

MEMO

Date: February 17, 2011
To: East Fourth Street Garden Members
Fr: Garden Board
Re: Amendment to Vegetable Plot Redesign Proposal

Attached is a copy of the original garden redesign proposal, circulated to all Garden members on February 5th. After additional discussion, the following amendment is being submitted for consideration by the full membership.

Excerpt from Original Proposal (see attached)

“Under the proposal, all beds would be re-subdivided from two plots into three plots (measuring approx. 6.7’ long by 3’ wide. This would create a total of 41 plots, for a net increase of 11 plots from the existing layout.”

Proposed Amendment

“In the spirit of incremental change, we propose that members with full plots have their plots reduced by 1/3 rather than the 2/3 that would be required under the current redesign proposal.”

All members will have the opportunity to discuss and then vote upon both this amendment and the full proposal at our upcoming membership meeting on Sun., February 27th. For additional details about the meeting and voting process, please see Zoya’s email, sent to everyone earlier today.

Thanks.

MEMO

Date: February 5, 2011
To: East Fourth Street Garden Members
Fr: Garden Design Committee
Re: Options for Redesign of Vegetable Plot Area

I. BACKGROUND

As discussed at our most recent general membership meeting, the Garden's executive board established an ad-hoc committee this past fall to develop proposals for potentially redesigning the layout and size of the vegetable plot area. The underlying goals of this effort are: 1) to increase the overall number of plots available to a growing membership, and 2) to increase the overall amount of usable planting space.

The board asked the committee to develop a range of options: from making no changes, to completely redesigning the plot area. After considering many factors including the impact of any change on existing members, the desire to accommodate new members and resources that would be needed for implementing any changes, the committee would like to propose the following two options for the garden membership's consideration:

II. PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. Moderate Changes to Layout of Area and to Plot Allocations

This option involves two main changes to the existing vegetable plot area (See EXISTING and PROPOSED Layout Maps):

- Re-subdividing the existing vegetable beds to create more plots

Each of the existing vegetable beds (measuring approx. 20' long by 3' wide) is currently subdivided into two plots (measuring 10' long by 3' wide), for a grand total of 30 plots. *

Under the this proposal, all beds would be re-subdivided from two plots into three plots (measuring approx. 6.7' long by 3' wide. This would create a total of 41 plots, for a net increase of 11 plots from the existing layout.

* Note: there is one bed that is currently subdivided into 4 plots, each measuring 5' long by 3' wide. (E23 a and b, and E24 a and b). Under the proposal, this bed would also be re-subdivided into 3 plots, each measuring 6.7' long by 3' wide. Also, there are two irregular-shaped plots (E27 and E28) at the back of the garden. They would not be changed under this proposal.

- Combining six (6) of the new plots into a larger “Community Farming/Shared” area.
Some members have expressed an interest in establishing a larger plot, in which the duties and rewards of gardening could be shared. To accommodate this idea, we propose to combine plots P16-P21 into one larger area. The pathway between the two existing beds that comprise these plots would also be filled in, to create a combined area that is approx. 20' long by 9' wide.

Members interested in working as a group would join this collaborative effort at the beginning of the season, and decide together what to plant and where, and how to divide related responsibilities. If more than 6 garden members wanted to participate in this kind of initiative, additional group plots could be created.

- Advantages:
 - Creates additional plots for newer garden members
 - Deteriorated plot borders get replaced.
 - Good “community building” activity for garden members.
- Disadvantages:
 - Existing plot holders would lose approx 1/3 of their sq. footage.
 - Depending on how and when implemented, this option will require members' time and garden resources to implement
 - Perennials in some of the existing plots could be difficult to move without damaging them.

B. Make No Changes

This option involves making no changes to the existing layout or allocations of individual plots. (See EXISTING Layout Map)

- Advantages:
 - Requires no time, money or action; and
 - Existing members keep existing plots and same sq. footage

- Disadvantages:
 - No additional garden members can be accommodated w/ plots
 - Existing frames, some of which are badly deteriorated, still need to be replaced

III. FEEDBACK REQUESTED

Please tell us what you think about the re-design options presented above by completing the online survey or by emailing your answers to the questions below to: E4GardenSurvey@me.com:

- Which proposal do you support? # 1, # 2
- Are there any changes or enhancements that you would recommend be made to the proposal that you support?
- What concerns do you have?
- Would you be willing and able to help implement whatever re-design option that is selected? (Probably one or two weekends of work in March, depending on weather and number of participants)
- Any other feedback that you would like to provide

IV. NEXT STEPS

The Design Committee will collect, summarize and present members' feedback at the upcoming winter membership mtg. Members will then have the opportunity to discuss the proposal and options, before voting on them.

The winter membership meeting is *tentatively* scheduled for the weekend of 2/26-27, but details including date, time and location are still being finalized. Watch for an official email meeting announcement shortly.

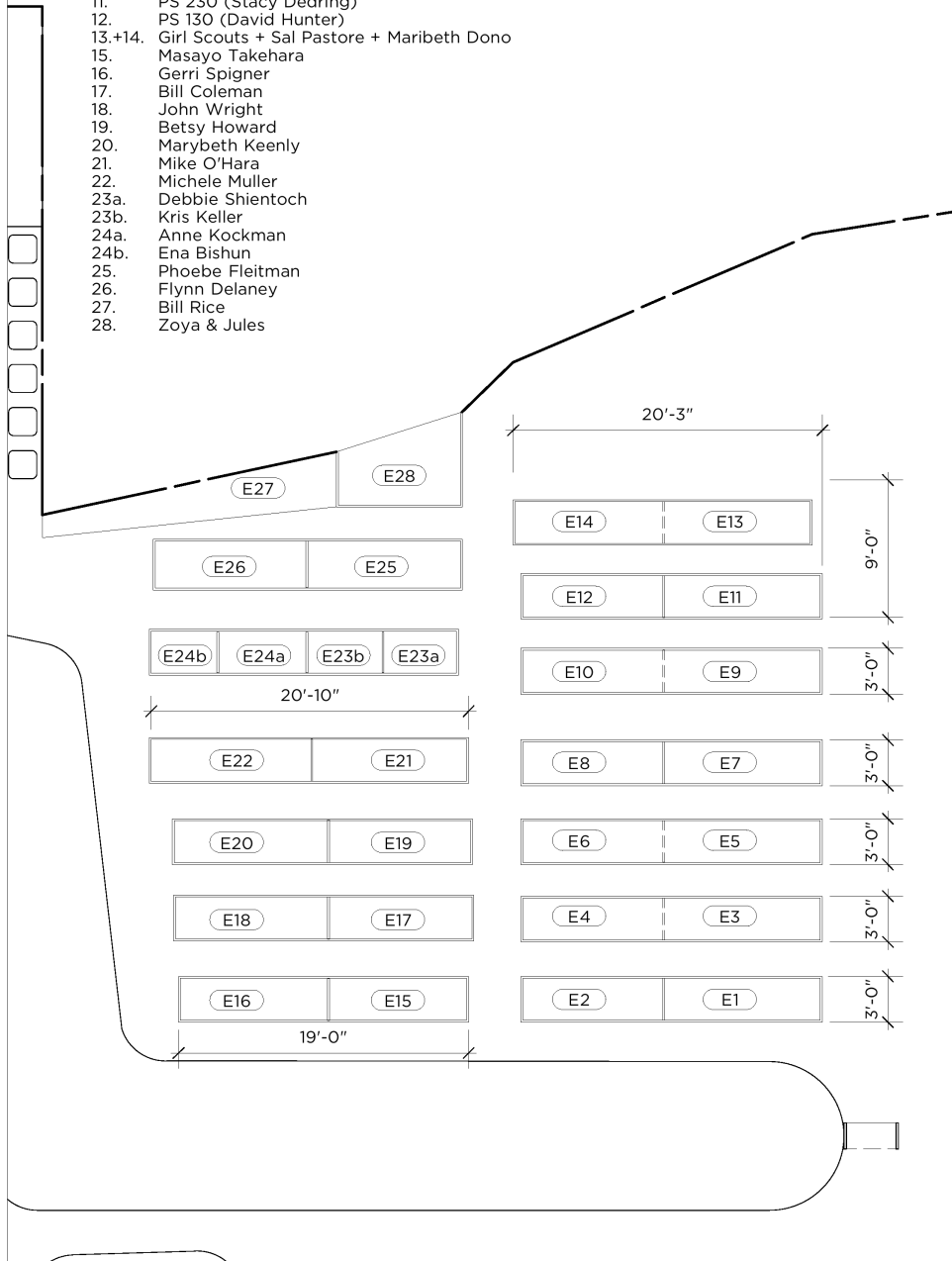
Thank you for your input on this important matter!

EAST 4th STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN

EXISTING LAYOUT

EXISTING: 26 PLOTHOLDERS IN 30 PLOTS
 PROPOSED # NEW INDIVIDUAL PLOTS: 35
 PROPOSED # NEW COMMUNAL PLOTS: 6
 TOTAL PROPOSED # PLOTS: 41

1. Michael Seltzer
2. Susan Adams
3. & 4. Ginger Douvos
5. & 6. Marian Trupiano
7. Mark & Lorna Mason
8. Marisel & Ira
9. & 10. Katherine Anderson
11. PS 230 (Stacy Dedring)
12. PS 130 (David Hunter)
- 13.+14. Girl Scouts + Sal Pastore + Maribeth Dono
15. Masayo Takehara
16. Gerri Spigner
17. Bill Coleman
18. John Wright
19. Betsy Howard
20. Marybeth Keenly
21. Mike O'Hara
22. Michele Muller
- 23a. Debbie Shientoch
- 23b. Kris Keller
- 24a. Anne Kockman
- 24b. Ena Bishun
25. Phoebe Fleitman
26. Flynn Delaney
27. Bill Rice
28. Zoya & Jules



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| 2. | | 32. |
| 3. | | 33. |
| 4. | | 34. |
| 5. | | 35. |
| 6. | Medicinal herb garden | 36. |
| 7. | Marian Trupiano | 37. |
| 8. | | 38. |
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