A Community Farm in Rainier Beach

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Imagine a community farm in the heart of Rainier Beach, known as one of the nation's most diverse zip codes. Think of the possibilities: a community farm with classrooms and a big kitchen, a place to gather friends and neighbors, a friendly learning environment to grow and share food, a vibrant, active, engaged community place for diverse cultural groups or a hub for urban agriculture and local food.

This summer and fall a community design process begins and Rainier Valley community members are invited to envision the possibilities of an urban farm at the Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands. Seattle Tilth, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and the Friends of Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands are teaming up with the Berger Partnership and the Rainier Beach community to create a vision and for the site located at 5513 S. Cloverdale St. This community design and capital improvement process will transform the site into a model for community-based urban agriculture and environmental education in Seattle and the nation.

Each member of the design team brings something special to the table:

**Seattle Tilth** has extensive experience managing productive public landscapes and facilitating civic engagement around food and environmental justice issues.

The **Friends of Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands** are committed organizers and activists deeply connected to the Rainier Beach community.

**Seattle Parks and Recreation** demonstrates its commitment to urban agriculture and ecological restoration through the work of the Parks Urban Food Systems committee and the Green Seattle Partnership.

**The Berger Partnership** offers an extensive portfolio of planned and built parks, urban farms and wetland projects that serve the community, are loved by users and supported by the agencies that run and manage them. With input from the community, the finished design will be one that weaves environmental and ecological functions into the daily site experience. This is a time to imagine and plan a place that creates community, stimulates economic development in the Rainier Beach neighborhood and will continue to evolve over time.

Seattle Tilth operates over twenty programs. A fully developed site at Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands could be a home base for Seattle Tilth education programs that meets the unique needs and interests of Southeast Seattle residents while creating a lively, inspiring community farm. The design process will be a time to engage community members, neighbors and aspiring farmers, develop new ideas and illustrate the opportunities inherent in this unique site. Imagine the possibilities!