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