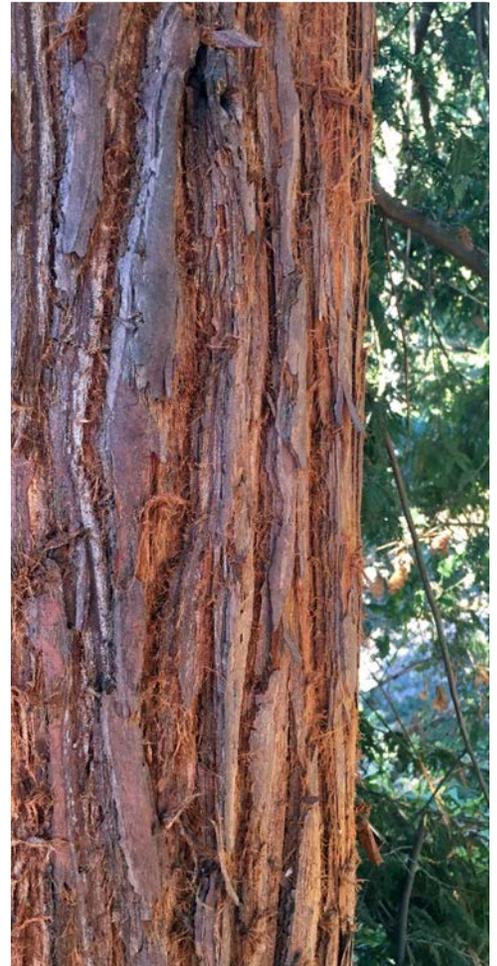




PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland



Street Tree Inventory Report  
Wilkes Neighborhood  
October 2016

# Street Tree Inventory Report: Wilkes Neighborhood

October 2016

**Written by:** Kat Davidson, Angie DiSalvo, Julie Fukuda, Lily Glaeser, Jeremy Grotho, and Jeff Ramsey  
Portland Parks & Recreation Urban Forestry  
503-823-4484 [treeinventory@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:treeinventory@portlandoregon.gov)  
<http://portlandoregon.gov/parks/treeinventory>

**Wilkes Tree Inventory Organizers:** Richard Mohley

**Staff Neighborhood Coordinator:** Lily Glaeser

**Data Collection Volunteers:** Alayna Cato, Dianna Choi, Catherine Clark, Don Crossley, Jo Anne DiCarlo, Greg DiCarlo, Russell Eng, Jon Feldhausen, Lise Gervais, Carrie Goble, Lee Greer, Rob Hanifin, James Keiter, Joyce Ley, Natasha Lipai, Zosia Lynch, Jeff Mack, Linda Meng, Richard Mobley, Tim Moore, Laura Rowe, Hakima Siyad, Jess Tyler, and Lea Wilson

**Data Entry Volunteers:** Tiffany Eurich, Joshua Sindel, and Shauna Volk

**Arborist-on-Call Volunteers:** Van Bogner

**GIS Technical Support:** Josh Darling, Portland Parks & Recreation

**Financial Support:** Portland Parks & Recreation

**Cover Photos (from top left to bottom right):**

- 1) Brilliant gold fall color on the leaves of a katsura (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*).
- 2) The unusual cone of an incense cedar (*Calocedrus decurrens*).
- 3) Stringy red bark on an established redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*).
- 4) Colorful foliage and unusual flowers on a sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboreum*).
- 5) Tiny clusters of blooms on a seven son flower (*Heptacodium miconioides*).
- 6) The fruit of a fringe tree (*Chionanthus retusus*).
- 7) Vivid flowers on a crape myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*).
- 8) The spiky foliage of a monkey puzzle tree (*Araucaria araucana*).

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**Portland Parks & Recreation**  
1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 1302  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
(503) 823-PLAY  
[www.PortlandParks.org](http://www.PortlandParks.org)



Commissioner Amanda Fritz  
Director Mike Abbaté

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*Volunteers, guided by Portland Parks & Recreation Urban Forestry staff, collected data on all 2,655 street trees within Wilkes neighborhood to compile the neighborhood's first complete street tree inventory. The data are being used to inform the creation of a Neighborhood Tree Plan to guide volunteers in caring for their community's trees.*

# Key Findings

This report provides the results of a street tree inventory conducted in the Wilkes neighborhood in 2016, along with Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) Urban Forestry staff recommendations for the Wilkes tree team. Over the course of two work days, 25 volunteers contributed more than 132 hours collecting data on each of the neighborhood's 2,655 street trees.

## URBAN FOREST STRUCTURE

- **Wilkes's street tree population is dominated by pear, red maple, cherry, and plum and does not meet recommended species diversity guidelines.** While 73 tree types were found in this inventory, only two families, Rosaceae and Sapindaceae, account for more than 50% of the street tree resource. Furthermore, the *Pyrus* (pear), *Acer* (maple) and *Prunus* (plum, cherry) genera are over represented leaving Wilkes' street trees vulnerable to pests, pathogens, and the effects of a changing climate.
- **Although evergreen conifers are better represented in Wilkes than in many Portland neighborhoods, broadleaf deciduous trees still dominate at 86%.** Continued planting of evergreen trees is important to maintain year-round canopy benefits.
- **Only 15% of trees in Wilkes are young ( $\leq 3$ " DBH), leaving few trees to offset mortality as the population ages.** Frequent planting and proper care of young trees helps to ensure a stable street tree population with a healthier age distribution in the future.
- **Only 23% of Wilkes' street trees are large form varieties.** Large form trees are necessary to increase canopy cover and the benefits they provide for Wilkes' residents. Planting the estimated 173 large available spaces identified in this inventory will maximize tree canopy in Wilkes' rights-of-way.

## TREE CONDITION

- **The majority of trees inventoried in Wilkes are in fair or good condition, however, 44% of the trees that are rated poor are in the Rosaceae family and more than 26% of the trees in the *Prunus* genus are in poor condition.**

## PLANTING SITES AND STOCKING LEVEL

- **Less than half of Wilkes' planting sites contain trees large enough for the site.** Nearly two-thirds of the large sites in Wilkes are planted with undersized trees. Planting small-form trees in large sites is a missed opportunity because larger trees contribute many times more benefits than do smaller ones.
- **Only 47% of street tree planting sites have trees in Wilkes.** Planting efforts should focus on the largest sites with no overhead high voltage wires first, as large form trees will provide the most long-term benefits to the neighborhood.

## URBAN FOREST VALUE AND BENEFITS

- **Wilkes' street trees produce an estimated \$273,894 annually in environmental and aesthetic benefits.** The replacement value of this resource is \$7.9 million. Planting efforts focused on appropriately sized trees distributed across the neighborhood will ensure that future benefits are equitably distributed among all residents.



*Clockwise from top left: 1) This broadleaf evergreen oak (Quercus sp.) will provide year-round benefits of aesthetic value, canopy cover, and storm water interception at times when deciduous trees have lost their leaves. 2) This row of ash trees (Fraxinus spp.) is vulnerable to pests, such as the emerald ash borer (Agrilus planipennis). Planting a greater diversity of species and genera helps to slow the spread of such pests and supports a more stable urban forest. 3) The largest diameter street tree in Wilkes, at 61.2" DBH, is this black cottonwood (Populus trichocarpa). 4) Wilkes hosts a portion of the Columbia Slough, a deciduous woodland natural area, providing canopy cover in the northern part of the neighborhood and many other environmental services to Wilkes residents.*

# About Portland's Street Tree Inventory

## THE IMPORTANCE OF STREET TREES

Street trees are an important public asset in urban environments, serving as a buffer between our transportation corridors and our homes while enhancing the livability of our city. As integral components of a community's green infrastructure, street trees provide multiple economic, environmental, and social benefits such as cleaner air and water, cooler summer temperatures, safer streets, and increased property values. Unlike traditional, "grey" infrastructure, which begins to deteriorate the moment it is installed, the benefits that street trees provide increase over the lifetime of the tree, making their planting and maintenance one of the best investments a city and its residents can make.

While street trees are only one component of Portland's urban forest, they are particularly important because they are the trees that residents interact with most. Having adequate information about the street tree population allows a community to make informed decisions about species selection, planting, and maintenance priorities. Information on the location, condition, and diversity of the street tree population enables our communities to steward this resource and ensure its continued benefits into the future. Undertaking a street tree inventory is not only an investment in the current and future well-being of the trees, but in the community itself.

## THE INVENTORY PROCESS

Portland's Tree Inventory Project began with a pilot street tree inventory in 2010, and since then many neighborhoods have partnered with Urban Forestry to inventory street trees and create action-oriented Neighborhood Tree Plans. By the end of 2016, volunteers have identified, measured, and mapped almost 220,000 street trees! Neighborhood groups interested in trees begin by gathering volunteers to help conduct an inventory. Urban Forestry staff provides training, tools, and event organization. Together information is collected on tree species, size, health, site conditions, and available planting spaces.

Urban Forestry staff analyze data for each neighborhood and present findings to stakeholders at an annual Tree Summit in November. At the summit, neighborhood groups begin developing tree plans that set achievable strategies to improve existing trees, expand tree canopy, and connect the neighborhood with City and nonprofit resources. The resulting Neighborhood Tree Plan is based on the status and health of street trees and recommends specific actions to improve and expand this resource. Urban Forestry then partners with groups to organize stewardship events, including pruning, planting, and educational workshops.

The Tree Inventory Project supports Portland's *Urban Forest Management Plan* goals: to manage the urban forest in order to maximize community benefits for all residents; to develop and maintain support for the urban forest; and to protect, preserve, restore, and expand Portland's urban forest.

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*Urban forests are complex, living resources that interact both positively and negatively with the surrounding environment. They produce multiple benefits and have associated management costs. In order to fully realize the benefits, a sound understanding of the urban forest resource is needed. This understanding starts at the most basic level with a forest inventory to provide baseline data for management decisions.*

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Neighborhood tree teams and volunteers are the backbone of this inventory. This partnership between residents and government is key to successful management of street trees in Portland, where Urban Forestry regulates street tree removal, planting, and maintenance through a permitting process, and property owners are responsible for the care and maintenance of trees. Creating a healthy urban forest depends on the active engagement of residents to care for their street trees.

If you would like to get involved with Wilkes' urban forest, contact the Wilkes Neighborhood Association by visiting <http://wilkes.eastportland.org/> or contact Urban Forestry.

Data from the inventory are available to the public in spreadsheet or ArcGIS format. Visit the Tree Inventory Project website at <http://portlandoregon.gov/parks/treeinventory> to learn more about the project and download reports, data, and maps.



*Clockwise from top left: 1) An empty unimproved section of right-of-way with ample planting space and no overhead high voltage wires is the perfect place to plant high-value, large form trees such as oak (*Quercus spp.*), Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), or cedar (*Cedrus spp.*). 2) This large form ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*) is appropriately planted in a large site. 3) Poor condition trees like this cherry (*Prunus sp.*) should be monitored individually and considered for removal and replacement; 27% of trees in the *Prunus* genus in Wilkes are in poor condition.*



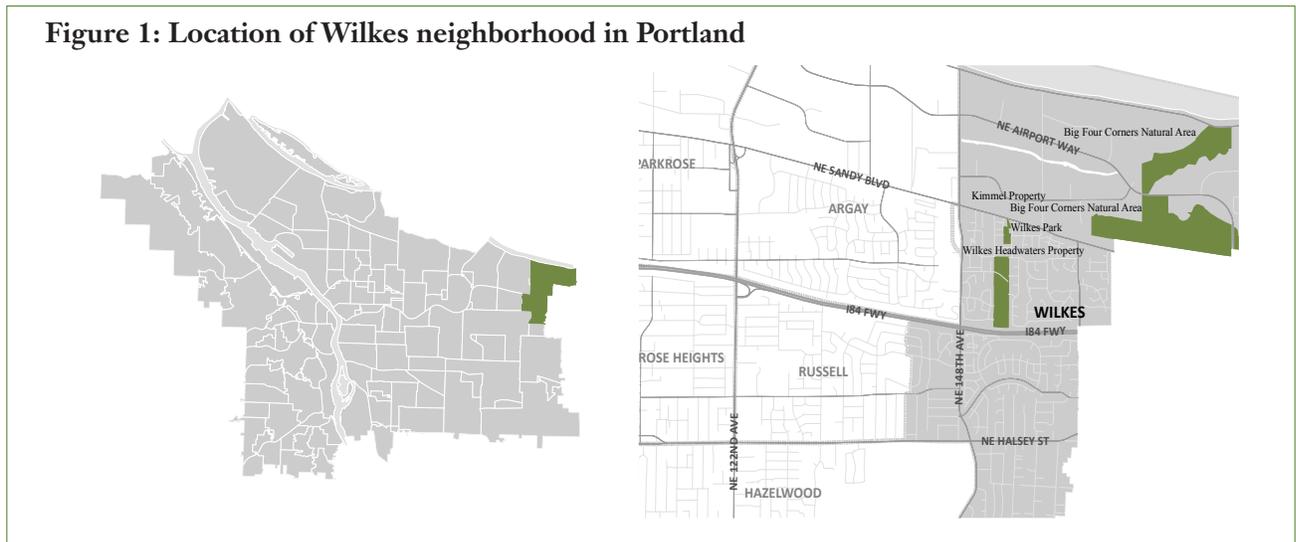
# Wilkes Street Tree Inventory

## Neighborhood Characteristics

A neighborhood's history and land use have an important effect on the presence and condition of street trees and the urban forest. Over time, different development patterns have been more or less favorable to street trees. Areas of Portland's neighborhoods that were designed without the inclusion of street trees or with small planting spaces limit the potential for street trees. With redevelopment of areas and new designs that include adequate space for trees, there is opportunity for increased use of street trees to expand overall tree canopy. Because care and maintenance of Portland's street trees is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner, rates of homeownership and income level also influence the presence and condition of trees in a neighborhood, as the cost of proper maintenance over a tree's lifetime can be a barrier to planting and care.

The Wilkes neighborhood is located in the Columbia Slough Watershed in Northeast Portland. The neighborhood boundaries are the Columbia River to the north, NE Gilsan Street to the south, the City of Gresham to the east, and NE 148th Avenue along the west, with a section in the central western boundary that extends to NE 142nd Avenue. Glendoveer Golf Course abuts the southwestern corner of the neighborhood (Figure 1).

**Figure 1: Location of Wilkes neighborhood in Portland**



Wilkes is named after the Wilkes family, who were early settlers in the Dairy Creek area. The book, "By An Oregon Pioneer Fireside," was written by L.E. Wilkes and describes much of their history and expansion in Portland. Then, the neighborhood was an important transit link, and since its annexation, Wilkes continues to link the cities of Portland and Gresham.

Currently, Wilkes is a fast-growing neighborhood characterized by single-family residential development. Several cafes, shops, and restaurants are found throughout the neighborhood. Just across from Wilkes Park is the newly dedicated Wilkes Natural Area, 2.2 acres of woodland with a creek running through. Wilkes Elementary School is the only public school in the neighborhood.

Tree canopy covers 23% of Wilkes, slightly lower than Portland's citywide canopy level of 29% (Metro 2008). Wilkes' population density is also lower than citywide at 4 persons/acre (Table 1). Home ownership is greater

**Table 1: Neighborhood and citywide demographics**

Demographics (2010 Census)	Wilkes	Portland
Area	1,987 acres	85,376 acres
Population	8,775	583,776
Density	4 persons/acre	7 persons/acre
Race	63% white, 10% black, 10% Hispanic/Latino, 0% Native American, 13% Asian, , 3% mixed race	72% white, 6% black, 9% Hispanic/Latino, 1% Native American, 7% Asian, 1% , 4% mixed race
% of properties occupied by homeowners	69%	54%
% of low income households	49%	45%

than the citywide average, as 69% of homes in Wilkes are owner-occupied. Forty-nine percent of households are considered low-income which is higher than the citywide average.

## Urban Forest Composition

### SPECIES DIVERSITY AND TREE TYPE COMPOSITION

A diverse tree population in terms of species, age, form, and function maximizes urban forest benefits through time while minimizing costs and risk. Maintaining a diverse species mix is a critical way to promote a healthy and resilient urban forest. The conventional metric for evaluating urban forest species diversity is the 10-20-30 rule (Santamour 1990), according to which the urban forest population consists of no more than 10% of one species, 20% of one genus, or 30% of one family. However, this guideline has been found to be inadequate in some cases, leaving cities vulnerable to catastrophic forest loss due to pests and pathogens (Raupp et. al 2006). Considering Portland’s temperate climate, where a great variety of trees are able to thrive, limiting this to 5-10-20, as other progressive urban forestry programs have, should be the goal. Trees were identified to the genus or species level and categorized as “tree types” (Appendix A).

#### Results

Wilkes’ public rights-of-way host a wide variety of tree types. The street tree population consists of 2,622 trees of 73 types (Appendix B). Pear is the most common tree type, representing 12.2% of all street trees (Table 2). Red



*Strips planted entirely with pears (Pyrus spp.), which are the most abundant street tree type in Wilkes.*

maple, cherry, and plum are also common, representing 8.9%, 8.5%, and 6.6% of trees, respectively. The most common 15 tree types comprise 71.8% of the resource, leaving the remaining tree types to each represent 1.9% or less of the street tree population.

Sixty-two genera are represented in the neighborhood. The *Acer* genus comprises a significant portion of the resource at 21%, followed by *Prunus* and *Pyrus* at 15.2% and 12.2%, respectively (Figure 2). All other genera comprise 5.5% or less.

Thirty-five families are represented in the neighborhood and the ten most abundant families comprise 87.6% of the resource (Table 3). All other families represent 1.7% or less of the resource each. Rosaceae and Sapindaceae are the most common families and represent 31.4% and 20.7% of trees, respectively.

**The Bottom Line**

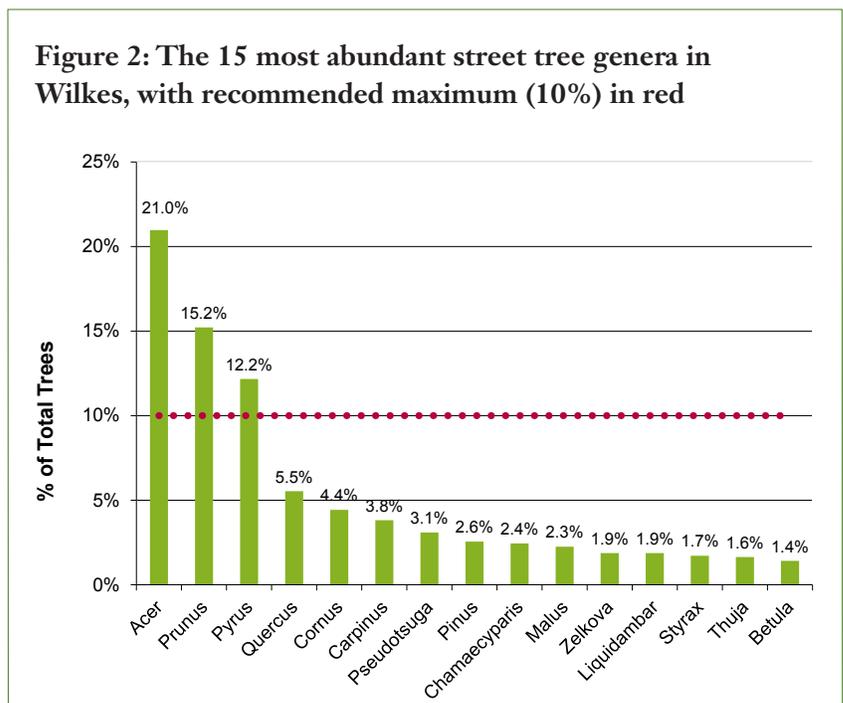
Wilkes does not meet the 5-10-20 guideline. Of most concern is the *Acer* genus, which has more than double the recommended percentage for a single genus. Furthermore, over half of all trees belong to only two families, Rosaceae and Sapindaceae.

Loss of street trees can have significant impact at the neighborhood scale. Increasing diversity at the genus and family level can help reduce risk and expense due to the introduction of Asian longhorned beetle, emerald ash borer, or other potential pests and pathogens which predominately attack only select genera. To illustrate impact from pests,

**Table 2: The 15 most abundant street tree types in Wilkes**

Common Name		# of Trees	% of Total	Mean DBH
pear	<i>Pyrus</i> spp.	319	12.2%	10.5
maple, red	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	234	8.9%	9.6
cherry	<i>Prunus</i> spp.	224	8.5%	9.1
plum	<i>Prunus</i> spp.	173	6.6%	9.2
oak, deciduous	<i>Quercus</i> spp.	143	5.5%	7.3
maple, Norway	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	140	5.3%	12.1
dogwood	<i>Cornus</i> spp.	116	4.4%	5.7
hornbeam	<i>Carpinus</i> spp.	100	3.8%	8.7
	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	81	3.1%	19.1
maple, Japanese	<i>Acer palmatum</i>	67	2.6%	7.0
pine	<i>Pinus</i> spp.	67	2.6%	13.5
false cypress	<i>Chamaecyparis</i> spp.	64	2.4%	6.0
maple, other	<i>Acer</i> spp.	53	2.0%	6.6
maple, bigleaf	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	51	1.9%	22.9
crabapple	<i>Malus</i> spp.	50	1.9%	3.8
all other		740	28.2%	9.1
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,622</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>9.6</b>

**Figure 2: The 15 most abundant street tree genera in Wilkes, with recommended maximum (10%) in red**



**Table 3: The 10 most abundant tree families in Wilkes**

Family	Tree Types Included in the Family	# of Trees	% of Total
Rosaceae	apple, cherry, crabapple, hawthorn, mountain-ash, peach, pear, plum, serviceberry	833	31.4%
Sapindaceae	maple	550	20.7%
Pinaceae	cedar, hemlock, pine, spruce	217	8.2%
Betulaceae	alder, birch, hazelnut, hornbeam	160	6.0%
Fagaceae	beech, oak	150	5.6%
Cornaceae	dogwood, tupelo	134	5.0%
Cupressaceae	cypress, false cypress, incense cedar, Western redcedar	123	4.6%
Ulmaceae	elm, zelkova	63	2.4%
Altingiaceae	sweetgum	49	1.8%
Leguminosae	Amur maackia, black locust, honey locust, redbud, yellow wood	48	1.8%
all other		328	12.4%
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,655</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

vulnerable tree types are mapped (Appendix D). Nearly 29% of all trees in Wilkes are susceptible to emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle, Dutch elm disease, or bronze birch borer.

**FUNCTIONAL TREE TYPE**

Trees are categorized into functional types: broadleaf, conifer, or palm and either deciduous or evergreen. In Portland, where the majority of precipitation falls in winter, evergreens reduce storm water runoff during these wet months, improving water quality in our streams and rivers when this function is most needed. During the dry summer months, many evergreen conifers are less reliant on water availability than broadleaf deciduous trees which require more water to drive photosynthesis. Despite their advantages, conifers are challenging to place in rights-of-way, as they typically require larger spaces and their growth form conflicts with overhead wires and traffic sightlines.

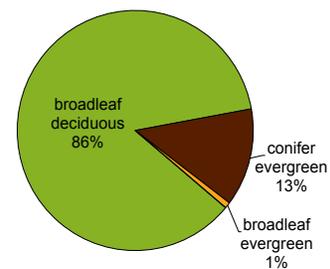
**Results**

Broadleaf deciduous trees dominate the landscape, accounting for 86% of all street trees in Wilkes (Figure 3). Coniferous evergreens comprise the next largest portion of Wilkes’ street trees at 13%. Broadleaf evergreen trees comprise just 1% of the total.

**The Bottom Line**

The street tree population is dominated by broadleaf deciduous trees. Increasing use of evergreens, both broadleaf and conifer, would enhance certain benefits including reduced storm water runoff, and also provide winter cover and habitat for urban wildlife. Though conifers still need adequate water during establishment, in general they require less water than broadleaf deciduous trees during the increasingly warm and dry Portland summers. Large planting sites without overhead wires provide an ideal opportunity for planting these important trees.

**Figure 3: Functional tree types**



## SIZE CLASS DISTRIBUTION

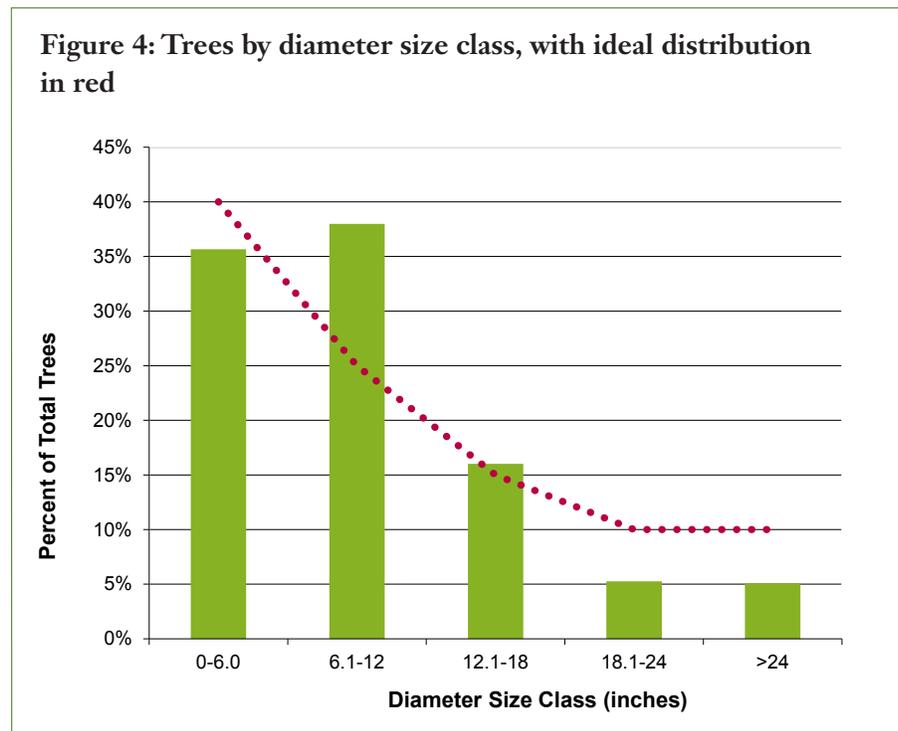
Age diversity ensures the continuity of canopy coverage and benefits through time. Although tree species have different life spans and mature at different sizes, older trees will generally have a larger size, as measured by diameter at breast height (DBH). As trees increase in size and age, the value of the tree and the magnitude of the benefits that it provides also increase until the tree nears the end of its lifespan and begins to decline.

The general management principle underlying size class distribution is to maintain a consistent proportion of young trees in the population—recognizing that there will be some level of mortality as trees grow—while also keeping a good distribution of mid to large sized trees. This will ensure a sustainable age class structure and produce maximum urban forest benefits over time.

Trees were categorized into diameter size classes (Figure 4; Appendices C, E, F). Trees that are 0" to 6.0" in diameter represent young trees. Trees that are 6.1" to 18" in diameter represent midlife trees, as well as mature, small form trees. Trees that are 18.1" or greater in diameter represent mature trees.

### Results

Wilkes' streets host a wide range of tree sizes from the smallest sapling to the largest tree, a 61.2" DBH black cottonwood (*Populus trichocarpa*). In Wilkes, the greatest proportion of trees are in the mid-size diameter size classes. Mid-size trees with DBH between 6.1" and 18" represent 54% of trees, over half the population. Young trees account for over a third of the neighborhood inventory with 15.7% percent of all trees that are 3" DBH or less, and 20% that are between 3.1" and 6". The smallest proportion, only 10.3% of trees, are larger than 18.1" DBH (Figure 4).



Of tree types that represent at least 0.5% of the population, the types with the largest average size DBH are bigleaf maple, Western redcedar, sweetgum, and Douglas-fir, with mean DBH of 22.9", 19.7", 19.3", and 19.1", respectively (Appendix B).

### The Bottom Line

Because the greatest proportion of trees in Wilkes are in the smallest size classes, there is an opportunity to address important establishment and pruning needs and therefore reduce future maintenance costs and increase the lifespan of Wilkes' street trees. Proper pruning of young trees can reduce the likelihood of future hazards and liabilities, such as a limb falling, which is not only potentially costly and dangerous, but can also increase the possibility of decay and mortality in a tree. Making the correct pruning decisions when trees

are young ensures the least cost and most benefit to homeowners and the community over a tree's lifetime. Currently, mid-sized trees are over represented in Wilkes. Ideally, Wilkes would have a greater proportion of larger trees, and caring for today's young trees is the only way to accomplish that goal.

**MATURE TREE FORM DISTRIBUTION**

Mature tree size is determined by the height, canopy width, and general form of the tree at maturity; tree types are classified as small, medium, or large. Generally, small trees grow to 30' in height, medium trees grow to 50' in height, and large trees grow over 50' in height (Figure 5). Large form trees also have the potential for greatest longevity, living longer than most small form trees.

While some neighborhoods, due to their design, may not have many spaces big enough to accommodate large form trees, it is important that the spaces that do exist are planted with trees that will grow to be large at maturity. The cost to a community of under planting large spaces can be great over the course of a tree's lifetime. Research has shown that while small and large form trees have similar annual costs of care and maintenance, a large form tree will live four times longer on average and provide over 16 times the benefits over its lifetime (CUFR 2006). In the case of certain benefits, the disparity is much greater; for example, large trees have been found to remove 60-70 times more air pollution annually than small trees (Nowak 1994).

**Results**

Small form trees account for 31% of the resource, medium form trees account for 46% of the resource, and large form trees account for 23% of the resource (Figure 6) in Wilkes.

**The Bottom Line**

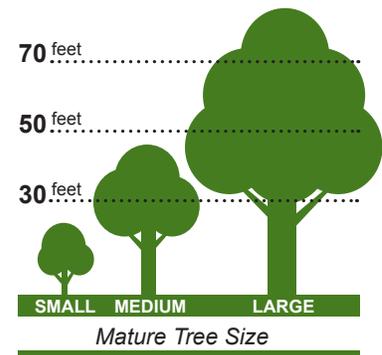
Long lived and large form trees provide substantially more benefits than small and medium form trees. Therefore, planting trees that will be large at maturity helps to ensure that canopy cover and its benefits will be maintained or enhanced even as some trees die or are removed. Wilkes' most common large form tree types include deciduous oak, Douglas-fir, and pine. Planting, maintenance, and care for young, large form trees will ensure that when they reach maturity, they will provide the most benefits to the community and the environment.

**IMPORTANCE VALUE**

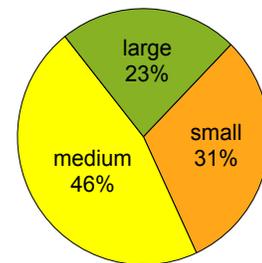
Another way to evaluate how reliant a community is on a single tree type is importance value. Importance value is a calculation based on relative abundance and relative leaf area. In other words, it accounts for how many trees of the type there are and how much of the neighborhood's canopy they represent at the time of inventory. The value informs us which tree types dominate the urban forest structure. For example, a tree type might represent 10% of a population, but have an importance value of 25 because of its large average size. Conversely, another tree type representing 10% of the population may only have an importance value of 5 if it represents young or small form trees.

Importance values tell us which tree types provide the bulk of the benefits for a particular snapshot in time and will change through time as trees grow and species composition changes. Reliance on only a few tree types of high importance value is risky, as loss from a pest, pathogen, or a catastrophic event may put excessive strain on the urban forest even though only a single tree type may be affected.

**Figure 5: Tree form sizes**



**Figure 6: Mature tree size**



Importance values were calculated using iTree Streets, an urban forest analysis software suite developed by the USDA Forest Service.

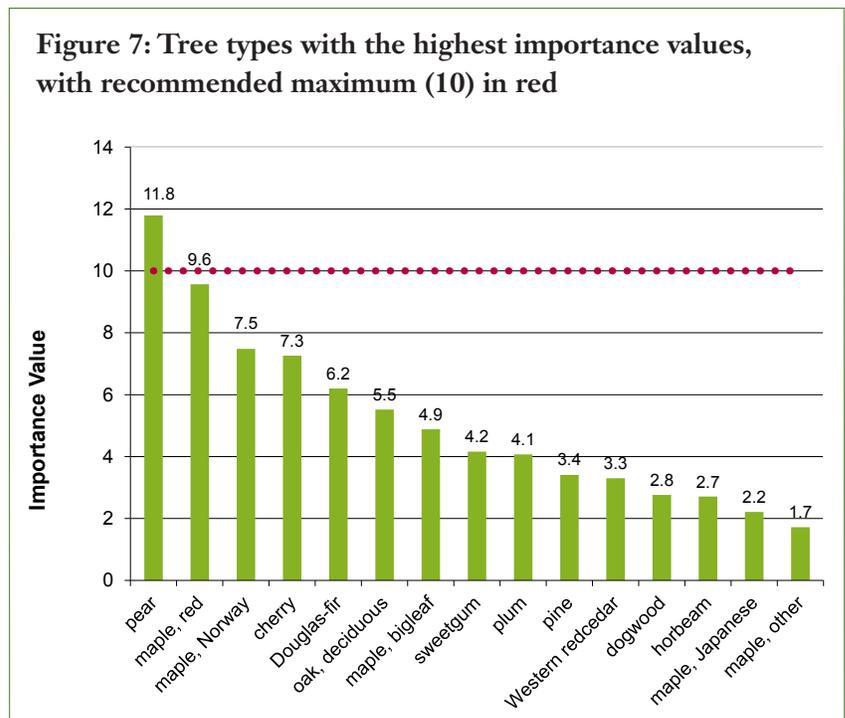
**Results**

Pear and red maple have the highest importance values of 11.8 and 9.6 respectively (Figure 7). Thus, the Wilkes urban forest is reliant on these two species due to their current size and abundance in the neighborhood. The next highest importance values are for Norway maple at 7.5, cherry at 7.3, and Douglas-fir at 6.2. All other tree types had importance values of 5.5 or less.

**The Bottom Line**

Trees with the highest importance values, such as pear and red maple, should be de-emphasized in future plantings to ensure that the street tree population is less susceptible to loss from a pest or pathogen impacting those tree types.

Wilkes’ heavy reliance on these tree types in the present means that their loss would have a serious impact on the neighborhood’s urban forest. Increasing the level of maintenance of these large, mature trees will help prolong their lifespan, reduce hazards, and keep these high-value members of the urban forest contributing to the neighborhood.



**Tree Condition**

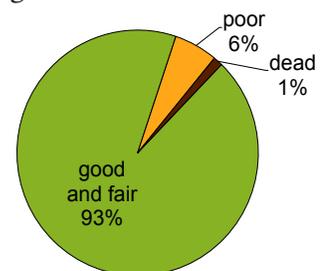
The urban environment is a challenging place for trees to thrive because of limited growing space, compacted soil, poor air quality, and direct damage from vehicles and pedestrians. Tree condition reflects species hardiness, site conditions, and maintenance history. Street trees that are well suited to Portland’s climate are able to withstand the challenges of growing in an urban environment, and have been well maintained, are generally the most successful.

Tree condition was assessed by assigning trees to one of four condition categories: good, fair, poor, or dead. These general ratings reflect whether or not a tree is likely to continue contributing to the urban forest (good and fair trees) or whether the tree is at or near the end of its life (poor and dead trees). Because it was subjective for volunteers to determine the difference between good and fair ratings, these categories are reported together.

**Results**

The majority of street trees in Wilkes, 93%, are in good or fair condition, while 6% are poor and 1% of trees are dead (Figure 8, Appendix G).

**Figure 8: Tree condition**



Of the most commonly found tree types, the healthiest trees are pear, deciduous oak, and false cypress, of which more than 98% are rated good or fair (Table 4). In poorest condition are bigleaf maple, plum, and cherry, of which, 17.6%, 10.4%, and 10.3% are rated poor, respectively. Interestingly, 44% of all trees in Wilkes that are rated poor are in the Rosaceae family and 26.5% are in the *Prunus* genus.

Tree size, and thus life stage, did impact tree condition ratings. The greatest percentage of dead trees occur within the 0" to 3" DBH class, with 39.4% of trees rated as dead falling into this size class category. The bulk of these young trees likely died due to lack of adequate watering. Young trees need 15 gallons of water each week during Portland's dry summer months for the first two years after planting. Establishment of young trees is critical as it is not until trees attain larger sizes that they provide the greatest benefits.

The size class with the greatest percentage of trees in poor condition were those with DBH between 6.1 and 12" with more than 32% of trees rated poor falling into this size class category. While larger, more mature trees naturally decline with age, preventative maintenance including proper pruning (e.g., not topping) can extend their lifespan and reduce their risk of failure.

***The Bottom Line***

Large trees in poor condition pose the largest potential risk of failure (i.e., falling apart). Proper early maintenance on young trees, such as structural pruning, is much less expensive than attempting to correct issues in larger trees that have been unmaintained or improperly pruned. Important maintenance activities for young trees include structural pruning to remove co-dominant leaders and pruning trees for branch clearance over sidewalks and roadways to reduce the likelihood of branches being hit by vehicles. Though only a small portion of the street trees in Wilkes are in poor condition, a substantial proportion of the bigleaf maple, plum, and cherry are in poor and declining condition. Furthermore two of these tree types, plum and cherry, are in the Rosaceae family which is over represented in Wilkes and therefore replacement of these trees represents a great opportunity to improve Wilkes' urban forest. All poor-rated trees should be monitored and individually evaluated for potential risk and replacement opportunities.

**Table 4: Tree condition for the most abundant tree types**

Common Name		% of Total (# of Trees)	
		Good/Fair	Poor
cherry	<i>Prunus</i> spp.	89.7% (201)	10.3% (23)
crabapple	<i>Malus</i> spp.	82% (41)	18% (9)
dogwood	<i>Cornus</i> spp.	94% (109)	6% (7)
	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	90.1% (73)	9.9% (8)
false cypress	<i>Chamaecyparis</i> spp.	98.4% (63)	1.6% (1)
hornbeam	<i>Carpinus</i> spp.	94% (94)	6% (6)
maple, bigleaf	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	82.4% (42)	17.6% (9)
maple, Japanese	<i>Acer palmatum</i>	97% (65)	3% (2)
maple, Norway	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	97.1% (136)	2.9% (4)
maple, other	<i>Acer</i> spp.	98.1% (52)	1.9% (1)
maple, red	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	94.4% (221)	5.6% (13)
oak, deciduous	<i>Quercus</i> spp.	99.3% (142)	0.7% (1)
pear	<i>Pyrus</i> spp.	99.4% (317)	0.6% (2)
pine	<i>Pinus</i> spp.	95.5% (64)	4.5% (3)
plum	<i>Prunus</i> spp.	89.6% (155)	10.4% (18)

## Planting Site Composition and Stocking Level

Planting site composition varies greatly amongst neighborhoods and this directly impacts a neighborhood's capacity for growing large trees that provide the most canopy coverage and benefits. While some

neighborhoods are lucky enough to have inherited wide planting sites and mature trees, many areas of Portland struggle to establish tree canopy in small planting sites, which are challenging spaces for trees to grow due to limited soil and growing space. Understanding a neighborhood’s composition and distribution of planting sites allows for a more strategic tree planting effort and informs us of potential challenges to tree planting and tree development within the right-of-way.

### PLANTING SITES

Street trees grow in a diverse array of planting sites ranging from traditional grassy strips between curbs and sidewalks, to concrete cutouts, and unimproved areas without curbs or sidewalks. Tree growth is limited by site width; wider sites provide more soil to support growth and more space aboveground to reduce conflicts with sidewalks and streets. Overhead high voltage wires limit the height of trees, as trees will be pruned away from wires for safety.

Planting site sizes are categorized as small, medium, or large based on the width of the planting site and presence of overhead wires. These categories reflect the mature tree size that can be supported by the site. In other words, small planting sites can support small trees such as dogwoods and snowbells and large planting sites can support large trees such as oaks and elms. Improved planting sites (i.e., with curbs and sidewalks) generally have a clearly defined width while unimproved sites (i.e., without curbs and sidewalks) do not.

### Results

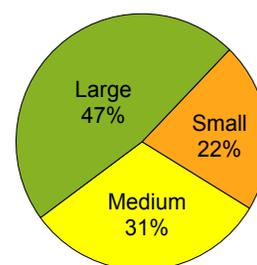
Most street trees in Wilkes are found in improved rights-of-way sites with 29.9% in unimproved rights-of-way (Table 5, Appendix H). Strips are the most common tree planting site representing 45% of site types. Most of Wilkes’ unimproved sites are concentrated in a few areas including south of NE Halsey Street, south of San Rafael west of NE 148th Avenue, and east of NE 158th north of Interstate 84.

In Wilkes, 22% of planting sites where street trees are found are small, 31% are medium, and 47% are large sites (Figure 9, Appendix I).

**Table 5: Planting site types**

Site Type		# of Trees	% of Total
<b>improved sites</b>	curbtight	505	19.0%
	cutout	29	1.1%
	median	127	4.8%
	strip	1,195	45.0%
	swale	6	0.2%
	<i>Improved Totals</i>	<i>1,862</i>	<i>70.1%</i>
<b>unimproved sites</b>	curb only	382	14.4%
	no curb or sidewalk	411	15.5%
	<i>Unimproved Totals</i>	<i>793</i>	<i>29.9%</i>
<b>Overall</b>		<b>2,655</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Figure 9: Planting site sizes**



### STOCKING LEVEL

Street tree stocking level reflects the percentage of planting spaces that are currently occupied by trees. In Portland, trees are more likely to be planted in large planting sites and improved planting sites. Because this project did not inventory all available planting sites, but only sites where trees are currently growing, data for

planting site sizes were supplemented with available planting space data collected by Urban Forestry and the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) staff between 2009 and 2016 (See Appendix A for methods).

**Results**

Ideally, stocking level should be near 100%. Wilkes’ stocking level is 59% for improved sites and 32% for unimproved sites (Table 6). According to the BES data, 1,539 empty spaces have been identified for tree planting (Appendices J and K). Higher stocking levels are generally observed in larger planting sites and large, improved planting sites are at least 93% stocked.

**Table 6: Street tree stocking level**

Size Type	Size Size	Planting Site Description	Stocking Level	Available Planting Spaces
<b>improved sites</b>	small	3.0 - 3.9' with or without wires	49%	342
	medium	4.0 - 5.9' with or without wires, ≥6.0' with wires	66%	284
	large	≥6.0' without wires	93%	2
	uncategorized	mixed	79%	3
	<i>Improved Site Totals</i>			59%
<b>unimproved sites</b>	medium	4.0 - 5.9' with or without wires, ≥6.0' with wires	34%	548
	large	≥6.0' without wires	36%	147
	uncategorized	mixed	24%	213
	<i>Unimproved Site Totals</i>			32%
<b>Total</b>			<b>47%</b>	<b>1,539</b>

**RIGHT TREE IN THE RIGHT PLACE**

Selecting an appropriately sized tree for the site is important for maximizing benefits and minimizing avoidable cost. A tree well suited to its location has fewer obstacles to reaching maturity which maximizes the benefits it provides the community and the environment over its lifetime. However, an inappropriately sized tree may cost more to maintain, be less healthy, and have a shorter lifespan thereby providing fewer benefits.

A small form tree planted in a large planting site is a missed opportunity because larger trees contribute many times more benefits than do smaller ones. Planting these sites and replacing undersized trees is especially important in neighborhoods that contain few large planting sites to begin with. Although permits and appropriate species selection are required to plant street trees, historically trees may have been planted without regard to appropriate tree selection.

**Results**

Overall, 41% of trees are planted in sites that are the appropriate size for their type (Table 7). Forty-one percent of all trees are too small for their planting site, and 18% of trees are too large for their site. Looking closer at only the large sites, 65% of trees are undersized for the site.

**The Bottom Line**

Planting all available sites with appropriately sized trees will ensure that trees live to maturity at the least cost to homeowners and the community.

**Table 7: Tree form fit in planting sites**

Fit	% of trees	# of trees
Tree form is too small for the site	41%	1,083
Tree form is appropriate size for the site	41%	1,092
Tree form is too big for the site	18%	480
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>2,655</i>

Because of the importance of large trees to the urban forest, planting large, empty spaces should be a tree team’s top priority, followed by replacing poor condition, undersized trees in large planting sites. In Wilkes, this includes an estimated 173 large sites and 47 poor condition, undersized trees in large planting spaces. Planting only the large, empty spaces would yield 14.4 acres of potential canopy in 30 years (Appendix A, Figure 10). These benefits are more than 10 times greater than if small trees are planted in these large sites.

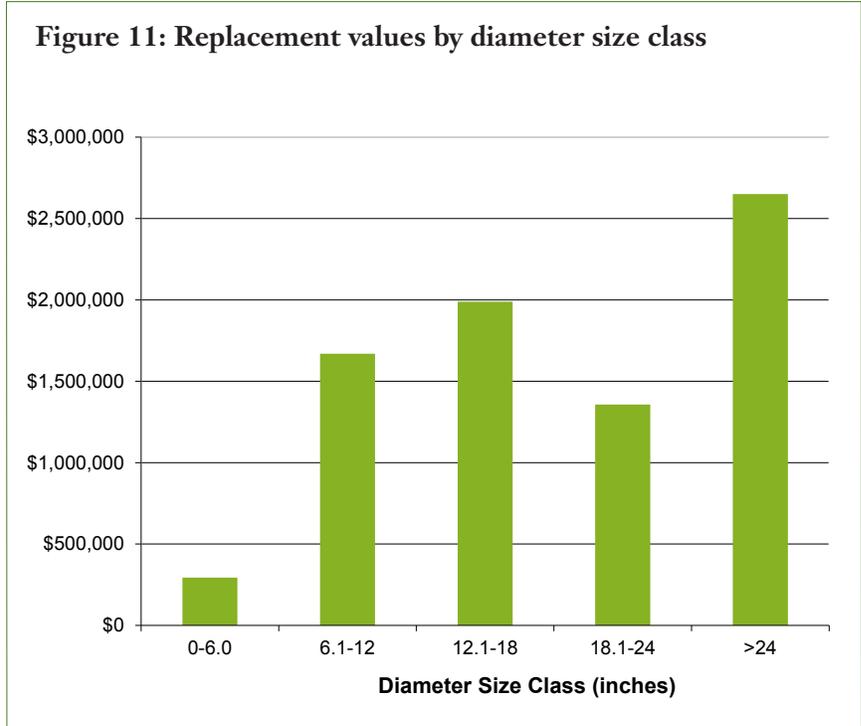
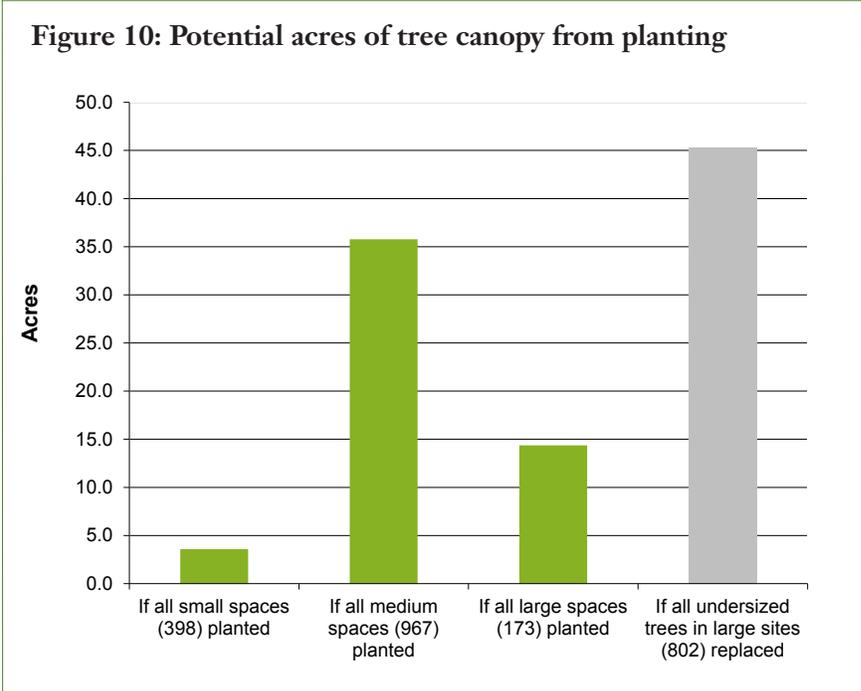
How would planting all available spaces impact Wilkes’ canopy? Planting all sites would provide 53.7 additional acres. Furthermore, if all of the currently undersized trees in large planting spaces had been planted with large form trees, this would add another 45.3 acres of potential canopy. Combined, taking these actions would increase Wilkes’ canopy cover by 22%!

**Replacement Value**

Replacement value is an estimate of the full cost of replacing a tree at its current size and condition, should it be removed for some reason. Replacement value is calculated using the tree’s current size, along with information on regional species ratings, trunk diameter, and replacement costs. Replacement values were calculated using iTree Streets. Replacement values are generally highest for the largest, more abundant tree types.

**Results**

The replacement cost of Wilkes’ street tree population is valued at \$7.9 million (Figure 11). The most valuable size classes of trees are with DBH greater than 24”. Because value increases with



the size of the tree, even though trees that are over 24” DBH only make up 10.3% of the population, they account for 33.3% of the total replacement value. The tree types with the greatest replacement values are Douglas-fir (\$893,961), pear (\$765,069), and bigleaf maple (\$623,965). These three tree types account for 28.7% of the total replacement value.

***The Bottom Line***

Similar to importance value, high replacement values are both a function of the abundance and size of an existing tree type and do not necessarily represent tree types that should be planted in the future. Healthy, diverse, and resilient urban forests have high replacement values as a whole with no one tree type representing a disproportionate amount. In Wilkes, de-emphasizing tree types that are already over represented in the population will decrease vulnerability to pests and pathogens in the future. The high replacement value for the neighborhood’s largest trees shows the need to care for and protect the largest, most valuable trees in the neighborhood.



*Douglas-fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii) has the highest replacement value of all tree types in Wilkes.*

**Environmental and Aesthetic Benefits**

The amount of environmental and aesthetic benefit a tree may provide over its lifetime is a function of its mature size and longevity. Trees with a larger mature size and longer lifespan such as Douglas-fir or oak will provide significantly greater benefits than small ornamental trees such as dogwoods or snowbells. The calculation indicates the benefits that trees currently provide: as trees grow and the population changes, benefits derived from the various tree types will change within a neighborhood.

Wilkes’ street tree population was assessed to quantify the dollar value of annual environmental services and aesthetic benefits provided by trees: aesthetic/property value increase, air quality improvement, carbon dioxide reduction, energy savings, and storm water processing. Calculations were made using iTree Streets. The iTree model relies on tree size and species from the inventory, as well as Portland’s current pricing for electricity and natural gas, regional benefit prices for air quality, regional storm water interception costs, and the neighborhood’s median home resale value (Zillow 2016).

***Results***

Wilkes’ street tree population provides approximately \$273,894 annually in environmental services and aesthetic benefits (Table 8). An average tree in Wilkes provides \$103.16 worth of benefits annually.

Large form trees produce more benefits on average than smaller trees. Of the most common tree types, bigleaf maple and Douglas-fir, provide the highest annual benefits per tree, at approximately \$201 - \$228 per tree (Table 9). Pine, Norway maple, and deciduous oak also provide

**Table 8: Valuation of annual environmental and aesthetic benefits**

	Total (\$)	Total (\$) per tree
Aesthetic/Other	\$157,438	\$59.30
Air Quality	\$3,725	\$1.40
CO <sub>2</sub>	\$1,760	\$0.66
Energy	\$60,470	\$22.78
Stormwater	\$50,501	\$19.02
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$273,894</b>	<b>\$103.16</b>

**Table 9: Average annual environmental and aesthetic benefits provided by Wilkes's most abundant street tree types**

Tree Type	Aesthetic/ Property Value	Air Quality	CO <sub>2</sub> Reduction	Energy Savings	Stormwater Processing	Total (\$) per tree
maple, bigleaf	\$100.60	\$4.02	\$2.10	\$64.03	\$57.59	\$228.34
	\$84.70	\$2.75	\$0.89	\$47.84	\$65.24	\$201.41
pine	\$90.78	\$2.03	\$0.71	\$34.21	\$37.96	\$165.70
maple, Norway	\$96.12	\$2.18	\$1.07	\$34.71	\$27.93	\$162.01
oak, deciduous	\$110.33	\$1.41	\$0.77	\$23.04	\$16.62	\$152.17
maple, red	\$82.74	\$1.73	\$0.63	\$27.78	\$18.68	\$131.55
maple, Japanese	\$76.32	\$1.07	\$0.57	\$17.20	\$13.95	\$109.11
maple, other	\$76.73	\$1.05	\$0.56	\$16.86	\$13.66	\$108.87
hornbeam	\$83.71	\$0.70	\$0.38	\$12.06	\$9.60	\$106.46
false cypress	\$57.76	\$0.81	\$0.27	\$13.30	\$12.82	\$84.96
pear	\$31.16	\$2.12	\$0.74	\$27.68	\$20.45	\$82.15
cherry	\$37.29	\$1.23	\$0.52	\$18.75	\$12.98	\$70.77
dogwood	\$45.76	\$0.46	\$0.25	\$10.37	\$7.32	\$64.15
plum	\$32.13	\$0.83	\$0.98	\$12.87	\$6.30	\$53.12
crabapple	\$9.99	\$0.21	\$0.19	\$3.19	\$1.44	\$15.02

a high level of annual benefit at \$165, \$162, and \$152, respectively. Plum and crabapple provide the least amount of benefits, ranging from \$53 to \$15 annually.

***The Bottom Line***

Large, empty planting spaces in Wilkes represent not only an opportunity to expand canopy, but also represent thousands of dollars in potential environmental and aesthetic benefits to Wilkes residents. If Wilkes planted all 173 of the available large planting spaces with appropriately sized large form trees, in 30 years they will have provided \$334,963 in net benefits. Conversely, if all available large planting spaces were planted with small form trees, over the same time period they would have only provided \$35,707 in net benefits.

Carefully selecting and planting appropriately sized trees directly impacts the amount of benefits provided by the urban forest. Trees that live longer will always produce more benefits to the community—small form trees have a much shorter lifespan than large form trees and may begin to decline after 30 years, just when large form trees are reaching maturity with decades of benefits to the community to come.

**The Future Forest of Wilkes**

**RECENT PLANTING TRENDS**

Different species of trees fall in and out of favor over time due to developments in the nursery industry, tree performance, and personal preferences. Portland’s street tree population reflects this history, and by comparing the most recently planted trees to the rest of the population we can infer what that trend may mean for the future. Ideally, new plantings will be diverse and show increases in the planting of those large form species which maximize environmental and aesthetic benefits. Established trees (>3”DBH) are compared to recently planted trees (≤3” DBH) and those with a change of 2.5% or greater were graphed to illustrate recent trends in planting (Figure 12, 13).

**Results**

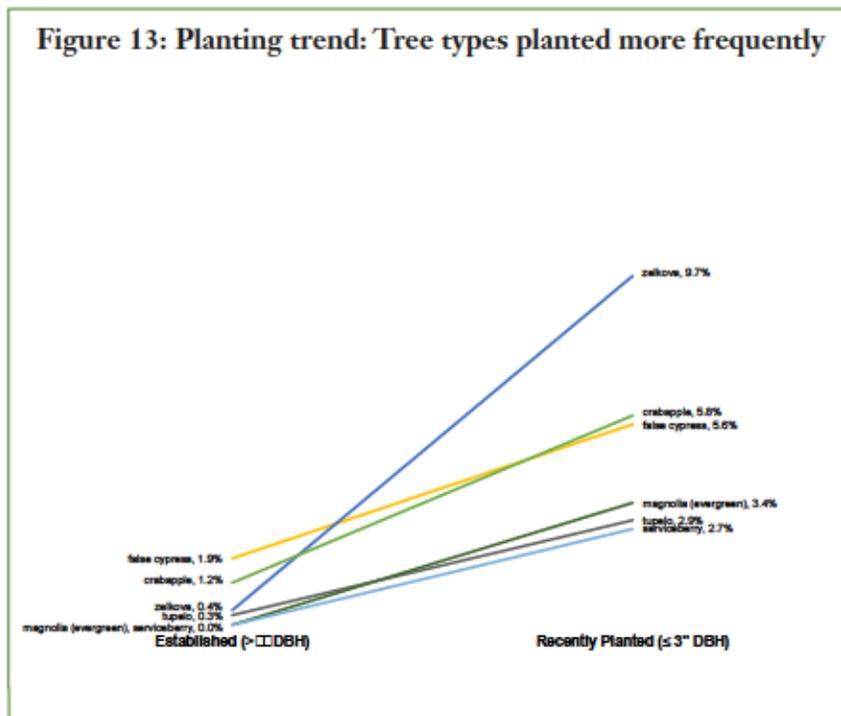
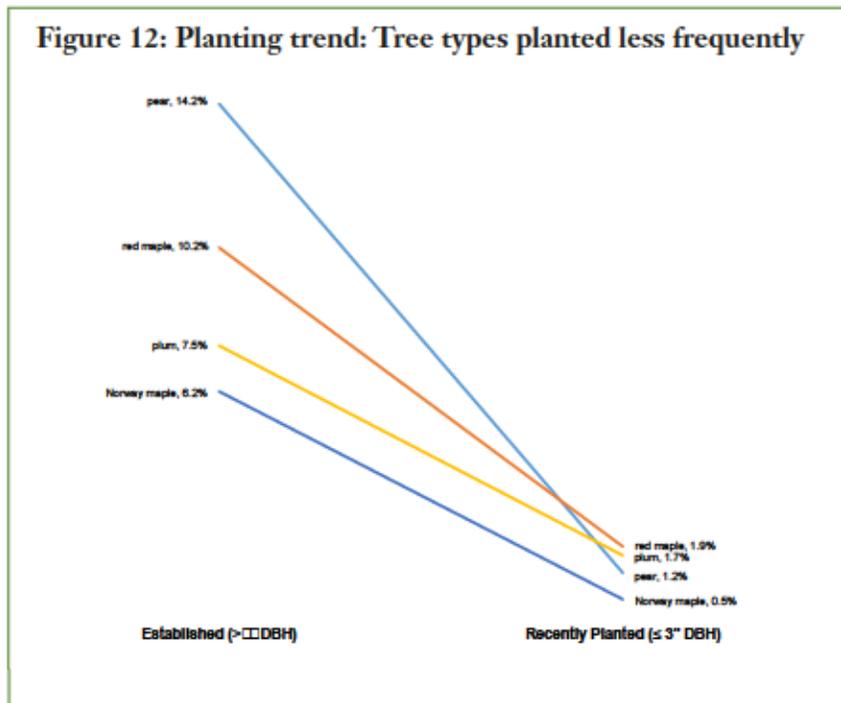
Pear and red maple, which make up almost a quarter of Wilkes’ established street trees as a whole, have been planted far less often in recent years, which will lead to greater long-term species diversity (Figure 12). Additionally, Norway maple has also been planted less frequently (-5.8%)—likely due to the listing of the species on the City’s nuisance plant list, which means it is no longer permitted for right-of-way planting.

Of tree types that have increased in number, zelkova and crabapple are seeing the largest increase, with changes of +9.3% and +4.7%, respectively. Even with increased plantings of zelkova, it is still well below the recommended 5% threshold for a single species (Table 2, Figure 13). Other species trending up include the false cypress (+3.7%), evergreen magnolia (+3.4%), serviceberry (+2.7%), and tupelo (+2.6%).

**The Bottom Line**

Recent planting trends show a decrease in popularity of pear, red maple, plum and Norway maple; this is a positive trend as the *Pyrus*, *Acer*, and *Prunus* genera, as well as the Rosaceae family, are over represented in Wilkes. Pear and plum are also smaller form, shorter-lived trees. At 20.7% of the street tree population, the Sapindaceae family has also reached the recommended maximum of 20%.

Trees planted more frequently in recent years include diverse species that are new to the neighborhood. Zelkova, tupelo, and evergreen magnolia are non-existent or very uncommon in the established tree population. These tree types are all medium form trees and will help diversify Wilkes’ urban forest.



### TREE COMPOSITION WITHIN LARGE, MEDIUM, AND SMALL PLANTING SITES

Ideally, the mature form of a tree should match the size of its planting site. Appropriately-sized trees maximize benefits to the community while minimizing costly infrastructure conflicts. Table 7 provides an overall picture of undersized trees in Wilkes, however a closer look at where the most recently planted trees have been planted can show whether trends in planting are moving in the right direction. The mature form of recently planted trees ( $\leq 3''$  DBH) found in large, medium, and small planting sites was compared to established trees ( $> 3''$ DBH).

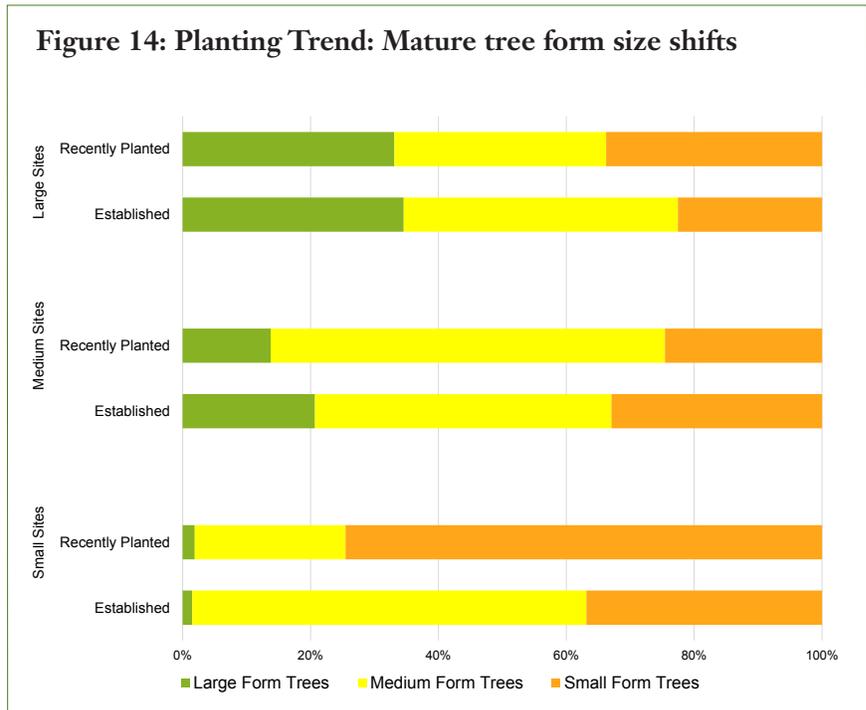
#### Results

Two thirds of large sites in Wilkes are planted in undersized trees, and the proportion of small trees planted in large sites has increased in recent years (Figure 14). The planting of medium form trees has increased in medium sites and has decreased in large sites and in small sites. Small form trees make up an increasing proportion in both small and large sites, while being planted less in medium sites.

#### The Bottom Line

Recent plantings in Wilkes show that small form trees are increasingly planted in large sites, while declining slightly in medium sites. With over a third of large sites being recently planted with small trees and approximately a quarter of medium sites still being planted with small trees, this represents a missed opportunity for these sites. Continued efforts to plant appropriately sized trees in Wilkes' rights-of-way will ensure that tree canopy and its benefits are maximized in the neighborhood over the long-term.

Figure 14: Planting Trend: Mature tree form size shifts



The large planting space that houses the small form Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*) at left is far better suited to the large form Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) at right, which will provide many times more benefits over its lifetime.



*Volunteers identify trees and collect data during the September 10 tree inventory workday in Wilkes.*

# Recommendations

Based on street tree inventory data presented in this report, Urban Forestry staff make the following recommendations for the Wilkes neighborhood.

## PLANTING FOR DIVERSITY AND SIZE

- Reduce dependence on trees in the Roseaceae and Sapindaceae families, and specifically trees in the *Acer*, *Prunus* and *Pyrus* genera by planting a diverse array of species, genera, and families. A more diverse urban forest will be more resilient to pests, pathogens, and changing climate conditions. Select species from Urban Forestry's Approved Street Tree Lists ([www.portlandoregon.gov/trees/plantinglists](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/trees/plantinglists)).
- Prioritize planting opportunities to plant large, high-performing trees that will provide high levels of benefits over their lifetime. These trees would be best planted in the estimated 173 large planting sites (>6' wide without overhead wires) that have been identified for planting (Appendix K).
- Plant trees in all available planting spaces but plant in the smallest spaces last. Trees in small planting spaces provide fewer benefits and are more likely to cause sidewalk and clearance problems in a shorter time frame than if they were planted in larger spaces. However, all plantings help contribute to a neighborhood "tree ethic" and encourage others to plant and maintain street trees. Wilkes's street tree stocking level is 47% and 1,539 spaces have been identified for planting street trees (Appendix J).
- Take advantage of existing planting programs, such as low-cost trees available through Friends of Trees. These plantings are currently subsidized by the City.

## YOUNG TREE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- Properly water and establish young trees. With 15% of trees being 3" DBH or less, special attention should be paid to this vulnerable population (Appendix E). Small trees represent the future generation of street trees, and early care and training will pay off in future benefits.
- Structurally prune young trees to promote proper form as street trees. This includes removing low limbs for pedestrian and traffic clearance and removing co-dominant leaders. Structural pruning is critical in the first ten years after planting and can prevent future problems and expense. The 36% of trees that are 6" DBH or less should be evaluated for structural pruning needs.
- Educate property owners on how to properly care for young street trees (branch and root pruning, watering, and mulching) in order to reduce and delay future problems and conflicts with infrastructure.



*Planting trees like this uncommon Osage orange (Maclura pomifera) helps to improve the diversity of the urban forest.*

### MATURE TREE PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY

- Maintain and care for large, mature trees. Only 10% of trees in Wilkes are larger than 18” diameter. Trees provide the most benefits as they reach maturity and tree care is also the most expensive for these large trees. Increasing the level of maintenance of large, mature trees will help prolong their lifespan, reduce hazards, and keep these high-value members of the urban forest contributing to the neighborhood.
- Seek funding or assistance for low income property owners to care for their mature trees.
- Retain existing large trees in fair and good condition. Benefits are lost when older trees are removed and replaced with smaller and younger tree species, due to the time it takes for young trees to mature.
- Encourage planning for larger trees as redevelopment takes place in the neighborhood. Wider planting sites and cutouts (>6’) will result in larger, healthier, longer-lived trees that provide many times more benefits to the community than smaller trees.
- Promote the importance and benefits of large form species and mature trees within the community.



*This mature incense cedar (Calocedrus decurrens) provides canopy benefits year-round.*

### REPLACEMENTS - RIGHT TREE, RIGHT PLACE

- Encourage removal and replacement of dead trees and assessment of trees in poor condition. Seven percent of Wilkes’s trees are dead (33 trees) or in poor condition (155 trees) (Appendix G). Further assessment of trees for hazards by a certified arborist can help with prioritization for replacement.
- Encourage replacement of underperforming species, including undersized trees in large rights-of-way, with higher functioning, appropriately sized trees. In large planting sites, 802 trees have been identified as being too small for their respective site, 47 of which are in poor condition. Furthermore, nearly 44% of trees rated poor are in the Rosaceae family. Given that this family is already over represented in the street tree population, these trees should be evaluated on an individual basis for replacement.



*Large trees will grow healthier and larger when planted in the right space, unlike this redwood (Sequoia sempervirens) growing under high voltage wires.*

# Next Steps: Tree Plans and Tree Teams

The experience of participating in a street tree inventory and the findings in this report will help empower the neighborhood to make informed decisions regarding the management and stewardship of the local urban forest. Street trees are a critical component of a community and the 2,655 street trees and 1,538 available planting spaces detailed in this report are a good starting point for the neighborhood Tree Team to begin improving and expanding the urban forest.

## NEIGHBORHOOD TREE TEAMS

Volunteers who have participated in the Tree Inventory Project are encouraged to form or join a neighborhood Tree Team. A neighborhood Tree Team is a group of volunteers who are interested in addressing the needs of a neighborhood's urban forest through activities such as the inventory, education and advocacy, and year-round stewardship events.

## TREE PLANS

Urban Forestry knows that local Tree Teams are the best stewards of their urban forest. Having completed the inventory, they can now use these findings to create a Tree Plan—a customized stewardship plan created and executed by neighborhood Tree Teams for their urban forest.

Tree Plans will include a vision statement, goals, objectives, and recommendations for property owners. Using inventory data, Tree Teams can identify the specific needs of their neighborhood's urban forest and create goals that target these needs.

Once a Tree Plan is established, tree teams can take action toward improving their neighborhood's urban forest, with special access to Urban Forestry's staff and resources.

## WORKSHOPS

In the year following the inventory, Urban Forestry will support two stewardship events for each neighborhood that completes a street tree inventory, with staff dedicated to assist tree teams in coordinating the events.

Neighborhoods may host a variety of events, including:

- Tree planting in community spaces
- Tree pruning, with a focus on structural pruning for young trees
- Young tree care
- Educational tree tours and lessons on topics such as species selection for diversity, invasive species recognition and removal, heritage trees, and addressing pests and pathogens
- Programs customized for the neighborhood based upon inventory findings



*Young street trees benefit greatly from structural pruning in the first ten years after planting.*



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## Appendix A: Methods

Street trees are defined in this project as woody plants in the public right-of-way with a single or few trunks and a minimum mature size of 15'. In the summer of 2016, street trees adjacent to every tax lot within the neighborhood boundaries were inventoried by trained volunteers and Urban Forestry staff.

### DATA COLLECTED

Data collected included: tree type identified to species or genus, tree condition, location, size (diameter at breast height), planting site width, planting site type, and presence of overhead high voltage lines.

Tree type: Trees were identified to the genus or species. Six maples were identified to the species level: bigleaf (*Acer macrophyllum*), Japanese (*A. palmatum*), Norway (*A. platanoides*), paperbark (*A. griseum*), red (*A. rubrum*) and silver (*A. saccharinum*) maples. All other maple species were identified as “maple, other.” All dead trees were listed as “unknown” tree type, as identification of these plants was uncertain.

Tree condition: Trees were rated as good, fair, poor, or dead. These general ratings reflect whether or not a tree is likely to continue contributing to the urban forest (good and fair trees) or whether the tree is at or near the end of its life (poor and dead trees). The following guidelines were used:

Good: The tree has strong structure and is healthy and vigorous with no apparent problems. Trunks are solid with no bark damage and the crown is full. Roots show no signs of heaving or visible crossing, and there are no major wounds, decay, conks, or cavities.

Fair: The tree is in average condition. Structural problems may be present, including results of pruning for high voltage electrical lines. Tree may have dead branches and some canopy loss. Wounds are minimal and there is no major decay.

Poor: The tree is in a general state of decline as indicated by major wounds, root heaving, dead limbs resulting in major canopy loss, and/or visible signs of decay indicated by major rot or fungal growth.

Dead: The tree is dead with no live leaves. Dead trees were excluded from data analysis, with the exception of tree condition statistics and total number of trees inventoried.

Tree size: Diameter at breast height (4.5' above ground) was measured with a diameter tape. Measurements of trees with branches, forks, or swelling at 4.5' were taken lower on the tree so a representative size was obtained. Trees with three or fewer multiple stems were measured individually and Urban Forestry staff made final diameter calculations using the formula  $\sqrt{(x^2+y^2+z^2)}$ . Trees with greater than three multiple stems were measured below branching.

Planting site type: Planting site types were placed into one of the following categories.

#### Improved sites:

Curbtight: The curb and sidewalk are continuous, and tree is planted adjacent to tax lot.

Cutout: The site is a concrete cutout, also called a tree pit or tree well.

Median: The site is in the middle of the street separated by a curb.

Planting strip: The tree is a planting strip between a curb and a sidewalk.

Swale: The tree is in the middle of a bioswale designed for storm water capture.

#### Unimproved sites:

Curb only: The site has a curb but no sidewalk.

No curb or sidewalk: The site has no curb or sidewalk.

Other: Sites not falling under above scenarios.

Planting site width: Planting site width was measured for all improved site types except curbtight areas. Planting strips were measured from the inside of the curb to the beginning of the sidewalk and cutouts, medians, and swales were measured from inside edge to inside edge perpendicular to the street. No widths were taken for unimproved planting site types or curbtight areas.

High voltage wires: The presence of high voltage wires above the planting space was recorded.

Stocking level: Planting space size and availability is subject to a number of guidelines, including width of the planting site, presence/absence of high voltage power lines, and distance from conflicts (property lines, stop signs, and underground utilities). Because this project did not inventory all available planting sites, but only sites where trees are currently growing, data for planting site sizes were supplemented with available planting space data collected by Urban Forestry and the Bureau of Environmental Services between 2009 and 2016. These data were compared with existing tree data collected at the same time and used to calculate stocking level. Some industrial, commercial, and multi-family residential areas may have been excluded in the analysis, making this a conservative estimate of available sites.

### **DATA COLLECTION METHODS**

Volunteer neighborhood coordinators recruited volunteers to conduct street tree inventories during work days. Volunteers interested in being inventory team leaders attended a half-day training to learn to identify tree species and site conditions, and how to collect and record data.

During work days, team leaders were paired with novice volunteers to collect data in a three to four block area. Groups were given a clipboard containing a map, data entry sheets, tree type abbreviations, and a list of trees planted by Friends of Trees in the neighborhood. Volunteers wore safety vests and carried a 2-sided diameter/measuring tape for measuring tree size and site width, a tree identification book, and bags for collecting samples.

In addition to Urban Forestry staff, one or more volunteer arborists-on-call were available on inventory work days to assist volunteers with questions. Accuracy was stressed as highly important, and volunteers utilized the arborist-on-call to verify species identification as questions arose. Data were collected on paper maps and forms, and later digitized in ArcGIS by Urban Forestry staff and trained volunteers.

Accuracy of volunteer-collected data was checked by Urban Forestry staff and corrections were made as necessary. Remaining areas not completed during inventory work days were inventoried by volunteer team leaders or staff. A 10% sample of the final data found species identifications to be more than 95% accurate.

### **CALCULATION OF BENEFITS AND CANOPY PROJECTION**

Projected benefits were calculated using 30-year estimates of average annual net benefits provided in the Western Washington and Oregon Community Tree Care Guide (McPherson et al. 2002). Projected canopy cover estimates assume the mature spread of small, medium, and large trees to 20' x 20', 40' x 40', and 60' x 60', respectively. In some cases the data for available planting spaces from the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) included planting sites that were not categorized by size. Therefore, for the purposes of calculating projected benefits, these spaces were assumed to have a similar proportion of small, medium, and large sites, as were categorized by BES in the neighborhood.

## Appendix B: Street trees of Wilkes by tree type

Common Name		Family	# of Trees	% of Total	Mean DBH
alder	<i>Alnus spp.</i>	Betulaceae	22	0.8%	11.6
Amur maackia	<i>Maackia amurensis</i>	Leguminosae	4	0.2%	2.2
apple	<i>Malus domestica</i>	Rosaceae	9	0.3%	8.3
ash	<i>Fraxinus spp.</i>	Oleaceae	25	0.9%	12.6
bay laurel	<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Lauraceae	1	0.0%	0.8
beech	<i>Fagus spp.</i>	Fagaceae	5	0.2%	4.2
birch	<i>Betula spp.</i>	Betulaceae	37	1.4%	12.1
black locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Leguminosae	7	0.3%	28.3
cascara	<i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	Rhamnaceae	14	0.5%	4.0
cedar	<i>Cedrus spp.</i>	Pinaceae	11	0.4%	18.3
cherry	<i>Prunus spp.</i>	Rosaceae	224	8.4%	9.1
corktree	<i>Phellodendron spp.</i>	Rutaceae	2	0.1%	1.0
crabapple	<i>Malus spp.</i>	Rosaceae	50	1.9%	3.8
crape myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Lythraceae	8	0.3%	3.0
cypress	<i>Cupressus spp.</i>	Cupressaceae	1	0.0%	10.5
dogwood	<i>Cornus spp.</i>	Cornaceae	116	4.4%	5.7
	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Pinaceae	81	3.1%	19.1
elm	<i>Ulmus spp.</i>	Ulmaceae	14	0.5%	3.0
false cypress	<i>Chamaecyparis spp.</i>	Cupressaceae	64	2.4%	6.0
	<i>Ficus spp.</i>	Moraceae	4	0.2%	4.2
	<i>Abies spp.</i>	Pinaceae	4	0.2%	4.0
fringe tree	<i>Chionanthus spp.</i>	Oleaceae	7	0.3%	2.0
ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Ginkgoaceae	11	0.4%	3.7
glorybower	<i>Clerodendrum spp.</i>	Verbenaceae	1	0.0%	8.8
hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Cannabaceae	32	1.2%	5.2
hawthorn	<i>Crataegus spp.</i>	Rosaceae	36	1.4%	6.2
hazelnut	<i>Corylus spp.</i>	Betulaceae	1	0.0%	2.5
hemlock	<i>Tsuga spp.</i>	Pinaceae	18	0.7%	12.0
holly	<i>Ilex spp.</i>	Aquifoliaceae	4	0.2%	7.4
honey locust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Leguminosae	11	0.4%	8.7
hornbeam	<i>Carpinus spp.</i>	Betulaceae	100	3.8%	8.7
incense cedar	<i>Calocedrus decurrens</i>	Cupressaceae	15	0.6%	17.1
katsura	<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	Cercidiphyllaceae	1	0.0%	7.1
lilac tree	<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	Oleaceae	3	0.1%	1.6
linden	<i>Tilia spp.</i>	Malvaceae	17	0.6%	5.2
magnolia, deciduous	<i>Magnolia spp.</i>	Magnoliaceae	12	0.5%	6.4
magnolia, evergreen	<i>Magnolia spp.</i>	Magnoliaceae	14	0.5%	1.8
maple, bigleaf	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	Sapindaceae	51	1.9%	22.9
maple, Japanese	<i>Acer palmatum</i>	Sapindaceae	67	2.5%	7.0
maple, Norway	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Sapindaceae	140	5.3%	12.1

Common Name		Family	# of Trees	% of Total	Mean DBH
maple, other	<i>Acer spp.</i>	Sapindaceae	53	2.0%	6.6
maple, paperbark	<i>Acer griseum</i>	Sapindaceae	4	0.2%	1.8
maple, red	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Sapindaceae	234	8.8%	9.6
maple, silver	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Sapindaceae	1	0.0%	45.0
monkey puzzle	<i>Araucaria araucana</i>	Araucariaceae	1	0.0%	2.7
mountain-ash	<i>Sorbus spp.</i>	Rosaceae	9	0.3%	7.2
oak, deciduous	<i>Quercus spp.</i>	Fagaceae	143	5.4%	7.3
oak, evergreen	<i>Quercus spp.</i>	Fagaceae	2	0.1%	3.3
osage orange	<i>Maclura pomifera</i>	Moraceae	1	0.0%	0.5
palm	<i>Trachycarpus spp.</i>	Arecaceae	7	0.3%	6.0
peach	<i>Prunus persica</i>	Rosaceae	2	0.1%	2.7
pear	<i>Pyrus spp.</i>	Rosaceae	319	12.0%	10.5
Persian ironwood	<i>Parrotia persica</i>	Hamamelidaceae	19	0.7%	3.9
persimmon	<i>Diospyros spp.</i>	Ebenaceae	2	0.1%	5.1
pine	<i>Pinus spp.</i>	Pinaceae	67	2.5%	13.5
planetree	<i>Platanus spp.</i>	Platanaceae	9	0.3%	11.7
plum	<i>Prunus spp.</i>	Rosaceae	173	6.5%	9.2
poplar	<i>Populus spp.</i>	Salicaceae	21	0.8%	15.9
redbud	<i>Cercis spp.</i>	Leguminosae	24	0.9%	7.3
redwood	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Taxodiaceae	4	0.2%	16.0
serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier spp.</i>	Rosaceae	11	0.4%	1.9
	<i>Heptacodium miconioides</i>	Caprifoliaceae	3	0.1%	3.1
smoketree	<i>Cotinus spp.</i>	Anacardiaceae	2	0.1%	0.6
snowbell	<i>Styrax spp.</i>	Styracaceae	45	1.7%	4.0
sourwood	<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	Ericaceae	1	0.0%	5.1
spruce	<i>Picea spp.</i>	Pinaceae	36	1.4%	9.8
sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar spp.</i>	Altingiaceae	49	1.8%	19.3
tupelo	<i>Nyssa spp.</i>	Cornaceae	18	0.7%	2.7
unknown (dead)	<i>unknown</i>	unknown	33	1.2%	5.3
walnut	<i>Juglans spp.</i>	Juglandaceae	6	0.2%	17.8
Western redcedar	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	Cupressaceae	43	1.6%	19.7
willow	<i>Salix spp.</i>	Salicaceae	18	0.7%	10.1
yellow wood	<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>	Leguminosae	2	0.1%	0.7
zilkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Ulmaceae	49	1.8%	2.2
<b>Total</b>			<b>2,655</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>9.6</b>

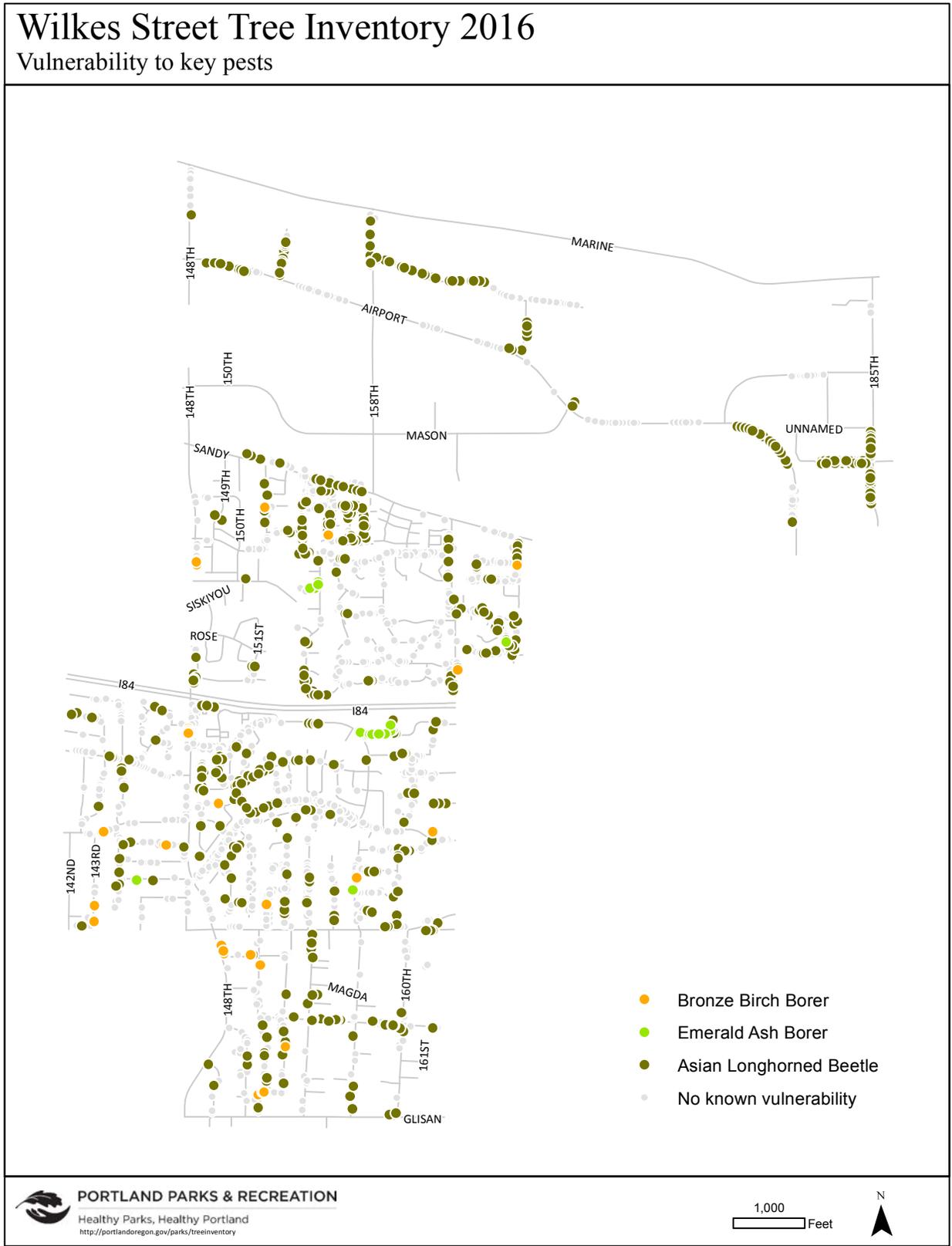
# Appendix C: Street trees of Wilkes by size

## Wilkes Street Tree Inventory 2016

Trees by Size



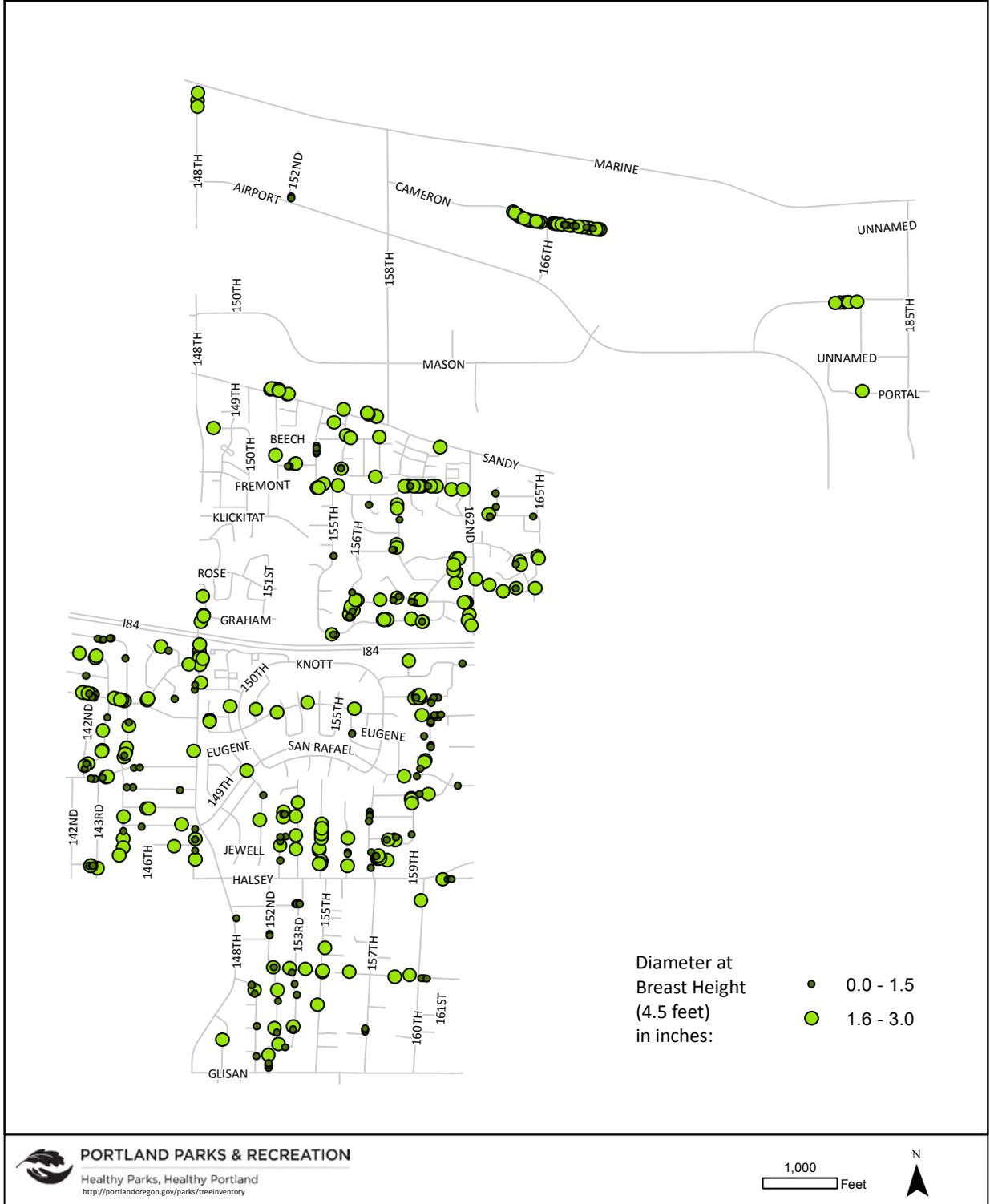
# Appendix D: Vulnerability to key pests



# Appendix E: Young street trees (trees ≤ 3" DBH)

## Wilkes Street Tree Inventory 2016

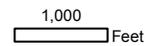
Young street trees (trees ≤ 3" DBH)



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Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

<http://portlandoregon.gov/parks/treelinventory>

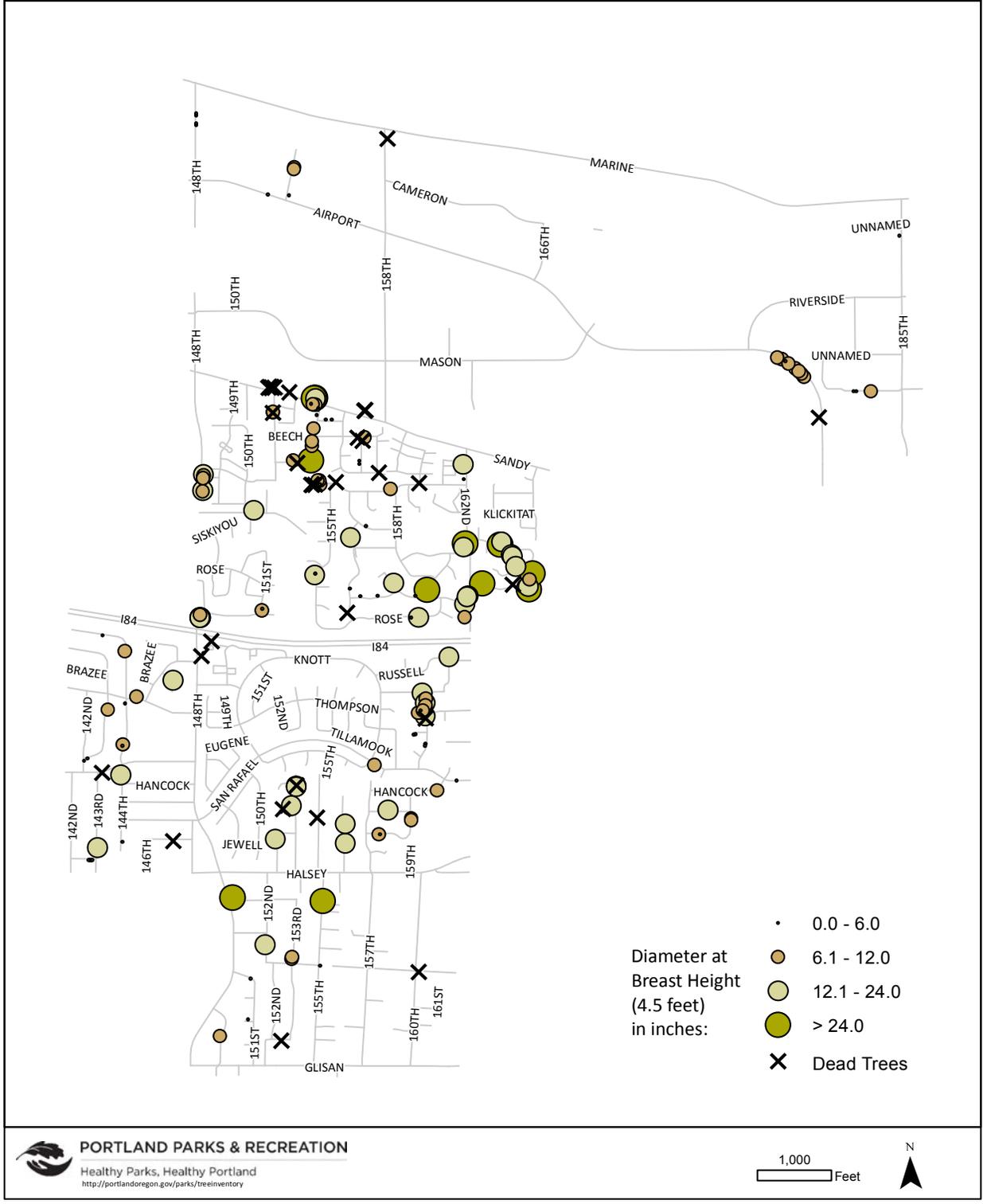




# Appendix G: Poor and dead street trees

## Wilkes Street Tree Inventory 2016

Poor and dead street trees



# Appendix H: Planting site types



# Appendix I: Planting site sizes

## Wilkes Street Tree Inventory 2016 Planting site sizes



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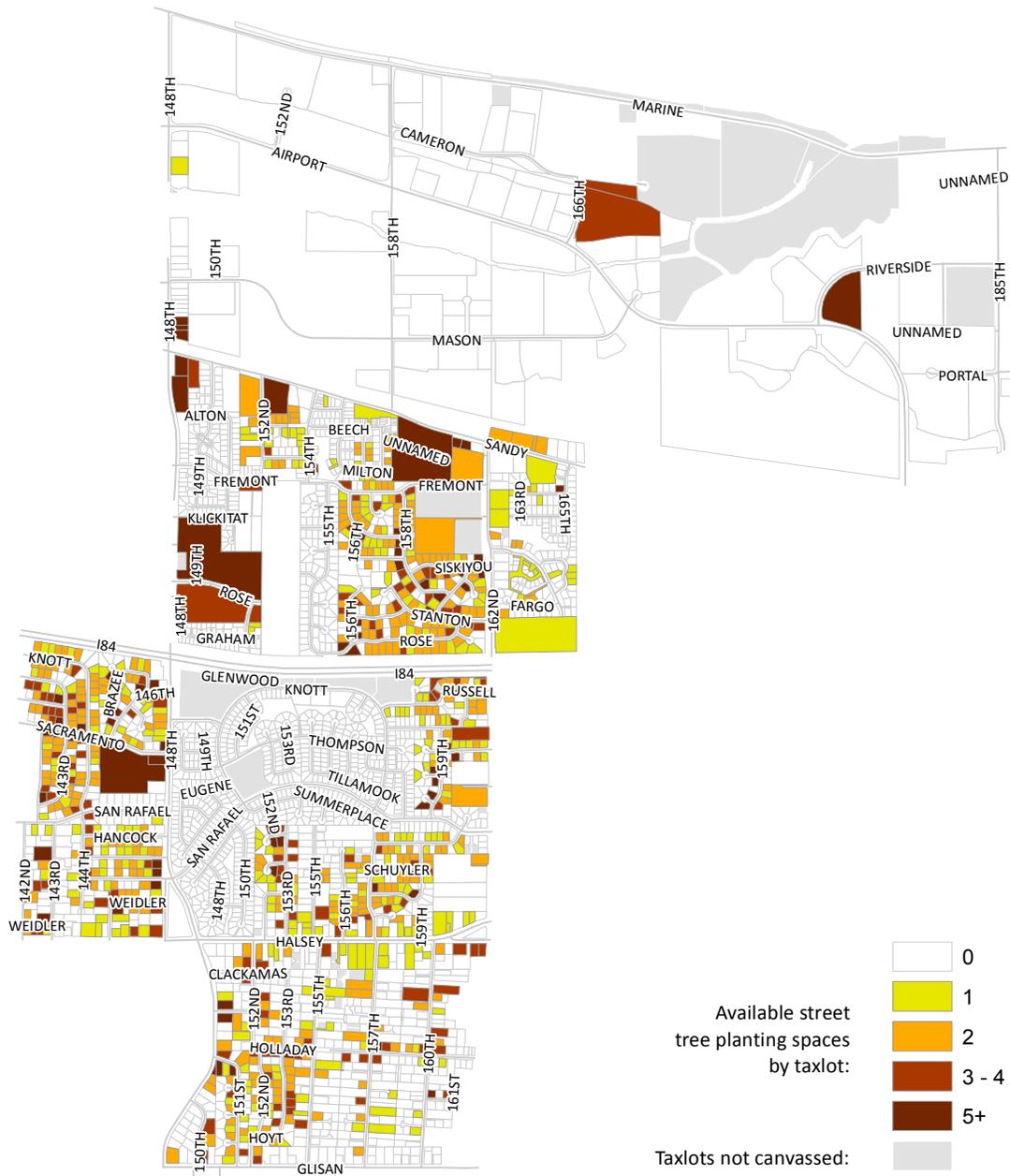
1,000 Feet



# Appendix J: Available street tree planting sites

## Wilkes Street Tree Inventory 2016

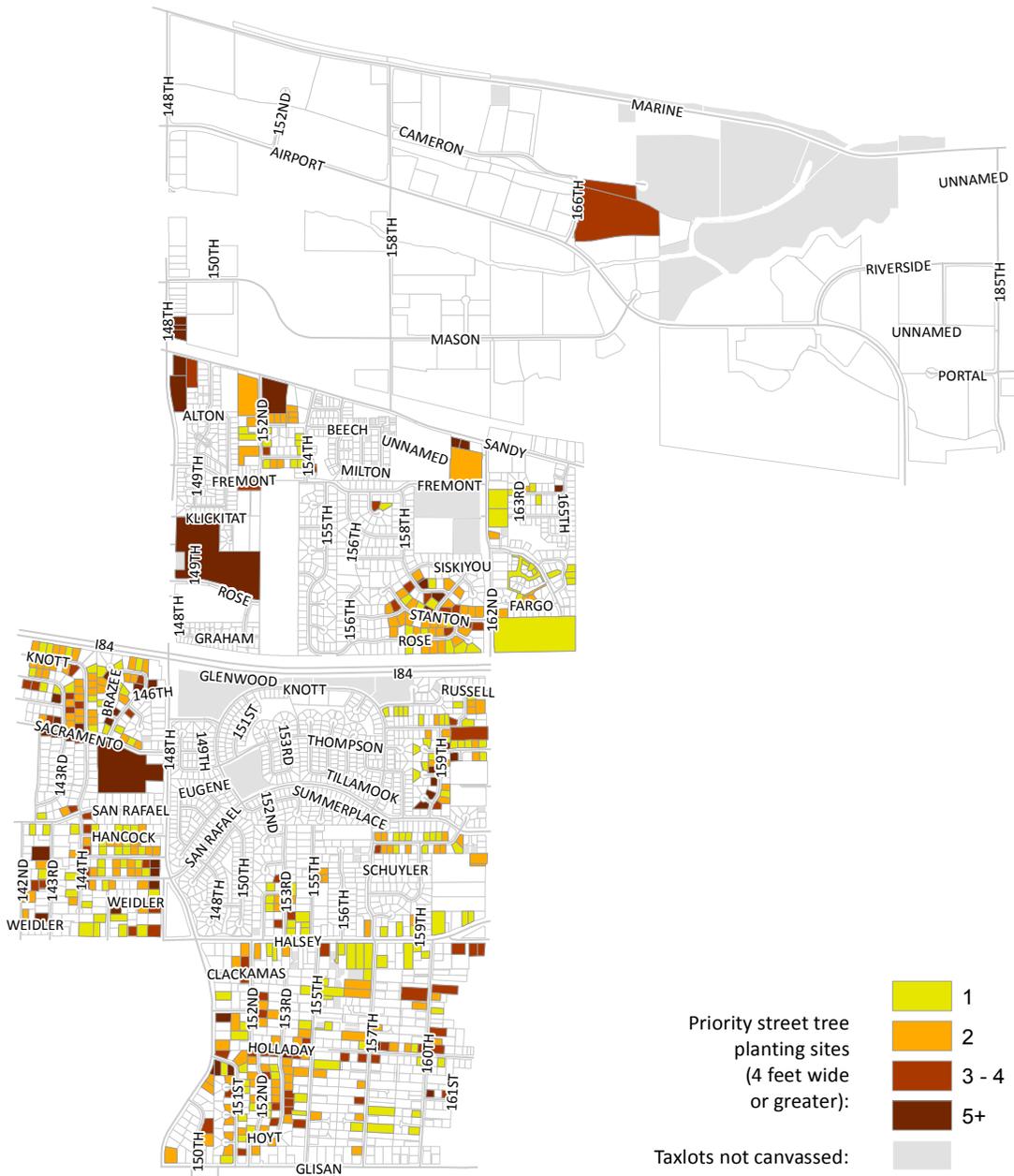
Available street tree planting sites



# Appendix K: Priority street tree planting sites

## Wilkes Street Tree Inventory 2016

Priority street tree planting sites



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1,000 Feet





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*The heart-shaped leaves of a rare Turkish hazel (Corylus colurna) growing in Wilkes's right-of-way.*

## Portland Parks & Recreation

1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 1302

Portland, Oregon 97204

(503) 823-PLAY

[www.PortlandParks.org](http://www.PortlandParks.org)



Commissioner Amanda Fritz

Director Mike Abbaté