City Forest Credits
Afforestation and Reforestation Project Application

1. Project Name

For example: Ballinger Open Space Planting Project

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Planting Project 2024

2. Project Operator

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

Organization/Entity: Green Cities Accord
Address: PO Box 582877
City: Minneapolis
State: MN
Zip: 55458
Contact(s): Michaela Neu
Phone: 612-217-4485
Email: mneu@greencitiesaccord.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 or Urban Cluster boundary per U.S. Census Bureau*
- *Boundary of any incorporated or unincorporated city or town*
- *Boundary of any planning area for a regional metropolitan planning agency or entity*
- *Within the boundary of land owned, designated, and used by a municipal or quasi-municipal entity for source water or watershed protection*
- *Within 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 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 Cities Accord and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) are partnering on a fourth urban tree planting project to issue carbon offsets in the State of Minnesota. Green Cities Accord will serve as the Project Operator and MPRB will plant and maintain the trees. This project includes 6,597 trees that were planted within the city limits of Minneapolis, MN from April 8 to October 4, 2024 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.

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.

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-plantings in areas of Minneapolis that have low percentage tree canopy cover. Trees planted in this project will reduce heat island effects, reduce stormwater runoff and capture particulate air pollution. Proceeds from the sale of carbon offsets from this project will be reinvested in additional tree planting and maintenance performed by the MPRB.

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.*

Trees were planted using the single-tree quantification method (spaced 16.5 feet or more apart, i.e. street trees or linear plantings). Planted trees are tracked and inventoried using TreeKeeper.

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.

At Green Cities Accord, our mission is to foster climate resilient communities through investments in tree canopy infrastructure. And the urban tree carbon offset program has been momentous in bringing new funding sources to our planting partners for continued tree planting and maintenance. The urban tree carbon offset program is part of the Twin Cities Climate Resiliency Initiative, a public/private partnership focused on significantly expanding the urban tree canopy across Minneapolis and the 7 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.

8. Map
Provide a map of the Project Area.

See attached.

Signed on January 2 in 2025, by Michaela Neu, Director of Programs and Operations for Green Cities Accord.

Michaela Neu
_____
Signature

Michaela Neu
Printed Name

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Phone

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Email