

*City of Falcon Heights
Garden Subcommittee*

City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Avenue W.

Wednesday, July 29, 2020
7:00 p.m.

A G E N D A

Note: This meeting will be held via web conference.

A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL: Jim Wassenberg ____ Nick Olson ____
 Scott Wilson ____ Joel Gerich ____
 Council Liaison Gustafson ____ Council Liaison Andrews ____
 Staff Liaison Markon ____

C. AGENDA

1. Recap Meeting 1
2. Discuss definitions and resident feedback opportunity

D. ADJOURN



The City That Soars!

GARDEN SUBCOMMITTEE MEMO

Meeting Date	July 29, 2020
Agenda Item	C2
Attachment	None
Submitted By	Justin Markon, Community Development Coordinator

Item	Discuss definitions and resident feedback opportunity
Description	<p>Jim Wassenberg submitted the following as possible definitions.</p> <p>Definition of private/residential garden:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Edible landscaping on a land parcel by the property owner(s) or residents of that land. 2) Edible landscaping on a land parcel by the property owner(s) or residents of that land, or <i>first degree</i> relatives (parents, <i>grandparents</i>, siblings, children) of the property owner(s). <p>Definition of community garden:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Edible landscaping on a land parcel by anyone other than, the property owner(s) or residents of that land. 2) Edible landscaping on a land parcel by anyone other than the property owner(s) or residents of that land, or <i>first degree</i> relatives (parents, <i>grandparents</i>, siblings, children) of the property owner(s). 3) add on to 1 or 2. (Edible landscaping on a property with more than 4 registered owners) <p>Definitions of edible landscaping:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1. activity) The intentionally planting, caring for, or otherwise cultivating plants which could produce food that is consumed by people, or could reasonably be consumed by people. (2. plants) Also, the plants themselves, including, <i>but not limited to</i>, fruits, vegetables, herbs, and edible leaves or flowers. <p>Definition of Community garden parcel: The complete land parcel on which the community garden is located, not only the portion used for edible landscaping.</p>

Scott Wilson submitted the following as possible definitions:

Definition of private/residential garden - A garden that consists of vegetables, ornamental plants or native plants on residential property. Gardening is done by the residents of the property for their own consumption and enjoyment.

Definition of community garden - A garden that consists of vegetable and food plants on a piece of land gardened by a group of people (usually unrelated) utilizing individual plots to grow their own produce. Gardeners must follow the rules and regulations of the community garden to partake.

Definition of edible landscaping - Edible landscaping is the use of food-producing plants in the residential landscape. It combines fruit and nut trees, berry bushes, vegetables, herbs, edible flowers, along with ornamental plants into the design.



The City That Soars!

GARDEN SUBCOMMITTEE MEMO

Meeting Date	July 29, 2020
Agenda Item	C2
Attachment	None
Submitted By	Justin Markon, Community Development Coordinator

Item	Discuss definitions and resident feedback opportunity
Description	<p>Scott Wilson and Joel Gerich submitted the following details for a possible resident feedback process on development of an Ordinance.</p> <p><u>Community Gardens and Zoning Districts</u></p> <p>1) Do you feel Falcon Heights has a need for more community garden space than we currently have?</p> <p>2) Where should future community gardens be allowed? Select all that apply.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a) Allowed in P-1 zone (public land such as city parks & city hall land)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b) Allowed in R-1 zone (this includes single family homes, churches, schools and civic areas)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">c) Allowed in R-1 zone only if institutional (churches, schools, civic areas)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">d) Allowed in business districts</p> <p>3) Who should be allowed to operate a community garden in Falcon Heights? Select all that apply.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a) The city of Falcon Heights</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b) A non-profit organization, school, or church</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">c) Falcon Heights residents/property owners</p> <p><u>Location of Community Gardens on Property - Size and Setback Requirements</u></p> <p>Note: Current thinking is that residential garden location and setbacks would follow the existing native landscaping ordinance passed in February 2020 (Sec 54-38)</p> <p>1) How far from neighboring residential property should Community Gardens be allowed?</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a) Per existing setback requirements (2 feet from front, corner side, and rear if abutting street/alley) (2 feet from interior side or rear not abutting street/alley, but can be 0 feet if conditions met)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b) Certain distance (please comment)</p> <p>2) Should there be size limits to community gardens?</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a) No, as long as they meet setback requirements</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b) Yes (please comment)</p>

3) Should community gardens require individual plots of a uniform size (such as 10'x20') or be shared upkeep amongst all gardeners?

- a) Individual plots
- b) Shared upkeep

4) Should there be minimum requirements for facilities (such as on/off street parking, access to water, compost bins, garbage, restroom facilities, etc)?

Commercial Nature of Community Gardens

1) Should community gardens be allowed to grow food to sell commercially?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Other (food bank donations, only small surpluses locally, etc.)

2) If community gardens need to raise funds to get started, what ways would be best for the community?

- a) Charge membership dues/lease plots
- b) Find sponsors
- c) Seek grants
- d) Hold fundraisers
- e) Other (please comment)



The City That Soars!

GARDEN SUBCOMMITTEE MEMO

Meeting Date	July 29, 2020
Agenda Item	C2
Attachment	None
Submitted By	Justin Markon, Community Development Coordinator

Item	Discuss definitions and resident feedback opportunity
Description	<p>Jim Wassenberg and Nick Olson submitted the following details for a possible resident feedback process on development of an Ordinance.</p> <p><u>Requirements prior to initiating a community garden</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Submission of a site plan to the city and approval of that site plan. The site plan to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parcel address and size (acres or sq ft) • Amount of land to be used for edible landscaping (acres or sq ft) • Percentage of parcel's open ground to be used for edible landscaping • Maximum number of gardeners • Maximum number of individual plots (if so divided) • Evidence of any necessary written approvals from other landowners. 2) Conduct of one verbal conversation of at least 10 minutes in duration, with each immediately adjacent land owner by the proposed community garden parcel owner. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the conversation being to familiarize the neighbor with the proposed community garden plan in advance, and to respond in good faith to questions and concerns that the neighbor may have. 3) Written consent of all immediately adjacent property owners. 4) Written consent of 80% of owners of all properties that are both, within 100 feet of the proposed community garden parcel, and share a street or alleyway with the proposed community garden parcel. 5) Written consent of 100% of owners of all properties that are both, within 100 feet of the proposed community garden parcel, and share a street or alleyway with the proposed community garden parcel.

Noise/time of day

- 1) No edible landscaping activities involving motors of any kind may take place prior to 1 hour after dawn, 7 am on a weekday, or 9 am on a Saturday or Sunday, whichever is later.
- 2) No edible landscaping activities may take place later than 30 minutes prior to sundown.
- 3) While any non-resident gardener is engaged in edible landscaping activities on the parcel, any music or other electronically produced sound must be produced and listened to only through personal earphones/earbuds.

Maintenance

- 1) Any fencing involved with edible landscaping must be properly maintained and must remain effective for its intended purpose or otherwise must be removed.
- 2) At the end of the growing season, but no later than November 1 of each year, the edible landscaping area must be mown or otherwise cleared of any standing, non-woody plants, and all fencing and posts must be removed.
- 3) Proper slope and drainage of the edible landscaping area must be maintained so as to prevent erosion or sediment runoff.

Number of gardeners

- 1) A non-resident gardener is a gardener who does not a resident of the community garden parcel.
- 2) The number of non-resident gardeners allowed to conduct edible landscaping activities in a given calendar year shall not be more than 1 per 1000 sq ft of total parcel area.
- 3) The number of non-resident gardeners allowed to conduct edible landscaping activities at the same time shall not exceed half of the yearly allowed total for that parcel, or 10 whichever less.