

Urban Forest Strategy

Council Update
December 2024

Agenda

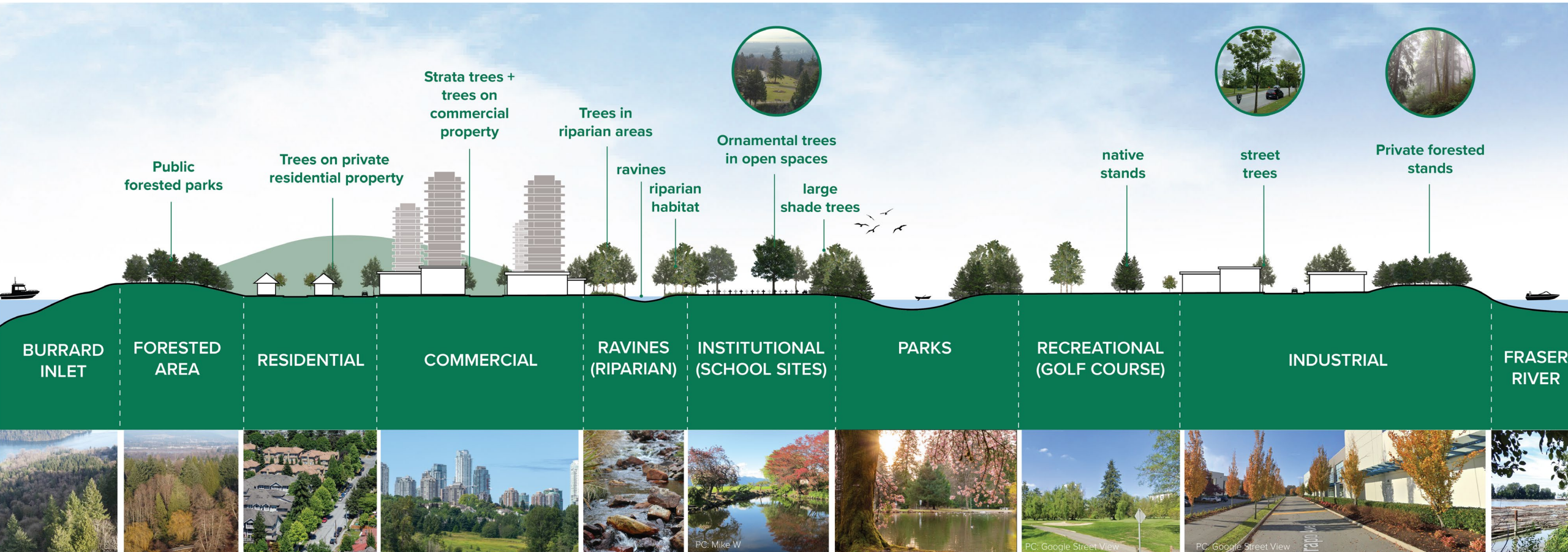
- Overview
- Alignments
- UFS Framework
- Goals & Strategies
- Key Actions
- Timeline/updates



Project Overview

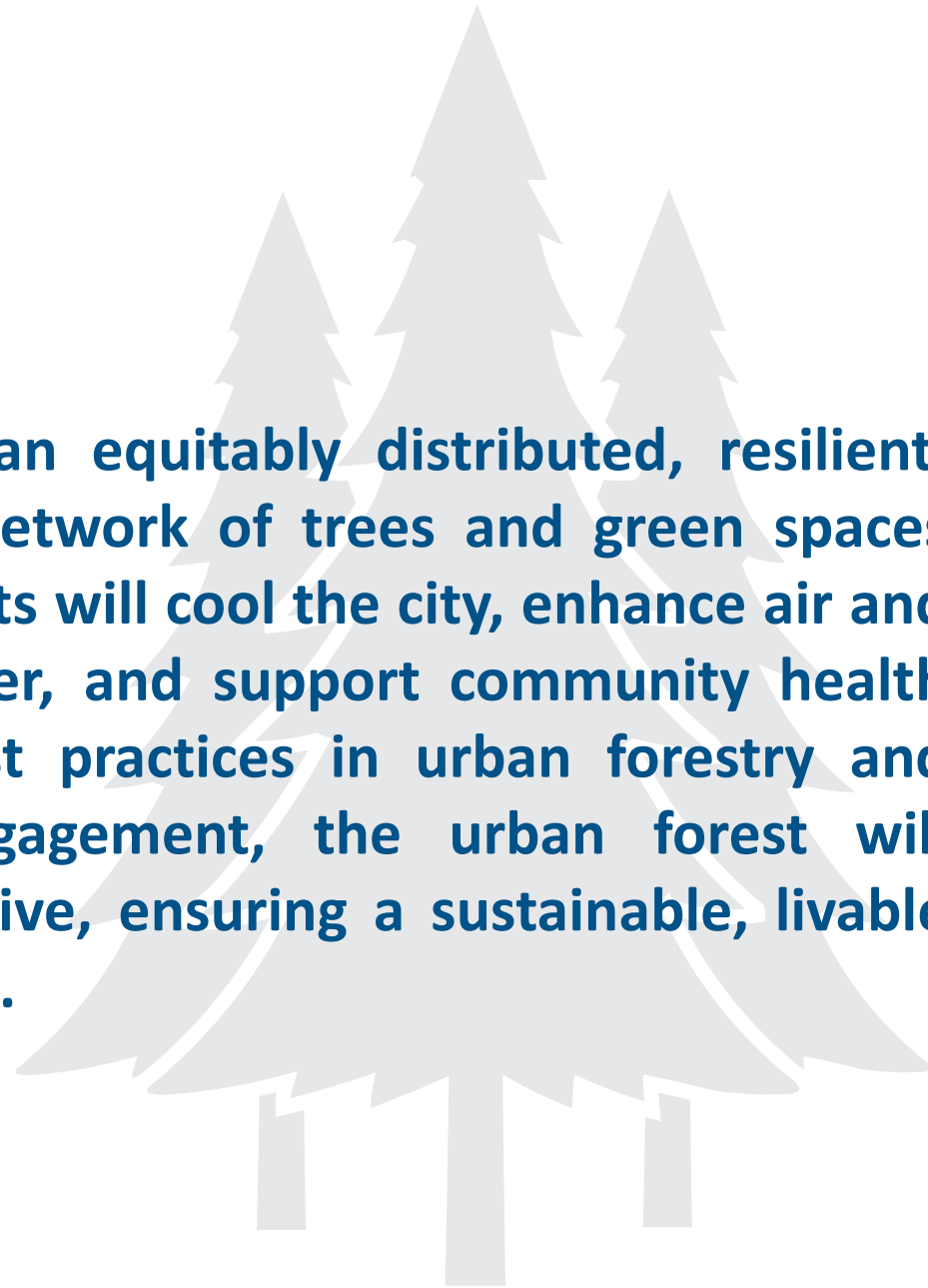
The Urban Forest Strategy (UFS) will:

- ✓ Provide an urban forest vision and management objectives to 2040
- ✓ Address challenges and opportunities
- ✓ Identify and prioritize actions
- ✓ Provide targets and performance measures for implementation



Vision

Burnaby's urban forest will be an equitably distributed, resilient, biodiverse, and interconnected network of trees and green spaces across the city. These natural assets will cool the city, enhance air and water quality, manage stormwater, and support community health and well-being. By applying best practices in urban forestry and fostering active community engagement, the urban forest will continue to grow, adapt, and thrive, ensuring a sustainable, livable future for all community members.



Alignments

**Council's
Strategic Plan
2023-2026**

**Official
Community
Plan**

**Climate
Action
Framework**

**Urban
Forest
Strategy**

**Environmental
Sustainability
Strategy**

**City tree policy,
Tree bylaw and
regulatory
framework**

**Design and
Operations**

**Social
Sustainability
Strategy**

**Allied plans and
commitments – e.g.
Environmentally Sensitive
Areas Strategy**

UFS Framework

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR BURNABY'S URBAN FOREST STRATEGY

40% canopy cover target

1 VISION

What we want

5 GOALS

14 STRATEGIES

How we get it

68 ACTIONS



5 QUICK STARTS



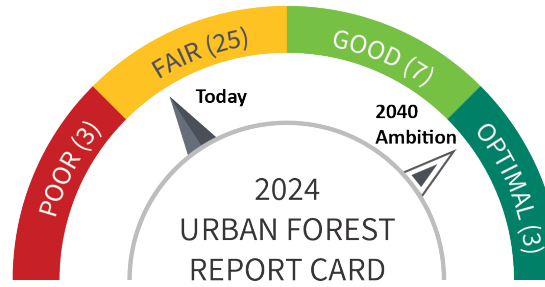
6 BIG MOVES

Reaching 40% canopy cover will require significant investments. It is likely unfeasible to achieve the planting rates required to achieve 40% by 2040. The Strategy recommends a target to achieve 40% by 2075.

Report Card

The Strategy will seek to improve Burnaby's urban forest management

This 'report card' highlights where current service levels could be improved to manage the urban forest more sustainably.



Urban Forest Report Card

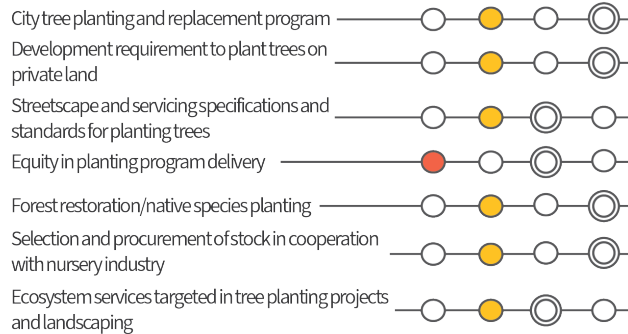
●●●● 2024 program grade (in colour)

⊙ 2040 ambition (if advanced from 2024)

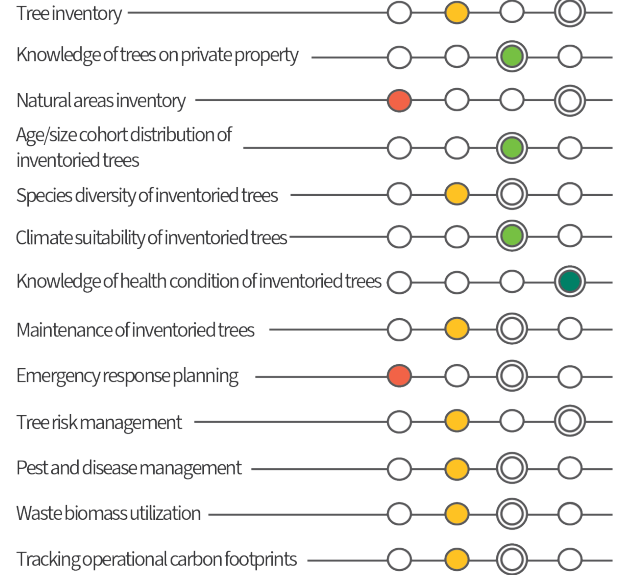
PLANNING



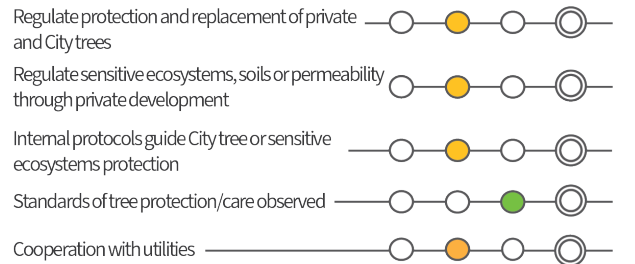
GROW



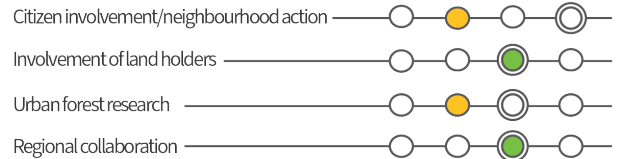
MANAGE



PROTECT



ENGAGE



Goals & Strategies



PLAN: Strengthen governance, monitoring and resourcing to achieve the long-term vision

1. Improve urban forest governance through interdepartmental collaboration and asset management integration.
2. Monitor implementation and adapt management to achieve adopted targets and maintain service standards.
3. Provide sufficient resourcing to implement the Urban Forest Strategy and align with best practices.



GROW: Expand the urban forest in alignment with community planning goals

4. Improve policy, regulations, processes and standards for integrating trees and forests into the built environment.
5. Integrate equity considerations into decision-making about urban forest investment.
6. Restore forests and enhance biodiversity.



PROTECT: Protect urban forest resources and increase the climate resilience of urban landscapes

7. Protect trees and soil when possible and compensate for losses when necessary.
8. Develop a coordinated approach for managing and resolving issues of park encroachment.
9. Increase the climate resilience of Burnaby's urban landscapes and urban forest.



MANAGE: Maintain a healthy and safe urban forest

10. Maintain healthy and resilient trees using best management practices.
11. Maintain safe trees and forests to a reasonable standard of care.



ENGAGE: Involve the community in urban forest management

12. Enhance and build relationships with community partners to protect and enhance the urban forest.
13. Build relationships with host Nations and Indigenous Peoples living in Burnaby to integrate Indigenous perspectives with urban forest management.
14. Build community knowledge of and participation in urban forest management.

Key Actions



5 QUICK STARTS

- Establish an interdepartmental implementation team.
- Review the Civic Tree Reserve Fund.
- Explore new (external and internal) funding sources to support UFS implementation.
- Update landscaping requirements and guidelines.
- Update the Tree Bylaw and City Tree Management Policy for Public Lands to strengthen protection.



Key Actions



6 BIG MOVES

- **Embed City-managed natural assets into asset management planning.**
- **Consider standardizing tree canopy cover/tree density targets, pervious area, and landscaped areas by land use.**
- **Develop a ten-year urban tree planting program.**
- **Develop a ten-year natural area restoration planting program.**
- **Explore the creation of a 'Parks Tree Reserve Fund'.**
- **Expand community stewardship opportunities.**

Project Timeline

WE ARE HERE



FALL 2023

WINTER/SPRING 2024

SUMMER/FALL 2024

WINTER 2025

2025+

STATE OF THE URBAN FOREST

- BACKGROUND RESEARCH
- BENCHMARK ANALYSIS
- KEY FINDINGS

INTERNAL ENGAGEMENT:

- STAFF INTERVIEWS & WORKSHOP #1
- COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

INTERNAL ENGAGEMENT:

- STAFF WORKSHOP #2
- COUNCIL PRESENTATION

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT:

- ENGAGEMENT ROUND 1

INTERNAL ENGAGEMENT:

- STAFF WORKSHOP #3
- COUNCIL PRESENTATION
- COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

INTERNAL ENGAGEMENT:

- STAFF MEETINGS
- COUNCIL PRESENTATION
- COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT:

- ENGAGEMENT ROUND 2

Questions

THANK YOU!

