



OPIRG STREET
TREE PROJECT
2013

About



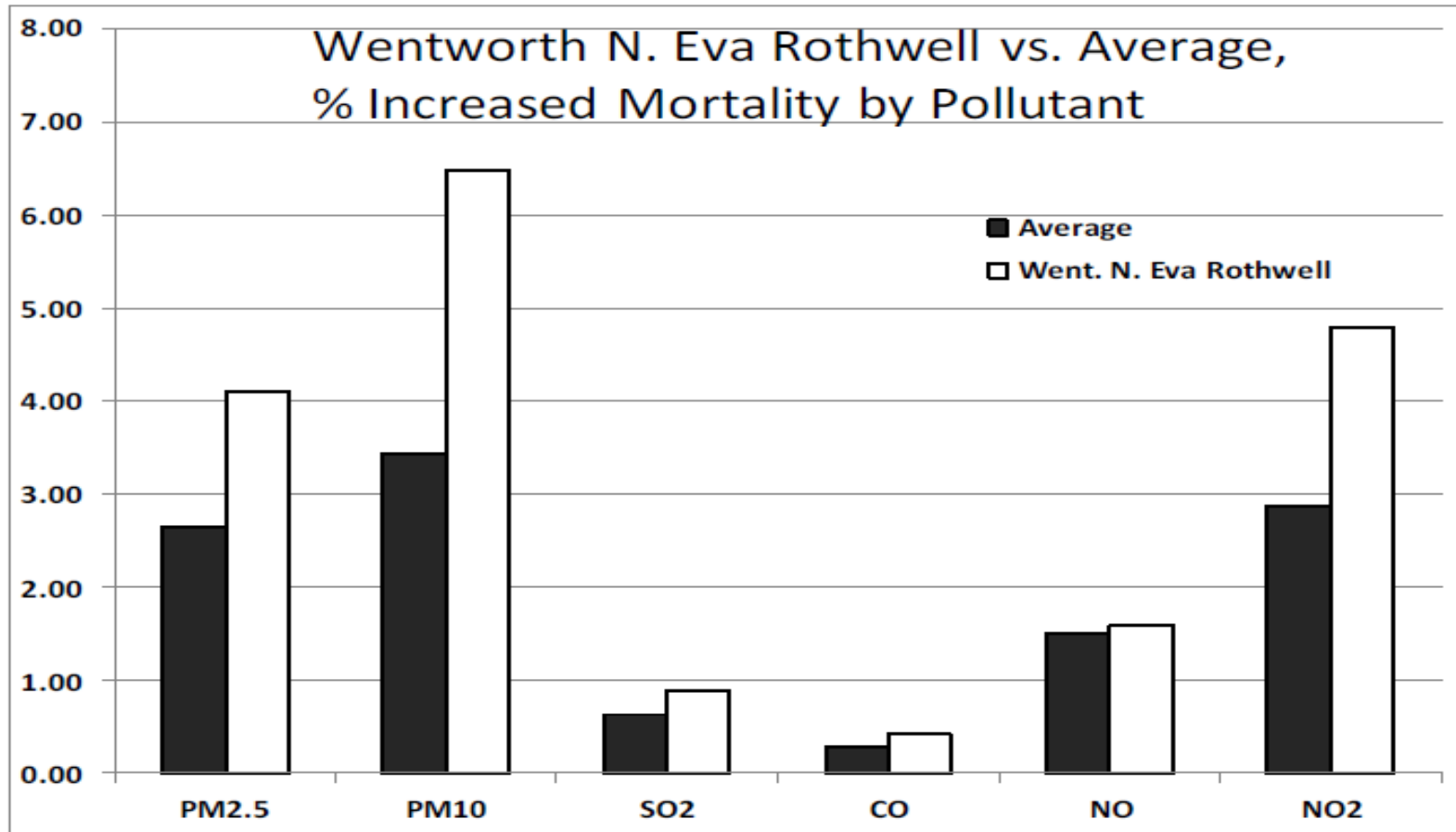
- ❧ OPIRG McMaster took the initiative to target a neighbourhood in need of better air quality
- ❧ The idea was to sign residents up for trees using the Hamilton Street Tree Program
- ❧ The thought process is, once the trees are planted, the trees will only require maintenance and the neighbourhood will benefit from the services tree provide

The Keith Neighbourhood

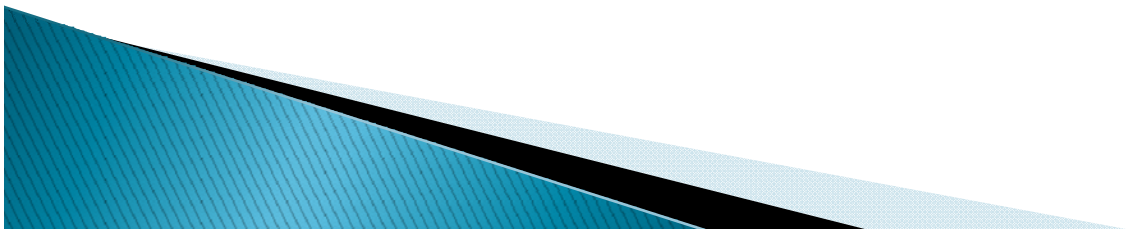
- ❧ 1 of 11 neighbourhoods highlighted in The Spectator's Code Red series in 2010
- ❧ Dr. Denis Corr's Air Quality Monitoring study revealed an alarming correlation between mortality rate and pollution in this area

AIR QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS

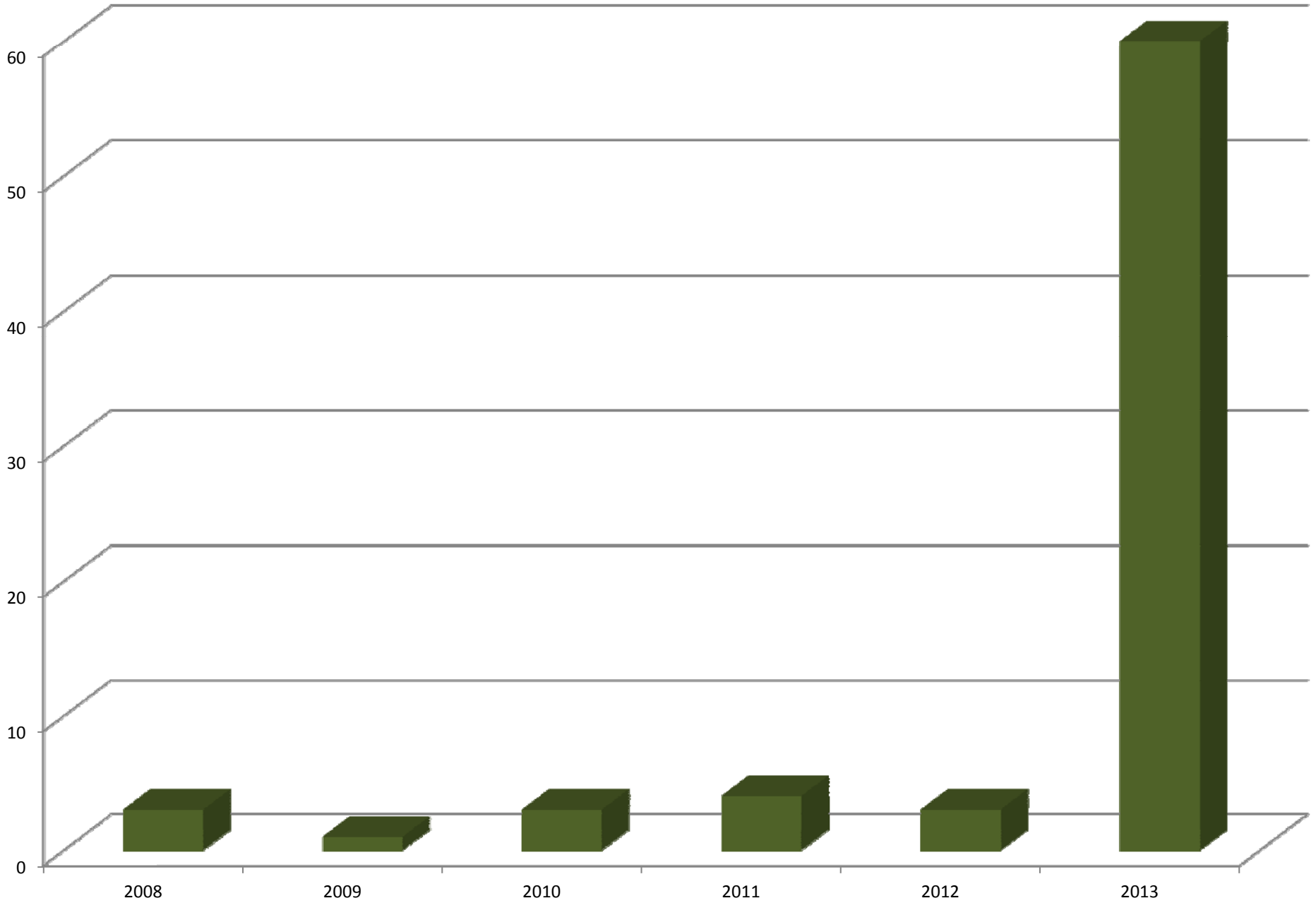
This area has a calculated increased mortality of 18.4% due to air pollutants compared to the City's average of 11.5%



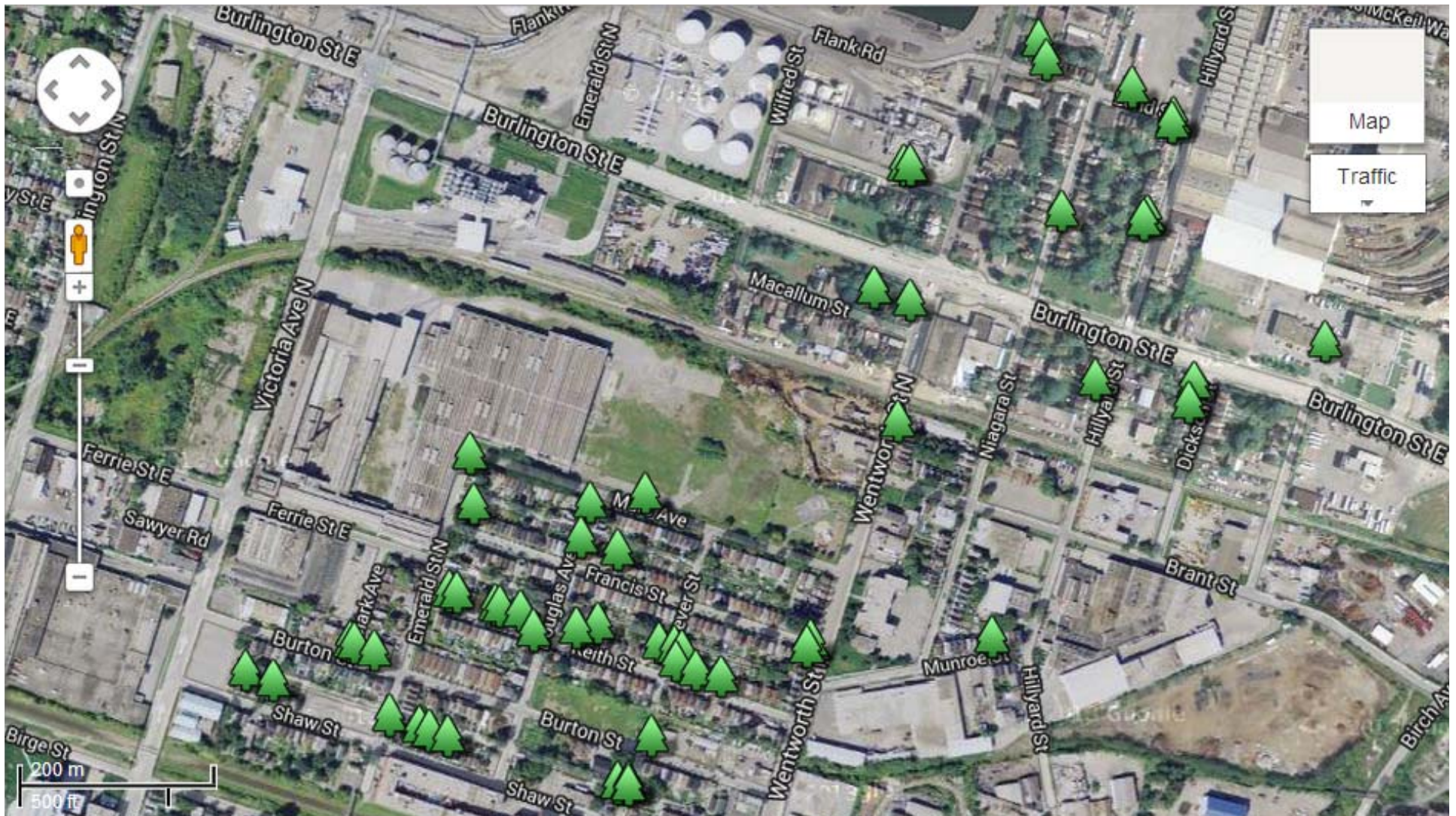
- ▶ The Keith Neighbourhood was chosen as the “perfect” location for the pilot project due to its...
 - close proximity to industries
 - poor air quality
 - lack of street trees
 - poor financial and social status



TREES PLANTED IN WARD 3 (GRID 11 & 12)



TREE SIGN-UPS FROM THE PROJECT (KEITH ONLY)



Our Results!



- ❧ 53 trees have been planted so far due to our efforts
- ❧ In comparison to other years, this method was 13-53 times more effective!
 - ❧ Between 2008-2012 an average of 3 trees were planted per year. Assuming this number stayed constant, it would have taken ~18 years to plant as many trees as were planted due to our 2 month effort (May & June)
- ❧ This was a very effective and efficient tactic which if used in the following year could deliver more great results!

Planning for the Future




- ❧ We are asking for a partnership between OPIRG McMaster and Hamilton's Forestry Department
 - ❧ Hire a student (or students) to go door to door offering free street trees in neighbourhoods that are known to have poor air quality
- ❧ This method will target areas in need and will reach a larger quantity of the population

I WANT TO THANK...

- OPIRG McMaster for hiring and trusting me with this project
- Randy Kay for coming up with the idea and providing guidance throughout the project
- Dr. Dennis Corr for providing the Air Quality Tests
- Bernie Morelli (Ward 3 Councillor)
- Bill Longley (Supervisor of Urban Forestry) for his constant support and insight
- Gerry Polmanter & Laura Ryan (Keith Neighbourhood Hub) for their support and collaboration





If we want to improve the air quality of this great city as quickly and efficiently as possible, we must act by going directly to the people, rather than wait for them to come to us.
