5. Urban forest policy recommendations

There are five management goals with associated policies and actions to guide the Strategy, outlined in section 5.
The five goals are:

PLAN

Accountably to achieve an equitable distribution of connected tree and forest assets that will improve the health of people and communities

PLANT

Strategically to grow a robust and sustainable urban forest that will maximize benefits for human health and ecological function

MANAGE

Adaptively to improve tree health and public safety, respond to challenges and opportunities, and achieve planned levels of service

PROTECT

Prudently to sustain Winnipeg's urban forest canopy where it will maximize benefits for human health and ecological function

PARTNER

Purposefully to foster reconciliation and stewardship that will build capacity to achieve goals and respond to challenges



PLAN ACCOUNTABLY

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
- **Medium:** 5 to 10 years
- **Long:** 11 to 20 years

Financial impact

$: within existing resources/costed in other City strategy
$$: <$100,000
$$$: $100,000 to $500,000
$$$$: >$500,000

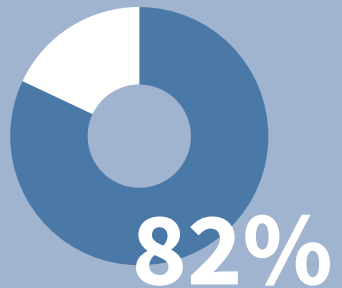
Action plan	Implementation timeline	Financial impacts
Policy 1. Establish and achieve levels of service to meet demonstrated community need		
Action 1A. Adopt service targets for public trees in streets and parks, including city-wide and land use canopy cover and planting density, with corresponding targets for new and replacement planting rates, maintenance cycles, and protection.	Short	$
Action 1B. Commit to an biennial reporting strategy to communicate progress to Standing Policy Committee on closing gaps in service targets and Urban Forest Strategy implementation.	Short	$$$
Action 1C. Develop a customer service framework that prioritizes socially equitable service delivery with consideration of the Complete Communities 2.0 Reinvestment Areas and the Poverty Reduction Strategy.	Medium	$$
Policy 2. Create a City tree policy to guide tree planting, preservation, protection, removal, and maintenance decisions to align with industry standards, best practices, and other City policies		
Action 2A. Review and consolidate existing policy and guideline documents related to trees into a single City tree policy.	Short	$$
Action 2B. Improve consistency in the terminology used in City documents and when communicating with the public, e.g., define boulevard and median consistently.	Short	$$
Policy 3. Include trees as natural assets and their value in the corporate asset management plan		
Action 3A. Assign urban forest asset classes to the corporate asset management plan as street trees, park trees, natural forest areas, and tree planting sites.	Short	$
Action 3B. Estimate the full cost of managing each urban forest asset class over its lifecycle and adjust operational budgets annually as new assets are added to the system, e.g., lifecycle costs including watering, pruning, inspections, and removal.	Short	$
Action 3C. Determine methods for assigning values to urban forest asset classes.	Short	$

Goal

Plan accountably to achieve an equitable distribution of connected tree and forest assets that will improve the health of people and communities

Key target

24% canopy cover city-wide by 2065



82%

Survey respondents wanted canopy cover target set to increase canopy

PLAN ACCOUNTABLY

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
- **Medium:** 5 to 10 years
- **Long:** 11 to 20 years

Financial impact

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Action plan	Implementation timeline	Financial impacts
Policy 4. Collaborate across City departments to deliver co-benefits through integrated policy and project approaches		
Action 4A. Explore opportunities to consistently integrate trees and soil volume into projects to meet stormwater management objectives.	Short	$
Action 4B. Explore opportunities to improve upon and incentivize tree planting and/or protection or inclusion of green infrastructure on private property or in new development, e.g.,stormwater utility tax credits, development incentives, grant programs, or rebates.	Medium	$$
Action 4C. Explore opportunities for service review or special program development in urban forestry to contribute to poverty reduction per the Poverty Reduction Strategy and city well-being as indicated by Winnipeg's PEG Community Indicator system.	Medium	$$
Action 4D. Formalize the involvement of the Urban Forestry Branch in the City's transportation project steering committee to: **i.** Ensure that trees are an integral part of streetscapes, and active transportation infrastructure (on street and off), **ii.** Explore opportunities to use streetscape design and renewal projects to improve planting site quality, and **iii.** Ensure that planting locations and sites are designed to mitigate potential conflicts or leverage opportunities for mutual benefit.	Short	$
Action 4E. Continue to collaborate with the Water and Waste Department on utilizing urban tree waste in the City's soil fabrication, composting, and bio-soil initiatives.	Short	$
Action 4F. Estblish greenhouse gas emissions targets related to urban forest management operations in accordance with the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan.	Medium	$
Policy 5. Manage the urban forest adaptively		
Action 5A. Measure progress regularly by: **i.** Capturing tree canopy using LiDAR every five years **ii.** Maintaining the tree inventory and the inventory of vacant sites **iii.** Continuing to track tree removals and tree planting **iv.** Continuing DED surveillance and elm removal recording **v.** Continuing to track annual pruning **vi.** Surveying resident satisfaction with customer service levels annually	Short	$$$
Action 5B. Review Urban Forest Strategy Action Plan every four years and update recommendations as needed to improve progress towards service targets.	Short	$$$

PLANT STRATEGICALLY

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
- **Medium:** 5 to 10 years
- **Long:** 11 to 20 years

Financial impact

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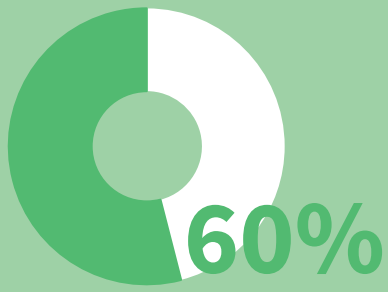
Action plan	Implementation timeline	Financial impacts
Policy 6. Increase new and replacement tree planting in streets and parks to achieve canopy cover targets and promote carbon sinks		
Action 6A. Replace each tree removed from boulevards and parks at 1:1 annually.	Short	$$$$
Action 6B. Plant 760,000 new trees, in addition to replacement trees, on public and private land by 2065 (this is expected to align with community volunteer tree planting programs.	Short	$$$$
Action 6C. Explore opportunities to expand on the current commemorative tree donation program to incentivize the replacement of trees on boulevards and/or on the 10 feet of public land adjacent to privately-owned properties.	Short	$
Policy 7. Prioritize urban tree planting where it is most needed		
Action 7A. Develop a 10-year park and boulevard planting strategy to: **i.** Phase planting in priority areas such as areas of higher poverty, business improvement zones, urban heat hot spots, locations with low City-owned tree density, and in consideration of Complete Communities 2.0 Policy 6.1, **ii.** Create a cool streets network through neighbourhoods, to schools and institutions, between transit hubs, and in alignment with existing and future active transportation routes, and **iii.** Guide planting of treed buffers between subdivisions and regional road networks and highways.	Short	$$
Action 7B. Develop a downtown area and regional streets planting strategy to increase tree canopy and formalize planting selections in these areas.	Short	$$
Action 7C. Create park tree planting specifications, density targets, and guidelines by park classification for inclusion in a new City tree policy and in Development Agreement Parameters.	Short	$$
Action 7D. Explore and enable urban agriculture projects for orchards on City parks or properties in equitable locations and with maintenance partnership agreement in place to support sustainable healthy food systems.	Short	$

Goal

Plant strategically to grow a robust and sustainable urban forest that will maximize benefits for human health and ecological function

Key targets

- No more than 5% of potential planting sites vacant by 2065
- 1:1 tree replacement annually
- No more than 10% of any species and 20% of any genus in the public inventory by 2065



Survey respondents dissatisfied with planting

PLANT STRATEGICALLY

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
- **Medium:** 5 to 10 years
- **Long:** 11 to 20 years

Financial impact

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$$: <$100,000
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Action plan	Implementation timeline	Financial impacts
Policy 8. Increase the diversity of urban tree species in the City's public tree population and develop plans to proactively replace aging or dying elm and ash		
Action 8A. Establish tree diversity standards at no more than 10% of any one species and 20% of any genus in the street and park tree inventory.	Short	$
Action 8B. Develop successional planting plans for neighbourhoods with high proportions of ash and elm trees.	Short	$$
Action 8C. Develop a nursery management plan to grow difficult to source tree species at the civic nursery.	Short	$$
Action 8D. Explore opportunities to create growing contracts with nurseries to improve the procurement of desired species and stock quality in order to meet the reforestation demands within the city.	Short	$
Action 8E. When eligible, apply for Federal funding for tree planting and nursery development through the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation fund, the 2 Billion Trees Program or other funds that become available.	Short	$
Action 8F. Establish trials for planting species with various traits favoured for future climate suitability, disease resistance and salt tolerance, prioritizing large canopy areas as an adaptation measure to sustain the character of mature trees in Winnipeg, and to maximize opportunities to sequester carbon.	Medium	$$$
Action 8G. Update the Acceptable Tree Species for Boulevard Planting as needed to add new species expected to perform well under changing climate and remove species that are not performing well.	Short	$
Policy 9. Maximize the health and life expectancy of newly planted public trees on City streets and in parks		
Action 9A. Update and consolidate the Tree Planting and Maintenance Specification document and the Tree Planting Details and Specifications Downtown Area and Regional Streets document to create a City tree planting standard, with particular consideration for the following: **i.** Consolidating the two documents, with standards specific to downtown and regional streets, **ii.** Establish new minimum soil volume requirements: **1.** *Small trees; 8 cubic metres of soil, 6 cubic metres if shared* **2.** *Medium trees; 20 cubic metres of soil, 15 cubic metres if shared* **3.** *Large trees; 35 cubic metres of soil, 30 cubic metres if shared, and* **iii.** Enable the City Forester to approve reduced soil volumes in short-term landscapes where trees may be managed on a short-lived rotation (less than 25 years).	Short	$

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
- **Medium:** 5 to 10 years
- **Long:** 11 to 20 years

Financial impact

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Action plan	Implementation timeline	Financial impacts
Policy 10. Maximize the quantity and quality of trees planted with development		
Action 10A. Update the Zoning By-law (200/2006) and related policy to: **i.** Explore alignment with Infill Design Guidelines document which contains spatial requirements for private infill planting, **ii.** Simplify information included in the Zoning By-law and instead refer to a technical document that contains detail for tree requirements, **iii.** Require trees on private land to be spaced at least 6 m away from any existing or proposed City-owned tree, **iv.** In addition to requiring one tree for every 10 metres of frontage, establish a planting or retention target of 30 trees per hectare to contribute to achieving 24% city-wide canopy cover at maturity and explore cash-in-lieu where tree density cannot be accommodated, **v.** Require surface parking to incorporate landscape buffers and one tree per six stalls, **vi.** When trees are retained, reduce the credits by half for each size class, **vii.** Require, when possible, consolidated permeable areas in preferred locations (e.g., frontage or rear yard) to support tree planting on private land, **viii.** Specify soil quality, depth, and volume requirements on newly developed boulevards and private property to support healthy trees, **ix.** When trees are present onsite or on neighbouring property, require tree surveys and arborist reports to accurately locate trees and recommend retention, protection, and removals of any trees impacted by development prior to building permit approval, **x.** Consider enforcement program to ensure trees for new developments are planted in accordance with zoning requirements and plan approvals, and **xi.** Require bonding for tree protection, planting and landscaping.	Short	$$
Action 10B. Update the Downtown Zoning By-law (100/2004) and related policy to: **i.** Simplify information included in the Downtown Zoning By-law and instead refer to a technical document that contains detail for tree requirements, **ii.** Require trees on private land to be spaced at least 6 m away from any existing or proposed City-owned tree, **iii.** Establish a planting or retention target of 18 trees per hectare that are sufficient to achieve 15% canopy cover at maturity in the Downtown area and explore cash-in-lieu where tree density cannot be accommodated, **iv.** Require minimum soil volumes per tree: **1.** *Small trees 8 cubic metres of soil, 6 cubic metres if shared* **2.** *Medium trees 20 cubic metres of soil, 15 cubic metres if shared* **3.** *Large trees 35 cubic metres of soil, 30 cubic metres if shared,*	Short	$$

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
- **Medium:** 5 to 10 years
- **Long:** 11 to 20 years

Financial impact

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Action plan	Implementation timeline	Financial impacts
v. When trees are present onsite or on neighbouring property, require tree surveys and arborist reports to accurately locate trees and recommend retention, protection, and removals of any trees impacted by development, **vi.** Require bonding for tree protection, planting, and landscaping, and **vii.** Consider enforcement program to ensure trees for new development are planted in accordance with the Downtown Zoning By-law and plan approvals.	Short	$$
Action 10C. Update the Development Agreement Parameters and associated standards to: **i.** Ensure that tree planting, soil volume and quality requirements including soil specifications for boulevards and parks, are consistent with existing and updated City policies and standards related to trees and new City tree policy, **ii.** Require minimum boulevard planting strip widths to support street trees and in consideration of services within the right-of-way, **iii.** Include park tree planting requirements based on achieving tree planting densities specified by parks classification, and **iv.** Require a minimum planting in new neighbourhoods at 30 trees per hectare to contribute to achieving 24% city-wide canopy cover at maturity, with that minimum to be met separately on private land uses, in streets and in parks whenever possible.	Short	$$
Policy 11. Provide incentives to encourage private land tree planting		
Action 11A. Continue to collaborate with community partners who subsidize tree planting on private land and provide education extension services to increase resident uptake, including exploring options to both fund trees and increase participation of residents, landlords, rental agencies, and community organizations in high poverty areas. Work with landlords, rental agencies and community organizations to look at the needs of rental income properties.	Short	$
Action 11B. Develop a recommended species list to provide information to residents about species growing requirements, pest and disease risk, climate hardiness, and salt tolerance.	Short	$
Policy 12. Expand and enhance naturalized forest and riverbank areas		
Action 12A. Develop a natural areas management plan that includes a restoration planting strategy to guide the planting of native trees and enhancement of forest structure in urban parks, boulevards, and riverbanks.	Short	$
Action 12B. Continue to propagate plants in the native plant nursery to maintain local biodiversity in natural area plantings.	Short	$
Action 12C. Explore opportunities to work with the Province of Manitoba and other stakeholders to source climate adapted seeds and seedlings for natural areas.	Medium	$
Action 12D. Where eligible, apply for Federal funding for native tree propagation and restoration through the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation fund, 2 Billion Trees Program or other funds that become available.	Short	$
Action 12E. Restore degraded riverbanks or other restoration areas in accordance with the natural areas management plan.	Medium	$

MANAGE ADAPTIVELY

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
- **Medium:** 5 to 10 years
- **Long:** 11 to 20 years

Financial impact

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$$: <$100,000
$$$: $100,000 to $500,000
$$$$: >$500,000

Action plan	Implementation timeline	Financial impacts
Policy 13. Maintain and regularly update an inventory of urban forest assets		
Action 13A. Work with the Corporate Support Services to identify appropriate software to update the tree inventory to a cloud-based system hosted on City GIS.	Short	$
Action 13B. Create or procure a work management system to work with the City's tree inventory system.	Short	$$$
Action 13C. Update and maintain an inventory of vacant planting locations.	Short	$$
Action 13D. Map urban tree canopy to establish a baseline canopy extent.	Short	$$
Action 13E. Explore options to monitor tree health using remote sensing or other emerging technologies.	Medium	$$
Action 13F. Document a process for managing and updating the tree inventory as crews complete the pruning cycle.	Short	$
Action 13G. Add virtual tree tags to Commemorative Trees.	Short	$
Policy 14. Follow a best practices program for tree care and tree risk management for City-owned trees		
Action 14A. Inspect City-owned trees on a regular cycle based on their location or condition. **i.** Update the current block pruning program to target a seven-year cycle for street trees and 12-year cycle for park trees and prioritize areas with a higher proportion of trees in poor condition. **ii.** When an area comes up for inspection with the pruning cycle, conduct windshield surveys to both identify 'Priority 1' trees requiring immediate attention, as well as to define the scope of pruning work for the cycle. **iii.** Include a 'Monitor Risk' action in the tree inventory to flag trees requiring annual risk assessment.	Short	$$$$
Action 14B. Continue enhanced maintenance of street and park trees in Downtown area.	Short	$
Action 14C. Continue current on-demand practices for responding to service requests for pruning or risk assessment.	Short	$

Goal

Manage adaptively to improve tree health and public safety, respond to challenges and opportunities, and achieve planned levels of service

Key targets

- Prune street trees on a 7-year cycle and park trees on a 12-year cycle
- No more than 1.5% annual loss of public trees
- No more than 2% annual loss of city-wide American elm

31 year pruning cycle in 2019

MANAGE ADAPTIVELY

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
- **Medium:** 5 to 10 years
- **Long:** 11 to 20 years

Financial impact

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$$: <$100,000
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Action plan	Implementation timeline	Financial impacts
Action 14D. Document risk assessment and response in records tied to the tree inventory.	Short	$
Action 14E. Consider establishing tree risk assessor qualifications for staff responding to service requests for on-demand risk inspection and proactive risk assessment.	Short	$$
Action 14F. Document a formal storm response plan.	Short	$
Action 14G. Consider extending the watering and maintenance program for newly planted trees from two years to five years after planting.	Short	$$
Policy 15. Rapidly remove dead, diseased, and dangerous trees		
Action 15A. Implement a prioritized rapid removal program for Dutch elm disease by removing priority brood trees by August 30th annually.	Short	$$$$
Action 15B. Complete all tree removals for Dutch elm disease infected trees by April each year.	Short	$$$$
Action 15C. Create and implement an invasive forest pest response plan for ash trees, including: **i.** an emerald ash borer response plan for parks and natural areas to define procedures for trail/park closures, **ii.** tree removals and debris management thresholds to mitigate public safety risk, and **iii.** wildfire risk once emerald ash borer has been detected in an area.	Short	$
Action 15D. Update the Neighbourhood Livability By-law to enable the City to require owners to remove dead trees, dying trees, or trees infested with emerald ash borer including penalties for violations.	Medium	$$
Action 15E. Explore opportunities for community partnerships or subsidies to overcome potential inequities when requiring residents to removed dead, diseased or dangerous trees.	Medium	$$
Action 15F. Continue to explore wood utilization options such as directing waste wood to the Water and Waste department to manage the volumes of wood waste anticipated in the next 10 years.	Short	$
Policy 16. Minimize the use and impact of common practices in winter road management that harm City-owned trees		
Action 16A. Continue to explore alternatives to road salts, such as beet juice and calcium chloride.	Short	$
Action 16B. Consider mitigating salt impacts in planting areas; in particular, give consideration to: **i.** Flushing planting areas and trees with water in the spring prior to bud break, and **ii.** Integrate installation of larger soil volumes and drainage with road and sidewalk construction and upgrades to enable flushing of soil and greater dilution of salt concentrations.	Short	$$$

MANAGE ADAPTIVELY

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
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Action plan	Implementation timeline	Financial impacts
Policy 17. Strengthen communication and information sharing between departments and other agencies external to the City		
Action 17A. Ensure tree inventory data is available internally across departments.	Short	$
Action 17B. Add tree issues categories to the 311 dropdown menu for view/find and apply/register/report on the City website.	Short	$
Action 17C. Create an online map interface on the City's GIS platform to publicly communicate planned tree removals and plantings.	Medium	$
Action 17D. Establish a working group with Manitoba Hydro to streamline processes for pruning or removing trees within 10 feet of utility wires and within Hydro easements, and to establish standards for pruning elms in the City at risk of Dutch elm disease.	Short	$
Policy 18. Monitor natural area forest cover and prioritize invasive species removal where overstory canopy losses are expected		
Action 18A. Inventory the extent of buckthorn and other invasive species with the potential to invade and replace forests following ash or elm removal.	Short	$$$
Action 18B. Obtain data on understory regeneration and seed bank composition in ash and elm dominated natural areas to identify areas needing replanting.	Short	$$
Action 18C. Develop a natural areas management plan that identifies high risk canopy areas as well as appropriate treatment options, and also includes recommendations for restoration post-disturbance, if applicable.	Short	$

PROTECT PRUDENTLY

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
- **Medium:** 5 to 10 years
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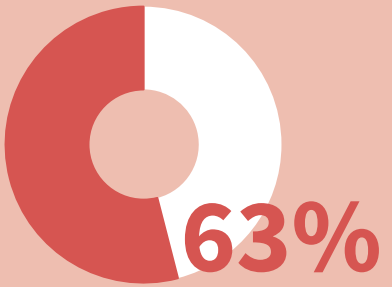
Action plan	Implementation timeline	Financial impacts
Policy 19. Increase protections for trees and soil on private land		
Action 19A. Pursue revisions to the City of Winnipeg Charter to enable the City to regulate tree preservation and protection on private property under a new tree bylaw.	Short	$
Action 19B. Consider creating a tree bylaw that: **i.** Regulates removal, protection, and replacement of trees that are retained or planted as a condition of a building permit or a legal agreement related to development, servicing, zoning, or subdivision, **ii.** Regulates removal, protection, and replacement of trees in existing natural areas (quality grade C or above) identified in the Natural Areas Inventory and regulated areas of the Waterway By-law (5888/92), and **iii.** Enables enforcement and fines for damage to trees protected under the bylaw.	Short	$$
Action 19C. Update the Tree Removal Guidelines to Tree Preservation Guidelines and: **i.** Consolidate these Guidelines with other policies in a new City Tree Policy, and **ii.** Establish City-owned replacement tree planting securities to $2,000 per tree (up to a maximum total per project) to deter forfeiture of planting obligations on development sites.	Short	$$
Action 19D. Monitor tree canopy loss on private property over time using urban tree canopy mapping to detect changes at the lot scale and consider whether future updates to the tree bylaw should broaden tree protection to all private land.	Medium	$$
Action 19E. Create a Development Arborist position to support and administer the regulatory components for trees in the zoning bylaws and receive referrals on all tree issues related to development.	Short	$$$
Action 19F. Explore opportunities to advance tree protection earlier in the development process and formalize a referral stage with Land Development or a new Development Arborist position.	Short	$
Action 19G. Create technical documents that detail tree requirements in support of the Zoning By-law (200/2006) and Downtown Zoning By-law (100/2004) to include requirements for arborist reporting and protection standards and bonds to be held for retained trees during development.	Short	$$

Goal

Protect prudently to sustain Winnipeg's urban forest canopy where it will maximize the benefits for human health and ecological function

Key targets

- No more than 1.5% annual loss of public trees
- No more than 2% annual loss of city-wide American elm



Survey respondents dissatisfied with tree protection during development/construction

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
- **Medium:** 5 to 10 years
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Financial impact

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Action plan		Financial impacts
Action 19H. Consider enabling density bonuses and up-zoning to provide incentives for the retention of existing natural areas (quality grade C or above) identified in the Natural Areas Inventory or restoration of areas that would contribute towards developing a city-wide green infrastructure network.	Medium	$
Action 19I. Explore options to regulate or provide incentives to retain native soils for use on development sites, or to protect native soil areas on lands that will become parks or tree planting areas.	Medium	$
Policy 20. Increase protections for the City-owned trees		
Action 20A. Review the Park By-law, Streets By-law, Neighbourhood Livability By-law and Municipal By-law Enforcement Act Enabling By-law to: **i.** Prohibit damage to and unauthorized removal of all trees on City property under the authority of the City Forester, **ii.** Add fine provisions and amounts for damage to or removal of City-owned trees.	Short	$$
Action 20B. Advance tree protection earlier in the design process for municipal projects and to formalize processes for referring projects to Urban Forestry for review and recommendations.	Short	$$$
Action 20C. Update tree protection specifications for inclusion in City construction specifications to include tree preservation and protection measures, requiring project arborists for supervising works around trees, and hold backs.	Short	$
Action 20D. Move Tree Protection during Construction from the Tree Planting Details & Specifications Downtown Area and Regional Streets into a new City Tree Policy module and require security bonds per tree to be held for the duration of construction projects (amounts based on a minimum per tree and/or tree valuation, whichever is greater).	Short	$$
Action 20E. Consider expanding on Tree Protection during Construction in the City Tree Policy to include a section for the protection of ecologically significant lands on City property.	Short	$$
Action 20F. Consider identifying historical City-owned tree resources, such as the Broadway elms, to nominate for inclusion in the List of Historical Buildings and Resources and protection under the Historical Resources By-law (55/2014).	Medium	$$

PROTECT PRUDENTLY

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
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Financial impact

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Policy 21. Create a connected and protected green infrastructure network of public trees, parks, and natural area forests		
Action 21A. Building on the Ecologically Significant Natural Lands Strategy, identify a city-wide green infrastructure network of significant habitats and corridors and prioritize for protection and restoration through the development planning process.	Short	$
Action 21B. Update the Ecologically Significant Natural Lands Strategy (ESNL) and provide policy direction identifying how and when natural areas are to be preserved to: **i.** Explore the possibility of identifying forest patches in ecologically significant natural lands for protection and integration into the design of new communities at the secondary planning stage, prior to dedication of parkland, and **ii.** Enable the evaluation and designation of ESNL on all City lands prior to disposition or destruction of natural features.	Short	$
Action 21C. Focus protection and preservation of continuous forest patches with a canopy greater than 0.5 ha in area, in accordance with the Winnipeg Parks Strategy.	Short	$
Action 21D. Proactively acquire parks in rural and agricultural areas to preserve natural areas, in accordance with Winnipeg's Parks Strategy and Complete Communities. **i.** As these spaces are acquired, ensure that Indigenous peoples have access to this space for land-based education programs, including cultural teachings, food, and ceremonies.	Long	$
Action 21E. Explore opportunities to incentivize private landowners to protect and restore ecologically significant lands.	Medium	$
Action 21F. Create a conservation fund with the objective of acquiring natural areas and forested land.	Long	$

PARTNER PURPOSEFULLY

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
- **Medium:** 5 to 10 years
- **Long:** 11 to 20 years

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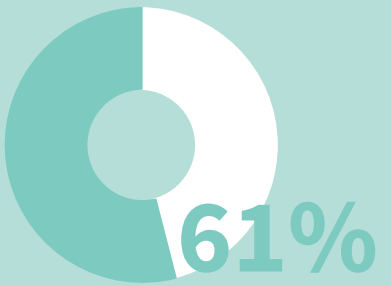
Action plan	Implementation timeline	Financial impacts
Policy 22. Establish mutually-respectful partnerships with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit governments, organizations, and individuals		
Action 22A. Identify and establish partnerships with Indigenous communities and learn how to engage with Indigenous peoples.	Short	$
Action 22B. Work together with local Indigenous communities to incorporate Indigenous perspectives into plant species selection and climate adaptation approaches for Winnipeg's urban forest and natural areas.	Short	$
Policy 23. Empower residents to participate in urban forest management.		
Action 23A. Explore the potential to create a Citizen Forester program in collaboration with a community partner to train volunteers to: **i.** Prune newly planted trees in years three and five, **ii.** Participate in watering trees, **iii.** Participate as citizen scientists and collect data to inform urban forest management, and **iv.** Become community tree stewards who can be called on to train new volunteers and provide presentations and education to community members interested in participating in stewardship programs.	Medium	$$
Action 23B. Enable smaller caliper trees to be planted on City property by residents or community groups under agreement with approved contractors when approved by the City Forester.	Short	$
Action 23C. Explore grant or tax incentive program opportunities to support people to maintain large trees on their own properties.	Long	$$
Action 23D. Provide canopy cover and other urban forest data on a public map viewer dashboard and make data available on the Open Data system.	Medium	$
Action 23E. Explore the development of an Adopt-a-Tree-Block program where residents of a street could come together to monitor and enhance young tree care and watering in streets or parks, and to share information about planting and tree care on their own properties.	Medium	$$

Goal

Partner constructively to foster reconciliation and stewardship that will build capacity to achieve goals and respond to challenges

Key targets

At least 50% customer satisfaction rate across all services



Survey respondents dissatisfied with public education

PARTNER PURPOSEFULLY

LEGEND

Implementation timeline

- **Short:** 1 to 4 years
- **Medium:** 5 to 10 years
- **Long:** 11 to 20 years

Financial impact

$: within existing resources/costed in other City strategy
$$: <$100,000
$$$: $100,000 to $500,000
$$$$: >$500,000

Action plan	Implementation timeline	Financial impacts
Policy 24. Raise the profile of urban forestry city-wide		
Action 24A. Promote the Tree Donation Program to encourage more participation from businesses and individuals to contribute to reforestation and/or new plantings.	Short	$
Action 24B. Develop and implement a communications and stewardship plan that explores opportunities to share key messages about implementing the Urban Forest Strategy, engage community members in stewardship, and provide educational opportunities in collaboration with partners.	Short	$$$
Action 24C. Develop a community volunteer tree planting program with required associated resources.	Short	$$$
Action 24D. Pursue 'Tree City' status through the Tree Cities of the World program and consider certification with the Sustainable Forest Institute (program anticipated in 2023) to recognize Winnipeg's commitment to caring for its urban forest.	Short	$$$
Action 24E. Explore opportunities to collaborate with partners in the arts and business improvement zones to develop an urban arboretum/art projects that uses trees and signage to tell stories of the urban forest and ensure Indigenous voices and histories are heard.	Medium	$$
Action 24F. Explore opportunities to partner with Manitoba Hydro to share information with the public about tree removals, pruning, and replanting taking place due to their maintenance activities.	Short	$
Policy 25. Work with partners to implement the Urban Forest Strategy		
Action 25A. Continue to work with the Western Nursery Growers group on planting trials in various prairie regions to test hardiness and suitability of different tree species and new cultivars.	Short	$
Action 25B. Continue to collaborate with non-government agencies and community organizations that can support the City's implementation of the Urban Forest Strategy and coordinate stewardship activities and grants to support community tree planting.	Short	$$
Action 25C. Continue to work with local universities to study the urban forest, Dutch elm disease, emerald ash borer, and the effectiveness of management practices to support adaptive management.	Short	$
Action 25D. Continue to support and promote Trees Winnipeg's ReLeaf program and related initiatives.	Short	$
Action 25E. Continue to maintain regular contact and collaborate with the Province of Manitoba and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency on the management of current and emerging pest and disease threats.	Short	$
Action 25F. Continue to participate in regional networks such as the Prairies Region Canadian Urban Forest Network, the Manitoba Urban Forest Council, the Manitoba Nursery and Landscape Association, and the International Society of Arboriculture Prairie Chapter.	Short	$
Action 25G. Explore opportunities to partner with government and the development and construction sectors to implement stewardship programs that would support the preservation and restoration of native woodland areas.	Medium	$
Action 25H. Explore opportunities to partner with school and institutional land managers to adopt canopy cover targets and implement the Urban Forest Strategy on their own lands.	Long	$$