

BROADWAY EAST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

CREATING A JOINT, NEIGHBORHOOD-LED CAMPAIGN FOR INCREASED TREE CANOPY IN EAST BALTIMORE

AWARDED AMOUNT

\$181,390.00

NUMBER OF TREES

320



PROJECT SUMMARY

This grant is a joint project of six East Baltimore neighborhoods: Broadway East, Fort Worthington, Darley Park, East Baltimore-Midway, Oliver and South Clifton Park with a joint effort to plant 320 trees. Recent data shows that these neighborhoods have a median tree canopy coverage of 11% with the Fort Worthington neighborhood (formerly known as Berea) having the lowest at 5% and Oliver having the most at 14%. The city of Baltimore's tree canopy goal is 40%.

These neighborhoods have worked together on tree planting projects and other greening efforts as well as food distribution and other efforts. The collaborative's goal is to ensure that their residents' voices are heard in the selection of the tree species and the location of the species and that there is a workforce component with the partnership for their residents with the selected vendor, Division Street Landscaping. The contractor hosts a training program called Division Street Landscaping to teach returning citizens landscaping skills and works with them to find sustainable jobs in the landscaping industry. One of our neighborhoods, Broadway East hosts the Freshwater Initiative, which provides landscaping work for stipends to returning citizens to clean and mow vacant lots and water trees. The synergy between the efforts of Division Street Landscaping and the East Baltimore Collaborative will allow the neighborhoods' increase their canopy and help resident find meaningful work.

All of the tree sites selected by the six neighborhood associations are street tree locations. The East Baltimore Collaborative has reached out to the Baltimore City Forestry Division/Tree Baltimore and the Baltimore City Dept. of Transportation about getting trees and permission for this project. These agencies are eager to work with the collaborative, since our grant shows an unified effort to increase the tree canopy coverage in East Baltimore which has traditionally had one of the lowest tree canopy coverages in the City. Planting is anticipated to occur in the spring of '23.

Ms. Kathy Christian

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