

Air Odor Noise Committee

Roi Dagan, M.D. – Chair
Michelle Tappouni
Mobeen Rathore, M.D.
David Wood
Gabriel DuPree - Alt

Education & Public Outreach

Michelle Tappouni - Chair
Lucinda Sonnenberg, Ph.D.
Nick Howland
Bobby Baker, P.E.



Water Committee

Lucinda Sonnenberg, Ph.D. – Chair
Gabriel DuPree
Amy Fu, P.E.
Bobby L. Baker, P.E.
David Wood – Alt

Nick Howland – Chairman

Amy Fu, P.E. – Vice Chairman

Bobby L. Baker, P.E., Roi Dagan, M.D., Gabriel DuPree

Mobeen Rathore, M.D., Lucinda Sonnenberg, Ph.D., Michelle Tappouni, David Wood

City of Jacksonville, Florida

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD

Monday, February 13, 2017

**Continuation of Public Hearing- Funding Request
Public Trust Canopy & Tree Planting Survey**

Members Present:

Nick Howland, Chair
Amy Fu, P.E., Vice Chair
Gabriel DuPree
Michelle Tappouni

Lucinda Sonnenberg, Ph.D.
Bobby Baker, P.E.
David Wood
Mobeen Rathore, M.D. (via phone)

Members not present:

Roi Dagan, M.D.

Staff/Resources Present

James Richardson, EPB Administrator
Jason Teal, OGC

Melissa Long, P.E., Chief
Tree Kilbourn, EQD

Visitor(s):

John Wallace
John November
Tom Larson, Sierra Club

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nick Howland called the Public Hearing of the Environmental Protection Board (EPB) to order at 5:45 p.m.

NICK HOWLAND

CHAIR STATEMENT

Chair Howland read a statement which provided an outline of how the hearing would proceed: presentation by staff, presentation by petitioner, comments from public, board discussion and clarification, board action and procedural summary.

PRESENTATION BY PETITIONER

James Richardson, EPB Administrator shared that the Funding Request – Public Trust Tree Canopy Survey is continued from the November 14, 2016 EPB Public Hearing.

Jason Teal, OGC shared that the petitioner wanted a mandate that the City would use the tree survey data developed as part of their program. The city has a purchasing code to comply with and a method such as this can't be used to circumvent the City's purchasing code. If there is a mandate to use the data then this would have to go through a complete bidding process. OGC has met with petitioner to get those issues resolved and there is no longer a mandate for the City to use the Tree Survey. The survey will be there for the City to use.

John November, Public Trust Environmental Legal Institute of Florida, made the presentation titled Survey of the Canopy and Tree Planting Priorities (attached). The Survey will allow a better understanding of the health and breadth of our tree canopy, the environmental impacts of stewardship and financial benefits of effective tree plantings (between \$10 million & 19 million worth of trees) in upcoming years.

Public Trust guarantees free use of the Survey to the City once it's completed. This is a 3 year proposal survey.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND STAFF CLARIFICATION

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding access to the tree data, updating the inventory, who will plant the trees, the number of trees to be planted, allocating funding, maintaining the trees, the tree fund use for private or public property, platform for sharing the project, how will data be accessed by the city or citizens, does the Public Trust have staff to access data, etc.

Tom Larson shared that the data will be hosted in the cloud and managed by the contractor for three years. The security system, access, control and tool sets will be available to the City just as it would be for the Public Trust. There will be a need to train users.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

None.

BOARD VOTE

A motion was made to approve the Public Trust Tree Canopy Survey proposal (DuPree) which was properly seconded (Sonnenberg).

There was an inquiry if the Board wanted to place condition(s) in the Public Trust Tree Canopy Study which was proposed. After a brief discussion, the following conditions were recommended:

- A quarterly report - submitted to the Education and Outreach Committee
- An annual report which shall include the number of trees planted and outlines the efforts of the City's use of the study

A motion was made to amend the Public Trust Tree Canopy Survey funding in the amount of \$103,895.00 with the conditions stated (Tappouni) which was properly seconded (Sonnenberg) and approved by the body.

PROCEDURAL SUMMARY

EPB Counsel Jason Teal stated that the proposal will go before the Mayor's Budget Review Committee and then be forwarded to City Council.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board hearing adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Ruby Tucker, Executive Assistant to EQD Chief

Survey of the Canopy and Tree Planting Priorities

John Henry November Esq.

Public Trust Environmental
Institute of Florida

Legal

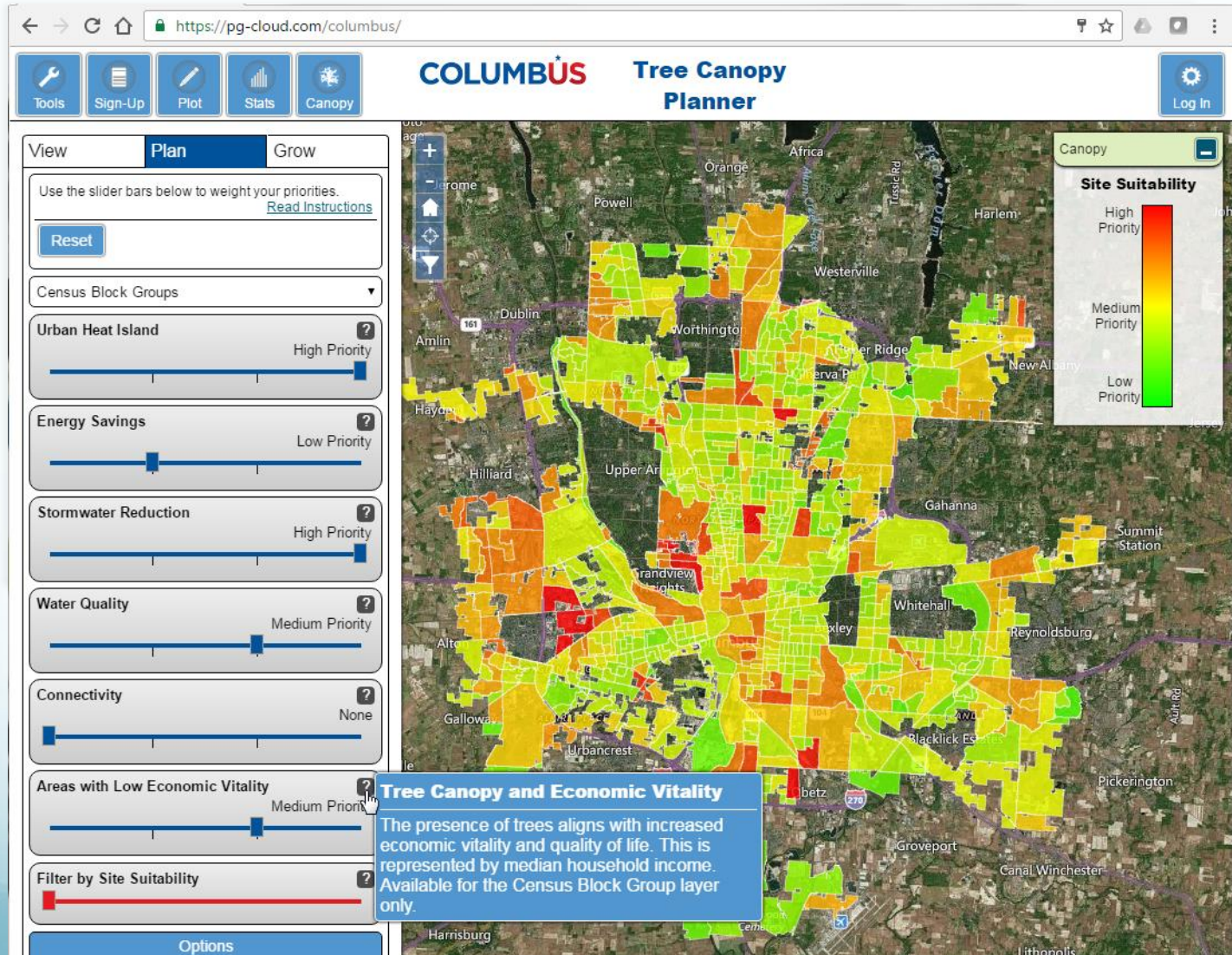
February 13th 2017



PUBLIC
TRUST

Environmental Legal Institute of Florida

Canopy Survey Creates a Baseline



Education & Outreach

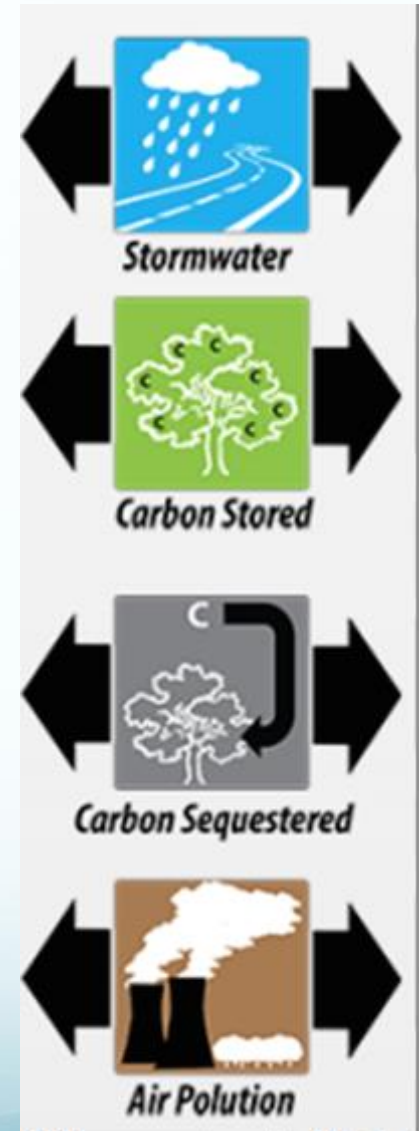


EARTH DAY

- Production of eye-catching video to highlight survey's versatile applications by the Public Trust;
- Production of an on-demand 45-minute tutorial video to teach participants how to use the Survey's unique applications by Plan-It Geo and the Public Trust;
- At least twenty community presentations to CPACs, community groups, nonprofits, and the City Council by Public Trust Executive Director John November before the end of May 2018;
- Creation & distribution of educational materials to help citizens use Survey to demonstrate environmental impacts of our Tree Canopy, organize planting projects, and educate adults and children about the present and future of our canopy in collaboration with Greenscape;
- Public Trust and Greenscape will work directly with hundreds of stakeholders to provide hands-on training on how to use Survey applications and will produce interactive play for school groups;
- Survey presentations will be key feature of Jacksonville's 2018 Earth Day Celebration.

Environmental Impacts

- While our trees are commonly appreciated for their aesthetic value, the *true* benefits of our trees and forests are often underestimated or under-valued.
- This comprehensive Survey will provide essential “green data layer” for monetizing the City’s trees and evaluating the canopy’s environmental impact.
- The study and it’s resulting maps will be used to quantify the ecosystem services and benefits of the existing tree canopy on our air and water.
- Interactive applications will allow users to quickly simulate scenarios projecting the environmental benefits of an increased canopy.
- Once the survey is complete, the City and community stakeholders will be able to estimate the amount of ecosystem services to be provided by planting projects.
- When Jacksonville’s canopy survey is analyzed with other economic, social, and ecological data, it can guide our community in strategic, focused planting and stewardship activities to achieve broad sustainability goals.



Survey Budget

- Survey of the Canopy & Tree Planting Priorities = \$78,895.00
- Education & Outreach Activities = \$25,000.00
- Total Budget = **\$103,895.00**



Survey Ownership & City Use

- The Public Trust guarantees the unlimited free use of the Survey to the City once it has been completed. It is critical that this project be perceived as the Public Trust and Greenscape's project although collaboration with the City and other stakeholders will be essential moving forward.
- The City has provided a statement that the City anticipates using the Survey once it has been completed. The Public Trust, Greenscape, and other community partners will use the Survey to help spearhead planting projects and educate the public on the benefits of an enhanced canopy.
- Time is of the essence for this project as a delayed start could result in lost efficiencies and the missing of an opportunity to complement another COJ urban forestry project related to stormwater, the tree canopy, and strengthening of the Jacksonville Tree Ordinance.

Conclusion

- The Survey will allow our community to better understand the health and breadth of our tree canopy, the environmental impacts of community stewardship, and the financial benefits of focused and effective tree plantings in upcoming years.
- Our community has the once-in-a-generation opportunity to plant between \$10 million and \$19 million worth of trees in upcoming years. We need this Survey and its accompanying tools to most effectively set goals and priorities for tree plantings. Using information from this Survey and complementary projects will result in a drastic improvement to Jacksonville's urban landscape and our overall environmental quality.

