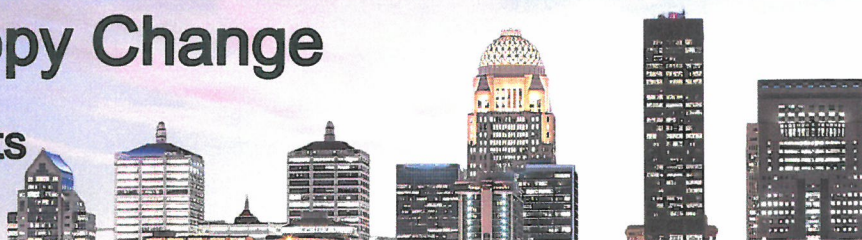
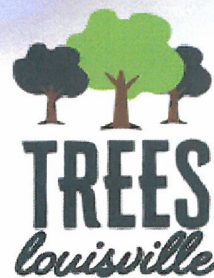
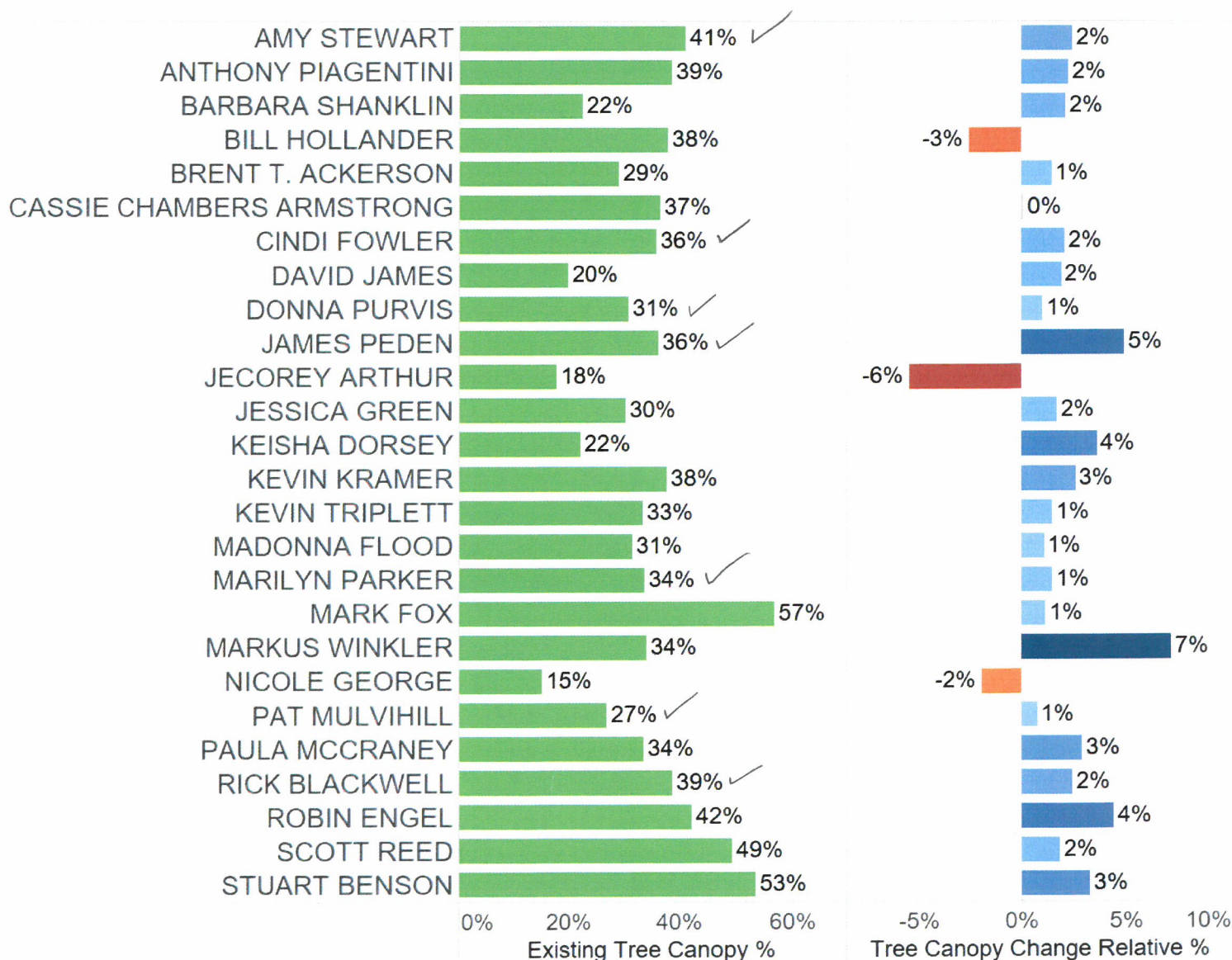


Louisville Tree Canopy Change

Council Districts



The Louisville Tree Canopy Assessment mapped tree canopy change over a seven-year period from 2012-2019. This information was then summarized by Council Districts. The chart below shows the percent of land in each district covered by tree canopy in 2019 (left) as compared to the percent change in tree canopy from 2012-2019 (right). Percent change is calculated using the formula $(2019-2012)/(2012)$. Higher values (blue) indicate an increase in tree canopy. Lower values (orange) indicate that the district experienced a decline in tree canopy.



The Louisville Tree Canopy Assessment was carried out by the University of Vermont Spatial Analysis Laboratory in collaboration with Tree Louisville using techniques approved by the US Forest Service.

Contact:

Cindi Sullivan, Executive Director
TreesLouisville
cindi@treeslouisville.org

2022 Louisville Urban Tree Canopy Assessment Summary



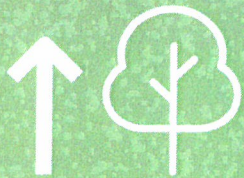
This study was carried out by the University of Vermont Spatial Analysis Lab in collaboration with TreesLouisville and was conducted using 2012-2019 canopy data from the Louisville/Jefferson County Information Consortium (LOJIC) and the USDA. This report is a follow-up to the 2015 assessment, which examined canopy changes between 2004-2012. *

39%
tree canopy
coverage as of 2019

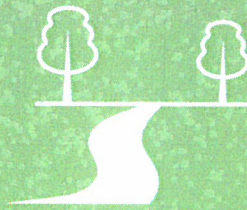
9,591 acres of canopy gain
7,365 acres of canopy loss

1%
absolute change in tree
canopy from 38% in
2012 to 39% in 2019

STUDY HIGHLIGHTS



Slight overall canopy gain of 1%
between 2012-2019



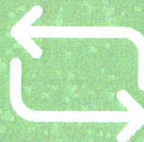
Street tree canopy increased by 2%



Trees planted over a decade ago
experienced considerable growth,
contributing to increase



Canopy loss is concentrated in
more heavily urbanized areas
and on private land



Although canopy coverage is holding
steady, there are still considerable losses
throughout Louisville



Tree canopy will likely continue to
rise if removals do not outpace
natural growth and new plantings

RECOMMENDATIONS



Preserving existing
canopy is the most
effective means for
securing future tree
canopy



Having trees with a broad age
distribution and a variety of
species will ensure that a
robust and healthy tree
canopy is possible over time



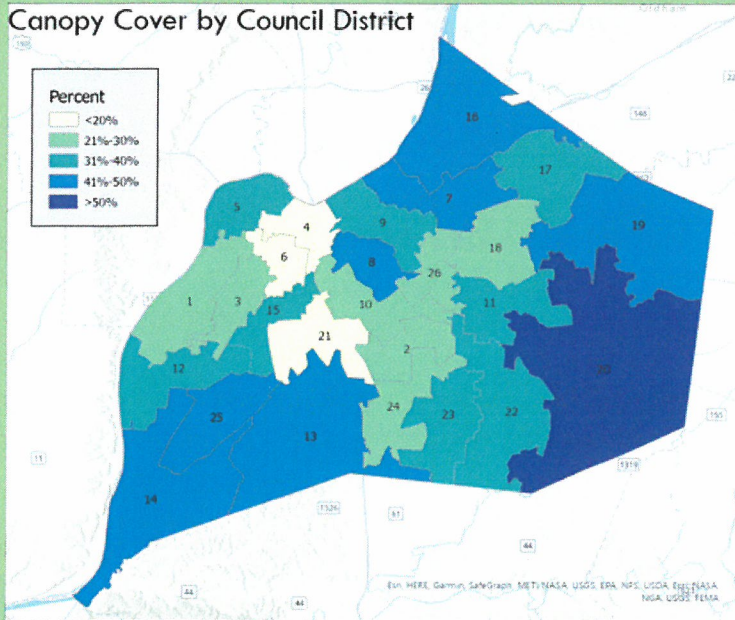
Community education is
crucial: residents that are
knowledgeable about the
value and services trees
provide will help Louisville
stay green for years to come



Plant new trees in areas where
tree canopy is low or in
locations where there has
been canopy loss

A Closer Look at the Data

Canopy Cover by Council District



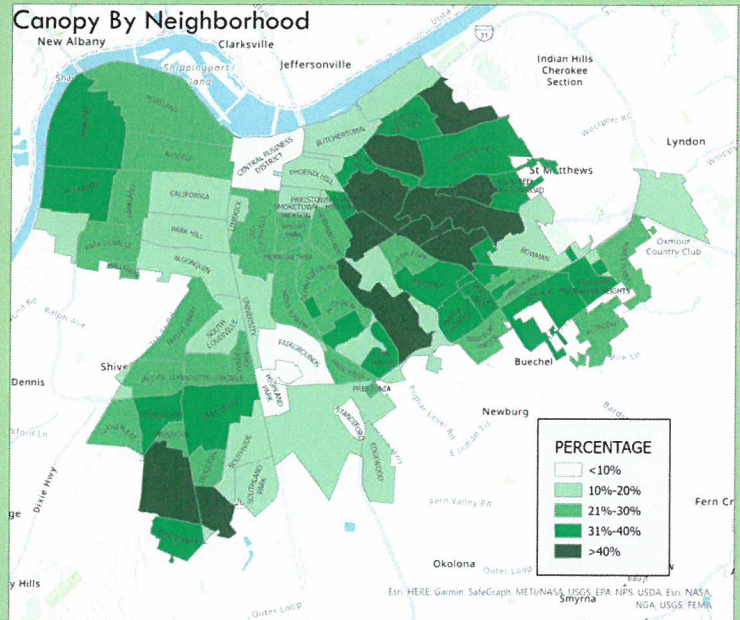
Highest:

District 20	52%
District 14	50%
District 13	48%
District 16	46%

Lowest:

District 4	15%
District 21	16%
District 6	19%
District 10	26%

Canopy By Neighborhood



Highest:

Iroquois Park	71%
Cherokee Seneca	53%
Cherokee Gardens	51%
Kenwood Hill	48%
Brownsboro Zorn	46%

Lowest:

Standiford	3%
Highland Park	5%
Fairgrounds	6%
Central Bus. District	8%
University District	11%

LAND USE AND CANOPY CHANGE

Single-Family Residential property experienced the greatest changes (both losses and gains) compared to Commercial, Industrial, Public Right-of-Way and other land uses in Louisville.

- 3,268 acres

+ 4,232 acres

+ 30,000 acres of plantable space on single-family residential property

WHY TREE CANOPY IS IMPORTANT FOR LOUISVILLE

Urban Heat Island

Louisville has been identified as one of the fastest growing and most intense heat islands in the country. Trees provide heat mitigation through shade and transpiration.

Stormwater Mitigation

Increasing amounts of stormwater overwhelming sewers are causing sewage overflows and waterway pollution. Trees can intercept and absorb hundreds of gallons of water, reducing runoff.

Quality of Life

Trees provide a multitude of mental, physical, social and economic benefits that make Louisville a healthier, happier and more resilient city.

* A vital component of the Tree Canopy Assessment Protocols is ensuring that changes in tree canopy are attributed to actual gains and losses in tree canopy as opposed to differences in the source data. The 2012 and 2019 datasets were acquired with different specifications than data used for the 2004-2012 assessment. This assessment was completed independently of prior tree canopy assessments for Jefferson County, and methodologies are not directly comparable. Great care was put into resolving the differences in the data to ensure that tree canopy change between 2012 and 2019 reflected an actual change in the canopy as opposed to differences in the source data.



Louisville Metro Neighborhoods - Change In Tree Canopy 2012-2019

