



REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
www. CityofSacramento.org

CONSENT
August 8, 2006

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Title: Fremont Community Garden Improvements Capital Improvement Program

Location/Council District: 15th and Q Streets, Council District 4

Recommendation: That the City Council adopt the attached **Resolution:** 1) establishing a new Capital Improvement Program, CIP LR33, for improvements to the Fremont Community Garden; and 2) appropriating \$50,000 from Quimby Act Fees, Fund 710, Planning Area 1, to CIP LR33.

Contact: Janet Baker, Park Development Manager, 808-8234

Presenters: Not applicable

Department: Parks and Recreation

Division: Park Planning, Design & Development

Organization No: 4727

Description/Analysis

Issue: Capitol Area Development Authority (CADA) requested that the City contribute to the construction of the Fremont Community Garden development including fencing, plot layout, and bocce ball courts in the amount of \$50,000. The City and Department of Parks and Recreation support the community garden program as recommended in the *City of Sacramento Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2005-2010*. By establishing a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project, the City could improve the Fremont Community Garden. The Fremont Community Garden will be one of several City-owned and Department of Parks and Recreation managed community gardens.

A summary of the Fremont Community Garden history is included as Attachment 1 (page 4) and the master plan is included as Attachment 2 (page 5).

Committee/Commission Actions: The Fremont Community Garden Project design was approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission at the February 2, 2006 meeting.

Policy Considerations: The *City of Sacramento Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2005-2010* states it is part of the Department of Parks and Recreation's policy to "provide opportunities to enhance and encourage community stewardship through programs such as community gardens" (7.4) and to "recognize the value of community gardens" (12.4). As stated in City Council Resolution No. 2005-487 Section 10.3, all CIP projects shall be approved by Council.

Utilizing Quimby Act Fees, Fund 710, for improvements to a community garden is consistent with City code 16.64.060 as these funds will be used for the "...improvement, and expansion of the public parks, playgrounds and recreational facilities."

Providing parks and recreation facilities is also consistent with the City's strategic plan to enhance liveability in Sacramento's neighborhoods by expanding park and recreation facilities throughout the City.

Environmental Considerations: CADA has provided all necessary environmental review for the site on their property.

Rationale for Recommendation: The Fremont Community Garden is a project being developed by CADA as a replacement for the Mandella Community Garden which was located at the same site. The Fremont Mews housing development project displaced approximately two-thirds of that temporary garden. During the planning for the Fremont Mews project, CADA committed to the City and the gardening community that they would replace the gardening space 100 percent both on-site (one-third) and off site (at the current Southside Community Garden—over two thirds of the size of the original Mandella Garden site). CADA will deed the property to the City once the garden is fully operational.

The Fremont Community Garden will provide a unique space for downtown residents to enjoy a garden setting to eat lunch, stroll, or play bocce ball. The garden will be open to the public from sunrise to sunset and will bring members of the midtown neighborhood together for common recreation.

Financial Considerations: Funding is available in Quimby Act Fees, Fund 710, City Planning Area 1, in the amount of \$50,000 to support this project and is consistent with the intended use of said funds.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): Not applicable.

Respectfully Submitted by: 
ROBERT G. OVERSTREET II
Director of Parks and Recreation

Recommendation Approved:

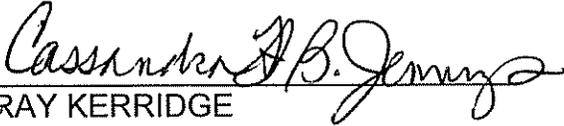

RAY KERRIDGE
City Manager

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Background Information

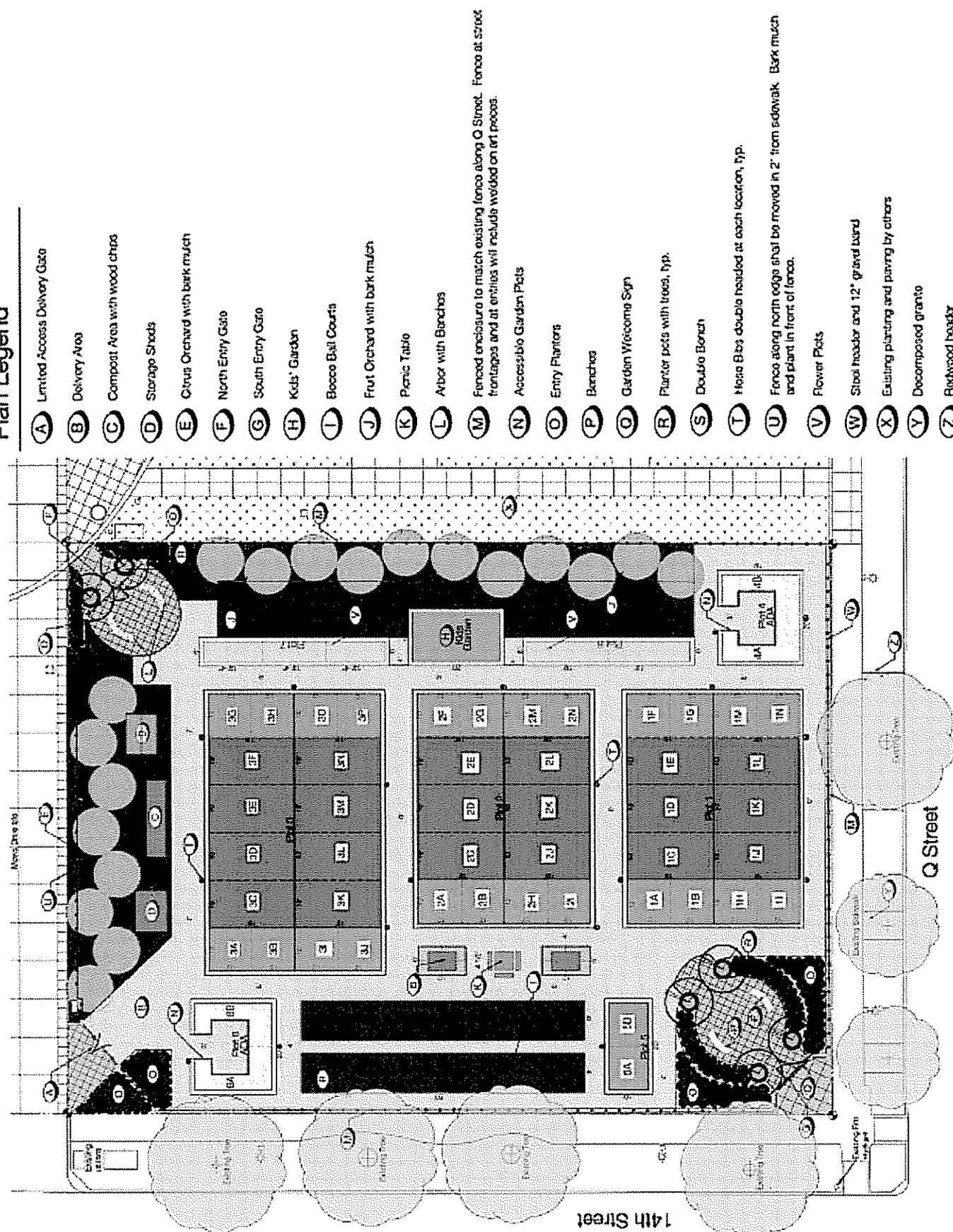
During the mid-1960's, the property at 14th and Q Streets in downtown Sacramento was purchased by the state of California for the 1960 Capitol Area Plan. A community garden was established by local residents and workers on the site during the late 1960's. This garden was later known as the Ron Mandella Community Garden in honor of its founder. The property became designated for housing in 1978, though it remained undeveloped.

In 2001, the Capitol Area Development Authority (CADA) decided to initiate residential development of the site, the existing Mandella Garden needed to be closed. By then, the property had been used as a community garden for over 30 years. As a commitment to the community and the City, CADA promised to replace the garden both on-site and off-site. The resulting plan included the purchase and development of the Southside Community Garden that is in its third growing season, and a new garden located on approximately one-third of the original garden site.

The City's Department of Parks and Recreation has been involved in the process with CADA from the beginning. The Department now has a part-time Community Garden Coordinator position with the Parks Operation Division, guidelines for the operation and management of community gardens on City-owned park property, and operates four gardens throughout the City (Danny Nunn, J. Neely Johnson, Southside, and Strauch Parks).

CADA has already completed soil remediation to the County of Sacramento's Environmental Management Department's specifications and fenced the property. The housing units are complete and occupied. In addition, a community garden board has been formed, and the City's community garden guidelines have been developed.

The Department supports the Fremont Community Garden and has reviewed all design and management plans for the garden. The new Fremont Community Garden represents a model for urban gardening and design. It will be ADA accessible and will include ADA plots, as well as plots for children. There will be 2 bocce ball courts and nearly 50 garden plots. It is the City's and CADA intention to transfer the ownership and operation of the Fremont Community Garden to the City's Department of Parks and Recreation after the garden has been in operation for a year or two. The City will not be responsible for maintenance of the site. All maintenance of the site will be accomplished by the volunteer gardeners and others who have expressed interest in maintaining the bocce courts. The garden will be open for the public to enjoy from sunrise to sunset daily.



Fremont Community Garden

CADA-Capitol Area Development Authority

Sacramento, California

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RESOLUTION NO. 2006-XXX

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council
August 8, 2006

FREMONT COMMUNITY GARDEN IMPROVEMENTS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

- A. The Fremont Community Garden is a project being developed by the Capitol Area Development Authority (CADA) as a replacement for the Mandella Community Garden which was located at the same site.
- B. CADA requested that the City contribute to the construction of the Fremont Community Garden development including fencing, plot layout, and bocce ball courts in the amount of \$50,000.
- C. The *City of Sacramento Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2005-2010* states it is part of the Department of Parks and Recreation's policy to "provide opportunities to enhance and encourage community stewardship through programs such as community gardens" (7.4) and to "recognize the value of community gardens" (12.4).
- D. As stated in City Council Resolution No. 2005-487 Section 10.3, all CIP projects shall be approved by Council.
- E. Utilizing Quimby Act Fees, Fund 710, for improvements to a community garden is consistent with City code 16.64.060 as these funds will be used for the "...improvement, and expansion of the public parks, playgrounds and recreational facilities."

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. That a new Capital Improvement Program, CIP LR33, for improvements to the Fremont Community Garden is established.
- Section 2. That \$50,000 from Quimby Act Fees, Fund 710, Planning Area 1, is appropriated for CIP LR33 for improvements to the Fremont Community Garden.

