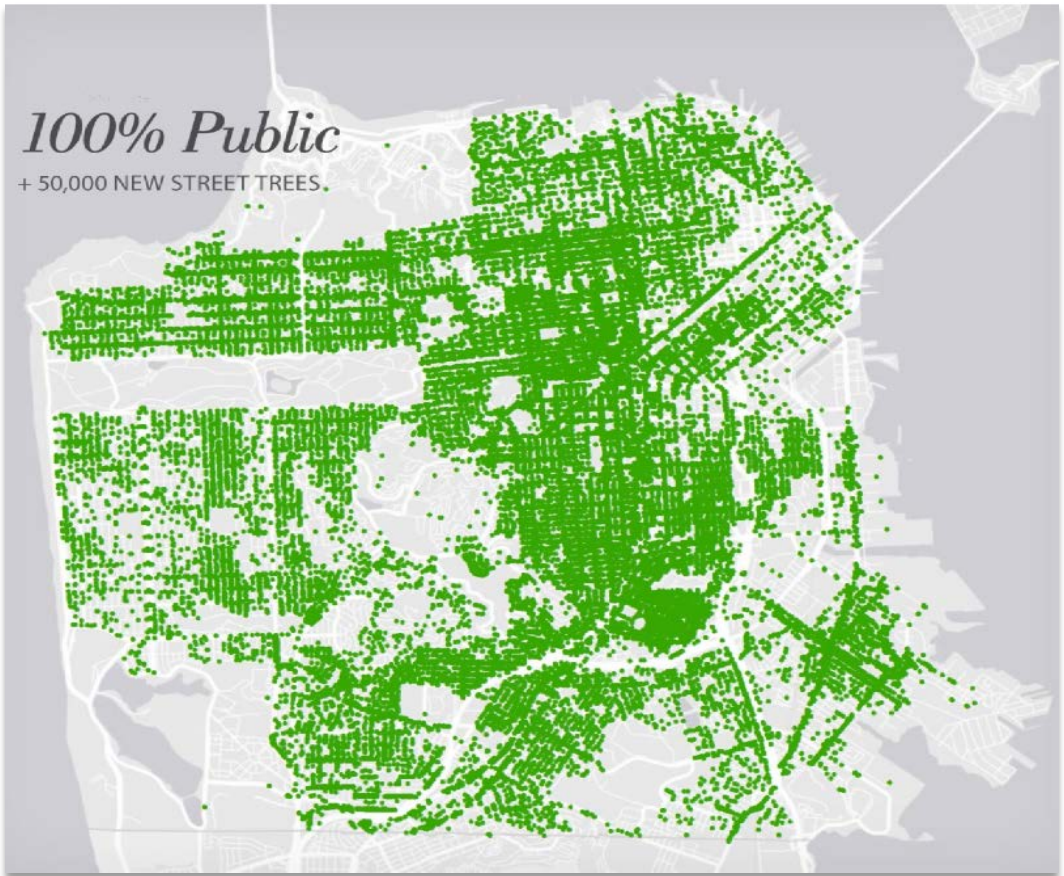
The program to care for San Francisco's 125,000+ street trees and to repair sidewalks damaged by tree roots.

A Brief History of Urban Forest Policy

Prior to **StreetTreeSF** property owners were responsible for maintaining the majority of street trees.



streetsf tree



Unintended Consequences of Success

Polk and Vallejo

STREET TREE REMOVALS

- **3,500+ trees removed**
  (unhealthy/structurally unsound)
- **Neighborhood impacts**
- **Need for replacement plantings**

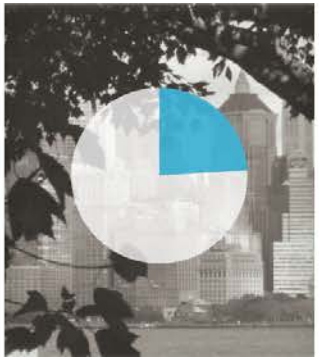
San Francisco already has one of the smallest tree canopies of any major U.S. City.

13.7%
San Francisco

17%
Chicago

21%
Los Angeles

23%
Seattle



24%
New York City

30%
Portland

Planting + Canopy Growth Strategy

URBAN FOREST PLAN (2015)

GROW

to maximize the social, economic and environmental benefits of trees and urban greening

PROTECT

from threats and loss by preserving the City's existing trees

MANAGE

through coordinated planning, design and maintenance to ensure health and sustainability

FUND

by establishing a long-term funding strategy for the City's trees

ENGAGE

community in caring for the urban forest and deepening their connection to nature

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES + BENEFITS

174,392,130 *lbs*

CO2 stored in the City's street trees

106,568,660 *gallons*

Gallons of stormwater diverted from sewer system annually

36,270 *lbs*

Pounds of atmospheric pollutants removed annually

8,530 *mw hrs*

Megawatt hours reduced annually

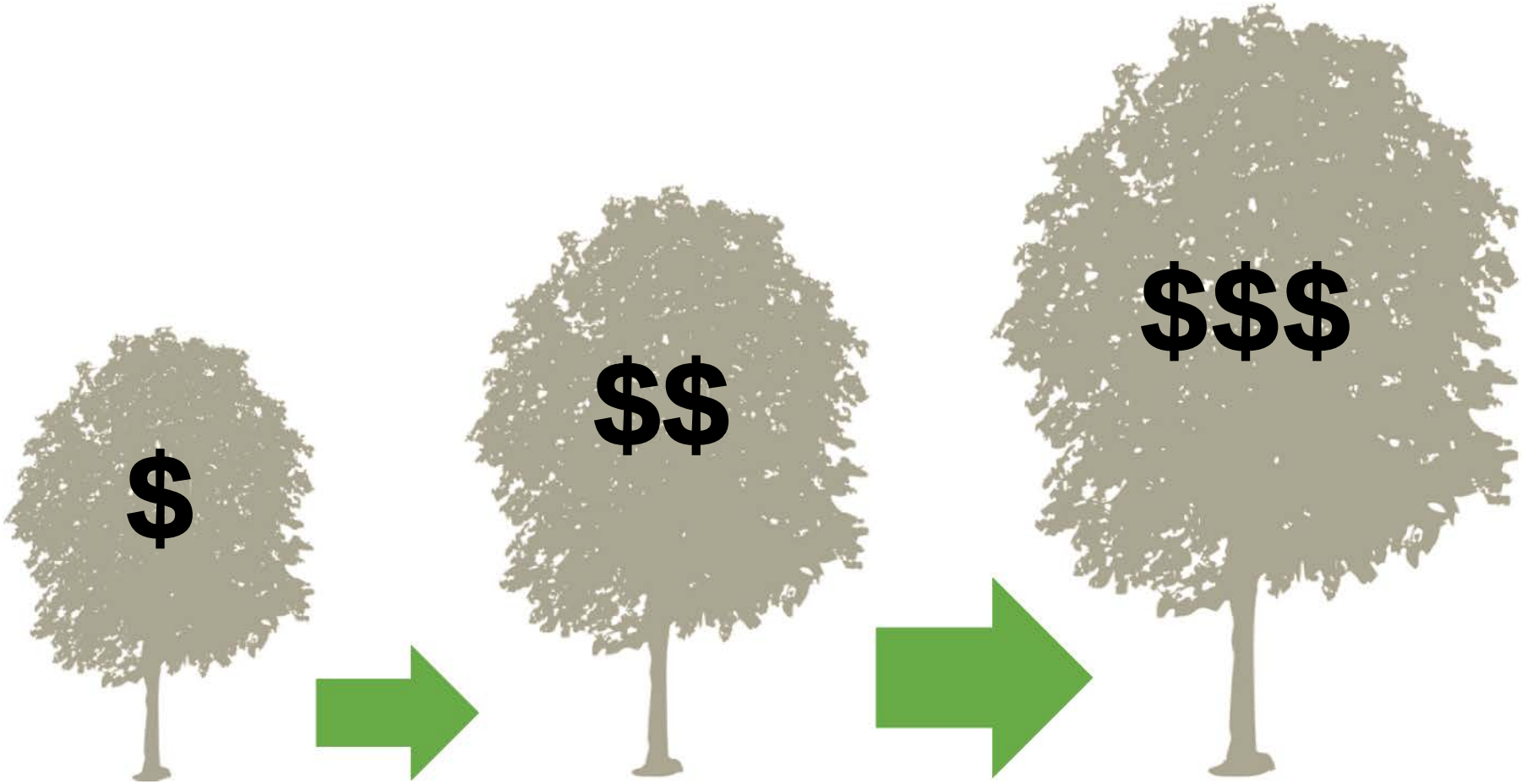
173,250 *therms*

Therms reduced annually

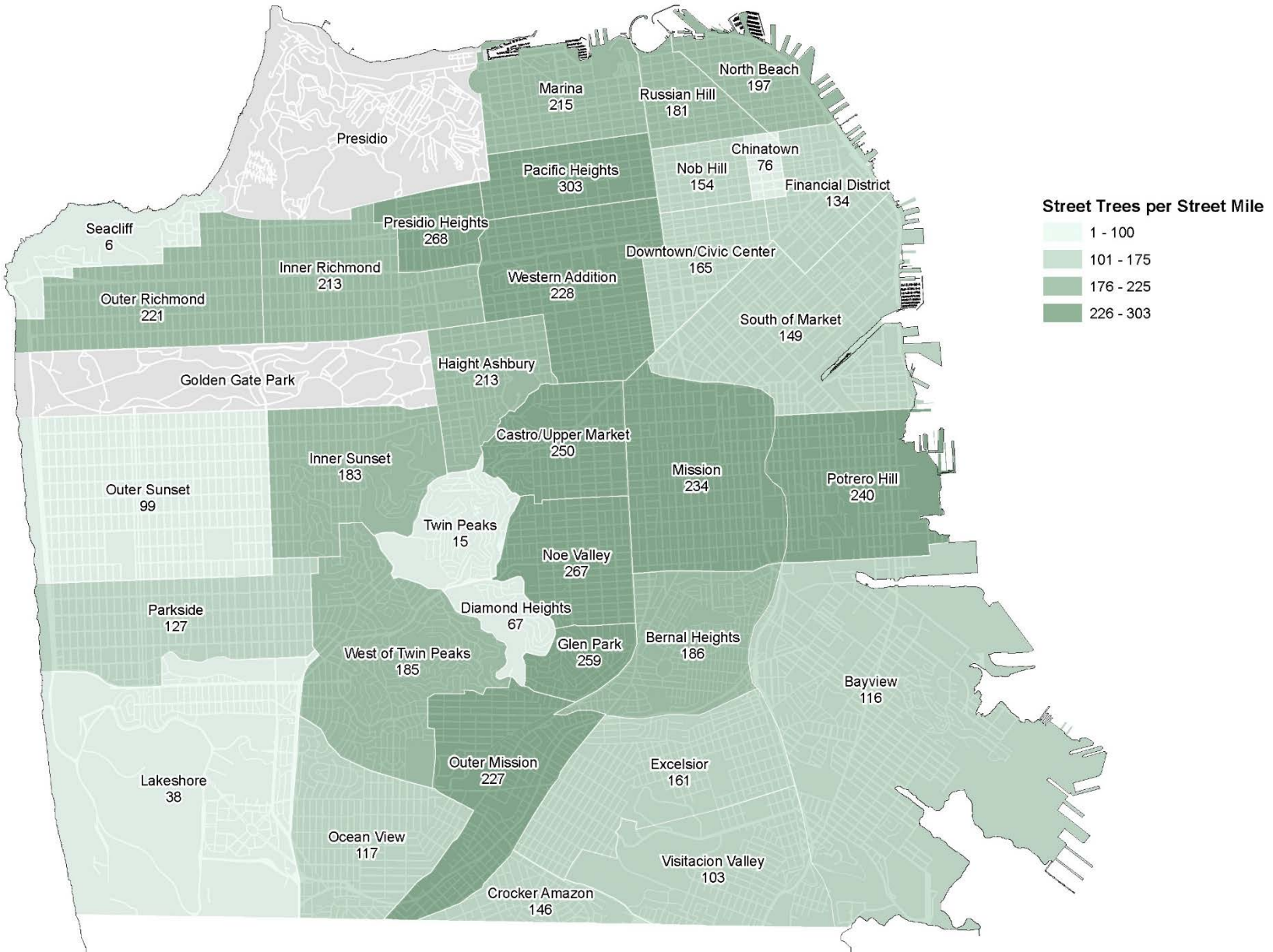
Source: Street Tree Census I-Tree Streets Analysis (SF Environment 2017)

A CAPITAL ASSET

Only piece of infrastructure that **INCREASES** in value over time
= MORE BENEFITS

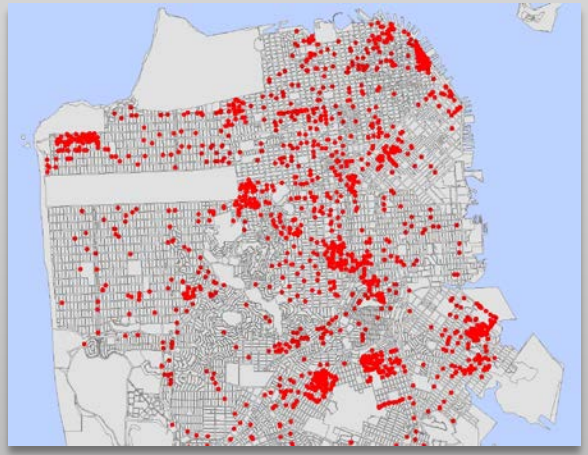


UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF STREET TREES

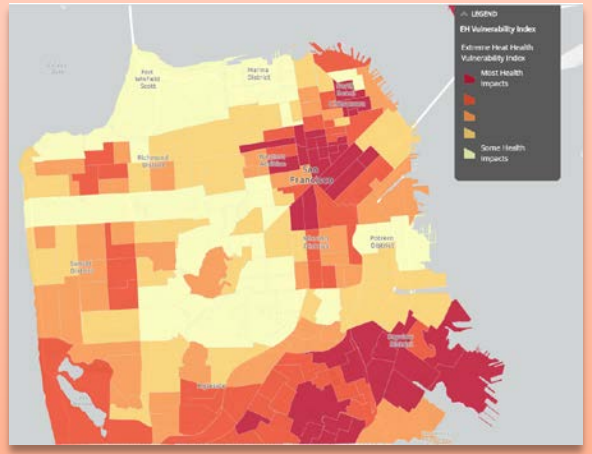


PLANTING PRIORITIES

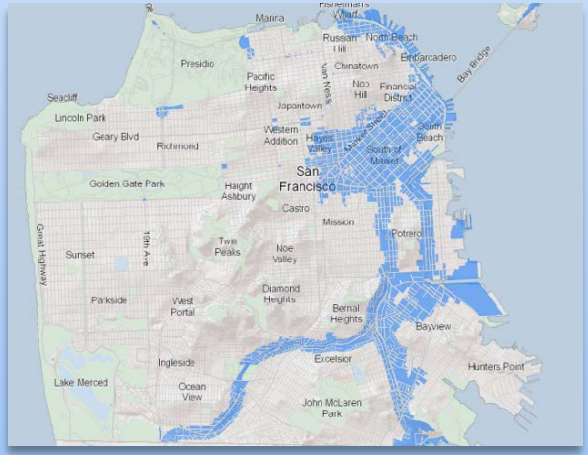
Tree Removal locations



In areas with extreme heat vulnerability



In areas with air pollution exposure



Funding + Community Partners

PLANTING + WATERING NEEDS

COST TO PLANT ONE TREE

$500

COST TO WATER ONE TREE

$1,500

For 3 years until established

PLANT 50,000 NEW TREES

$100,000,000

For new trees over 20 years

TREE WATERING

FY 2018/19 FUNDING

- **NEW TREES: $1M**
- **REPLACEMENT TREES: $5.7M**

NONPROFIT PARTNERS

- **Friends of the Urban Forest**
- **Climate Action Now!**

NEW SOURCES + TOOLS

- **New funding strategies**
- **RFQ for improved data management**

San Francisco Public Works

Maintains, removes AND
plants and **establishes** street trees

Thank you!

Questions?