

Impact Summary



TC Jester Neighborhood Planting Project Trees for Houston

Houston, TX

Project Goals

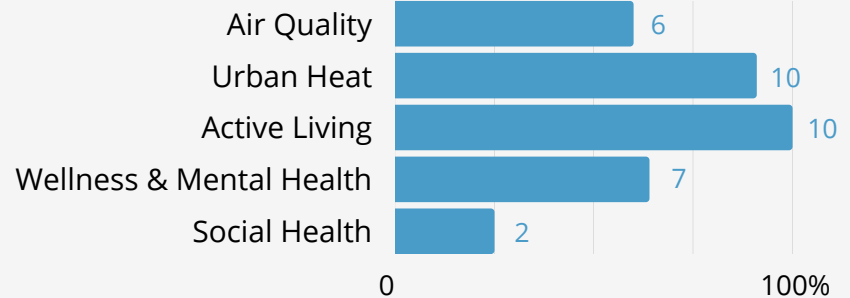
Trees for Houston, in partnership with American Forests and with support from Bulleit, planted 85 trees on trails and sidewalks around TC Jester Boulevard in the Cottage Grove neighborhood of Houston, Texas. Per the CDC, Cottage Grove is in the 99th percentile in the nation for poor air quality, with high concentrations of diesel particulate matter, ozone, and PM2.5. When the neighborhood was devastated by Hurricane Harvey in 2017, it lost much of its tree canopy, further exacerbating poor air quality outcomes. Catalyzed by grassroots community engagement, Trees for Houston partnered with local leaders and community members to plant trees where the community needed them most. The new trees will enhance public greenspaces, improve air quality, reduce flooding, and promote outdoor recreation.



Human Health



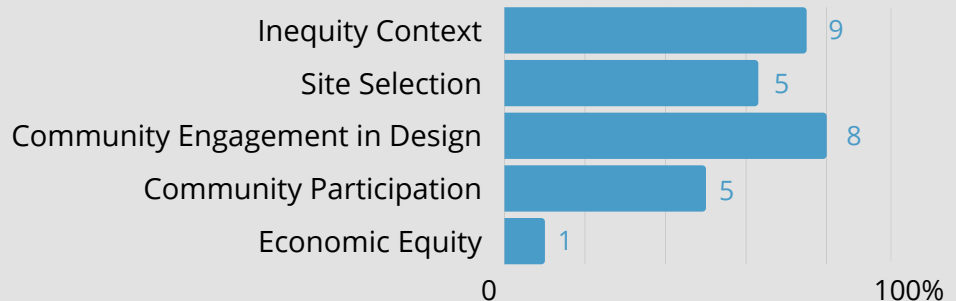
35/50
Excellent



Social Equity



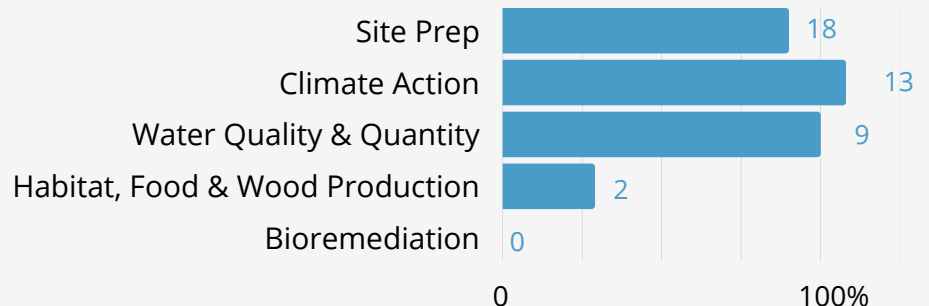
28/50
Great



Environment



42/50
Exceptional



Impact Summary

TC Jester Neighborhood Planting Project



Improve air quality, mitigate flooding, promote active living

Trees were planted along sidewalks and paved walking and biking trails to buffer residents and trail users from both air and noise pollution from TC Jester Blvd and nearby industry. The trees will also provide much-needed shade along the trails, encouraging year-round outdoor recreation and active mobility such as running, walking, and biking. With both flooding and drought as recurring stressors for trees in Houston, especially along the bayou, species were selected to be both drought tolerant and robust at stormwater capture to mitigate flooding. By planting trees along the trails around TC Jester, this project complements the citywide Bayou Greenways Initiative, an effort by the Houston Parks Board to create 150 miles of trails to promote recreation and equitable access to greenspace.

UN Sustainable Development Goals



Improve air quality, reduce pollutants



Mitigate flooding



Increase tree equity



Inclusive access to greenspaces



Reduce urban heat



Deliver local climate action, quantify benefits



Expand diverse urban forests



Multi-sector partnerships

Quantified Benefits

Projected values (avoided costs) for ecosystem benefits per year in 25 years

Carbon Sequestration

140 metric tons of CO₂
\$3,495 (at \$25/ton)

Rain Interception

1,688 m³/year
\$2,698 per year

Air Quality

O₃: 0.03 t/yr
NO_x: 0.003 t/yr
PM₁₀: 0.01 t/yr
\$88 per year

Energy Savings

Electricity - 16,667 kWh/yr
Natural Gas - 33,101 kBtu/yr
\$1,950 per year