Abstract

This RFP introduces the promising opportunity to improve tree surveying methods and create a solution suited to assessing the Annex’s urban forest. Tree surveys generate valuable data that is used to improve the health and wellness of community members\(^1\). The uptake of this opportunity stands to benefit the Annex Residents’ Association in their mission to protect the greenspaces of the Annex. Providing its environmental advocates with the means to put statistical weight behind their proposals, allowing them to place pressure on the government for changes beneficial to the community and the environment\(^2\). Design spaces for this opportunity exist in both software and physical devices. In terms of software, existing implementations of satellite imaging analysis and LiDAR scanning for surveying purposes are still experimental and inaccessible to smaller communities\(^3\). Conventional physical tools for surveying are highly specialized, require skilled users, and are time and labour intensive\(^4\). An ideal solution in this design space would instead be efficient, easily adoptable, and usable. These characteristics would create a solution that allows smaller communities like the Annex to conduct frequent tree surveys, increasing the quality of their aggregate data, which is crucial to the success of their initiatives.

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2 Appendix B
