



COOK COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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COUNTY BUILDING
118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60602
(312) 603-6380

DISTRICT OFFICE
4347 North
Milwaukee Chicago,
IL 60641 (773)
283-7873



BRIDGET DEGNEN
COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER
12TH DISTRICT

January 5, 2024

CHAIR
Audit
Environment and
Sustainability

VICE-CHAIR
Rules and Administration

MEMBER
Contract Compliance
Criminal Justice
Finance
Finance Subcommittee
on Litigation
Finance Subcommittee on
Workers' Compensation
Health and Hospitals
Department of Emergency
Management and
Regional Security
Labor
Legislation and
Intergovernmental Relations
Technology and Innovation
Zoning and Building

Honorable President Toni Preckwinkle and Cook County Board of Commissioners:

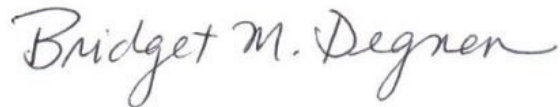
In April 2019, the Environmental Commission was established by the Cook County Board via an ordinance I sponsored. The Environmental Commission is comprised of nine (9) members and its purpose is to identify and execute initiatives that reduce environmental damage within Cook County. The enabling Ordinance requires an annual report be completed and filed with the Board every January outlining the Commission's goals and accomplishments. During its February 10, 2020 meeting, the Commission voted on its first three goals: 1) to establish industrial composting in large arenas and government facilities; 2) to increase the urban tree canopy throughout Cook County; and 3) to amend the City of Chicago's weed ordinance to allow for native gardens. In 2021, the Commission advocated for an amendment to the City of Chicago Streets and Sanitation code to allow for native gardens without homeowners risking fines and fees. This resulted in the establishment of a Native Garden Registry. The Commission decided to focus on its two remaining goals. Below are a few highlights of the Commission's accomplishments in 2023:

- I. In April 2023, the Environmental Commission met with Raed Mansour, Director of Environmental Innovation at the Chicago Department of Public Health, regarding tree planting and tree equity in the City of Chicago. His presentation is attached as Exhibit A.
- II. In August 2023, the Environmental Commission met with Liam Donnelly, founder of WasteNot Compost. Mr. Donnelly gave a presentation on composting and announced that WasteNot and the County are partnering for a new pilot program. This partnership will bring composting to certain departments at 69 W. Washington, outlined in a-f below. WasteNot's presentation is attached as Exhibit B.
 - a. 31st floor County Bureau of Asset Management,
 - b. 23rd Floor County Department of Transportation and Highways,
 - c. 22nd Floor Building Breakroom,
 - d. 19th Floor County Department of Environment and Sustainability,
 - e. 10th Floor County Family and Mediation Services, and

- f. Pedway LL-01 Bright Horizons Prep Kitchen
- III. In August of 2023, the Commission confirmed substantial completion of the goals, and chose to move ahead with additional goals while continuing to support past objectives of the Commission. Ideas were discussed during the December 2023 meeting and will be voted on at the February 2024 meeting.
- IV. In October of 2023, the Cook County Facilities Management team and the Environmental Commission partnered with the Morton Arboretum for the planting of 20 mature oak trees at the Skokie Courthouse.

In 2023, Chelsey Grassfield, our non-for-profit member from Friends of the Chicago River, moved out of State, leaving a vacancy on the Commission. Applications for the positions are being distributed, and I encourage my colleagues to send them out to interested members of their communities. Thank you to the Board of Commissioners for supporting the work of this Commission.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bridget M. Degnen". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a large, stylized 'B' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'n'.

Bridget Degnen

Chair, Cook County Environmental Commission

COOK COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

2021– 2023, AND 2023–2025 MEMBERS

Commissioner Bridget Degnen – Chair, County Representative

- Commissioner of the 12th District

Commissioner Dennis Deer – Vice Chair, appointed by Cook County Board President

- Commissioner of the 2nd District

Appointees

Alderman Samantha Nugent– City of Chicago Representative/Mayoral Appointee (appointed 2023)

- Chicago Alderman of the 39th Ward

VACANT – Non-Profit Representative

- Currently accepting applications

Margaret Schneemann – Environmental Economist Representative

- Water Resource Economist at the University of Illinois Extension Sea Grant College Program

Mark Potosnak, PhD – Higher Education Representative

- Professor and Chair of Environmental Science and Studies at DePaul University

Robert Mead – Corporate Representative

- Environmental Manager at Ingredion Incorporated

Michael Badame – North Triad Representative

- Facilities Operations Specialists at the Chicago Department of Aviation

Victoria Wilson -- South Triad Representative

- Environmental Specialist & Sustainability Consultant and Executive Director of Naturally Urban Environmental

COOK COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION 2024 CALENDAR

All meetings to be held at 10:00am and are noticed to the public on Cook County's Legistar.

February 14

April 10

June 5

August 14

October 9

December 11

COOK COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION ORDINANCE

Sec. 2-540. - Short title.

This Division shall be known and may be cited as the Cook County Environmental Commission (Commission).

Sec. 2-551. - Purpose.

There is hereby created an Environmental Commission to serve the following purpose:

- (a) Ensure Cook County is a leader in combating global warming.
- (b) Create a working group of environmental professionals from Cook County's public and private sectors working together to devise and implement initiatives to combat global warming.
- (c) Promote sustainable legislation and policy aimed at reducing the carbon footprint within the geographic borders of Cook County.
- (d) Serve as a model for other governments by proactively combatting climate change with innovative and practical environmental initiatives.

Sec. 2-542. - Cook County Commission on Environmental Sustainability Membership.

- (a) The Commission will be composed of nine members including the original sponsor of this bill, who shall serve as Chair. The Chair shall be responsible for designating a successor if she ceases to serve as a Commissioner.
- (b) Six members shall be appointed by the Chair. These members shall represent the following:
 - (1) One member of the Commission shall be a representative from the north triad of Cook County.
 - (2) One member of the Commission shall be a representative from the south triad of Cook County.
 - (3) One member of the Commission shall be a representative from a not-for-profit.
 - (4) One member of the Commission shall be a corporate stakeholder with experience working on environmental initiatives.
 - (5) One member of the Commission shall be a representative from higher education or academia.
 - (6) One member of the Commission shall have a background in environmental economics.
- (c) The President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners shall appoint one member of the Commission. This person shall serve as the Vice Chair of the Commission.
- (d) The Mayor's Office of the City of Chicago shall appoint one member of the Commission.

- (e) All appointments shall be confirmed by the Cook County Board.

Sec. 2-543. - Term and vacancies.

- (a) Each member shall serve two-year terms.
- (b) The Chair shall serve for the duration of her term as a Cook County Commissioner. The Chair may serve consecutive terms.
- (c) Commission members may be reappointed for consecutive terms.
- (d) Vacancies on the Commission shall be filled in the same manner that original appointments were made and shall be filled for the unexpired term of the member whose appointment has become vacant.

Sec. 2-544. - Qualifications of members.

- (a) All members shall have like-minded goals stated in the Purpose section of this Division.
- (b) All members shall have subject matter knowledge, experience and/or education in environmental sustainability matters.

Sec. 2-545. - Meetings.

- (a) This Commission shall hold a meeting at least once every even numbered month, and meetings shall commence the second even numbered month following creation of the Commission.
- (b) Meeting dates shall be set for the following year, in December of the preceding year.
- (c) Should a member of the Commission miss three consecutive meetings, the Commission may choose to remove the member, and the original appointing member shall appoint a new member pursuant to subsection 30-976(c).
- (d) This Commission shall be subject to the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq, and the Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 et seq.

Sec. 2-546. - Powers, duties, and responsibilities.

- (a) The Commission shall serve as a working Commission and in an advisory role to the Cook County Board on matters relating to environmental sustainability, reduction of greenhouse gases and reduction of environmental impacts in Cook County. The Commission shall be responsible for:
 - (1) Considering environmental impacts on surface water, groundwater, air and land in Cook County and making appropriate recommendations to the Cook County Board, local municipalities and the Chicago City Council to mitigate harmful impacts and promote positive change;
 - (2) Creating an annual work plan in furtherance of the Commission's goals and solicit input from stakeholders via its members.

- (3) Beginning in January 2020, creating an annual report and presenting it to the Cook County Board via the Environment and Sustainability Committee; and
- (4) Collaborating in regional environmental associations and with other local environmental stakeholders.

Sec. 2-547. - Division scheduled to be repealed on November 30, ~~2022~~ 2026.

- (a) *Repeal of division.* This Division is repealed on November 30, ~~2022~~ 2026.

**COOK COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
EXHIBIT A**



Our Roots Chicago



★ Tree Equity

Equitably increase the City's public urban tree canopy

Deliver the public health, environmental, economic, societal and climate co-benefits

Prioritize historically marginalized, disinvested, and under-canopied communities on the South and West sides.





Why Trees & Public Health

CDPH's citywide community health improvement plan, **Healthy Chicago 2025**, to close the 9-year life expectancy gap between black and white Chicagoans by addressing the root causes of health.

All communities should have equitable access to environments that promote optimal health and well-being.

To further the health of neighborhoods, the City of Chicago has adopted a “**health in all policies**” approach to make sure that the government works with communities to shape our social, economic, and physical environments in ways that promote health and racial equity.

Urban Forestry aligns with improving neighborhood environments and is one way to address this vision.

The intersection between public health equity & tree equity meet at the correlation between redlined areas, PM2.5, Asthma, Social Vulnerability, Economic Hardship, Flooding, etc. and low Tree Canopy.

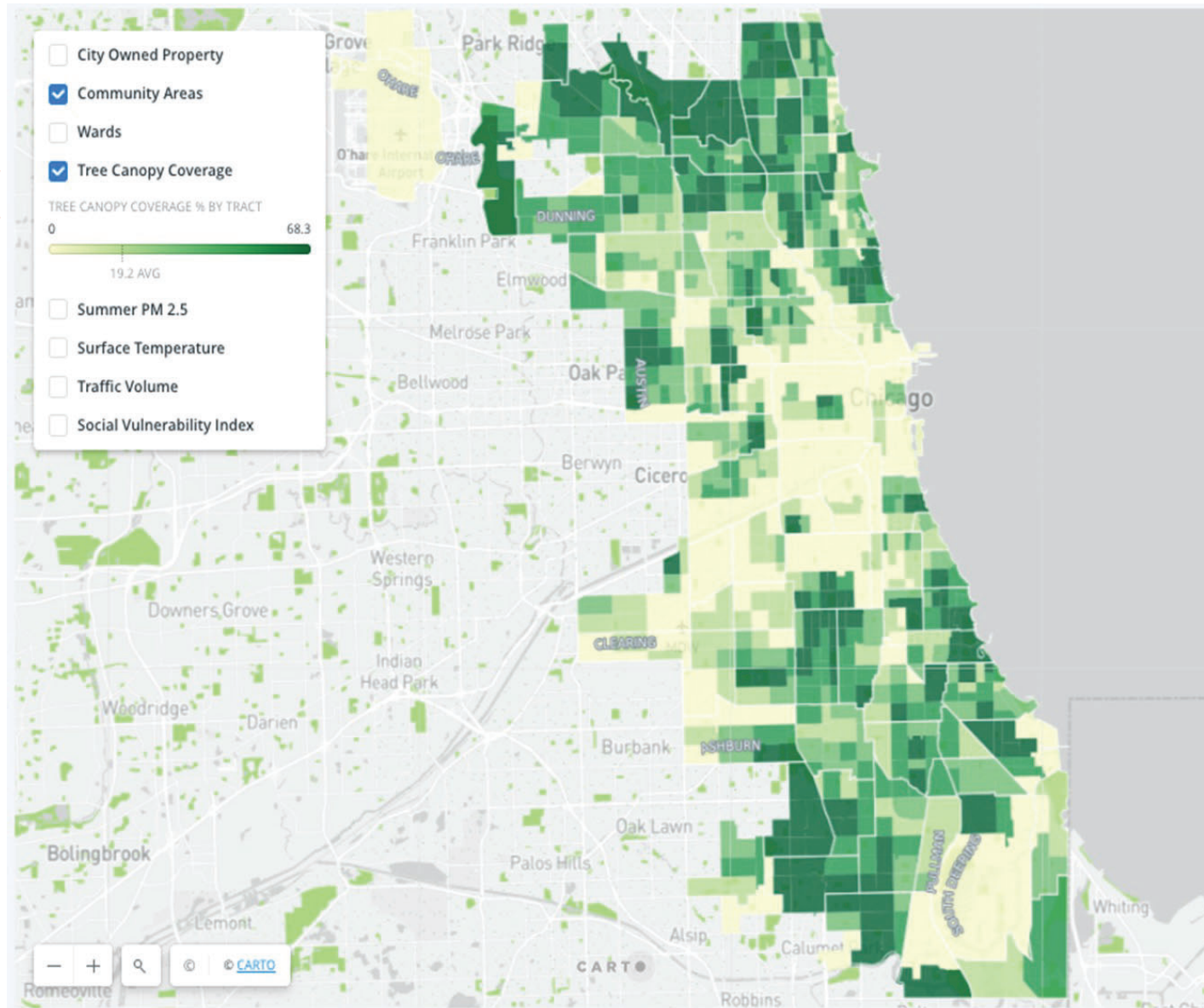




Tree Equity Tool

Tree data visualization tool **complements on the ground community experience** to prioritize the planting of trees in areas of Chicago where the benefits of trees are most needed.

By looking at tree canopy coverage and overlaying public health indicators with surface temperature, and air quality data, the City is further able to analyze and prioritize tree planting at the census tract level.



Population
2,741,193

Trees
1,710,860

Tree Canopy Coverage %

801 SELECTED



Community

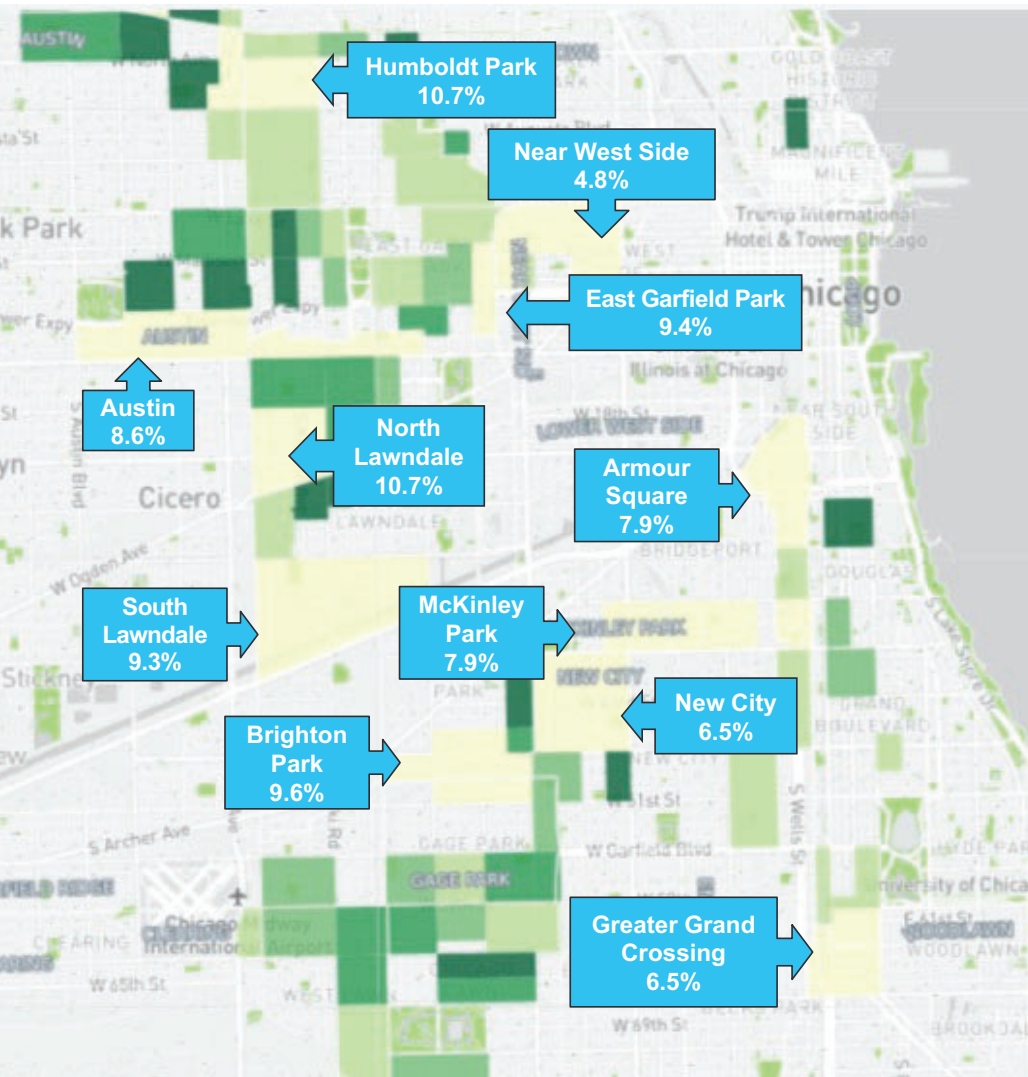
ALL SELECTED

LAKE VIEW	34
WEST TOWN	31
LOGAN SQUARE	27
AUSTIN	24
LINCOLN PARK	20
OTHER	665

[SEARCH IN 77 CATEGORIES](#)

Tree Canopy Coverage by Neighborhood

(citywide average is 16%)



Community Tree Equity

Highest social vulnerability

+

Worst flooding susceptibility

+

Most severe economic hardship

+

Highest traffic volumes

+

Most age-adjusted asthma cases

+

Highest surface temperatures

+

Lowest tree canopy coverage

=

Priority communities for equity tree planting, maintenance & community engagement



Community Partners





Community Tree Equity Working Group

**American Forests
Blacks in Green
Bloomberg Associates
Chicago Department of
Public Health
Chicago Department of Streets and
Sanitation Bureau of Forestry
Chicago Department of
Transportation
City of Chicago Mayor's Office
Chicago Park District
Chicago Sustainability Office
Chicago Muslims Green Team
Chicago Region Trees Initiative
Chicago Wilderness
Coalition for a Better Chinese
American Community
Equitable Resilience &
Sustainability, LLC
Galewood Neighbors, Inc.**

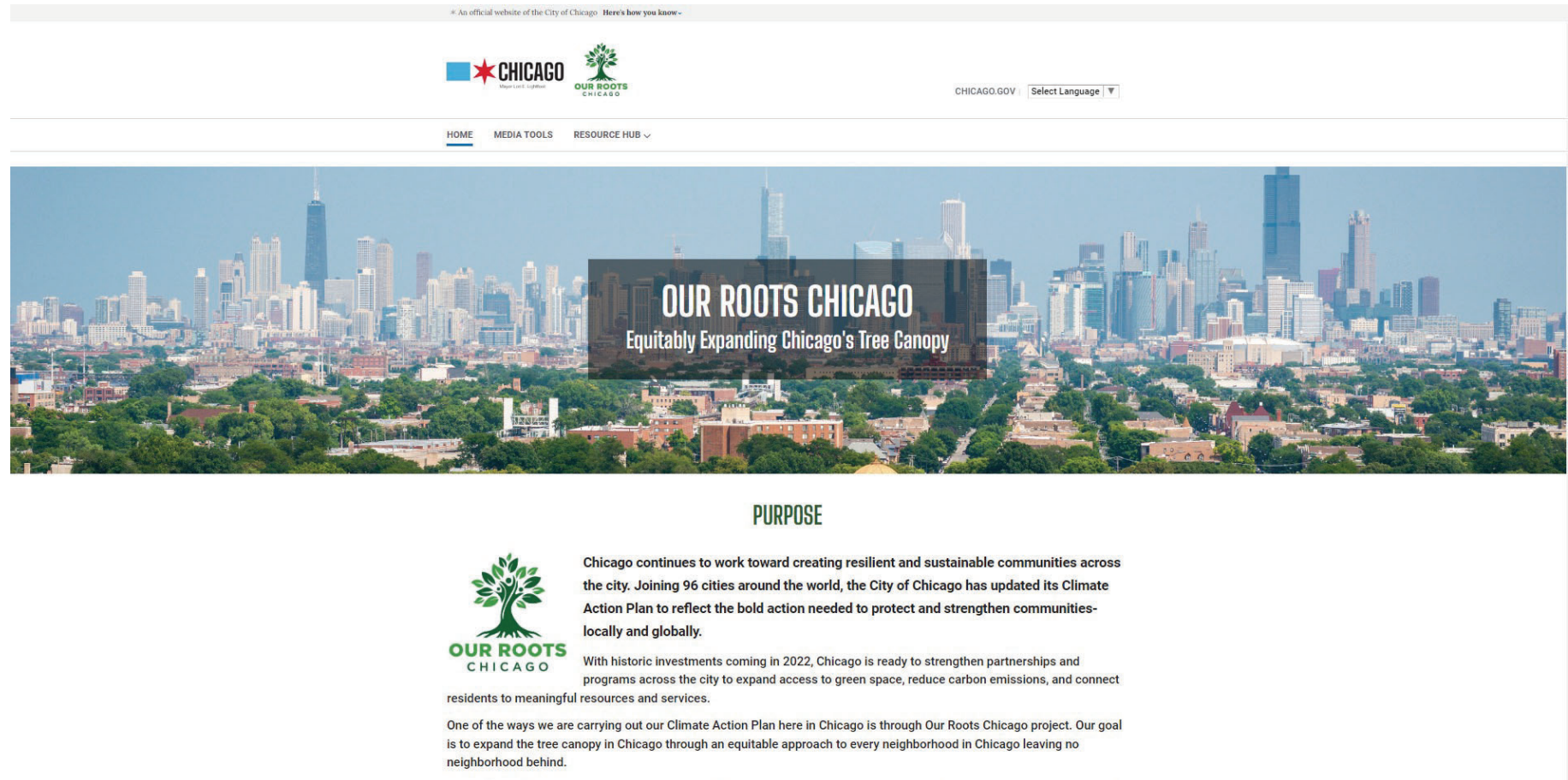
**I Am Able Center
Illinois Environmental Council
Imani Village
Latinos Progresando
Lincoln Park Zoo
LUCHA
Metropolitan Water Reclamation
District of Greater Chicago
Mi Villita Neighbors
Nordson Green Earth Foundation
North Lawndale Greening
Committee
North Lawndale Community
Coordinating Council's Greening
Open Space Water Soil and
Sustainability (NLCCC/GROWSS)
Openlands
Rush University Medical Center
Sacred Roots
Save Your Ash**

**St. Agatha's Church
Stone Temple Missionary Baptist
Church
The Climate Reality Project Chicago
Metro Chapter
The Nature Conservancy
The Nature, Culture, and Human
Health
The Partnership for Healthy Cities
The Southwest Collective
The Student Conservation
Association
The Trust for Public Land
University of Illinois Chicago
US Forest Service
Walder Foundation
West Chesterfield Community
Association
Young Men's Network Association**

★ Community Led Logo Design



★ Community-Driven Content: Website



Community-Driven Content: Tools & Door Hangers

MEDIA TOOLS

Let's Talk About Trees!

Let's talk about trees! Trees are the lungs of our city. They provide shade, clean air, and a beautiful view. Plant a tree today and help our community grow.

Available on the [CH311](#) mobile app.

CHICAGO

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot

FAQ One-Sheet:

Let's Talk About Trees!

Languages:

English | Arabic | Chinese

Polish | Spanish

Date: 5/4/2022

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

PLANT A TREE. Together we can create a sustainable future.

Call 3-1-1 to request a free parkway tree in front of your home.*

*Restrictions apply

Available on the [CH311](#) mobile app.

CHICAGO

Social Media:

Plant a tree

Languages:

English | Arabic | Chinese

Polish | Spanish

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

Do it for HYDE PARK. Plant a tree and help our community grow.

Call 3-1-1 to request a free parkway tree in front of your home.*

*Restrictions apply

Available on the [CH311](#) mobile app.

CHICAGO

Social Media:

Do it for (your community)

Find the graphic for your community:

"Do it for..." Social Media Community package (.zip)

Date: 4/28/2022

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

Planting trees helps our communities grow.

- Improve air quality
- Increase property value
- Save money on air conditioning
- Reduce flooding
- Improve health and wellbeing

Call 3-1-1 to request a free parkway tree in front of your home.*

*Restrictions apply

Available on the [CH311](#) mobile app.

CHICAGO

Social Media:

Planting trees help our community grow

Languages:

English | Arabic | Chinese

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

It begins with one tree. Plant a tree, make a positive impact.

Call 3-1-1 to request a free parkway tree in front of your home.*

*Restrictions apply

Available on the [CH311](#) mobile app.

CHICAGO

Social Media:

It begins with one tree

Languages:

English | Arabic | Chinese

Polish | Spanish

Updated: 5/6/2022

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

More healthy trees means healthier communities.

Planting trees improves air quality, provides shade and cool air, and reduces street temperatures.

Call 3-1-1 to request a free parkway tree in front of your home.*

*Restrictions apply

Available on the [CH311](#) mobile app.

CHICAGO

Social Media:

Our Roots Chicago

Languages:

English | Arabic | Chinese

Polish | Spanish

LET'S TALK ABOUT TREES!

Setting the record straight on what I've heard about trees.

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

Available on the [CH311](#) mobile app.

CHICAGO

Social Media:

Let's Talk About Trees!

Languages:

English

Date: 4/27/2022

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

What actually happens...

Tree roots do not break underground pipes, but rather, broken drain pipes can attract tree roots seeking moisture.

Did you know that tree roots only go down 2-3 feet?

Available on the [CH311](#) mobile app.

CHICAGO

Social Media:

I've Heard... Trees Create Plumbing Issues

Languages:

English

Date: 4/27/2022

I've heard...

Trees increase crime.

Actually...

There are no scientific studies that prove that trees increase crime. Studies actually show that tree lined streets have lower crime rates.

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

Available on the [CH311](#) mobile app.

CHICAGO

Social Media:

I've Heard... Trees Increase Crime

Languages:

English

Date: 4/27/2022

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

I've heard...

Trees are dangerous for homes. They can damage property.

The facts are...

Trees can lower your air conditioning costs by providing shade and lowering air temperatures. Trees can block cold winds in the winter lowering your heating costs.

Trees that aren't properly maintained may have weaker limbs. The City will trim your parkway tree at no cost to you. Visit [311.chicago.gov](#) to request service.

Available on the [CH311](#) mobile app.

CHICAGO

Social Media:

I've Heard... Trees Are Dangerous For Homes

Languages:

English

Date: 4/27/2022

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

I've heard...

Planting more trees will disrupt our natural ecosystem.

The fact is...

Trees provide oxygen, improve air quality, help keep soil in place, and absorb water which prevents flooding. Trees also absorb carbon and attract a lot of wildlife such as birds that feed on insects like mosquitoes.

Available on the [CH311](#) mobile app.

CHICAGO

Social Media:

I've Heard... Planting More Trees Will Disrupt Our Natural Ecosystem

Languages:

English

Date: 4/27/2022

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

It begins with one tree.

Plant a tree, make a positive impact.

Call 3-1-1 to request a free parkway tree in front of your home.*

*Restrictions apply

Available on the [CH311](#) mobile app.

CHICAGO

Social Media:

It Begins With One Tree

Languages:

English

Date: 4/27/2022

CHICAGO

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot

Date: _____

311 Service Request Number: _____

A New Tree is Coming Soon! A tree planting site(s) has been approved in the public parkway in front of your home/business. The complete tree planting service (site prep, planting, mulching, and 2 years of maintenance) is being provided free of charge as part of the city's Our Roots Chicago program.

Our Roots Chicago has the goal of planting 75,000 parkway trees across Chicago by 2026. More healthy trees means healthier communities. Making these investments today will provide benefits to Chicago's neighborhoods for years to come.

TREES DO:

- Improve air quality
- Reduce flooding
- Increase property values
- Provide shade
- Save money on air conditioning
- Lower stress levels

TREES DO NOT:

- Break underground pipes; broken drain pipes can attract tree roots seeking moisture
- Increase crime; tree lined streets have lower crime rates!
- Cause danger or damage property (if properly maintained)

For more info on Our Roots Chicago, please visit [Chicago.Gov/OurRoots](#)

If you do not want a tree planted, or if you want to request a particular species, please call 311 within 60 days to cancel/modify the service request (number included above).

DSS
Department of Streets and Sanitation



CHICAGO

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot

A NEW TREE has been planted for your neighborhood! Mayor Lightfoot's Our Roots Chicago has the goal of planting 75,000 parkway trees across Chicago by 2026. More healthy trees = healthier communities. Making these investments today will provide increasing benefits to Chicago's neighborhoods for years to come.

The DSS Bureau of Forestry has planted a tree on the parkway adjacent to your home. We kindly ask that you water the tree on a weekly basis during the first year of planting. Please allow the hose to trickle for 25-30 minutes on the tree roots to ensure the water can soak deeply into the roots. During dry periods, the tree may need watering every three days. Cost for watering is minimal to the resident (around \$6 per year, \$3 for seniors).

Please do not remove the wood mulch from around the base of the tree. The mulch was placed there to keep the roots cool and moist in the summer, and to protect the tree from cold in the winter.

And like any good neighbor, please look out for the new tree, please protect it from vandalism, lawn mowers, weed whips and vehicles.

For more information on caring for the new tree, please contact the DSS Bureau of Forestry at 312-746-5254.

To learn more about Our Roots Chicago, please visit [Chicago.Gov/OurRoots](#).

DSS
Department of Streets and Sanitation



★ Community-Driven Content: Misinformation

WHAT I'VE HEARD ABOUT TREES

I've heard that...

Trees break and crack sidewalks and create plumbing issues

—

Tree roots do not break pipes; rather, broken pipes attract tree roots due to moisture in the pipes.

Did you know that tree roots only go down 2-3 feet?

Trees increase crime

+

Trees are high maintenance and costly to maintain

+

Planting more trees will disrupt our natural ecosystem

+

Trees are dangerous for homes. They can damage property

+

★ Our Roots Chicago Kickoff: Arbor Day 2022



★ 18,000 Trees Later – December 1, 2022

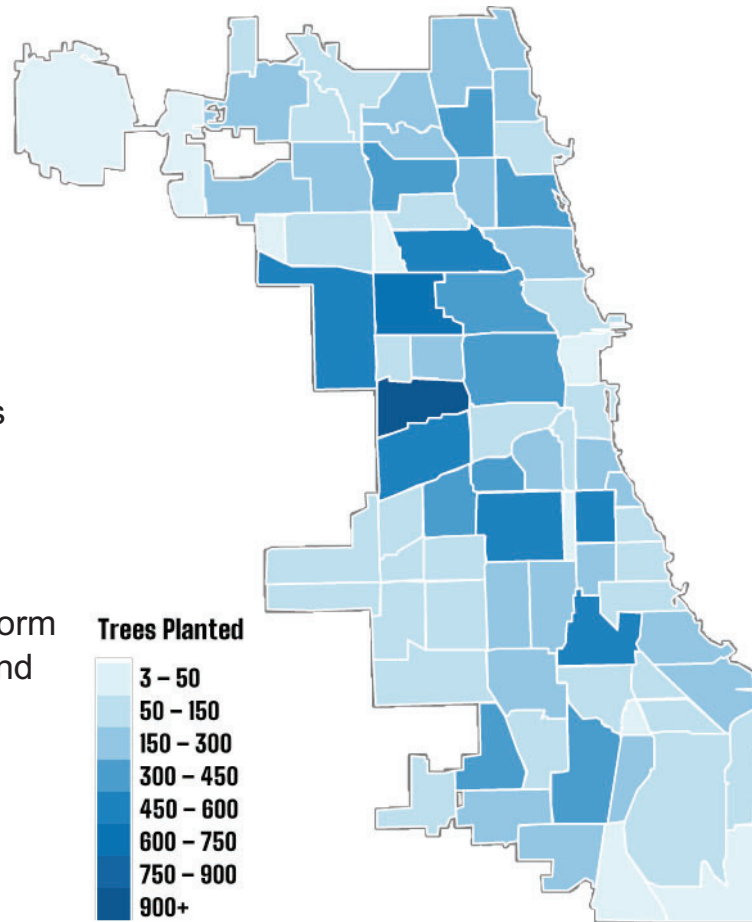




2022 Tree Plantings

Total 18,000+ Parkway Trees

- Efficiencies in Planting Requests
- 33% went to 11 priority communities
- 3 Year Backlog for Tree Requests Fulfilled
- Removed 11,358 (combination of storm damaged, diseased, dead, DWM, and Aldermanic requests)
- 2022 Baseline for years to come to prioritize equity areas



Map shows tree plantings on arterial & residential streets in 2022

Community	Parkway Trees Planted	Percent of Planting
1. North Lawndale (TA Pilot)	957	6%
2. Humboldt Park	695	4%
3. New City	553	3%
5. South Lawndale (TA Pilot)	529	3%
6. Austin	462	3%
7. Greater Grand Crossing	460	3%
10. Near West Side	435	3%
12. McKinley Park	394	2%
13. Brighton Park	393	2%
23. East Garfield Park	257	2%
57. Armour Square	87	1%
Subtotal	5,222	33%



Community Tree Ambassadors





Tree Ambassadors Training

Created for CBOs to increase parkway tree planting through a modified CHI311 mobile app entry to speed planting in priority neighborhoods while they engage residents on the benefits of trees.

TRAINED TO:

Survey based on City Landscape Ordinance to submit potential tree planting sites in their communities on behalf of residents that agree to a free City tree planting warrantied for 2 years using 311 App/Online

COMMUNITY DRIVEN TREE EDUCATION:

They develop their own culturally relevant tree care and education materials with the help of either the City and/or Conservation Partners if needed (e.g., marketing, workshops, conversations, storytelling to residents, etc.)

TREE AMBASSADORS ARE NOT TRAINED TO:

Plant, Mulch, Trim, ID Trees Species, Study Plant Biophysiology, Soil, or ID Pathogens





Train the Trainers: Class





Train the Trainers: Field







Information Technology

- Currently developing a BoF Mobile Application
- Application will be Apple and Android mobile compliant devices
- Application is Salesforce Field Service Lightning
 - Enhanced field operations for efficiency
 - Foresters in the field will enter data workorder and updating tree inventory (no longer on one desktop that one person manages)
 - GPS enabled devices in application for tree locations
- 50 New Tablets purchased for foresters to use in the field – no more paper and manual entry for tree plantings
- This will also help with Tree Inventory





2023 Look Ahead

New City Foresters & Tree Trimming Plan

- 311 Tree Trimming Requests retired December 16th
- Moving to grided area trimming
- Residents will be notified of schedule in April – BoF will do entire blocks at one time.
- Doubled the number of Tree Trimmer crews, from 14 to 30, including equipment

Applying for federal funding from Inflation Reduction Act to Amplify Year 1's Progress

- Tree Survey for Parkways and Parks

Formalize Tree Ambassador Program

- Grow program by funding more communities
 - CCA/Accenture to develop a 5-year strategic plan for TA Program
- Tree Ambassador Funding for 2023
 - US Rep Sean Casten Congressional Earmark \$100K - 10 CBOs
 - Expand Tree Ambassador Training \$1.5M for 5 Years - 30 CBOs and 2 Full-Time Coordinator
- Develop and Applying Heat Vulnerability Index and NOAA Project Building HVI to help guide tree tool and plantings
- Updated Tree Equity Tool Dashboard 2023
- Tree Community Opinion Survey – IRB Approved
- Improve Partnership with Tree Equity Working Group
 - Tree Equity Working Group monthly updates on plantings
 - Our Stories Tab – videos community/pictures
 - Community Tree Benefit Flier



Thank You!

Raed.Mansour@cityofchicago.org

"To be without trees would, in the most literal way, to be without our roots."
— Richard Mabey



**COOK COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
EXHIBIT B**

**WASTENOT
COMPOST**

**COMPOSTING IN
COOK COUNTY**





OUR MISSION:
COMPOST WITHOUT
COMPROMISE™

CLEAN. CONVENIENT. COMPROMISE-FREE.





WASTENOT OVERVIEW

- Largest residential compost & commercial collection service in Chicagoland
- Largest EV waste management fleet in the USA
- Serving 350+ commercial accounts and 10,000+ Chicagoland residents
- Over 10 years experience



OUR SERVICES

4 SERVICE TYPES



RESIDENTIAL



COMMERCIAL



MULTI-UNIT



EVENT



YES PLEASE COMPOST THESE ITEMS

ALL FOOD WASTE (cooked or raw)

NO EXCESSIVE LIQUIDS OR OILS, REMOVE STICKERS AND TIES/BANDS



FRUITS, VEGGIES, EGGSHells, BREAD, PASTA, CEREAL, BAKED GOODS, LEGUMES, FUNGI, MEAT, FISH, SOLID DAIRY, BONES

100% PAPER PRODUCTS

REMOVE (OR DON'T INCLUDE) ANYTHING GLOSSY OR WAXY



COFFEE FILTERS, PAPER TOWELS, NAPKINS, 100% PAPER BAGS AND PLATES, NEWSPAPER, PIZZA BOXES, PAPER EGG CARTONS

CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE PLASTICS

COMMERCIALLY OR INDUSTRIALLY COMPOSTABLE IS ACCEPTED



LOOK FOR BPI CERTIFIED OR EXPLICIT MENTION OF COMPOSTABLE

NO PLEASE DON'T COMPOST THESE ITEMS

WASTENOT
COMPOST

PRODUCE STICKERS



REMOVE THESE BEFORE COMPOSTING FOOD SCRAPS

TWIST TIES OR RUBBER BANDS



REMOVE THESE FROM BUNDLES OF PRODUCE AND ETC.

GLASS, PLASTIC, OR METAL



PLEASE RECYCLE WHERE APPROPRIATE

BODILY FLUIDS OR PET WASTE



NOT ACCEPTED IN THIS WASTE STREAM

SYNTHETIC MATERIALS



THESE MATERIALS ARE NOT NATURALLY OCCURRING

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WHAT CAN BE COMPOSTED, PLEASE VISIT WASTENOTCOMPOST.COM/COMPOSTING

COOK COUNTY

69WW to become first County building to compost with WasteNot

- **Participating floors**

- **31st Floor - County Bureau of Asset Management**
- **23rd Floor - County Dept of Transportation & Highways**
- **22nd Floor - Building Break Room**
- **19th Floor - County Dept of Environmental**
- **10th Floor - County Family & Mediation Services**
- **Pedway LL-01 - Bright Horizons Prep Kitchen**



FUTURE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Styrofoam Ban (SB 0058 was passed to prohibit the State from purchasing styrofoam - HB 2376 to ban all restaurants from using styrofoam did not pass)**
- **Require compostable products at County buildings**
- **Multi-stream recycling solutions**
 - **Only 5% of plastic is recycled according to the Wall St. Journal**





THANK YOU!