

**Urban Agriculture
City Council Subcommittee
July 26, 2012
2:00pm-3:30pm**

Urban Agriculture: What is it?

Beautification

Peace and serenity

People in touch with nature in urban environment

Places for family sharing

Community to come together

Parents to teach

Locally growing as much food, medicinal plants, firewood, building and materials as possible

Bigger than gardening

Permaculture

Food culture

Demonstration area

Remediation

Response to running out of resources, i.e. oil

Destination for all SES classes

Community connected

Economic revitalization, encourage American movement, Example: Roof top gardens

Method of empowerment through direct participation

Ancient process

Necessary to preserve healthy farmland

Linkages

Ongoing process

Education Center

Political struggle involving society

Grassroots sustainability movement

Food crops, tree, integration of animals, bees, herbs

Learning where and how to grow food

Grow food yourself

Human survival

Goals of Urban Agriculture

Preserve crop diversity

Protect crop genetics

Train more farmers

Resiliency strategy

Agricultural easement

Children's legacy

Regional sustainability – model for others (world)

Growing food in cities

Response to climate change

Food justice/food security

Robust fruitful economy

Contribute to healthier cities

Range of educational opportunities (youth, seniors, ACA)

Bolster local economy

Emissions climate change

Job creation

Venue for innovation (wind, solar, etc)

Regenerate soil and grow organic nutrient soil

Promote human health and health of eco system

Education center s o people can go home and grow their own food

Education center open to all

Goals Continued

Summer camp – learn about farming

Individual/community/global health and responsibility

Still share – food demo on how to prepare food

Keep crops local

Physical activity – gardening was #1 hobby

Alternative lifestyles/community, promote sustainable living

Keeping track of conservation

Participants and their Roles

Food justice groups

Children

UC mission statement; public service

Education

List to the community

Gathering research to promote the idea

Anybody who grows food

Additional Colleges

AUSD – nutritionists, café manager etc

UC – Role: education, landowner

City – Role: direct development process and allotment of land for urban agriculture

Urban agriculture groups

Residents

Bay area residents

Educators

Conservationists

Schools

Native American community

UC: CNR, capital projects, administration, student body, regents, faculty, Roles: all have different roles

Leaders in urban agriculture (Fairview Garden, Ed. School Yard, Riverside Eco Park, Solar Living Center)

Ecology Center – Role: facilitators

Ohlone People

UC and Albany Police

City Council – Role: represent City opinions, open process

Business Community, Role: funding

AUSD

State of California, Role: Land resource protection, evaluation system, value of land

City of Albany, Role: leaders in urban agriculture, “Be on the list”

Global community

Greater occupy community

Processes for Sustainability

Enticing others to participate

Urban plots –elsewhere

Create a business plan

Listen to community at large – more people have spoken for than against (in COA)

UN Declaration of Rights of Indigenous People

Bioremediation

Legal parameters

UC stop development on Gill Tract

Stop all activity until wide spread community input

Give decision making power to other groups

Urban grange

Easement and public access

Align UC mission statement with permaculture and sustainability

Education for the people

Acknowledgement from UC

CNR - in charge of Gill Tract – Partnership with Albany

Design Charette – community involved – brainstorming and consensus

Create non-profit

Neutral third party – i.e. Ecology Center

Indigenous agriculture

Commitment and accountability from UC and Albany

Next Steps

Presentation to City Council

Accessibility

Future meetings of:

Agricultural groups

2008 representatives

Dean, College of Natural Resources

Written agreement

Make clear this was a limited group

Include history

Different forums

Meeting time in evening for greater attendance