



City Council Committee Meeting Agenda

Public Works / Parks Committee

This meeting will be conducted in person at City Of Stanwood Public Works Wastewater Treatment Plant located at 26729 98th DR NW, Stanwood WA 98292

Monday, April 10, 2023, 5:30 PM

1. Rental of Ovenell park for use as a community garden entitled Stanwood Public Farm



**CITY OF STANWOOD
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

ITEM NUMBER: 1

DATE: April 10, 2023

SUBJECT: Rental of Ovenell park for use as a community garden

CONTACT PERSON: Carly Ruacho, Parks Manager

ATTACHMENTS: A: Public Farm Plan

PURPOSE

Andrew Davis will be coming to talk to the committee about his interest in renting Ovenell Park for the use of a community garden called the Stanwood Public Farm.

Stanwood Public Farm Summary of Plan

Request

Rental of Ovenell park for use as a community garden entitled Stanwood Public Farm including permission to

1. Till, fertilize, plant, and maintain a one acre garden at Ovenell park in the area designated by the map
2. Allow up to ten volunteers to access the park one day per week for four hours to learn about and perform supervised work on the garden
3. Place a portable toilet
4. Use the south dairy barn (designated on map) for tool and equipment storage
5. Use the south dairy barn as a potting shed
6. Use the old south dairy barn as a wash and pack station
7. (Optional) Place signage explaining the history of the park and more broadly the agricultural history of Stanwood
8. (Optional) Place signage advertising the project and/or acknowledging donors
9. (Optional) Maintain and harvest the fruit from the existing orchard
10. (Optional) Develop a plan to restore the wetland to the south of Saratoga Drive
11. (Optional) Build a 30 x 90 foot greenhouse
12. (Optional) Build a 12 x 90 foot 'Caterpillar Tunnel' (An unheated plastic covered PVC structure)
13. (Optional) Build Eight 4 x 6 raised beds for disability access
14. (Optional) Allow larger gatherings once a month for special events such as a grand opening, a lecture on wetlands and riparian ecosystems, and a lecture on the history of indigenous persons

Overview

Activities

The Stanwood Public Farm plans to convert Ovenell Park into a vegetable garden. The project will plant, maintain, and make available for harvest a variety of vegetables via free weekly classes which will be held throughout the growing season from April to September.. These classes will cover all the basic principles of farming and gardening from seeding to harvest.

Funding

The project will be funded through grants and donations which will cover tool and equipment expenses. The techniques will be scalable so that participants can use the skills and knowledge gained by their participation to grow their own vegetables.

Management and Reporting

The project will be managed entirely by Andrew Davis. The project will provide a report once every two months to the Stanwood Parks and Trails Advisory Committee, as well as the Board of directors of the Stanwood Camano Food Bank.

Option to Renew, Modify, or Terminate Lease

In October, the project will produce a final report at which time the City of Stanwood will have the option to renew, modify, or terminate the lease of the property.

Goals and Success Metrics

Goal	Measurement	Successful outcome
Teach participants how to grow their own vegetables from seed and potentially prepare them for a career in agriculture	Surveys, success stories	Participant surveys show improved knowledge of basic principles of farming and gardening
Provide food to food insecure persons in the Stanwood community	Number of pounds of food donated to Stanwood Camano Food Bank	food donated reflects crop yield estimate
Create an inclusive community gathering space	Number of volunteer hours accumulated	>200 hours accumulated through volunteering
Educate participants on the natural history of the stanwood area, the beneficial ecological functions of wetlands and riparian ecosystems, and the relationship between farming and the environment	Surveys, participant headcount at special events related to ecology, farming, and natural history	Participant Surveys show improvement in ecology and natural history knowledge
Receive grants and donations that cover expenses	Net revenue	Net revenue is positive

Alignment with Stanwood City Goals

The goals of the project are in line with the original plan for Ovenell Park entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF STANWOOD, SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING THE OVENELL PARK AND HAMILTON LANDING MASTER PLAN.

In the top fifteen uses, five are directly supported by the goals of the Stanwood Public Farm. Specifically,

- #3 is Informational displays and signage that shares the story of (the natural history of the area),
- #4 is venue for local events,
- #5 is Future Farmers of America (FFA)/4 H program space
- #6 is an education Center, and
- #9 is wetland restoration.

The project directly supports all of these goals and indirectly supports other goals by encouraging the public to access the space and begin the process of opening it to the public.

In addition, the goals of the SPF are in line with the goals outlined in the resolution entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF STANWOOD, SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING REVISIONS TO THE PARKS RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN.

The City prioritized the five following guiding principles for investment in the parks and recreation system as follows.

1. Finance/Economic Development: ensure that parks & trails are financially sustainable and generate economic development for the community
2. Maintenance: invest in our existing parks – starting with Heritage Park and Church Creek Park
3. Trails: make progress on near-term improvements and selective longer term improvements
4. Waterfront Access: realize connections to the waterfront – via Hamilton Landing and Ovenell Park improvements
5. Parks System: prioritize improvements for existing parks, while recognizing that acquiring new properties will need to be considered at the appropriate time



Crop Estimate

Crop Name	Total Plants	Expected Yield (50%)
Corn	3900	1950 ears
Onion	5850	3000 bulbs
Dino Kale	433	500 lb
Green Kale	433	500 lb
Red Kale	433	500 lb
Green Zucchini	433	1000 lb
Red Lettuce	5850	3000 heads
Green Lettuce	5850	3000 heads
Romaine	5850	3000 heads
Green Bush Bean	3900	1000 lb
Beet	7020	1000 lb

Stanwood Public Farm Budget Estimate	
Administrative Expenses	
Property Lease	TBD
Water	TBD
Sum Total	TBD
Rental Equipment	
ADA Portable Bathroom and Sink for one year	1000
Sub Total	1000
Consumables	
Seeds and Transplants	1000
Seeding Accessories (seeding trays, potting soil)	700
Fuel	300
Sub Total	2000
Tools	
Hand Tools for 20 people (ex hoes, rakes, shovels, knives)	1000
Irrigation equipment (hoses, sprinkler heads, fittings)	200
Garden Accessories (Wheelbarrows, Spreaders, Pesticide Applicators)	400
Wash and Pack Equipment (Food Safe Table, Sanitizer, Knives, Dunk Tank)	1300
Walk Behind Rototiller 6.5 hp	1000
Plastic Totes	1100
Sub Total	5000

Soil Amendments	
Organic Compost	3000
Organic Fertilizer	1000
Organic Pesticides	1000
Sub Total	5000
Budget Summary	
Administrative Expenses	TBD
Rental Equipment	1000
Consumables	2000
Tools	5000
Soil Amendments	5000
Grand Total	13000

