



City Forest Credits Carbon Planting Project Application

1. Project Name

Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board Planting Project 2021

2. Project Type

Planting

3. Project Location

Projects must be in or adjacent to one of the following. Describe which one of the criteria the project meets and provide name of city, town, or jurisdiction where project is located.

- *“Urban Area” per Census Bureau maps; see <https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-maps/2010/geo/2010-census-urban-areas.html>*
- *An incorporated or unincorporated city or town*
- *A planning area for a metropolitan planning agency or entity, such as the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning*
- *Land owned, designated, and used by a municipal or quasi-municipal entity such as a utility for source water or watershed protection*
- *A transportation or utility right of way through one of above*

This project is located at multiple sites within the City of Minneapolis, MN, meeting the urban area eligibility criteria of being in an incorporated city.

4. Project Operator

Provide name of organization/entity, and contact information

Organization/Entity: Green Minneapolis
Address: 81 South 9th Street, Suite 260
City: Minneapolis
State: MN
Zip: 55402
Contact(s): David A. Wilson
Phone: (612) 839-3725
Email: dwilson@greenminneapolis.org

5. Project Description

Provide short narrative including location, number or acres of trees, and overall goals

Green Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) are partnering to launch the first urban tree planting project to issue carbon credits in the State of Minnesota. Green Minneapolis will serve as the Project Operator and MPRB will plant and maintain the trees. This project includes 23,758 trees that were planted within the city limits of Minneapolis MN in 2019, 2020 and 2021 by the MPRB. The trees have been planted in public right-of-way along city streets as well as on other park board land where MPRB has the authority to plant and maintain trees. The method of planting is single-tree dispersed.

6. Project Impacts

Provide short narrative of the impacts this project will achieve. Examples include how the project addresses increased access to green spaces for under-resourced communities, flood control, watershed protection, human health benefits, recreation or bird and wildlife habitat.

In addition to sequestering carbon, this project has many other positive impacts on the residents of Minneapolis. This project helps address environmental equity disparities by prioritizing tree-planting in areas of Minneapolis that have high rates of poverty and low percentage tree canopy cover. Trees planted in this project will reduce heat island effects, reduce storm water runoff and capture particulate air pollution. Green Minneapolis and MPRB expect this to be the first of many annual urban tree planting and maintenance carbon offset projects they will perform together. Proceeds from the sale of carbon credits related to these projects will be reinvested in additional tree planting and maintenance performed by the MPRB.

7. Number of trees to be planted and general planting-design

Provide number of trees and general planting design. Tree planting design options include:

- *single-tree dispersed (spaced 10' or more apart, i.e. street trees or linear plantings)*
- *single-tree canopy (spaced 10' apart but continuously so to generate canopy over time, i.e. natural areas)*
- *forest canopy (closely planted with spacing less than 10' apart so to generate canopy and forest ecosystem, high tree mortality expected, i.e. riparian areas)*

23,758 trees were planted using the single-tree dispersed design (spaced 10" or more apart, i.e. street trees or linear plantings).

Due to the devastation of Minneapolis' urban tree canopy from Dutch Elm Disease in the 1970s and more recently from the Emerald Ash Borer, the MPRB typically plants two or more species of trees on each street. Species diversity helps reduce the losses that may occur from a future insect or disease infestation. The trees planted in this project represent dozens of species and varieties, with the majority being oak, hackberry, maple, ginkgo, catalpa, honeylocust and Kentucky Coffee Tree.

8. Additional Information

Provide additional information about your project. Examples include collaboration with other partners or how this project fits into a larger effort.

Green Minneapolis expects this project to be part of a broader Twin Cities Climate Resiliency Initiative. The objective is to plant 5 million trees across the 7-county Twin City metro area over the next 20 years, increasing the tree canopy by ~30%, sequestering thousands of tons of carbon and mitigating the most severe impacts of climate change on Twin Cities residents. Specifically, Green Minneapolis has a set of goals for this initiative to achieve:

- Significantly increase tree canopy coverage across the Twin Cities. The University of Minnesota's Twin Cities Metropolitan Area Urban Tree Canopy Assessment estimates that tree canopy coverage can be increased on average 30% across the metro area.
- Mitigate the metro's major heat islands and equalize tree canopy coverage across environmentally disadvantaged parts of the metro area.
- Increase carbon sequestration and establish a local Carbon Offset Market to fund ongoing investments in climate resiliency.
- Significantly increase the amount of stormwater captured by trees.
- Significantly increase capture of particulate air pollution.
- Increase percentage of native and adapted tree species planted on public and private land to improve habitat for wildlife and pollinators.
- Develop a Green Economy urban arborist workforce recruited from our BIPOC and low-income communities trained to plant and maintain the Twin Cities tree canopy infrastructure.

Green Minneapolis is also forming a broad coalition of environmentally focused nonprofits to join Green Minneapolis in advocating for the initiative, including the Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy, The Parks Foundation, Tree Trust, Mississippi Park Connection and the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

Signed on December 7, in 2021, by David A. Wilson, Board Chair for Green Minneapolis.

David A. Wilson

[David A. Wilson \(Dec 13, 2021 17:21 CST\)](#)

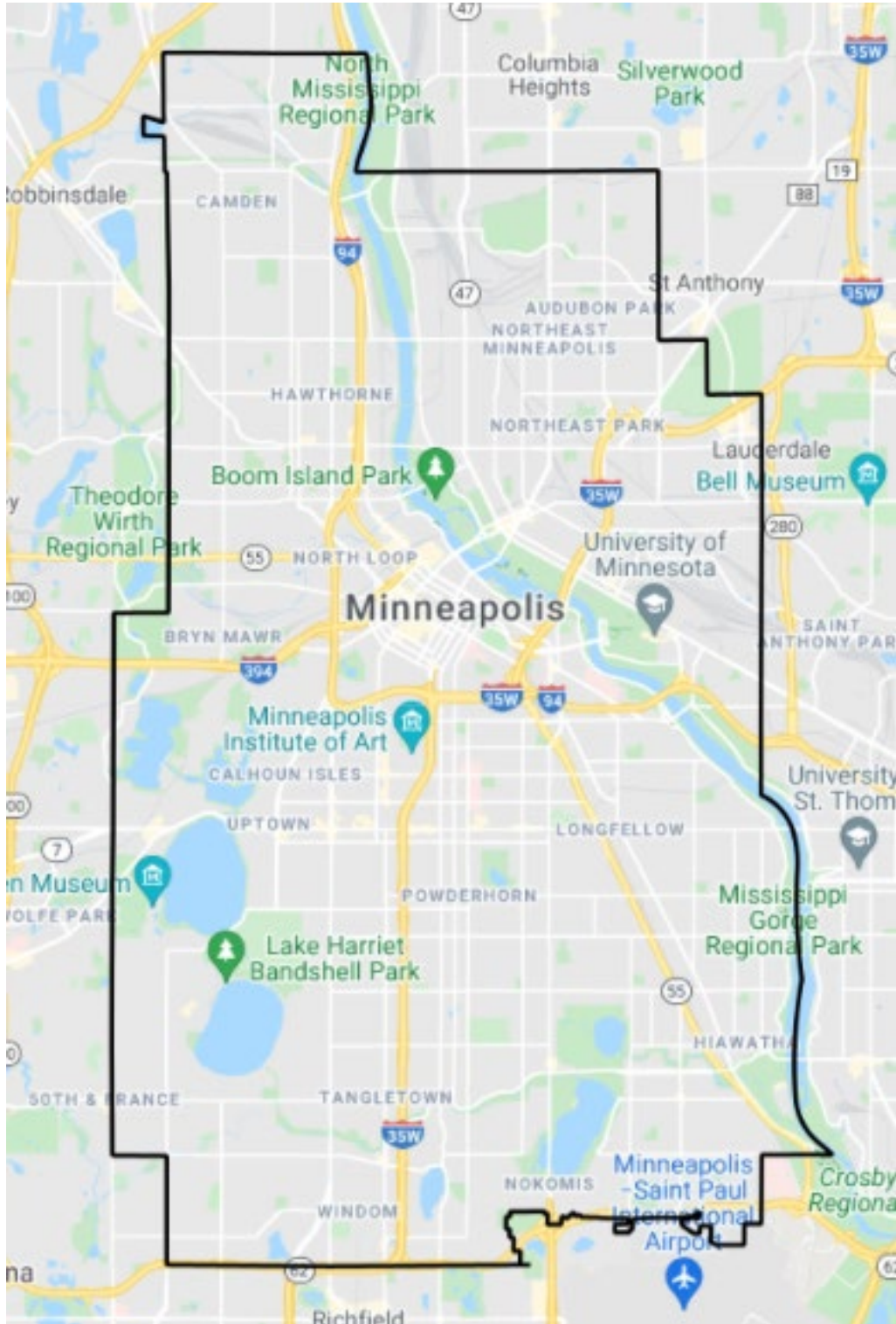
Signature

David A. Wilson

612-839-3725

dwilson@greenminneapolis.org

**Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board Planting Project 2021
Project Area Map**



Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board 2021_Project Application Final 20211213

Final Audit Report

2021-12-13

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