

Committee on Community Gardens Report 2008-2011

Introduction

The City of Madison has a robust and long-standing community gardening movement with 43 gardens serving approximately 2120 families in 2011 (see Appendix Table 1). Most visibly, community gardens are shared civic spaces where people's labors grow plants that nourish, heal, and offer aesthetic pleasure for themselves and others within the neighborhood. Equally important, however, are the way in which the collective efforts of community gardeners help to build a stronger sense of community and connection with the physical environment. The outgrowth of this stronger sense of interdependency often motivates and empowers individuals and groups to address other outstanding local issues significant to maintaining the well-being of their communities.

The Madison Common Council, concerned with the escalating loss of community gardens in the City of Madison during the 1980s and 1990s, established an ad hoc Community Gardens Advisory Committee on September 16, 1997 (See City of Madison Resolution 22346). The ad hoc Community Gardens Advisory Committee was empanelled with mayoral appointees in November 1997. In 2005, the City of Madison elevated the standing of this committee to become the Committee on Community Gardens.

Charged with preserving, expanding and enhancing opportunities for community gardening, the Committee on Community Gardens (CCG or Committee herein) works to raise the visibility of community gardening and create better understanding of its many benefits. The Committee fosters collaborative partnerships and leverages limited resources by harnessing support for gardens from within the community and multiple units of city government.

The Committee on Community Gardens also provides an important public forum—a place where garden advocates and city government work together to build a productive and sustainable system of community gardens in Madison.

Madison's Committee on Community Gardens (CCG)

The Committee on Community Gardens is composed of citizen gardeners, as well as representatives of other city bodies including the Plan Commission, Parks Commission, and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Committee. Other Committee resources include staff from Community Action Coalition for South Central WI, Inc. (CAC) and the City of Madison.

Committee membership is open to Madison citizens with an interest or role in Madison's community gardens. Members are appointed with the approval of the Common Council and the Mayor.

The Committee meets monthly except in the months of July and August. The CCG addresses a broad spectrum of issues related to community gardening, and monthly reports provided by CAC include updates on particular gardens. Monthly meetings may include relevant city staff, open space planners, and volunteer leaders of local community gardens. The Committee fosters collaborative action to improve community gardening resources within the city and all meetings include the opportunity for members of the public to comment on relevant issues. Interpreters can be made available upon request in order to facilitate the participation of all attendees.

Collaborations

The CCG works in partnership with all entities represented on the committee including CAC, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the Parks Department, and the Plan Commission. In addition, CAC provides a full range of development and support services for numerous community gardens throughout the City of Madison and surrounding areas.

Community Action Coalition for South Central Wisconsin, Inc. (CAC) is a Community Action Agency, which are public and private nonprofit organizations established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. Founded in 1966, CAC has created and operated a wide variety of programs aligned with its mission to actively engage all parts of our community in the struggle to eliminate poverty and assist in community members' efforts to achieve self-sufficiency. CAC serves as a resource to the Committee on Community Gardens.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program provides critical funding in support of the CAC Gardens Program and serves in an advisory capacity to the Committee. The Parks Commission and Plan Commission representatives on the Committee form a crucial link to these city departments, and ensure that community gardens are considered by the Parks Department, as it expands or revitalizes city parks, and by the Plan Commission, as it develops comprehensive plans for development and conservation of city lands.

Other groups provide essential support for community gardening in the City of Madison. For example, the Streets Department routinely supplies compost to many gardens. As needed, the CCG also collaborates with Madison Parks Division, Madison Water Utility, Engineering, and Real Estate.

Committee Activities 2008-2011

The Committee on Community Gardens takes part in a variety of activities that support community gardening in the City of Madison. These activities can include: preserving gardens, enhancing and improving gardens; facilitating expansions of existing gardens; helping to establish new gardens; participating in public outreach events; providing input to City planning and policy discussions; and establishing standards that can be used by gardens in Madison.

To see a current list of community gardens in Madison, please refer to Appendix Table 1. For a listing of community gardens outside the City of Madison, refer to Appendix Table 2.

1. Preserving Existing Community Gardens

Meeting increased demand for gardening plots, whether from a growing number of gardeners or in response to loss of an existing garden, constitutes one of the most vital functions of the Committee. Advocacy on behalf of threatened gardens is implicit in this activity.

On March 13, 2007 and again in July 19, 2009, the Committee provided Mayor Dave Cieslewicz a letter supporting the efforts of Sheboygan community gardeners to remain a permanent presence in the Hill Farms neighborhood (see Appendix Attachment 1).

Committee members have continued their support for members of Sheboygan Community Garden, which has been jeopardized by the State's announced plan to redevelop the Hill Farms office area. Committee support helped ensure the State's commitment to maintain the presence of the community garden at or near its present location when an adjoining office building is razed and replaced with new structures.

Demand for community garden plots in Madison's Isthmus and near east neighborhoods far exceeds the amount of available space dedicated to community gardens. The two community gardens that serve the downtown/near east area, Reynolds (634 East Mifflin Street) and Atwood (north of Atwood Avenue, along the bike path), are filled to capacity each year. Both community gardens maintain waiting lists that translate into a 2-3 year wait for neighborhood residents interested in having a community garden plot.

On March 25, 2011, the Committee provided the Central Park Design and Implementation Task Force a letter supporting the inclusion of community gardens and edible landscaping in Madison's Central Park Plan and encouraging the Task Force to consider allocating additional space for community gardens (see Appendix Attachment 2).

2. Enhancing and Improving Community Gardens

It is important that community gardens consider the differing abilities of community members when starting and expanding gardens, as well as to evaluate the needs of gardeners as an ongoing exercise.

Members of the Committee used Universal Design, a concept that grew out of the field of architecture and design, as a framework for the creation of a document titled, "Madison's Inclusive Community Gardens." (Available at: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/residents/communitygardens/index.cfm>).

This document and the Universal Design concept emphasize a user-friendly approach to design in the living environment where people of any culture, age, size, weight, race, gender and/or ability can experience an environment that promotes their health, safety, and welfare today and in the future.

3. Establishing New Gardens

Community interest has driven the process to establish new gardens throughout Madison. Although the Committee does not directly establish community gardens, it does support community-driven efforts to do so.

During the period of 2008-2010, the City of Madison experienced a **15% increase in the number of community garden plots** (20'x20' equivalents), a **16% increase in the acreage** devoted to community gardens, and a **46% increase in the number of households** utilizing community gardens.

Another important function of the model of community gardening developed by CAC and promoted by the Committee has been to create a blueprint that informs the process for building community gardens in other Dane County communities (see Appendix Table 2).

During 2008-2010, communities in Dane County *outside* of the City of Madison experienced a **49% increase in the number of community garden plots** (20'x20' equivalents), an **80% increase in the acreage** devoted to community gardens, and an **83% increase in the number of households** utilizing community gardens.

4. New Garden Fund (NGF)

The New Garden Fund developed out of an anonymous donation made to the City of Madison in support of community gardens. Annually since 2005, grants have been made to provide seed money to launch new gardens or improve existing ones (see Appendix Attachment 3). A panel of past and current members of the CCG and other volunteers reviews grant applications and recommends grant awards based on the merit of the proposal, interviews with applicants, and a site visit to the proposed garden.

The recommendations of the New Garden Fund panel are endorsed by the Committee on Community Gardens. CAC provides staff support to the NGF panel and funds are held by the Madison Community Foundation (MCF). The New Garden Fund is replenished by donations, including 10% of plot fees collected by Madison community gardens.

5. Planning and Policy

In 2008, Committee members joined others in the Madison Urban Agriculture Ordinance Work Group to consider zoning code changes that could facilitate the development and expansion of the City's farms and community gardens. Materials generated by the group and provided to it were posted on an open website for review and additional input.

The work group recognized a need for different zoning standards between food-growing entities intended to generate a profit and not-for-profit community gardens. Participants also looked at a range of issues relating to urban agriculture and how those topics could be addressed in revisions to the zoning code. Periodically, their findings and recommendations were offered for review and discussion in meetings with the City's zoning staff.

As a result of that process, community gardening will become a permitted use in all zoning districts, although some larger garden operations may also be required to have an approved management plan.

6. Garden Plot Fees and Standardization

In November 2007, the Committee created a work group to evaluate the fee schedule for renting plots in City-supported community gardens. These rates had not been reviewed since 1994. The work group's goals included sustaining the Community Gardens program, providing equity and fairness among gardens and gardeners, and simplifying the fee schedule. The group began meeting in November 2007 and completed its task in February 2008 with a report to community garden coordinators on the updated fees and their implementation in the community.

The work group gathered information on all community gardens in Madison, including their plot sizes, services received and the gardeners served by each. The report was reviewed by the Parks Commission and the Community Development Block Grant Committee, then presented for public feedback. The Public Hearing gathered testimony (translated into Spanish and Hmong as needed) and invited written feedback. The final report, implemented in the 2008 growing season, included a new fee schedule based on county median incomes, which raised rates for some gardeners and lowered them for others. Additionally, the fee schedule was simplified by reducing income categories from five to three.

Throughout this process, the Committee on Community Gardens received monthly updates on the work group's efforts, and voted to support its policy recommendations several times. To evaluate its efforts, the work group created and circulated a survey to assess the impact of the change in plot fees. Approximately 75% of the garden coordinators responded to the survey, indicating that overall the fees were well received with few complaints from gardeners. The fees have remained the same through the 2011 growing season, but will be reviewed every 2 years and revised as needed to keep pace with changes in the county median income guidelines.

Appendix

Table 1: Community Gardens Within the City of Madison

Garden Name	Plot Rental	Youth Garden	Food Pantry Garden	# Plots 20'x20' Equiv.	# Households	Intersection	Address	City	Zip	Property Owned by:
Allied Neighborhood Container Gardens	Yes	Yes	No	7	7	-	2225 Allied Dr.	Madison	53711	Public-Private Partnership
Arbor Gardens	Yes	No	No	12	15	-	2509 McDivitt Rd.	Madison	53713	Arbor Covenant Church
Atwood Community Gardens	Yes	No	No	112	119	St. Paul Ave. & Jackson St.	-	Madison	53704	CoM Engineering
Badger Rd. Fountain of Life (FOL) Community Garden	Yes	No	Yes	20	16	Between Badger Rd. & the Beltline	633 W. Badger Rd.	Madison	53713	Fountain of Life Church
Baird Street CDA	Yes	Yes	No	12	7	Baird St. & Bram St.	2003 Baird St.	Madison	53713	CoM CDA
Bashford United Methodist Food Pantry Garden	No	No	Yes	-	-	N. Lawn & E. Johnson St.	401 N. Lawn Ave.	Madison	53704	Bashford United Methodist
Bayview Garden	Yes	No	No	10	6	End of Braxton Pl., off Park St.	-	Madison	53715	CoM CDA
Burr Oaks Community Garden	Yes	Yes	No	31	23	Sequoia Tr. & Hackberry Ln.	-	Madison	53713	MMSD
Centro Hispano - Sembrando y Cosechando Juntos	No	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	810 W. Badger Rd.	Madison	53713	Centro Hispano of Dane County
Darbo Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	10	10	Darbo Dr. & Rosemary Ave.	-	Madison	53714	Salvation Army
Door Creek Church Food Pantry Garden	No	No	Yes	-	-	Dominion Dr. & Sprecher Rd.	6602 Dominion Dr.	Madison	53718	Door Creek Church
Eagle Heights Community Garden	Yes	-	No	535	540	University Bay Dr. & Lake Mendota Dr.	-	Madison	53705	UW

Table 1 Continued: Community Gardens Within the City of Madison

Garden Name	Plot Rental	Youth Garden	Food Pantry Garden	# Plots 20'x20' Equiv.	# Households	Intersection	Address	City	Zip	Property Owned by:
East High Youth Farm	Yes	Yes	Yes	7	7	Lampighter Way & Milwaukee St.	Near 5009 Lampighter Way	Madison	53714	MMSD
East Main Community Garden	Informal	No	No	20	20	Between 2nd St. & 4th St.	2000 East Main St.	Madison	53703	Union Pacific Railroad right of way
Eastmorland Community Garden	Yes	Yes	No	19	26	Walter St. & Hargrove St.	-	Madison	53714	CoM Engineering
Gammon Community Garden	Yes	No	No	25	23	-	110 N. Gammon Rd 1201	Madison	53717	Lutheran Church of the Living Christ
Glendale School Garden	No	Yes	Yes	-	-	Tompkins Dr. & Maher Ave.	Tompkins Dr.	Madison	53716	MMSD
Growing Together School & Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	18	27	Behind Black Hawk M.S. & Gompers Elementary	1402 Wyoming Way	Madison	53704	MMSD
Hammersley Park Community Garden	Yes	Yes	No	20	17	Hammersley Park, near Raye Lane & Hammersley	-	Madison	53705	CoM Parks
Joyce Community Garden	Yes	-	-	-	-	Cedar Pl., at end of cul-de-sac	-	Madison	53705	WI Cooperative Housing
Lindbergh School Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	10	20	Kennedy Rd. & Dapin Rd.	4500 Kennedy Rd.	Madison	53704	MMSD
Majestic Oaks Community Garden	No	No	Yes	-	-	Located in Oak Park Terrace	571 Banding Lane	Madison	53704	Private
Marlborough Park Community Garden	Yes	Yes	No	166	107	Apache Dr. & Sentinel Pass	222 Whenona Dr.	Madison	53711	CoM Parks
MCC Intergenerational Garden	Yes	Yes	No	55	56	Westfield Rd. & Old Sauk Rd.	7118 Old Sauk Rd.	Madison	53717	Madison Christian Community

Table 1 Continued: Community Gardens Within the City of Madison

Garden Name	Plot Rental	Youth Garden	Food Pantry Garden	# Plots 20'x20' Equiv.	# Households	Intersection	Address	City	Zip	Property Owned by:
McCormick Community Garden	Yes	No	No	20	22	-	702 McCormick Ave.	Madison	53704	CoM Engineering
Meadowood - Kietzke Community Garden	Yes	-	Yes	9	7	-	2817 Prairie Rd.	Madison	53711	Meadowood Baptist Church
Meadowood Community Garden	Yes	Yes	No	31.5	36	Thrush Ln. & Leland Dr.	-	Madison	53711	CoM Parks
Midvale School Community Garden	Yes	Yes	No	48	48	-	500 S. Midvale Blvd.	Madison	53705	MMSD
Moorland Gardens	Yes	No	No	150	52	-	1133 Moorland Rd.	Madison	53713	Madison Metro Sewer District
Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ Vegetable Village	Yes	Yes	Yes	13	12	Gilbert St. & Tolman Terrace	1501 Gilbert St.	Madison	53711	Orchard Ridge UCC
Old Sauk Community Garden	Yes	No	No	68	55	Old Sauk Rd & Westfield Rd.	7118 Old Sauk Rd.	Madison	53705	Advent Lutheran Church
Prairie Hills Community Garden	Yes	No	No	65	50	Southeast of Frisch Rd. & Jacob's Way	-	Madison	53711	CoM Engineering
Quann Community Garden	Yes	Yes	No	140	115	Koster St. & Bram St.	-	Madison	53713	CoM Parks
Reindahl Community Garden	Yes	No	Yes	260	94	Portage Rd & E. Washington Ave.	1818 Portage Rd.	Madison	53704	CoM Parks
Reynolds Community Garden	Yes	-	-	Approx. 27 (10'x10')	29	-	634 E. Mifflin St.	Madison	53703	CoM
Russett Rd Front Yard Garden Initiative	No	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	5700 & 5800 block Russett Rd.	Madison	53711	Multiple Apartment Landlords

Table 1 Continued: Community Gardens Within the City of Madison

Garden Name	Plot Rental	Youth Garden	Food Pantry Garden	# Plots 20'x20' Equiv.	# Households	Intersection	Address	City	Zip	Property Owned by:
Saint Paul Community Garden	Yes	No	No	73	69	St. Paul St. between Milwaukee & Powers	-	Madison/ Blooming Grove	53704	State of WI
Sheboygan Community Garden	Yes	No	No	60	87	On Sheboygan Ave. between Segoe & Eau Claire	-	Madison	53705	State of WI
Tamarack Trails Community Garden	Yes	-	-	15	15	Tree Lane & Westfield Rd.	-	Madison	53717	Tamarack Trails Condo Assoc.
Troy Community Garden	Yes	Yes	No	330	202	Troy Dr. & Lerdahl Rd.	500 Block of Troy Dr.	Madison	53704	Madison Area Community Land Trust
Truax Community Garden	Yes	Yes	No	30	25	-	8 Straubel Ct.	Madison	53704	CoM CDA
University Houses Gardens	Yes	-	No	95	109	Oxford Rd & Shorewood Blvd.	-	Madison	53705	UW
Waunona Community Garden	Yes	No	Yes	26.5	33	End of Lake Pt. Dr., in Waunona Park	-	Madison	53713	CoM Parks

Table 2: Community Gardens Outside the City of Madison

Garden Name	Plot Rental	Youth Garden	Food Pantry Garden	# Plots	# Households	Intersection	Address	City	Zip	Property Owned by:
All Saints Community Garden	Yes	No	No	55	54	Hwy PD & Chapel Valley Rd.	2951 Chapel Valley Rd.	Fitchburg	53711	All Saints Church
Blackhawk Church Food Pantry Garden	No	No	Yes	-	-	Veritas Dr. & West Mineral Point Rd.	9620 Brader Way	Verona	53593	Blackhawk Church
Bob's Community Garden	Yes	Yes	No	15	15	North of the 2000 block of MainSt.	-	Cross Plains	53528	Private
Bock Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	38	49	Highland Way & Cedar Ridge Rd.	-	Middleton	53562	City of Middleton
Cottage Grove Community Gardens, Inc.	Yes	No	Yes	40	34	-	229 N. Main St	Cottage Grove	53527	Bryn Mawr Church
Fitchburg Fields Garden	No	No	Yes	-	-	SE corner of Lacy Rd. & Fahey Glen	-	Fitchburg	53711	Private
Fraust Community Garden	Yes	No	No	4	9	Martin & Fish Hatchery Rd.	2018 Dickson Pl.	Town of Madison	53713	UW
Hershberger Garden	No	No	Yes	-	-	-	7630 Midtown Rd.	Verona	53593	Mike & Linda Hersberger
Lacy Garden	No	No	Yes	-	-	-	5897 Whalen Rd.	Fitchburg	53711	Phil & Paul Lacy
Lowell Park Community Garden	Yes	Yes	No	36	15	Page St. & Milwaukee St.	-	Stoughton	53589	City of Stoughton
Malmquist Garden	No	No	Yes	-	-	-	7418 Valley View Rd.	Verona	53593	Doug & Patty Malmquist
Middleton Hills Neighborhood Association Community Garden	Yes	No	Yes	51	31	High Rd. & Frank Lloyd Wright Ave.	-	Middleton	53562	Middleton Hills Neighborhood Assoc.

Table 2 Continued: Community Gardens Outside the City of Madison

Garden Name	Plot Rental	Youth Garden	Food Pantry Garden	# Plots	# Households	Intersection	Address	City	Zip	Property Owned by:
Middleton Outreach Ministry Food Pantry Garden	No	No	Yes	-	-	Between Fir Ln. & Pleasant View Rd.	Near 2550 Evergreen Rd.	Middleton	53562	Wireless Works, Inc.
Monona United Methodist Organic Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	5.8	19	Midmoor Rd.	606 Nichols Rd.	Monona	53716	Monona United Methodist Church
Oregon Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	18	17	County CC & Alpine Pkwy.	103 N. Alpine Pkwy.	Oregon	53575	People's United Methodist Church
Rimrock	Yes	No	No	120	14	Anderberg/Englehart & Englehart/Artesian	65 Braeger Ct.	Madison/Fitchburg	53713	Center for Resilient Cities & Private
Severson Learning Center Food Pantry Garden	No	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	35 Oakland Rd.	Cambridge	53523	School District of Cambridge
Shorewood Hills Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	64	64	Swarthmore Ct. & Purdue St.	901 Swarthmore Ct.	Madison	53705	Shorewood Hills Community Center
Southdale Community Garden	Yes	Yes	No	22	20	Southdale Park & Country Rose Ct.	-	Town of Madison	53713	Town of Madison
St. Dunstan's Community Garden	Yes	-	Yes	6	5	Allen Blvd. & University Ave.	6205 University Ave.	Middleton	53562	St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
St. Stephen's Community Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	29	24	Owen Rd. & Pheasant Hill	-	Monona	53716	St. Stephens Church
Sun Prairie - Marshall Area Food Pantry Garden	No	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	1800 State Rd. 19	Marshall	53559	CSA
Sun Prairie Community Organic Gardens	Yes	No	No	148	111	In Sheehan Park	Linnerrud Dr.	Sun Prairie	53590	City of Sun Prairie
Swan Creek Garden	Yes	-	-	-	-	Honeysuckle Ln & E. Cheryl Pkwy.	111. E. Cheryl Pkwy.	Fitchburg	53711	Swan Creek Condo Association

Table 2 Continued: Community Gardens Outside the City of Madison

Garden Name	Plot Rental	Youth Garden	Food Pantry Garden	# Plots 20'x20' Equiv.	# Households	Intersection	Address	City	Zip	Property Owned by:
Terra Gardens	Yes	-	No	10	10	Pheasant Branch & Hwy. K	6500 County Trunk K	Waunakee	53597	Terra Grower Farm

Attachment 1: Committee on Community Gardens Letter of Support for Sheboygan Community Garden (July 18th 2009)



Office of the Mayor

David J. Cieslewicz

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July 18, 2009

To Whom It May Concern,

The Committee on Community Gardens for the City of Madison would like to express its ongoing support for the survival of the Sheboygan Community Gardens which have faced an uncertain future since 2006 when the Department of Transportation began discussing redevelopment of the Hill Farms site where the gardens are located. Sheboygan gardeners have been working tirelessly ever since to help find a resolution to this problem, and we applaud their efforts.

After a lengthy process of identifying the most important criteria that would need to be satisfied if the gardens must be relocated, they have researched potential sites, attended numerous meetings and discussions with the developers and planners of the DOT project, and came to the conclusion **“that the inclusion of the Sheboygan Community Garden in the Hill Farms Redevelopment Plan as part of the new DOT facility is a feasible and desirable resolution for the future of the garden.”**

The Sheboygan gardeners are making the following requests:

1. That the State of Wisconsin and the Department of Transportation formally adopt the Sheboygan Community Garden and its planning criteria as part of its redevelopment plans for the Hill Farms site;
2. That the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration and its planning staff include a community garden on site C or D (rooftop or grade) as part of the program requirements for the future DOT project; and
3. That the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration, City of Madison Planning Staff and the Sheboygan Community Garden's Preservation Committee continue to work together toward a development of a community garden site within the Hill Farms Development that can serve as a model for public open space and urban agriculture.

The City of Madison Committee on Community Gardens fully supports the efforts made by this dedicated gardening community thus far, and believes in its commitment to work cooperatively with the stakeholders in this complex development process. We hope you will formally adopt and incorporate items #1 and #2 in the Hill Farms Development process as it goes forward.

Sincerely,

Nan Fey, Co-Chair
Community Gardens Committee

Alice Anderson, Co-Chair
Community Gardens Committee

Attachment 2: Committee on Community Gardens Letter of Support for Community Gardens in the Central Park Plan (March 25th 2011)



Office of the Mayor

David J. Cieslewicz

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March 25, 2011

Dear Central Park Design and Implementation Task Force Members:

As you know, community gardening is one of the four articulated uses for Central Park, and the City of Madison Committee on Community Gardens would like to applaud the Task Force for including community gardens in the current Central Park plan. We would also like to express our hope that, with the acquisition of the Research Products parcel and expansion of the park, the area for community gardens will be expanded as well.

Demand for community garden plots on the Isthmus has always exceeded availability. There are currently only two community gardens serving the downtown/near east area, and both fill to capacity each year – Reynolds (634 E. Mifflin) and Atwood (north of Atwood Avenue, along the bike path); each has a waiting list of 65-70 people which translates to a 2-3 year wait, and these are only the people who have identified themselves as wanting plots. Our committee has heard a great deal of public comment on the need for more downtown gardens.

You may know that the Urban Open Space Foundation gathered input from the neighborhoods served by Central Park when an earlier city committee worked on the East Rail Corridor and Central Park. At that time garden space was identified as a priority in the Central Park area. This further underscores the long commitment and interest to community gardens in the Marquette Neighborhood/ Central Park area.

Central Park is probably the best park option available for community gardening in the downtown/near east side of Madison. The space allocated to community gardens in the current Central Park plan is a gesture of goodwill, but doesn't reflect the commitment our city has made to community gardening. We encourage Task Force members to allocate more space for community gardens, and also support edible landscaping in the park.

Members of the Committee on Community Gardens are available and willing to attend Task Force meetings to share our knowledge and enthusiasm for the benefits of community gardens. We also understand that some of the land may contain soil that is inappropriate for gardening in its present condition, or may require remediation, and we would be happy to share information about techniques that have been used within our City and in other areas to deal with such challenges before any decision is made on where gardens can be and will be located.

Sincerely,


Nan Fey, Co-Chair
Committee on Community Gardens


Andre Scaife, Co-Chair

Attachment 3: New Garden Fund Recipients 2008-2011

2008 NGF Recipients	Description of Request	Award	Status
Bridge Lake Point Waunona Garden	\$950 for water system and compost bins	\$500	Funds were used for water system installation and compost.
Demetral	Asked for CAC support; No funding requested	-	Support given. Garden wasn't created due to contaminated soil.
Meadowood Community Garden (New)	\$13,111; Also received CDBG funding	\$1,500	The garden was created in 2008.
Total Awarded in 2008		\$2,000	
2009 NGF Recipients	Description of Request	Award	Status
Wisconsin Youth Company (New)	\$1900 for various garden expenses	\$600	Youth garden created in the Summer 2009.
Total Awarded in 2009		\$600	
2010 NGF Recipients	Description of Request	Award	Status
Allied Neighborhood Container Gardens	\$1000 for various garden materials	\$150	Container and raised bed gardens created in Spring 2010.
Darbo Community Garden (New)	\$1750 for various garden expenses	\$500	The garden was created in 2010; Funds used for shed and tools.
Lindbergh Garden	\$2000 for various garden expenses	\$350	Expanded and added community garden in 2010.
McCormick Community Garden (New)	\$2000 for various garden expenses	\$500	The garden was created in 2010.
Reindahl (Expansion)	\$1500 for the installation of an irrigation line	\$200	Irrigation line installed in Spring 2010.
Troy (Expansion)	\$2000 for enabling garden.	\$200	Funds used to create garden design and install water lines.
Total Awarded in 2010		\$1,900	
2011 NGF Recipients	Description of Request	Award	Status
Badger Road Fountain of Life	\$2300 for various garden materials	\$900	Garden expanded in 2011.
Balsam/Leland Participatory Landscape (New)	\$ 2136 for various garden materials	\$600	Front yard gardens created in Spring 2011.
Majestic Oaks Neighborhood Garden (New)	\$2000 for various garden materials	\$900	Garden creation began in Spring 2011.
Total Awarded in 2011		\$2,400	
Total Awarded 2008-2011		\$6,900	