

Protecting and Improving San Mateo's Urban Tree Canopy is Essential to Quality of Life in San Mateo



One of the *Big Ideas* in the San Mateo General Plan 2040:

“Preserve Nature as the Foundation of the City”





San Mateo is Losing its Urban Canopy at an Alarming Rate

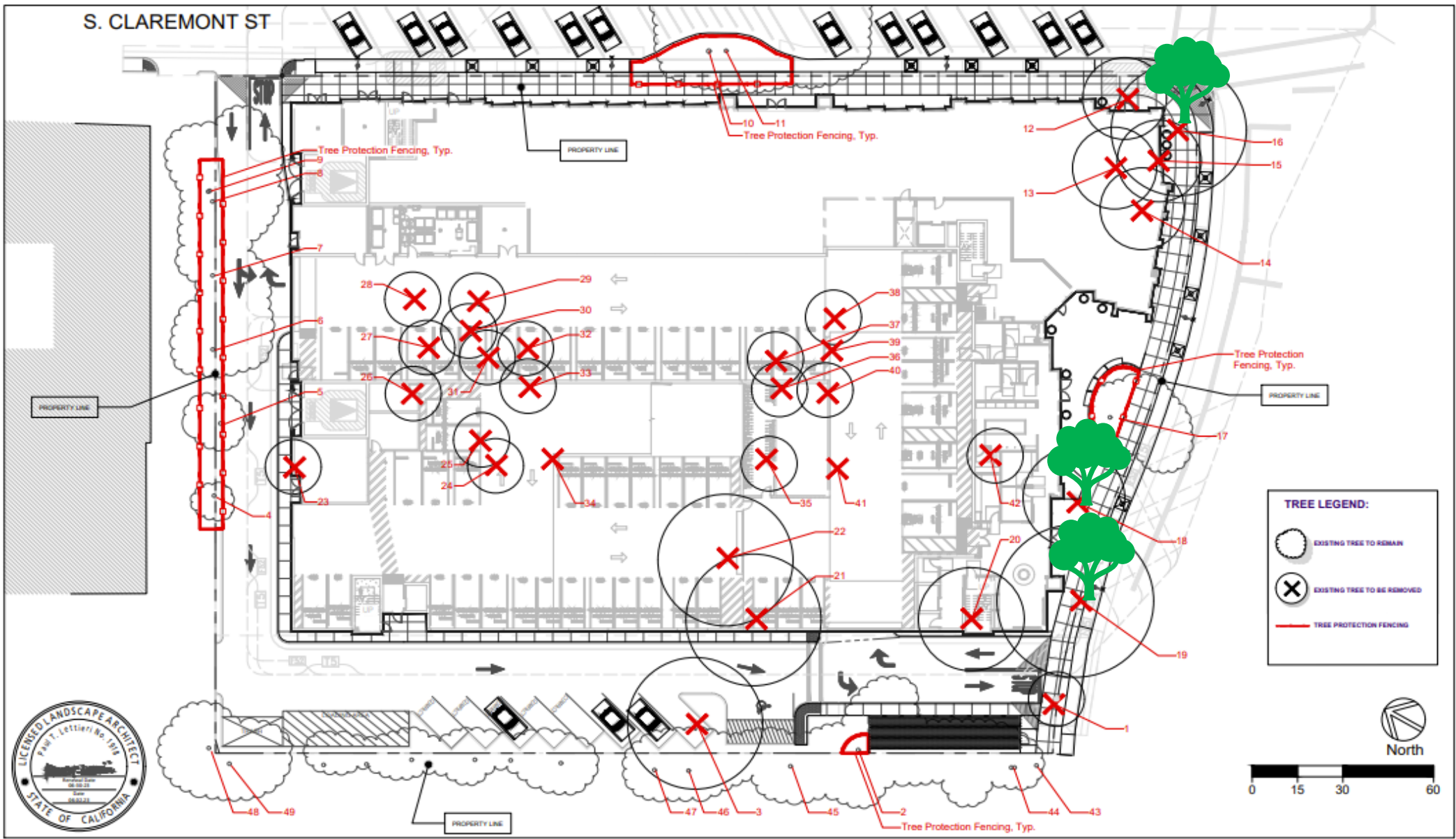
- Over **300** heritage trees are cut down per year on residential sites

*Per Matthew Fried, City of San Mateo's Managing Arborist

- Just one development approved in 2020, will remove **327** trees, including **145** heritage trees

*Per the Peninsula Heights Tree Preservation Report (Appendix B) on the City of San Mateo Website:

<https://www.cityofsanmateo.org/DocumentCenter/View/82724/APPENDIX-B---Tree-Preservation-Report>



Let's save
the trees
shown in
green
(16,18,19)

Trees Provide Countless Benefits...

- Environmental
- Economic
- Public Health
- Beautification
- Community






Do Not Forget...



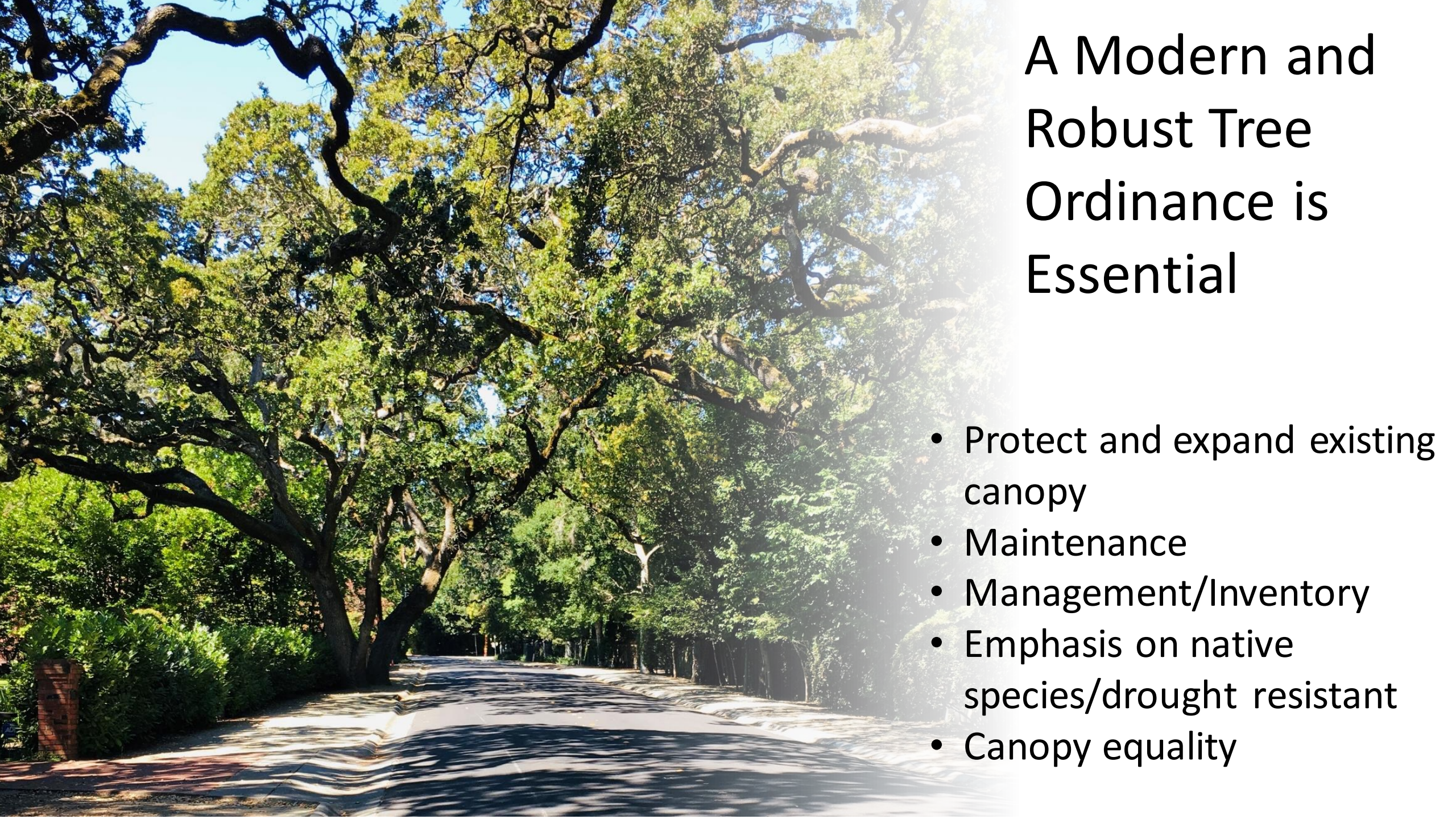
We Can Work
Together to Balance
Housing/Economic
Growth and Canopy
Preservation/
Growth





Suggested Next Steps

- Save trees 16 (Blackwood Acacia), 18, and 19 (Coast Live Oaks)
- For every tree removed, plant two trees:
 - City to identify location and (native) species
 - Experienced resources ready and willing to help!

A large, mature tree with a thick, gnarled trunk and dense green foliage, casting shadows on a paved road. The tree's branches are spread wide, creating a canopy over the road. The sunlight filters through the leaves, creating a dappled light effect on the pavement.

A Modern and Robust Tree Ordinance is Essential

- Protect and expand existing canopy
- Maintenance
- Management/Inventory
- Emphasis on native species/drought resistant
- Canopy equality

Together We Can Protect San Mateo's Urban Canopy

Short Term:

- Save trees 16, 18 and 19
- Replace each tree being removed with 2 trees

Long Term:

- Implement an objective tree ordinance
- Improve social equity
- Create balance

