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From: Ellingson, Susan

Sent: Sunday, April 07, 2013 10:00 PM

To: King, Steve; Rummel, Marsha; Schmidt, Chris; [REDACTED];  
Michael Heifetz; melissabergen [REDACTED]; erics [REDACTED];

bacantrell [REDACTED]; avandrzejews [REDACTED]; Nan Fey [REDACTED]

Cc: tonyalhn [REDACTED]; Fruhling, William; jfinnmore [REDACTED]

Subject: Support for Brittingham Park community garden lease

To the Plan Commission:

I ask your support for the Brittingham Park Community Garden lease, Item 3 on your agenda (Legistar 29476). The Board of Parks Commissioners approved the land use for this garden at its Jan 9, 2013, meeting.

Unfortunately, I will be in Denver visiting my little grandsons on 4/8 and unable to attend the meeting.

There was controversy among neighbors about this proposed garden. One of the main concerns was that community gardens often look unkempt. I toured most of the community gardens in City parks. I concluded that the main causes of the haphazard look were temporary fences, trellises, and abandoned plots. I'm satisfied that this lease addresses those concerns.

Some have objected to CAC having different leases for different sites. I feel strongly that it is reasonable and not burdensome to have some site specific requirements. The garden in Brittingham Park will be in a very public location: 19,000 cars drive by daily on W Washington Ave, it's on a well-traveled bike path, and it's directly outside some neighbors' front windows. This is far different from a garden that is not visible from anywhere, such as Quann.

Recognizing different needs at different locations and adapting to them will help widen the acceptance of community gardens everywhere.

Thank you.

Sue Ellingson

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