

MOSCOW TREE COMMISSION



Ellis Eifert
Commission Chair

Regular Meeting
~Agenda~

David Schott
Staff Liaison

tree@ci.moscow.id.us

208.883.7098

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/557/Tree-Commission>

Tuesday
May 3, 2022

5:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
206 E 3rd Street

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Moscow Tree Commission Minutes from March 1, 2022 (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert

Minutes presented for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or take other such actions deemed appropriate.

2. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and city of residence for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

3. Consideration of the Harvest Park Management Plan (ACTION ITEM) – David Schott

The Core Development Team for Harvest Park has been busy drafting a management plan for Harvest Park. The Tree Commission will review and discuss the draft management plan.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Recommend approval of the Harvest Park Management Plan; or provide staff with further direction.

4. Consideration of the May 7, 2022 Moscow Farmers Market (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert

The Tree Commission will discuss those who can attend and logistics for the May 7, 2022 Moscow Farmers Market.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve staffing and logistics for the Moscow Farmers Market; or provide staff with further direction.

5. Report: 2022 Arbor Day Celebration – Ellis Eifert

The Tree Commission will discuss the 2022 Arbor Day celebration.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: No action, report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / DISCUSSION

2022 Heron's Hideout Tree Donation

2022 Idaho Recreation and Parks Association Award

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

Next meeting: June 7, 2022

ADJOURN

NOTICE: Individuals attending the meeting who require special assistance to accommodate physical, hearing, or other impairments, please contact the City Clerk, at (208) 883-7015 or TDD 883-7019, as soon as possible so that arrangements may be made.

MOSCOW TREE COMMISSION



Ellis Eifert
Commission Chair

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

David Schott
Staff Liaison

tree@ci.moscow.id.us

208.883.7098

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/557/Tree-Commission>

Tuesday
March 1, 2022

5:00 PM

Mayors Conference Room
206 E 3rd Street

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm

PRESENT: Pamela Brunsfeld; Ellis Eifert, Chair; Mary Jo Hamilton; Zena Hartung; Jeanne Leffingwell; David Rauk.

STAFF: Donna Howard; David Schott; Gina Taruscio.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Moscow Tree Commission Minutes from February 1, 2022 (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert

Minutes presented for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or take other such actions deemed appropriate.

Leffingwell moved, Brunsfeld seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Motion carried.

2. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

There were none.

3. Consideration of the 2022 Arbor Day Celebration (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert / David Rauk

The Tree Commission will discuss potential venues and themes for the 2022 Arbor Day celebration. Arbor Day typically falls on the last Friday of April each year, this year being April 29, 2022.

ACTION: Discuss and approve the Arbor Day celebration venue and theme; or take such actions deemed appropriate.

Schott opened the discussion on possible venues and began by sharing Milton Arthur Park's conceptual plan as well as an aerial view of the location. The City recently asked the public to vote on a playground design to be installed at Milton Arthur Park and there were comments on how this location needs trees. Schott will request monies in future budget cycles for trees at Milton Arthur Park but would like to plant as many trees there as possible, as soon as possible, to allow them to become established. A discussion followed about potentials for changes in Milton Arthur Park's design and damage to trees. If chosen as the site for the event, Schott will plant any trees along the periphery of Milton Arthur Park to avoid possible damage. Other locations discussed included Heron's Hideout and Triangle Park. Hartung and Brunsfeld would like to see a tree planted at Heron's Hideout; one drawback for Heron's Hideout was the lack of parking. Rauk contacted the director of the Adventure Club, Moscow School District's After School Program; if they can arrange for a bus they might be able to attend an event at Milton Arthur Park. If not, Rauk will contact Moscow High School teacher Leanne Eareckson to invite the MHS Environmental Club to the event. If neither of those groups can attend, Eifert will see if the Logos School kindergarten class can attend a tree planting ceremony at Triangle Park. Hamilton suggested planting a catalpa tree for this year's ceremony. Rauk will be out of town in early April and unable to attend this year's event and the tree bagging. Rauk contacted the Mayor's office and they are holding that Friday so he can attend; Rauk then went over the checklist

for preparations for the event. Schott will arrange for the Mayor to read an Arbor Day proclamation during an April City Council meeting and Schott will contact Idaho Department of Lands to invite a representative to attend Moscow's ceremony. Volunteers are asked to help bag the giveaway seedlings on Tuesday, April 26, from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM, at the University of Idaho Franklin H. Pitkin Forest Nursery, 1025 Plant Science Rd. Rauk confirmed that there are 55 red dozier dogwoods, 55 western larch and 55 burr oak tree seedlings to give away to the public. Rauk and Brunsfeld will work on the flyers explaining care and planting of the seedlings. Schott recommended adding the carbon sequestration value of the trees and their taxonomic group to the flyers. Howard will print the flyers and type up the program of events for the day's ceremony. After the bagging is completed, Eifert will take the seedlings and store them in a cool, dark place, then bring them to the Arbor Day Ceremony and the Farmers Market event.

Hamilton moved to plan the 2022 Arbor Day event for Milton Arthur Park. Hartung seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Motion carried.

4. Consideration of Tabling Opportunities for the 2022 Farmers Market Season (ACTION ITEM) – Ellis Eifert

The City of Moscow Community Events Division has released dates available to City Commissions for the 2022 Farmers Market season. The MTC will discuss dates, assign staff and determine a theme for each Farmers Market requested date.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve dates, staffing and theme for the 2022 Farmers Market season; or provide staff with further direction.

Schott asked the FM staff to hold May 7 for the MTC to allow them to promote Arbor Day and give out seedlings to the public. Community Events also requested each commission to have an outreach initiative when staffing the FM. May's topic will be educating the public on Arbor Day and promoting the nascent Heritage Tree program; a discussion ensued on preferable dates and topics. The final choices were: May 7: Arbor Day and Heritage Tree program; July 9 (alternate date July 16): Watering mature trees; September 24: Fall is a great time to plant a tree, tree identification, benefits of trees, the role trees play in the climate, carbon sequestration.

Hamilton moved, Leffingwell seconded to approve the dates and topics as discussed. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Motion carried.

5. Consideration of the Downtown Streetscape Project Trees (ACTION ITEM) – David Schott / David Rauk

The City of Moscow is pursuing a consultant for the Downtown Streetscape Project. The intent is to have design completed in 2022 with construction in 2023. The Tree Commission will discuss general recommendations related to trees for consideration through the design process. Tree Commission member David Rauk has submitted a draft of recommendations for consideration of the MTC.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve recommendations for the Downtown Streetscape Project; or provide staff with further direction.

Schott explained that next week the City is interviewing firms for the design and engineering of the project. Since he is on the interview panel he is asking the MTC for guidelines regarding the design process with respect to planting downtown trees. While the MTC's role will only be advisory, Schott believes their recommendations and expertise will be invaluable to the project. Schott especially appreciated the informative handout from David Rauk, and invited Rauk to speak on his suggestions. Rauk covered the salient points: connecting the tree wells to give them more room for root growth; focus on expanding the soil wherever possible; planting oval shaped trees as well as the traditional columnar shaped trees; pruning trees with larger canopies, training them away from buildings while maximizing the benefits they offer the downtown environment; avoiding trees with

shallow root systems as well as other undesirable qualities. Rauk suggested looking at Pullman's downtown tree plantings for ideas and inspiration as it is well done. Rauk and Hamilton reminded the commissioners of what the public indicated when polled about the downtown replacement plan. Those asked requested replacing the trees in phases instead of all at once and indicated a preference for an intermingling of tree species, which would be beneficial for many reasons. Years ago, Rauk and former MTC commissioner Clark J. Filip inspected the downtown trees and observed many growing up into the streetlights which should be avoided. In addition to poor soils from sidewalks and street paving, compaction of soils and the small tree wells, Rauk and Brunsfeld observed Moscow's honey locusts have surpassed the average downtown street tree life expectancy of ten years. The group also discussed sidewalk specifications, tree grates, porous pavers and the logistics of including planning for the success of the trees in the project. Schott thanked the commissioners as these items will help when working with the consultants on the Downtown Streetscape Project.

Brunsfeld moved, Leffingwell seconded to approve the recommendations as discussed and Rauk's document as reference materials for the consultants on the Downtown Streetscape Project. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / DISCUSSION

1. **2021 Tree City USA and Growth Award** – Schott was notified last week, the City qualified for both of the 2021 ISA awards and they should be presented at the 2022 Arbor Day Event.

Hamilton asked for more information on the award Schott recently accepted on behalf of the City. In January, Schott attended the Idaho Horticulture Expo in Boise and accepted the Legacy of Leaves award; this award recognized Idaho's Best Arbor Day Celebration of 2021. Moscow was nominated for the award by the Idaho Department of Lands. According to the INLA, "this annual award recognizes the community who organizes the best Arbor Day celebration, utilizing the \$300 Arbor Day Grant they receive from the INLA. Criteria used to determine the winner of the award are: (1) the dollar amount leveraged with the grant funds, (2) uniqueness of the Arbor Day celebration, and (3) support of local volunteers. The award is named the "Legacy of Leaves" to recognize the contribution that trees make to the communities in which they are planted." Schott presented the award to City Council in February.

Rauk told the commissioners that the City's Draft Climate Action Plan is now public and he invited the commissioners to consider contacting kcooper@ci.moscow.id.us and ksteele@ci.moscow.id.us to request adding the below, highlighted wording. Howard emailed the document's link to the commissioners.

Excerpt from page 21 of the City of Moscow's draft Climate Action Plan with Rauk's suggested edits:

Sequestration

STRATEGY: Augmentation of urban tree canopy

ACTION: Develop a tree program

Trees play a vital role in sequestering carbon in Moscow. Many older neighborhoods have extensive tree canopies. However, some of the larger trees may be approaching the end of life and may be more susceptible to disease and many vacant tree locations exist along Moscow's city streets. Newer neighborhoods lack good shade trees because the trees have not had a chance to grow. Current standards require developers to plant street trees in new developments. Developing a tree program that encourages tree planting, helps homeowners keep their trees healthy and helps homeowners replace any trees that need to be removed are some potential options to include in such a program.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

Next meeting: April 5, 2022

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 pm.

Harvest Park Management Plan

Moscow's Public Edible Forest

Adopted XXX X, 2022; Resolution 2022-XX



Executive Summary

The 4.09 acres Harvest Park is located between Southview Avenue and Indian Hills Drive in the Indian Hills 8th Addition neighborhood. Harvest Park was acquired to be developed as an 'edible forest' with food-bearing trees, shrubs, and other flora. The City of Moscow initially received interest in the concept of an edible food forest through the Moscow Tree Commission.

The purpose of Harvest Park is to provide the community with a public food forest with a strong emphasis on public education and outreach about the benefits and pride in growing food. The vision for Harvest Park is:

Harvest Park is a long term, dynamic landscape. This unique space is intended to provide educational opportunities and an example to our community of stewardship of a public food forest. This unique space will create a sense of place and community pride for the City of Moscow for generations to come.

Level 2-3 "Natural Strategy"



On March 18, 2019, the Moscow City Council officially named the property, Harvest Park, after thirty-five nominations were considered and recommend to City Council by the Moscow Tree Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission. The conceptual plan for Harvest Park was approved by Moscow City Council on September 3, 2019 with extensive public input through two public workshops.

The Harvest Park Management Plan developed by City staff and the Harvest Park Core Development Team consists of guiding principles, management and on-site oversight of the park, harvest limits, dog policy, pesticide use policy, pollinators, planting rooms and adoption process, and soils.

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That land is a community is the basic concept of ecology, but
that land is to be loved and respected is an extension of
ethics.

Aldo Leopold



Introduction

Harvest Park, located between Southview Avenue and Indian Hills Drive in the Indian Hills 8th Addition neighborhood, was acquired to be developed as an 'edible forest' with food-bearing trees, shrubs, and other flora. The 4.09 acre site was historically an active agricultural wheat field. The City of Moscow initially received interest in the concept of an edible food forest through the Moscow Tree Commission.

The purpose of Harvest Park is to provide the community with a public food forest with a strong emphasis on public education and outreach about the benefits and pride in growing food. The vision for Harvest Park is:

Harvest Park is a long term, dynamic landscape. This unique space is intended to provide educational opportunities and an example to our community of stewardship of a public food forest. This unique space will create a sense of place and community pride for the City of Moscow for generations to come.

Background

The history of the park dates back to 2008 when the City acquired the Indian Hills 8th property. The 1.73 acres of farmland property was obtained by the City through parkland dedication requirements for the Indian Hills 8th Addition subdivision.

The 1.73 acre Indian Hills 8th property was traded for the now 4.09 acre Harvest Park in a parkland exchange and dedication agreement between the City and Indian Hills Trading Company in 2018. This is the location of Harvest Park we see today.

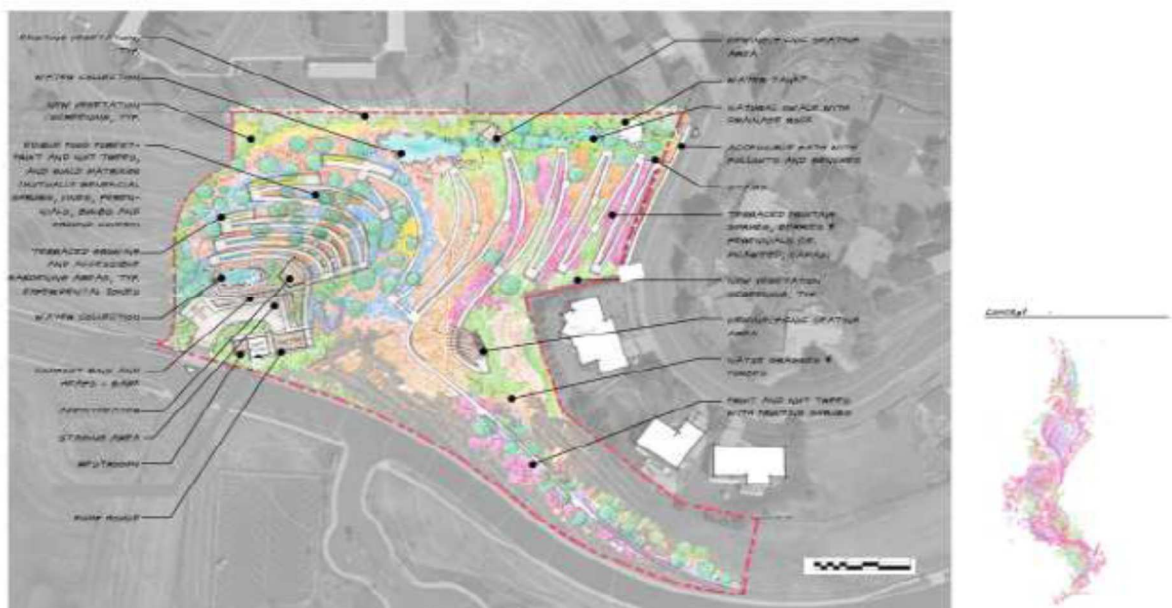


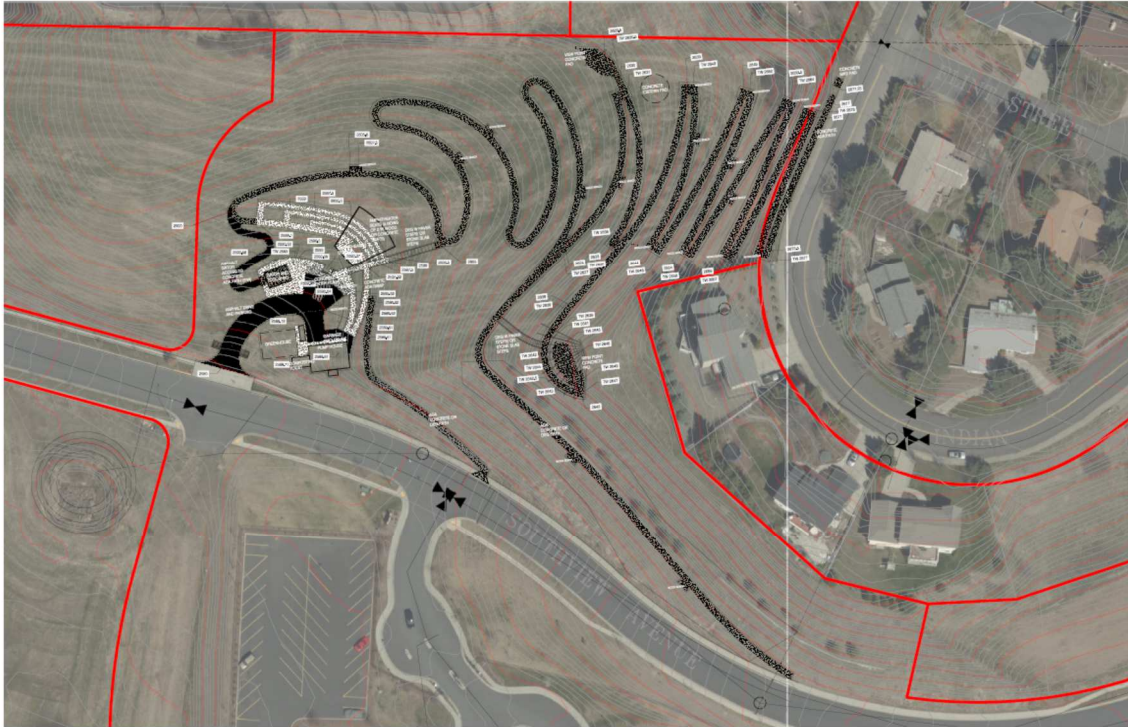
On March 18, 2019, the Moscow City Council officially named the property, Harvest Park. The background on officially naming the park began on September 12, 2018. The City requested suggestions for an official name for the Edible Forest Park, which is the working name for the park. Nominations for names closed on October 20, 2018. The Moscow Tree Commission considered the 35 nominations at their November 6, 2018 meeting and recommended the name Harvest Park. Given the recommendation, a 60-day public comment period began with press releases issued on November 20, 2018 and December 20, 2018. The public comment period closed on February 1, 2019. The Moscow Tree Commission considered public comments at their February 5, 2019 meeting and recommended officially naming the park, Harvest Park. The Moscow Parks and Recreation Commission also considered public comments and recommended the name Harvest Park as the official name for the park at their February 28, 2019 meeting.

Conceptual Plan Development

Moscow City Council approved the conceptual plan for Harvest Park on September 3, 2019.

Level 2-3 "Natural Strategy"





MOSCOW EDIBLE FOREST PARK

224 SOUTHWEST AVE, MOSCOW 83843 • ID | BWA: 19-09-182 | Master Plan | February 11, 2019



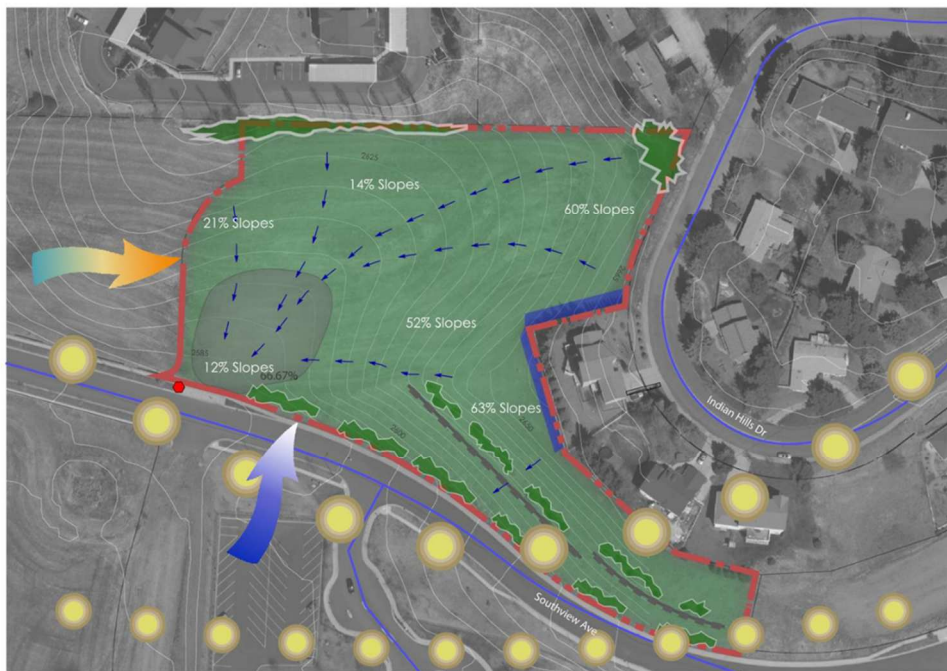
PARKS & RECREATION
DEPARTMENT

BMA BERNARDO WILLS
ARCHITECTS PC

The conceptual plan was developed with the assistance of landscape architect firm, Bernardo Wills Architects. Moscow City Council approved an agreement with Bernardo Wills Architects on November 19, 2018. The heart of the conceptual planning process was two public workshops held on December 19, 2018 and January 16, 2019.

Public Workshop #1 focused on comparables, existing conditions, opportunities, and constraints.





Key Legend

- Property Line
- Summer Solar Path
- Winter Solar Path
- City Water Lines
- Drainage Direction
- Existing Retaining Wall
- Existing Trees
- Summer Prevailing Winds
- Winter Prevailing Winds
- Flat Area
- 5' Contour Lines
- Morning Shade Area
- Fire Hydrant

Landform: Loess Hills, Convex Site
Classification: Farmland
Soils: Naff - Palouse Complex (0-7" silt loam, 7-60" silty clay loam)
Drainage Class: well drained



Key Legend

- Existing**
- Property Line
 - 5' Contour Lines
 - Morning Shade Area
 - Fire Hydrant
 - City Storm Water Collection Area
 - Existing City Water Line
- Constraints**
- Steep Slopes
 - Booster Pump Bldg
 - ADA Parking
 - Existing Retaining Wall
 - Vehicular Access
 - 10' Utility Easement
- Opportunities**
- ★ View Points
 - Wind Break/Screen
 - Flat Area
 - New City Water Line
 - Bike Path
 - ★ Pedestrian Access (5% Slope)



Public Workshop #1 participants were given the opportunity to submit their input. The audience was divided into four groups. Each group was given a blank site diagram and asked to sketch their thoughts for the park (page 8). Additionally, a survey was provided to those in attendance and an online survey was issued.

Team 3 (level 2-3, site = 100% edibles, for all uses)

Elements

- View Points/Quiet Nooks, ADA & Wheel Barrow Paths, Bathrooms (Composting), Play Area – Natural, Security Lighting, Signage, ADA Parking
- Cistern (swales, path berms), Hillside Terracing, Kids Maze
- Harvest/Tool Shed (includes potting), Compost bins & heaps, Picnic Tables, Seating Areas, Drinking Fountains, Bike Racks, Trash Enclosure
- Living Screens/Wind Breaks, Layered Edible Forest, Polyculture Islands, Nectary Mixed Perennial Borders, mostly Natives, Children's garden, Ephemeral Pond

Layout

- Preserve all views, incrementally transitions from non native to natives (low at bottom & tall at top), vegetables and raised beds up to fruiting shrubs/vines up to fruiting/Nut trees (polycultures), kids wild play area near top, restore native prairie, catchment area – pond & paths, paths also define rooms & terracing (along contours), wind breaks

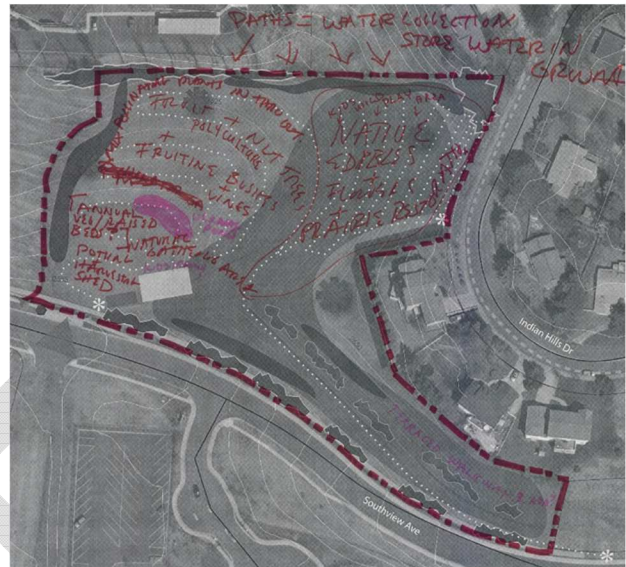
Team 4 (level 2-3, site = 75% edibles, for all uses)

Elements

- View Points/Quiet Nooks, ADA & Wheel Barrow Paths, Bathrooms (Composting), ADA Parking
- Tool Shed, Compost bins, Picnic Tables, Seating Areas, Bike Racks

Layout

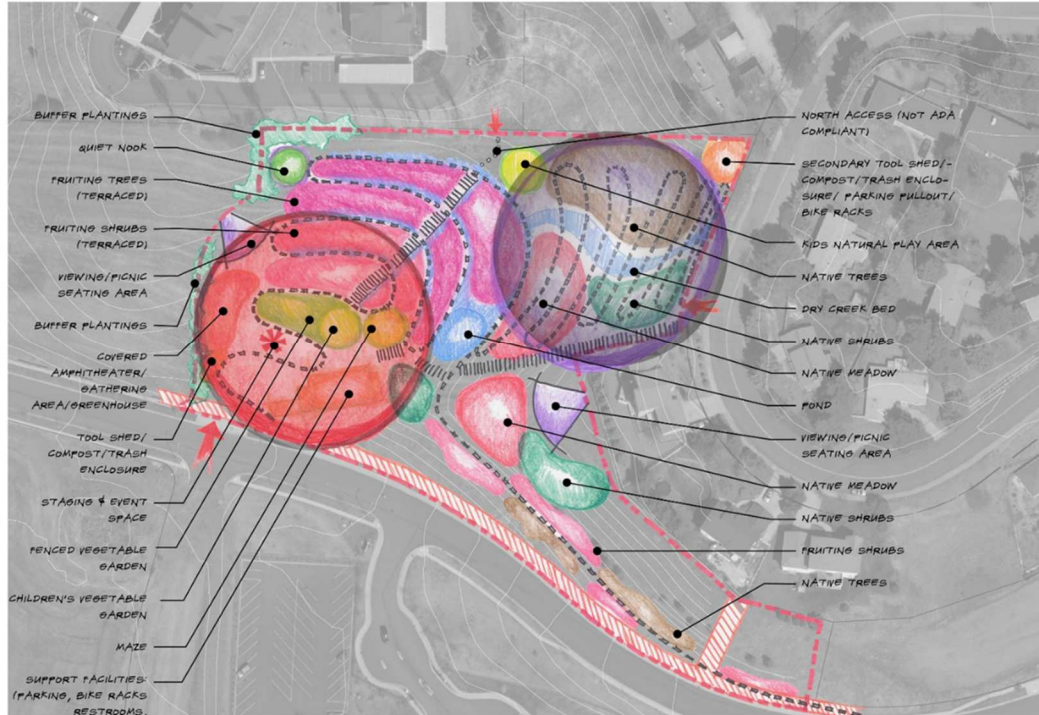
- Preserve all views of camas prairie (at least 2 spots) & existing apples and native shrubs/roses, pullout for parking/ADA on Indian Hill Drive, low vegetation at bottom with terraced gardens above, catchment area – pond, paths define rooms & terracing, Berries at bottom with Terraced gardens above



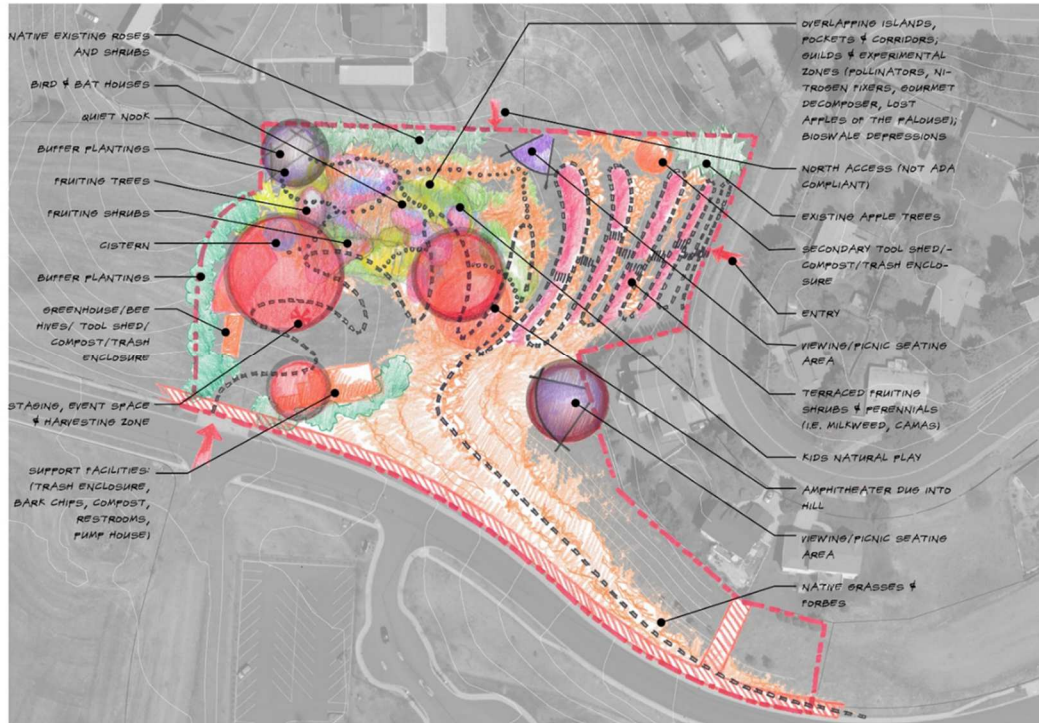
City staff, along with Bernardo Wills Architects, consolidated the public input information from Public Workshop #1 and the survey and produced two alternatives. The Moscow Tree Commission to discussed the alternatives and provided input during the January 19, 2019 Moscow Tree Commission meeting. The two alternatives were a 'cultivated strategy' and a 'natural strategy.'



Level 1-2 "Cultivated Strategy"



Level 2-3 "Natural Strategy"



Public Workshop #2 was held on January 16, 2019. The draft conceptual plan was presented and public comments were collected.



The Parks and Recreation Commission and Tree Commission both unanimously voted to recommend the natural strategy conceptual plan for Harvest Park to Moscow City Council at a special joint meeting held on July 10, 2019.

Core Development Team

Our community in Moscow has a very passionate and knowledgeable population. To this end, a Core Development Team was developed with the purpose of utilizing local knowledge to develop a management plan for this unique park. The Core Development Team began with a Moscow Parks and Recreation member, two members of the Moscow Tree Commission, two members of the University of Idaho, and a Rural Roots Board member. Current team members are:

Mark Heinlein
Deborah Berman
Zena Hartung

A large portion of this document is a direct result of the knowledge and expertise of the Core Development Team. Special thanks to their tireless efforts and commitment to the development of this plan is truly special.

Guiding Principles

Guiding principles are a set of values that establishes a framework for expected behavior and decision-making.

- 1.) Harvest Park is intended to cultivate a community dedicated to building equitable food systems for all people while being stewards of the land using best management practices and appropriate design with many different influences.
 - a. Harvest Park can be viewed as a series of management zones with varied management based on accessibility and location.
 - b. These management zones are intended to be broken down into plant guilds (planting rooms) as described in this document (pages 15-16).
 - c. Each management zone and plant guild (planting room) are envisioned to be adopted for maintenance by volunteers.
 - d. Donations in time (volunteering) and funding are essential in developing and maintaining each management zone and plant guild (planting room) as Harvest Park develops.
 - i. Signage and / or plaques need to be developed for education and as a way to recognize volunteers and donors. Examples might include a “giving tree” in a central location or individual call out areas.
 - ii. Groups; for example, schools and organizations can adopt a planting room.
 - iii. The City of Moscow keeps a record of individuals or groups interested in donations of time (volunteering) and funding.
- 2.) Education and outreach are of paramount importance for the success of Harvest Park for our community.
 - a. Development of workshop and classes will be a vital feature of Harvest Park with recruitment through the Parks and Recreation Brochure.
 - b. School groups, community groups, and the public are welcome and encouraged to visit the site.
 - c. Harvest Park is intended to be an example to our community and region of a functional shared edible forest.
- 3.) Community Outreach
 - a. Success of Harvest Park is tied to community support: for education, for volunteers for maintenance, and for funding.
 - i. Encourage our community to learn about and participate in Harvest Park.
 - ii. Development of a communication plan.
 1. Utilize the city website, social media, and word of mouth to encourage participation in park maintenance, workshops and classes, and educational opportunities.
 - iii. Promote creative events; such as, cider pressing and other education opportunities.
 - iv. Creation of a Harvest Park online newsletter.
- 4.) Management Plan
 - a. The Core Development Team has drafted a management plan for Harvest Park detailing park management zones and plant guilds (planting rooms) available for fundraising and adoption.
 - b. The Core Development Team is also charged with developing policies; such as, bag limits, dogs, and pesticide use.

- c. Development of an evaluation tool described in the management tool shall be developed by the Core Development Team as a tool to measure success or provide a learning opportunity to implement modifications where needed.

5.) Maintenance

- a. As it is envisioned, development and maintenance of Harvest Park will depend upon community support through volunteerism and financial contributions. Limited assistance from Parks staff may be available.
- b. Contributions from the community is integral for the success of Harvest Park, as described in the vision statement.
- c. Development of an oversight body; such as, the Harvest Park Subcommittee under the Moscow Tree Commission will consist of community volunteers and City staff to develop daily, weekly, monthly, and annual tasks.
 - i. Communication of these tasks to the volunteers and Friends of Harvest Park can be accomplished through an onsite communication board, via the City website, or a simple onsite notebook.

Management and On-Site Oversight

The intent of Harvest Park is to minimize the burden to parks staff to maintain the park. It is the intent of the City of Moscow to rely on the community to provide funding and maintenance of Harvest Park. To this end, City staff proposes the creation of the Harvest Park Subcommittee to assist the City in the management and operations of the park. The Moscow Tree Commission will be the lead commission with the Harvest Park Subcommittee created by and reporting to the Moscow Tree Commission.

The primary mission of the Harvest Park Subcommittee is to work with donors and volunteers for Harvest Park. The Parks and Recreation Parks and Facilities Manager will act as the liaison to the Harvest Park Subcommittee. The Harvest Park Subcommittee will consist of five (5) voting members and meet quarterly. The Harvest Park Subcommittee as a subcommittee of the Moscow Tree Commission will be required to follow the open meeting laws with regular meetings, open to the public, where minutes are taken. The roles, duties, and responsibilities are as follows:

- 1.) Keep open lines of communication with the City of Moscow through the City staff liaison.
- 2.) Provide updates and an annual report to the Moscow Tree Commission.
- 3.) Work with potential donors and volunteers for Harvest Park. Funds donated and dedicated to Harvest Park will be accounted for in a dedicated line item for Harvest Park to be expensed at Harvest Park. In kind donations will be tracked by City staff.
- 4.) Consider and approve, with the concurrence of the City of Moscow, the plan and adoption of individual planting rooms (Appendix A).
- 5.) Make recommendations to City staff regarding infrastructure projects consistent with the conceptual plan and community direction.
- 6.) Coordination and oversight of volunteers through the creation of Friends of Harvest Park. Friends of Harvest Park groups or individuals will be the stewards of the park and oversee

ground operations at Harvest Park. Operational duties may include organizing daily, weekly, monthly, yearly maintenance items. This will include scheduling and organizing volunteer efforts on the park through work parties and workshops. Provide quality control and monitoring of plantings for insect and disease. Provide informational signage and kiosks. Work with the staff liaison to update the website.

- 7.) Annual evaluation of Harvest Park to determine what is working and what is not and mitigate and adapt to the needs of Harvest Park.

Harvest Park Organizational Chart



Harvest Limits

Harvest Park is a City of Moscow owned property and is open to the public the park serves. Harvesting fruits and nuts from Harvest Park will not include commercial sales and will be based on the honor system, common courtesy, and a first-come, first-served basis for the public. If surplus supply is observed, nonprofit groups may be contacted by City staff to collect to reduce waste. The City will keep a contact list on file for interested nonprofit groups. The park is intended to be an edible forest for our community and serve as an educational opportunity. People visiting the park will be able to pick their own fruits and nuts. However, the City of Moscow asks people to only pick what they need and can utilize. To begin, there will not be bagging limits but the City of Moscow reserves the right to modify this policy as needed periodically.

The design of the planting plan for Harvest Park will place easily accessible fruits and nuts near the entrance to the park of Southview Avenue. This area will be tailored for children and people with disabilities. This area may be restricted through the placement of signage asking the general public to refrain from harvesting for these special planting rooms.

Information on what is ripe and available will be updated on a kiosk and information board on site at Harvest Park. The onsite bulletin board will be updated by volunteers from the Friends of Harvest Park. The City of Moscow Parks and Recreation website will also be updated periodically to provide information on harvesting. These updates will be done by City of Moscow staff with information provided from the Friends of Harvest Park.

Dog Policy

The purpose of this policy is to reduce the risk of dog waste interacting with edible plants available to the general public. All dog waste must be immediately picked up and removed. Dog waste bags will be provided on site. Under Section 5-5 of Chapter 5, Title 10 of the City of Moscow Municipal Code, “No owner and/or handler and/or keeper of any dog shall allow or let such dog to run or remain at large within the City at any time. This subsection shall not apply to any area within the City which is designated by the City as a Dog Park or as an Off-Leash Area.” Dogs at Harvest Park must remain on lease. Furthermore, dogs on leash must remain on designated pathways within the interior of the park.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Only service animals as recognized under titles II and III of the ADA are permitted off designated pathways within the park (https://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm).

Pesticide Use Policy

Actionable Item #2 of the 2019 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update states, “Develop a policy and process to reduce pesticide usage within the City’s public parks, properties, and urban forestry program.” The Parks and Recreation Department’s goal is to reduce pesticide use in public parks and properties. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies designed to manage pests by addressing the underlying sources of pest problems, prioritizing non-chemical techniques and those that are least toxic to humans and the environment. Pest management on Harvest Park will follow IPM techniques. The City has also heard from the general public during the conceptual planning of Harvest Park through public workshops the desire to have little or no pesticide use at Harvest Park.

Food forests are managed ecologies, and the management and maintenance of a food forest is the management and maintenance of an ecosystem. Food forests, like other ecosystems, rely on a balance of relationships and interconnections among the different ecosystem components for health and productivity. Therefore, the first line of defense against pest and disease problems at Harvest Park shall be the establishment and maintenance of a healthy food forest ecosystem. Diseases and pests, including noxious weed species, shall be managed with the least toxic and most environmentally sensitive methods available, with the goal of enhancing beneficial relationships and conditions within the food forest ecology that will minimize or prevent pests and diseases from becoming established.

A manual of best practices will be developed and maintained as a reference for management, along with an ongoing log of observation, phenology, methods and actual management results for pest and disease problems as they occur. The manual of best practices shall include methods to establish and maintain food forest health, routine maintenance schedules and practices, as well as ways to manage specific disease, pest, and weed problems.

The Harvest Park Core Development Team acknowledges that Harvest Park, as a food system offered by the City of Moscow to the community, is providing food to a diverse range of people with a diversity of opinions and feelings about the safety of food that has been exposed to or treated with agricultural chemicals of various kinds. Therefore, in order to provide food which is considered safe by as much of the community as possible, no pesticides, including herbicides, insecticides and fungicides, will be used except those certified for organic production by the Organic Materials Review Institute.

Weeds designated by the State of Idaho as “noxious” will be managed according to state law (Title 22 Agriculture and Horticulture Chapter 24 Noxious Weeds, as to be in accordance with state and federal laws.

Should all Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and the aforementioned strategies be unsuccessful, the City of Moscow does reserve the right to consider the use of pesticides in extreme cases where use is justified and supported by evidence that a weed, pest, or disease outbreak exists and is warranted. In this case, areas treated will be spot treated and the area closed to the public per the label instructions.

Pollinators

Moscow City Council will consider Resolution 2022-XX designating the City of Moscow as a Bee City USA affiliate. Bee City USA's mission is to enhance habitat for all pollinators, with a focus on native species. Bee City USA® works to galvanize communities to sustain pollinators, in particular the more than 3,600 species of native bees in this country, by increasing the abundance of native plants, providing nest sites, and reducing the use of pesticides. The commitments for Bee City USA are as follows:

- 1.) Create and enhance pollinator habitat on public and private land by increasing the abundance of native plants and providing nest sites.
- 2.) Reduce the use of pesticides.
- 3.) Incorporate pollinator-conscious practices into city policies and plans.
- 4.) Host pollinator awareness events.
- 5.) Publicly acknowledge Bee City USA affiliation with signs and an online presence.



Harvest Park is an ideal park to showcase the importance of pollinators to an edible forest. In fact, the dog leg portion of Harvest Park located on the southeast portion of the park is very steep and not conducive to edible trees and shrubs due to access issues. However, this area can help support the edible forest portions of the park by providing pollinator friendly plants. Harvest Park is largely focused on educational opportunities and may be an ideal site to host pollinator awareness events.

Planting Rooms and Adoption Process

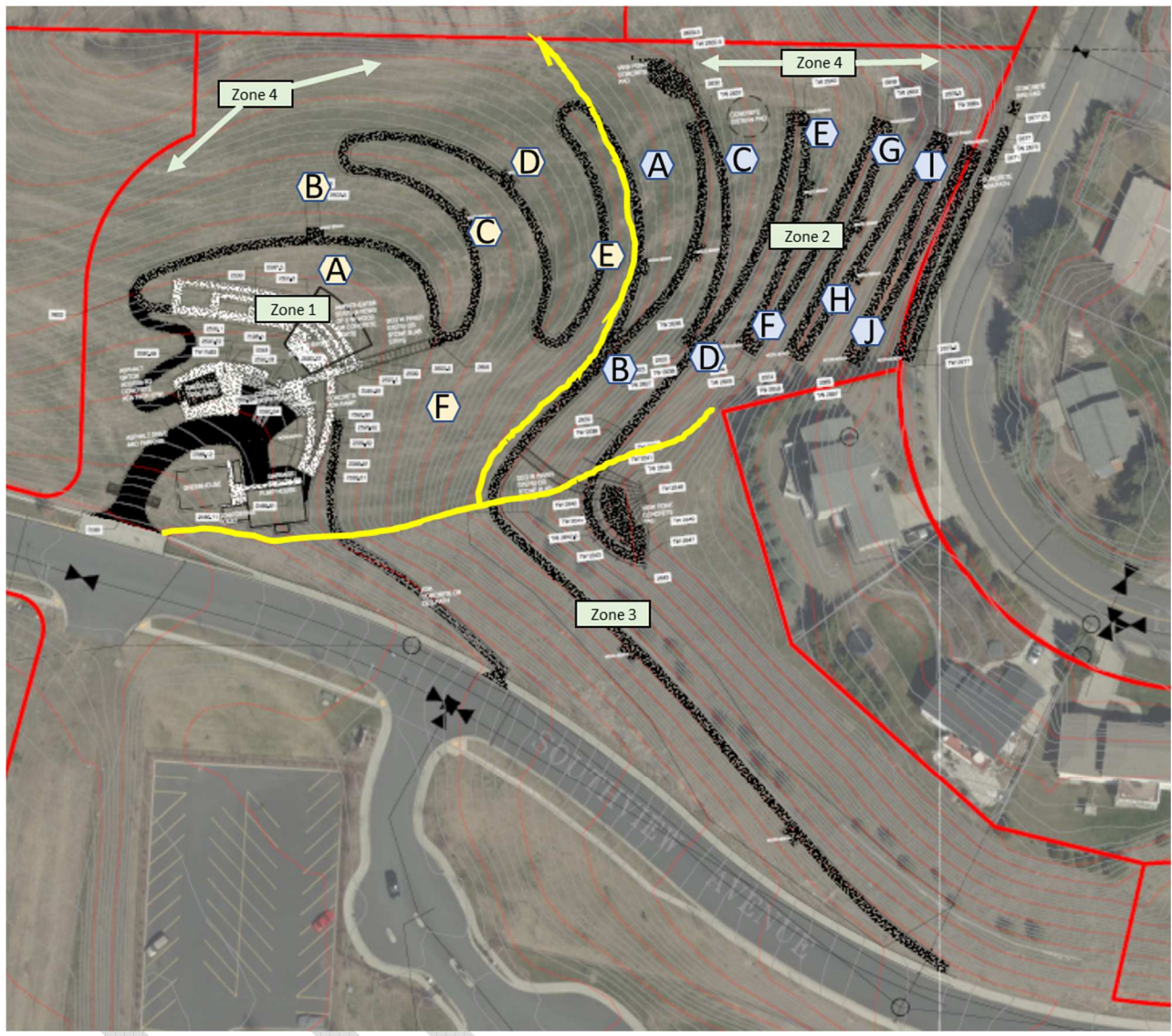
Harvest Park has been divided into four management zones: Zone 1 Bowl, Zone 2 Hillside, Zone 3 Dogleg, and Zone 4 Periphery. Each management zone is further divided into smaller areas or planting rooms. Planting rooms will be adopted by members or a group within our community. Adoption of the planting rooms would include donations towards the area and volunteerism to maintain the area. Donors would have the option to name the planting room subject to City staff review and approval of the Harvest Park Subcommittee. All areas will remain open to the public for harvesting.

Adoption of an area is first-come, first-served basis subject to approval of the Harvest Park Subcommittee. Approval will consider the vision, guiding principles, and contribution to our community for Harvest Park. For example, the planting rooms near the entry to the park and the educational amphitheater must be accessible and focus on children and people with disabilities. Moreover, Zone 3 Dogleg is focused on native plantings and encouraging pollinator habitat.

Adoption and maintenance of planting rooms will begin as infrastructure improvements are completed and access to the planting rooms is established. Infrastructure improvements are slated to begin in FY2024. However, Zone 4 Periphery is outside the construction area and forty-three (43) edible trees and shrubs were planted in 2021. Members of the community who wish to donate and maintain an area around the periphery are encouraged to do so by contacting City staff with their proposal.

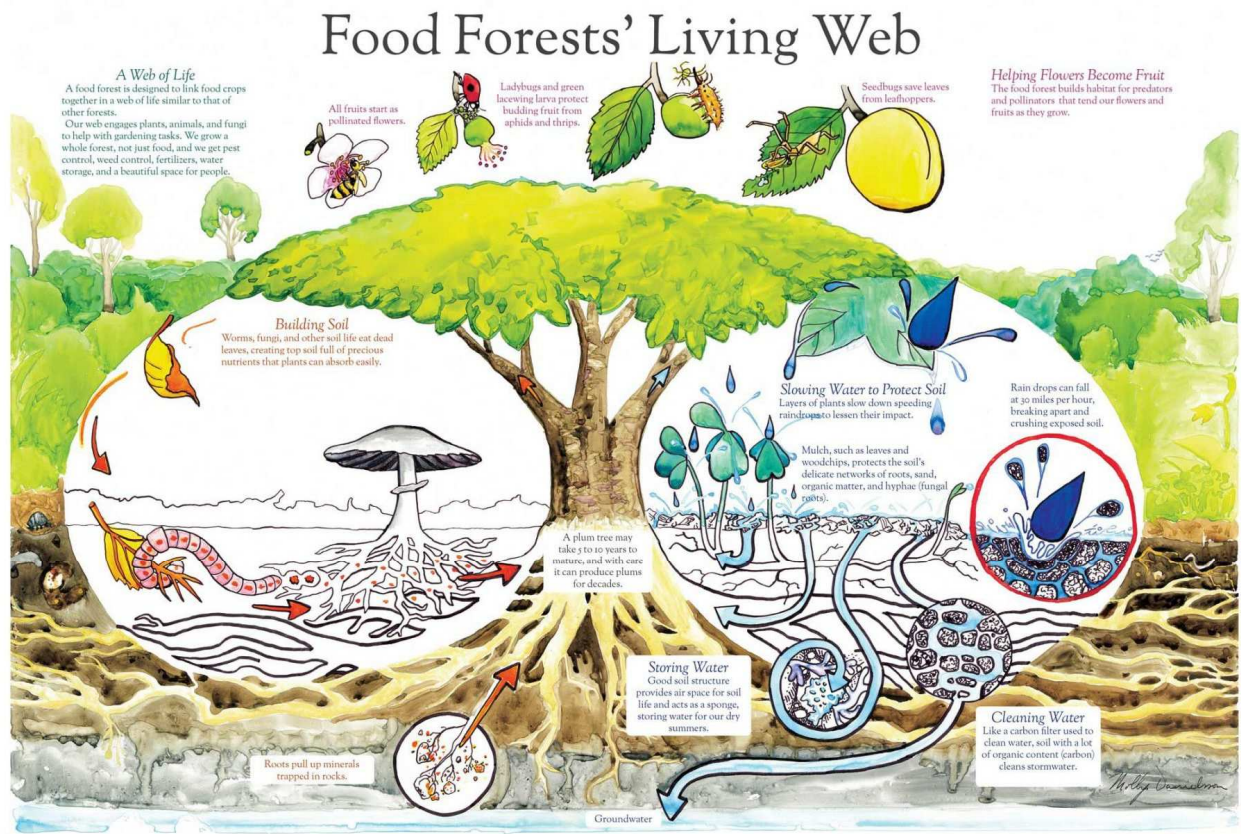
Harvest Park Planting Rooms							
	Adopted By	Donor(s)	Room Name	Theme (Focus)	Keystone Species Primary	Keystone Species Secondary	Goal (Why)
Zone 1: Bowl							
A				Kids / People with Disabilities			
B							
C							
D							
E							
Zone 2: Hillside							
A							
B							
C							
D							
E							
F							
G							
H							
I							
J							
Zone 3: Dogleg	Mark Heinlein			Native Plants, Pollinator Friendly			
Zone 4: Periphery				Mixed Trees and Shrubs	Mixed	Mixed	Start Trees and Shrubs Outside of Future Improvements

DRAFT



Soil

Soil is the building block of a healthy food forest. One pinch of soil can contain one billion organisms comprising of up to 10,000 species. Harvest Park encourages a design to link food crops in a web of life as seen in natural systems. This encourages plants, animals, and fungi to assist in maintenance of the park for pest control, weed control, fertilization, water storage, and a great park to enjoy. The Web of Life illustration showing the relationships of plants, animals, and fungi for a healthy food forest (Page 18) is included.



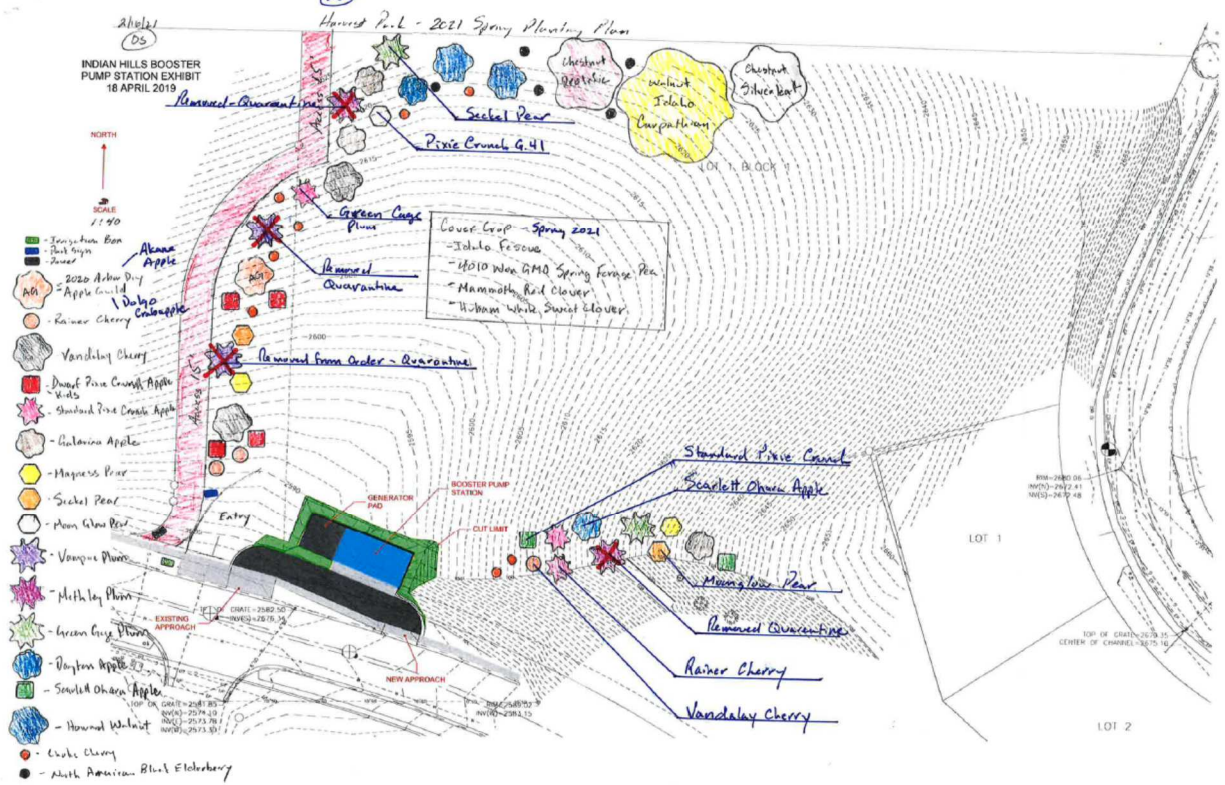
(Credit: www.woodz.co/journal/designing-food-forest/)

Harvest Park has historically been utilized as a wheat field. Once the City acquired the property with the intention of creating a food forest, a soil analysis was done by Analytical Sciences Laboratory at the University of Idaho. The results showed an acetic pH ranging from 4.8 to 5.6. Ideal growing conditions of most plants is a pH range of 6.0 to 7.0. To prepare the soil for ideal growing conditions, staff contracted a lime application in September 2020 by a local contractor. Staff continues to monitor the pH throughout the year. Moreover, beginning in 2019, cover crops have been seeded to enhance the soil. Finally, staff has been rough mowing the site, typically in the late spring, early summer after the spring growing season and again in the fall.

First Edible Plantings

On April 12, 2021 the City of Moscow partnered with the University of Idaho Extension for the Harvest Park Tree Planting Workshop and Planting Project. This was led by Iris Mayes, Ph.D. who leads the community-level University of Idaho Extension efforts in small farms and horticulture for Latah County. Forty-three (43) edible trees and shrubs were planted in Zone 4: Periphery where future infrastructure improvements will not impact the plantings. A drip irrigation system was installed to water the plantings by City of Moscow Parks staff.

4/23/21 Tree Workshop + Tree Planting by Volunteers
 4/29/21 AS Builds



Appendix A – Harvest Park Donor and Volunteer Application



Harvest Park Donor and Volunteer Application

Donor Information (Individual or Group)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (Day) _____

(Eve) _____

Email Address: _____

Amount of Donation: _____

Adopted by Volunteers (Individual or Group)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (Day) _____

(Eve) _____

Email Address: _____

Zone / Area: _____

Proposed Planting Room Nickname: _____

Theme / Focus: _____

Goal: _____

Description of Planting Plan (Please include site plan if available): _____

Does the Proposed Theme and Planting Plan Fit with the Vision for Harvest Park: Yes / No: Please Explain: _____

Please Describe any Other Relevant Information Regarding your Application: _____

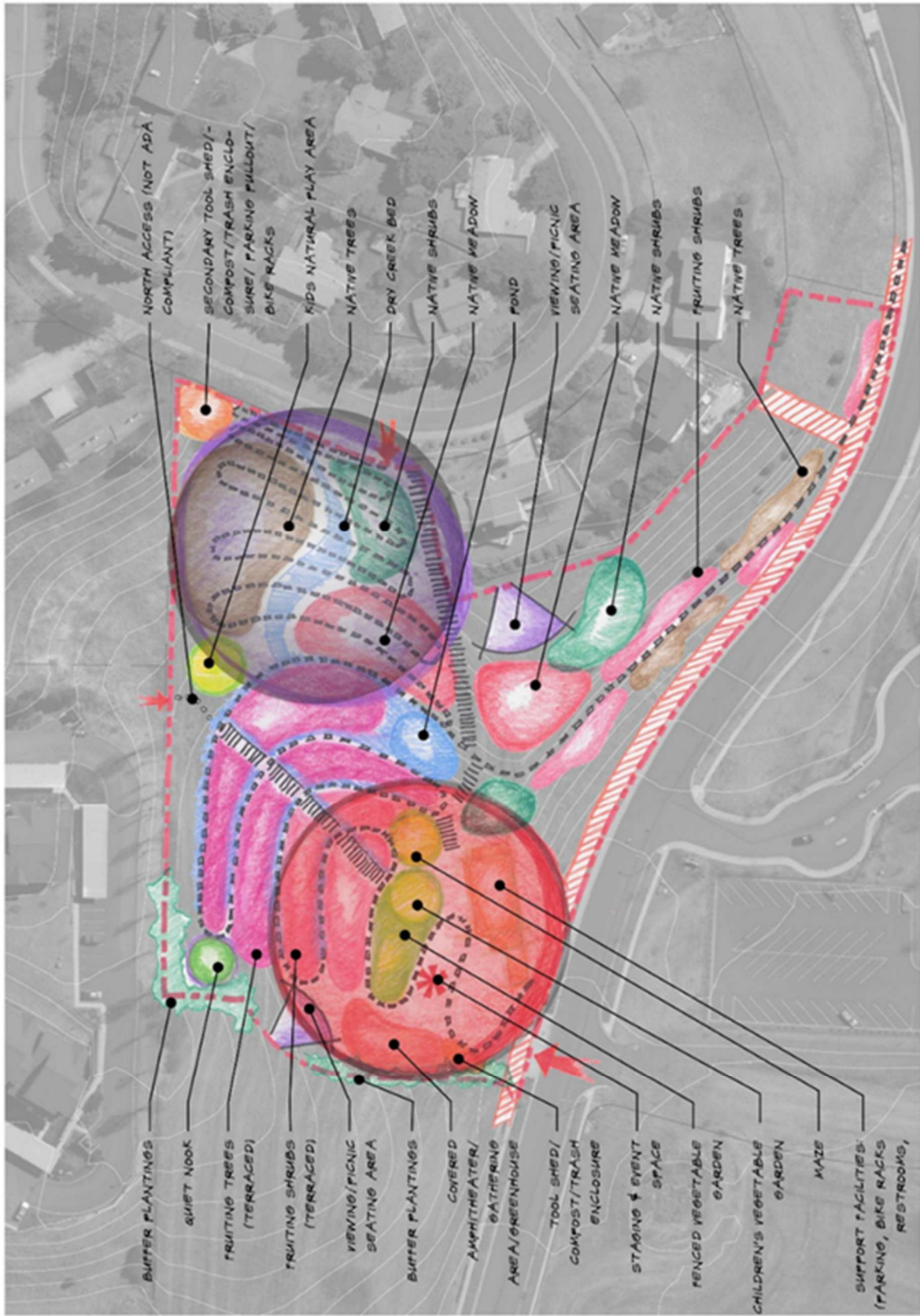
Submit Application Form to:

City of Moscow Parks and Facility Manager

PO Box 9203 • Moscow, ID 83843 • Or email to: dschott@ci.moscow.id.us • Call (208) 883-7098 for assistance.



Level 1-2 "Cultivated Strategy"



Level 2-3 "Natural Strategy"

