

Update on the progress of the Brittingham Community Garden from from Kabzuag Vaj, who has been active at the new garden.

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Subject: Brittingham Community Garden and Park Use

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Cc: Shelly Strom <shellys@cacscw.org>

Just wanted to update you and let you know that I was at the garden this past Friday (6pm to 7pm) and spent time walking around the garden with 3 Hmong female elders. It was a wonderful time. They showed me all the plots and knew each who each of the plots belonged to-- (knew all the Hmong gardeners by name) and visually identified the non-Hmong gardeners. During that hour--they watered their plots, their neighbors plots and Freedom Inc's youths plot. All three women talked about how they thought at first how small their plots were and how or if they would even be able to grow enough food from the small plots and how now it's more than enough and how they want to share it with others in the community. One of them even suggested that we pull up a picnic table and place the extra vegetables/fruits so park visitors and neighbors could also eat.

The best thing about the conversation was seeing their beautiful spirits feel so proud and part of the park thru this garden. I thought I share this with you so that you may share it with the rest of your folks.

Finally--they suggested that all the gardeners do a harvest/potluck and share food before the end of the season so we will be coordinating with CAC to make this happen and invite you all. Again thank you.

Here are a few photos.





More Photos of Youth at the garden



Youths helping to fill up the rain water buckets.



Grandmother teaching Hmong youths.



Hmong Refugee Family--- Traditional Hmong baby carrier and her daughter has a Hmong basket to help carry the vegetables and greens.



Waiting to plant their pepper plants.