

Impact Summary



Harambee & Fitzgerald Parks Planting Project Speak for the Trees Boston

Boston, MA

Project Goals

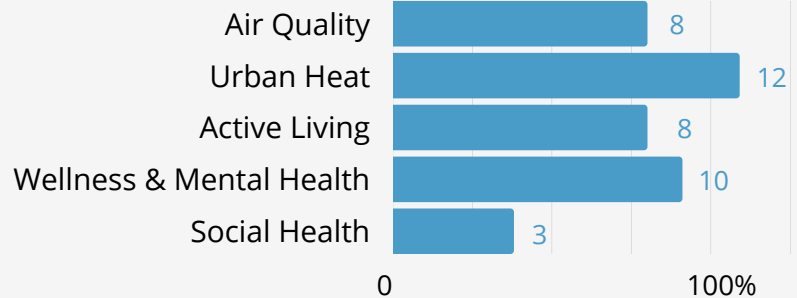
In 2022, Speak for the Trees Boston (SFTT) planted 63 trees at Harambee and Fitzgerald Parks in Boston, MA, in partnership with American Forests, the Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services, and the City of Boston, with the support of Salesforce and Bank of America. The parks are located in the historically marginalized neighborhoods of Dorchester, Mission Hill, and Mattapan, where open space is 25 – 50% less than the citywide average. Around the parks, over half of residents live in poverty and asthma and chronic illness is pervasive. The trees will shade high-use walking paths, beautify vital community gathering spaces, and improve air quality and overall community wellbeing.



Human Health



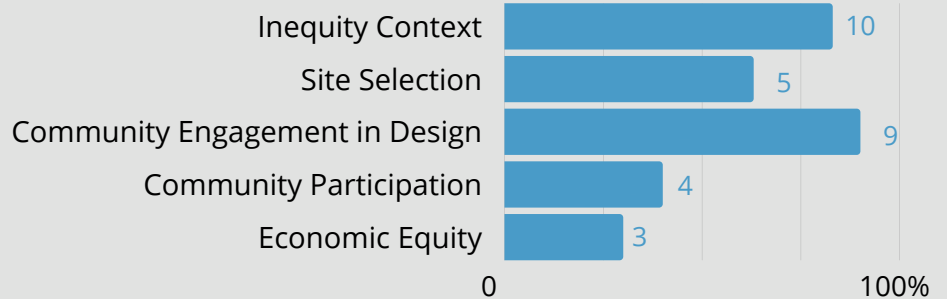
41/50
Exceptional



Social Equity



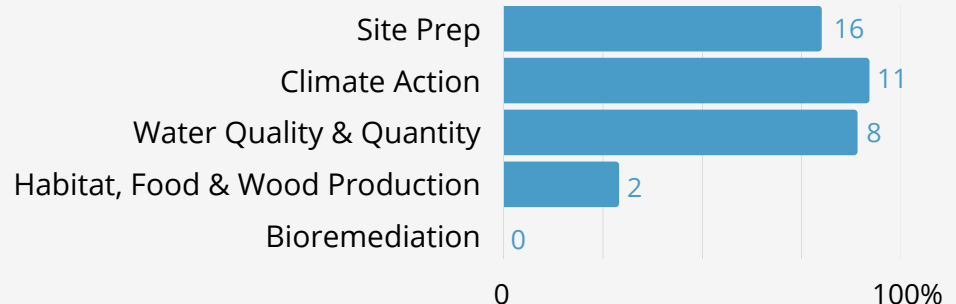
31/50
Excellent



Environment



37/50
Excellent



Impact Summary

Harambee & Fitzgerald Parks Planting Project



Credit: Speak for the Trees Boston

Improve air quality, promote tree equity, support active mobility

Through SFTT’s extensive public outreach, the community came together for planting day, with local leaders, schools, community-based organizations, and businesses fostering connections with each other and with the trees. The diverse palette of trees planted not only helped Fitzgerald Park achieve its goal status of official Arboretum, it also creates an urban forest more resilient to climate stress. This diversity, paired with SFTT’s long-term maintenance plan, will ensure the community reaps the promised health and equity benefits of the trees – buffering the Huntington and Blue Hill Avenues roadway traffic pollution, providing shade to encourage outdoor recreation, improving the commuter experience, and enhancing public gathering places to increase social resilience.

UN Sustainable Development Goals



Improve air quality, mental health



Improve stormwater management



Local sourcing of materials, workforce training



Increase tree equity



Inclusive access to greenspaces



Reduce urban heat and energy needs



Deliver local climate action, quantify benefits



Increase urban forest diversity & resilience



Community-based partnerships

Quantified Benefits

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

Carbon Sequestration

43 metric tons of CO₂
\$1,067 (at \$25/ton)

Rain Interception

370 m³/year
\$782 per year

Air Quality

O₃: 0.01 t/yr
NO_x: 0.01 t/yr
PM₁₀: 0.01 t/yr
\$323 per year

Energy Savings

Electricity - 4,884 kWh/yr
Natural Gas - 180,446 kBtu/yr
\$3,208 per year