

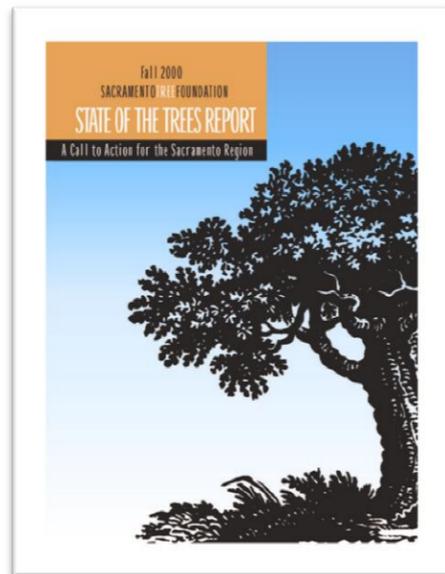
## HOW ARE WE DOING?

This master plan will be updated and revised periodically to reflect changes in the urban forest resource structure and function, to incorporate changes in industry standards, to consider community response, and to measure the progress of the urban forest partners in implementing the recommendations and reaching the established goals.

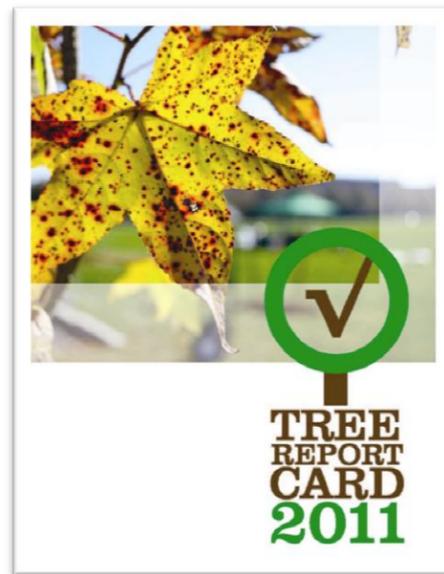
Knowing how we are doing will require a continual process of evaluation. This section presents examples of how to monitor, analyze, and revise the plan, which will keep stakeholders informed of the status of our urban forest program.

### Monitor

To monitor progress toward implementing the plan recommendations, a report card should be created and distributed to the public every two to three years. This will measure the progress toward implementing the plan recommendations. The following example provides a suggested reporting structure to measure success toward accomplishing each goal. Other indicators to measure progress may need to be developed to ensure a thorough and accurate evaluation. Examples of urban forest industry reports are available; Pittsburgh's report card may draw on components of these to refine the City's report.



*Sacramento California's State of the Trees Report was first published in 1996 and again in 2000, and includes tree population data, budgets for city and park trees, tree benefits, current conditions, and recommendations.*



*Tree Report Card, created by Casey Trees, a Washington, DC-based firm, measures tree coverage, tree health, tree planting, and tree protection.*

## Example Report Card

### CONNECT

- List recommendations achieved, ongoing, and not started.
- List urban forest partners that have adopted and use the plan.
- Describe urban forest research initiatives.
- Number of trees planted and their location.
- Other successes.

### ENGAGE

- List recommendations achieved, ongoing, and not started.
- Number of new neighborhood initiatives related to urban forestry.
- Describe public outreach and education efforts.
- Number of volunteer efforts.
- Other successes.

### MANAGE

- List recommendations achieved, ongoing, and not started.
- Report current funding levels for urban forestry programs.
- Describe implementation of proactive management efforts.
- Report on the progress of implementing a risk management program.
- Number of trees planted and maintained.
- Other successes.

### PLAN

- List recommendations achieved, ongoing, and not started.
- Describe efforts to incorporate urban forestry practices into stormwater management.
- Report the current urban tree canopy and efforts to increase canopy.
- Report on the establishment of a tree emergency response and recovery plan.
- Other successes.

### PROTECT

- Report the current threat of exotic and invasive pests and diseases.
- Describe tree protection efforts.
- Other successes.

## Analyze

Measuring accomplishment of the recommendations will require ongoing analysis. A state of the urban forest report should be prepared and distributed to the public every 5 to 10 years. Analysis may include an updated street tree inventory, i-Tree Benefits analyses, or urban tree canopy assessments.

The state of the urban forest report should include the benchmark values as reported in the plan as of 2012, so that we can measure and compare changes to the urban forest.

### ***Pittsburgh Urban Forest Benchmark Values***

#### **Urban Tree Canopy (UTC) Cover (2011)**

UTC, all areas	40%
UTC, excluding water	42%

#### **Estimated Tree Count**

Street Trees (2005)	30,538
Park Trees (2007)	5,666
Complete Urban Forest (2011)	2,628,000
Street Trees Per Capita (2008)	0.09
Total Trees Per Capita (2011)	8.7

#### **Species Diversity: # of Species Exceeding the Recommended 10%**

Street Trees (2005)	4
Park Trees (2007)	1
Complete Urban Forest (2011)	2

#### **Pest Susceptibility (2011)**

Asian Longhorned Beetle	1,780,000 Trees (67%)
Emerald Ash Borer	230,000 Trees (9%)
Dutch Elm Disease	220,000 Trees (8%)
Gypsy Moth	175,000 Trees (7%)

#### **Street Tree Benefits (2008)**

Total Annual Benefit	\$2,400,975
Annual Per Tree Benefit	\$53
Annual Per Capita Benefit	\$8

#### **Urban Forest Benefits (2011)**

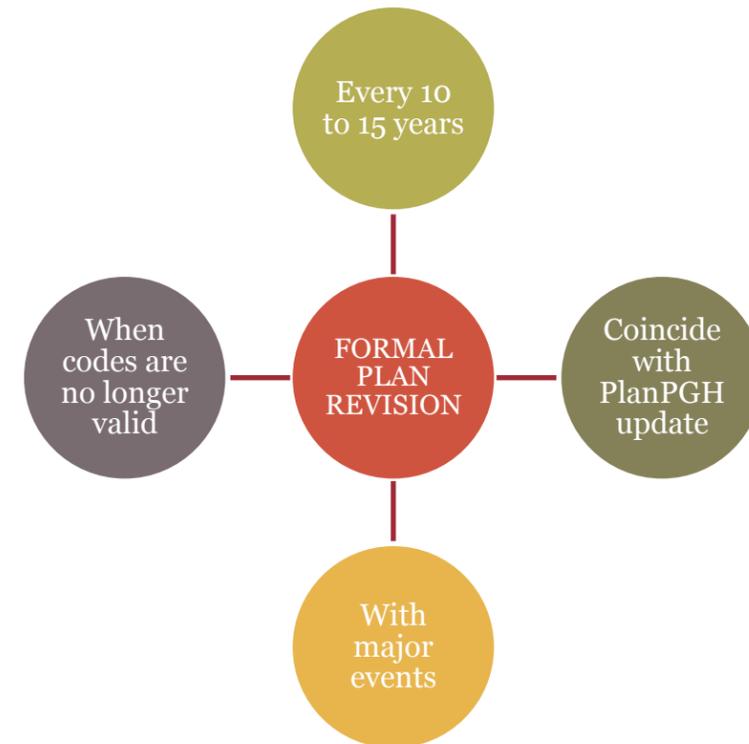
Total Annual Benefit	\$7,232,600
Annual Per Tree Benefit	\$3
Annual Per Capita Benefit	\$24

#### **Structural Value**

Street (2005)	\$37 million
Park (2007)	\$16.5 million
Complete Urban Forest (2011)	\$1.13 billion

## Revise

Completion of this plan is the first step towards meeting our vision for the urban forest. Continual monitoring, analysis, and reporting will help to keep urban forest partners involved and focused on accomplishing the recommendations. Plans are typically revised every 10 to 15 years; however, the plan will need formal revision to respond and adapt to changes as they develop. Formal revision of the plan should coincide with the update of PlanPGH and the OpenSpace component. Recommendations and goals of each should be compared. Revisions to the plan should occur with major events, such as newly discovered pests or diseases or significant changes to industry standards or legal codes.



## Conclusion

To build and maintain support for the plan, urban forest partners and decision makers must be kept aware of the successes and challenges in accomplishing the recommendations. The report card and the state of the urban forest report will be distributed as part of a public campaign. With the involvement of the urban forest partners and continued monitoring, analysis, and revision, this plan will become a living document.