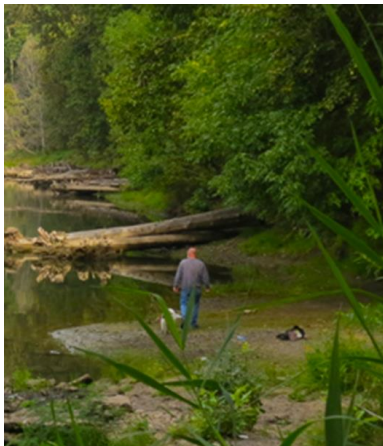# Portland Urban Forest Plan

Agenda

- What is the urban forest and why does it matter?

- What is the Portland Urban Forest Plan?

- How are we creating the plan?

- Discussion

What is the Urban Forest?

Every tree in Portland is part of the urban forest!

Trees in parks • Trees in yards • Trees near rivers or natural areas • Trees in street planting strips

Why are we here?

Trees clean our air

Trees purify our air by removing pollutants like carbon monoxide, ozone, and particulate matter. These harmful substances can lead to stroke, heart disease, and respiratory issues like asthma.

Trees keep us cool

Trees cool people and urban areas by shading buildings and pavement, lowering surface and air temperatures, and releasing cooling water vapors, like an air conditioner.

Trees improve our health

Trees improve our physical and mental health, and neighborhood aesthetics. Trees promote active living and can make our streets and outdoor spaces more inviting and safe.

Trees provide habitat

Trees provide food and shelter for animals and pollinators. Over 100 species of migratory birds and other important wildlife rely on Portland's urban forest.

Trees store carbon

Trees take carbon dioxide from the air and store carbon in their wood, leaves, and roots. This process helps reduce climate change and can help cool our planet.
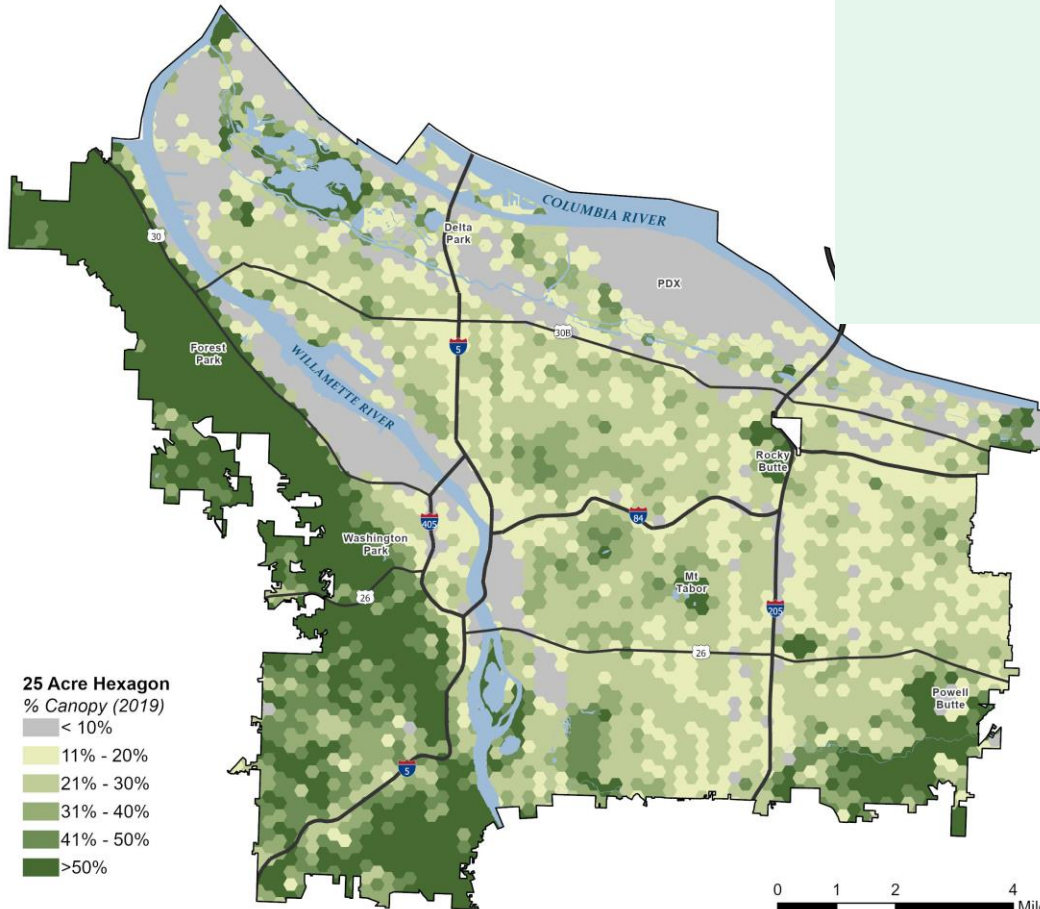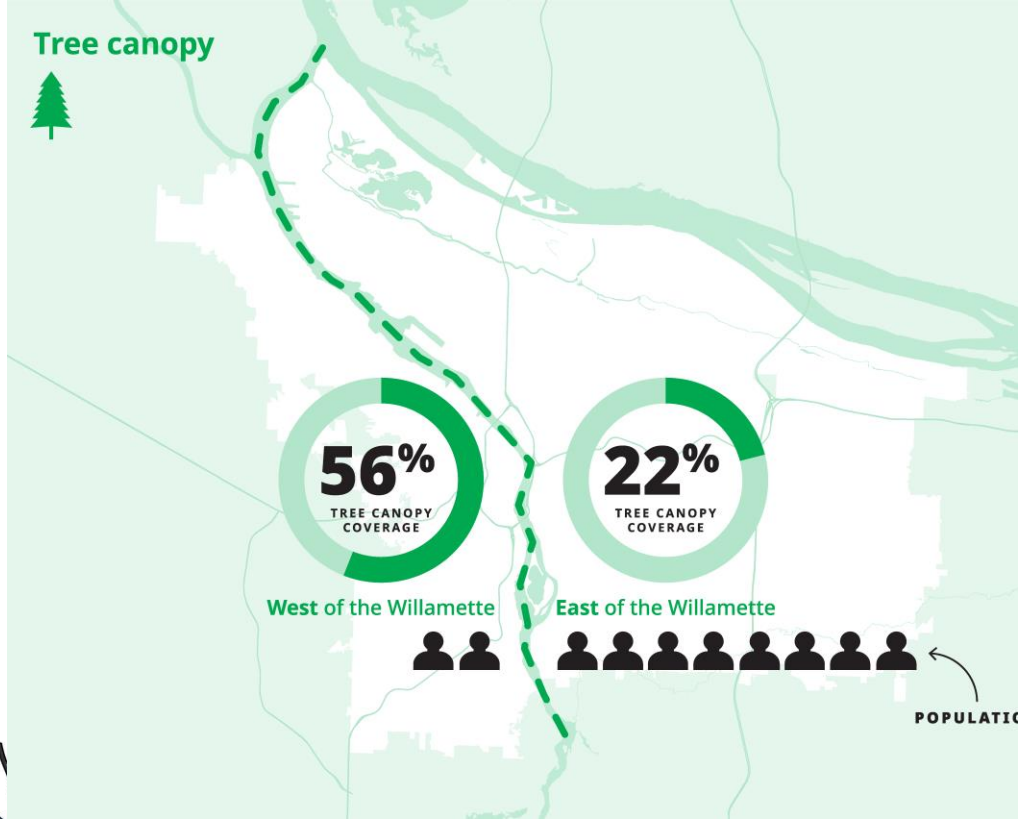
Trees clean our water & reduce flooding

Trees and soil help capture, filter, and slow down water and pollutants that flow into our streets and waterways after it rains. These services improve our water quality and reduce flooding.

Why are we here?

Tree canopy

56% TREE CANOPY COVERAGE

West of the Willamette

22% TREE CANOPY COVERAGE

East of the Willamette

POPULATION

We want to grow our urban forest equitably

25 Acre Hexagon
% Canopy (2019)
- < 10%
- 11% - 20%
- 21% - 30%
- 31% - 40%
- 41% - 50%
- >50%

0   1   2   4
Miles

What is the Portland Urban Forest Plan?

10-year roadmap for preserving, planting, and caring for trees equitably and sustainably

Goals, actions, and priorities to guide City management activities and decisions

How are we creating this plan?

Fall 2023 - Spring 2024

Spring - Fall 2024

Fall 2024 - Spring 2025

PHASE 1
Listen & Learn

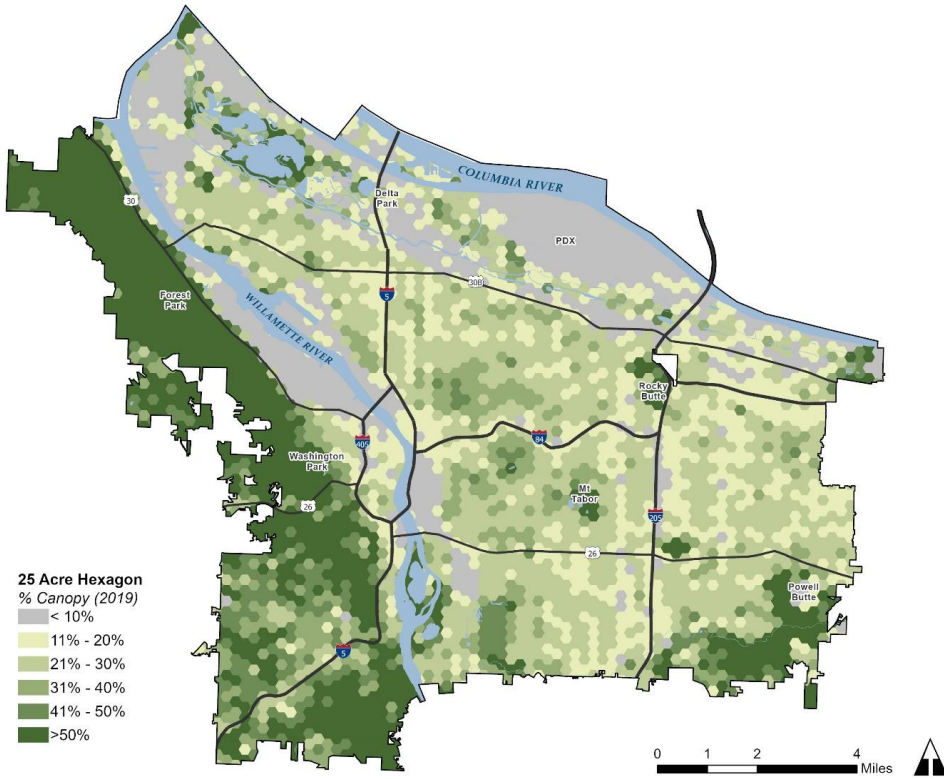**Assess Current Conditions**

PHASE 2
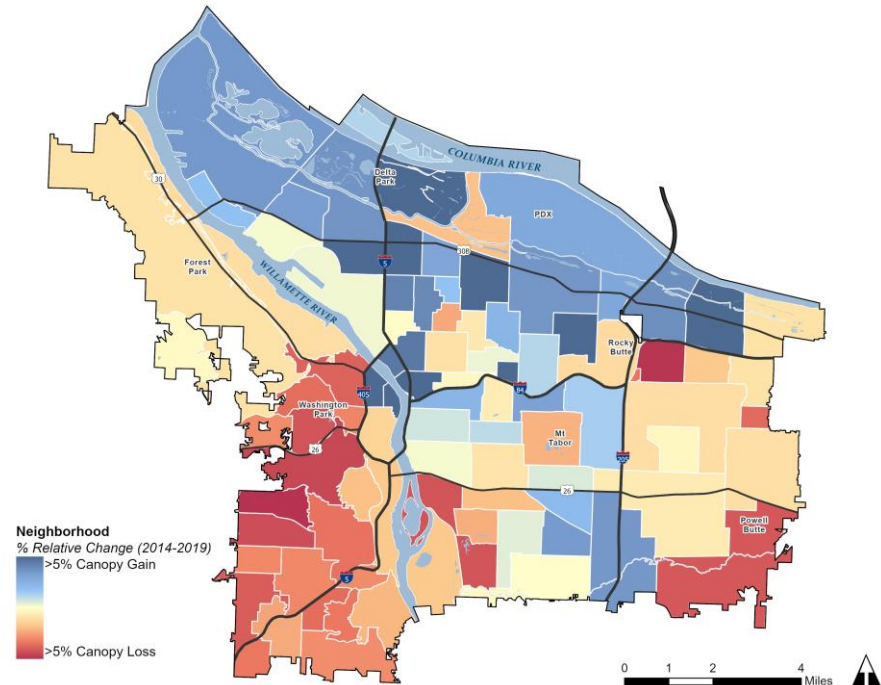**Change the Future**

Create Recommendations
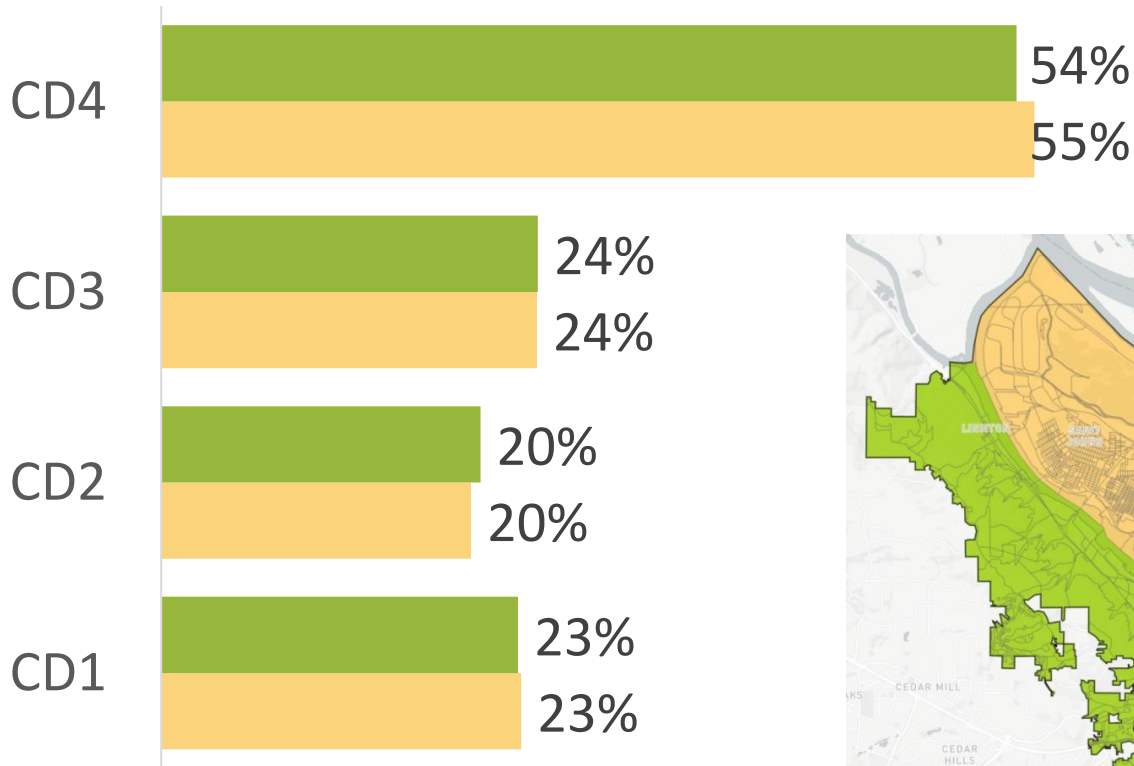
PHASE 3
Develop the Roadmap

Document the Process

Canopy Coverage

25 Acre Hexagon
% Canopy (2019)
- < 10%
- 11% - 20%
- 21% - 30%
- 31% - 40%
- 41% - 50%
- >50%

0 1 2 4 Miles

Canopy Change

Neighborhood
% Relative Change (2014-2019)
- >5% Canopy Gain
- >5% Canopy Loss

0 1 2 4 Miles

Source of Canopy Data: Oregon Metro Regional Land Information System

Canopy Cover by Council District

Source of Canopy Data: Oregon Metro Regional Land Information System
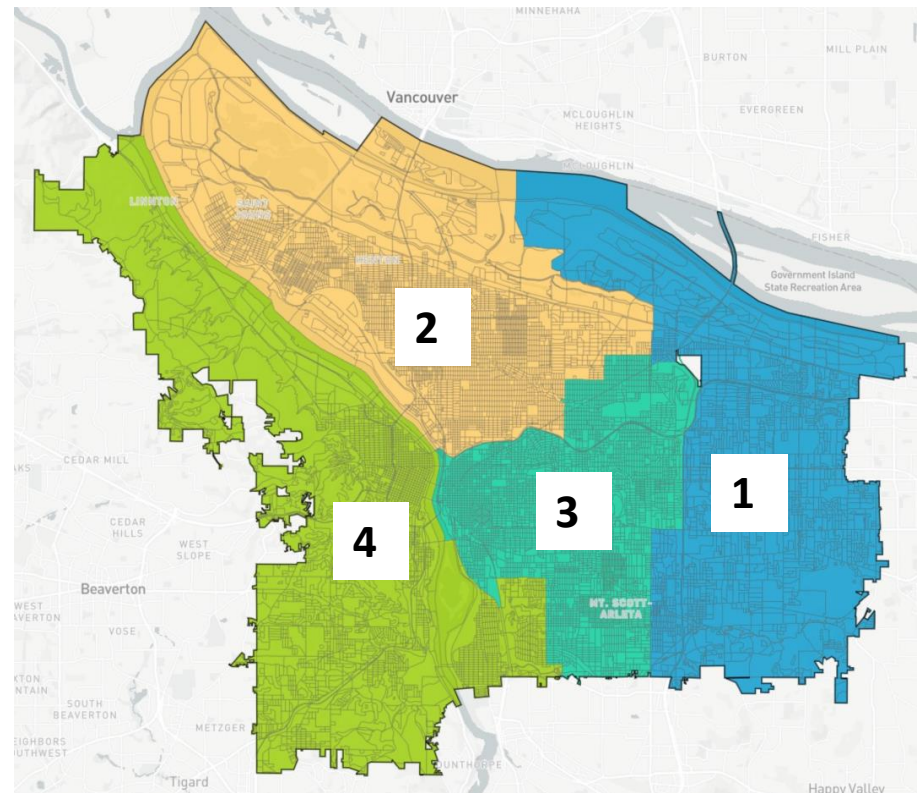
Transportation: Neighborhood Walkways (2019)

Citywide, canopy cov
is 35%* along
Neighborhood
Walkways, compared
to 24% for all streets

On average, 30%* of
Neighborhood
Walkways are covere
by tree canopy.

Canopy Coverage
by Neighborhood Walkway

— < 10%
— 11% - 20%
— 21% - 30%
— 31% - 40%
— 41% - 50%
— > 50%
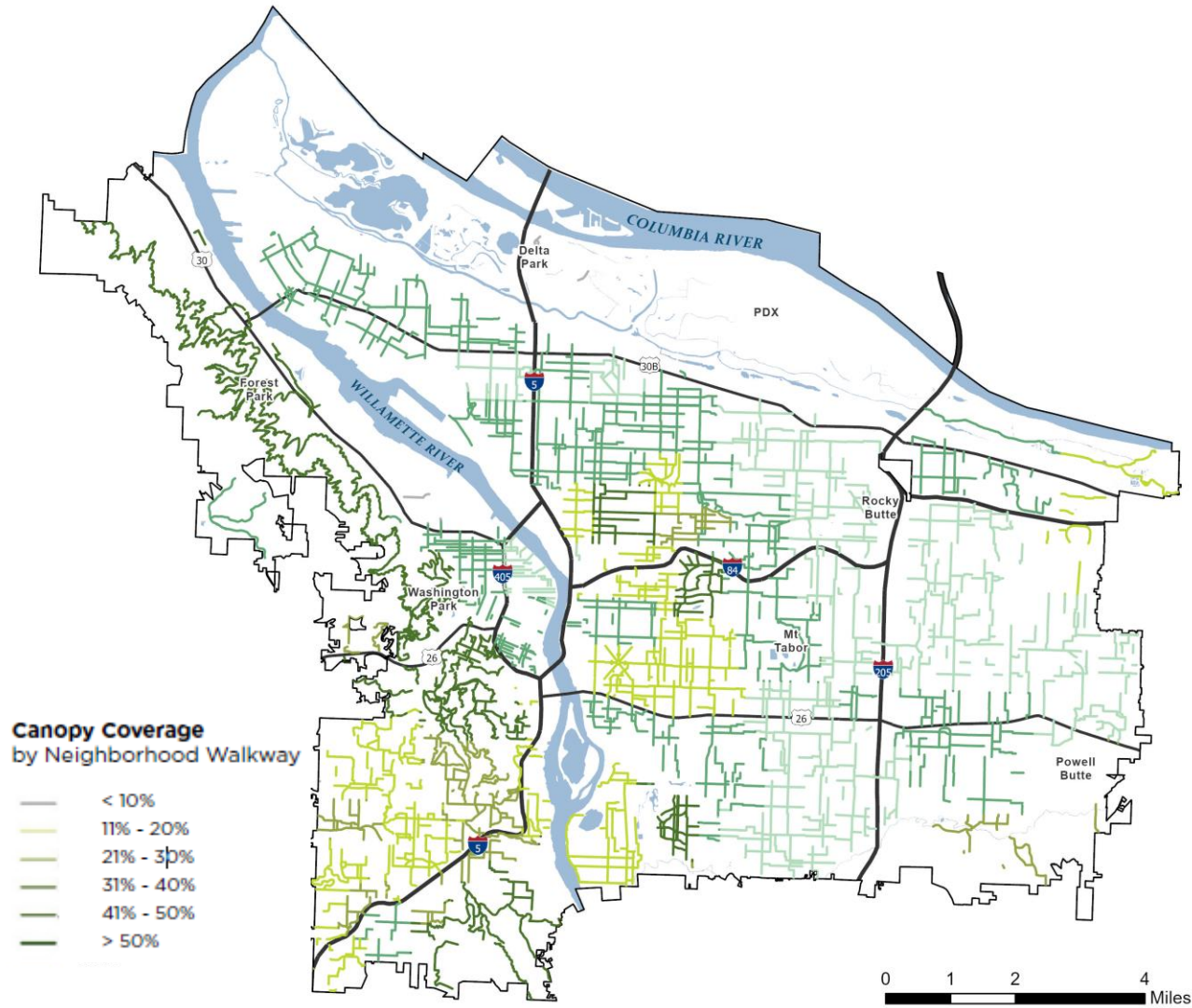
*Includes Forest Park

Land Use

Land Use	2019
Open Space	64.3%
Institutional	30.3%
Industrial	8.1%
Commercial	12.7%
Residential	33.1%

Legend:
- Commercial
- Residential
- Industrial
- Institutional
- Open Space
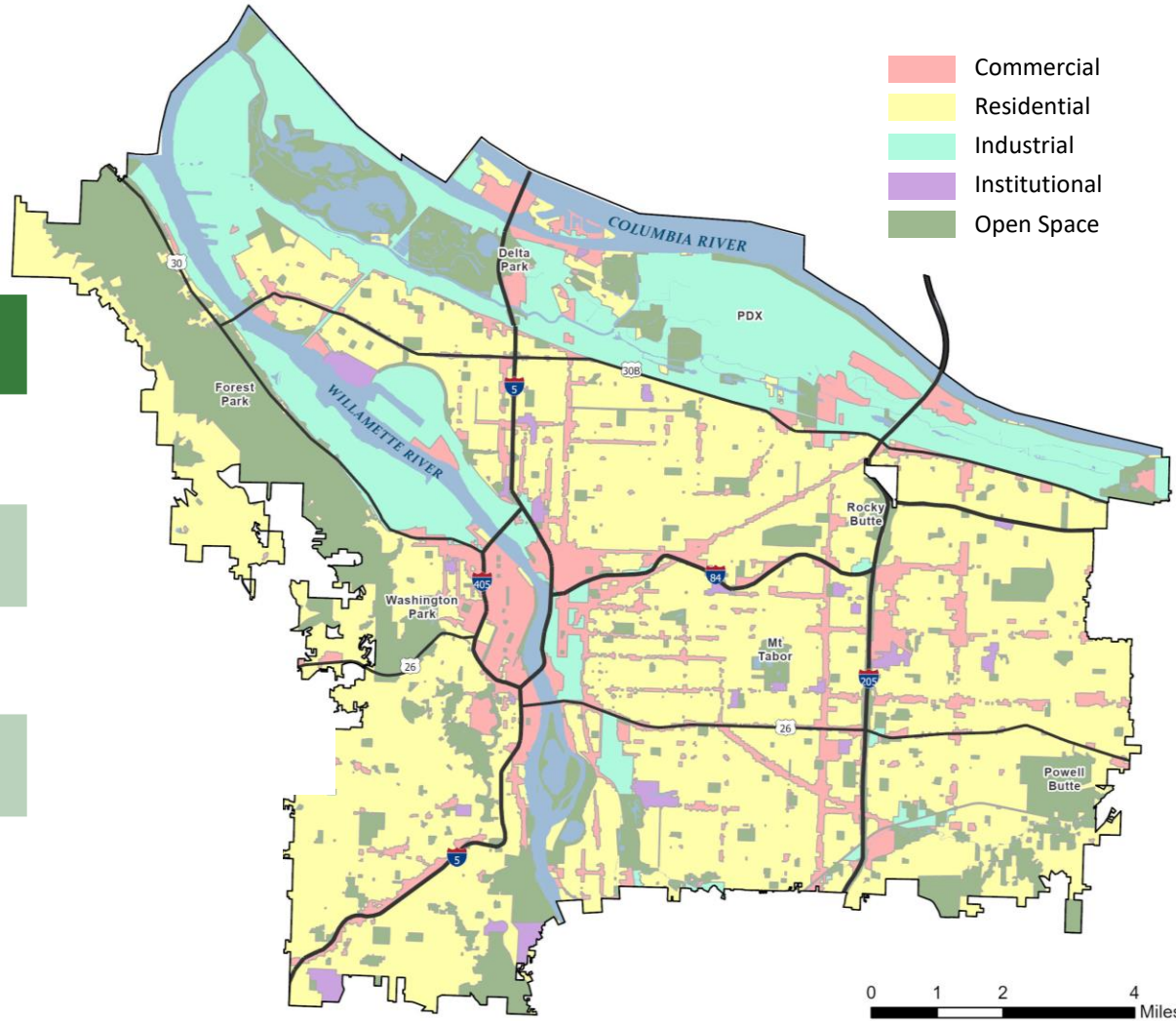
Source of Canopy Data: Oregon Metro Regional Land Information System

Heat and Heat Vulnerability
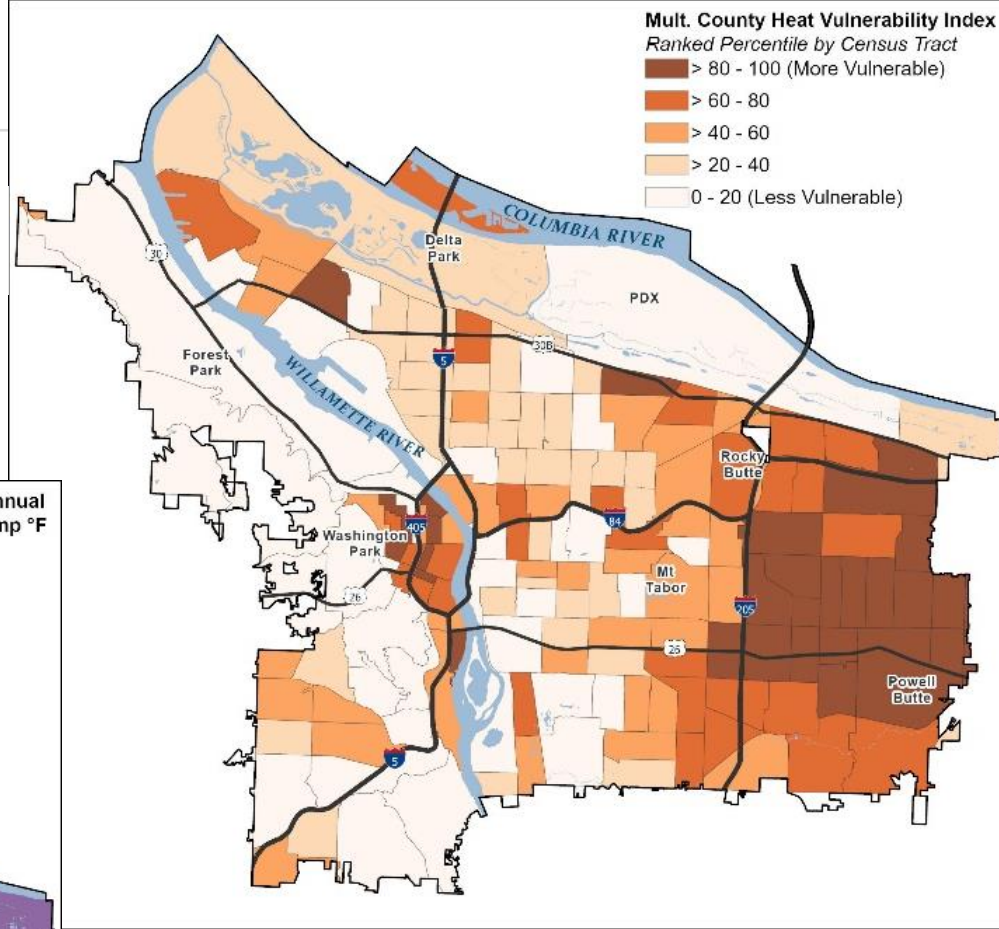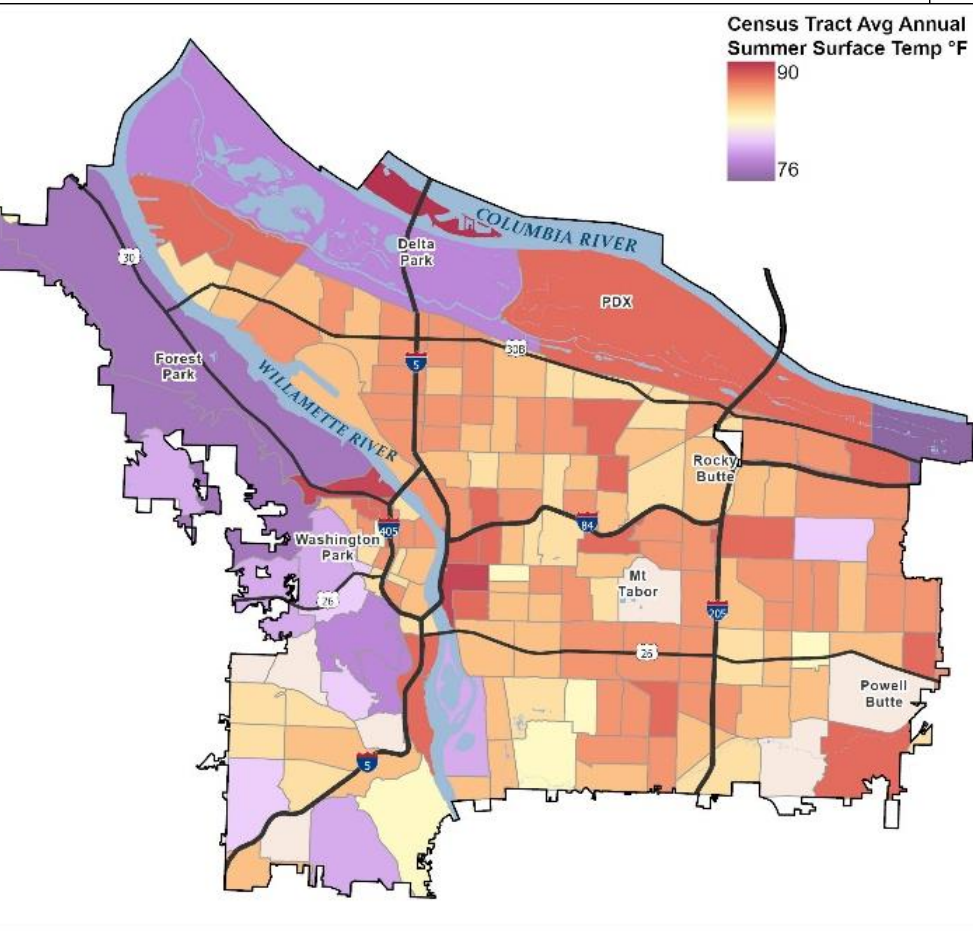
How are we creating the plan?

- Seeking guidance from 3 advisory committees

- Meeting with City advisory committees (like you)

- Speaking with the public

- Centering underserved communities

Community Engagement Activities

Spring 2024	Summer	Fall 2024 – Winter 2025
Focus Groups Round 1		Focus Groups Round 2
Open House		Open House
Survey		Draft Plan Review

Discussions, Presentations, and Tabling

Tell us your vision for the future of trees and tree care!

Open house at **McDaniel High School on April 24 5 to 7:30pm**

Survey is open from **March 25 to May 2, 2024**

Visit www.Portland.gov/Trees/Portland-Urban-Forest-Plan

Questions?

What are your priorities for trees and urban forest management?

How do you think the City should preserve, plant, and care for trees equitably and sustainably?