



AGENCY: City Council
MEETING DATE: September 9, 2019
DEPARTMENT: City Manager
PRESENTED BY: Tabatha Miller
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AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

TITLE:

Receive Report and Consider Adoption of Resolution Supporting Fort Bragg, California as a Garden Friendly City, Encouraging the Community to Organize a Garden Friendly Community Committee and Declaring Fort Bragg as the First Garden Friendly Community in the World

ISSUE:

At the July 22, 2019 City Council meeting, Matthew Drewno and Sydney Grange made a presentation to City Council on a Garden Friendly Community. They recognized the resources already present in our community, identified some important benefits from gardens, and provided a map of potential garden places in Fort Bragg. Mr. Drewno and Ms. Grange asked the City Council to consider adopting a Resolution that would provide support for gardening in the community and declare Fort Bragg – the first Garden Friendly Community in the world!

ANALYSIS:

The attached Resolution declares the City Council's support for a Garden Friendly Community and outlines ways the City will support gardening in our Community:

1. Direct staff to assist in establishing the first community garden;
2. Direct staff to help identify other potential spaces for community gardens;
3. Provide support and endorsement of a plan to encourage sustainable and organic gardening;
4. Provide links to educational documents and a link to the national Garden Friendly Community website from the City's website;
5. Provide Town Hall once a year without charge to the Garden Friendly Community Committee for an educational event;
6. Declare Fort Bragg as the first Garden Friendly Community in the world.

Possible City-owned Locations for a Community Garden

The table on the next page identifies City-owned properties that could potentially be used to establish the first community garden in Fort Bragg. The Garden Friendly Community Committee would be tasked with selecting the best site for a community garden, organizing a community garden and completing the necessary work to establish the garden.

City Hall Park



Pros and cons: small area, has water, is currently planted and would require removal of decorative landscaping.

Guest House Museum



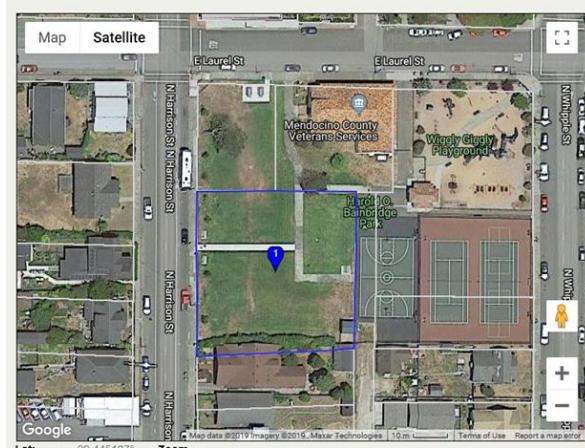
Pros and cons: large area, has water, is currently landscaped and would require removal of decorative landscaping, windy.

CV Starr Center



Pros and cons: large area, has water, not currently used, future expansion location.

Bainbridge Park



Pros and cons: large area, has water, could interfere with passive recreation opportunities, not part of Park Plan.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt the Resolution supporting Fort Bragg as a garden friendly city and declaring Fort Bragg the first Garden Friendly Community in the world.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):

1. Revise the language of the Resolution prior to adoption, or direct staff to revise the language and bring the Resolution back at a future Council meeting.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Supporting a Garden Friendly City will require use of some staff time, which has the opportunity cost of not providing other services or not working on other projects.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACT:

Gardens have a positive impact on greenhouse gas emissions. Local production, particularly in one's own backyard, reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing transportation from farm or source to one's kitchen.

CONSISTENCY:

Support of the Garden Friendly Community Committee, a public community garden and declaration of Fort Bragg as the first Garden Friendly Community in the world is consistent with the shared intention for all City Council Priorities and Goals to enhance self-sufficiency and support healthy ecosystems.

IMPLEMENTATION/TIMEFRAMES:

Creation of a Garden Friendly Community Committee will depend on interested community members and their ability to organize and create continued interest in the project.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution

NOTIFICATION:

1. Sydney Grange
2. Matt Drewno