

Urban Forest Strategy

Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee
April 17, 2025

Agenda

- Overview
- Public Engagement 2
- Strategy Updates
- Next steps



Project Overview

WE ARE HERE

1 KEY FINDINGS

FALL 2023

STATE OF THE URBAN FOREST

- BACKGROUND RESEARCH
- BENCHMARK ANALYSIS
- KEY FINDINGS

INTERNAL ENGAGEMENT:

- STAFF INTERVIEWS & WORKSHOP #1
- COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

2 VISIONING

WINTER/SPRING 2024

INTERNAL ENGAGEMENT:

- STAFF WORKSHOP #2
- COUNCIL PRESENTATION

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT:

- ENGAGEMENT ROUND 1

3 DRAFTING

SUMMER/FALL 2024

INTERNAL ENGAGEMENT:

- STAFF WORKSHOP #3
- COUNCIL PRESENTATION
- COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

4 CONFIRMING

WINTER 2024/2025

INTERNAL ENGAGEMENT:

- STAFF MEETINGS
- COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS
- COUNCIL REPORT

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT:

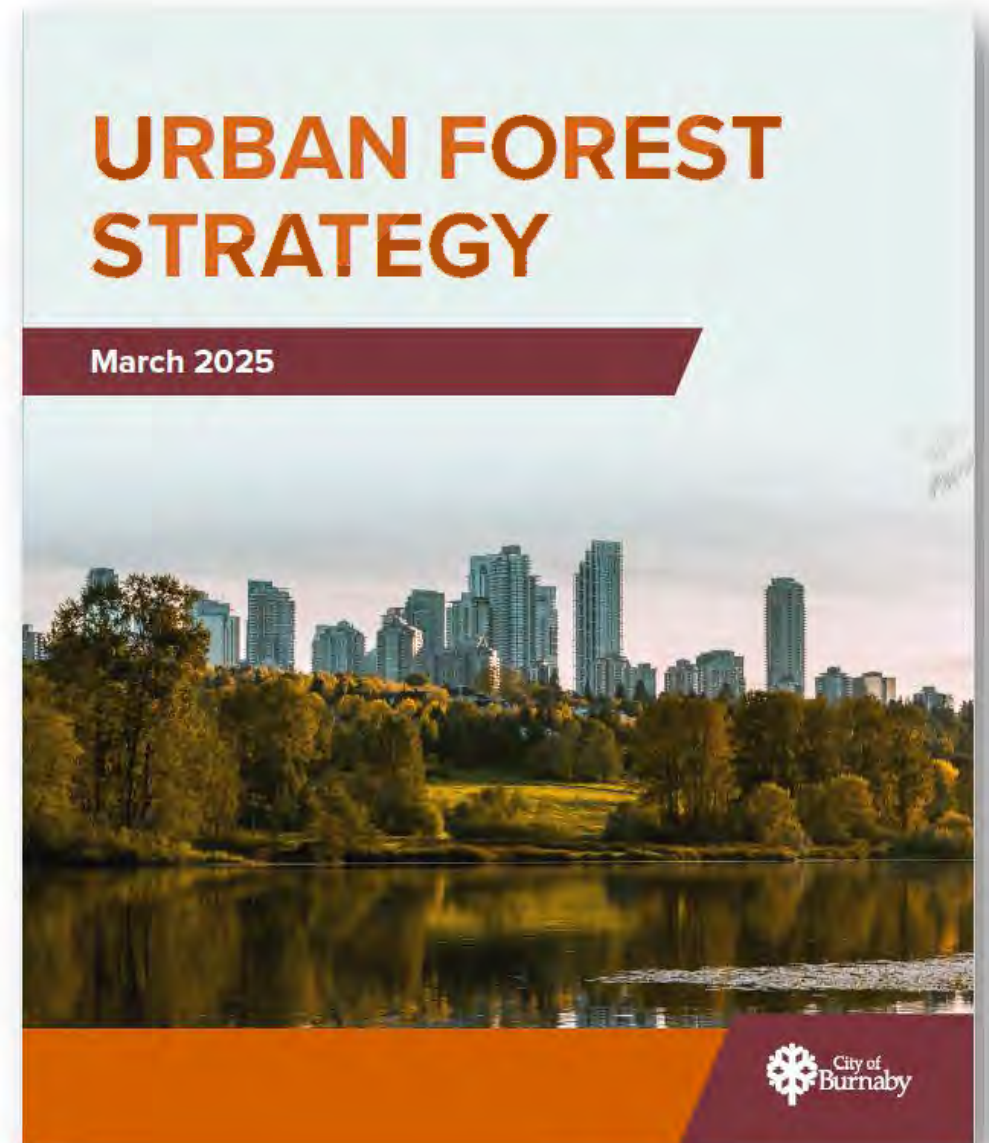
- ENGAGEMENT ROUND 2

5 IMPLEMENTING

2025

The Strategy

- Long-term Vision
- Goals and Strategies
- A 15-year Action Plan
- 40% canopy cover by 2075



Public Engagement 2

- **January 22 to February 10**
 - Project website - online survey,
 - 2 open houses,
 - 9 displays at City venues,
 - 50 educational signs in parks,
 - Social media posts,
 - Referral letters to Host Nations and
 - Presentations to Council and Committees
- **Over 400 respondents**
- **Webpage views (Jan 17 to Feb 10) – 3,518**
- **Social Media interactions – 7,428**

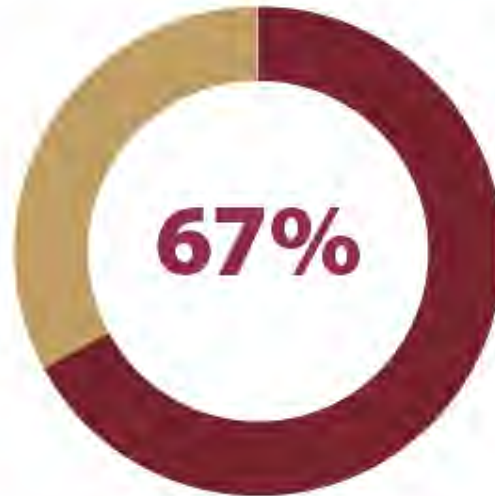


Public Engagement 2

Support Vision & Goals



Strongly support
Vision



Strongly support
Goals



Strongly support
Canopy Targets

Public Engagement 2

Support for Actions:

- Reporting on progress and urban forest data
- Increased staffing and service delivery to fund urban forestry services
- Reviewing the Civic Tree Reserve Fund
- 10-year planting program for park and streets
- Exploring internal and external funding sources
- Updating landscaping standards
- Minimum canopy cover targets by land use
- Involving the community in stewardship



Strategy Updates

- **Territorial Acknowledgement**
- **Public Engagement 2**
- **Executive Summary**
- **Big Moves**
- **Clarifications**
 - Strategy timeframe,
 - 2075 canopy target,
 - Canopy coverage estimates for 2040
 - Terminology around natural assets and green infrastructure
- **Implementation Plan expansion**
- **Glossary**



Project Timeline

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5 IMPLEMENTING

2025

Next Steps

- Recommendation: forward to Council for consideration
- Interdepartmental Implementation Team Meeting
- Initiate Quick Starts
- Review Big Moves

THANK YOU!

