

Florida's Dynamic Waterfront Community

Community Garden Program Update February 10, 2021

#### Overview

- These gardens are primarily located in LMI areas, areas of high food insecurity, and/or food deserts.
- With the onset of the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic, we are experiencing growing food insecurity.
- These areas are especially vulnerable to outside stresses.

- Residents have limited access to fresh, wholesome foods
- The Backyard Garden Project has several components:
  - "Weekend Gardener" Program
  - "Gardenista" Program
  - "Urban Master" Program



#### Overview

- The Agency currently supports a robust community garden program since 2015:
  - Demonstration
     Garden at 1010 W.
     10<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Singer Island Garden in development
  - Children's Prosperity
     Garden

- Through support to RBCDC:
  - Willie Bo Davis
     Meditation Garden
     and Lindsey Davis
     Vegetable Garden
  - Lincoln ElementaryStudent Garden
  - Max M. Fisher Boys and Girls Club Garden

# Backyard Garden Project





#### Metrics

- Budget:
  - \$27,500 Allocation
  - \$ 7,000 Donations
- 118 applications received
- 96 kits have been distributed
- 6 apps were non-residents
- 6 apps have not picked kit up or do not have transportation (making arrangements to deliver)

- 10 new apps/in progress
- Can distribute 20-25 additional kits
- Phase Two will kick off on March 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - 50 additional applications
- Seedlings ready to distribute to existing gardeners week of February 15<sup>th</sup>
- Cooking demo held on January 19<sup>th</sup>; 25+ attendees.
- Recipient of BB & T/Truist
   Lighthouse Award. Our second award.























- Singer Island Community Garden
  - Under construction
  - Will consist of a park in the front and a garden in the back with 32 raised beds
  - Slated to be completed in May 2021
  - The garden is part of CRA's Corridor Enhancement Project

- To date: installed water, electric, fence around the garden area, and a tool shed.
- The irrigation for the site and sod to the park will be completed in February
- Volunteer events will be held to build the raised beds and install the selected shrubs, decorative trees and flowers in the park along E Blue Heron in March.

Singer Island

**Community Garden** 













- Lindsey Davis
   Community Garden
   (supported by RBCDC
   and Parks and Rec)
  - Fully planted with green peppers, collard greens, mustard greens, carrots, onions, sweet basil, and tomatoes.
  - Successfully harvested and donated 100 lbs of greens for the MLK Community Cooking Demonstration
- The Lindsey Davis
  Community Garden will be undergoing construction of a much-anticipated Phase II with an addition of a butterfly garden, sprinkler system, and chain link fence.



Lindsey Davis Community Garden





- Children's Prosperity
   Garden
  - Due to COVID-19, the school children are not utilizing the garden program at this time.
  - The Gardeners and volunteers are maintaining all aspects of the garden.

- Boys & Girls Club Garden
  - Limited activity due to COVID-19.
     Volunteers are maintaining the garden at this time.



