City of Burnaby
Urban Forest Strategy

Phase 1 and 2 Engagement Summary

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Scope of the engagement

The City of Burnaby is developing an Urban Forest Strategy to protect, enhance, and expand its urban forest for the long-term benefits to the community. Encompassing every tree within the city boundary, from boulevards, parks, to private gardens, Burnaby's urban forest is a vital component of its character and community well-being.

The Urban Forest Strategy will be a roadmap for creating a diverse, resilient, and healthy urban forest by protecting, preserving, restoring, and expanding tree cover throughout the city. It will outline a clear, long-term, sustainable approach to managing the urban forest for generations to come.

Public engagement is an essential component to the development of the Urban Forest Strategy (or the Strategy). Two rounds of public engagement are planned to gather public inputs on the Strategy. The first round took place in spring, 2024 to gather community input that will inform the drafting of an urban forest vision, supporting goals ad priorities for urban forest management. The second round of

engagement will collect feedback from the community on the draft Strategy once completed. This document summarizes the results of the first round of engagement.

Engagement activities

Community members were invited to provide input through an online survey, various open houses and workshops, and public nature walks. Over 2000 people were engaged, with the majority participating through the online survey. The City also encouraged groups and individuals to share their thoughts via letters and emails. Additional educational displays were set up at various locations and time to share more details of the UFS project to the public. Details on engagement opportunities are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1 Summary of engagement opportunities provided in the first round of engagement

DATE	VENUE	EST. PARTICIPANTS
WORLD RIVERS DAY		
Sun, Sep 24, 2023	Burnaby Village Museum	401
SURVEY		
Feb 14 to April 7	Online	1466
SENIOR SESSIONS		
Wed, Mar 20	Cameron Recreation Complex	50
Mon, Mar 25	Edmonds Community Centre	10
Tues, Mar 26	Bonsor Community Centre	45
Wed, Mar 27	Confederation Community Centre	40
OPEN HOUSES/WORKSHOPS		
Wed, Mar 20	Christine Sinclair Community Centre	45-50
Wed, Mar 27	Bonsor Community Centre	55
Thurs, Mar 28	Zoom	12
PUBLIC NATURE WALK		
Sat, Mar 16	Central Park	19
Sun, Mar 17	Byrne Creek Ravine Park	22
Sat, Mar 23	Burnaby Mountain	12
COMMUNITY EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY		
Feb 20 to Mar 5	Cameron Recreation Complex	
Feb 27 to April 7	City Hall	
Mar 5 to Mar 15	Bonsor Community Centre	
Mar 5 to Mar 28	Christine Sinclair Community Centre	
Mar 15 to Mar 28	Edmonds Community Centre	
EMAILS AND LETTERS		
Throughout engagement period	Emails	20 individuals and 12 groups

World Rivers Day 2023

During World Rivers Day at Burnaby Village Museum, the Forestry Division promoted the Urban Forest Strategy and gathered feedback through three activities. The promotion of the Strategy included displaying the results of Burnaby's urban forest canopy assessment and information from the State of Urban Forest Report. Attendees were informed about the current urban forest tree canopy cover, impervious surface cover, urban heat islands, and the monetary value of ecosystem services provided by trees through iTree Eco.

The engagement activities included:

- An "Idea Tree" where participants added leaf-shaped sticky notes with suggestions for improving the urban forest (Figure 16).
- The "Street Visioning" exercise where participants coloured, drew, and added elements of an urban forest to Google Street image prints that reflected their ideal neighborhood.
- Tree/Seedling Giveaway distributed plugs of four tree species (shore pine, Douglas fir, Sitka spruce, and bigleaf maple), with care information attached.

Figure 1 Picture of the "Idea Tree"

The event attracted 401 attendees to the Urban Forestry tent, collected 50 sticky notes on the Idea Tree, had 3 participants for Street Visioning, and gave away 230 tree plugs, with an additional 130 plugs donated to the Cariboo Heights Preservation Society.

Who we heard from

We heard from 1466 survey respondents, and over 600 community members who participated in other engagement activities, such as open houses, workshops, and public nature walks. Additionally, 12 environmental groups and 20 individuals emailed their feedback on the Urban Forest Strategy project.

Survey demographics

Of the survey participants:

- 91% were Burnaby residents.
- 40% lived in single detached homes.
- 72% were property owners, and 17% rented their homes.
- 61% were over 45 years old, including 20% being 55-64 years old and 23% being 65 years old or older.
- 35% heard about the Urban Forest Strategy through postcards, and 29% through social media.

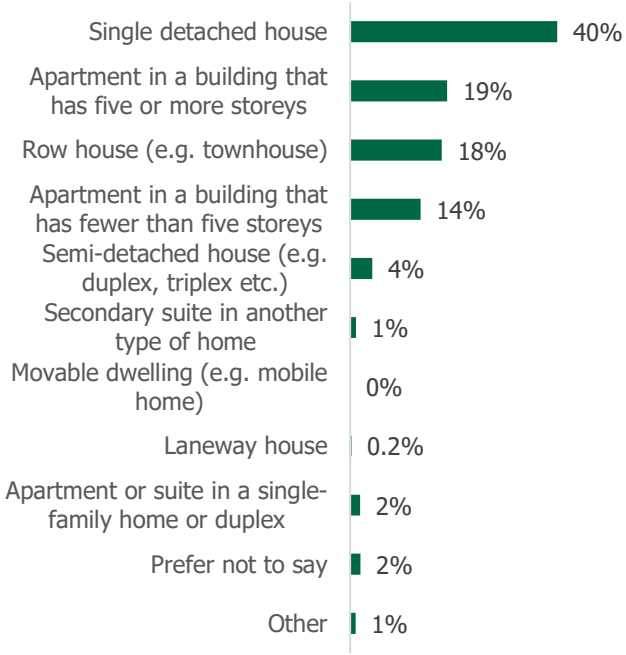

Figure 2 Housing arrangement of survey respondents (total response: 1325)

What we heard

Results from the public engagement are summarised in this section and structured around the following topics:

- The urban forest near people's homes, and places where they work or study
- Understanding how the urban forest is valued
- Threats and challenges to the urban forest
- Priorities for urban forest management and tree planting
- Community stewardship of the urban forest
- Additional feedback

The urban forest near people's homes, and places to work/study

Participants were asked about the trees where they lived compared to where they worked or studied. About half of respondents were either very satisfied or satisfied with the number of trees on the street where they lived or worked/studied, while 32% were not happy with the number of trees (Figure 3).

Where people lived, participants commonly reported seeing trees on private single-family lots (claimed by 61% of participants), roadsides (56%), multi-unit residential properties (49%), in parks (45%) and in natural areas/forests (41%) (Figure 4). Regarding work/study places, more participants reported seeing trees along roadsides (61%), in parking lots (41%), and on private business lots (40%). Golf courses and farms/agricultural properties were the least common places where people saw trees, as indicated by only 2-7% of respondents (Figure 4).

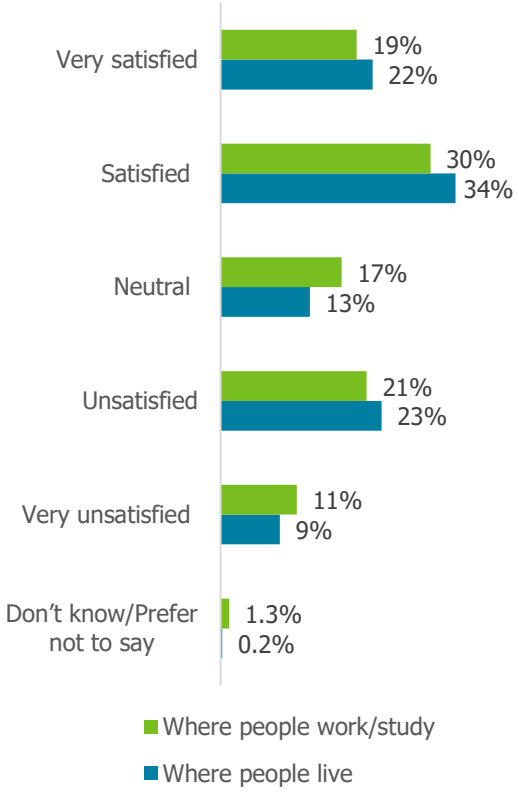

Figure 3 Satisfaction with the number of trees on the street block where people lived vs. worked/studied

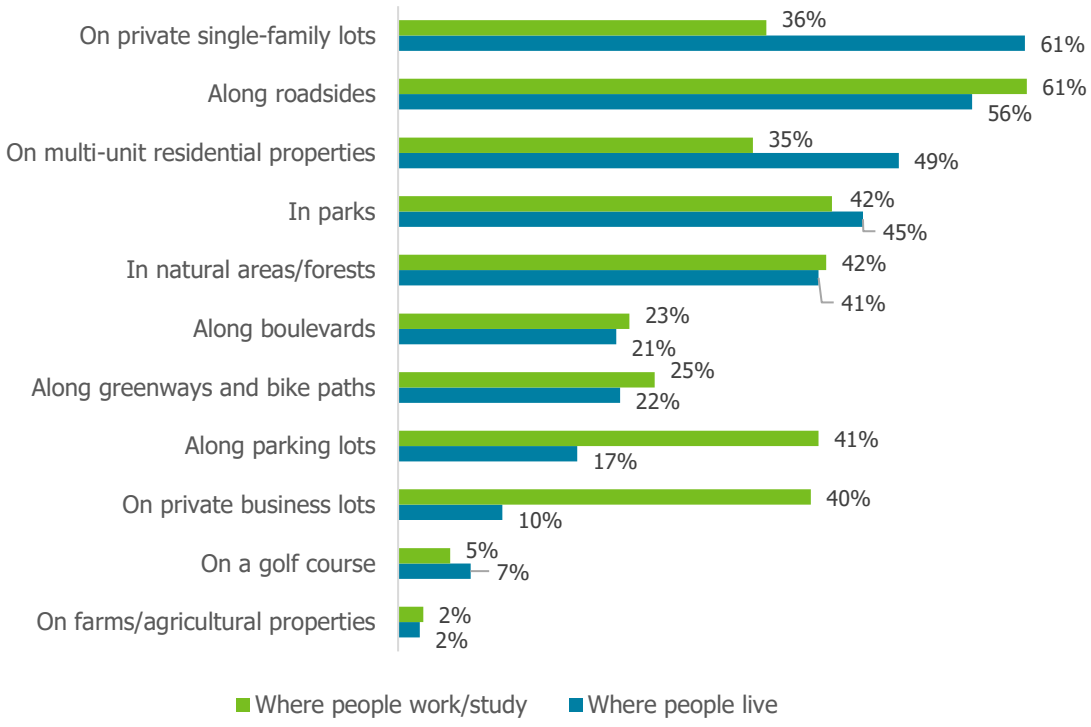

Figure 4 Where people found trees on the street block they lived, worked or studied

Approximately 80% of survey respondents had trees on properties where they lived or worked/studied (Figure 5). More than half of respondents had 7 or more trees where they lived or worked, only 4% had no trees where they lived and 7% had no trees where they worked/studied.

A total of 908 respondents shared detailed comments about the trees near their homes, and 264 people provided feedback on trees near where they worked or studied. Common themes included a strong desire for more large and mature trees of native and diverse species (mentioned by 148 participants), and concern over tree losses due to development and health issues including aging, disease, and invasive species (by 114 respondents). Additionally, 123 participants mentioned needing better tree protection measures and more proactive management for tree health and community safety. There was also satisfaction, expressed by 66 participants, with areas that already featured large, mature trees or ornamental trees (e.g., cherry trees).

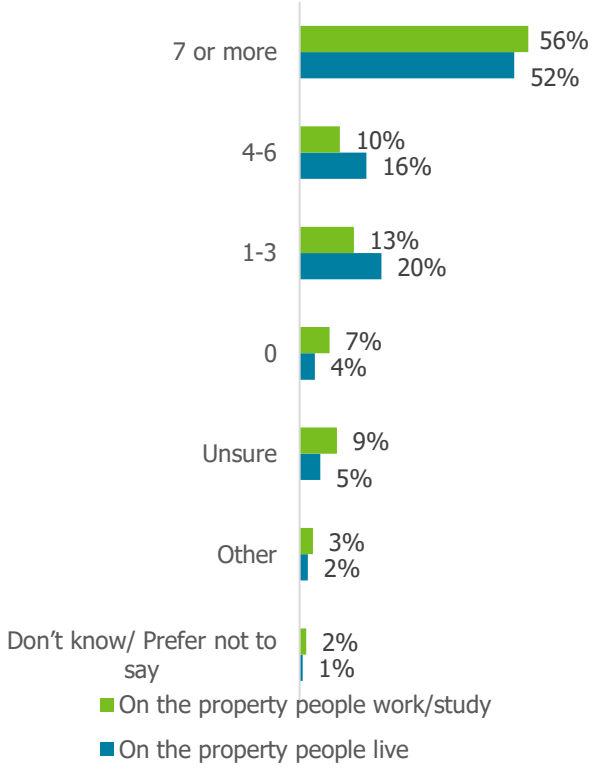

Figure 5 Number of trees found on the properties where participants lived vs. worked/studied

Understanding how the urban forest is valued

Survey participants were asked to indicate the importance of benefits provided by the urban forest (Figure 6). Environmental benefits emerged as the most valued by participants, with 91% of respondents considering them 'very important'. Conversely, residential property benefits were the least recognized, but a substantial 76% of participants still considered them 'very important'.

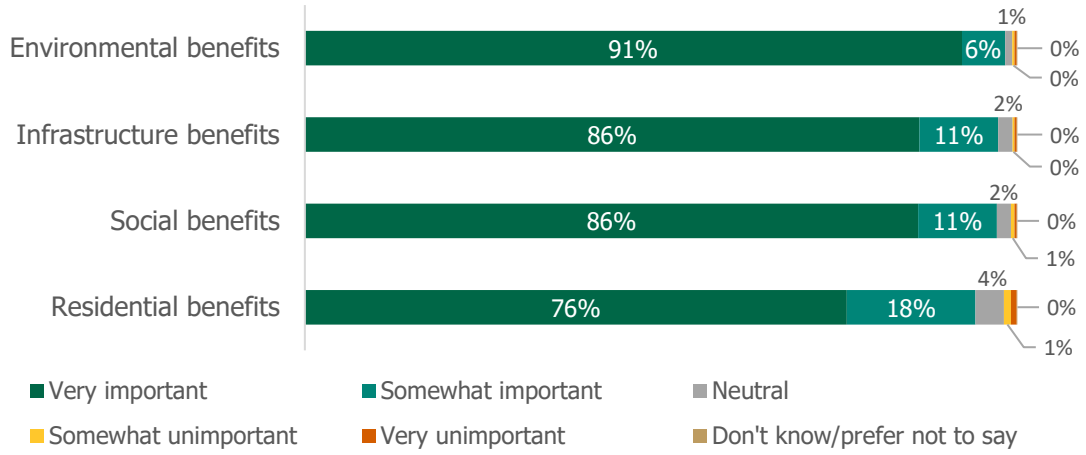

Figure 6 Perceived importance of the benefits of the urban forest (total responses: 1464)

Threats and challenges to the urban forest

Participants were asked to share their thoughts on threats to Burnaby's urban forest (Figure 7). Over 60% of participants were very concerned about the impacts of climate change, development on both public and private lands, and invasive species and diseases. Climate change stood out as the top concern, with 78% of participants being 'very concerned' about its impacts on the urban forest. This was followed by development on publicly owned lands and invasive species, with 68% and 65% of respondents expressing strong concern, respectively. Unauthorized off-trail human activities in protected areas were less of a worry compared to other threats, with 45% of participants being 'very concerned' and 39% 'somewhat concerned'.

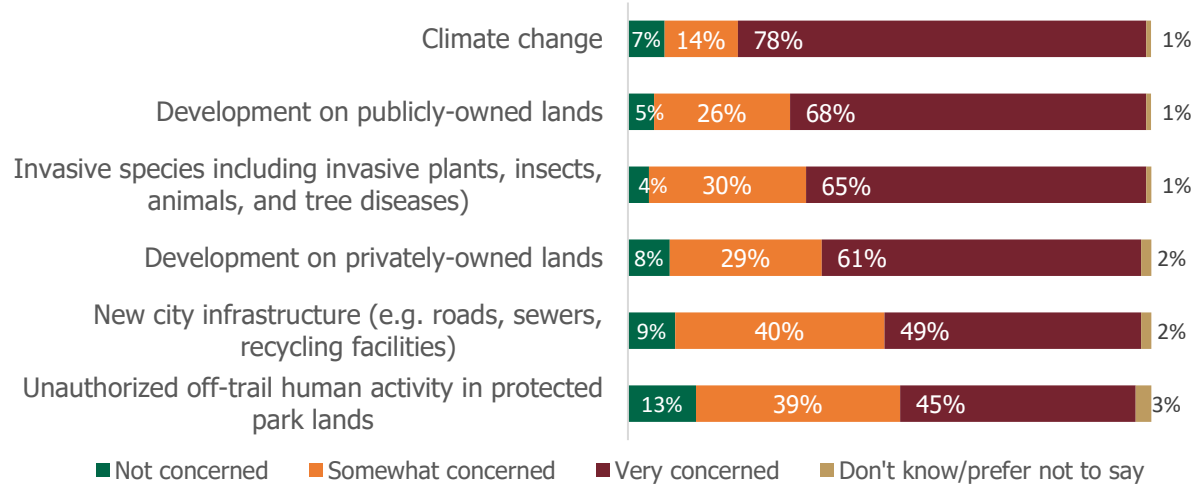

Figure 7 Concern over potential threats to the urban forest

Survey participants were also asked to indicate the seriousness of issues they had experienced due to trees in their neighbourhoods (Figure 8). The issues most reported as slight to very serious included roots cracking pavement, leaves clogging drains, managing tree health, falling branches and increasing risk of fire. Few respondents reported issues with trees reducing space to build, blocking views, attracting pests and disease, shade, or growing into public paths. Across all categories, the proportion of respondents reporting very serious or serious issues with trees ranged from 6% (reducing space to build) to 24% (cracking pavements).

A total of 539 respondents shared details about the issues that they had with trees in their neighbourhoods. Common concerns included falling branches and trees which posed risks to properties and public safety (noted by 68 respondents), mess and potential hazards caused by tree debris, which required frequent cleaning and maintenance (63 respondents), and root-related problems, such as cracking or heaving pavement and damaging drainage systems (53 respondents). A few participants also mentioned trees blocking views and light as an issue for them or their neighbours (17 respondents).

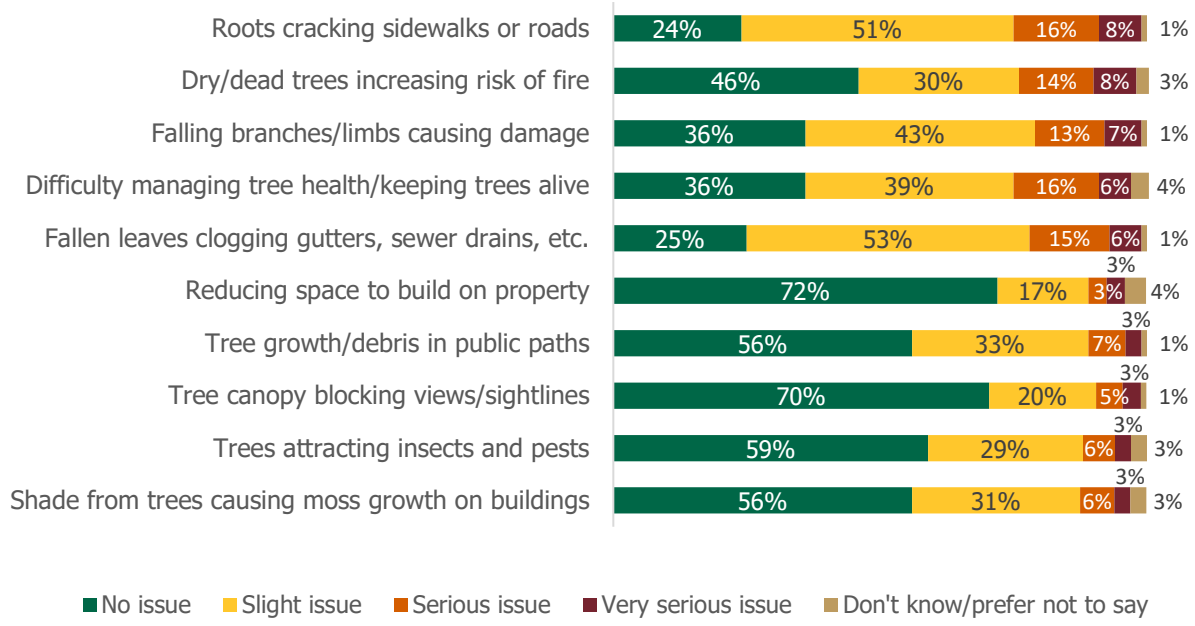

Figure 8 Issues that participants had experienced due to trees in their neighbourhoods

Priorities for urban forest management and tree planting

Survey Participants

Planting new trees

Survey participants were asked to indicate where it was most important to add new trees. The most important publicly owned places were parks, with 95% of respondents considering them 'very important' or 'somewhat important' for tree planting (Figure 9). This was closely followed by trails and paths (voted by 93% of participants), near civic facilities (by 93%), near schools and childcares (91%), along roads (91%) and natural areas (by 88%).

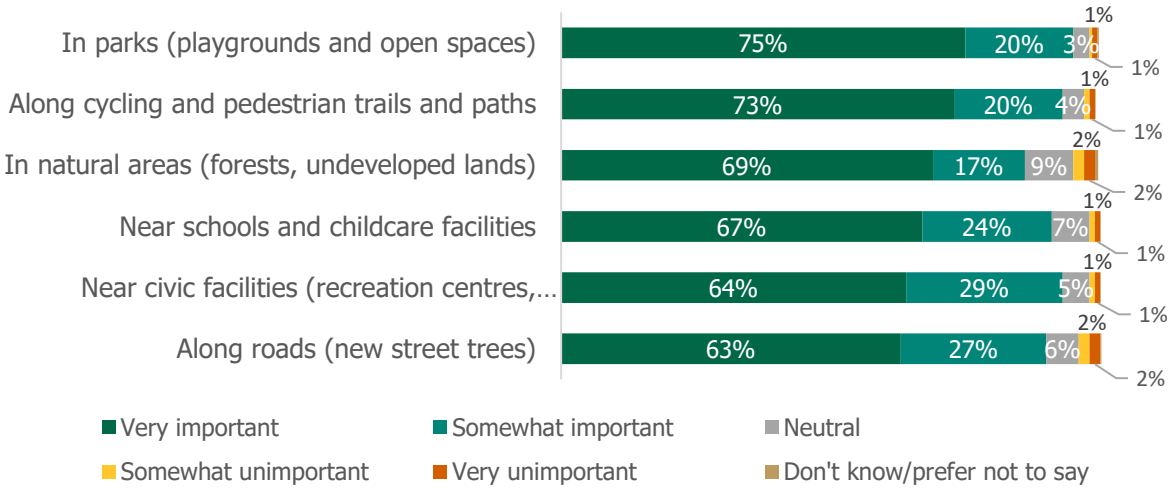

Figure 9 Publicly-owned places for tree planting

As for private places, planting trees on properties near town centres such as Metrotown and Brentwood, was deemed important by 91% of the participants (Figure 10). Multi-unit residential properties were the next priority location for planting (89%), followed by parking lots (84%), small business and industrial lots (81%), and, finally, single-family lots (78%). Overall, results indicate broad recognition of the need for planting across various types of properties.

A total of 695 participants also shared open-ended responses on additional places to plant trees. Most comments related to more tree planting in parks, protected natural areas, and other green spaces across the city (suggested by 92 participants). Other common places suggested by participants included parking lots (mentioned by 24 participants) and open, under-utilized vacant spaces (by 20 participants).

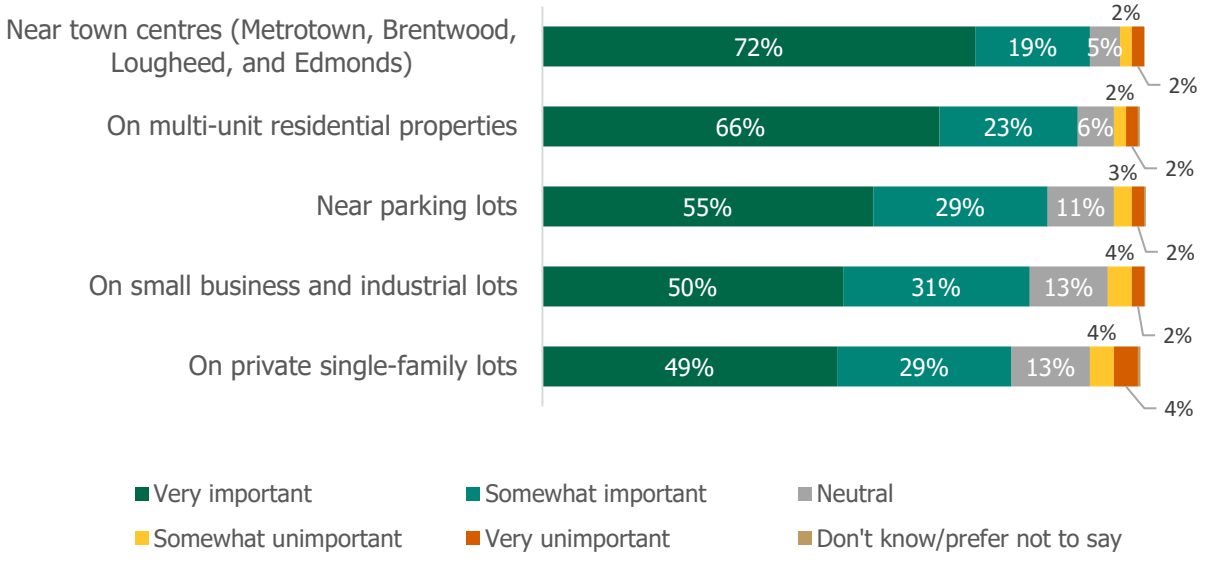

Figure 10 Privately-owned places for tree planting

Maintaining trees

When it comes to actions to support tree maintenance operations (Figure 11), participants prioritized planting new trees in areas with fewer existing trees (43% ranked it 1st), increasing funding for tree maintenance (25% ranked it 1st) and increasing fines for illegal cutting (24% ranked it 1st). Conversely, providing more information about why trees were removed, and notifications about tree maintenance work were not ranked as a high priority by most respondents.

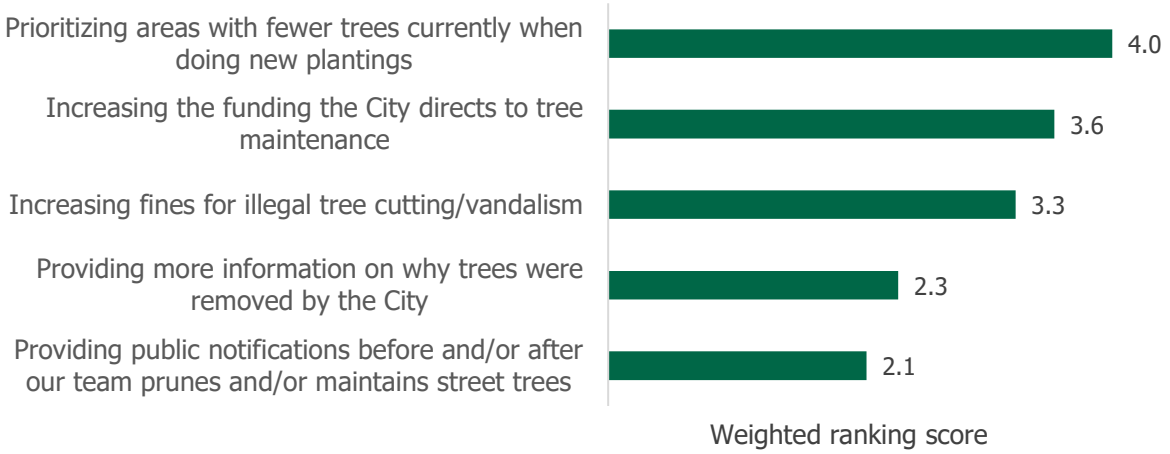

Figure 11 Perceived priority of actions that the City could take to support tree maintenance operations

Actions the City could take

Participants were asked to rank actions the City could take to grow and improve the urban forest (Figure 12). The highest ranked action was retaining and planting trees on development sites (29% ranked it 1st) sites to be developed, chosen by 29% of participants. Conversely, actions related to public stewardship and information sharing were ranked the lowest, with only 7% of participants considering these actions top priorities. Moreover, 25% of participants – the largest group – believed that sharing information about tree benefits and care should be the lowest priority.

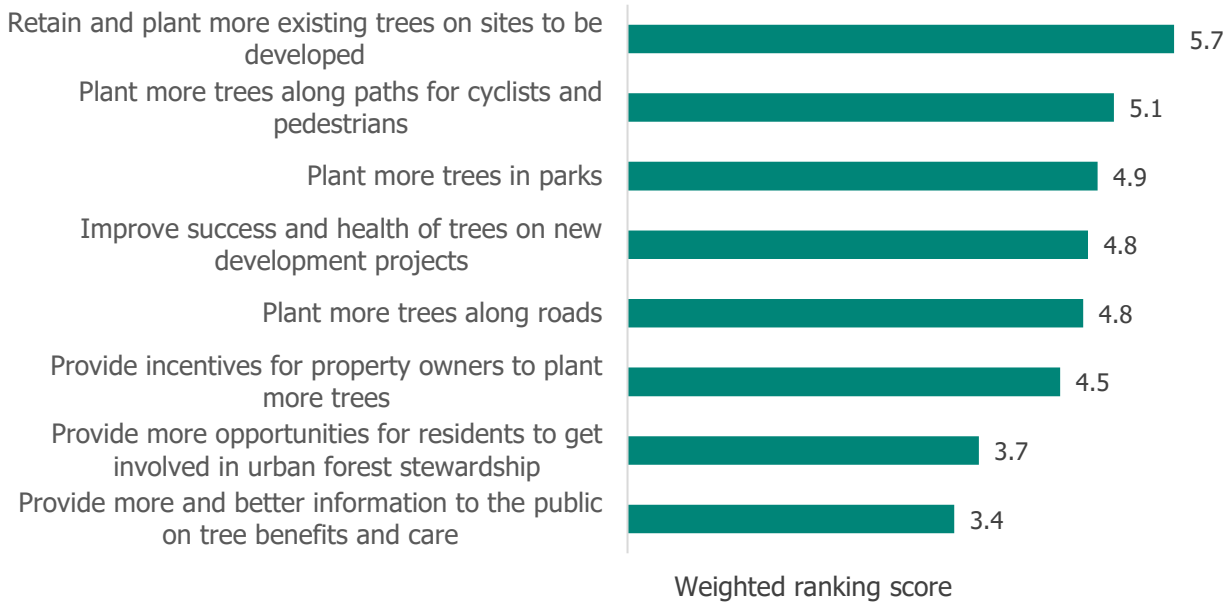

Figure 12 Perceived priority of actions for the City to grow and improve urban forest health

Tracking canopy cover

Respondents were asked to indicate whether it was important to measure and track canopy cover. Canopy cover is the extent of tree canopy cover over the land area when viewed from above. Canopy cover changes over time as trees are planted, grow, and are removed. As illustrated in Figure 12, 71% of participants indicated that measuring and tracking tree canopy was very important to them. Only 3% thought it was unimportant and 5% were neutral about it.

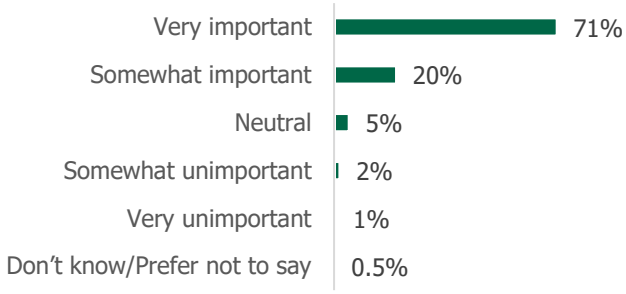

Figure 13 Importance of measuring and tracking Burnaby's tree canopy

Open ended responses

A total of 506 respondents shared their suggestions about priorities for urban forest management. Respondents emphasized the need to **protect existing mature trees**, especially on development sites, by enforcing stricter regulations. They also highlighted the importance of **urban forest designs** that promote walkability, accessibility, and innovative greening solutions (e.g. rooftop gardens). **Strengthening biodiversity efforts** by planting diverse native species and managing invasives species, with community members involved in these efforts, was another more frequent suggestion. **Community involvement and education** through an adopt-a-tree program, school planting initiatives, and other volunteering opportunities were also suggested. Additionally, respondents expressed a desire for more opportunities to receive relevant updates and provide input into urban forest management. Some participants suggested introducing more incentive programs, such as tax breaks, to encourage proper tree planting and maintenance on private land. Finally, developing a **comprehensive tree risk management system** and hiring more tree care professionals for **more regular tree maintenance**

and monitoring were identified by some participants as being essential for the resilience of the urban forest.

World Rivers Day Participants

The feedback gathered through the 50 sticky notes on the "Idea Tree" highlighted several key directions for improving Burnaby's urban forest, including **planting more trees and flowers** (suggested by 20 participants), **supporting animals, biodiversity, and overall ecosystem health** (by 12), **forest and tree protection and preservation** (by 10), **increasing community engagement and access** to the urban forest (by 6), and **planting edible trees and gardens** (by 5).

Community stewardship of the urban forest

Community stewardship refers to activities that the community can participate in to plan and manage the urban forest. Survey participants shared reasons preventing people from adding new trees to their properties (Figure 14). Insufficient space emerged as a slight to very serious issue for 69% of participants, followed by root damage to pipes (66%), the cost of purchase/maintenance (63%), and the time/labour of maintenance (58%). Concerns about allergies/pollen, blocking views, excessive shade and Burnaby's tree bylaw were less prevalent among respondents.

A total of 466 respondents provided detailed comments about the barriers to planting more trees on their properties. The most frequently mentioned barrier was strata and property management restrictions where tree planting required collective agreement from all property owners, cited by 161 respondents. Space constraints, noted by 51 respondents, were the second most common barrier. Some respondents expressed concerns about tree bylaws and regulations (mentioned by 21 respondents) in terms of it being too restrictive regarding tree removal and planting, which discouraged them from planting altogether. Other than barriers mentioned included financial burdens associated with planting and maintaining trees (by 20 respondents) and concern about root damage to infrastructure (16). Several respondents added barriers, including already having enough trees on their property (75), issues with neighbours regarding tree planting/care (20), unsuitable site conditions like rocky soil or steep slopes (18), concerns about trees becoming hazards during storms (20), canopy blocking sunlight and impacting gardens or solar panels (10), lack of information and guidance on tree planting and care (20), and watering trees when water restrictions were in place (12). Additionally, 21 respondents expressed no interest in planting trees without explanation, and five felt it was pointless due to upcoming development in their areas.

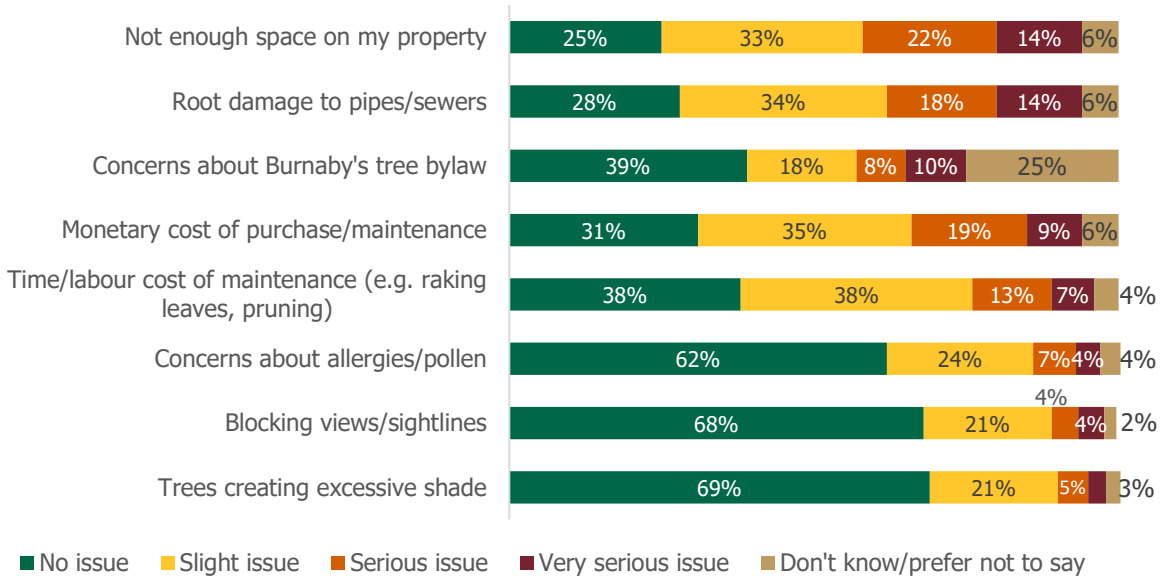

Figure 14 Reasons preventing people from adding more trees to their properties

Participants were asked to select which stewardship activities they would support on City-managed lands. Most participants supported stewardship activities (e.g., invasive species removal) and data collection activities (e.g., monitoring local trees), indicated by 54% and 53% of participants respectively. Watering City trees was supported by 48% of respondents. Supporting public recognition for stewardship activity volunteers was the least popular option, with only 36% of participants showing interest. Moreover, 23% of participants did not know or preferred not to specify how they would like to support the urban forest, indicating a need for further engagement and education on available stewardship opportunities.

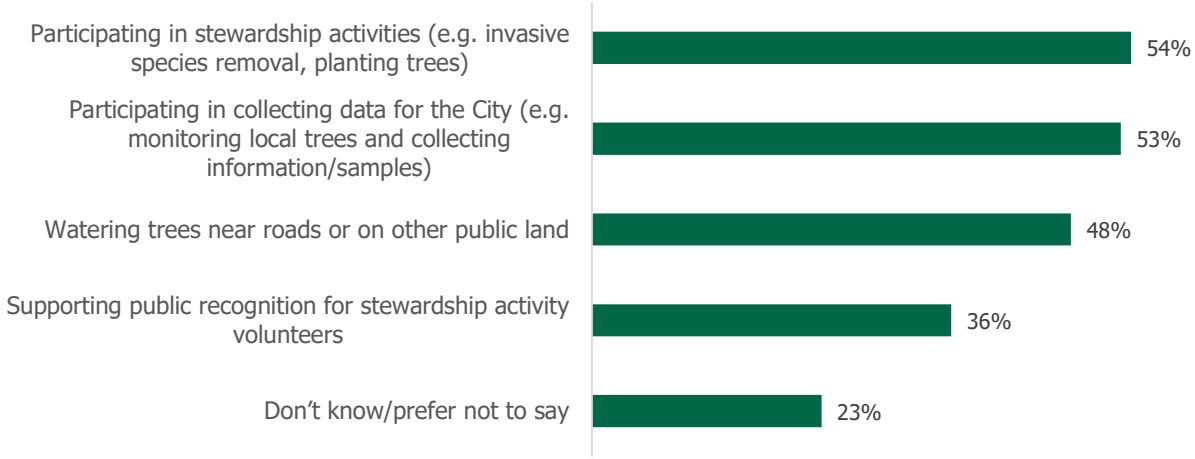

Figure 15 Approaches that people could support the urban forest on public properties

When it comes to the qualities of trees that would make planting trees on people's property more appealing (Figure 16), native trees and pollinator-friendly flowering trees were the most appealing qualities, selected by 85% of respondents. These qualities were followed by low-maintenance trees (by 83%), trees that created cooling (79%), colourful leaves (77%) and bearing edible fruits (63%).

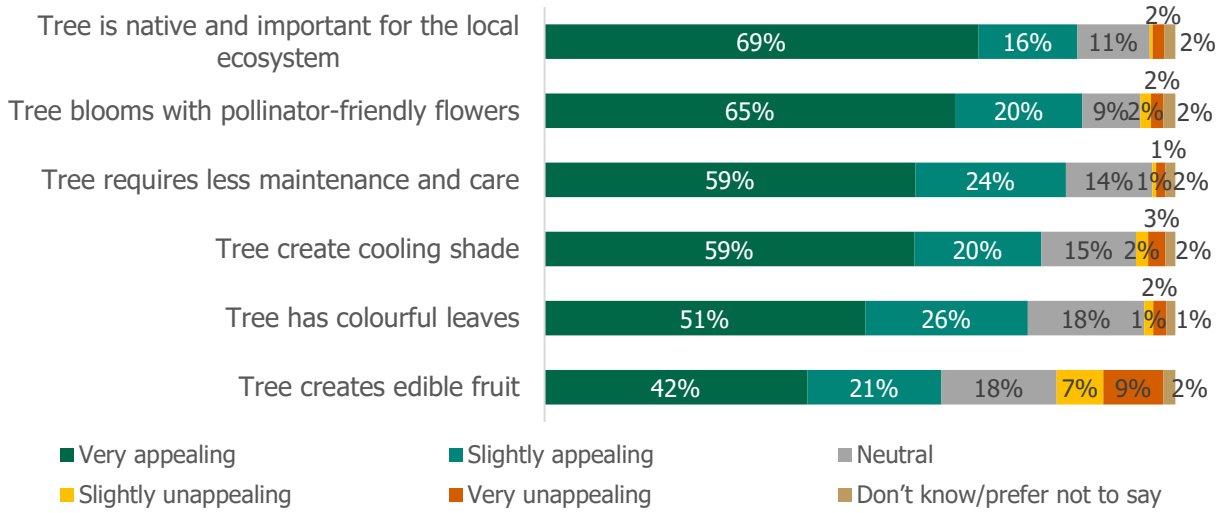

Figure 16 Qualities of trees that would make planting a new tree on their property more appealing

A total of 638 respondents shared detailed thoughts about how the City could further support residents to plant or care for private trees. Most comments (240) emphasized the importance of incentives, such as tax breaks, rebates, and discounted trees. Public education was also mentioned by 238 respondents highlighting the need for more information and guidance, and 77 responses mentioned increasing engagement initiatives. Specific recommendations included providing information on the importance of trees, offering training on tree selection, planting and care, creating community programs, such as tree planting day, and youth and school programs. Some comments also suggested establishing a big tree registry to recognize the significance of mature trees and the efforts of landowners to care for them. Ensuring proper regulations and policies to protect existing trees and encouraging sustainable development practices were highlighted by 98 respondents. Some advocated for strengthening tree bylaw and other regulatory requirements on tree retention and replacement, while others stressed the need to respect private property owner's right and reduce interference in their tree-related decisions. Additionally, 76 participants hoped for more support services and 31 requested more resources from the City. This included offering tree maintenance support and expert consultations to homeowners, especially seniors and those with disabilities, and providing necessary tools for tree care, such as watering bags. Fifteen (15) respondents emphasized the need for more partnership with diverse organizations, such as businesses and environmental NGOs, and First Nation groups, to enhance public engagement, tree planting, maintenance, and monitoring.

Additional feedback

Twelve local environmental stewardship groups (Burnaby Stewardship Organizations) and 20 community members submitted their comments or questions about the Urban Forest Strategy via response letters or emails. These comments covered several key areas:

- **Vision for the urban forest:**
  - Burnaby Stewardship Organizations proposed a vision for Burnaby's urban forest that emphasized an ecosystem approach to protect, manage, and connect mature trees and natural areas, supporting biodiversity and other important functions of the urban forest. The vision also highlighted the management of urban hazards and invasive species, restoration of natural areas, and support for community engagement and stewardship.
- **Preservation of existing mature trees and forests**:
  - Concerns were raised about the loss of trees and forests to the development and infrastructure boom by residents and local stewardship groups. Areas of special concern were around transit lines and hubs, along stream riparian areas, and in parklands.
  - Some community members mentioned planting requirements were enforced inconsistently between homeowners and developers.
  - Questions were raised about the legal foundation and enforcement of riparian protection legislation from private development – a specific instance was the removal of mature trees by developers along Eagle Creek stream corridors.
  - They called for strengthened protection measures for existing forests and trees, as well as creative tree-friendly planning and development practices to preserve well-cherished natural heritage (e.g., through preserving 'mini forests').
  - One resident suggested incorporating additional requirements for tree removals on strata property (e.g., requiring the City's evaluation before removing if any property owner was against the decision).
  - Burnaby Stewardship Organizations were concerned about the impacts of tree and forest loss on stormwater run-off. They called for higher fines for stream polluters, more coordination with Coquitlam and Port Moody (both of whom had upper portions of Burnaby streams flowing from their municipalities), a full alternative stormwater management program that would collect and direct water into the ground, and a watershed-based natural asset evaluation.
- **Climate impacts:**
  - Letters cited increasing evidence of climate change impacts on the urban forest and green spaces. They were particularly worried about the impacts of prolonged summer drought on trees and increased forest fire risks due to hotter and drier summers.
  - Community members called more actions to manage forest disturbances and forest fire risks.
- **Park uses:**
  - Concerns were raised about the overuse of current park space in Burnaby, leading to reduced biodiversity and forest resilience.
  - The Cariboo Heights Forest Preservation Society suggested enforcing by-laws about the activities which threaten forests, wildlife and other park users, such as:
    - unsanctioned trail building
    - smoking in parks and conservation areas during fire season

        - camping in forests and parks which created garbage and damages to trees, shrubs and plants
        - youth parties in the woods during high school graduation season which often involved campfires, fireworks, garbage and alcohol fueled misbehavior
    - Burnaby Stewardship Organizations called for an assessment of green space needs to guide the planning and creation of new green space.
- **Management of invasive species:**
    - Community members and Burnaby Stewardship Organizations reported receiving support from the City to manage invasive species, such as free native plants, bark mulch, and equipment. However, they expressed concerns about the increasing severity of invasive species and called more measures and resources from the City to control invasives species, such as:
        - Provide pick up for removed invasive plant materials
        - Support invasive species that become overwhelming
        - Improve communication and coordination with local stewardship groups
        - Ban the sale of invasive plants in Burnaby garden centres
        - Encourage residents to remove and replace invasive plants
        - Educate residents and enforce bylaw about proper dumping garden waste
        - Fund summer student work crews to remove invasive plants in parks that do not already have stewardship groups at work
- **Pest and diseases:**
    - A community member asked if the hemlock looper moth outbreak would affect trees in parks/forests in Burnaby
- **Community Engagement and Education**:
    - Community members shared interest in more stewardship/volunteering programs that would support urban forest management.
    - The Cariboo Heights Forest Preservation Society suggested educating and encouraging residents to plant native trees and shrubs through:
        - Offering city subsidized native plant sales.
        - Offering sponsored workshops on gardening with native plants
- **Tree planting**
    - Some community members were concerned about the planting of small seedlings to replace removed mature trees, leading to canopy loss over time.
    - Suggestions included planting the right tree in the right place for tree health and longevity. Tree species diversity should be a consideration at planting.
    - Some community members called for more agroforestry practices and food forests to be established in Burnaby for people to learn about food justice, circular economies, community resilience, and Indigenous practices.
    - One letter suggested exploring planting opportunities as a partnership between the City and the School District and planting programs on school grounds.
- **Restoration of natural areas and enhancement of biodiversity:**
    - One letter suggested measures to clean up and enhance Eagle Creek ravine which is currently overgrown with invasive species and troubled with illegal dumping.
        - They emphasized the importance of preserving key ecological functions of natural areas and enhancing connectivity between large natural areas. Eagle Creek ravine is one example of small undeveloped natural areas that provides a

        - critical connectivity corridor between Burnaby Mountain, Squint Lake Park/ Burnaby Mountain Golf Course, Charles Rummel Park and Burnaby Lake.
        - They also suggested collaborating with BCIT Ecological Restoration Department on stream enhancement efforts.
    - The Cariboo Heights Forest Preservation Society suggested:
        - Developing a Biodiversity strategy in addition to the Urban Forest Strategy to increase the amount and quality of Burnaby's natural areas.
        - Protecting green corridors linking parks and conservation areas to increase connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation.
        - Planting young native trees to regenerate aging second growth deciduous forests around Burnaby Lake, Brunette River Conservation Area, Cariboo Conservation Area and the Cariboo Heights Forest.
- **Partnerships:**
    - Burnaby Stewardship Organizations suggested clarifying roles of stewards/stewardship organizations and the role of the City. They suggested roles of Stewards which primarily focused on hands-on conservation activities, education, and advocacy to protect and appreciate natural areas, while the City would support through provision of resources, partnership opportunities, policy enhancement, and infrastructure management.
    - Specifically, the Cariboo Heights Forest Preservation Society suggested actions to recognize the work provided by Streamkeepers, stewardship organizations and citizen scientists:
        - Providing ongoing staff time and funding support
        - Recognizing their work with signages
        - Engaging stewardship groups in land use planning and policy development process
        - Using data collected by stewardship groups and citizen scientists (i-Naturalist) to help make decisions about forest and park management.
- **Clarification on the Strategy project:**
    - Some community members submitted questions about the Strategy, including questions on terminology used in the project (e.g., the term "urban forest") and reasons for the budget decrease for urban forestry.
    - One letter requested being able to see the maps and data in higher resolution.
- **Metrics and methods:**
    - Community members were concerned about the over-emphasis of the canopy coverage and tree planting numbers. They suggested other considerations such as species diversity and climate adaptability of the species.
    - A community member questioned why a consultation with stewards was dropped.

Synthesis of feedback

Results from the first round of public engagement are summarised around the following themes:

- Developing a **vision** for the future urban forest, i.e., imagining Burnaby's ideal urban forest after the plan's implementation and understanding what community members would like to see in the plan to feel their community is represented.
- **Protecting** the urban forest, i.e., keeping existing trees in the ground and protecting them from removal or damage from activities like development and construction.
- **Managing** the urban forest, i.e., the City operations to maintain existing trees, including planting, watering, pruning, risk management, pests and diseases management, removal and replacement.
- **Growing** the urban forest, i.e., planting new trees to grow the urban forest on properties across Burnaby (City-owned, private, etc.).
- **Engaging and partnering** for inclusive urban forest management, i.e., participation from community members, landowners, and community organizations to steward the urban forest (e.g., tree planting, watering, invasive species management, education and access, etc.).

Summary of feedback for the urban forest long-term vision

What we Heard	How it will be considered
• According to survey respondents, environmental benefits of the urban forest were the most valued (by 91% of respondents). Conversely, residential benefits were the least recognized, but a substantial 76% of respondents still considered them 'very important'. • Burnaby Stewardship Organizations proposed a vision for Burnaby's urban forest that emphasized an ecosystem approach to protect, manage, and connect mature trees and natural areas, supporting biodiversity and other essential functions of the urban forest. The vision also highlighted the management of urban hazards and invasive species, restoration of natural areas, and support for community engagement and stewardship.	The project team will incorporate this input when drafting the urban forest vision and goals. The Strategy will emphasize the benefits most valued by the community.

Summary of feedback for protecting the urban forest

What we Heard	How it will be considered
• Survey participants, and local stewardship organizations and community members who submitted emails and response letters were concerned about the loss of trees due to development and other health issues.	The project team will address the concerns raised by participants in the Strategy and suggest actions to strengthen tree protection from development and other stated issues.
• Stewardship organizations and community members who submitted feedback by letters and emails suggested areas for protection were around transit	The draft Strategy will incorporate the recommendations for protection trees and natural areas of special concern.

lines and hubs, along streams/riparian areas, and in parklands.	
• They also emphasized the importance of preserving key ecological functions of natural areas and enhancing connectivity between large natural areas. They suggested measures to: ○ Enhance Eagle Creek Ravine ○ Develop a biodiversity strategy to increase the quality and quantity of Burnaby's natural areas ○ Protect green corridors linking parks and conservation areas to increase connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation ○ Planting native trees to regenerate aging second growth forests	

Summary of feedback for managing the urban forest

What we Heard	How it will be considered
• Survey respondents, stewardship organizations and other community members were very concerned about the impacts of climate change, development on public and private lands, and invasive species and diseases.	The project team will address the concerns raised by participants in the Strategy and consider strategies to enhance management measures and improve urban forest resilience to the stated threats and tree related issues that community members have encountered.
• About half of survey respondents reported minor issues with trees in their neighbourhood. Other concerns raised included safety risks imposed by trees, mess and potential hazards due to tree debris, and root-related problems (e.g. damaging infrastructure).	
• Stewardship organizations shared concerns about the overuse of park space and recommended enforcing by-laws to forbit activities that would threaten forests, wildlife and other park users.	
• Survey respondents considered planting new trees in tree-deficit areas (by 43%) and increasing funding for tree maintenance (by 25%) as priority actions on tree maintenance.	The draft Strategy will make recommendations to increase funding for tree maintenance, improve invasive species management, and monitor canopy cover over time.
• 71% of survey respondents indicated that measuring and tracking tree canopy was very important to them.	
• Stewardship organizations called for more measures and resources from the City to control invasive species	

Summary of feedback for growing the urban forest

What we Heard	How it will be considered
• About half of the respondents were either very satisfied or satisfied with the number of trees found on the street block where they lived or worked/studied, while	The project team will include recommendations for tree planting

32% were not happy with the number of trees they saw.	based on the community's preference and suggested actions.
• 148 survey participants shared a strong desire for more larger and mature trees of native and diverse species	
• The top voted planting locations on public land included parks (by 75% of survey participants), trails and paths (by 73%), and natural areas (69%). • On private land, most survey respondents suggested prioritizing planting near town centres (by 72%) and multi-unit residential properties (55%).	
• Survey respondents considered retaining and planting trees on sites to be developed (29%) and planting along cyclist and pedestrian paths (15%) as priority actions to grow and improve the urban forest.	
• Most feedback collected at the World Rivers Day emphasized the importance of planting more trees and flowers	
• Community members who submitted feedback by letters and emails emphasized the importance of planting right trees at right places, increasing species diversity, and opportunities to plant on school grounds.	

Summary of feedback for engaging and partnering for inclusive urban forest management

What we Heard	How it will be considered
• The top barriers for adding new trees to people's properties included insufficient space (by 36% of survey respondents), concerns about root damage (32%), implications of tree bylaw (18%).	The draft Strategy will recommend ways to address the stated barriers.
• Most survey respondents were interested in stewardship activities (e.g., invasive species removal) and data collection activities (e.g., monitoring local trees).	The draft Strategy will consider the community's interest and preference and recommend strategies to encourage urban forest engagement and stewardship. Recommendations will also include approaches to strengthen the partnerships with local stewardship organizations and other interested partners to increase and enhance engagement and stewardship opportunities.
• 69% of survey respondents indicated that native trees supporting local ecosystem could make tree planting very appealing to them. • Following closely were trees with pollinator-friendly flowers (by 65%) and low-maintenance trees (59%).	
• Most survey respondents emphasized the importance of incentives, such as tax breaks or discounted trees. • Public education on the importance of the urban forest, tree species selection, planting, and care were also important approaches to support residents to plant or care private trees. • Some advocated for stricter tree bylaw and other protection measures, while others stressed the need for	

the City to reduce interference in decisions made by private property owners about their trees. • Some respondents also called for more tree maintenance support, expert consultation services, and provision of necessary tools to homeowners to support private proper tree planting and maintenance.	
• Community members who submitted feedback by letters and emails shared interest in more stewardship/volunteering programs to support urban forest management.	
• Stewardship organizations suggested actions to encourage more planting by residents, such as offering subsidized native plant sales and sponsored workshops on gardening with native plants	
• Stewardship organizations suggested more partnerships between the City and the stewardship organizations, and more recognition of stewardship romanizations' work through measures such as signages and provision of ongoing staff time and funding support.	