

RECEIVE a presentation from Urban Tilth related to their growth in the areas of urban agriculture, youth employment, community clean-up efforts and activities along the Richmond Greenway – City Manager's Office/Public Works Department

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Urban Tilth - Mission

- Urban Tilth inspires, hires, and trains local residents to cultivate agriculture, feed our community, and restore relationships to land to build a more sustainable food system, within a just and healthier community.
 - Founded in 2005 to help build a more sustainable, healthy, and just local food system



Urban Tilth has Grown

- After 17 years of serving the greater Richmond community, Urban Tilth has grown
 - Urban Tilth has created jobs employing 52+ people year-round
 - Employs 30-40 youth in the Summer Youth Apprenticeship Program, 15th year of existence.



Urban Tilth has Grown

- Urban Tilth is the fiscal sponsor for several inspiring and catalytic organizations
- Urban Tilth continues working in schools –
 - At Richmond High School, Urban Tilth teaches two elective courses, that qualify for college science credit serving 80 students each year
 - At Verde Elementary School, they have operated a garden for over 15 years, serving all 400 students



Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Program

- Serves West County (400 families) each week a 10-15 pound box/bag of fresh locally grown produce. 200 of these families receive the box for free.
- Of the 200 free box members, many families live at public housing sites (Crescent Park, The Barrett's, Nystrom Village).
- Urban Tilth started serving Nystrom Village during the pandemic as a part of their pandemic response partnership with the Richmond Housing Authority (RHA).



Richmond Greenway Activities

- For over sixteen years, Urban Tilth has dedicated staff time and thousands of volunteer hours helping to maintain the Greenway Gardens and Bring to Life the Greenway through inventive Community events and activities:
 - MLK National Day of Service, the Annual Fruit Tree Giveaway, UNITY Park Roller Disco, Books and Breakfast, Summertime Movies, Halloween Land, and the Gratitude Walk, as well as two regular monthly volunteer days on the 2nd and 3rd Saturdays, and a weekly free farm stand at Unity Plaza.



Richmond Greenway Activities – Addressing Blight in Partnership

- Urban Tilth has five full-time equivalents (FTEs) devoted to the Richmond Greenway
- Our staff maintain Urban Tilth’s Adopt-a-Spot gardens and plan and host community events, they also clean the restroom, dump the trash cans, collect trash, and dumped materials, report graffiti, pick up discarded needles, and weed and mulch the landscaping.
- Each year Urban Tilth raises \$300,000+ to continue the work on the Richmond Greenway.



North Richmond Farm Project

- For the past seven years, Urban Tilth has been developing the North Richmond Farm.
- Involves work to restore soils and developing a farming operation.
- Now embarking on major capital improvements that will bring a permanent farm stand open seven days a week to North Richmond, as well as a Community Commercial Kitchen, Cooperative Café, Community Room, Watershed Center and Amphitheater.
- Urban Tilth is working with Contra Costa County through the Fred Jackson Way 1st Mile/Last Mile Urban Greening Project to connect the residential area of North Richmond to the farm by extending the sidewalk, adding a bike path and a rain garden.



Urban Tilth Call to Action/ Get involved in 2022

- Invite the City of Richmond to have a deeper partnership on the Richmond Greenway
 - Urban Tilth is currently working with the Community Services - Recreation Division and City Manager's Office and to create a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Urban Tilth Highlight Plans for 2022:
 - Books and Breakfast at Unity Park, Annual Fruit Tree Giveaway, New Community Mural, Earth Day of the Greenway, Summer Youth Apprentice Program, New ADA accessible garden
- #NoShade Campaign:
 - Support the North Richmond Farm from damaging development:
 - Sign our petition: <https://chnq.it/zyzcVV6HzQ>



Thank you – Contact information

- **Contact Us**

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