

# Cambridge Urban Forest Master Plan

## Task Force Meeting #8

January 31, 2019



CAMBRIDGE  
DEPARTMENT  
OF PUBLIC  
**THE  
WORKS**



REED HILDERBRAND





PUBLIC SURVEY

POLICY

PRACTICES

PUBLIC SURVEY

POLICY

PRACTICES

1,643 total respondents over three month period (Sept. 5 - Dec. 6, 2018)

Based on self-selected, not random, sample

Survey offered in eight languages  
(only six surveys completed in a language other than English)

Question types:

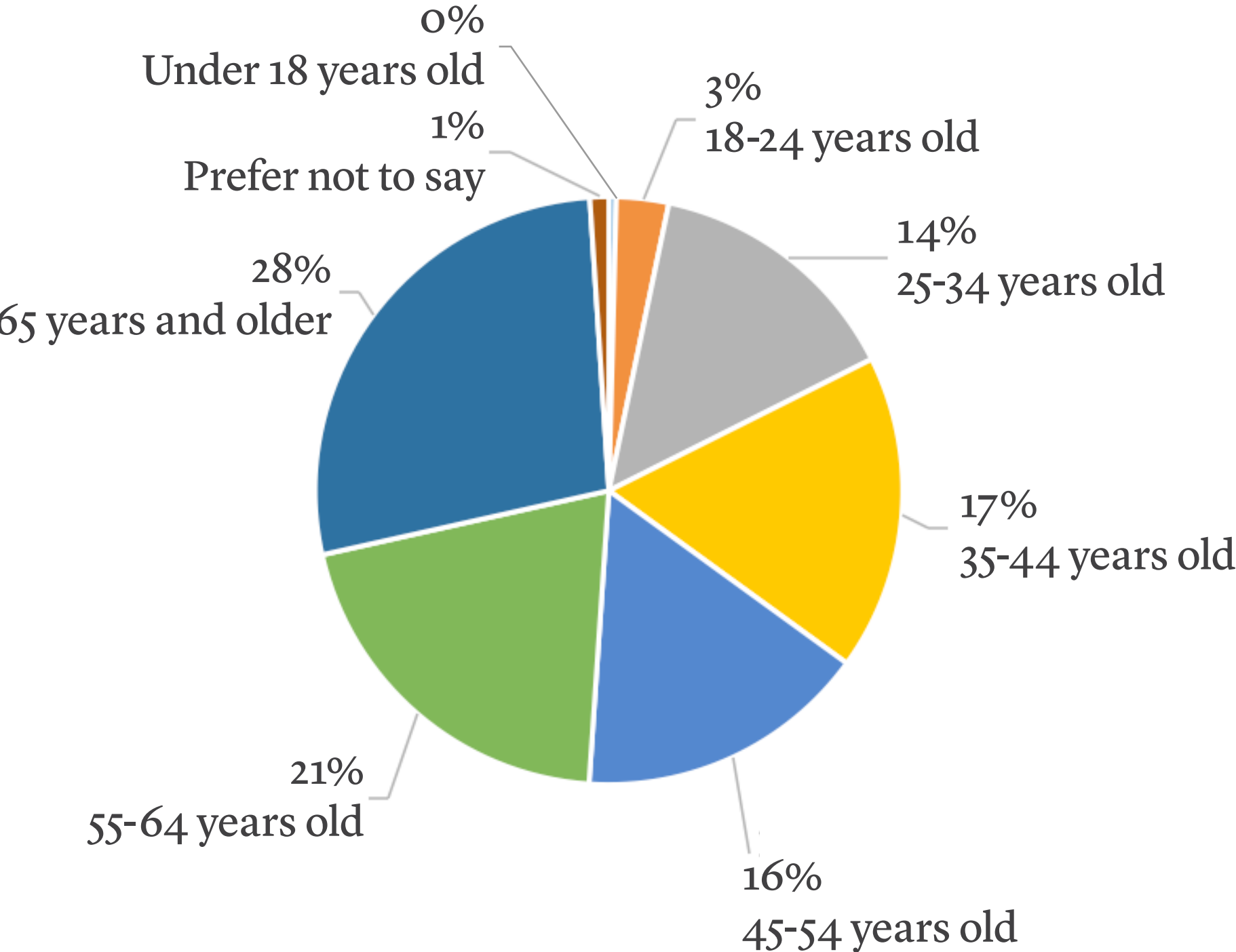
Perceptions of existing tree canopy and condition

Awareness of existing programs and policies

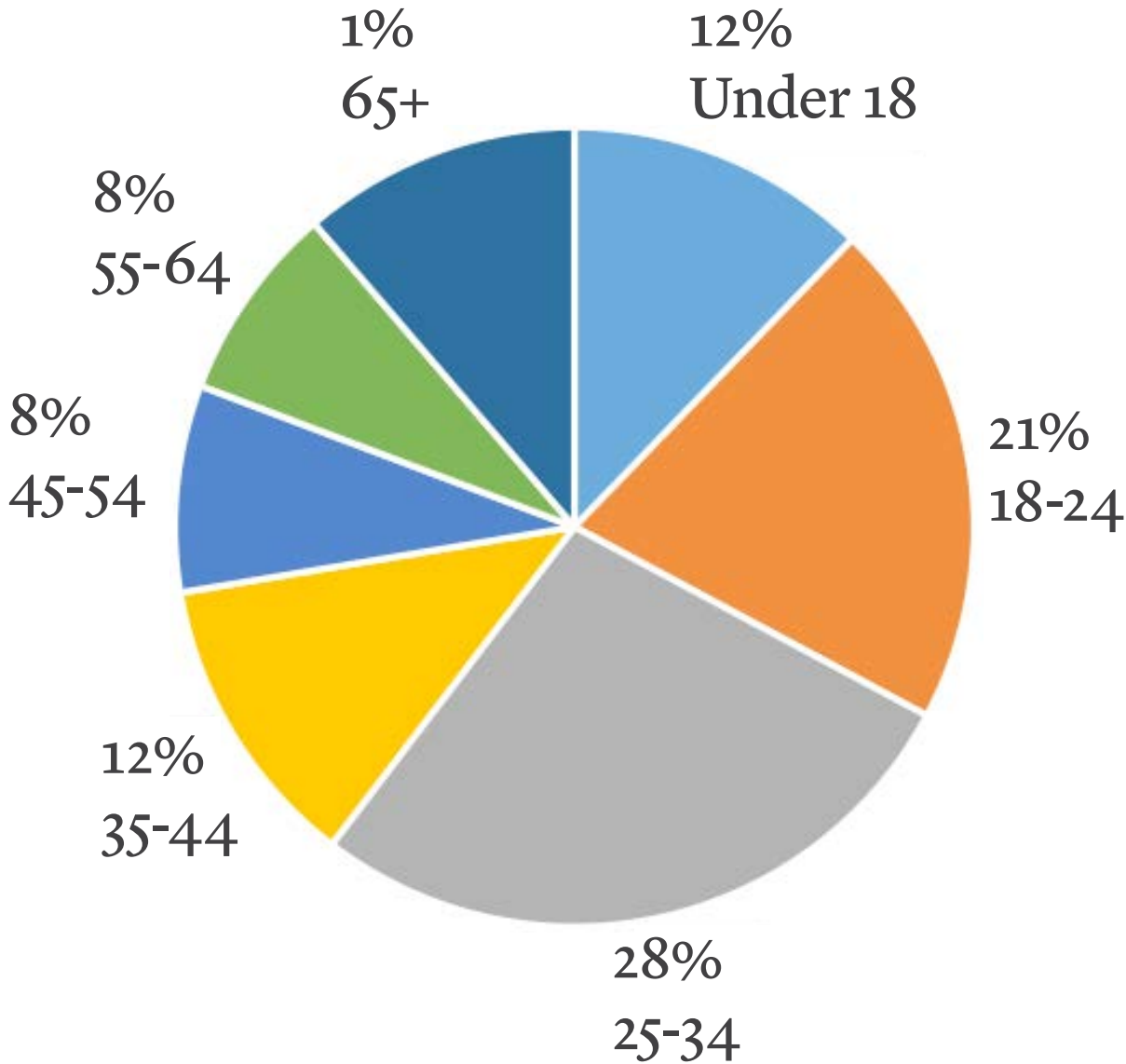
Attitudes toward tree preservation and growth



# Repondents represent a broad cross section of ages



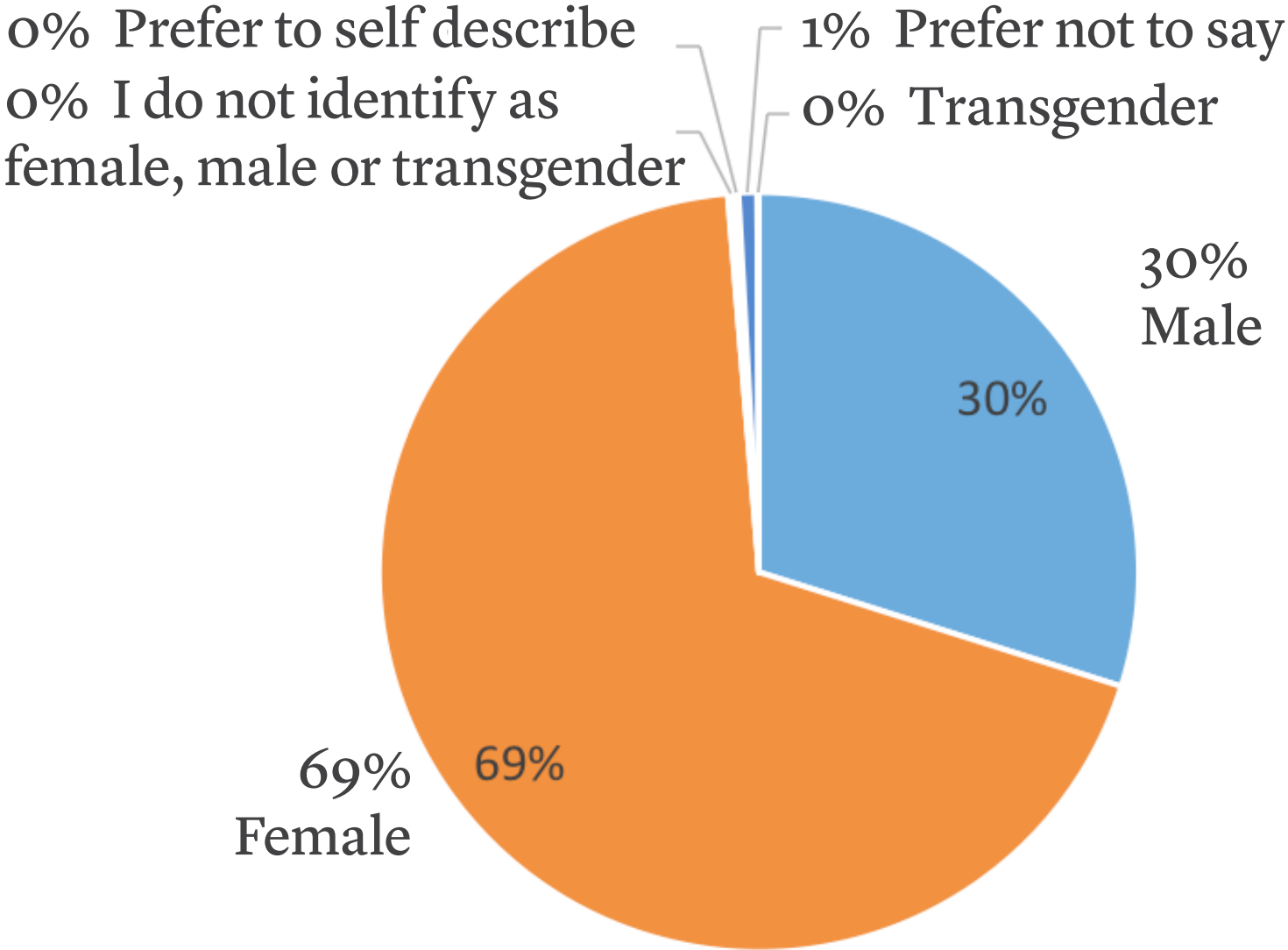
**SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS**



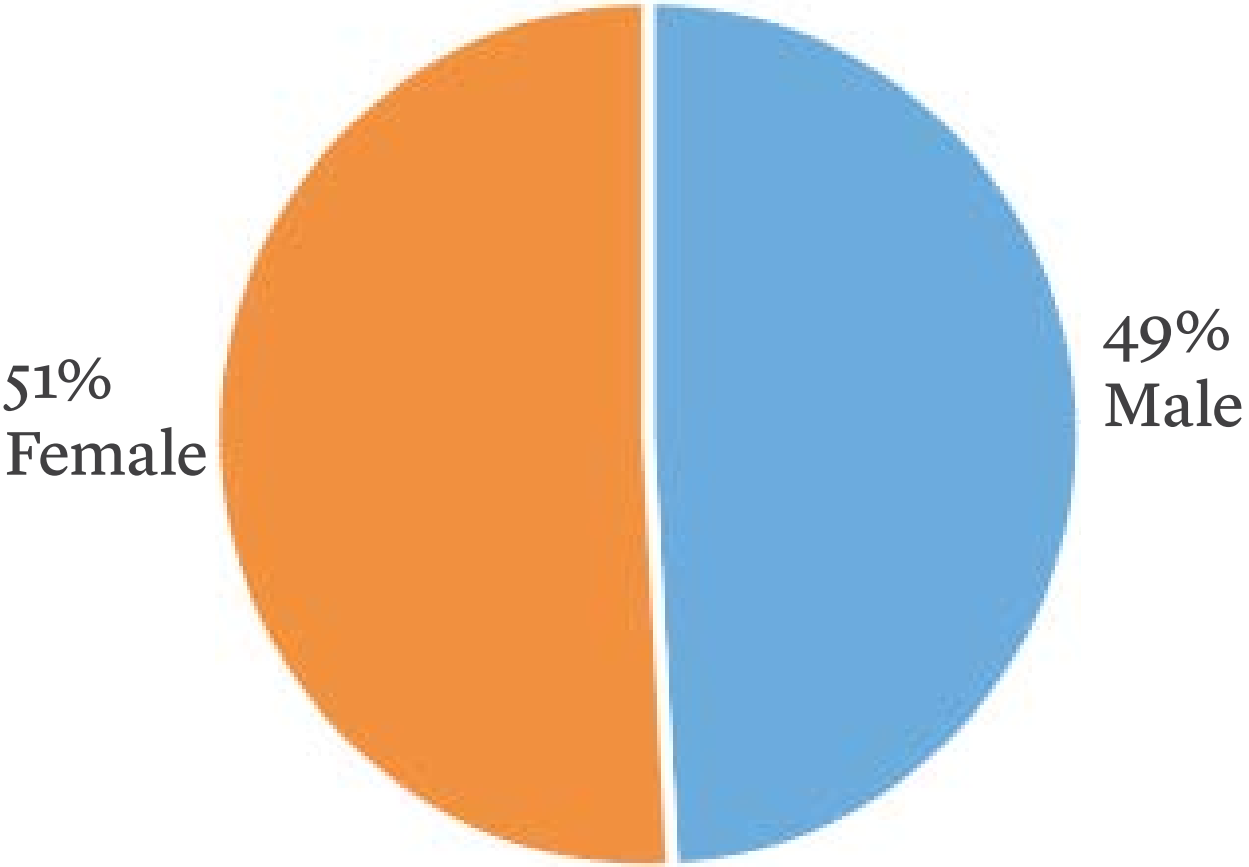
**CENSUS DEMOGRAPHICS**



# 69% of respondents were women



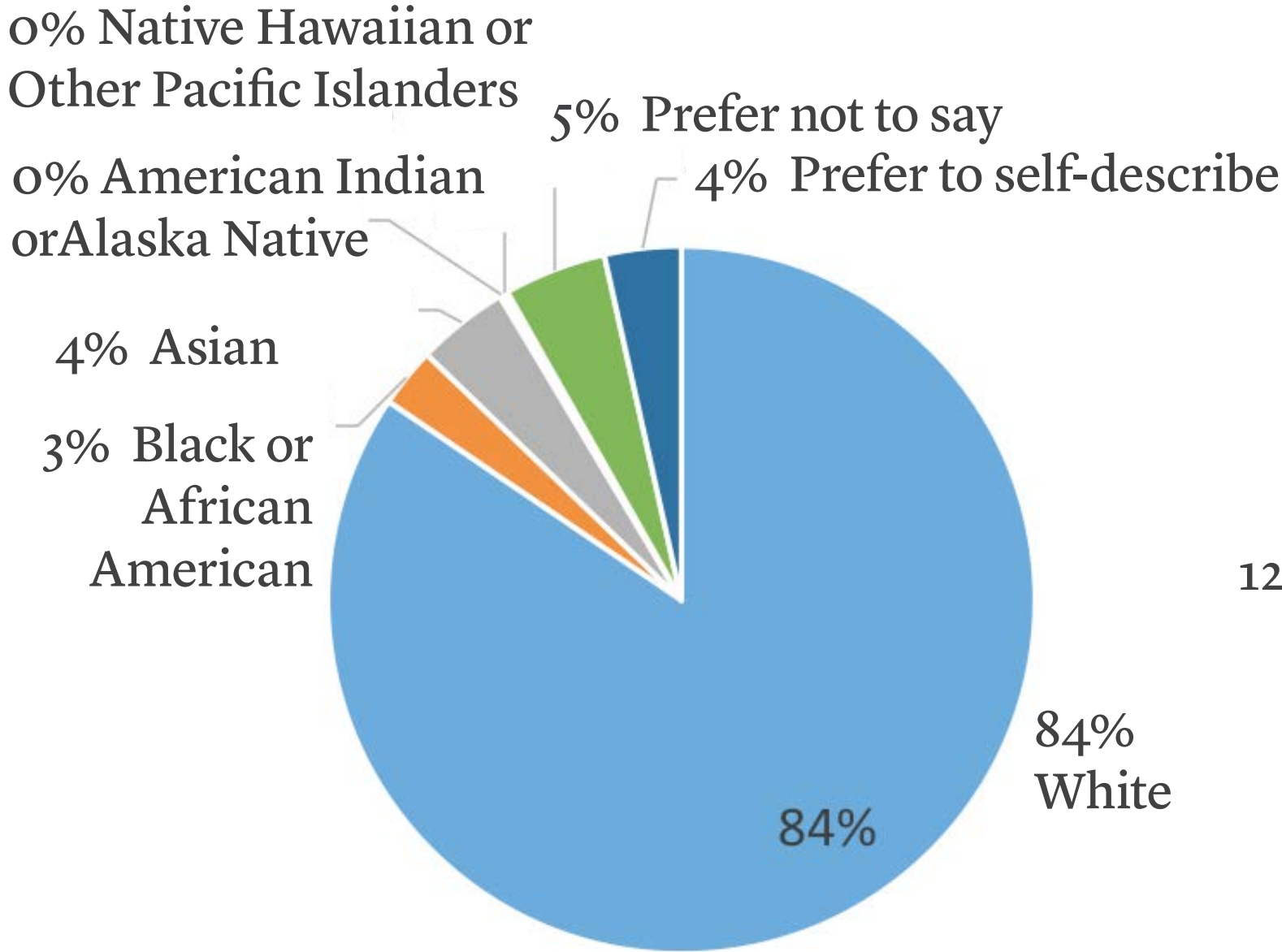
SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS



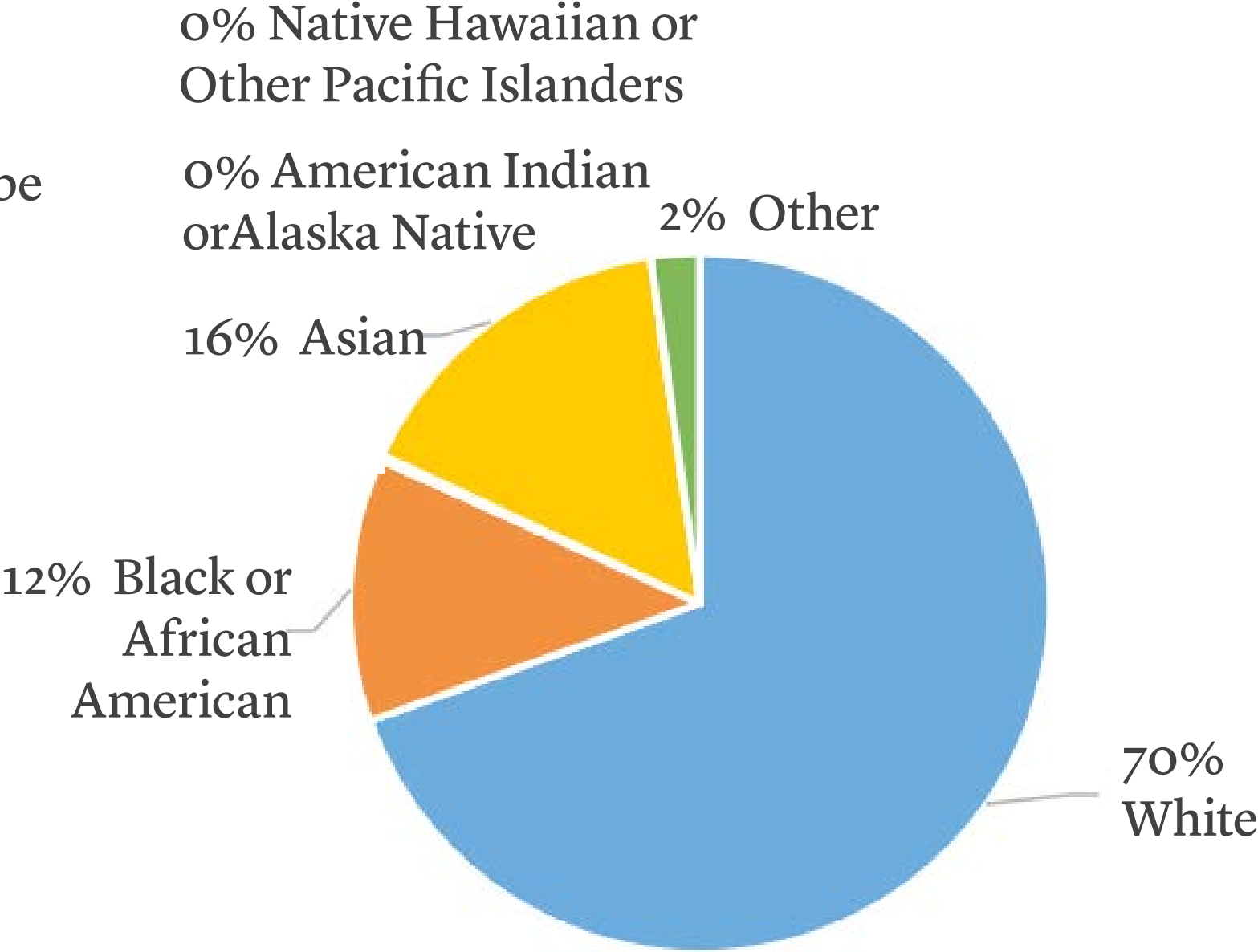
CENSUS DEMOGRAPHICS



# 85% of respondents were white



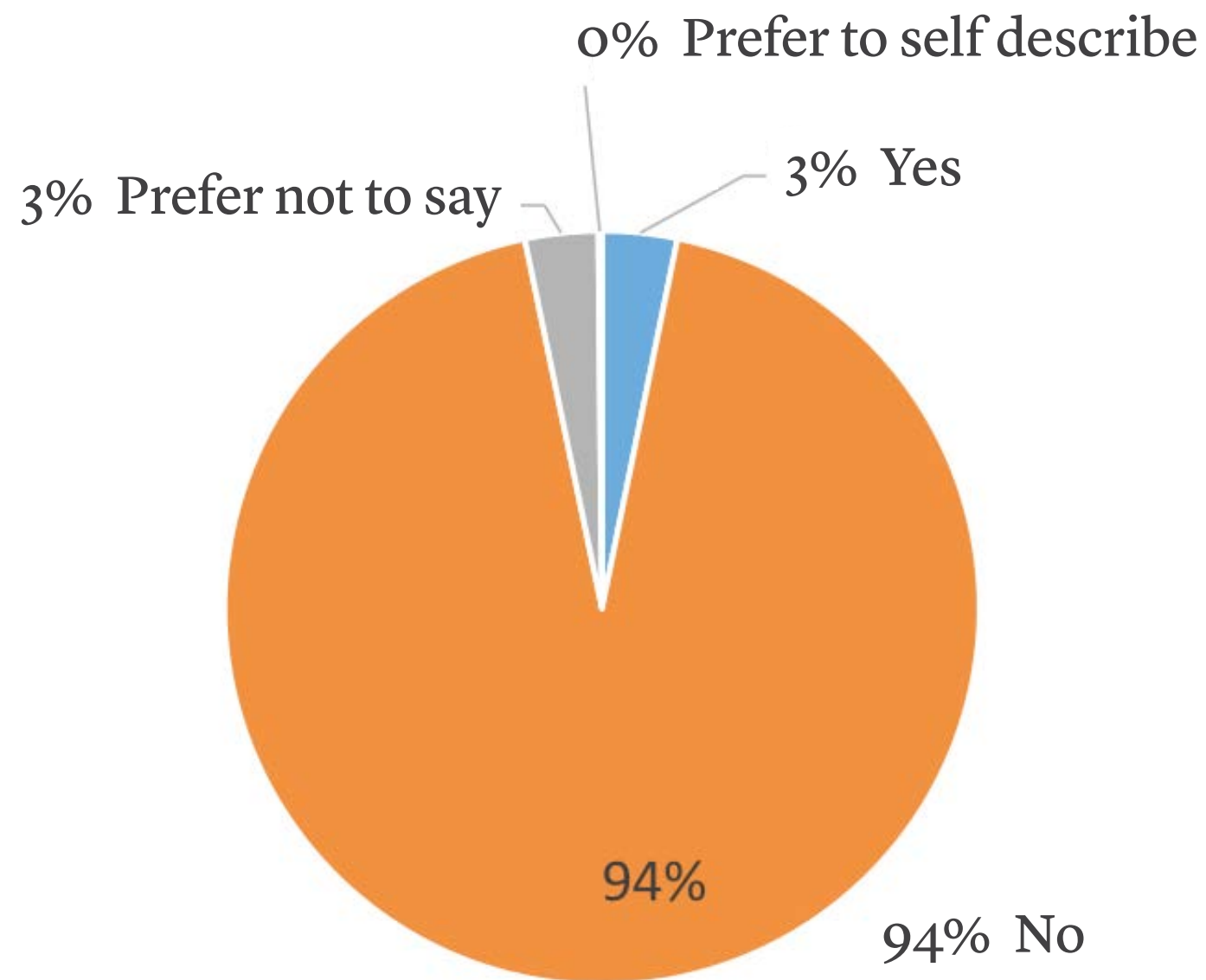
SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS



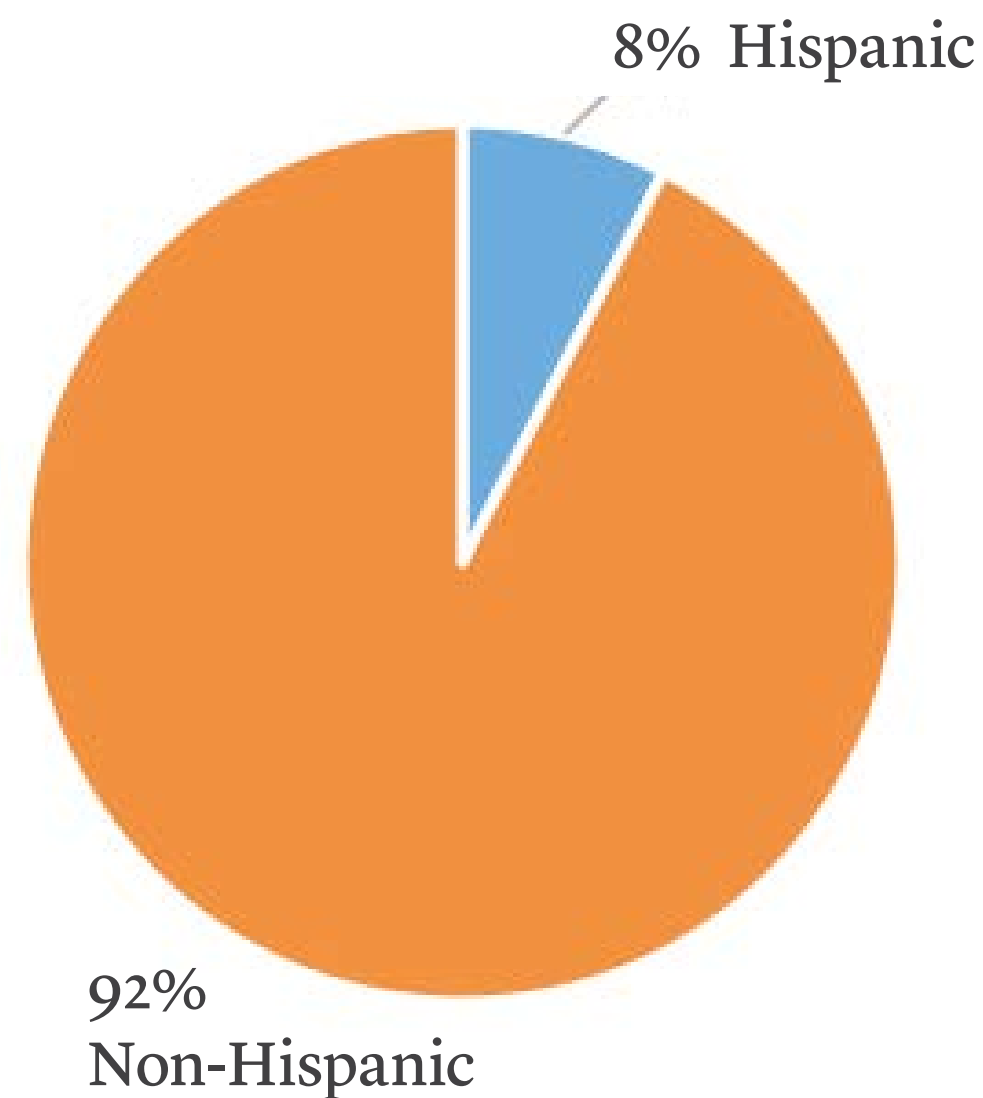
CENSUS DEMOGRAPHICS



# 3% of respondents identify as Hispanic



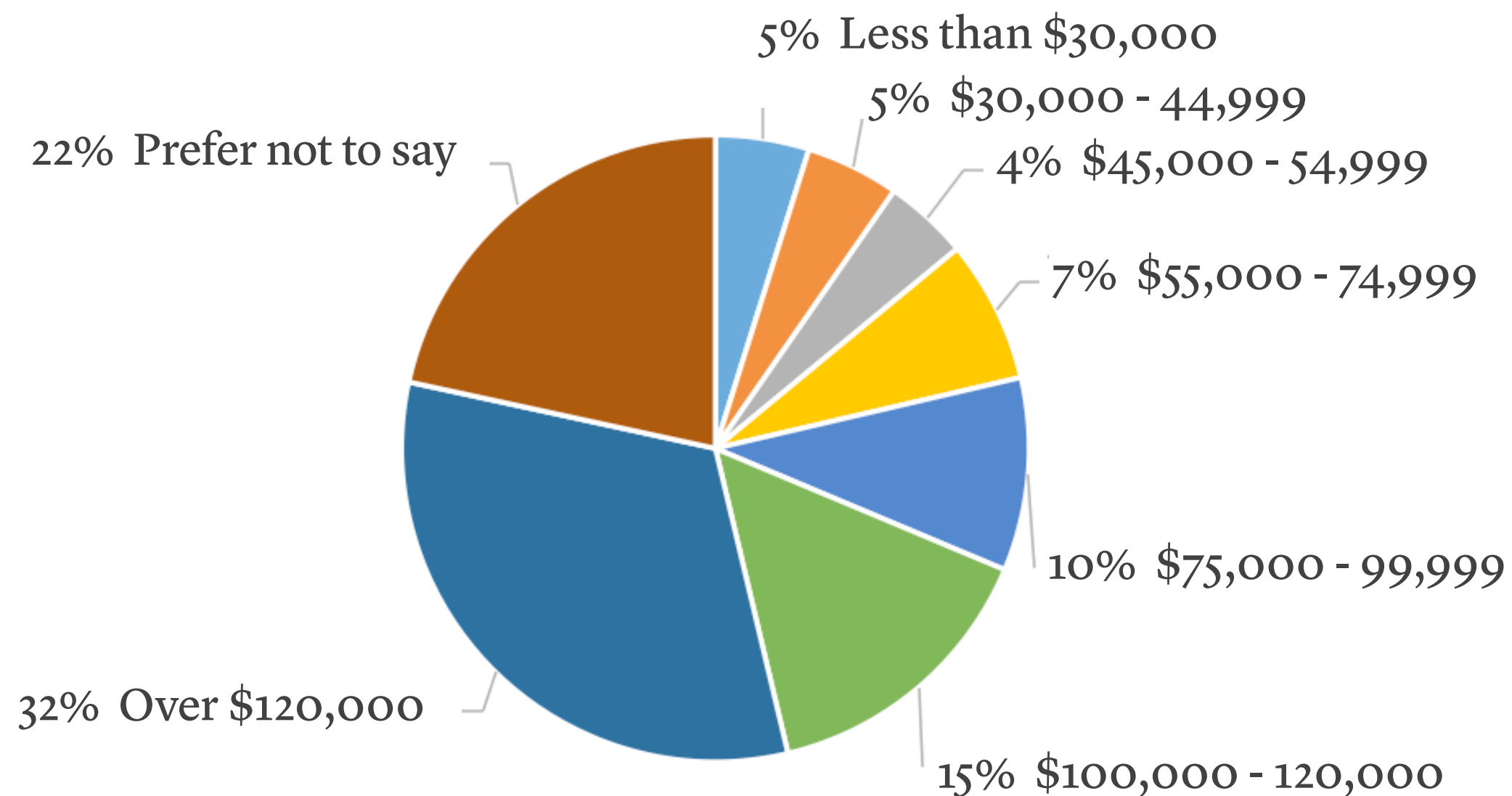
SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS



CENSUS DEMOGRAPHICS

47% of respondents earn more than \$100,000

Median household income is \$83,122



**SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS**



Based on the findings of the Public Survey:

What are the **opportunities** or **constraints** around  
stemming the loss of existing trees or  
growing canopy by planting new trees?

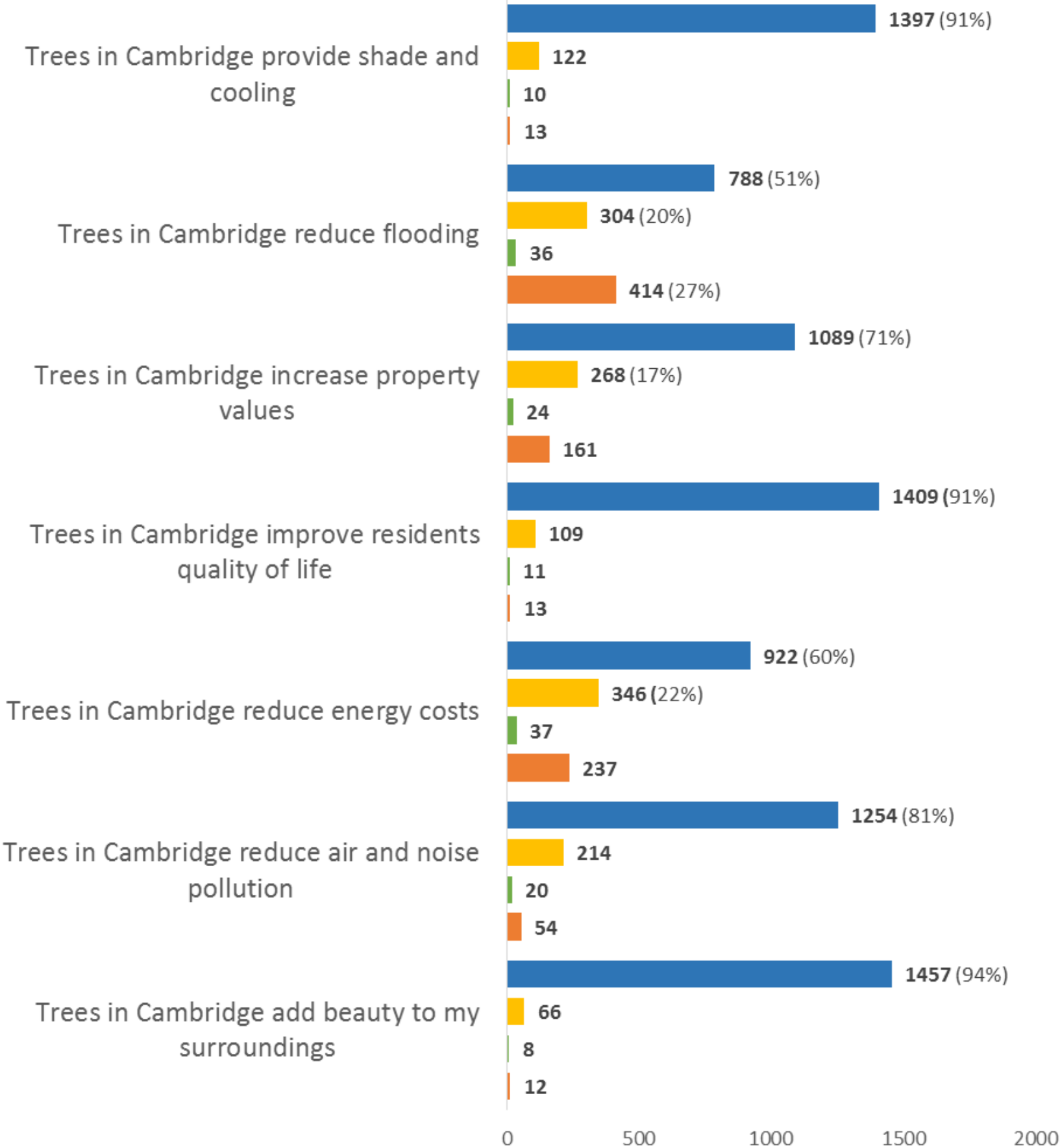
Respondents generally understand  
the value of trees in the urban environment.



# Benefits of Trees

*“In your opinion, how do Cambridge’s trees contribute to the following items?”*

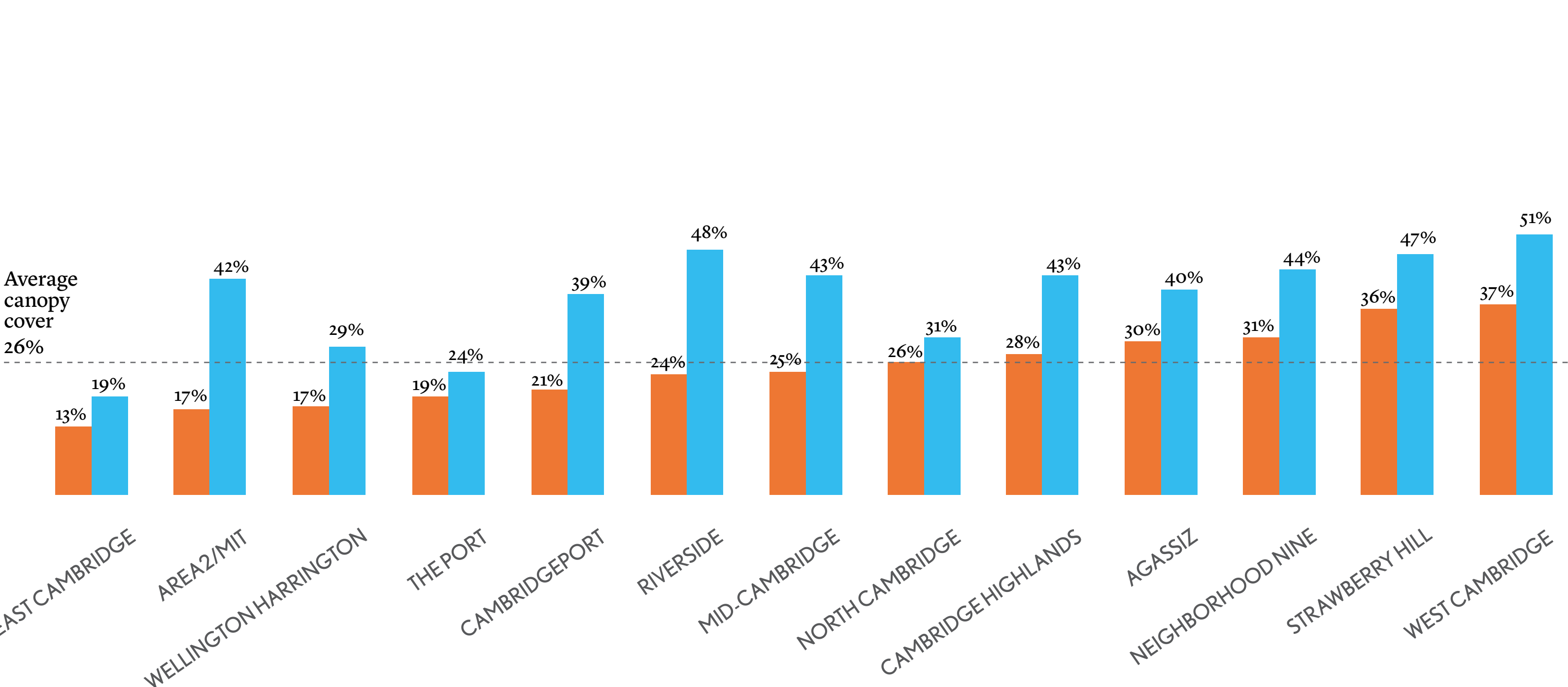
- Yes, greatly
- Somewhat
- No, not at all
- I don’t know



Respondents generally believe there are  
**not enough trees** in the city,  
especially in neighborhoods with less than average  
canopy cover.



# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY PERCEPTION

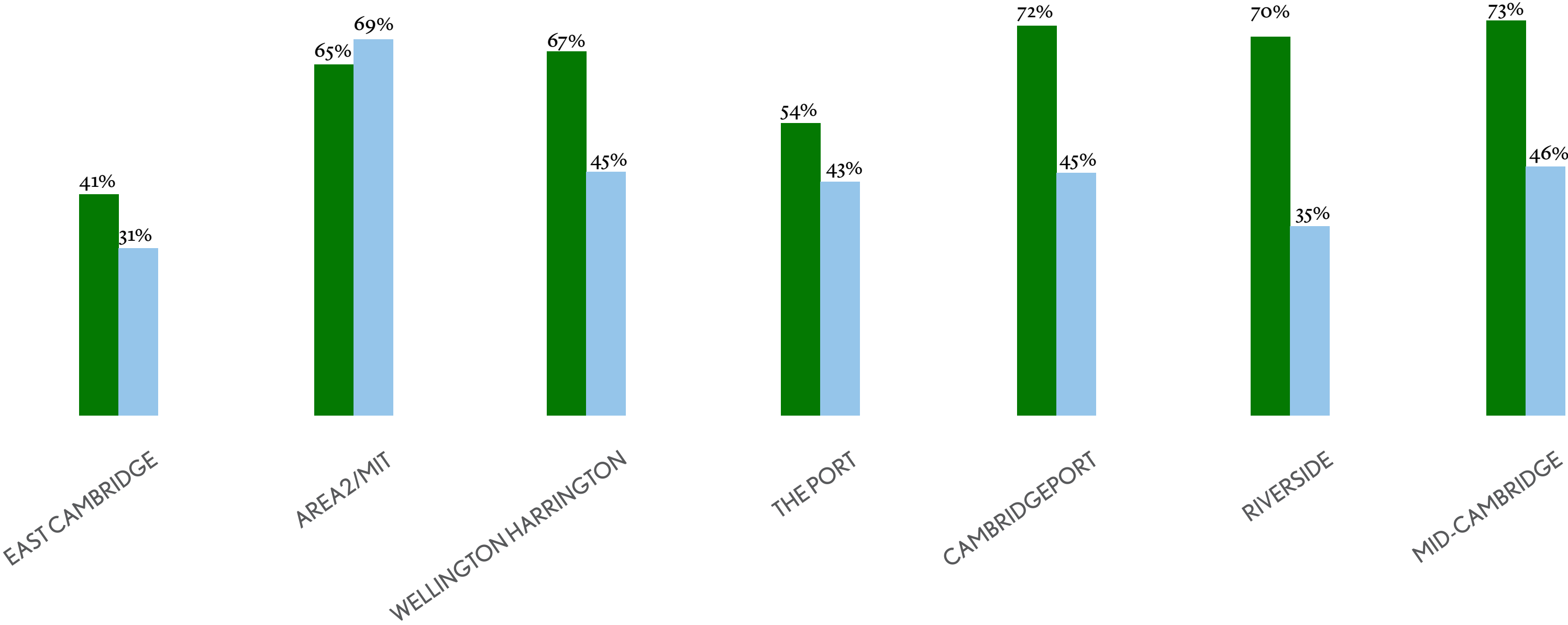



■ Analysis — 2018 canopy cover percentage by neighborhood  
■ Perception — Percent responding “Enough trees” in their neighborhood

Respondents generally believe city trees  
are **not as healthy** as they should be,  
especially in neighborhoods with less than average  
canopy cover.



# SURVEY RESULTS | HEALTH



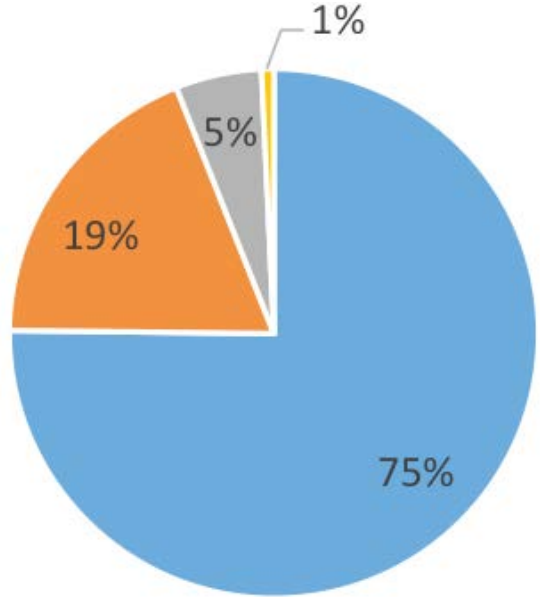
 Good Trees (Per 2018 LiDAR Classification)

 Perception- Excellent+very good

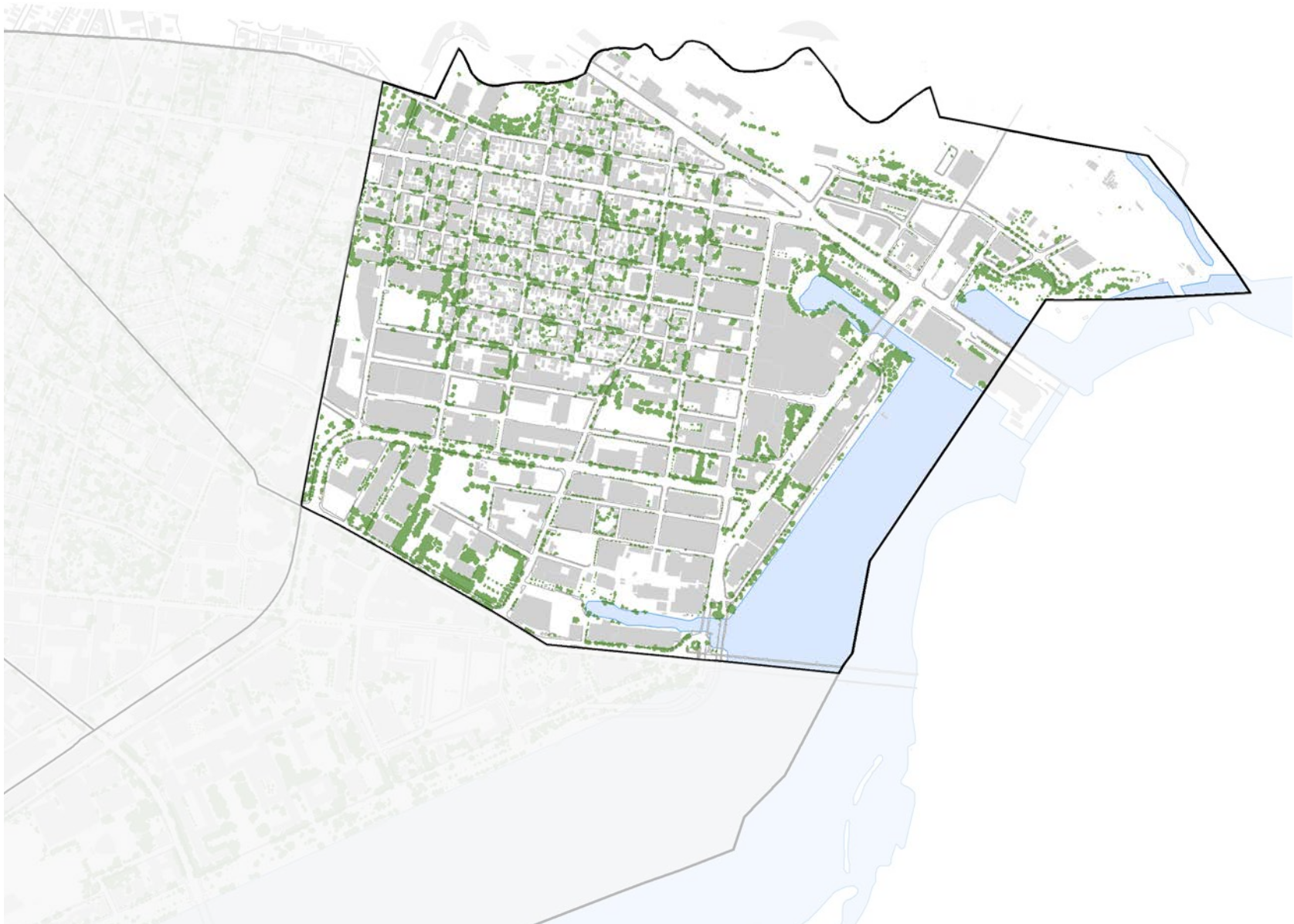
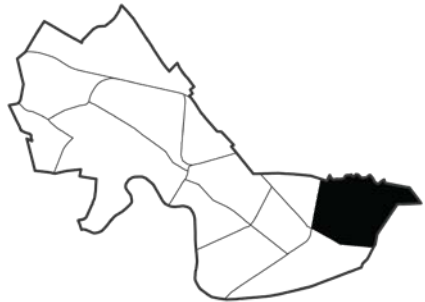
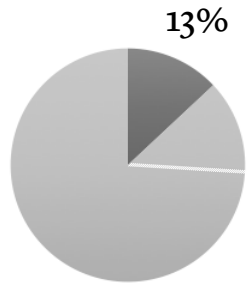
# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## East Cambridge — 13% Coverage

*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know

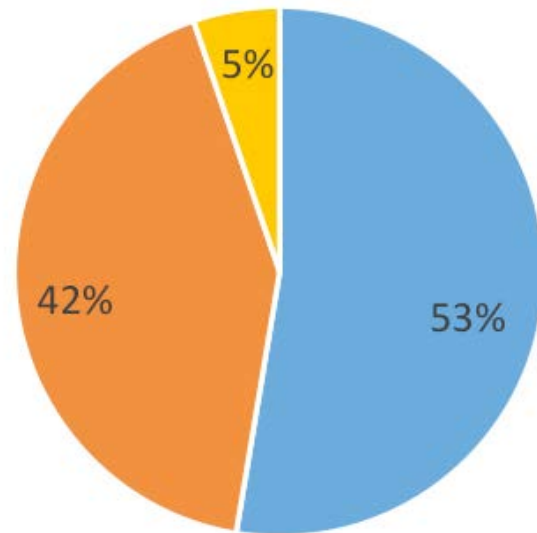
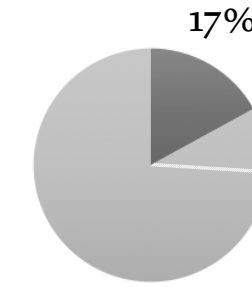




# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## Area 2 / MIT — 17% Coverage

*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know

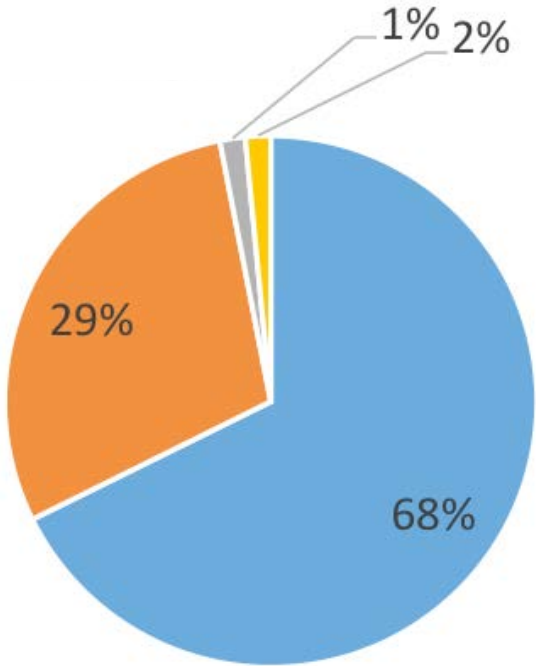
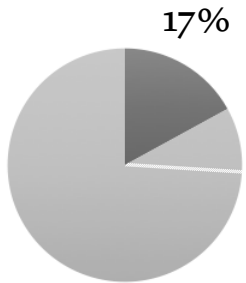




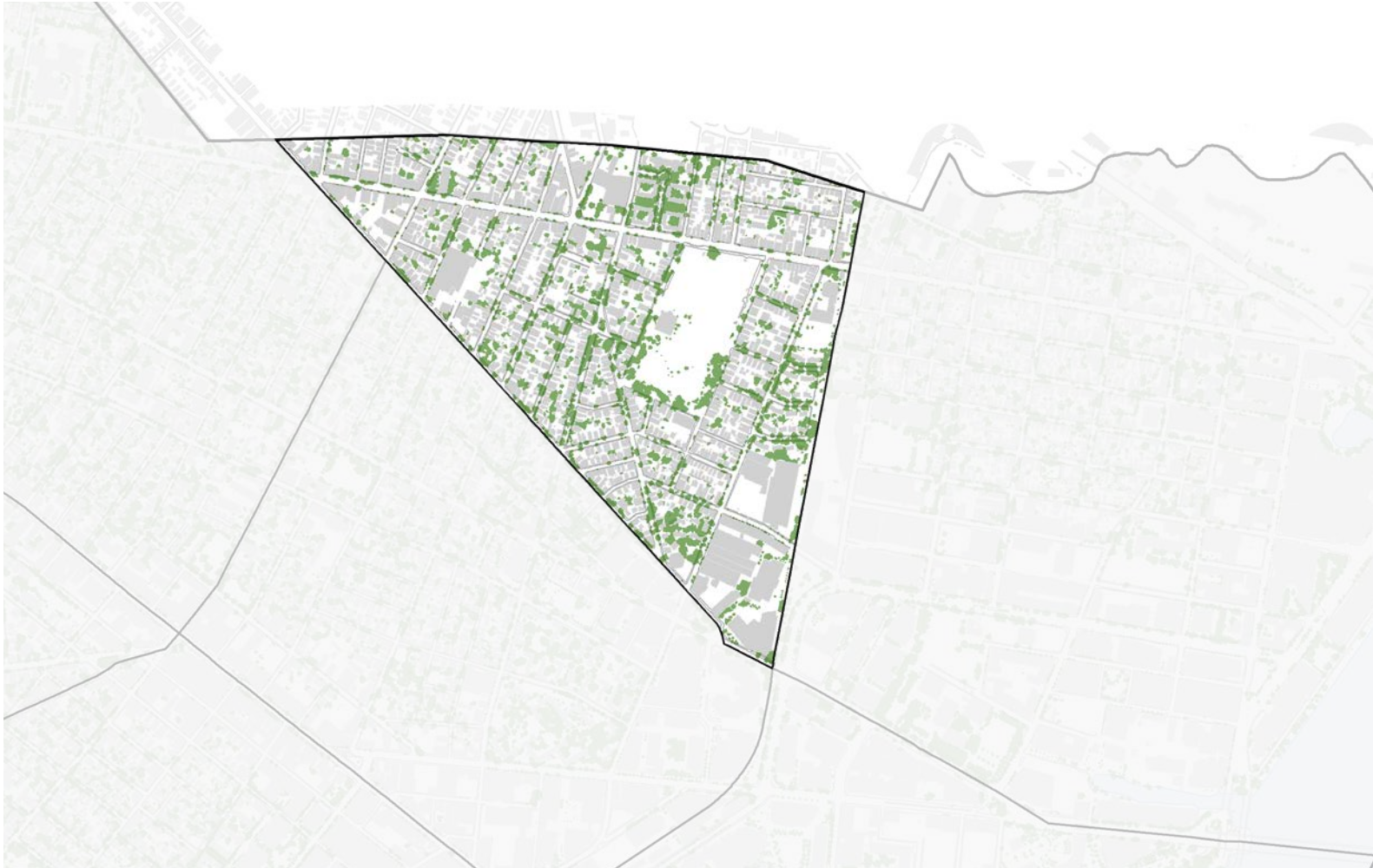
# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## Wellington-Harrington — 17% Coverage

*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



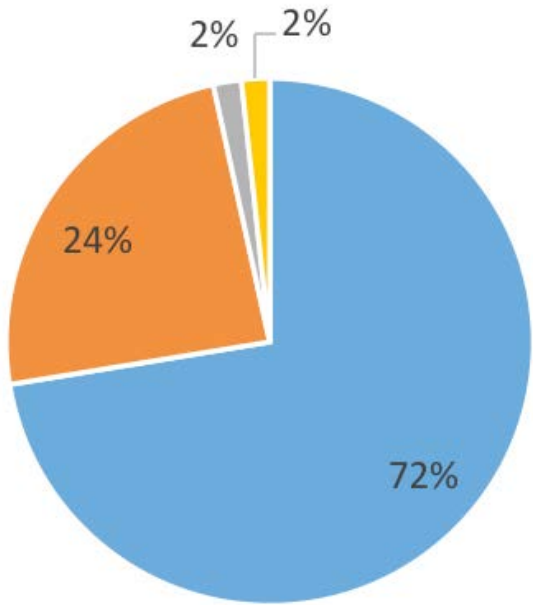
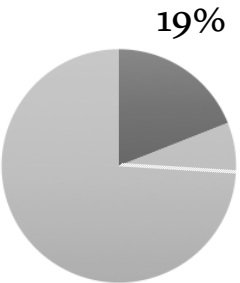
- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know



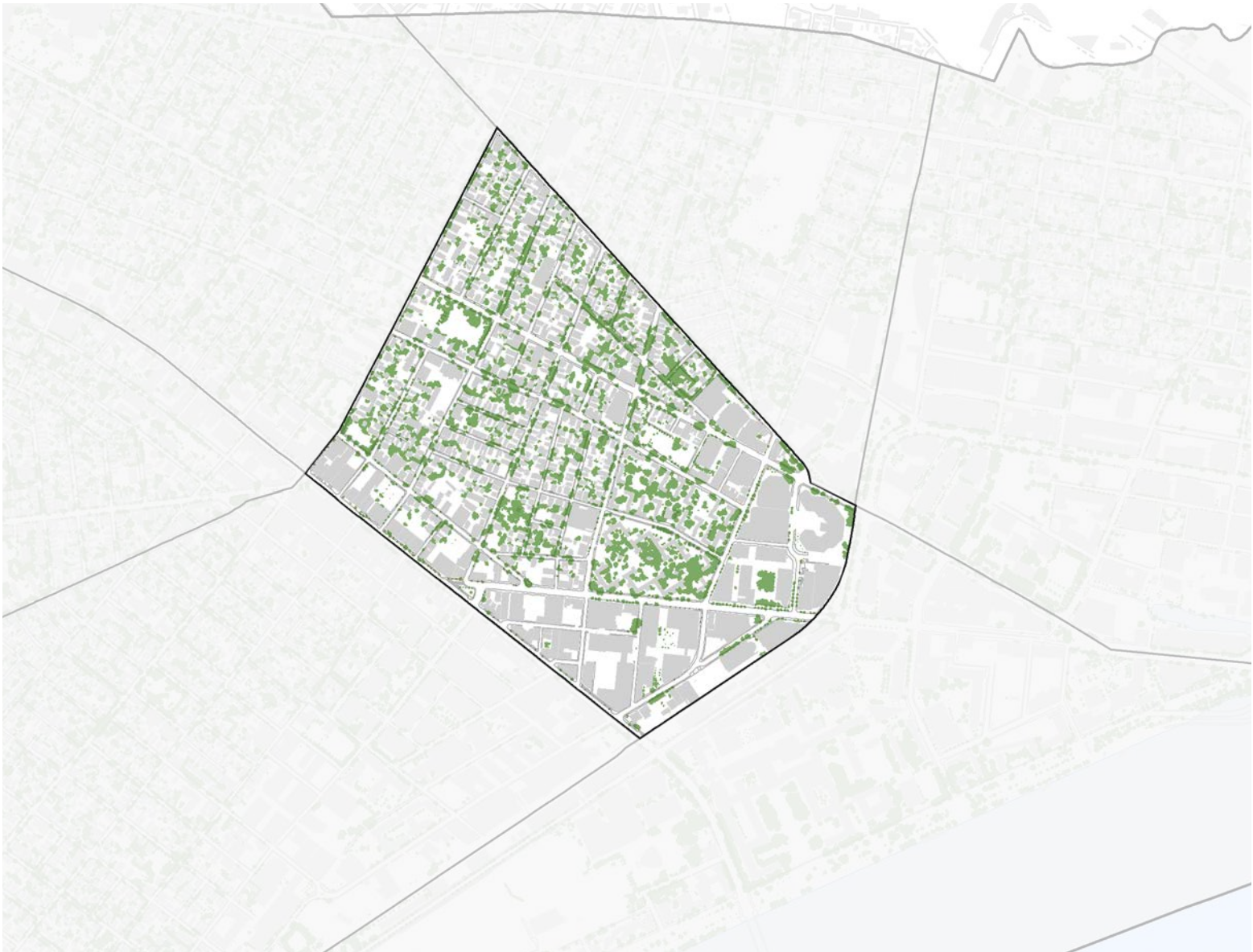
# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## The Port — 19% Coverage

*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know

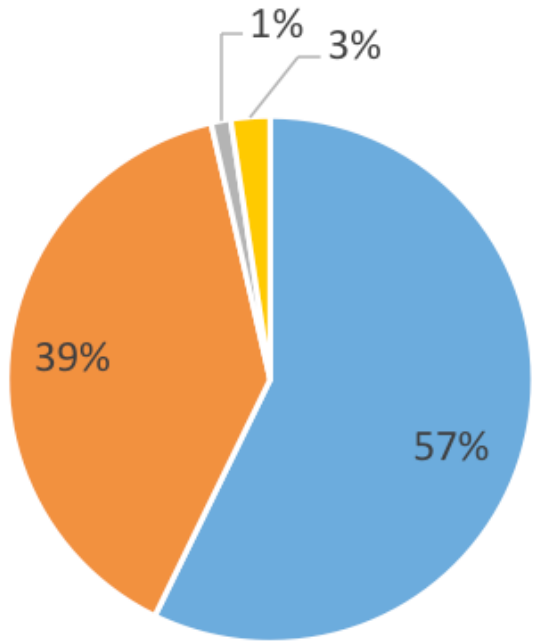
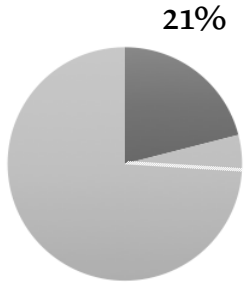




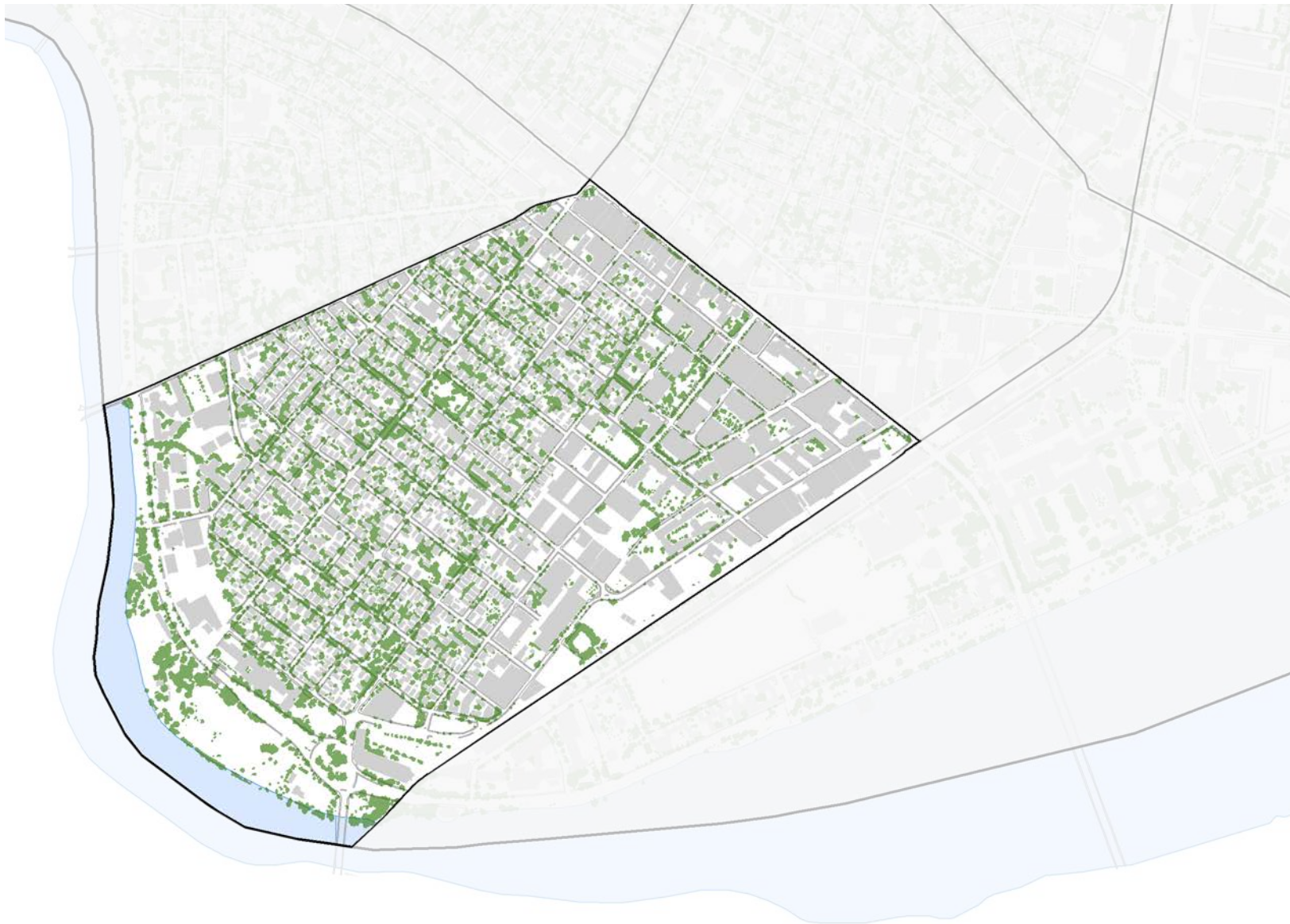
# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## Cambridgeport — 21% Coverage

*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know

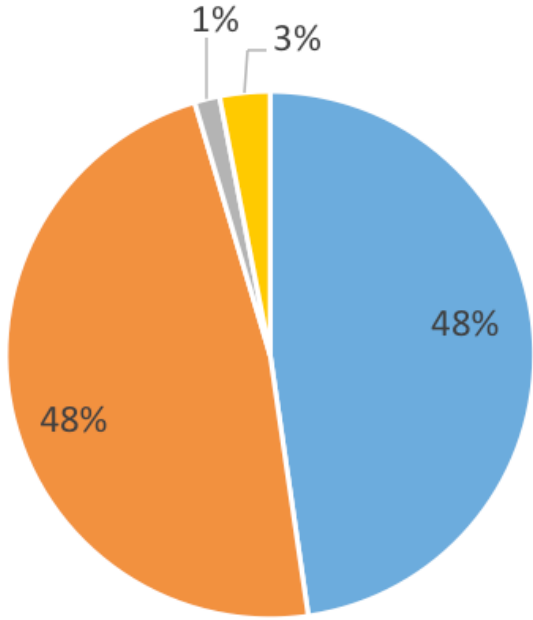
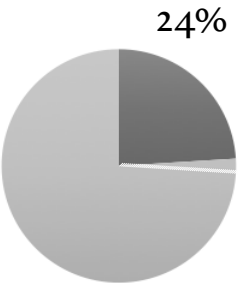




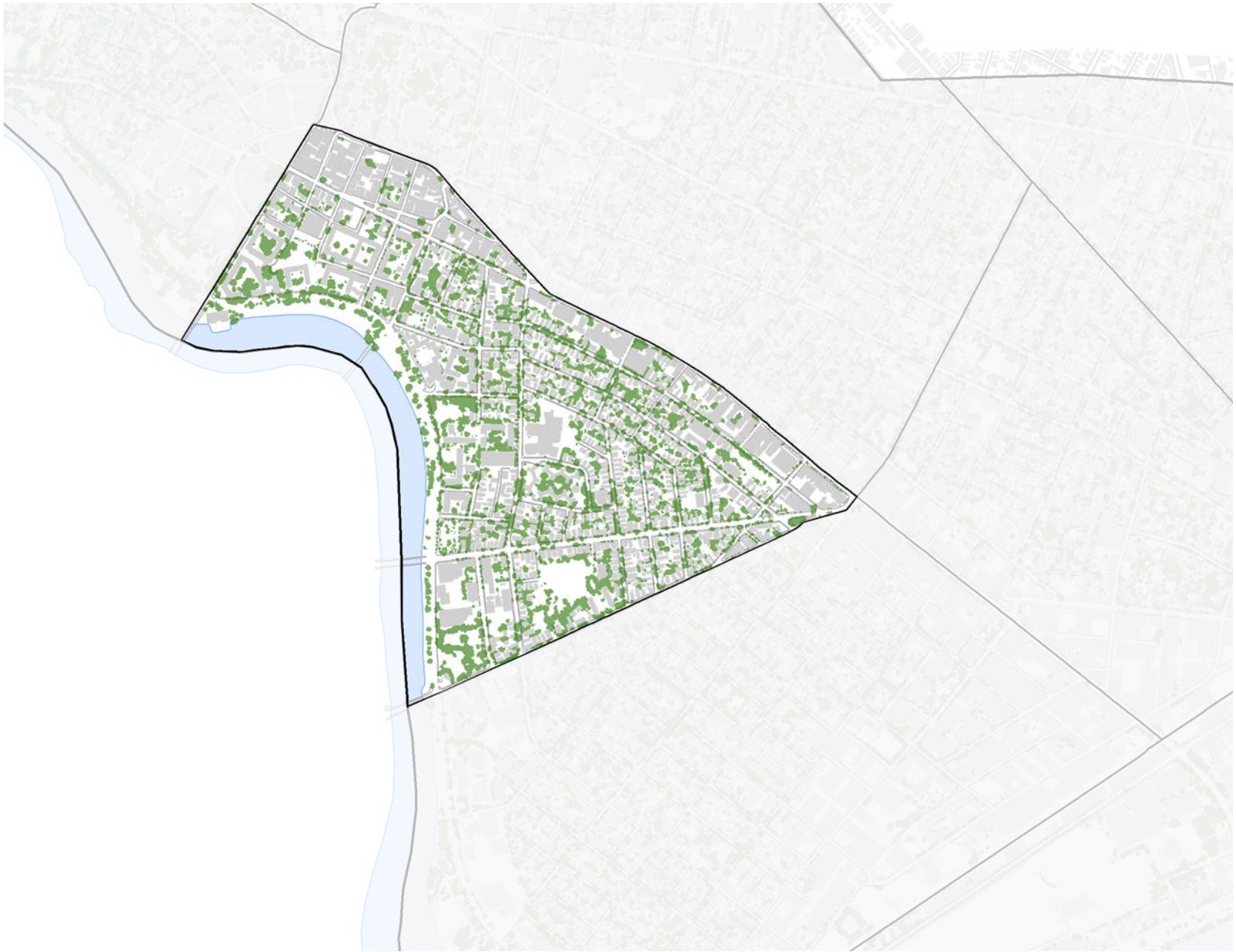
# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## Riverside — 24% Coverage

*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know

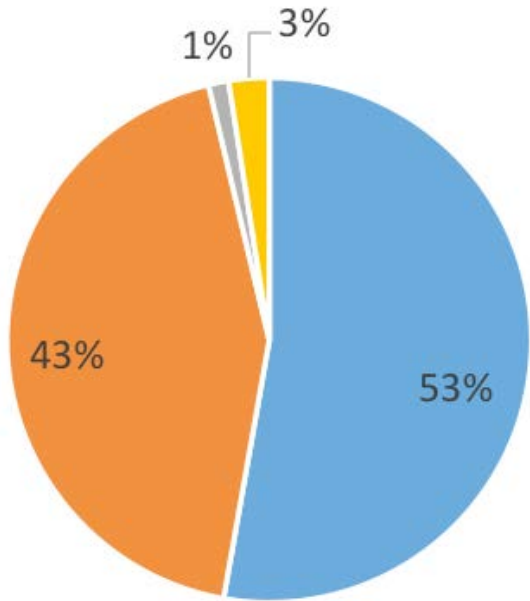
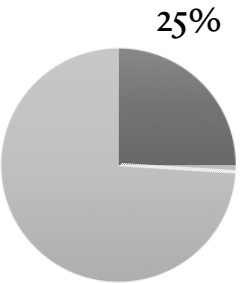




# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## Mid-Cambridge — 25% Coverage

*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know

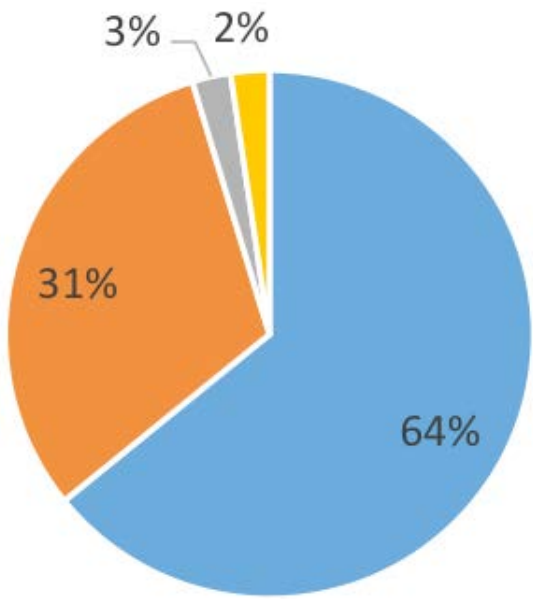
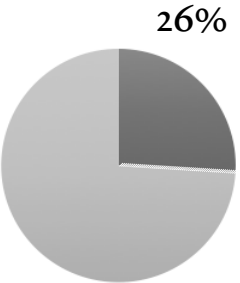




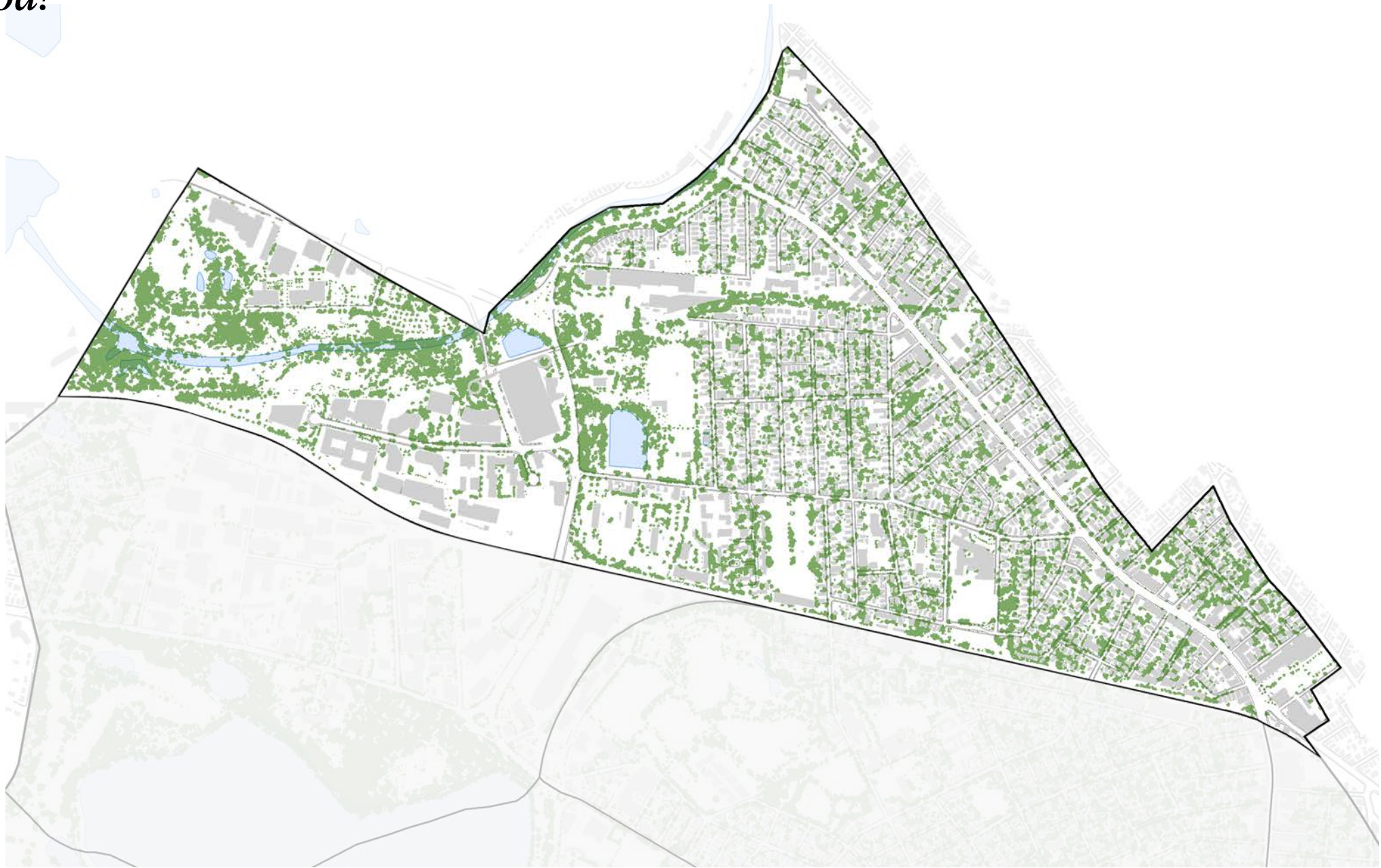
# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## North Cambridge — 26% Coverage

*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know

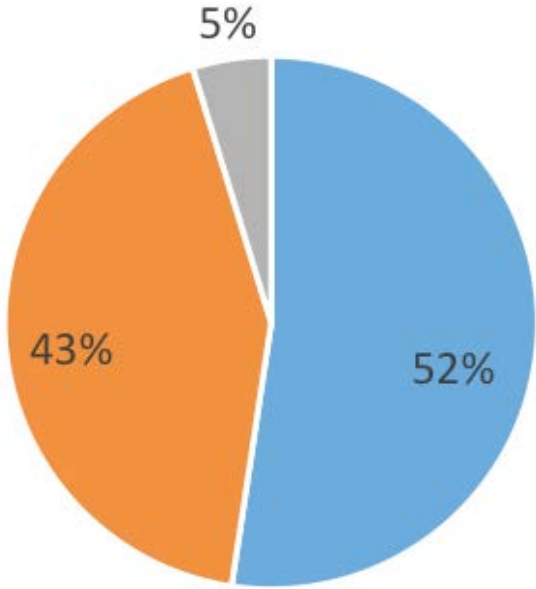
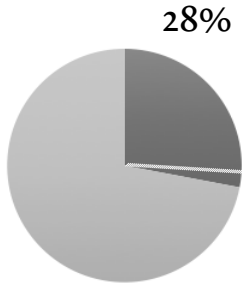




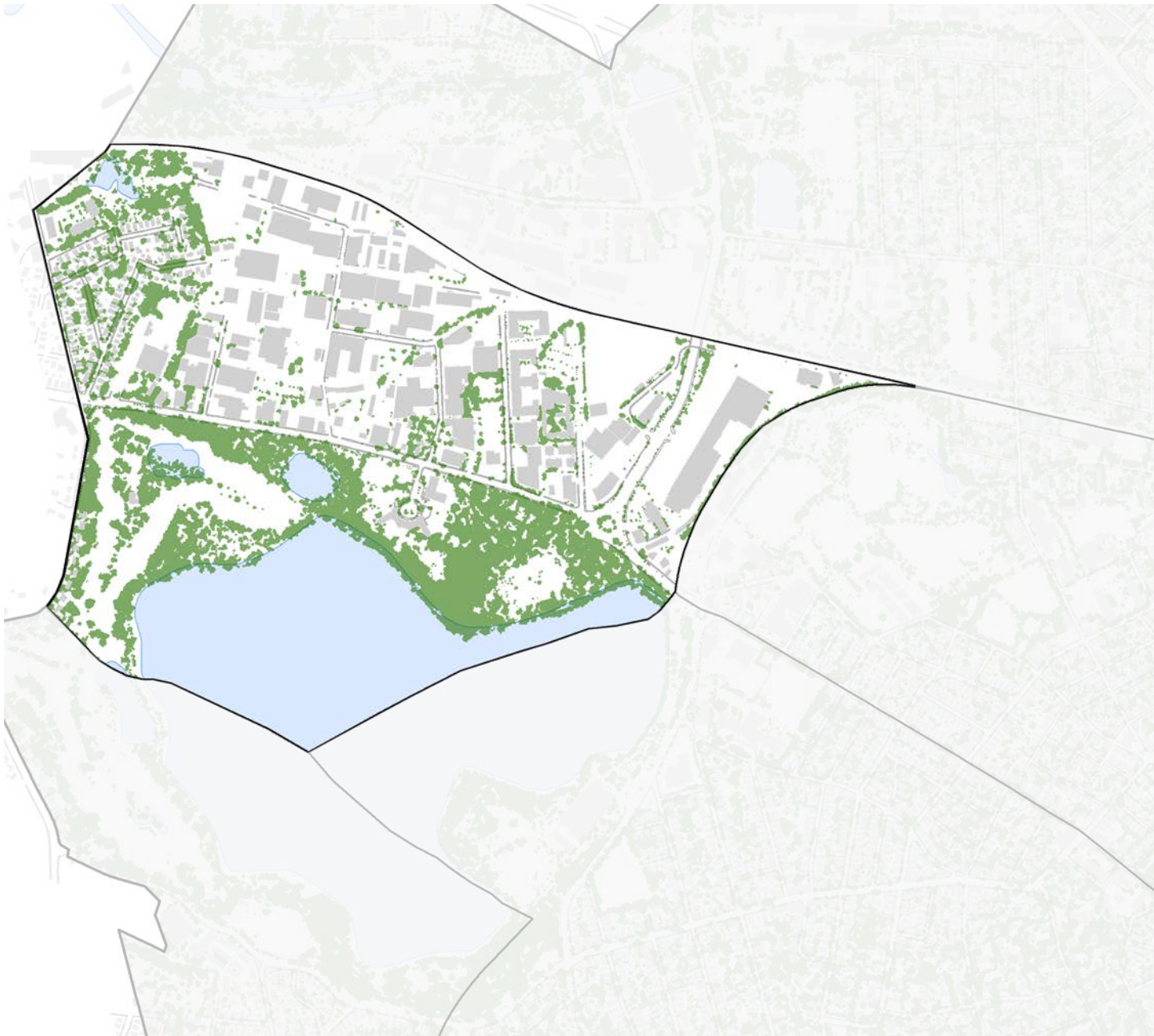
# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## Cambridge Highlands — 28% Coverage

*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know

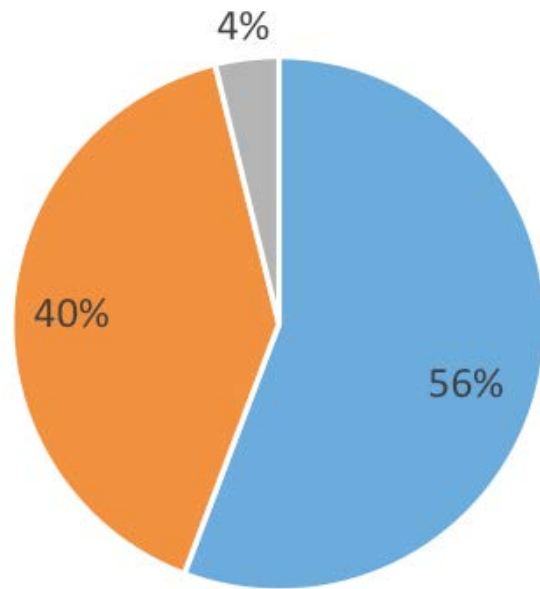




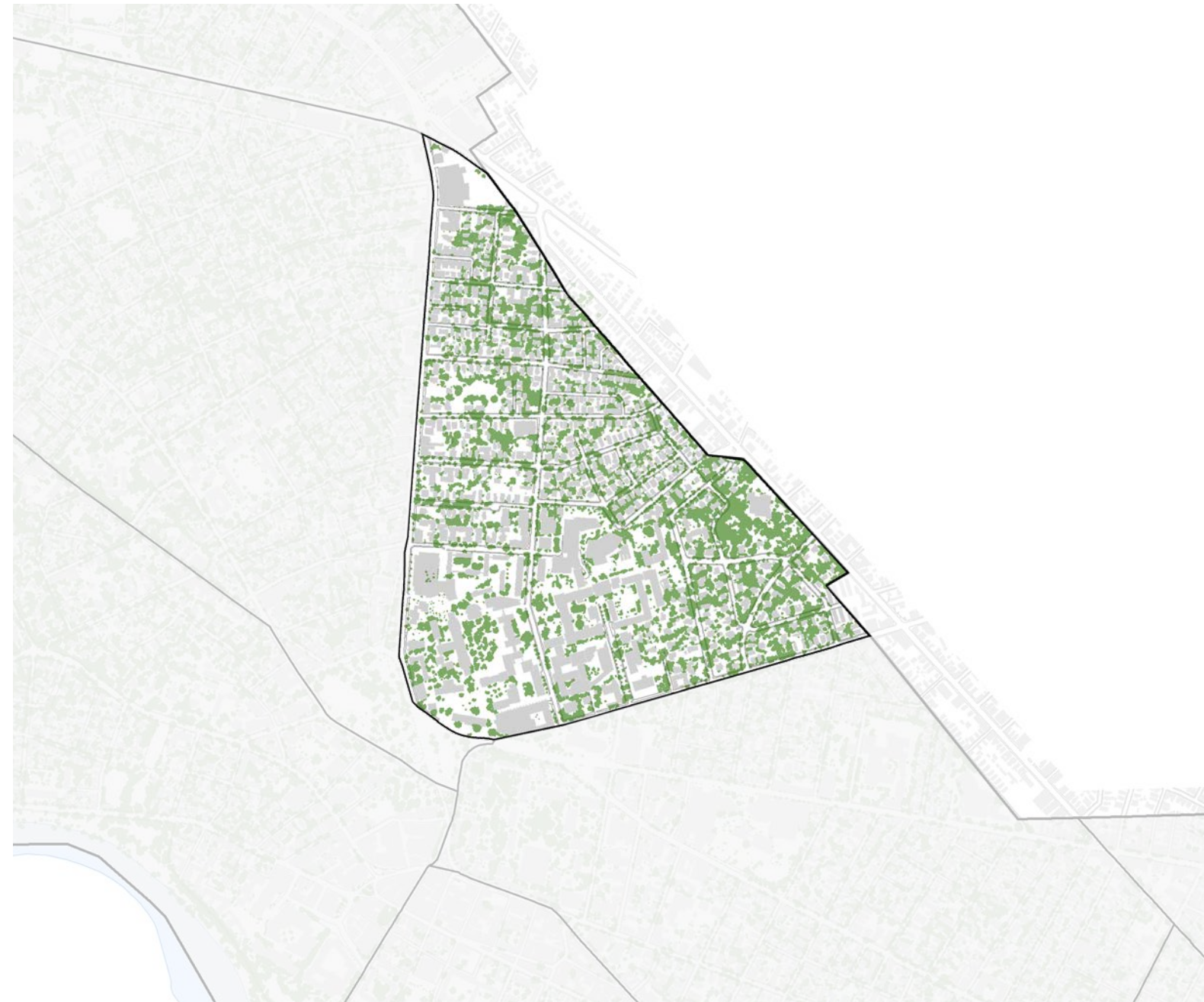
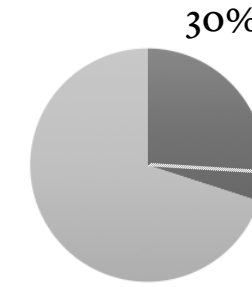
# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## Agassiz — 30% Coverage

*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know

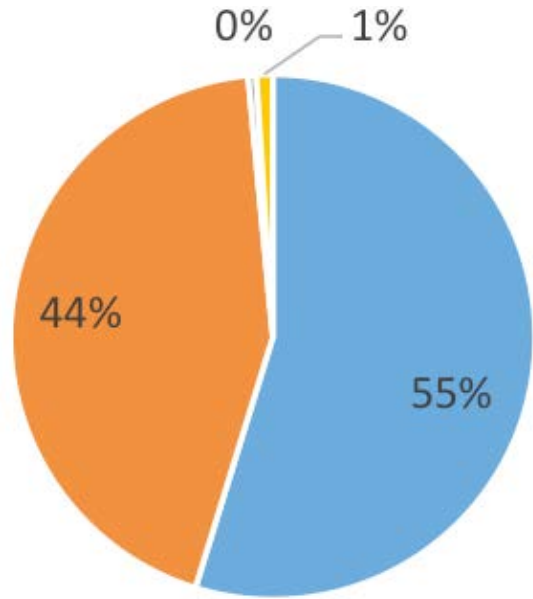




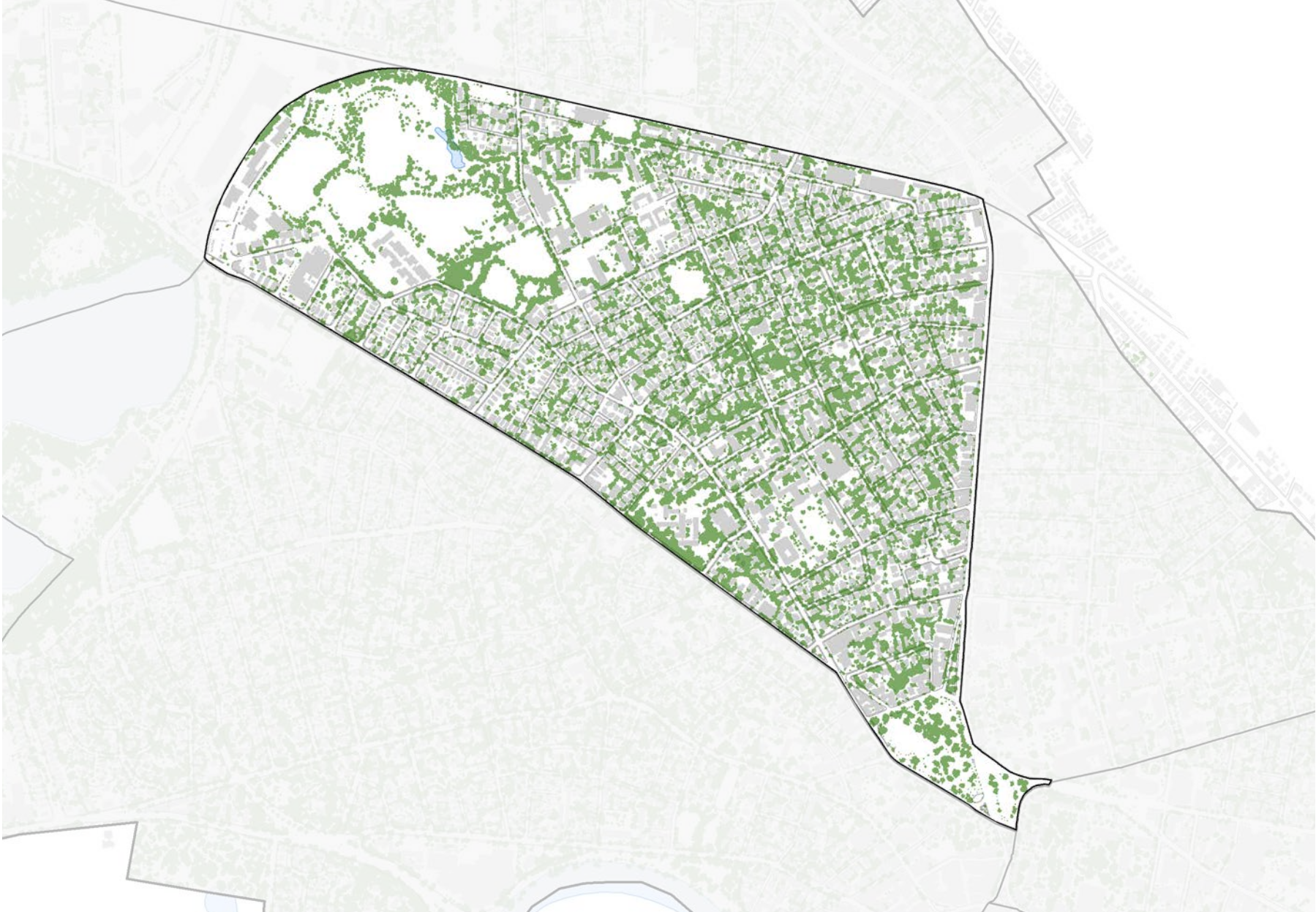
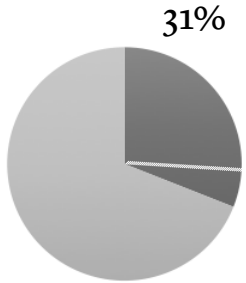
# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## Neighborhood Nine — 31% Coverage

*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know

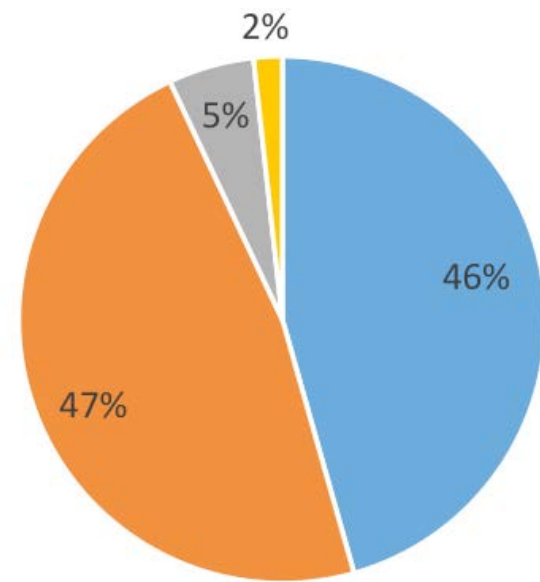
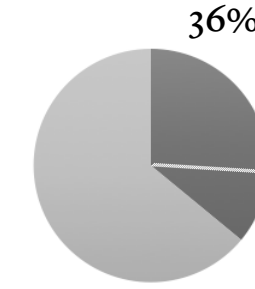




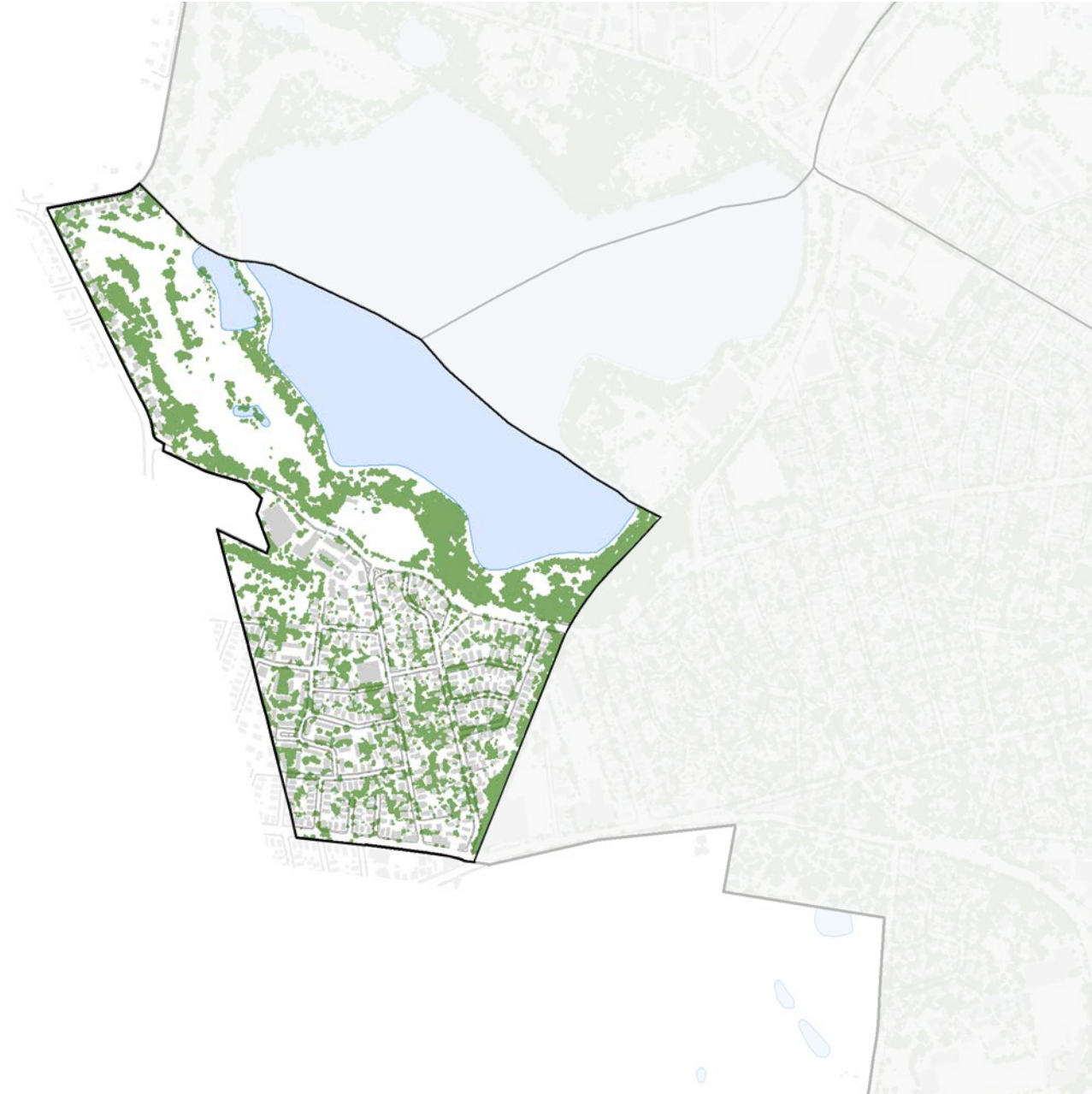
# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## Strawberry Hill — 36% Coverage

*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know

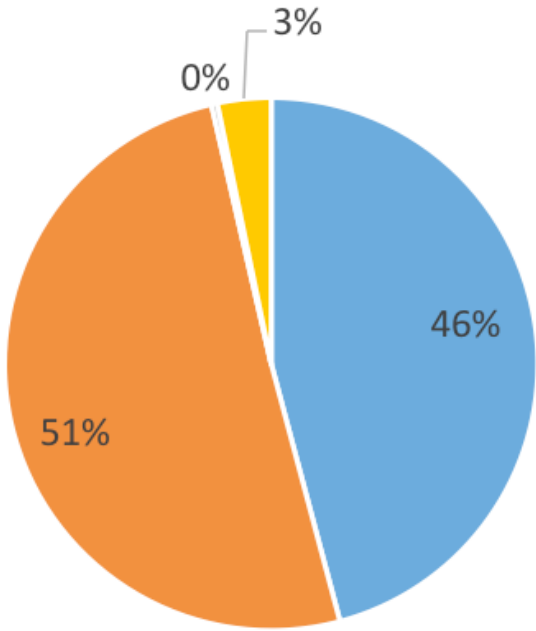
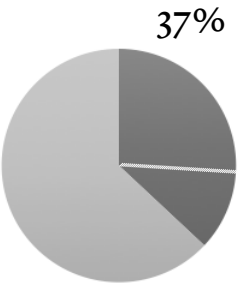




# SURVEY RESULTS | CANOPY COVER

## West Cambridge — 37% Coverage

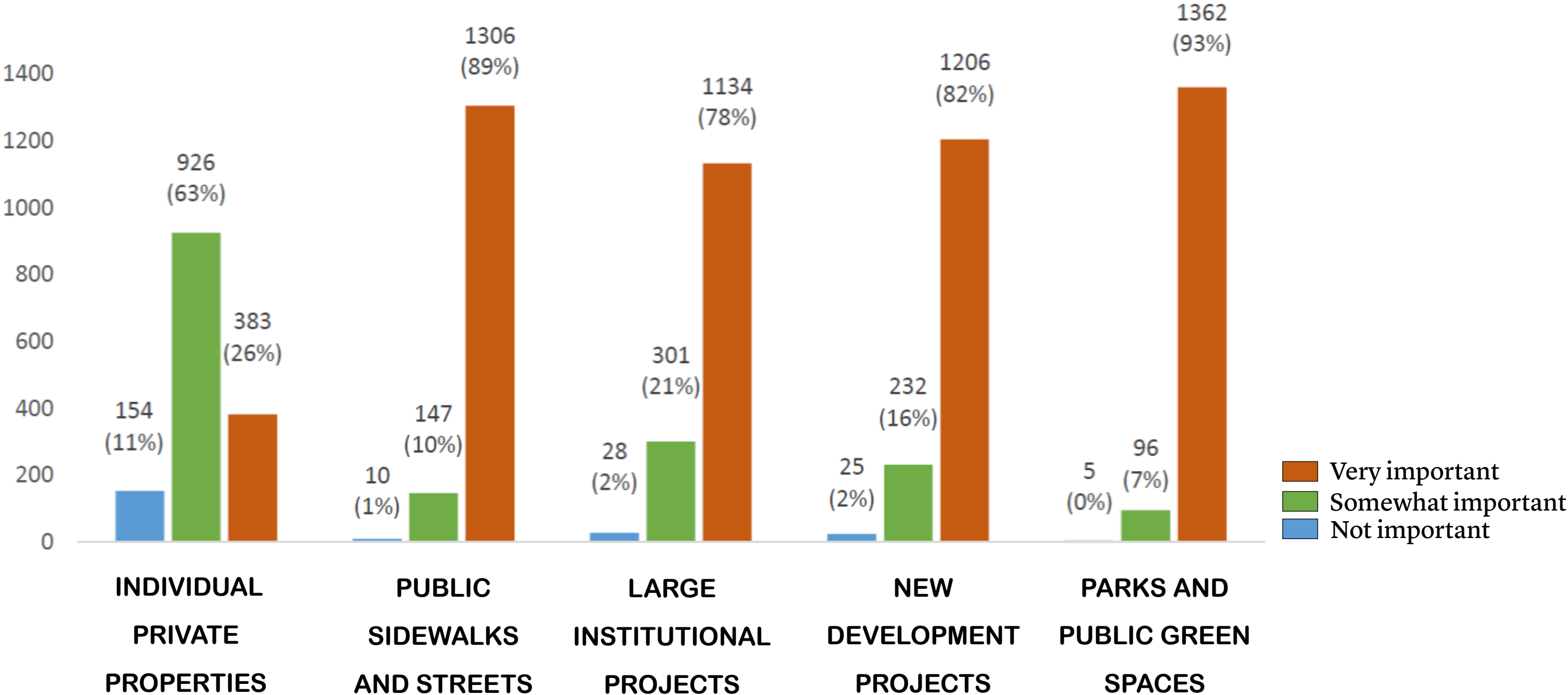
*“In your opinion, which best describes the amount of trees in your neighborhood?”*



- Too few trees
- Enough trees
- Too many trees
- I don't know



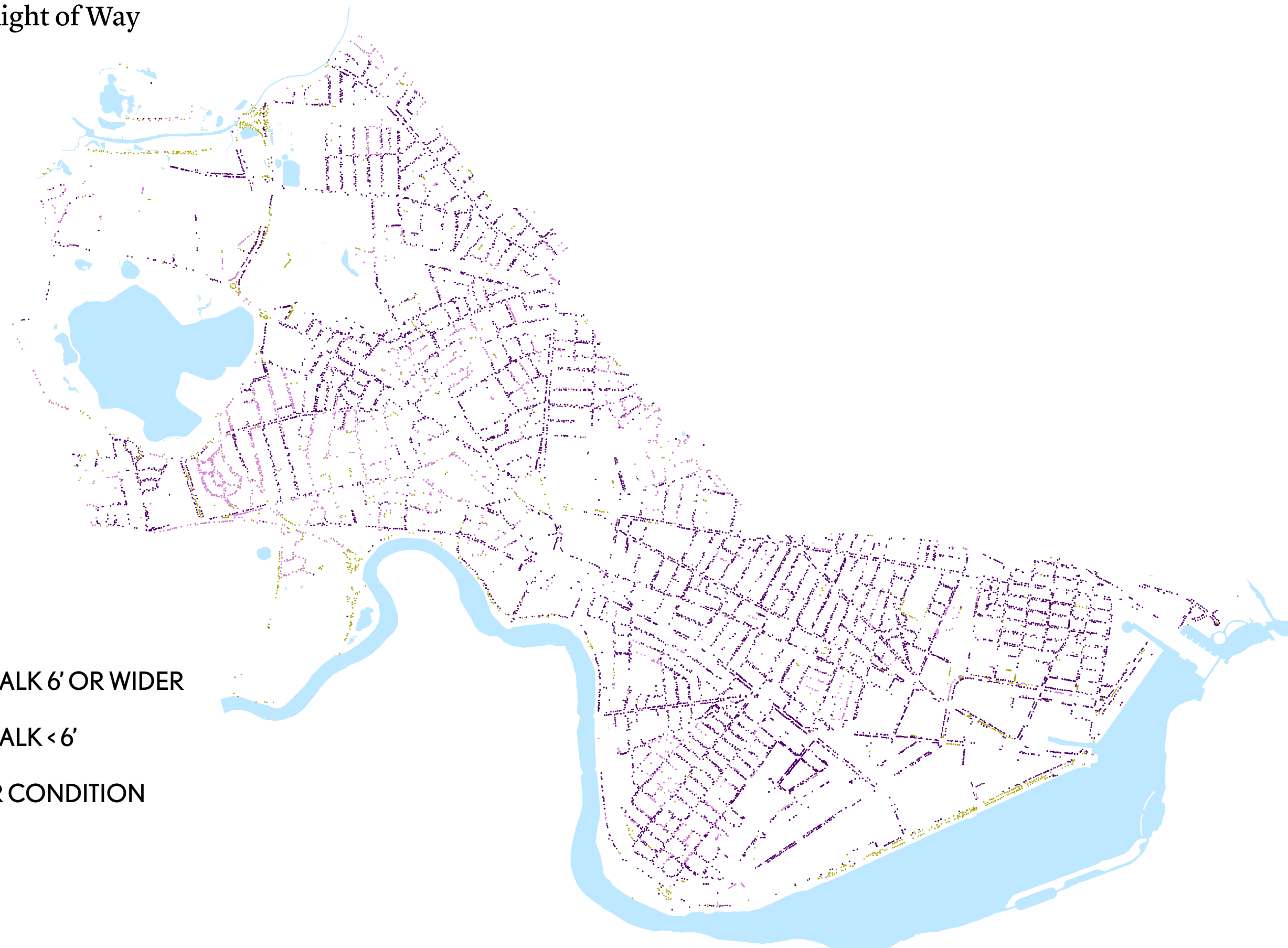
**A majority (55%) stated that public sidewalks and streets were the single most important location to plant new trees when asked a follow up question about the single most important location to plant new trees.**





# ANALYSIS | PUBLIC REALM CANOPY COVER

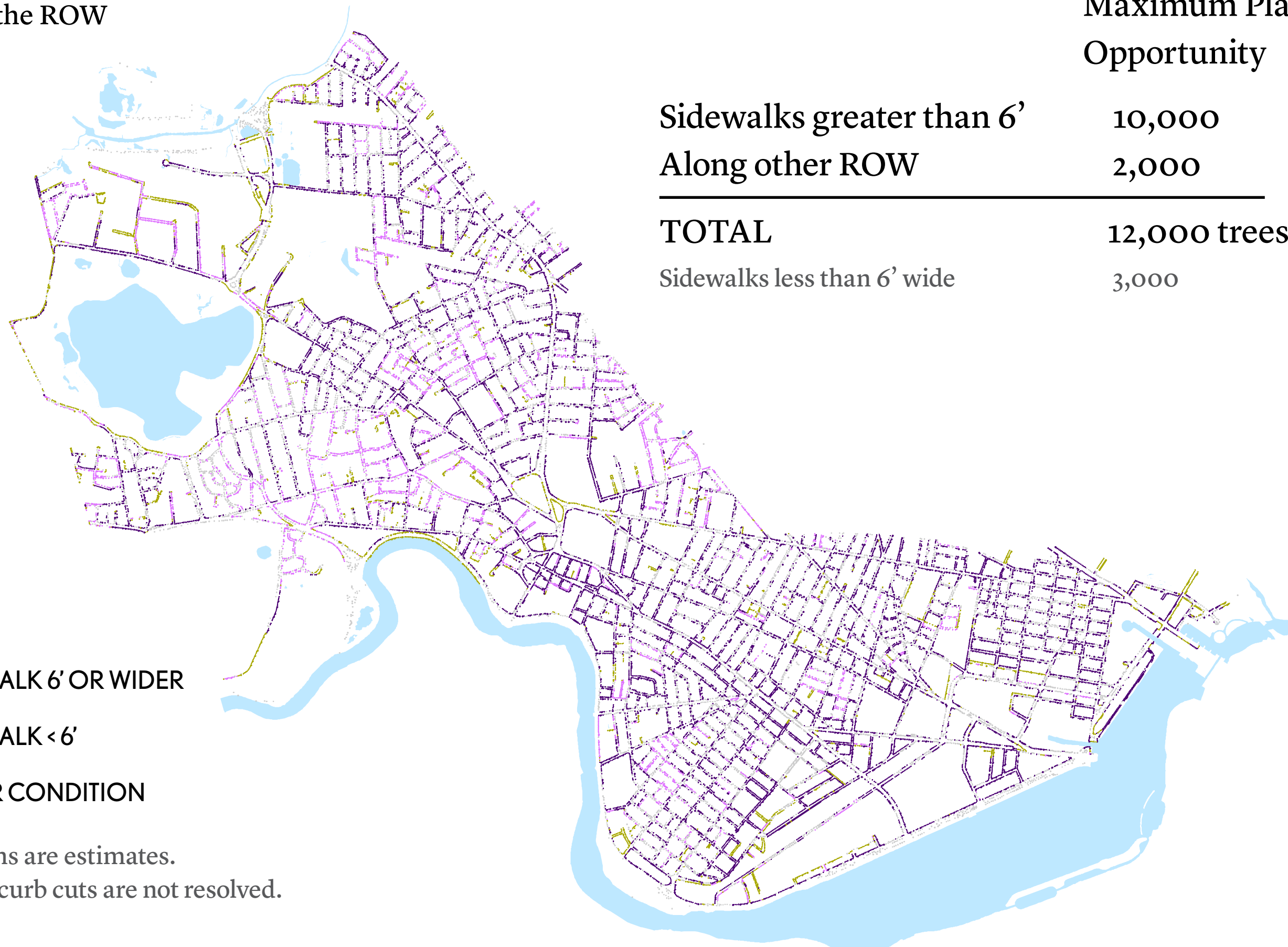
## Current trees in the Right of Way



- STREET TREE ON SIDEWALK 6' OR WIDER
- STREET TREE ON SIDEWALK < 6'
- ROW TREE IN ANOTHER CONDITION

# ANALYSIS | PUBLIC REALM CANOPY COVER

## Potential Planting in the ROW



Maximum Planting Opportunity

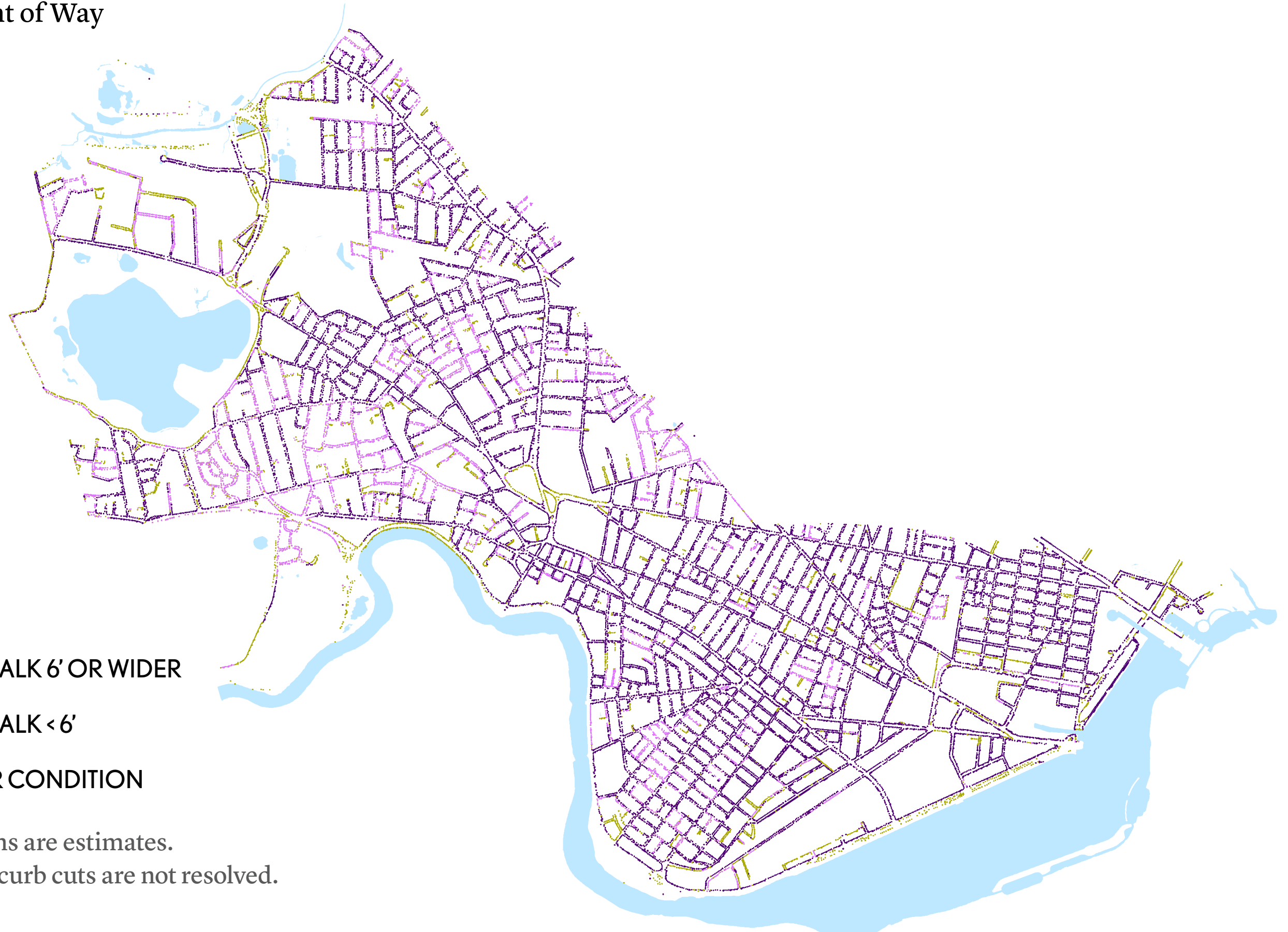
Sidewalks greater than 6'	10,000
Along other ROW	2,000
<hr/>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,000 trees</b>
Sidewalks less than 6' wide	3,000

- STREET TREE ON SIDEWALK 6' OR WIDER
- STREET TREE ON SIDEWALK < 6'
- ROW TREE IN ANOTHER CONDITION

Note: Potential tree locations are estimates.  
Conflicts with utilities and curb cuts are not resolved.

# ANALYSIS | PUBLIC REALM CANOPY COVER

## Full Build Out of Right of Way



- STREET TREE ON SIDEWALK 6' OR WIDER
- STREET TREE ON SIDEWALK < 6'
- ROW TREE IN ANOTHER CONDITION

Note: Potential tree locations are estimates.  
Conflicts with utilities and curb cuts are not resolved.



## ANALYSIS | PUBLIC REALM CANOPY COVER

Maximizing planting in ROW could increase canopy cover by 3.7% citywide

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2050</b>
No. of Trees	Approx. 13,000	Plant 1,200 trees at 2" cal. per year for 10 years	Approx. 25,000
Canopy area (acres)	229	+10	+37
% Canopy citywide	26.0%	26.3%	26.9%
% Canopy cover in ROW (812 total acres)	28.2%	29.2%	31.7%

### Assumptions:

9.5" dia canopy growth per year up to year 20 and 4.25" dia growth after that.

3% mortality rate for new plantings

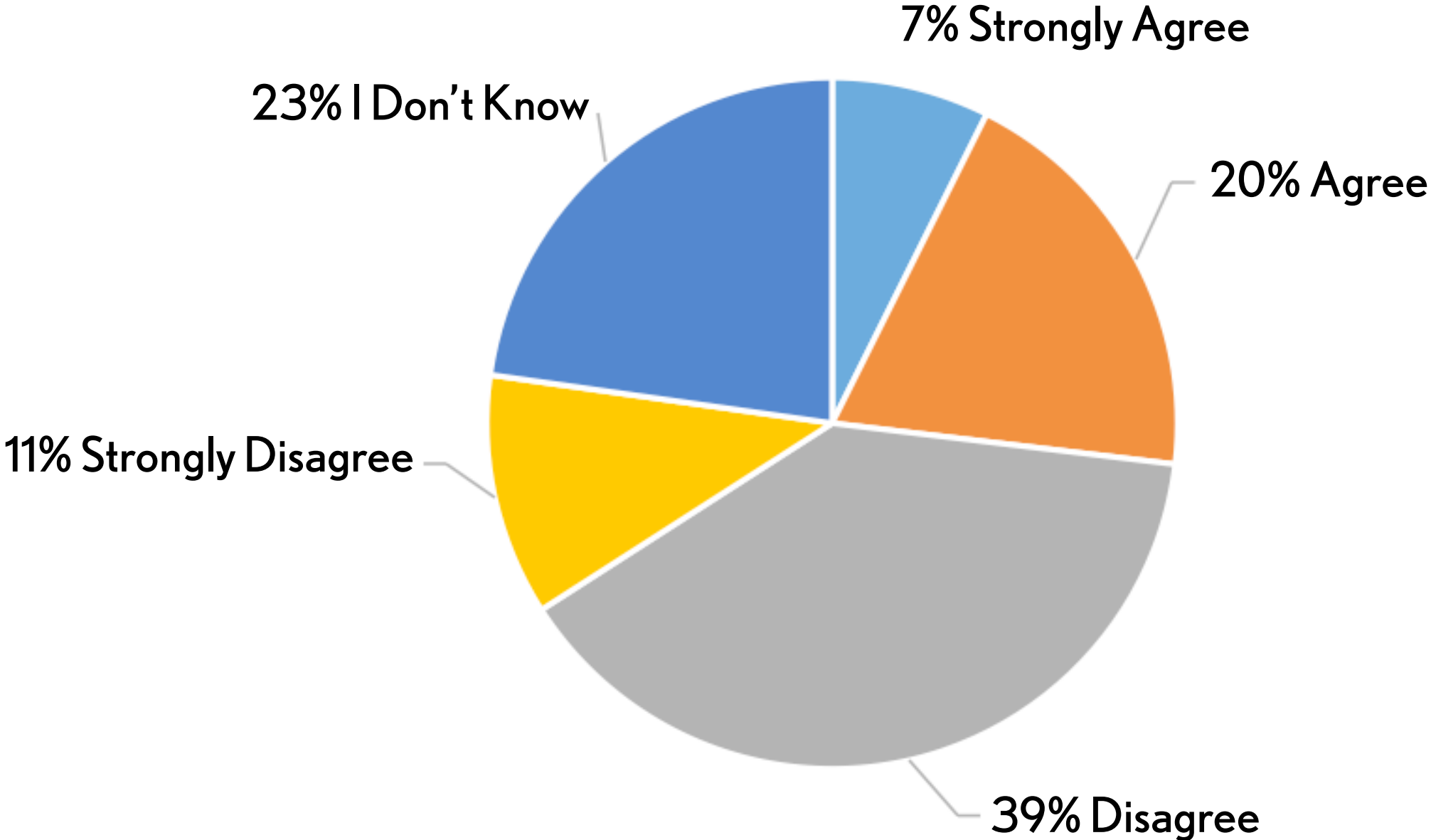
**93% agree** that the city should have laws to protect large, healthy trees **on public property.** (70% strongly agree, 23% agree)

and

**58% agree** that the city should have laws to protect large, healthy trees **on private property.** (27% strongly agree, 31% agree)



**50% disagree** (11% strongly disagree, 39% disagree) with the statement:  
“private property owners should make decisions about trees on their property without input from the city.”



**86% agree** that the city should **regulate removal** of trees during construction.

and

**88% agree** that the city should **require planting of new trees** on site if existing trees cannot be preserved.



**81% agree** that the city should use more resources to maintain and protect existing trees. (46% strongly agree, 35% agree)

but

**43% said “I don’t know”** when asked whether the city should prioritize resources for other services over tree planting and maintenance.

**67% agree** that the city should **incentivize, not require**, tree planting and maintenance on private property.

and

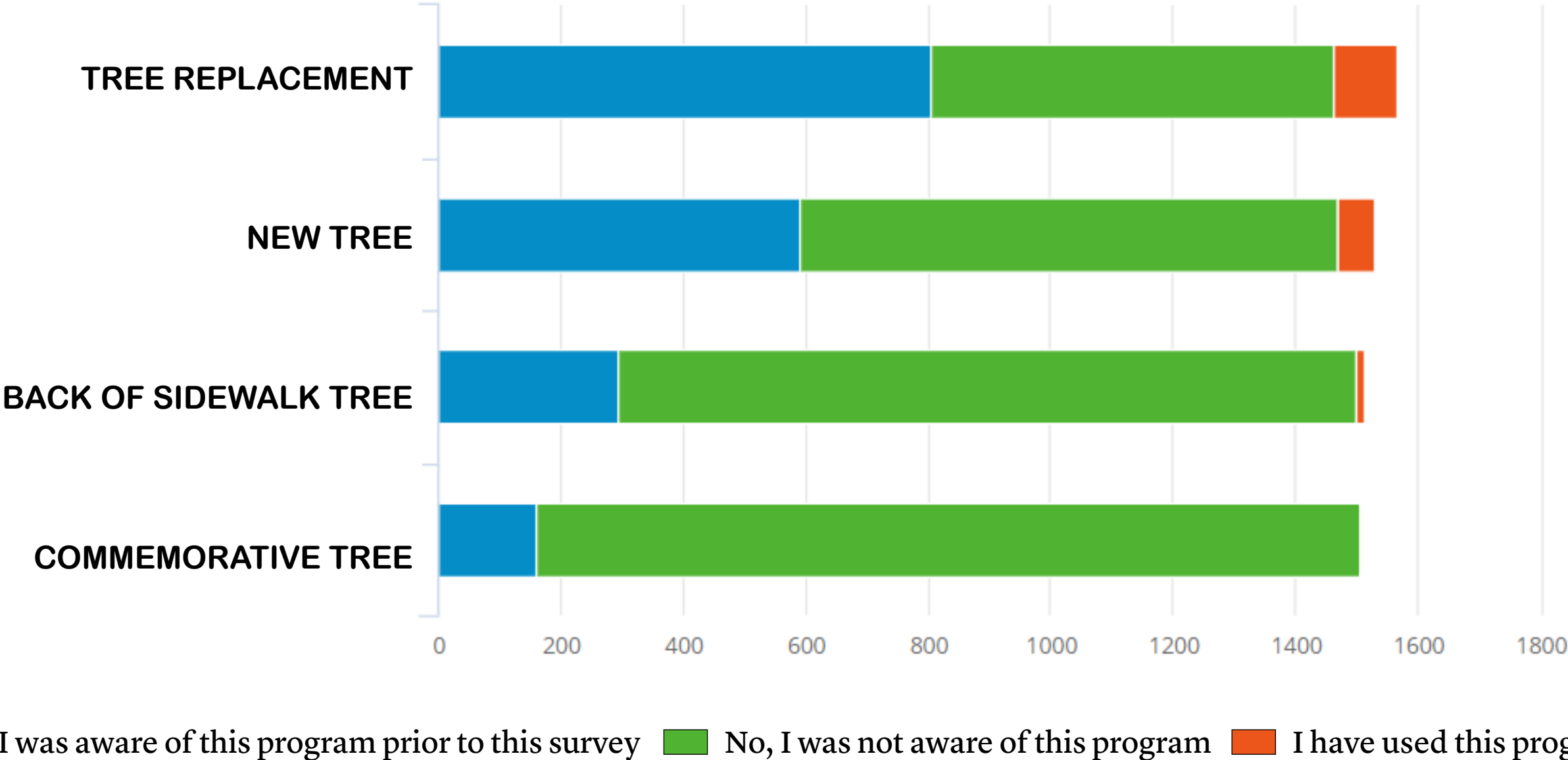
**77% agree** that the city should **provide resources to residents** to plant trees on private property.



Respondents are broadly  
**unaware of city tree-related programs,**  
and in cases where they were aware,  
use of the programs is very limited.

SURVEY RESULTS | **PLANTING PROGRAMS**

*“Please tell us whether you are aware of each program and whether you have participated in them.”*






The New York Times

## Free Trees? Many Detroit Residents Say No Thanks

It's not that residents don't like trees, a recent study found. They just don't quite trust the city to take care of them.



Members of The Greening of Detroit, a nonprofit group, planting a tree in the city's Osborn neighborhood in 2016. Carlos Osorio/Associated Press

By Steph Yin

Jan. 7, 2019

Deborah Westbrook, a lifelong resident of Detroit, would love a tree in front of her home.

"With a green tree in front of my house," she said, "and me looking at the green leaves, knowing that the tree and sun were mixing together to give off the oxygen we breathe? I would be proud. A tree in front of my house would not only help with the air, but it would help with me."

Nonetheless, when representatives from a local nonprofit came to plant trees on her block five years ago, Ms. Westbrook said no. So did more than 1,800 Detroiters — a quarter of all eligible residents — between 2011 and

CITYLAB

DESIGN / TRANSPORTATION / ENVIRONMENT / EQUITY / LIFE



John Kost, left, and Barry Johnson, citizen foresters for the nonprofit group The Greening of Detroit, plant a tree in the Osborn neighborhood in Detroit in 2016. // Carlos Osorio/AP

## Why Detroit Residents Pushed Back Against Tree-Planting

BRENTIN MOCK JAN 11, 2019

**Detroiters were refusing city-sponsored "free trees." A researcher found out the problem: She was the first person to ask them if they wanted them.**

SHARE TWEET

A landmark report conducted by University of Michigan environmental sociologist Dorceta Taylor in 2014 warned of the "arrogance" of white environmentalists when they introduce green initiatives to black and brown communities. One black environmental professional Taylor interviewed for the report, Elliot Payne, described experiences where green groups "presumed to

Distrust of city and nonprofit planting group led to failure of planting program in Detroit.

PUBLIC SURVEY

POLICY

PRACTICES

# POLICY STRATEGIES

		STRATEGIES														
		Policy			Planning/Design					Practices				Outreach/Other		
ACTION	in response to ...	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>Curb loss</b>	Mature canopy decline	•													•	
	Land conversion	•		•	•							•			•	
	Residential removals	•		•										•	•	
	Poor tree condition	•	•	•		•				•	•	•		•	•	
	Narrow sidewalks			•		•										•
	Inadequate soil volume			•		•					•		•			
	Understanding the value of trees														•	•
	Equity in distribution of canopy cover	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	



# POLICY STRATEGIES

POLICY STRATEGY 1

## Change the definition of “Significant Trees”

**SUMMARY**

For projects requiring a special permit from the Planning Board or development projects subject to large project review (25,000 sq. ft. or more), the city’s tree protection ordinance provides certain protections. These protections only apply to “Significant Trees,” which are defined as trees greater than 8” diameter at breast height (DBH).

**ANALYSIS**

It is unclear how the city determined the DBH threshold for significant trees but other cities and towns locally and across the country offer protections for trees with a lower DBH. In particular, protections for trees with 6” DBH or greater is common. Bartlett’s inventory of Cambridge’s tree canopy found that of 4,118 trees inventoried, 41 percent measured greater than 8 inch DBH versus 60 percent which measured 6” DBH or greater. If the city were to redefine Significant Trees as 6” DBH or greater, this would increase the number of trees captured under the ordinance for the purposes of new or redevelopment by about 49 percent.

**PROS**

Increases the number of trees protected by the provisions of the ordinance

Primary burden placed on developers rather than individual residents or the city

**CONS**

Would apply to more proposed development projects and thus require additional city resources to review and approve associated tree studies, mitigation, and protection plans

May require more city resources for enforcement because of the increased number of sites

**PRECEDENTS**

National  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Seattle, Washington  
Oakland, Florida  
Miami, Florida  
Anna, Texas

Local

Concord, Massachusetts  
Lexington, Massachusetts  
Brookline, Massachusetts

EXAMPLE POLICY SHEET

POLICY STRATEGY 5

## Change mitigation requirements under tree protection ordinance

**DESCRIPTION**

Under the current Tree Protection Ordinance, a developer proposing to remove a Significant Tree must either replace the tree on site or pay into the Tree Replacement Fund. The current formula for payments into the Tree Replacement Fund is based on the average cost of a 2-inch caliper tree multiplied by a factor of 4 for installation, maintenance, and potential replacement over a five-year period (about \$1,000/tree) plus additional maintenance costs associated with watering and pruning (about \$300/tree).

**BENEFIT**

As an example, a developer would have to mitigate with \$284,000 instead of the current \$71,000 for 110 total diameter at breast height (DBH) removals. This increase would allow the city to plant an additional 500 trees.

**COST**

\$X

**IMPACT AREAS**



**ECOLOGICAL BENEFIT**

- Air
- Stormwater Runoff
- Carbon Sequestration
- Carbon Offset
- Energy

**CANOPY OVER TIME**

**HEAT ISLAND REDUCTION**

- decrease in temperature
- potential linear ft of connectivity

**SOCIAL EQUITY**

- Canopy increase in socially vulnerable neighborhood
- Potential linear ft of connectivity

**HEAT ISLAND REDUCTION**

- decrease in temperature
- potential linear ft of connectivity

**SOCIAL EQUITY**

- Canopy increase in socially vulnerable neighborhood
- Potential linear ft of connectivity

**STEM LOSS**

**GROW CANOPY**

1. Enhance Tree Protection Ordinance
  - a. Change the definition of Significant Trees
  - b. Create an “Exceptional Tree” category
  - c. Change mitigation requirements
2. Enhance the role of the Committee on Public Planting
3. Expand tree protections to private property
4. Earmark Tree Replacement Fund dollars for community grants
5. Align planting protocols with City’s commitment to equity
6. Increase oversight to ensure compliance
7. Strengthen zoning ordinance requirements
  - a. Establish canopy coverage requirements
  - b. Increase ratios for trees to parking spaces and/or dwelling units
  - c. Increase setback and open space requirements in priority areas
  - d. Establish flexible landscape mandate like Green Factor or Green Area Ratio

1. a. Change the definition of Significant Trees

Today, only trees greater than 8” dbh require mitigation and only when part of new development projects.\*

Many cities regulate trees 6” dbh and greater.

\* applies to certain multifamily, townhouse and other projects requiring a special permit from the Planning Board or development projects of 25,000 square feet or more.



# POLICY STRATEGIES | ENHANCE CURRENT TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE

Special Permits 2009-2018

**207 acres** (148 projects)

**20.1 acres** of canopy in 2009

**12.9 acres** (1484 trees\*) removed

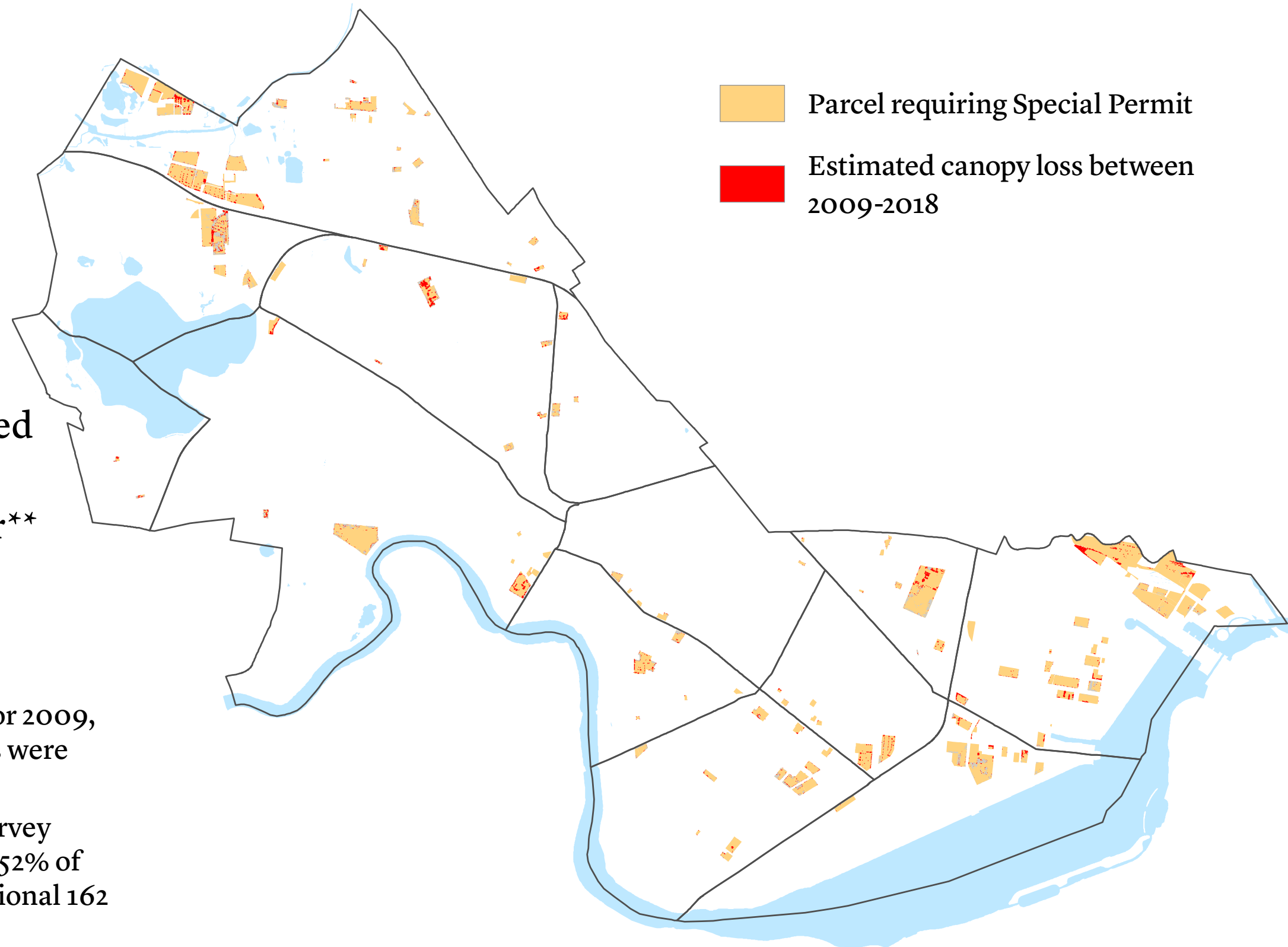
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**162 additional trees** are estimated to be covered by the ordinance if it pertained to 6" dbh or greater\*\*

Assumptions:

\*Use the 2018 ratio of canopy acres to trees for 2009, (115 trees/acre), then we can infer 1,484 trees were loss in the special permits area.

\*\*Based on age class distribution per 2018 survey (41% of the forest is greater than 8" dbh, and 52% of the forest is 6" dbh or greater), then an additional 162 trees would be protected.



162 trees at 7” dbh = 1134” dbh to be mitigated

567 total trees at 2” caliper x \$1,700 = \$963,900 to tree fund\*

\*2009-2018 timeframe

1. b. Create an “Exceptional Tree” category

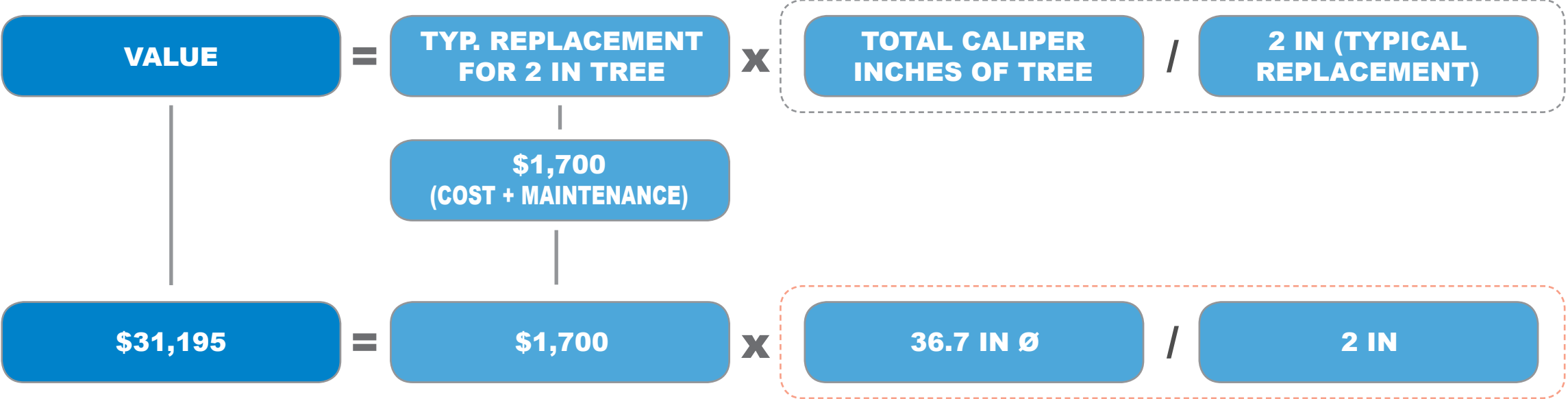
The addition of an “Exceptional Tree” category in the City’s Tree Protection Ordinance would allow for a more stringent set of protections than those currently applied to Significant Trees in order to protect the city’s most valuable trees.



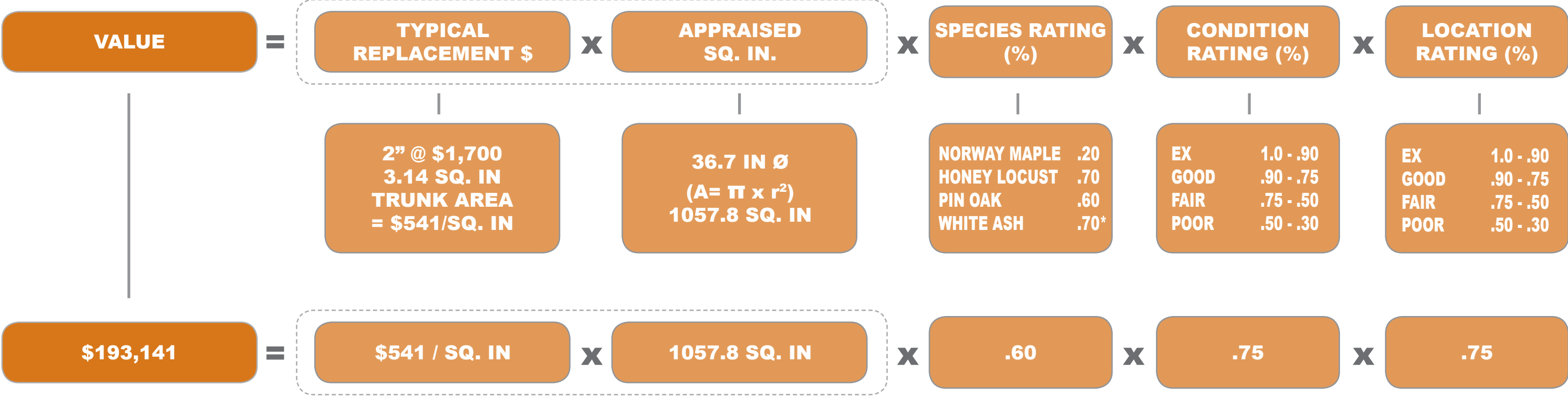
# POLICY STRATEGIES | ENHANCE CURRENT TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE

## 1.c. Increase mitigation costs to reflect lost value

### TYPICAL CALIPER REPLACEMENT VALUE



### WEIGHTED TRUNK AREA REPLACEMENT VALUE



1.c. Increase mitigation costs to reflect lost value

Special permits example:

162 trees at 7” dbh\*

$$\begin{array}{r} 153.95 \text{ sq. in} \\ \times \$541/\text{sq. in} \\ \times 162 \text{ trees} \\ \times 0.7 \text{ (species rating)} \\ \times 0.8 \text{ (condition)} \\ \times 0.75 \text{ (location)} \\ \hline = \$5,666,844 \end{array}$$

\*2009-2018 timeframe, assuming honey locust in good condition/location

2. Enhance role of Committee on Public Planting

Provide the Public Planting Committee with resources to extend the discussion of subjects raised by the UFMP, including

- interpreting recommendations
- updating analysis based on current research
- reviewing pilot projects
- reviewing progress toward targets



3. Expand tree protections to private property

Many cities locally and across the country have expanded the jurisdiction of local governments through tree protection ordinances by **requiring a removal permit for all trees, regardless of whether they are on public or private property.**

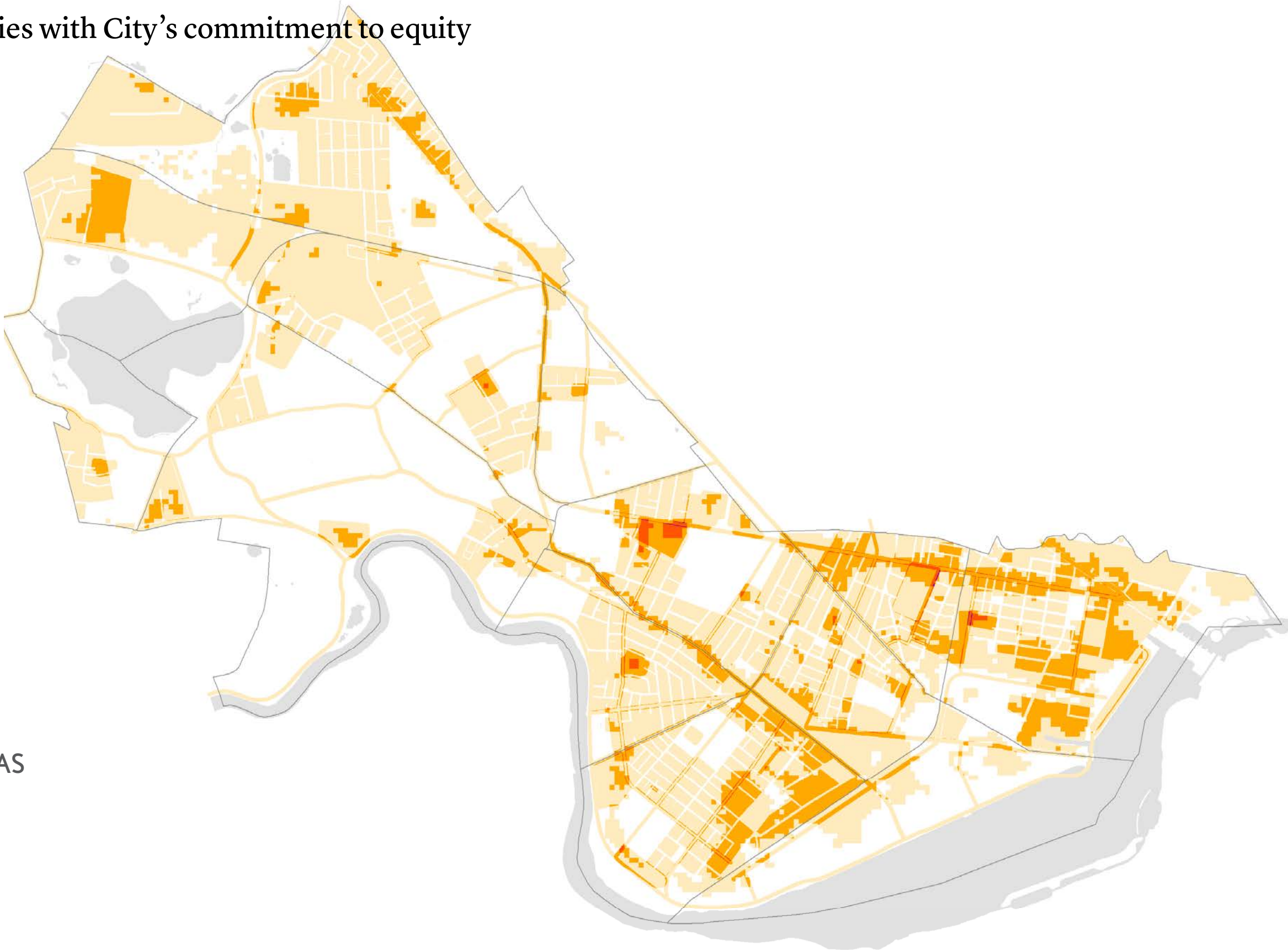
Circumstances under which the city approves a tree removal permit vary in stringency but could range from approving every request to prohibiting removal of any healthy tree. However, the success of this approach has not been well established.

4. Earmark Tree Replacement Fund dollars for community grants

The city could earmark some of the funds in the Tree Replacement Fund for **community-based grant making** that could help fund operations to encourage planting on private property.

# POLICY STRATEGIES | **FORMALIZE CITY PRACTICES**

## 5. Align planting priorities with City's commitment to equity



### PLANTING PRIORITY AREAS

- Highest Priority
- High Priority
- Medium Priority



6. Increase oversight to ensure compliance

Currently, there is limited City oversight to ensure compliance.

The Tree Protection Ordinance does not currently define standards for tree protection during construction.

6. Increase oversight to ensure compliance

Require increased offset from tree dripline to protect tree roots

Require periodic review per an order of conditions to improve tree protection measures (fencing, watering) during construction

Require city arborist/city engineer inspection prior to obtaining Certificate of Occupancy

7. Broaden and align zoning requirements

- a. Establish canopy coverage requirements
- b. Increase ratios for trees to parking spaces and/or dwelling units
- c. Increase setback and open space requirements in priority areas
- d. Establish flexible landscape mandate like Green Factor  
or Green Area Ratio



### Climate Resilience Zoning

#### Climate Resilience Zoning Task Force

The City Manager has appointed a Climate Resilience Zoning Task Force representing a variety of community stakeholders and perspectives to work through resiliency elements raised during the Envision process and through the Douglas Brown, et al., with the input of the appropriate City agencies and departments. This task force is being created to build upon the City's 2017 Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment (CCVA) and ongoing Climate Change Preparedness and Resilience (CCPR) planning efforts and to advise on development standards that can be incorporated into the Zoning Ordinance that would result in new development that is more resilient to climate change risks. Specifically, this group will focus on zoning recommendations that address the climate change impacts identified in the CCVA:

- Anticipated flooding due to sea level rise, storm surge, and precipitation.
- Anticipated rise in temperatures exacerbated by the urban heat island effect.

- The Latest
- Schedule
- Resources
- Members**
- Documents

#### Residents

1. Doug Brown (Co Chair) - West Cambridge
2. Conrad Crawford - East Cambridge/Cambridge Redevelopment Authority
3. Ted Cohen - North Cambridge/Planning Board
4. Mike Nakagawa - North Cambridge

#### Union/Trades Rep

5. Louis Bacci Jr - Laborers Local 151/East Cambridge/Planning Board

#### Institutional/Non-Profit Representatives

6. Brian Goldberg - MIT Office of Sustainability
7. Tom Lucey - Harvard University
8. Margaret Moran - Cambridge Housing Authority
9. Deborah Ruhe - Just-a-Start

#### Business Representatives/Property Owners

10. Jason Alves - East Cambridge Business Assoc.
11. Nancy Donahue - Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
12. Joe Maguire - Alexandria
13. Tom Sullivan - Divco West
14. Mike Owu - MITIMCo

#### Subject Matter Experts

15. Tom Chase - Energy & Resilience Consultant, New Ecology
16. Lauren Miller - Climate Consultant, CDM Smith
17. Jim Newman - Resilience Consultant, Linnaean Solutions

I'd like to learn more about...

Select a Topic

Neighborhood or Square

Select One

Current Projects...

Select One



Click the Map to Explore Cambridge

A 5-STAR Community and National Leader in Sustainability



#### Community Development

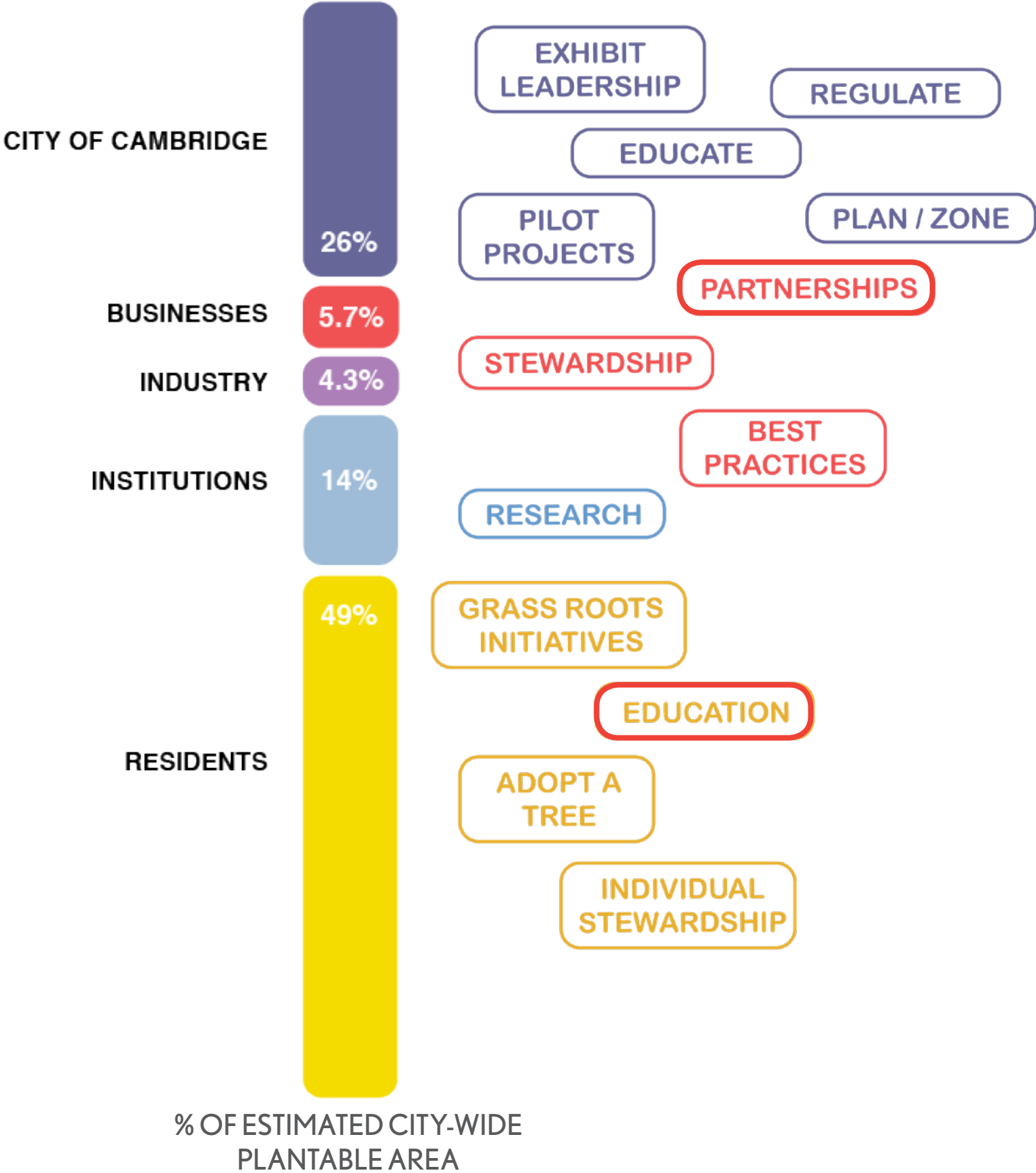
Iram Farooq  
Assistant City Manager for Community

Did we miss any strategies?

Any clarification required?

Where are gaps?

*Among strategies proposed, policy is least effective at growing canopy on private property.*





*Empower existing NGOs to plant and maintain more trees, including on private property.*

### TREE TENDERS (PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY)

- Hands-on tree care training, covering biology, identification, planting and proper care
- Tree Planting Opportunities Map for tree planting events
- Tree Tenders Book Club
- Video Library

#### Planting a Balled & Burlapped Tree



#### Tree Tenders Planting Opportunities

Explore the map to find areas of the city that have the highest need for tree canopy.

**PHS Tree Tenders Planting Opportunities, Philadelphia**

Welcome!

Find areas in Philadelphia that are in high need of increased tree canopy to help plan your tree planting events.

How to use:

- Enter an address into the search bar or find your Tree Tenders group on the map
- Locate Census Tracts in your area that are red (highest need)
- Zoom in to locate streets in your area that are red (highest need)
- Zoom in further to view the location of each street tree (for reference)
- Use the basemap button on the top left (four squares) to view conditions on the ground
- Use the 'Layers' button on the top right to turn layers on and off (like schools and libraries)

**RED CENSUS TRACTS** indicate areas with the highest need for increased tree canopy. Though tree planting is encouraged almost everywhere, use this map to focus on areas that have the highest need. The layer contains Census Tracts that are color coded from the highest to lowest priority based on a combination of indicators including low tree canopy, high population density, high crime, and low household income. Click [here](#) for more information on the public health benefits of trees.



*Support community employment and involvement in tree planting and constructing bioswales.*

### YALE URBAN RESOURCES INITIATIVE

**Community Greenspace** provides material supplies, technical advice, and classroom-based and hands-on training to support resident-driven community greening projects.

**GreenSkills** is a local green jobs program that employs high school students and adults with employment barriers through the planting of trees.

**Green Infrastructure**, a partnership with the City of New Haven to construct bioswales.





*Build capacity of existing NGOs through partnerships with national organizations.*

**ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION – ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY NETWORK**



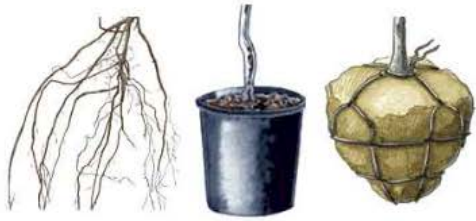



- Nonprofit organizations, urban forest councils, municipalities and individuals can join the alliance.
- Arbor Day offers education & training to its members and provides online tree planting and care resources.



**A Strong Network Focused on Trees**

With more than 90% of Americans living and working in towns and metropolitan areas, the need for informed action on a local level is greater than ever.

The Arbor Day Foundation's Alliance for Community Trees network is composed of community-based organizations dedicated to planting and caring for trees. These passionate nonprofits are the boots on the ground — the purest and best definition of grass roots. Their hands are in the dirt; their impact is undeniable. And as a unified force, they are changing towns and cities across the country.

 <p><b>Tree Health Guide</b></p> <p>Find immediate access to a network of professionals with this online tree care guide.</p>	 <p><b>Pruning Guide</b></p> <p>Make a difference in your tree's health and longevity with proper pruning.</p>	 <p><b>Planting Your Trees</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bare root trees.</li> <li>• Potted trees.</li> <li>• Balled/burlapped trees.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Your 10 Free Trees</b></p> <p>Identify the trees sent to you in the mail by their painted color.</p>	 <p><b>Storm Recovery Kit</b></p> <p>Save damaged trees in your yard and in your community.</p>	 <p><b>Tree Care Video Library</b></p> <p>Learn the best practices in tree care through these tutorials.</p>



*Educate city staff, institutions, and other grounds managers on the value of trees and how to be stewards of them.*

**DAVEY TREE**

- Employee education programs
- Davey Tree Fund supports arboriculture and urban forestry education



ENGAGED EMPLOYEES

### Continuing Education at Davey

[Share](#)

The Davey Institute provides employees opportunities to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to maintain their International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist® accreditation through online courses. The Davey Institute website for education and training allows employees to access a variety of extension lessons on subjects such as tree care and lawn care. All tree-related lessons have been approved for ISA re-certification credits, and many states have approved Davey's courses for state pesticide applicator CEU credits. Providing continuing education opportunities and resources to our employees is just one way we foster personal and professional development and create pathways for growth and career advancement at Davey.



ENGAGED EMPLOYEES

### Davey Establishes Educational Endowment for TREE Fund

[Share](#)

The Davey Tree Expert Company proudly pledged a \$250,000 educational endowment fund through TREE Fund. The Davey Fund supports community-based arboricultural education in the United States. Davey Tree has a history of supporting TREE Fund's dedication to furthering scientific discovery and research in the field of arboriculture and has given more than \$500,000 in donations and in-kind gifts over the last 15 years. TREE Fund is a 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to supporting scientific discovery and dissemination of new knowledge in the fields of arboriculture and urban forestry. Its primary public outreach and fundraising event is the green industry renowned Tour des Trees, an annual weeklong, 500+ mile cycling adventure. Since 1992 Tour riders have cycled through communities in the U.S., Canada and the U.K., planting trees, educating children and shining a light on the work done by arboriculture professionals and the importance of science-based tree care. Davey's pledge of \$250,000...

*Educate the public on the value of trees and how to be stewards of them.*

PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

**Green City Teachers**

a training program that enables educators to start school gardens

**Garden Tenders**

a training program for starting community gardens on vacant lots, in parks, around schools and churches etc.

**City Harvest**

thousands of seedlings are started at neighborhood-based greenhouses by nonprofit partners as well as by inmates of the Philadelphia Prison System at a prison greenhouse through a training program.



# POLICY STRATEGIES | POTENTIAL PARTNERS

Green Cambridge  
Charles River Watershed Association  
Mystic River Watershed Association  
Charles River Conservancy  
The Cambridge Community Gardens  
A Better Cambridge  
Cambridge Residents Alliance  
Agassiz Baldwin Community  
East Cambridge Planning Team  
East End House

Neighborhood Association of East Cambridge  
Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Association  
Cambridgeport Neighborhood Association  
Cambridge Residents Alliance  
Wellington-Harrington Neighborhood Association  
Area Four Neighborhood Coalition  
Essex Street Neighbors  
Margaret Fuller House  
Cambridge Community Center  
Riverside Neighborhood Association

Taylor Square Neighborhood Association  
Fresh Pond Residents Alliance  
North Cambridge Stabilization Committee  
Cambridge Highlands Neighborhood Association  
Harvard Square Neighborhood Association  
Inman Square Neighborhood Association  
Porter Square Neighbors Association  
Central Square Business Association





PUBLIC SURVEY

POLICY

PRACTICES

The City of Cambridge forest management practices are generally aligned with best industry standards.

To stem loss and increase gain enhanced practices fall into four categories:

*improve monitoring and responsiveness*

*remediate causes of decline*

*improve planting and soils details*

*expand routine maintenance*

# ENHANCE PRACTICES | OVERVIEW

## Cambridge Urban Forest Strategy Matrix

ACTION		STRATEGIES																
		Policy			Planning/Design					Practices				Outreach/Other				
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
<b>Curb loss</b>	Mature canopy decline	•																
	Land conversion	•		•	•							•					•	
	Residential removals	•		•											•		•	
	Poor tree condition	•	•	•		•					•	•	•		•		•	
	Narrow sidewalks			•		•												•
	Inadequate soil volume			•		•					•		•					
	Understanding the value of trees														•		•	
<b>Grow canopy</b>	Equity in distribution of canopy cover	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
	Shading and cooling / pedestrian thermal comfort	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	
	Environmental quality / wellbeing and public health	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•
	Ecological connectivity	•		•	•		•	•	•		•	•	•	•				•
	Diversity of forest composition						•	•			•			•				
	Disaster response preparedness					•			•		•			•	•	•	•	•



## ENHANCE PRACTICES | OVERVIEW

### MONITOR

- Enhance tree assessments
- Expand pest monitoring
- Expand Cartegraph tracking to monitor success of practices

### REMEDiate

- Manage soils
  - Liquid biological amendments
  - Decompaction/Aeration
- Treat private trees during severe pest outbreaks (EAB)

### PLANT

- Enhance soil specs
- Ensure proper drainage
- Plant bare root trees
- Revise tree species list
- Prune and water more frequently and longer

### MAINTAIN

- Formalize a City-wide management plan
- Manage soils
  - Mulching
  - Liquid biological amendments
- Expand irrigation program

*Increase frequency of city-wide tree assessments.*

**BENEFITS**

allows identification of stressed trees for remediation practices

**SCOPE**

High: Survey trees on a 3 year cycle

Low: Survey trees on a 5 year cycle

*Expand pest/disease monitoring.*

**BENEFITS**

Allows treatment at start of outbreak

**SCOPE OF APPLICATION**

Monitor specifically for pests/diseases that are systemic city-wide threat

**SCOPE OF WORK**

High: Traps and tree assessments

Low: Traps



*Track all treatments (ie., soil management) in Cartegraph (City inventory software).*

### **BENEFITS**

Ability to assess success of treatments

### **SCOPE OF APPLICATION**

All trees when pruned by contractors

All trees treated with liquid biological amendments and decompaction measures

### **SCOPE OF WORK**

Record treatment in Cartegraph through mobile device at time of treatment

*Treat private trees during city-wide pest/disease outbreaks.*

## BENEFITS

In the case of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) the City is currently treating 883 City trees, approx. 2% of City canopy

LiDAR survey indicates there are 1,536 Ash in the City, approx. 4% of the City canopy

Expanding EAB treatment to private trees could save additional 2% of canopy

## SCOPE

Treat approx. 650 private trees with TreeAzin injections per City spec

650 trees x \$142/tree = \$92,300 / year



*Treat underperforming trees with liquid biological amendments.*

**BENEFITS**

Improve nutrient availability  
Reduce compaction

**SCOPE OF APPLICATION**

High: all publicly owned trees  
Medium: all publicly-owned trees under 20 years of age  
Low: all trees showing signs of fair-poor cond. (per city-wide tree assessment)

**SCOPE OF WORK**

Soil injections of 10 gallon liquid (compost tea) @ 4 points per tree  
Approximately 10 minutes per tree

**FREQUENCY**

High: yearly, half of the trees in spring and half in fall  
Low: 1/3 of trees each year, 3 year cycle of treatment





*Treat compacted soil through mechanical decompaction.*

### BENEFITS

Reduce compaction

Enhance moisture retention

### SCOPE OF APPLICATION

High: All publicly owned non-street trees

Low: Park trees in areas of high use

### SCOPE OF WORK

Airspade zones within dripline of each tree or group of trees

Incorporate high-quality compost with airspade

Approximately 60 minutes per tree

### FREQUENCY

High: each tree every year, half of the trees in spring and half in fall

Medium: each tree every two years, a quarter of the trees in spring and quarter in fall

Low: once, half the trees in the spring, half in the fall

*Incorporate drainage measures in new plantings.*

**BENEFITS**

Prevent roots from potentially sitting in water and dying

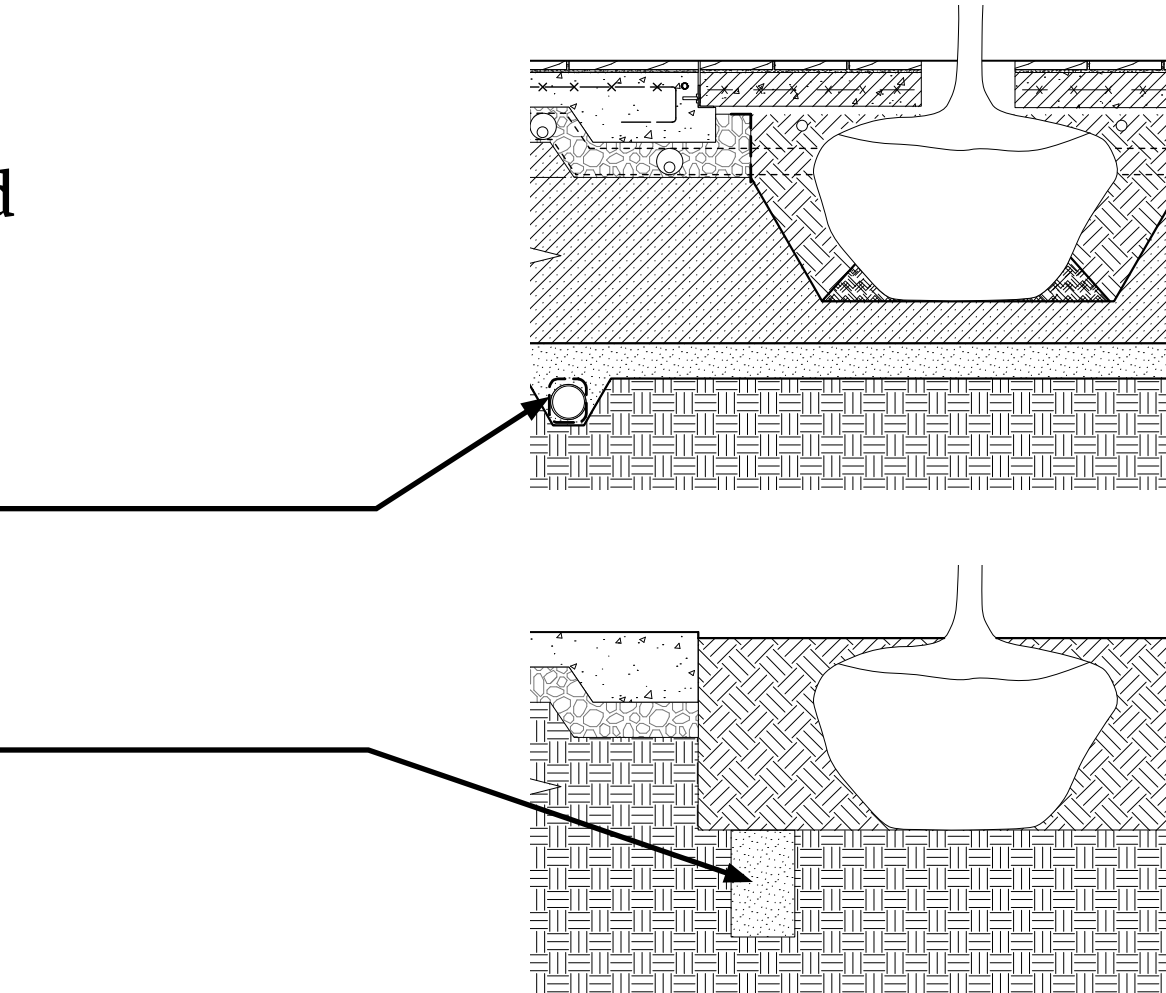
**SCOPE OF APPLICATION**

Test all new plantings, remediate where needed

**SCOPE OF WORK**

High: Underdrains at bottom of pits for new trees associated with large projects

Low: Augur sand wicks at bottom of pit for tree pits with poor drainage



## *Enhance soil specifications.*

### **BENEFITS**

- A) Improve tree health and root capacity
- B) Improve survival rates and growth rates

### **SCOPE OF APPLICATION**

- A) High: All publicly planted trees
- B) Low: All publicly planted street trees

### **SCOPE OF WORK**

- A) Develop multiple soils blends to respond to specific conditions
  - i. Structural soils
  - ii. Suspended pavements
  - iii. Parkland Turf
  - iv. Beds and mixed planting
  - v. Wetland
- B) Incorporate biological guidelines into soil specification
- C) Incorporate biochar within soils
- D) Measure compaction by standard proctor
- E) Require compliance testing by contractor



*Increase frequency of structural pruning for young trees.*

**BENEFITS**

Improve vitality and life span of young trees

**SCOPE OF APPLICATION**

High: All new City plantings + Require structural pruning of new trees planted under Special Permits for 5 yrs

Low: All new City plantings

**SCOPE OF WORK**

Selectively prune branches and stems larger than about half the diameter of the trunk.

**FREQUENCY**

High: Prune young trees on 3 year pruning cycle for 12 years of tree's life  
(Fourfold increase over current frequency)

Low: Prune young trees on 3 year pruning cycle for 6 years of tree's life  
(Twofold increase over current frequency)

## Evaluation Criteria:

- **Climate Resiliency Score**

pest/disease susceptibility + drought + flood\*

- **Relative Urban Stress Tolerance (RUST) Score**

pH, hardiness, sun, insect/diseases, physiological/environmental, moisture, salt, texture, compaction

- **Size**

- **Location**

- **Sun Exposure**

- **Flooding tolerance**

\*flooding is weighted x0.5

# ENHANCE PRACTICES | NEW PLANTINGS

## Revise recommended tree species

NAME			CLIMATE RESILIENCY SCORE					ORIGIN		SIZE				TYPOLOGIES	
Genus	Species	Comm_Name	Flood score	Drought Score	Pest Score	Total score	RUST (Relative Urban Stress Tolerance)	Native	Non-native	Typical Range of Mature Crown Width	Small (Mature height less than 35 ft tall)	Medium (Mature height greater than 35 ft but less than 50 ft tall)	Large (Mature height greater than 50 ft tall)	CANOPY STREET TREES	UNDERWIRE STREET TREES
Abies	concolor	Fir-White	1	2	2	5.5			Yes	15-20'		X			
Acer	negundo	Boxelder	3	3	1	4.5	1.40	Yes		40-50'		X		X	
Acer	ginnala	Maple-Amur	1	2	1	6.5			Yes	15-25'	X				
Acer	nigrum	Maple-Black	1	2	1	6.5		Yes		40-50'			X		
Acer	platanoides	Maple-Crimson King Nc	1	3	1	5.5		Yes		30-45'			X		
Acer	x freemanii	Maple-Freeman	2	2	1	6		Yes		35-40'			X		
Acer	campestre	Maple-Hedge	1	3	1	5.5	4.14	Yes		25-35'	X				X
Acer	palmatum	Maple-Japanese	1	2	1	6.5		Yes		10-25'	X				
Acer	griseum	Maple-Paperbark	1	2	1	6.5		Yes		15-25'	X				
Acer	rubrum	Maple-Red	3	1	1	6.5	1.4	Yes		20-35'			X	X	
Acer	saccharinum	Maple-Silver	3	2	1	5.5	1.73	Yes		40-60'			X	X	
Acer	saccharum	Maple-Sugar	2	1	1	7	-0.72	Yes		30-50'			X		
Acer	tataricum	Maple-Tatarian	1	3	1	5.5		Yes		15-20'	X				
Acer	buergeranum	Maple-Trident	1	2	1	6.5	2.18	Yes		20-30'	X				X
Aesculus	glabra	Buckeye-Ohio	2	1	1	7	1.68	Yes		40-50'			X	X	
Aesculus	hippocastanum	Horsechestnut	2	2	1	6		Yes		40-50'			X		
Aesculus	x carnea	Horsechestnut-Red	2	2	1	6	0	Yes		30-40'		X			
Albizia	julibrissin	Mimosa	1	2	1	6.5		Yes		25-35'		X			
Alnus	glutinosa	Alder-Common	2	2	2	5	1.21	Yes		15-20'			X	X	
Amelanchier	x grandiflora	Serviceberry-Apple	2	2	3	4		Yes		15-25'	X				
Amelanchier	arborea	Serviceberry-Downy	2	1	3	5	0.72	Yes		10-20'	X				
Betula	pendula	Birch-European White	1	1	1	7.5		Yes		15-30'		X			
Betula	populifolia	Birch-Gray	1	1	1	7.5	1.43	Yes		10-20'		X		X	
Betula	papyrifera	Birch-Paper	2	1	1	7	2.95	Yes		25-50'			X	X	
Betula	nigra	Birch-River	2	2	1	6	3.03	Yes		40-60'			X	X	
Carpinus	caroliniana	Hornbeam-American	2	1	1	7	1.82	Yes		15-30'		X		X	
Carpinus	betulus	Hornbeam-European	2	3	3	3	0.12	Yes		35-40'		X			
Carya	tomentosa	Hickory-Mockernut	1	3	2	4.5	1.72	Yes		50-75'			X	X	
Carya	ovata	Hickory-Shagbark	1	2	2	5.5	4.11	Yes		50-75'			X	X	
Castanea	dentata	Chestnut-American	1	2	1	6.5		Yes		50-75'			X		
Cedrus	libani	Cedar of Lebanon	1	3	3	3.5		Yes		40-60'			X		



*Plant bare root trees and manage a gravel bed nursery.*

**BENEFITS**

- Increase survival rates
- Increase species selection
- Lower installation costs
- Expand season for planting

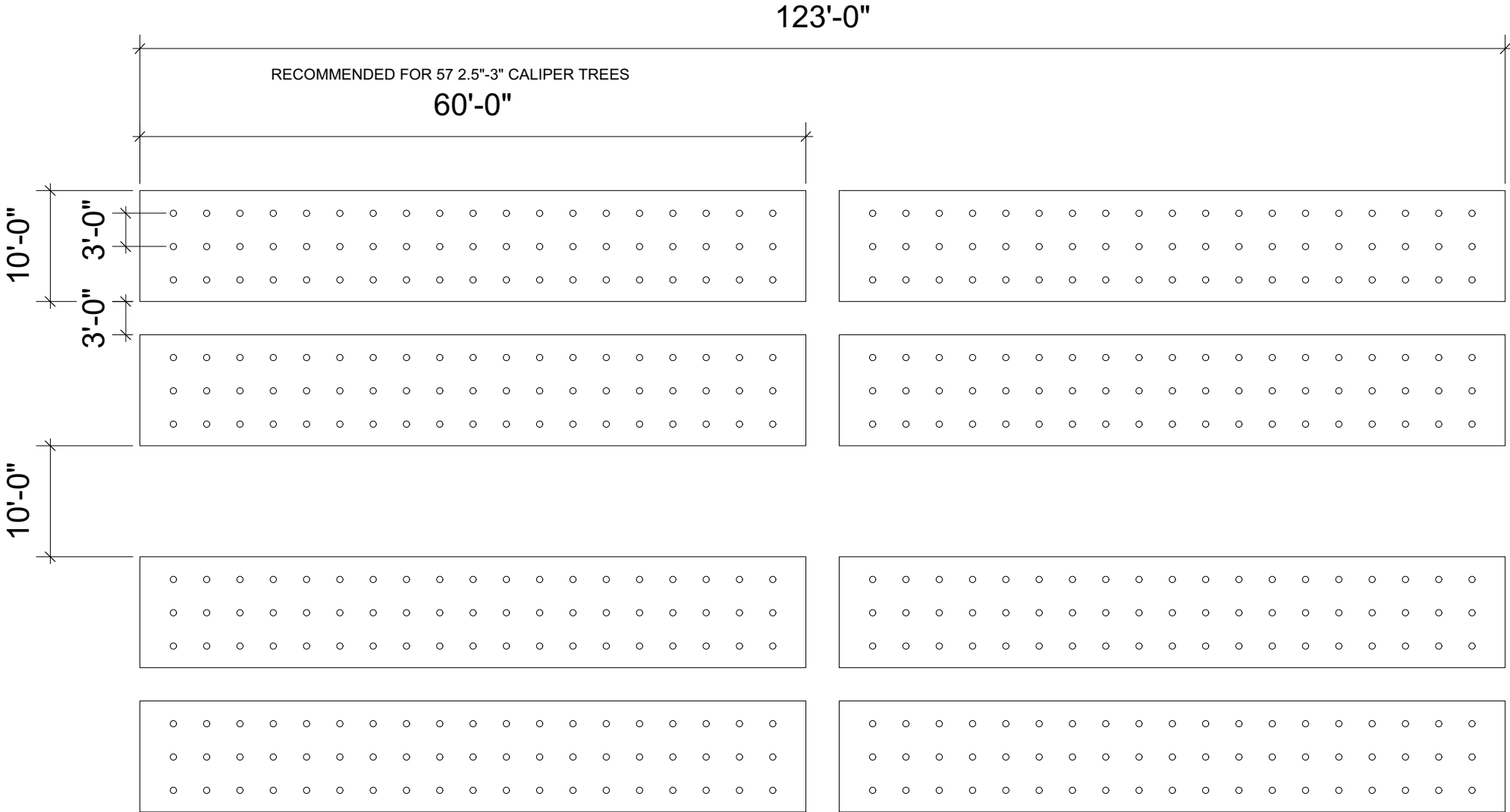
**SCOPE OF WORK**

Manage a gravel bed nursery  
on city-owned land





*Plant bare root trees and manage a gravel bed nursery.*



## ENHANCE PRACTICES | ANNUAL MAINTENANCE

Stem loss and enhance growth

### *Create City-wide Management Plan*

**BENEFITS:** Codify management goals and delineate clear steps to achieve outcomes

### *Expanded mulching*

**BENEFITS:** Improve soils and suppress weeds

### *Liquid biological amendments*

**BENEFITS:** Improve soils and reduce compaction

### *Expanded irrigation program*

**BENEFITS:** Improve tree survival rates and enhance growth

# ENHANCE PRACTICES | OVERVIEW

**MONITOR**

- Enhance tree assessments
- Expand pest monitoring
- Expand Cartegraph tracking to monitor success of practices

**REMEDiate**

- Manage soils
  - Liquid biological amendments
  - Decompaction/Aeration
- Treat private trees during severe pest outbreaks (EAB)

**PLANT**

- Enhance soil specs
- Ensure proper drainage
- Plant bare root trees
- Revise tree species list
- Prune and water more frequently and longer

**MAINTAIN**

- Formalize a City-wide management plan
- Manage soils
  - Mulching
  - Liquid biological amendments
- Expand irrigation program



# PUBLIC COMMENT

[www.cambridgema.gov/ufmp](http://www.cambridgema.gov/ufmp)

# TASK FORCE MEETING SCHEDULE

JUNE 12	Introduction	NOVEMBER 29	TESTING: Baseline Change Model
JUNE 28	RESEARCH: Regulation and Management	DECEMBER 20	PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT
JULY 26	RESEARCH: Goal Setting	JANUARY 31	PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT
AUGUST 30	RESEARCH: Ongoing Analysis + Climate Modeling	FEBRUARY 28	PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT
SEPTEMBER 27	RESEARCH: Summary of Findings	MARCH 28	DRAFT DOCUMENTATION
OCTOBER 25	Cancelled	APRIL 25	DRAFT DOCUMENTATION

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