

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OLYMPIA AND SUSTAINABLE SOUTH SOUND OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION AND PRESERVATION OF COMMUNITY GARDENS WITHIN CITY LIMITS, SUPPORTING THE GOAL THAT SO THAT EVERY RESIDENT LIVES WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE (ONE-HALF MILE) OF A COMMUNITY GARDEN

WHEREAS, community gardens empower residents to become more active in their communities, cultivating volunteers and leaders who come together to create gardens for the benefit of present and future generations.

WHEREAS, community gardens beautify areas, reduce criminal activity, and prevent trash accumulation in the forms of dumping and littering; and

WHEREAS, community gardens provide access to healthy, seasonal food for people of all economic backgrounds, improving nutrition and food security among residents; and

WHEREAS, community gardens contribute to the preservation of, access to, and use of open space, vacant lots, and public parks; and

WHEREAS, the ~~current~~2010 Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan put forward a goal of having all residences within walking distance (one-half mile) of a neighborhood park; and

WHEREAS, Sunrise Park and Yauger Community Garden are the two existing community gardens in City of Olympia parks; and

WHEREAS, on December 4, 2008 The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee members included community gardens on their "top 10" list of new programs/facilities for the Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Sustainable South Sound calls upon the City of Olympia to

SECTION 1. support the creation of sustainable community gardens on both public and private property and will establish policies, ~~and~~ procedures, and programs to insure the successto support the goal of having community gardens on both public and private property within one-half mile of every resident of the city; and

SECTION 2. work with [non-profit organizations, gardeners and neighborhood groups] to identify public and private land suitable for community gardens.