

# Canopy Conversations

Bellevue Neighborhoods Conference  
Session 4, 2:10 – 3:15  
4/21/2018

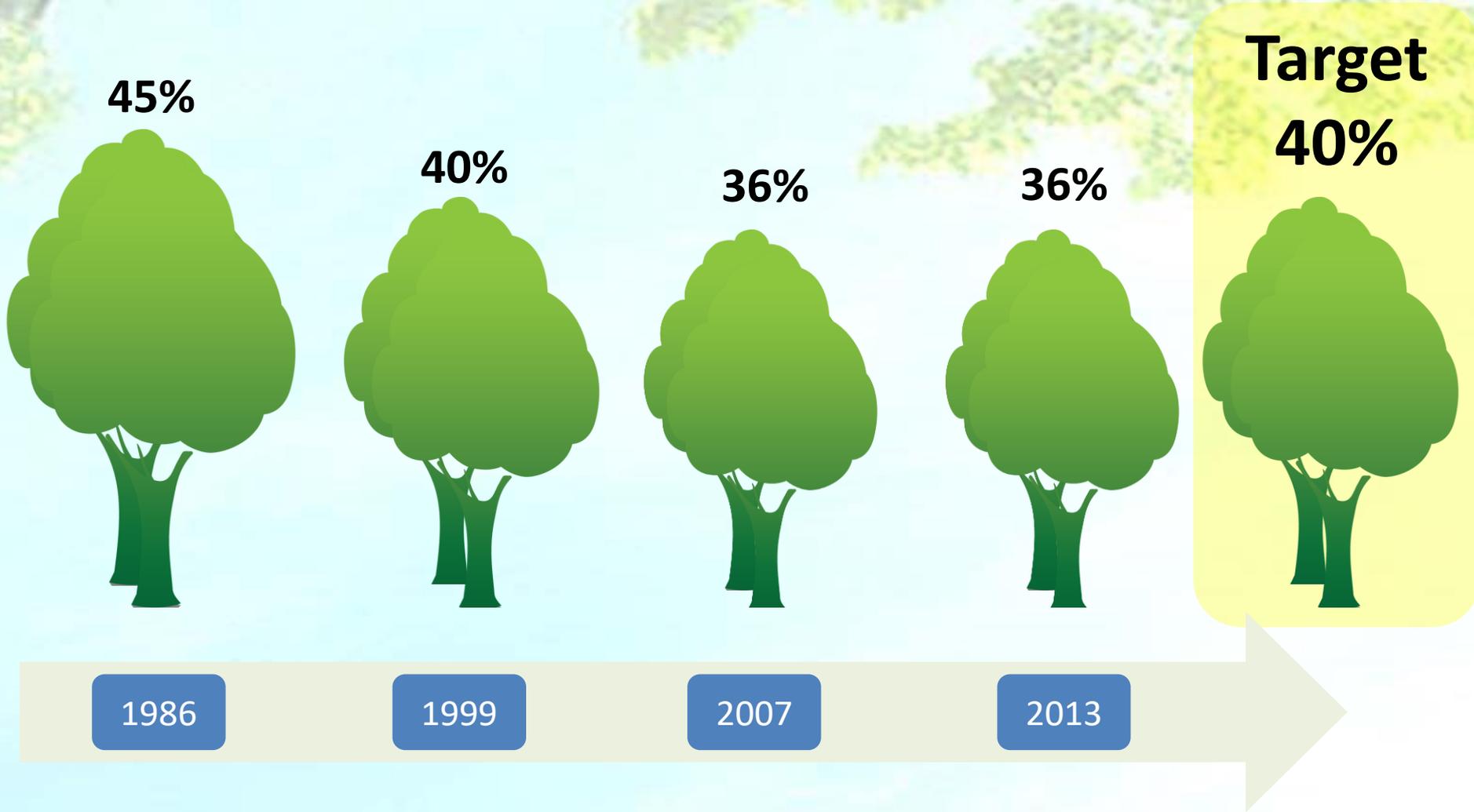


# Overview

- 1) Bellevue Tree Canopy Trends
- 2) Tree Canopy Research Project
- 3) Tree Canopy Trends
- 4) Neighborhood Mediation and Tree Issues

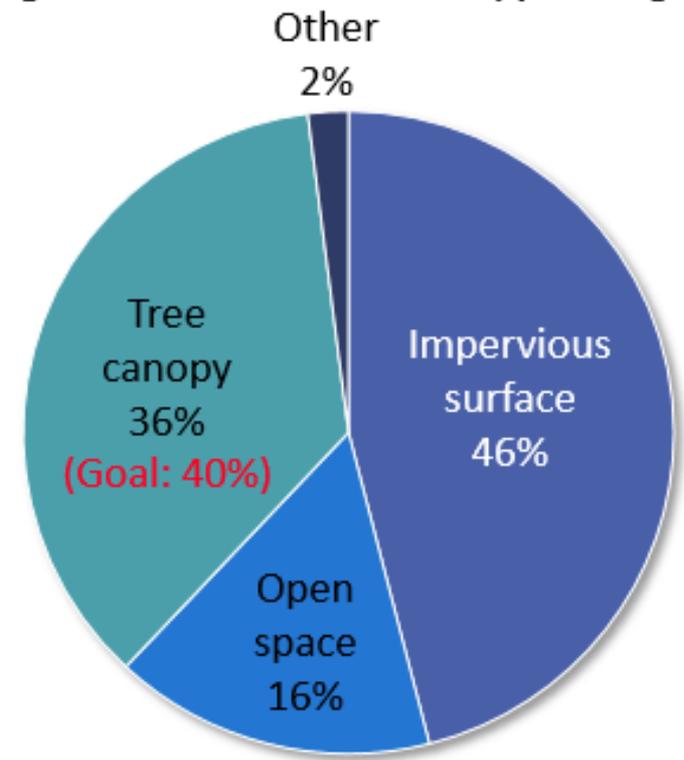


# Tree Canopy Trends



# Impact of Development

Tree Canopy Value: \$123 million



# Impact of Invasive Species

## If forested natural areas are not restored

Aggressive non-native vegetation will dominate the urban forest unless removed. In 100 years, the trees will be gone. City officials estimate that potentially billions of dollars in services such as stormwater control will be lost.



PRESENT

IN 20 YEARS

IN 50 YEARS

IN 100 YEARS

# Importance of Restoration

## If forested natural areas are restored

Aggressively removing invasive vegetation and planting native trees and shrubs will return the urban forest to a more sustainable condition. In 100 years, the forest will provide the city valuable services and better resist invasive plant infestations.



PRESENT

IN 20 YEARS

IN 50 YEARS

IN 100 YEARS

# Major Infrastructure Projects and Trees



# Other Tree Loss



# Benefits and Value of Trees

- Provide Habitat
- Manage stormwater
- Oxygen
- Carbon capture
- Urban noise and visual buffer
- Urban heat island mitigation
- Building shading / protecting to reduce energy use
- Increase property values
- Neighborhood character

# City of Bellevue Policies

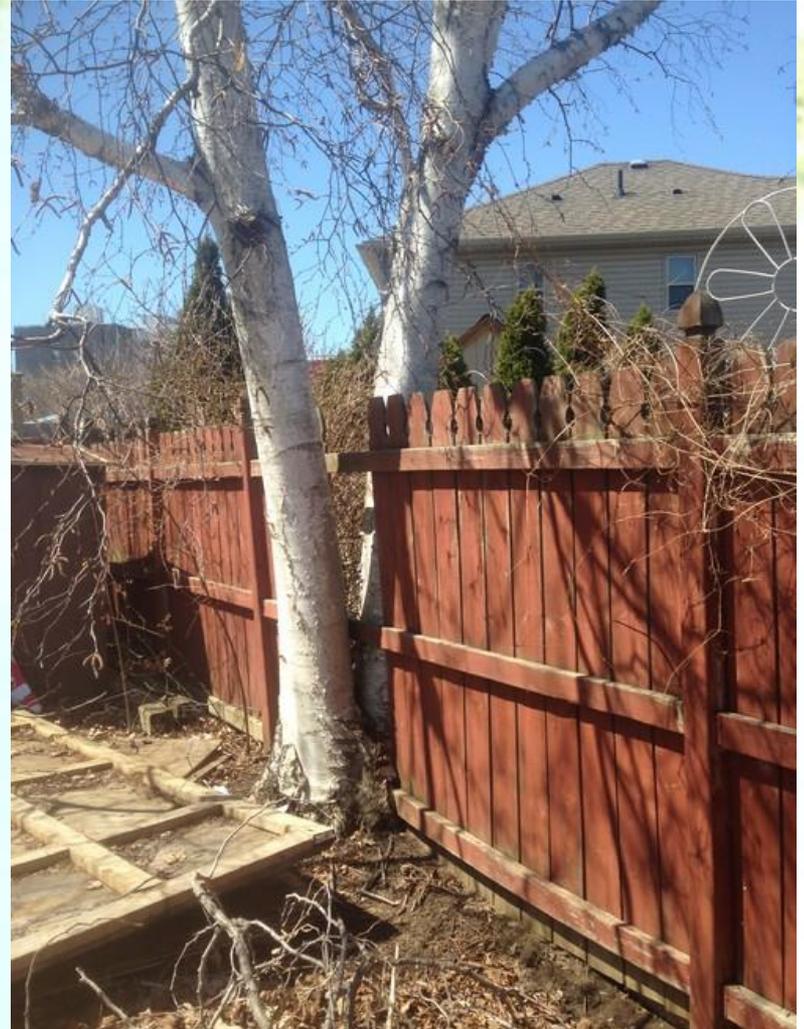
- **40% Canopy**
  - Work toward a citywide tree canopy target of at least 40% canopy coverage that reflects our “City in a Park” character
- **Tree Canopy Action Plan**
  - Maintain an action plan for meeting the target across multiple land use types including right-of way, public lands, and residential and commercial uses.
- **Minimize loss of trees**
  - Minimize the loss of tree canopy and natural areas due to transportation and infrastructure projects and mitigate for losses, where impacts are unavoidable.
- **Public education**
  - Educate the public about environmental issues and illustrate how individual actions can have a cumulative effect to benefit the environment.

# Opportunities

- Master Naturalists Program
- Parks Restoration Stewardship Saturdays and Eco-Fridays
- King County Million Trees Planting Events

# Neighborhood Mediation Examples

- Bellevue's Mediation Program
- How to talk to your neighbor about a tree issue



# Contact Into

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