



TEXAS TREES
FOUNDATION

Urban Heat, Tree Equity and Program Overview
September 3, 2024

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About the Texas Trees Foundation



CREATING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES SINCE 1982

Since 1982, the Texas Trees Foundation has served as a catalyst in creating a new green legacy for Texas through transformational, research-based plans and programs that educate and mobilize the public to activate the social, economic, environmental, and health benefits that trees and urban forestry provide for a better quality of life.

MISSION

The Mission of the Texas Trees Foundation is to preserve, beautify and expand parks and other public natural green spaces, and to beautify our public streets, boulevards and rights-of-way by planting trees and encouraging others to do the same through educational programs that focus on the importance of building and protecting the “urban forest” today as a legacy for generations to come.

SHARED GOALS

The City of Dallas / Texas Trees Foundation

Mayor Johnson's Green Focus

Creating new green spaces out of land the city already owns can improve the lives of countless children and families across Dallas.

Vision Zero

Vision Zero's High Injury Network and the design will be geared toward lowering vehicle speeds and reducing safety conflicts.

Complete Streets

Multi-modal connectivity and reformatting a heavily auto-oriented corridor, while implementing green streets and providing traffic calming elements and intersection improvements.

Dallas Urban Forest Master Plan

Strategic and cohesive agenda to manage this "green infrastructure". If centralized within the City, there can be a comprehensive cost-effective approach to aligning investments for a greater return while at the same time providing a roadmap for private partners to help reach the goals and objectives of a strategic urban forestry plan.

Environmental CECAP

CECAP focus by increasing access to walking and biking; leveraging green space to provide climate adaptation benefits; increasing healthy forests, parks, and green spaces; integrating nature-based solutions into public realm as a public health strategy; providing stormwater improvements; and using evidence-based design to target urban heat and air quality. TTF provides goal alignment on goals 1, 5, 6, and 8.

Forward Dallas

Citywide visionary plan that establishes guidelines for how public and private land should be used and what the city should look like. These decisions about the use and design of land have a significant impact on almost every aspect of daily life, including job opportunities, commute times, air quality, and access to healthy food options.

City's Racial Equity Plan

The REP is a foundational document that is meant to help us address disparities in outcomes along racial, ethnic, and socio-economic lines. This plan contains important and substantial goals related to increasing public safety, cleaning up our environment, providing stable and affordable housing, improving our infrastructure, and boosting economic, workforce, and community development.

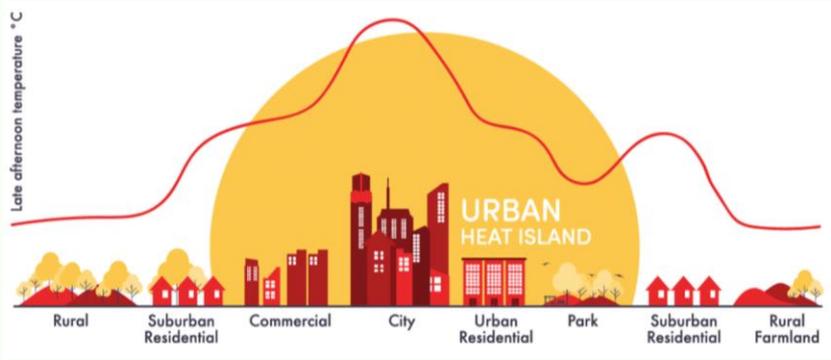
Trees and Human Health Benefits



Studies have shown that immersion in nature has a profound impact on human health through:

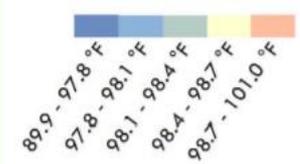
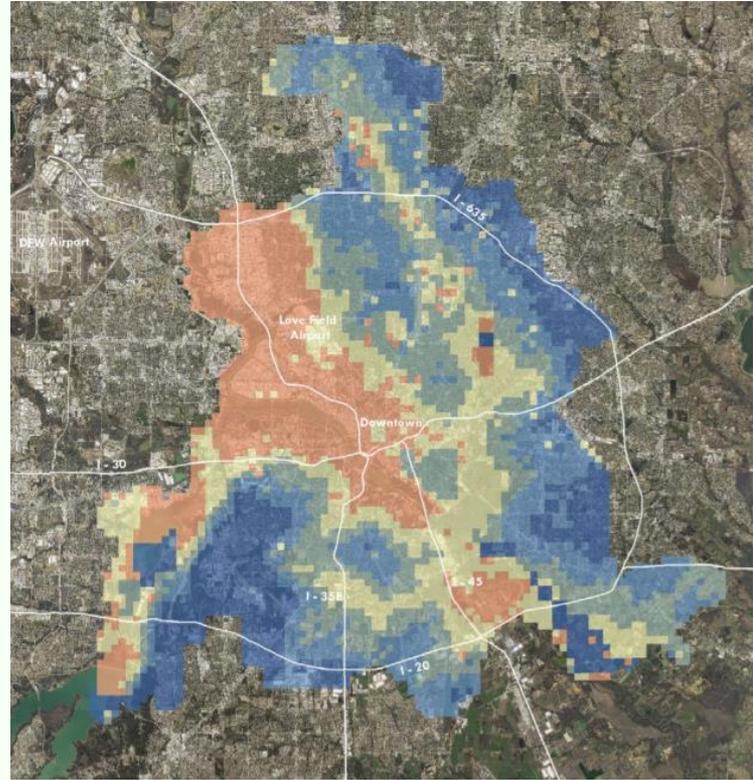
- Cooler Temperatures & Less Heat-Related Deaths
- Reduced Exposure to Harmful UV Rays
- Active Lifestyles
- Lowered Blood Pressure & Heart Rate
- Decreased Cholesterol Levels
- Decreased Respiratory Illnesses
- Improved Immune System
- Improve Healing & Recovery
- Higher Birth Weights & Newborn Health
- Improved Cognitive Function
- Decreased Mental Fatigue
- Elevated Energy & Mood

Urban Heat Islands in Dallas

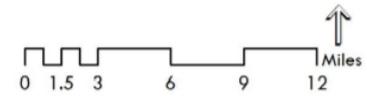


Source: Fuladlu, Kamyar & Riza, Müge & Ilkan, Mustafa. (2018). THE EFFECT OF RAPID URBANIZATION ON THE PHYSICAL MODIFICATION OF URBAN AREA.

- Areas of Dallas can be up to **15°F hotter** than surrounding rural areas
- Some areas of Dallas can be up to **11°F hotter** than others within the city limits
- Due to the proximity of the SWMD to I-35 the Medical District is **HOT**

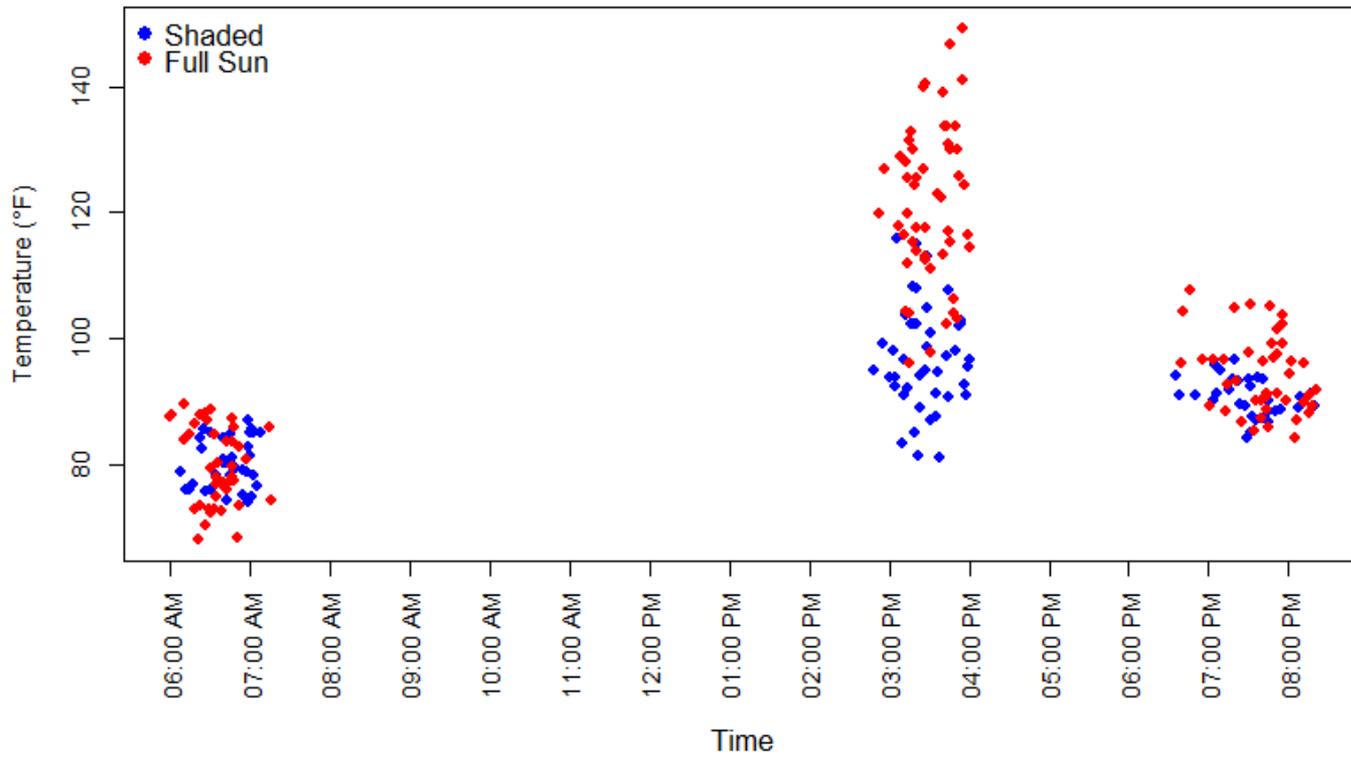


Warm season (May through September) average daily high temperature (°F)



Trees support cooler and healthier communities

Shaded hardscapes are 13 degrees cooler per Aug. 2024 study in collaboration with City of Dallas OEQS.



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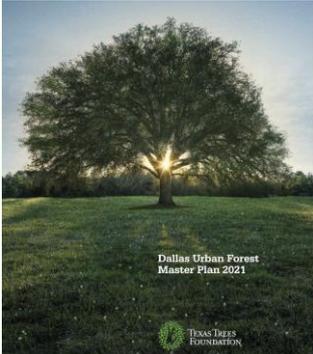
Our Work

Program Portfolio

PEOPLE



Workforce



Consulting



Cool Schools



Volunteer Plantings



Major Capital Projects

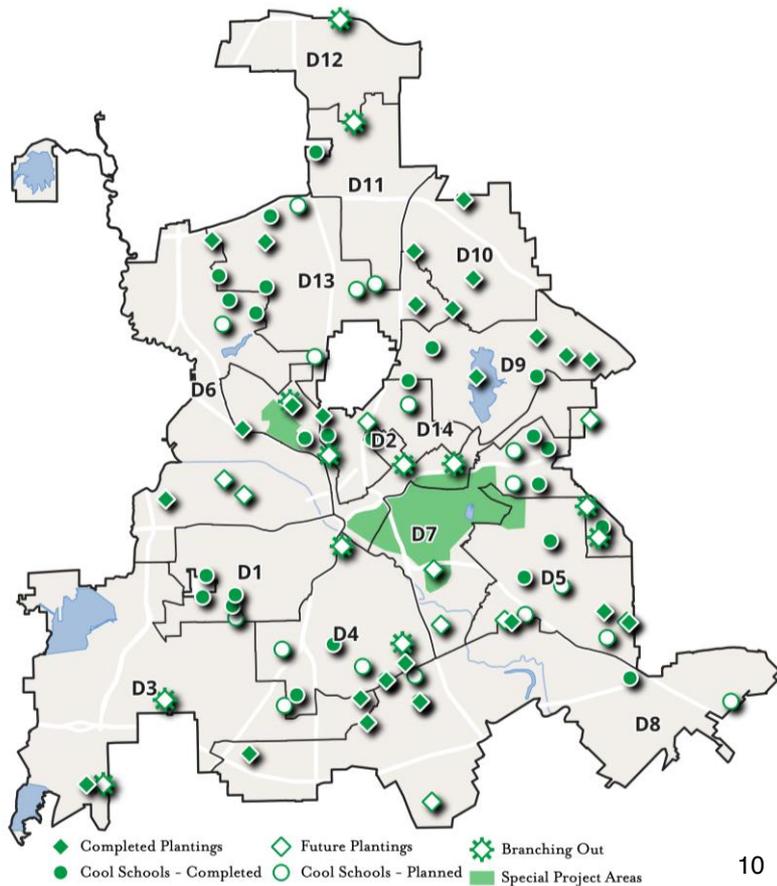
TREES



Neighborhood Greening

Realizing a greener Dallas, one tree at a time

Science-based, equitable approach to tree planting & planning



- ◆ Completed Plantings
- ◇ Future Plantings
- ✦ Branching Out
- Cool Schools - Completed
- Cool Schools - Planned
- Special Project Areas

Cool Schools: DISD, City, & Texas Trees

25 schools to date | 110,000 residents in a 10-min walk



South Dallas Greening Initiative



5 year effort focused in
Mill City, Fair Park, South
Dallas, Queen City, Jubilee
+ surrounding communities

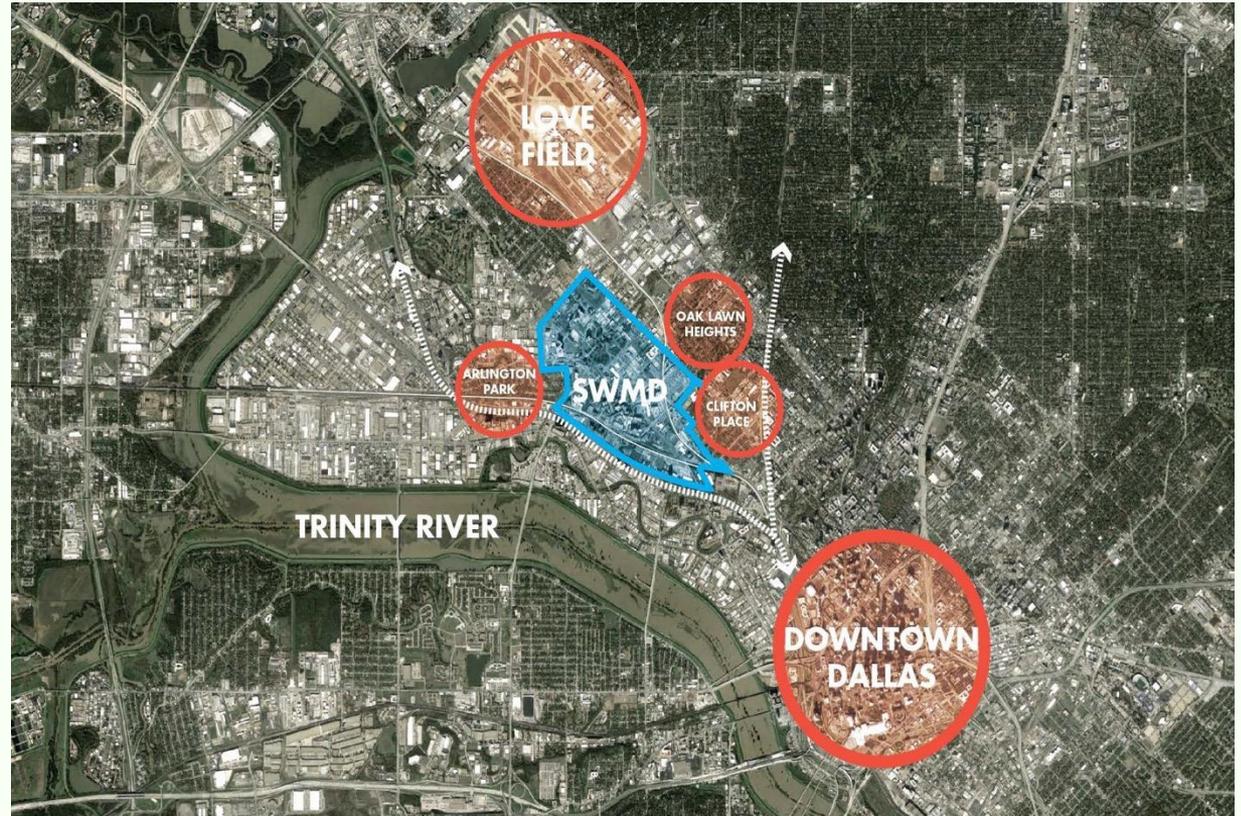
Planting & giving away
3500 trees

500 youth served by
education programs

Goal to increase tree
canopy from 14% to 37%

Southwestern Medical District Context

- 39,000 employees
- 3 million annual visits to clinics & ERs
- 3,600 students/residents/fellows
- 23,000 neighbors living in an around the District
- 16+ miles of transportation corridors
- 35,000-45,000 vehicles per day projected on Harry Hines

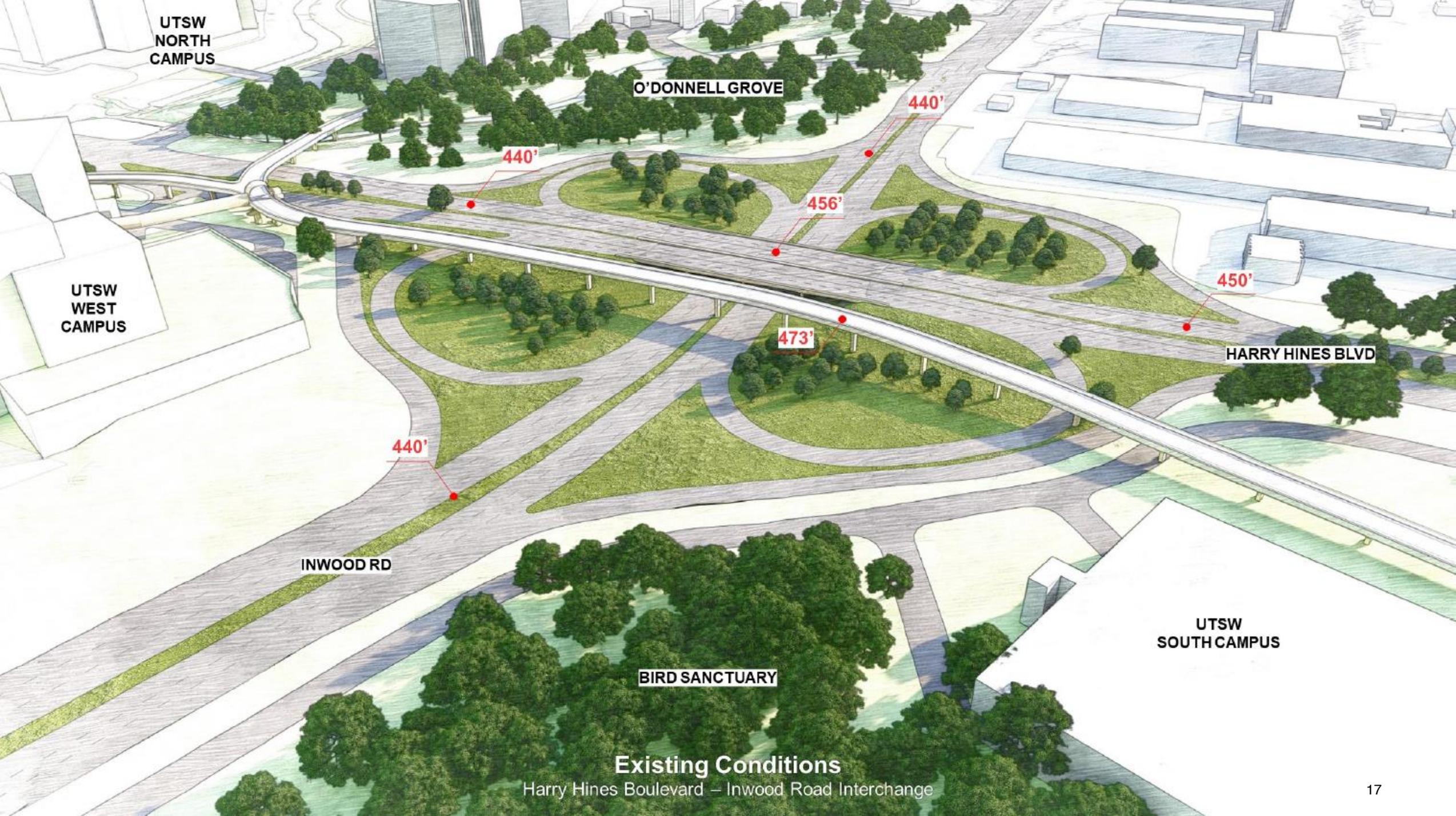




Southwestern Medical District Transformation







UTSW
NORTH
CAMPUS

O'DONNELL GROVE

440'

440'

456'

450'

UTSW
WEST
CAMPUS

HARRY HINES BLVD

473'

440'

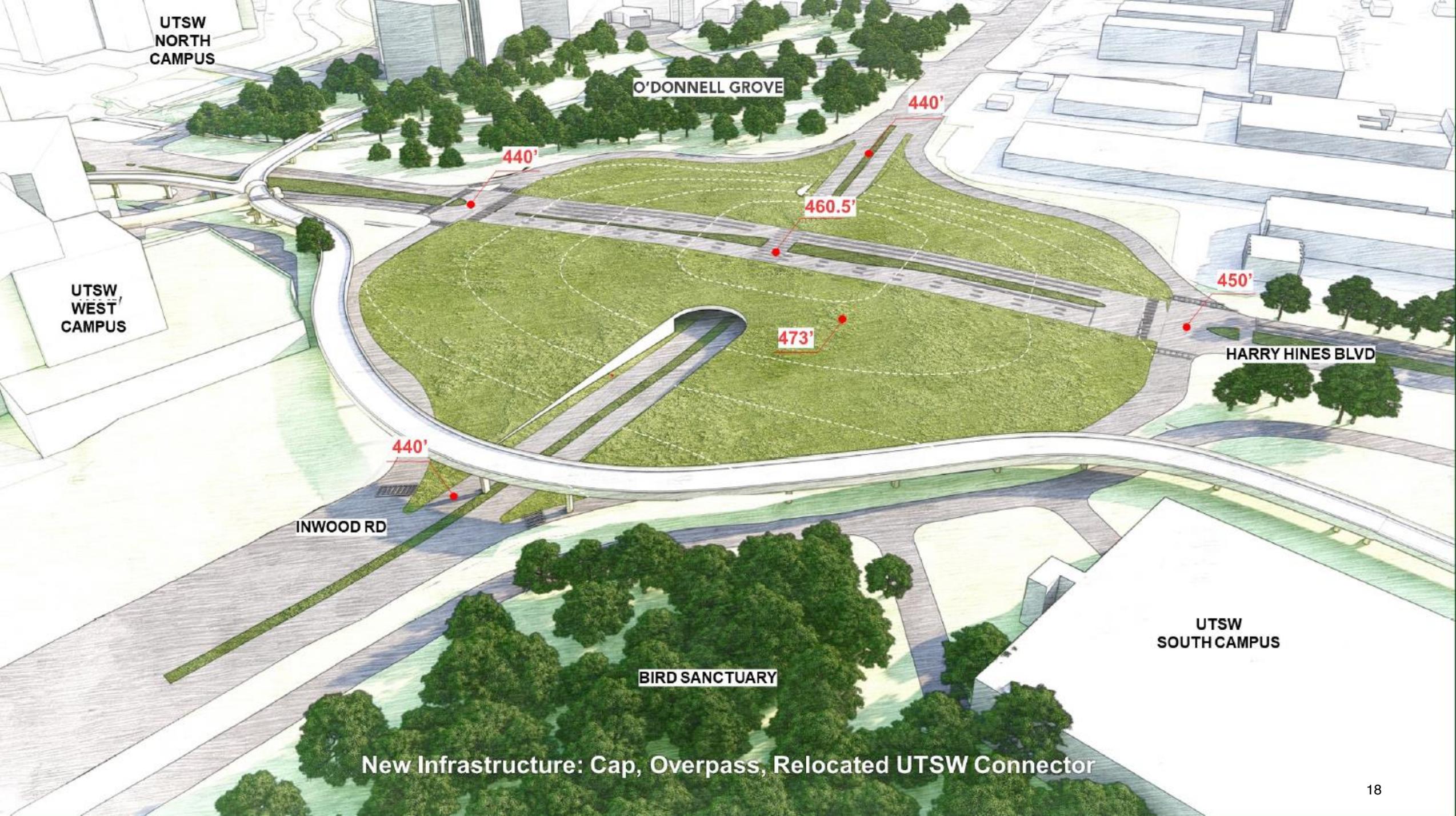
INWOOD RD

UTSW
SOUTH CAMPUS

BIRD SANCTUARY

Existing Conditions

Harry Hines Boulevard - Inwood Road Interchange



UTSW
NORTH
CAMPUS

O'DONNELL GROVE

UTSW
WEST
CAMPUS

450'

HARRY HINES BLVD

INWOOD RD

440'

473'

460.5'

440'

UTSW
SOUTH CAMPUS

BIRD SANCTUARY

New Infrastructure: Cap, Overpass, Relocated UTSW Connector

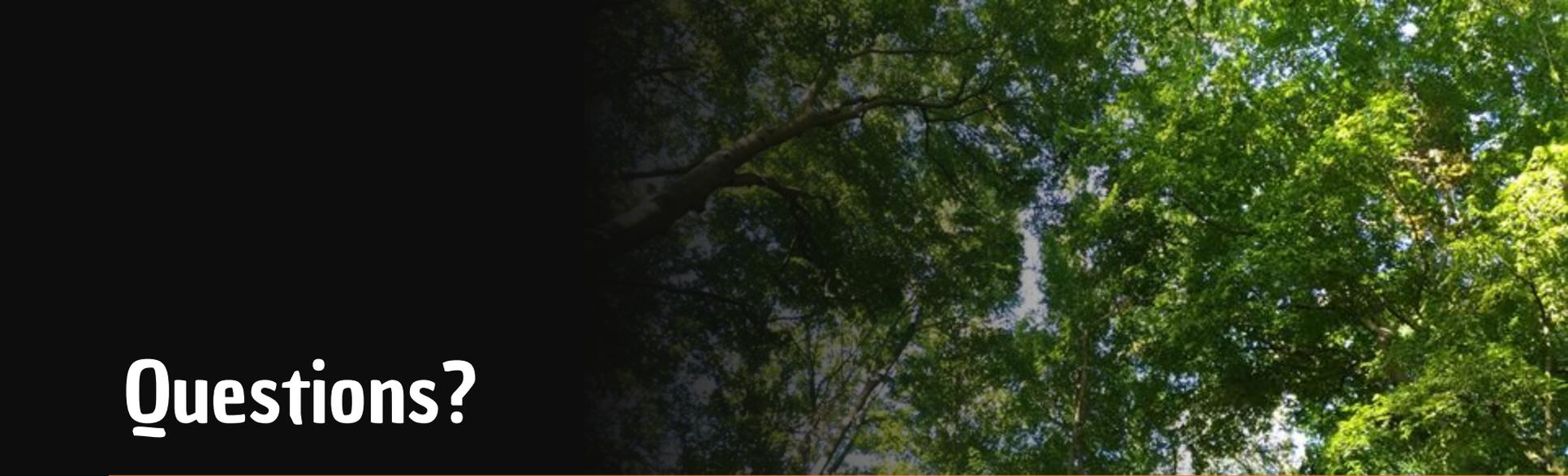


fieldoperations

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Next Steps



Questions?
