

General Community House Info

Date	May 29, 2016
House Name	
Property Address (or Not Applicable)	8192 Haig Street
Client Name	Laurie

Background Information

<p>What is your level of understanding with permaculture?</p> <p>0, ziltch, nada Client googled "Permaculture" once the conversation began</p>
<p>Please briefly describe your interest in having your lawn transformed into a productive ecosystem:</p> <p>Client thinks that the lawn is currently wasted space. Her children used to use the space when younger, but are now grown up.</p>
<p>Property Size: Dimensions are as follows (North/South x East West):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• large square: 266" x 251"• Side strip: 210" x 65"• Strip below stone wall: 266" x 37"• Boulevard (tree to tree): 390" x 80"
<p>Apartment / Condo / House / Store Front / Business Office: House</p>
<p>Own / Rent / Lease: Own</p>
<p>Occupancy (current and future): 40 years, uncertain future but likely for many years to come</p>
<p>Land use (home, hobby, farm, business, etc.) Home</p>
<p>Number of people onsite (living, working): 4 people living there, Client's son works from home on occasion</p>
<p>Diet (omnivorous, vegetarian, vegan, locavore, organic, etc): All things; organic sometimes</p>

Skills to Contribute (considering including hobbies or occupation):

*focus on skills applicable to this project, and include those you are willing to trade to get work done (ex: massage, meal preparation, bike maintenance, childcare, etc)

Person	Skill
Laurie	Baking (apple pie)
Son*	Profession: labour analyst, built trellis in backyard
Daughter*	Elementary school teacher (James Kennedy in Langley)

*need to confirm if son and daughter are interested in bartering their skills

Amount of time dedicated to maintaining home systems (gardens, greenhouses, ponds, work spaces, etc.). Think weekly and seasonally.

The household currently contributes as little time as possible. They do some gardening in the backyard, and have some herbs for culinary use.

The pond in the backyard used to have fish, though these would be eaten by the local wildlife. The household chose to stop stocking the fish for this reason.

Budget and Project Timeline

Please provide some detail regarding both any budgetary considerations and project timeline requirements or desires

Initial Monetary Investment (soil, plants, fertilizer, structures, seeds, labour)	Homeowner: ~\$100-\$200 VACS can contribute a budget of a few hundred, depending on project proposals
Continual or periodic investment (seeds, new plants, perennials, seasonal fertilizer)	Homeowner will consider further investment depending on project proposals
Time to begin project:	Spring 2016
Estimated completion date of integrating design:	Initial garden build: mid-June Ongoing projects as interest and budget allow
Any future date of significance (ie: lease ends, large investment potential, planned tour or workshop) :	None beyond the planned implementation. Likely a harvest celebration in the fall.

Design Goals

Please describe your goals or vision

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celebrate building a new garden• Sharing meals from the garden• Aim for a B+, or 80% use of the space• Meditative Pathway• Permission-based ongoing public access• Edible and beauty | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Space to host gatherings in a circle• Incorporating herbs and medicine• Continual seasonal growth, fruiting, flowering, harvest• Demonstration garden• Space to enjoy the garden• Art in the garden |
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Design Elements

Please make a list of specific elements you would like included in the design. It can include among the following and many others: food forestry, cob ovens, annual vegetable garden, chicken coop, herb spiral, compost system, wind breaks, food hedge, garden shed, pigeon loft, bird feeders, water fountain / bird bath, passive solar greenhouse, artistic elements (mural), outdoor kitchen, seating and eating space, workshop space, meditation zone... etc
Dream BIG!

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Log book of activities in the garden• Design map / guide for homeowner• 3 sisters planting (corn, beans, squash)• Plant ID signs• Compost bin<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Black plastic bins are available, could incorporate an educational aspect regarding the detrimental use of black plastic due to chemical leaching• Rain barrel for water harvesting• Lemongrass to repel mosquitoes | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food Forestry<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Cutting edge and interesting○ Relations between plants○ Space density (maximise usage)○ Demonstration○ Excitement about concepts• Herb spiral• Wind break (future project if wind is an issue)• Seating for guests• Space for public gatherings• Bird bath |
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Design Needs (also captured in Design elements, and Design phase)

Are there any specific needs that you hope to have filled?

(ex: move water to areas currently without, attract pollinators, deal with pests, family or pet security, etc)

Inputs	Garden Needs and Functions	Products
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + People time (community, and Gabriel as local urban farmer) + Equipment (hose, timer, rain barrel) 	<p>Watering during establishment phase</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Healthy plants + Opportunity for people collaboration and community input
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Tools (shovels, wheelbarrow) + Soil + Mulch + Wood chips and logs 	<p>Earth shaping</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Reduce watering needs + Increase fertility + Establish new ecosystem
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Build mounds or Hugelkulture with downslope directed toward central dugout or pathway swales 	<p>Direct water movement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Water infiltration and drainage for dry spots
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Digital or Handmade Design + Printing + Built structure to post the map 	<p>Design map of space and plants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Free-access to information + Attract public interest
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Structures + Appropriate plant species 	<p>Attract pollinators and predatory insects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Supporting this necessary aspect of the ecosystem + Healthier garden + Integrated Pest Management (less pest issues)
<p>...and many more to be added below</p>		

Design Phase

Water

How is water currently moving on site?

Flat, slight slope toward sidewalk.

Can we design to reduce the need for irrigation?

- Bottom layer of cardboard and wood chips for water retention.
- Hugelkultur (mound of wood, twigs, covered with mulch and soil) also for water retention.
- Dig swales (ditches on contour) for water infiltration (Slow, Spread, Sink, and Store)

Do we want exposed water features for the insects and animals?

- Yes, to attract beneficial insects and birds.
- Need to balance against possibility of mosquito nesting place

How to organize watering of the garden for establishment phase?

- Automated timer for sprinkler or soaker system
- Gabriel to keep a watch as the local urban farmer

Access / Pathways

Design for minimal pathways or long garden tours?

- Meditative walking space (think of Gabriel's example of the Japanese style to change the person's view as they walk through the space)
- Gathering space for garden talks in the future

Can we integrate pathways with water harvesting features?

The swales can be used as pathways or planting spaces if filled with wood chips and/or mulch

Structures

What structures are planned or desired for the site, and where might they go? (includes trees)

- A fruiting tree as shade for garden gathering space.
- Art structure as public view attractant.
- Sign board showcasing some details of how the garden was established and a map of the plants on site, with the purpose of engaging the public.

Tool Availability

What tools do we have on site?

None are available. The client currently uses miscellaneous tools for light gardening tasks.

Can we borrow or share tools with neighbours, or a Tool Lending Library?

Unknown at this time.

Existing Conditions

Soil type

Provide a description of current soil features (clay vs. sandy, depth of topsoil, weeds on site)

- Brown colour (some organic matter)
- Sticks together when wet and tossed in the air
- Falls apart if rolled
- Loosely falls out of hand when pushed with thumb
- Overall: loamy, generally fine textured
- Currently a mix of grasses and clover
- Depth of topsoil unknown, at least 12 inches

Sun profile

- South exposure
- House to the east, boulevard tree to the west, no shading from the south

Sector Analysis (views, wind, water, odors, pollution, noise, wildlife)

- Views: exposure to the public along the sidewalk; far distance view to the south
- Wind: can be intense around front door, likely coming from the southwest (ocean and Fraser River)
- Water: no standing water after 2 days of heavy rain, good drainage
- Pollution: nothing significant of notice
- Odors: did not ask...
- Noise: at school times (9 am and 3 pm) drivers use the road as a shortcut and drive fast
- Wildlife: raccoons and skunks pass through from the west, crows are active here

Any existing elements you hope to get rid of?

Chafer beetle has been noted as evidenced by the presence of crows digging up the grasses.

Any existing elements you hope to renew or modify?

Nothing currently.