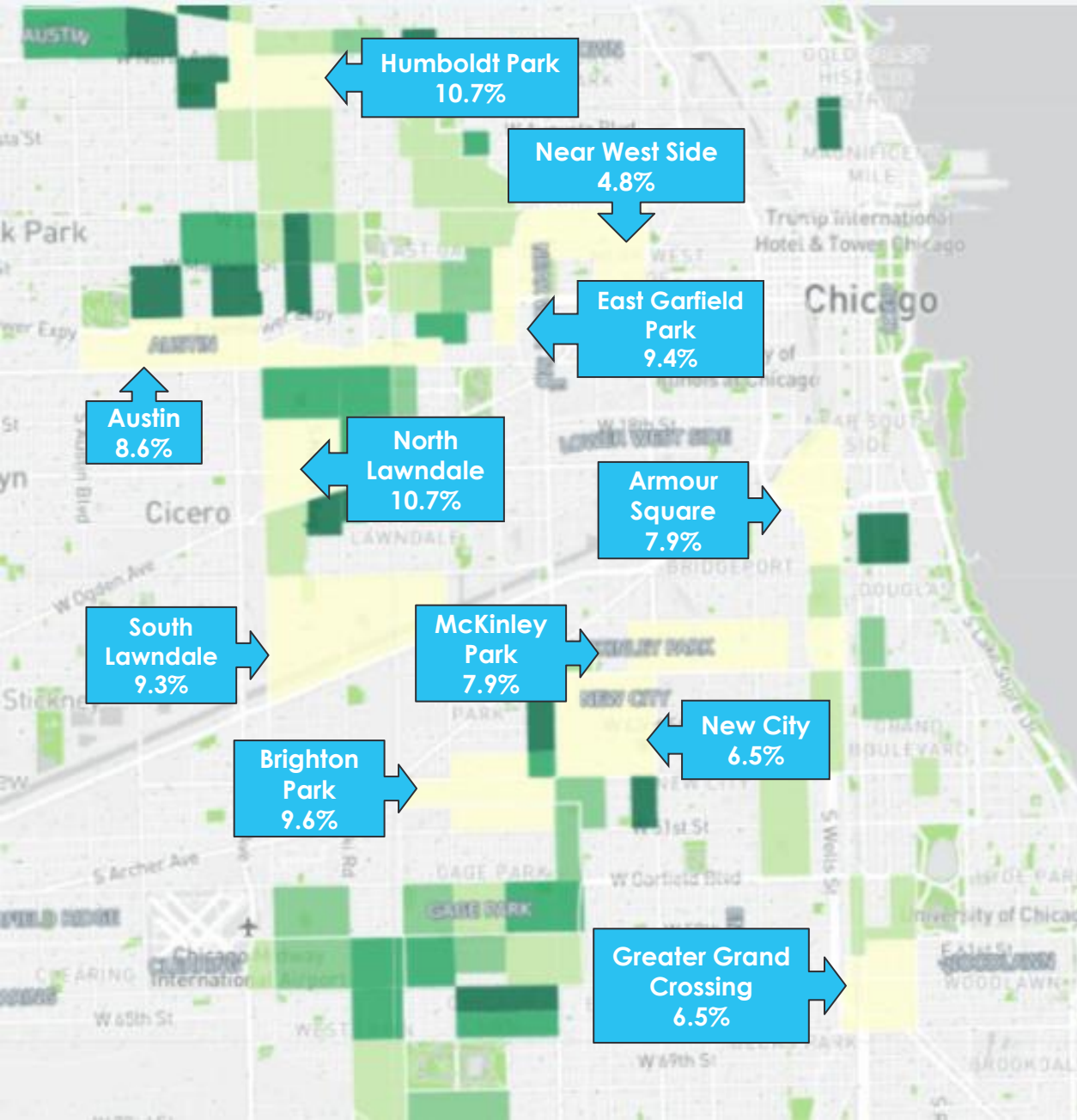




Tree Canopy Coverage by Neighborhood

(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 & job training

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
- Friends for a Natural South Chicago
- Galewood Neighbors, Inc.
- Grow Greater Englewood
- 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



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.

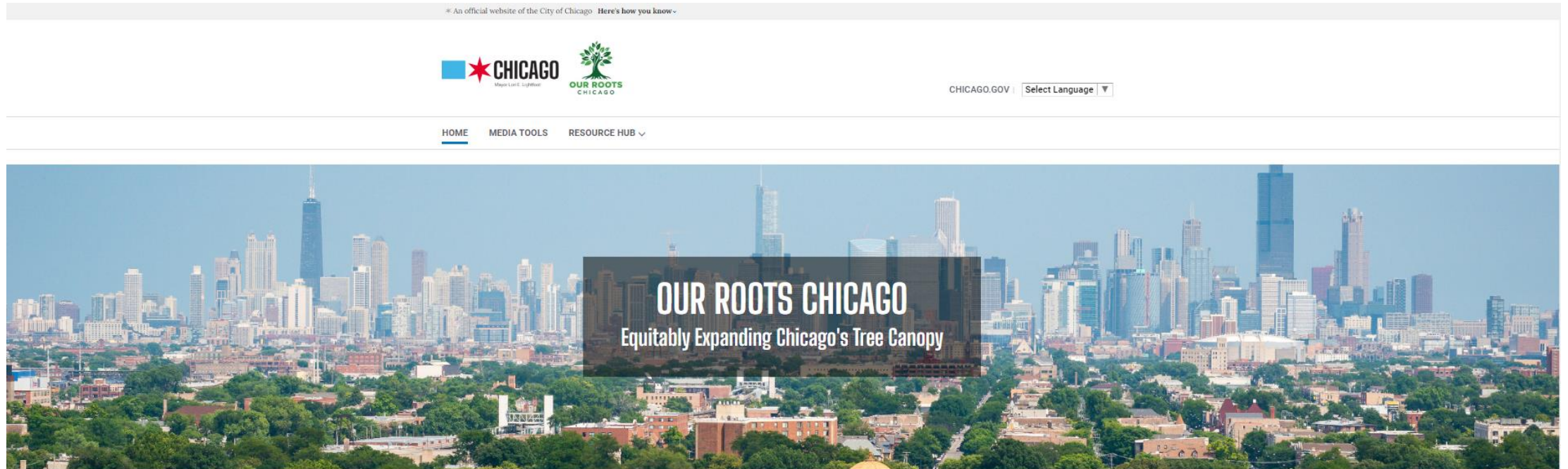
When you think about tree equity, what words come to mind?



■ ★ **Community Led Logo Design**



★ Community-Driven Content: Website



PURPOSE



Chicago continues to work toward creating resilient and sustainable communities across the city. Joining 96 cities around the world, the City of Chicago has updated its Climate Action Plan to reflect the bold action needed to protect and strengthen communities-locally and globally.

With historic investments coming in 2022, Chicago is ready to strengthen partnerships and programs across the city to expand access to green space, reduce carbon emissions, and connect residents to meaningful resources and services.

One of the ways we are carrying out our Climate Action Plan here in Chicago is through Our Roots Chicago project. Our goal is to expand the tree canopy in Chicago through an equitable approach to every neighborhood in Chicago leaving no neighborhood behind.

Community-Driven Content: Tools & Door Hangers

MEDIA TOOLS

LET'S TALK ABOUT TREES!

Let's get the record straight on the common thinking about trees and talk about the facts!

I've heard...

- Trees break and crack sidewalks and curbs along streets.
- Trees are high and costly to maintain.
- Planting more trees will change our environment.
- Trees are dangerous for homes. They can damage property.

Let's Talk About It!

- Trees roots do not break pipes, but rather, broken pipes attract tree roots due to moisture in the pipes.
- It is the location of tree roots relative to your sidewalk.
- There are no scientific studies that prove that trees increase crime. Studies actually show that tree lined streets have lower crime rates.
- Taking care of trees takes less time and money than the cost of pipe replacement and sewer line replacement. For replacement, you'll need a contractor.
- The City will cut your parking tree at no cost to you. You can receive \$100 or more if it is a Chicago.gov tree in a public space.
- It is possible to cut tree roots to the base of the tree in the fall and have them there in a month for the winter and spring months.
- 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.
- Trees that are not properly maintained can have more than one issue.
- Trees can protect your home from flooding.
- 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.

Now that you know the facts, find more information on how you can request a free parkway tree by visiting chicago.gov/OurRoots.

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 **CHICAGO** mobile app.

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 **CHICAGO** mobile app.

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 help 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 **CHICAGO** mobile app.

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 **CHICAGO** mobile app.

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 stress.

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

*restrictions apply

Available on the **CHICAGO** mobile app.

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

chicago.gov/OurRoots

Social Media:

Let's Talk About Trees!

Languages:

English

Date: 4/27/2022

I've heard... Trees create plumbing issues

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?

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

chicago.gov/OurRoots

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

chicago.gov/OurRoots

Social Media:

I've Heard... Trees Increase Crime

Languages:

English

Date: 4/27/2022

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.

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

chicago.gov/OurRoots

Social Media:

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

Languages:

English

Date: 4/27/2022

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.

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

chicago.gov/OurRoots

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 **CHICAGO** mobile app.

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

chicago.gov/OurRoots

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

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

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. 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

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO

★ 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

+





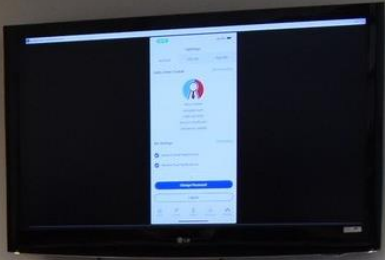
















HEALING THE HOOD





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

chicago.gov/ourroots

Raed Mansour
Director of Environmental Innovation
Chicago Department of Public Health
Raed.Mansour@cityofchicago.org

