



## **Community Gardens Task Force January 19, 2010**

Attendees:

Chair: Alix Eastman, Growing Gardens; Lora Price, Friends of Community Gardens; Leslie Pohl-Kosbau, PPR; Jean Fike, East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District (EMSWCD), Kristina Smock, Frazer Park; and Kim Travis, Oregon Solutions

### **Short Term Strategy FEB-MAR**

#### *I. Communicate with current PPR gardeners and wait list*

- A. Beginning season registration mailing for renewals
  - Provide context about the level of demand at gardens
  - Reference tool kit and alternatives to garden plots (such as growing in your own yard)
  
- B. Improve existing information about wait list
  - Update and improve existing database
  - Collect email addresses for quick communication with people as opportunities arise
  - Use Phone Bank (Feb 15—Mar 15) to contact wait list with information about tool kit, alternatives and collect information to create a “profile”

#### **TASKS:**

- ✓ Borrow PPR administrative support for 20 hours of database entry
- ✓ Understand tool kit status
- ✓ Research yardshare.org
- ✓ Define a clear list of referrals/alternatives, including class offerings
- ✓ Draft a phone bank script
- ✓ Enlist OS team members as volunteers for phone bank (to be hosted at EMSWCD)

#### *II. Look for low hanging fruit for garden opportunities in 2010 outside of existing PPR gardens*

- Churches, Schools or other private land
- Washington/Monroe – feasible??
- Use these pilots as examples to expand opportunities in 2011 and beyond
- Tap into Master Gardener program to recruit 2-3 volunteers for assistance with these opportunities

**TASKS:**

- ✓ Work with Jason to examine maps/opportunities
- ✓ Understand Washington/Monroe status
- ✓ Talk with Weston re: Master Gardeners

**Longer Term connection with the “Hub”**

- Prepare advocacy messages to be used in support of SDC’s (or other revenue sources) and overall budget increases for sustaining the program
- Look for opportunities to acquire land for new gardens
- Better understand PPS master planning process for school property
- Consider hosting an event in 2011 with churches and private developers to review pilot projects (from 2010) and encourage new gardens
- Establish linkages with community college classes/students