

## FY23 URBAN TREES PROGRAM

# DRUID HEIGHTS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## DRUID HEIGHTS URBAN TREES PROJECT

### AWARDED AMOUNT

\$29,530.00

### NUMBER OF TREES

50



## PROJECT SUMMARY

Located in West Baltimore, Druid Heights Community Development Corporation will plant 50 trees in the Druid Heights neighborhood. This will continue their over 40 years of efforts of planting trees and other efforts in beautifying and creating green spaces in this West Baltimore neighborhood. While the city's goal for tree canopy for every neighborhood is 40%, Druid Heights CDC's tree canopy is 14%.

Druid Heights has created green spaces on vacant lots that they own, including Gold Street Park and the Elijah Cummings Nature Play Space. These community amenities were created with support of grants from the Chesapeake Bay Trust. They are also key partners in the creation of Cab Calloway Legends Park with the Baltimore City Dept. of Recreation and Parks, Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development, the Baltimore Dept. of Planning, its Baltimore Green Network, and the Maryland Dept. of Housing and Community Development.

Druid Heights CDC's staff and residents chose the sites with consultation of certified arborists including Kim Knox, the Greening Coordinator for the Baltimore Green Network and Natalie Cohen from the National Wildlife Federation. But if this grant is funded, Druid Heights' staff and residents will go door-to-door to talk about the proposed locations of each tree to ensure that the residents nearest to the sites are in favor of the tree plantings. Throughout its history, Druid Heights CDC has worked with the community and the staff with key volunteers have often gone door to door to get the community's input and/or tell them about important initiatives, such as COVID-19 vaccinations and the U.S. Census.

The majority of the trees will be planted as street trees. Druid Heights anticipates planting in the fall of '22. The Druid Heights Community Development has reached out and received the support for this project from both Charlie Murphy, TreeBaltimore's Greening Coordinator for the Baltimore City Dept. of Recreation and Parks' Forestry Division and Linda Taylor-Newton, Western Planner for the Baltimore City Department of Transportation. These agencies are happy to work with Druid Heights CDC (DHCDC), due to the success of DHCDC's previous greening and housing projects.

Mr. Rick Pearson

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