

Welcome

Meet the Blueridge Sharing Garden Project Team



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Get Involved!
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Cultivate is a registered non-profit society that aims to grow the connection between community building and food by creating sharing gardens on a neighbourhood scale. This includes transforming "orphaned" or underused spaces into engaging and sustainable sharing gardens.

Cultivate's garden development process brings together neighbours and community stakeholders, building skills and friendships along the way, and culminates in the donation of fresh, organic produce to those in need.

The Blueridge Community Association is continually recognized within the North Shore for being a well-organized, active and innovative organization. Our goal is to continue on this path by enthusiastically promoting learning, health, collaboration and environmental stewardship.

Just like you, we have an interest in the livability of our neighbourhood and we want to preserve it as a great place to live. The BCA is only as good as the people who volunteer with us.

The District of North Vancouver Adopt a Street Program is designed to strengthen ties not just within neighbourhoods, but between residents and their local government.

Those living in the Blueridge neighbourhood and all participants in the garden process are project stakeholders as well. Your feedback is important to us; please remember to fill out a feedback form before leaving the open house.

Cultivate's Sharing Garden Development Process



Evaluate

First, we'll measure the potential environmental, social, and financial strengths of an "orphaned" or underused space which helps to evaluate the viability of a collaborative garden project.



Connect

Developing relationships with local organizations and social ventures is a big part of the stewardship plan for a sharing garden and helps to shape the day to day activity of the space.



Engage

All members of the neighbouring community become stakeholders in a the project and are invited to participate in planning, installation and operations of the sharing garden.



Design

Based on community feedback, Cultivate will help to develop the landscape plan, budget, wish list and fundraising initiatives required to get the project off the ground.



Grow

As a garden grows, so does the need for organization. Cultivate facilitates programming, scheduling and management of a garden to ensure project sustainability and stewardship.

Case Study:

The Queensbury Garden is a volunteer-run sharing garden located behind S'Wich Cafe at 644 Queensbury Avenue. To build the garden, Cultivate facilitated community engagement sessions, led fundraising efforts and recruited over 30 volunteers.

Since breaking ground in May 2013, the Queensbury Garden has hosted various volunteer work sessions, educational and art workshops and community potlucks, and donated over *150lbs of fresh produce to the North Shore's Harvest Project (www.harvestproject.com).



2 SEASONS
OF GARDENING FUN



150* MEALS
FOR THOSE IN NEED

*Estimate based on documented donations



The Project

Revitalization of the Lytton Street Road Allowance

Addressing Concerns

We have already heard from members of the community that there are some concerns about the space. Some planned steps to mitigate issues that have been brought up include:

- **Youth loitering in area:** Cutting back overgrowth will open up the space, reducing the “hiding place” effect
- **Water:** Harvest rainwater
- **Parking:** Centrally located to encourage people to walk instead of drive; street parking is available in the area
- **Bears:** We will not grow fruit
- **Vandalism:** We have budgeted funds to fix/clean up existing vandalism
- **Litter:** We will provide secure receptacles for refuse and ensure the Working Group maintains the space regularly
- **Compost Bins:** We will line compost bins with hardware cloth to pest-proof them and we will keep the garden harvested and clean
- **Cost:** Fully funded by grants and donations through Cultivate, the not-for-profit society coordinating this initiative
- **Ongoing Maintenance:** There will be a working group from the Blueridge and Seymour Heights community that will partner with Cultivate to ensure ongoing stewardship

Community Impact

The intention of this project is to create positive change, driven by a collaborative community effort. Some opportunities to improve the existing space include:

- Clean up litter and graffiti
- Open up the space for community use, reducing the current “hiding place” effect
- Retain some of the current blackberry bushes, but make them accessible so they can be harvested by participants
- Create space for workshops and community gatherings
- Increase food security through the creation of a sharing garden and offering education on the topic of growing fresh, organic food
- Give back to the community by donating food to local non profit organizations such as The Harvest Project or the Food Bank



Have More Suggestions?

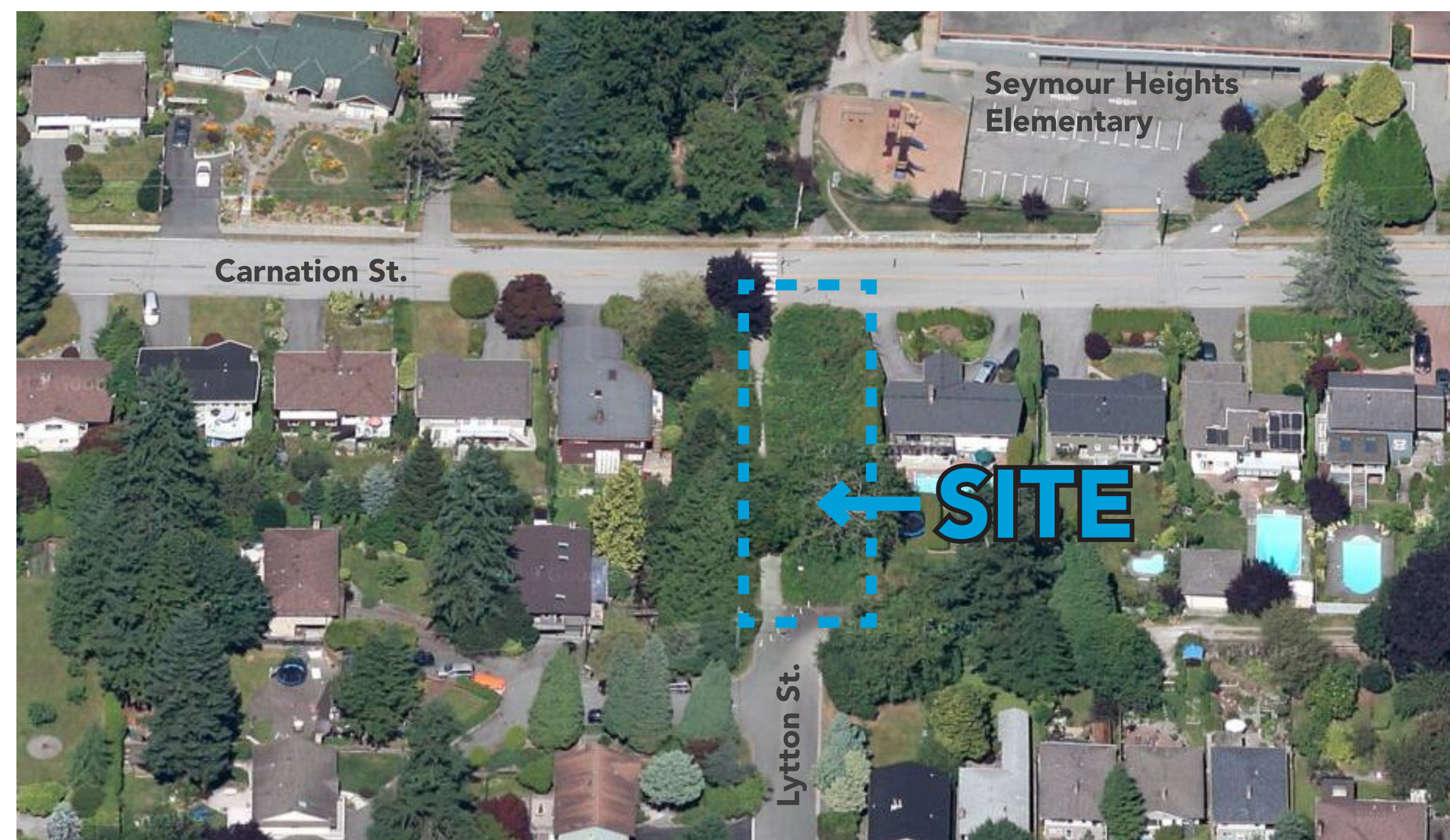
Please fill out a feedback form before leaving the open house, have a chat with someone from the project team or email cultivate.projects@gmail.com



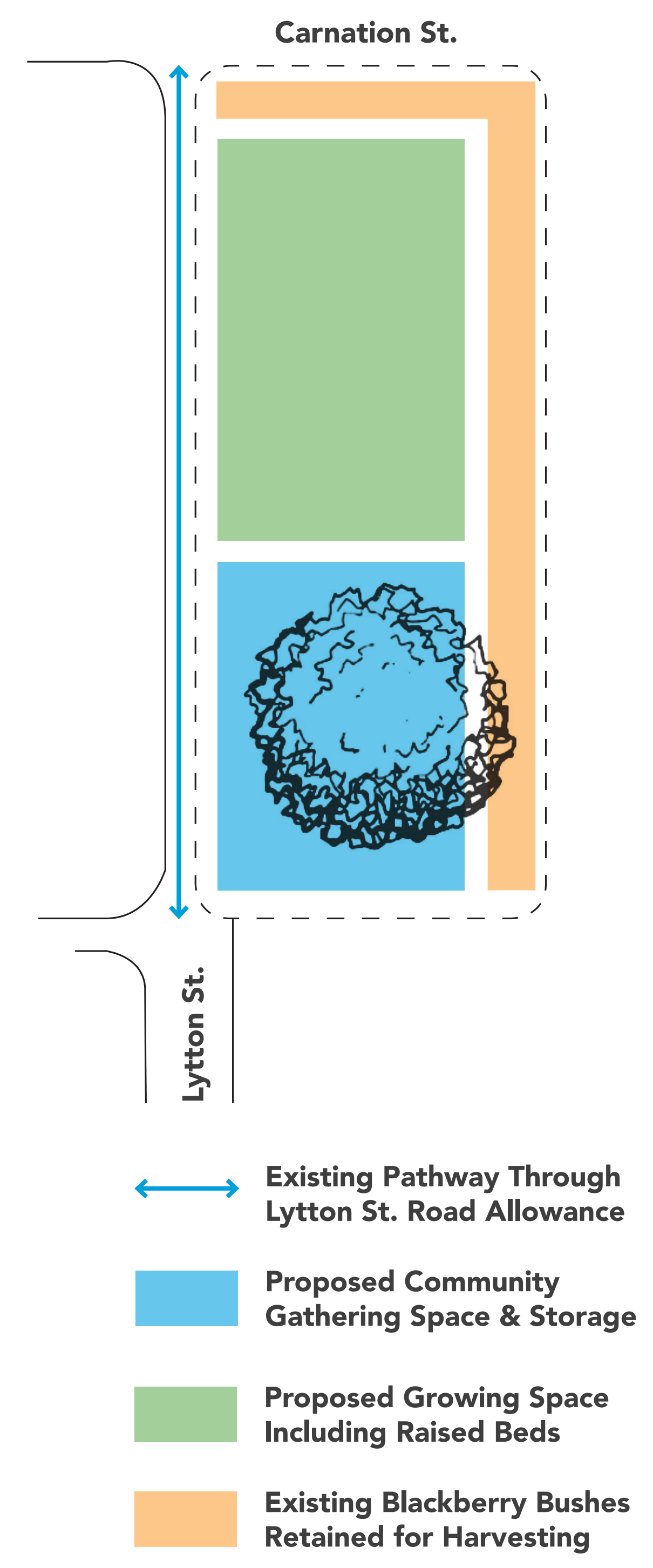
The Plan

Proposed Sharing Garden Preliminary Site Plan

Context



Proposed Plan



Possible Elements

Sharing gardens can become a hub for community building and skill sharing, but every neighbourhood has different needs. Some possible garden elements include:

- Between ten and sixteen 4'x8' raised beds for growing food
- Small shed/secure storage area for tools and supplies
- Community gathering space & seating
- Shelter from the elements
- A "Community Plot" to be shared among garden participants
- Signage and communication of ongoing programming, such as a bulletin board or website for the garden
- A compost system large enough to support the garden
- Rainwater harvesting system



How it Works

Progress So Far & How You Can Get Involved

What is a Sharing Garden?



A sharing garden is different from a conventional community garden in that the yield is shared. It is a collaborative space where neighbours can come together to learn, grow and share by growing food and supporting a local social venture with fresh, organic produce. Workshops and social events complete the picture, creating opportunity for new friendships and lots of fun!

What Can I Do?

- Volunteer your time during the building phase or by joining the working group of volunteers to care for the garden on a regular basis
- Donate financially to the project and/or help initiate further fundraising efforts
- Donate materials or supplies
- Help spread the word about the project by sharing with your friends Online or distributing flyers or posters in your community
- Share your gardening skills by hosting a workshop
- Participate in community social events

Project Timeline

