



City Manager's Office

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 9, 2024

TO: Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Jackie Bryant, Interim City Manager **Approved Electronically**

FROM: Izabella Baumann, Senior Engagement Coordinator
Noemi Gomez Martinez, Community Relationships Manager

SUBJECT: Teglia's Paradise Park Senior Community Garden

The Paradise Park Community Garden is set for a vibrant revival, due to a collaborative effort with the City of Reno, Reno Food Systems, and the Center for Healthy Aging. This senior-focused project provides engagement opportunities tailored for this population, including nutrition, gardening, and food preparation workshops. The garden's goal is to establish a safe and healthy community garden that provides fresh produce and promotes healthy nutrition, ultimately enhancing the quality of life for our senior community.

A memorandum of understanding was established with all three partners. Utilizing Senior ARPA funds, Reno Food Systems developed a plan to revitalize the garden. This plan includes Reno Food Systems hiring a community garden coordinator responsible for maintaining the garden, creating an inclusive and accessible garden space, coordinating workshops, and growing produce to be delivered to local senior living communities such as the Reno Housing Authority and Volunteers of America.

Funded by the Senior ARPA allocation, the following is an overview led by the Reno Senior Coordinator, the Reno Parks and Recreation Department, and a community garden coordinator. Accomplishments and improvements since the revitalization of the community garden as of April 2024 include:

- Installed new drip irrigation to develop production vegetable beds for Reno Food Systems food donations;
- Redesigned perennial, herbs, and medicinal garden such as lemon balm, chamomile, mint sections for more plants;
- Installed a new Rain Bird timer with plans to relocate it and the power outlet to a lockbox in the toolshed by fall 2024;

- Removed old fencing and rotting structures, organizing reusable materials and removing refuse;
- Transplanted perennials, self-seeding annuals, and abandoned plants to automated or more suitable areas;
- Seeded a cut flower garden in the central raised bed with automated irrigation;
- Revamped plot rental process and updated contract, with five returning and one new gardener, many using multiple plots. To rent a plot at the community garden, [an agreement](#) is in place for interested community members to acknowledge;
- Developing new signage for garden information and Paradise Park Community Garden rules;
- Engaged senior volunteers, resulting in three to four steady helpers;
- Organized the tool shed and purchased new hand tools for participants in the garden (trowels, hand rakes, etc.);
- Brought in new soil (five loads of 14 yards each) to create new beds and share with plot gardeners;
- Installed a new shade sail over picnic tables for community use; and
- 12 raised beds (3' x 10', 32" tall) and three larger central beds (15' x 8'5", 32" tall) with a keyhole will be installed to support gardeners needing larger plots and to encourage organizations to rent and collectively tend the garden, donating their harvests.

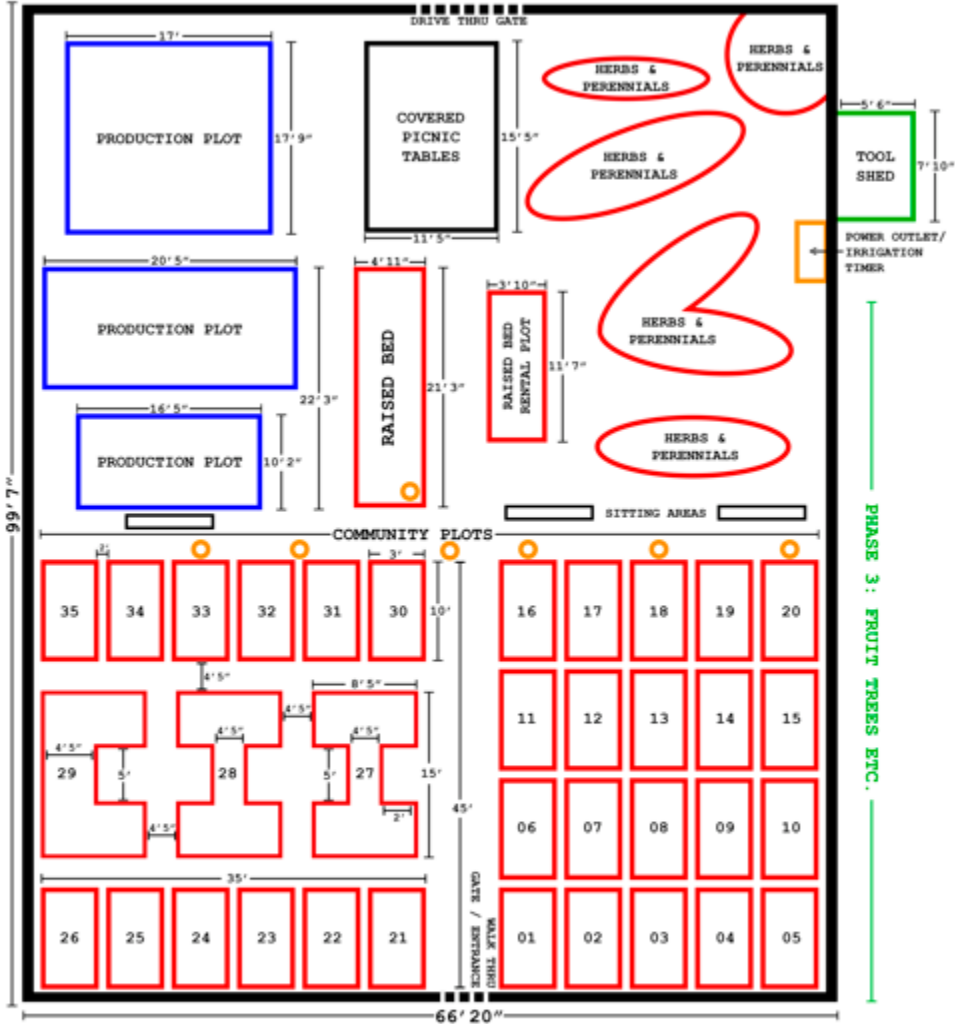
This revitalized space will support building new community relationships and trust with newcomers, seniors, and the dedicated individuals who have been involved in the garden for years. This means ensuring everyone feels heard, supported, and welcomed.

Attachments:

- Paradise Park Community Garden Plan/Map

PARADISE PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN

2745 Elementary Dr., Reno, NV 89512 | 775-356-3176 | communitygarden@renofoodsystems.org



Key:
 Community Plots: 1-20 (in ground)
 21-35 (raised beds)
 Phase 1: Community Plots
 Herbs & perennials
 Demonstration beds
 Phase 2: Production Plots
 Phase 3: Fruit trees, perennials
 (East of gated garden)
 ○ = Water Spicket



PHASE 3: FRUIT TREES ETC.