Edgemere Coalition Community Garden

“Building a better self-sufficient community for tomorrow’s Leader”

Presented by

Alexis Smallwood, Arverne Resident

&

Edgemere’s Coalition Community Garden
ECCG

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Community Garden Proposal

November 16, 2016

Why build a community garden on 43rd Street, Edegemere in Far Rockaway?

A community garden would increase urban green space, provide fresh produce, give children constructive activities enhance the property value, build connection among diverse neighbors, and reduce crime.

Goals:

- To establish a community garden and park on the lots located on 480 Beach 43rd street, Queens, NY 11691, Queens block 15960, lots 41,43,46,48,49
- The garden / park will be open Monday – Saturday From 11 am- 2pm
- The planning team will establish garden and park rules
- P.S. 105 The Bay School will learn about botany and relieve stress
- The land would be organized with plots for neighbors to grow food, Grill, bee garden, stage and gather area
- Playground for children in that area
- Sensory garden
- Pond for fish, turtles, and frogs
- Provide fresh produce to Edgemere’s Community
- Help families educate their children about fresh healthy foods
- Help families learn about organic practice’s, composing, and food justice
- Provide a place for strengthening relationship within the community
ECCG

Each plot in garden will be reserve for neighbors who want to grow vegetables of their choice. Ex, tomatoes, color greens, celery, and egg plants, cucumbers, etc.

#1 Plot will be 1 foot in height, 2 feet wide and 10 feet in length. We will reserve space for neighbors living on 45 Street, far rockaway to plant fresh herbs.

#2 Plots will be 1 foot in height, 4 feet wide, 20 feet in length. We will reserve space on Full Tabernacle

#3 Plots will be 1 foot in height, 2 feet wide, 10 feet in length. Will be reserve for P.S. 105 the Bay School Students?

#4 Plots will be 1 foot in height, 2 feet wide, 10 feet in length. Will be reserve for Full Tabernacle Church’s a food hub which now only has onions and carrots.

#5 Space will remain open for Full Gospel Tabernacle Church activities, to teach children to dance, weekend barbecues, and movie nights for children, Size of open space will be 20 feet by 20 feet. #6Plots will be reserve for Arverne Residents to grow vegetables and fruits which will promote organic healthy eating.

#7Plots will be 1 foot in height, 10 feet in length, 2 feet wide. Will be reserve for neighbors living in Arverne View residents

#8Plots will be 1 foot in height, 2 feet wide, 10 feet in length. Will be reserve for 43rd Street members.

#9 Shed will be built, 8 feet in height by 10 feet wide to house landscape tools for ECCG street teams to clean up neighborhood. #10 Plots will be 1 foot in height, 4 feet wide, 20 feet in length.

Activities

- Food Pantry
- Bee garden
- Farming
- Educational Lessons By Mr. Goldberg (Science Teacher At P.S. 105 The Bay School
Conclusion

Why build a community garden on 43rd Street, Edegemere in Far Rockaway?

A community garden would increase urban green space, provide fresh produce, give children constructive activities enhance the property value, build connection among diverse neighbors, and reduce crime. Awesome sample plans of Edgemere Coalition Garden by Katy Burgio are attached.
New York City Parks Department
GreenThumb Program

To Whom it May Concern:

This is a letter of support for a community garden in Edgemere to be transferred to the NYC Parks Department for stewardship by neighbors as a GreenThumb Garden site.

There are areas that have been planned as “open spaces” in the Edgemere Urban Renewal Area Plan adopted by NYC Council in 2008. They have been vacant and unused since and were vacant for many years before that.

The Edgemere community is ready to transform a space into a thriving community garden and we are ready to support them as the RFP is released.

Sincerely,

Donovan Richards
31st District, Queens
Jonathan Gaska, District Manager
Queens Community Board 14
1931 Mott Ave. Room 311
Far Rockaway NY 11691

Dear Jonathan:

I am writing on behalf of the Edgemere Community Coalition to support their request to transfer Queens block 15960, lots 41, 43, 46, 48, 49 on Beach 43rd Street North of Beach Channel Drive to the NYC Parks Department for stewardship by neighbors as a GreenThumb Garden.

These lots were planned as “open space” in the Edgemere Urban Renewal Area Plan adopted by NYC Council in 2008. It has been explained to me that they have been vacant and unused since and were vacant for many years prior to that time.

As the Assemblyman representing parts of the Rockaways, I am able to see firsthand the many advantages of additional greenery to the area, especially when that area has been previously dormant. Communal gardens are beneficial for social purposes, unifying communities, and provide a great educational resource for surrounding residents of all ages.

The Edgemere Community Coalition is ready to transform this space into a thriving community garden and I urge you to grant them every consideration so they may move forward with this project.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach me at 718-945-9550.

Sincerely,

Phillip Goldfeder
Member of New York State Assembly
23rd District, Queens
October 29, 2016

Jonathan Gaska, District Manager
Queens Community Board 14
1931 Mott Ave. Room 311
Far Rockaway NY 11691

New York City Parks Department GreenThumb Program

This is a letter of support from The Frank Avenue Civic Association for the transfer of Queens block 15960, lots 41, 43, 46, 48, 49 on Beach 43rd Street North of Beach Channel Drive to the NYC Parks Department for stewardship by neighbors as a GreenThumb Garden.

These lots were planned as “open space” in the Edgemere Urban Renewal Area Plan adopted by NYC Council in 2008. They have been vacant and unused since and were vacant for many years before that.

The Frank Avenue Civic Association of Edgemere has always supported a community garden and farm in Edgemere. It is beneficial to Edgemere as well as providing a better quality of life to the Edgemere Urban Renewal Area families. In addition, we request that the City of New York assist in funding the infrastructure of the community garden as like the funding given to the community garden at 58th Street and Beach Channel Drive in Arverne.

The Edgemere Community Coalition is ready to transform this space into a thriving community garden and we are ready to support them.

Thank you for the Community Board #14’s support for the community garden.

Best,

[Signature]

/Stephen Cooper
President of the Frank Avenue Civic Association

CC:
Council Member Donovan Richards

Frank Avenue Civic Association c/o Steve Cooper
December 15, 2014

Bill LoSasso  
Director, Green Thumb  
49 Chambers Street Room 1020  
New York, New York 10007

I write to you regarding Block 1590- Lots 41,43,46,48,49 located at Beach 43 street  
Ms. Alexis Smallwood will be applying for a permit to create a Community Garden at the listed city owned property.

We have reached out to the Frank Avenue Civic Association, which represents the area of the property in question as to their opinion/position of the creation of a community garden in their neighborhood. The Civic supports the garden with certain conditions that are listed in the Civics letter of support, which we have attached to our letter.

The Community Board has no objection to granting a permit with the proviso that all requested conditions are listed on the permit and that the community board has the right to review the permit after one full year from the issuance of Community Garden agreement/Permit.

If you would like to discuss this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Gaska  
District Manager

1931 Mott Avenue, Room 311  
Far Rockaway, NY 11691  
Tel.: (718) 471-7300  
Fax: (718) 666-2657  
cbrock14@nyc.rr.com

cc:  
D. Lewandoski