



# Healthy Works<sup>SM</sup> School and Community Gardens Program Joint Use School-Community Gardens

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facilitated by Community Health Improvement Partners



# Joint Use School-Community Gardens



Joint Use School Community Garden—  
a garden shared by a community and school, typically on school district property, with some plots designated for school use and others for community use.

# Joint Use School-Community Gardens: A multi-faceted solution

- Common Themes:
  - Partners/gardeners geographically close
  - Schools engaged in wellness; interested in more community involvement
  - Gardens typically on school property
  - Public/private agency provides garden staffing, materials, funding
  - Volunteers manage and/or utilize garden plots



# Joint Use School-Community Gardens: Research and Best Practices

- Joint Use:
  - State, school district, and city policies
  - Partners must work out roles and responsibilities (liability, maintenance, operations)
- Best Practices:
  - Denver: 30+ school-community gardens
  - Vermont: 40+ school-community gardens
  - California: Berryessa Union, Milpitas Unified, Moreland, Pixley Union, and Sacramento City Unified School Districts operate community gardens on district property



# Joint Use School-Community Gardens: Maximizing public resources for public good



- Provides schools support with garden maintenance and operation
- Provides educators access to garden experts for classroom support
- ↑ residents' access to fresh, affordable produce
- ↑ physical activity opportunities for people of all ages
- Promotes intergenerational, cross-cultural, and school-community relationships
- Promotes civic engagement



# Healthy Works<sup>SM</sup>: SD Pilot Sites

- City of San Diego:
  - **District 8:** La Mirada Elementary (SYSD) & Harmonium, Inc.
  - **District 7:** Springall Academy (SDUSD, non-public) & San Carlos United Methodist Church
  - **District 6:** Montgomery Middle School (SDUSD) & Bayside Community Center
- City of La Mesa:
  - Helix Charter High School (GUHSD) & La Mesa



## City of La Mesa's Proposed Role as a Model

- La Mesa proposed to enter into a real property and license use agreement with GUHSD
- La Mesa plans to sub-lease property to a non-profit for management and operation of the garden
- La Mesa and nonprofit responsible for insurance, liability, and maintenance

# San Diego Unified School District

- Passed Board Resolution H.6 (community gardens) to explore the development of community gardens on school property
- Expressed interest in exploring partnerships with public entities in support of the model

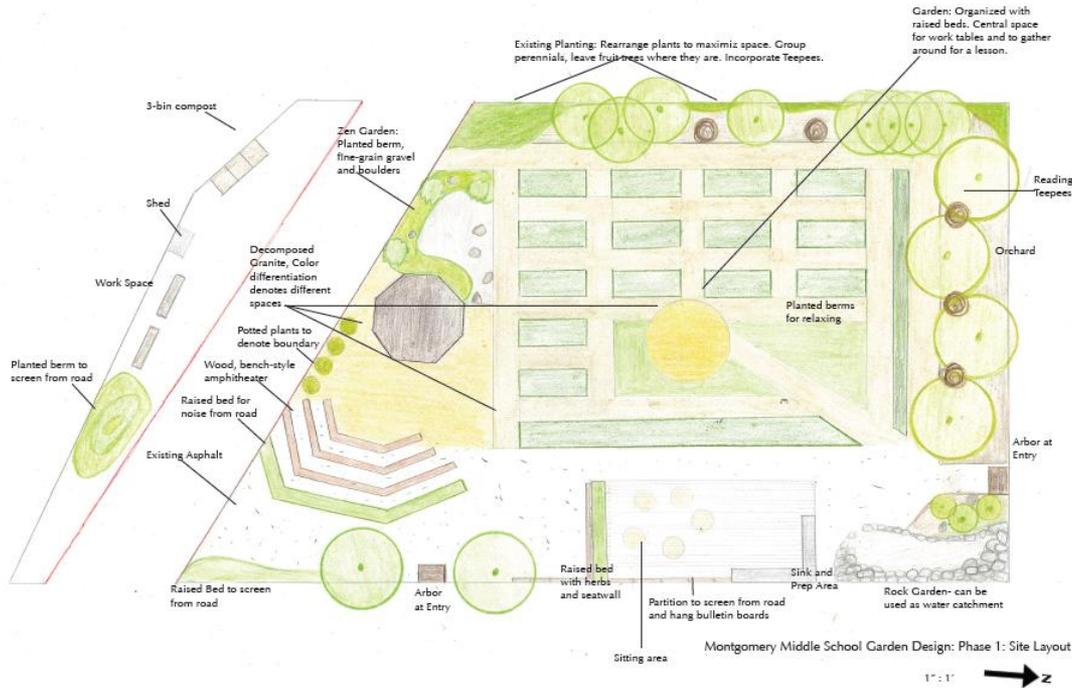


Montgomery Middle School & Bayside Community Center  
Joint Use School Community Gardens



Jorge Riquelme  
Executive Director  
Bayside Community Center

# Montgomery Middle School & Bayside Community Center



# Ask & Questions to Explore

- Ask:
  - Can the City's joint use agreement/s extend to school-community gardens?
  - Can the City enter into three-party agreements with school districts and nonprofits to operate and maintain school-community gardens? (La Mesa & Sacramento models)
- Questions to Explore:
  - Can school-community gardens count towards City parkland?
  - Can school-community gardens be allowed as an amenity on joint use fields?
  - Can the City maximize opportunities for gardens, particularly school-community gardens, by incorporating them into master and city planning efforts (e.g., General Plan)?