City Forest Credits
Afforestation and Reforestation Project Application

1. Project Name
St. Paul Planting Project 2023

2. Project Operator
Provide the name of organization/entity and contact information for the Project Lead

Organization/Entity: Green Minneapolis
Address: PO Box 582877
City: Minneapolis
State: MN
Zip: 55458
Contact(s): Michaela Neu
Phone: 320-309-3158
Email: mneu@greenminneapolis.org

3. Project Location
Project 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*
- *An incorporated or unincorporated city or town*
- *A planning area for a regional metropolitan planning agency or entity*
- *Land owned, designated, and used by a municipal or quasi-municipal entity 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 St. Paul, MN, meeting the project area eligibility criteria of being in an incorporated city.

4. Project Description
Provide short narrative of the overall project goals, location where trees will be planted, land ownership or eligibility to receive credits, approximate number of trees or acres, main tree species, and project timeframe.

Green Minneapolis and the City of St. Paul have partnered together on an urban tree planting carbon project within the city limits of St. Paul, Minnesota. Green Minneapolis will serve as the Project Operator. The City of St. Paul planted and will maintain the trees for the duration of the carbon project. The City of St. Paul and Green Minneapolis will sign an Agreement to Collaborate that outlines the responsibilities of each organization in the carbon project and transfers the right to receive carbon credits to the Project

Operator. As Project Operator, Green Minneapolis will be responsible for submitting annual monitoring reports as well as any project documentation amendments necessary throughout the duration of the project.

The project includes 11,288 trees planted within the city limits of St. Paul, Minnesota from November 24, 2020 through November 16, 2023. The trees were planted in public right-of-way along city streets as well as on other park land where St. Paul has the authority to plant and maintain trees. The City planted 41 species of trees, with a majority including Kentucky coffeetree, Elm, Hackberry, Honeylocust, and River birch species. The overall project goals are to increase canopy cover, mitigate heat islands, increase carbon sequestration, increase native and adapted tree species, and to capture stormwater and particulate air pollution. Additionally, a project goal is to begin a long-term relationship between Green Minneapolis and the City of St. Paul, thereby generating carbon credit revenue to reinvest into future tree planting and maintenance efforts.

5. Project Impacts

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

This project, a collaborative effort between Green Minneapolis and the City of St. Paul, demonstrates a concerted effort to address environmental issues. This initiative not only contributes to the aesthetic and environmental enhancement of St. Paul, but also aligns with broader sustainability and climate action goals. The planted trees not only provide carbon sequestration benefits but will also reduce the urban heat island effect, reduce stormwater runoff, and capture particulate air pollution. Proceeds from the sale of carbon credits from this project will be reinvested in additional tree planting and maintenance performed by the City of St. Paul. This project will initiate a working relationship between Green Minneapolis and the City of St. Paul. Overall, such partnerships demonstrate the importance of collaborative efforts in addressing environmental challenges at the local level.

6. Planting Design and Quantification Method

Provide short narrative about the planting design and quantification method you will use for the project. Refer to Protocol Appendix A for more detail.

- *Single Tree Quantification Method: trees planted in a dispersed or scattered design that are planted at least 16.5 feet apart (i.e. street trees). This method requires tracking of individual trees and tree survival for sampling and quantification.*

- *Clustered Quantification Method: trees planted at least 16.5 feet apart but are relatively contiguous and designed to create canopy over an area (i.e park-like settings). This method requires tracking change in canopy, not individual tree survival.*

- *Area Reforestation Quantification Method: tree planting areas greater than 5 acres and where many trees are planted closer than 16.5 feet. Higher tree mortality is expected, and the goals are to create canopy and a forest ecosystem. Project Operators have several quantification models to choose from, all of which produce a carbon index on a per-acre basis.*

This project employs the single tree planting design and quantification method. There were 11,288 trees planted (spaced 16.5” or more apart, i.e. street trees or linear plantings) in public rights-of-way and on

city-owned park land. The City of St. Paul utilizes a street and park tree master plan to maintain a diverse and vital urban forest. Green Minneapolis has obtained tree data for all project trees, and will track tree survival and growth for future sampling and quantification required.

7. Additional Information
Provide additional information about your project. If the Project is part of a larger program or planting effort, include one sentence with more information. Examples include collaboration with other partners or how this project fits into a regional initiative.

This project is a part of Green Minneapolis' Twin Cities Climate Resiliency Initiative, a public/private partnership focused on significantly expanding the urban tree canopy across Minneapolis and the seven county Twin Cities metropolitan area. Designed to address the most harmful impacts of climate change on our region's residents, it is a 20-year vision to increase the Metro Area's tree canopy by 30% through planting and maintaining millions of additional trees on public and private lands. This initiative includes identifying new funding sources for tree planting and maintenance, including establishing Minnesota's first urban tree carbon offset program.

Green Minneapolis has formed a coalition of environmentally focused organizations to support the initiative, including the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy, Minneapolis Parks Foundation, Friends of the Mississippi River, Mississippi Park Connection, Mississippi Watershed Management Organization, Sagiliti and the Minneapolis Regional Chamber.

Specifically, the Twin Cities Climate Resiliency Initiative goals are to:

- 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 Program 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 local communities, trained to plant and maintain the Twin Cities tree canopy infrastructure.

8. Map
Provide a map of the Project Area.

See attached.

Signed on January 3 in 2024, by Michaela Neu, Director of Programs & Operations, for Green Minneapolis.

Michaela Neu

Signature

Michaela Neu

Printed Name

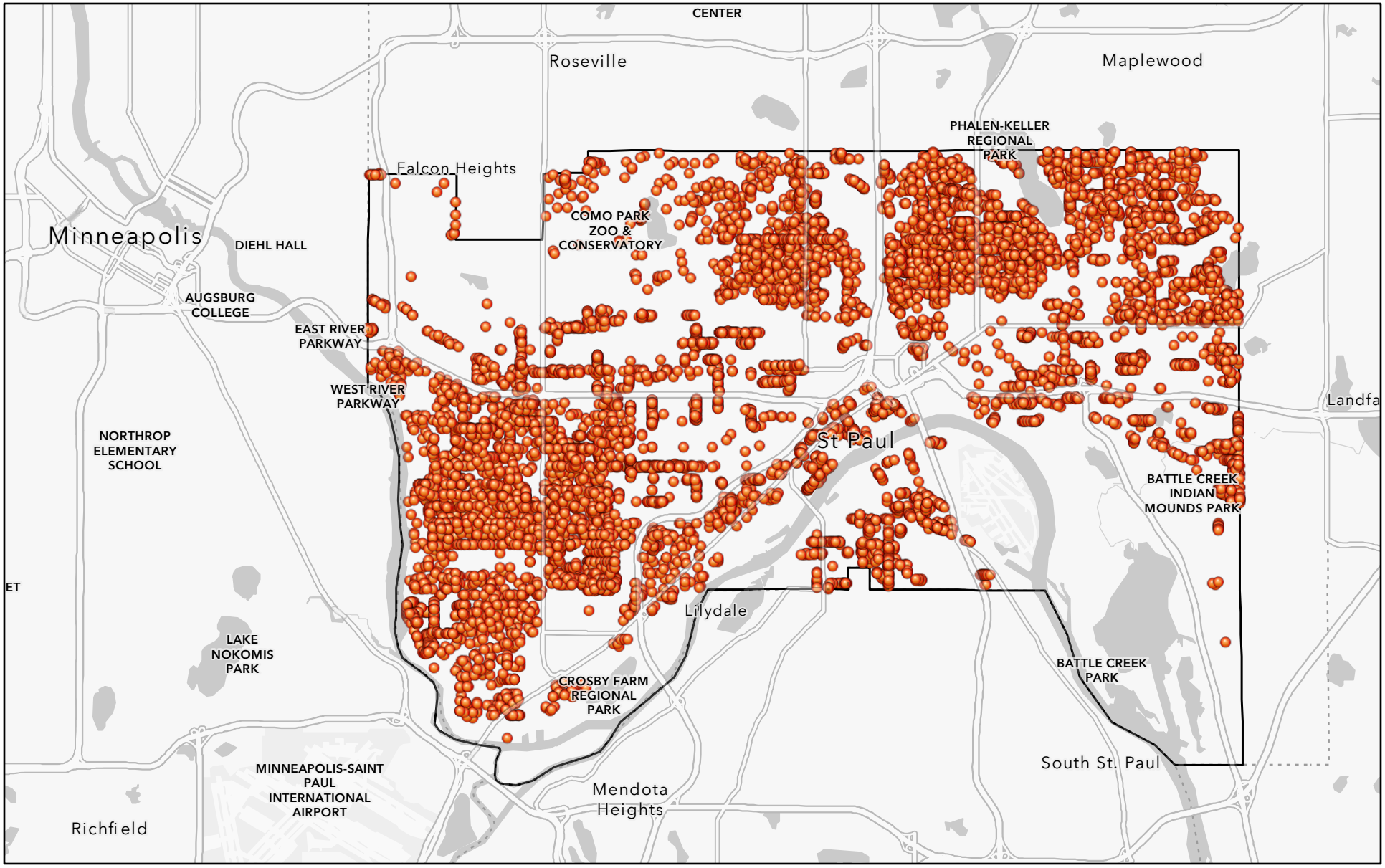
904-404-2669

Phone

mneu@greenminneapolis.org

Email

St. Paul Planting Project 2023 Area Map



1/5/2024

St. Paul Trees 2023

City of St. Paul

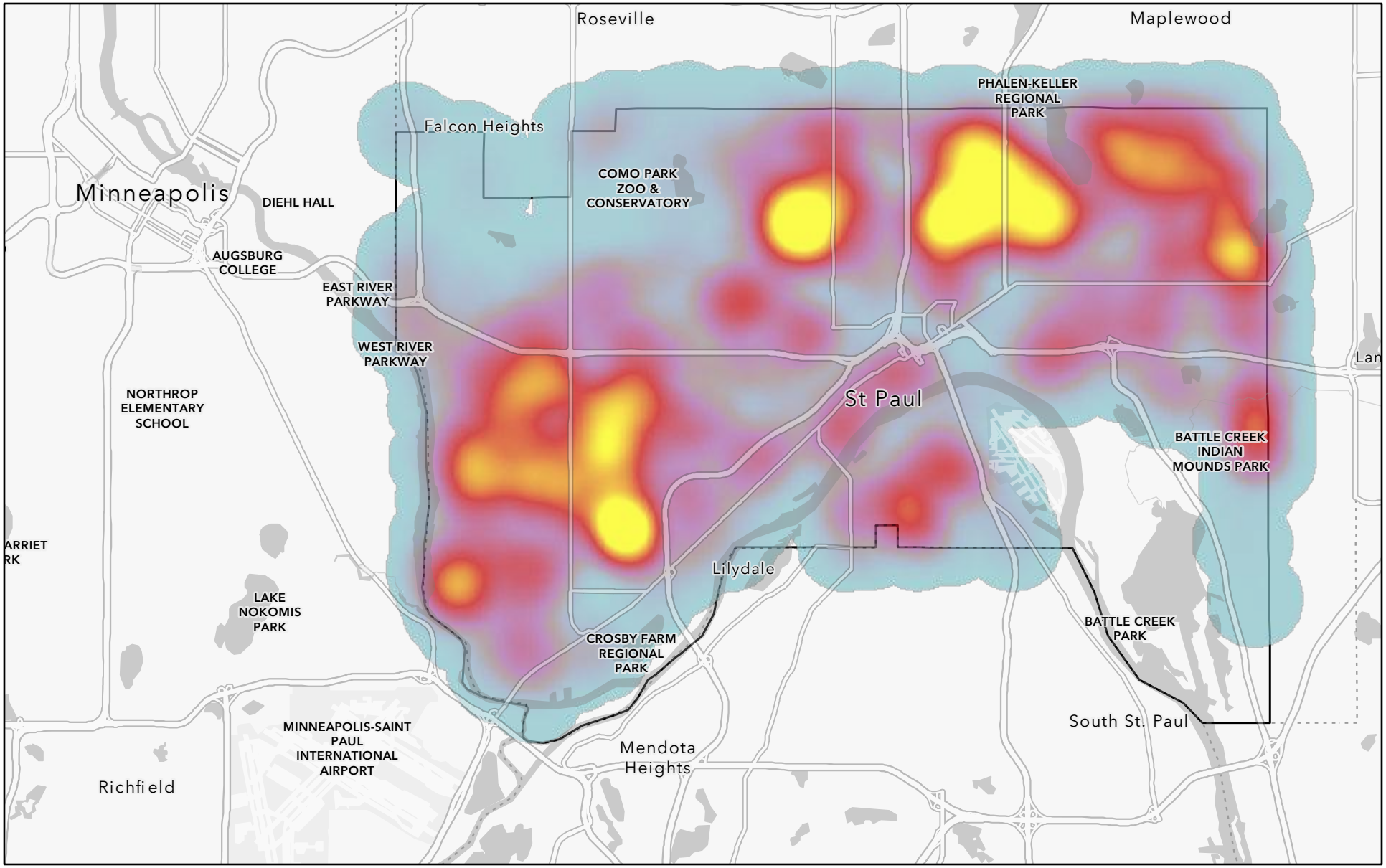
1:140,355

0 0.75 1.5 3 mi

0 1.25 2.5 5 km

Metropolitan Council, MetroGIS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS

St. Paul Planting Project 2023 Tree Density



1/5/2024

St. Paul Trees 2023 ▭ City of St. Paul

Sparse

Dense

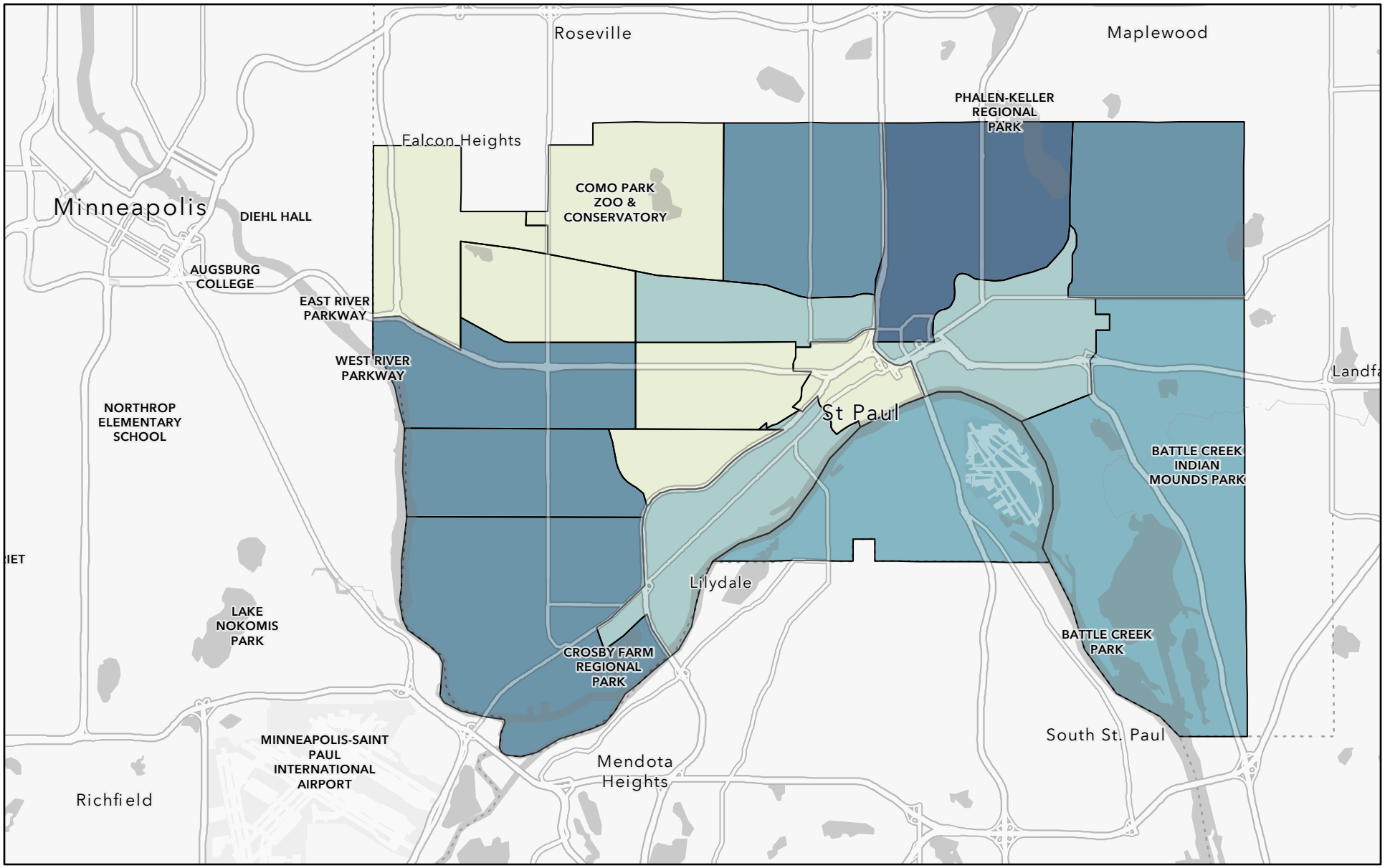
1:140,355

0 0.75 1.5 3 mi

0 1.25 2.5 5 km

Metropolitan Council, MetroGIS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS

St. Paul Planting Project 2023 Trees Planted



1/5/2024

St Paul Neighborhoods

Trees Planted

- 76 – 235
- > 235 – 408
- > 408 – 629
- > 629 – 1,431
- > 1,431 – 1,944

1:140,355

0 0.75 1.5 3 mi

0 1.25 2.5 5 km