

From: Rebecca Pound

Sent: May 5, 2013 10:34 PM

To: Carroll, Judy

Subject: City Council meeting topic: Community Garden Pilot Project

As a member of the Cornell Community Garden Committee, I am excited to see that the Community and Allotment Garden Pilot Projects are going before City Council at this week's meeting. I trust that council members are already aware of the many benefits of community gardens: as stated in Markham's Greenprint "Urban agriculture, such as community gardens, increases the accessibility and affordability of food, helps build community, beautifies neighbourhoods, increases safety through 'eyes on the street,' provides local food options, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions associated with the transportation of food." What you may not know is how hard our group has been working, for over a year, to plan for a garden in our neighbourhood. I appreciate all the efforts of the Sustainability Office to develop a policy that will help guide and support projects such as ours throughout Markham. At the same time, I want to emphasize that the viability of any community-led initiative, including our own, depends on keeping up momentum. To show the commitment of Cornell to this project, I have attached an online petition that garnered over 50 signatures in only two days. I encourage City Council to approve the proposed pilot project, now, while our neighbourhood and our volunteer committee has the energy and drive to make the garden a success.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Ratcliffe-Pound



This petition has collected
51 signatures
using the online tools at iPetitions.com

Printed on 05-06-2013

Cornell Community Garden

About the petition

I support the Cornell Community Garden!

Signatures

1. Name: Rebecca Ratcliffe on May 04, 2013

Comments: i think the garden will have great benefits for the community and is one small way promote a better, more sustainable future.

2. Name: Jennifer Siemens on May 04, 2013

Comments:

3. Name: Tricia Benedicto on May 04, 2013

Comments:

4. Name: Linda Floros on May 04, 2013

Comments:

5. Name: Katherine Strain on May 04, 2013

Comments: Love the idea of having a Community Garden. The Cornell neighbourhood does not have a lot of space in backyards and I would love to have some room to grow some vegetables.

6. Name: Tricia Benedicto on May 04, 2013

Comments:

7. Name: Gabriel Vinas on May 04, 2013

Comments:

8. Name: Rebecca Longhurst on May 04, 2013

Comments:

9. Name: Shawn Greer on May 04, 2013

Comments:

10. Name: Elaine Yau on May 04, 2013

Comments:

11. Name: Alex Santos on May 04, 2013

Comments: i support this discussion!

12. Name: PLUTARCH Nepomuceno on May 04, 2013

Comments:

13. Name: Curtis Lee on May 04, 2013

Comments:

14. Name: Anonymous on May 04, 2013

Comments:

15. Name: Shannon Barker on May 04, 2013

Comments:

16. Name: Markus Winkler on May 04, 2013

Comments:

17. Name: Brisette Johnson on May 04, 2013

Comments: As a resident in Cornell for the last 6 years, i'm excited about this new initiative as a Community garden will further build upon Cornell's sense of community, pride and bring everyone together. It will serves as a place of learning for kids, the environment and will provide natural healthy food choices for all Cornell residents.

18. Name: Paulette Hill on May 04, 2013
Comments:

19. Name: Humaira on May 04, 2013
Comments:

20. Name: Shellie Mallon on May 04, 2013
Comments:

21. Name: Brenda Chadwick on May 04, 2013
Comments:

22. Name: Claire on May 04, 2013
Comments:

23. Name: Celeste on May 04, 2013
Comments:

24. Name: Huby on May 04, 2013
Comments: Good plan.

25. Name: ElizaBeth Reiser on May 04, 2013
Comments:

26. Name: Denise Winterton on May 04, 2013
Comments:

27. Name: Kristine on May 04, 2013
Comments:

28. Name: Raman Kashyap on May 04, 2013
Comments: yes i support Cornell community garden!

29. Name: Frances Bates on May 05, 2013
Comments:

30. Name: Heather Di Loreto on May 05, 2013
Comments:

31. Name: Shamita Chaudhuri on May 05, 2013
Comments:

32. Name: Angie Chen on May 05, 2013
Comments:

33. Name: Michelle Duncan on May 05, 2013

Comments:

34. Name: Sandra on May 05, 2013
Comments: This is a fabulous initiative that I am looking forward to taking part in.

35. Name: Joieta Choudhury on May 05, 2013
Comments: I support the Cornell Community Garden! :)

36. Name: BARTLOMIEJ STANCZYK on May 05, 2013
Comments: I support the Cornell Community Garden

37. Name: Penny Yee on May 05, 2013
Comments:

38. Name: Sheri Gammon Dewling on May 05, 2013
Comments:

39. Name: Priyanka on May 05, 2013
Comments: I support Cornell Community Garden!
Thanks

40. Name: Maaja Kukla on May 05, 2013
Comments: Yes!!!

41. Name: Sharmeen Dawood on May 06, 2013
Comments:

42. Name: Andrea on May 06, 2013
Comments:

43. Name: Kara Daniels on May 06, 2013
Comments:

44. Name: Charlotte Kirby on May 06, 2013
Comments: Please support our Community Garden in Cornell!

Cornell is a friendly community with wonderful people who are dedicated to making the neighbourhood safe, clean and green.

Due to limited space and smaller backyards, it makes it difficult to grow a vegetable garden. Having a community garden would be a fantastic opportunity for improving community relationships as well as a great opportunity for children to get involved in growing healthy food and taking pride in what they've grown.

It would be a great place to spend time with neighbours and friends.

Please support our garden!

Thank you.

45. Name: Jim Vair on May 06, 2013
Comments:

46. Name: Gunjan on May 06, 2013
Comments:

47. Name: Carolina Bobadilla on May 06, 2013
Comments: Excellent idea!

48. Name: Erin Brazier on May 06, 2013
Comments:

49. Name: Susan Taylor on May 06, 2013
 Comments:

50. Name: Lucy Manaloto on May 06, 2013
 Comments:

51. Name: Werner Siemens on May 06, 2013
 Comments:

From: Brisette Johnson
Sent: May 6, 2013 12:05 AM
To: Carroll, Judy
Subject: Cornell Community Garden

Good morning

I'm a resident of the Cornell Community in Markham and writing in support of the community garden project.

It's a great initiative for the area and would bring neighbours closer together and provides a nurturing and educational environment for families.

Hoping for a favourable outcome of today's meeting.

Regards
Brisette

-----Original Message-----

From: Celeste Gagnon Smale

Sent: May 6, 2013 8:05 AM

To: Carroll, Judy

Subject: Cornell Community Garden

Hello Judy,

As I won't be able to make it to the council meeting today, I would like to have my email read or submitted at the council.

I am a member of the Cornell Community Garden Committee. We've been working hard this past year on learning about and formulating a plan to have a community garden in our neighbourhood. We feel it's important as a community to help support each other, and have a way to access healthy foods that we can grow ourselves. We also want the opportunity to teach our children about where food comes from. Teach them to eat healthy and also have a respect for farmers, food and the earth. We have schools in the neighbourhood who are excited by the idea of using our garden as a teaching tool for their classes, and a seniors home who would also benefit by having use of the garden and some donated produce to their kitchen (from the garden's surplus). We are excited to be working as a group, making new friends and contacts in our community and watching our children learn about each others cultures, generational differences, food and the environment they live in. It's bringing us together. There is a lot of interest in this garden, many families want to be part of it. Now we need your help to approve this proposal so we don't lose momentum. We need to see the city encouraging us, and helping this move forward so we can put our plan into motion.

Thank you very much for your time.

Celeste Gagnon Smale