BARRINGTON FARM SCHOOL
MASTER PLAN
Monday May 17, 2021
Schedule

MEETING | WEEK 1 | WEEK 3 | WEEK 5 | WEEK 7 | WEEK 9 | WEEK 11
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3.5.21 | | | | | | 
KICKOFF | General Overview of M.P. | Strategic Plan/Goals | Current and Future Projects | Identify stakeholders/AHJs |

3.19.21 | | | | | | 
PROGRESS | Update Existing Conditions | Update Strategic Plan/Goals | Focus on Farm Stand, Learning Gardens | Accessibility | Any other stakeholder meetings? |

4.2.21 | | | | | | 
PROGRESS | Site Plan Update w/ Accessible Routes | Early development of Farm Stand area | Reconsider Compost | Prep for Board Presentation? |

4.16.21 | | | | | | 
BOARD PROGRESS PRESENTATION | Strategic Plan Summary | Further development of Farm Stand area | Learning Garden | Path locations and materials | Compost Program |

4.30.21 | | | | | | 
REVIEW FEEDBACK | Presented Progress Plans to Board | Reviewed Materials/Path Strategies | Learning Garden: Location, Program | Design test other locations | No further development of Farm Stand or Compost |

5.12.21 | | | | | | 
FINAL PRESENTATION | Summary of work to date | Paths, Federal Road, Compost | Options study: Learning Garden |
Focus Areas

ACCESSIBLE PATHS
FEDERAL ROAD
LEARNING GARDEN
POWER/INFRASTRUCTURE
COMPOST
This overall final vision depicts some of the programs as they might be idealized – traffic slowing at busy crossings, an expanded farm stand area, relocated Bees and Wash Station, and formalized pathways. Planned electrical boxes and solar panels are near-term projects. Two possible sites are identified for the Learning Garden.
Accessible Paths

The path network can be realized over time, and not every route needs to have a surface. We recommend the following: Stone Dust Paving with steel edging for the accessible routes; Micro Clover at the driving and utility paths, and raised wood walkway in the areas of wetlands.
The stone dust paving should have a binder to keep the dust from washing out. Paths should be graded flat, with less than a 1:20 slope. The micro clover is not appropriate for an accessible route.

A marked area for vehicles occurs at the western edge; we recommend keeping it close to the southern boundary at the High Tunnel.
Micro Clover

Stone Dust

Wooden Walk
The Federal Ave. parking could be expanded to allow more parking and a generous space for the Farm Stand, including shaded areas for seating and outdoor produce sales. The accessible route is best at the west, where the ground is already flat. We propose two new shade trees and a path through the Little Serbia garden. An accessible outhouse should be procured.
The proposed new farm stand is not larger than the existing but includes more space for storage and expanded shade areas. An expanded flat zone at the farm stand will require soil retainage along the southern edge. We propose the Geogrid (next slide) to hold back the dirt while allowing for plants.
GeoGrid or GeoCell $$$
BFS Learning Garden Program Components
The People’s Garden – Options 2, 4 & 4A

Program
  o Approx. 2800 Square Feet (approx. 45’x55’)

Teaching Area
  o Overhead structure for shade (accommodate solar panels?)
  o Tables (Chairs? Benches?)
  o Storage

Planting Beds
  o Eight U-shaped raised beds for people in wheelchairs to work with soil/plants
    Consider alternate planting bed types

Plant-lined Corridor w/ Climbing Vines
  o This can be incorporated into Teaching Area, Sensory Garden, and/or Children’s Area

Colorful Glass Wall with Embedded Recycled Bottles
  o Like the Climbing Vine Corridor, this can be part of a program area

Rain Garden

Children’s Area

Accessible Paths

The fully built-out Learning Garden could include all these program components, approximately 2800 square feet.
The People’s Garden – Options 1 & 3

Program
  o  **Approx. 1400 Square Feet (approx. 35’x 45’)**

Teaching Area
  o  Overhead structure for shade (accommodate solar panels?)
  o  Tables (Chairs? Benches?)
  o  Storage

Planting Beds
  o  Eight U-shaped raised beds for people in wheelchairs to work with soil/plants
    Consider alternate planting bed types

Plant-lined Corridor w/ Climbing Vines
  o  This can be incorporated into Teaching Area, Sensory Garden, and/or Children’s Area

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Rain Garden

Children’s Area

Accessible Paths

Near term, the Farm may choose to start with the planting beds and Teaching Area. An accessible route must be provided directly from parking lot, either off Federal Road or at the Public Safety Building.
Teaching Area, Shade
Teaching Area, Shade

The Teaching Area can be a lot of things – a temporary structure or a more permanent open building. There should be flexible tables and seating, with the understanding the visitors will have a variety of mobility conditions.
The Sensory Garden may want direct adjacency to the structure, so that a group leader can have good visibility.
Planting Beds
Planting beds should be configured in a variety of heights to accommodate the widest possible range of farmers.

1. Children's planting bed
   1'H x 3'W x 12'L

2. Typical planting bed
   2'H x 3'W x 12'L
1. Children's planting bed
   1'H x 3'W x 12'L

2. Typical planting bed
   2'H x 3'W x 12'L

3. Accessible planting with 4 zones for wheelchair
   3'H x 3'W x 12'L

4. Accessible U-shaped planting bed with typical planting bed
   2'H x 3'W planting bed/
   3'H x 6'W U-shaped zone/
   12'L total
1. Children's planting bed
   1’H x 3’W x 12’L

2. Typical planting bed
   2’H x 3’W x 12’L

3. Accessible planting with 4 zones for wheelchair
   3’H x 3’W x 12’L

4. Accessible U-shaped planting bed with typical planting bed
   2’H X 3’W planting bed/
   3’H X 6’W U-shaped zone/
   12’L total
Presence is that intangible that marks the Learning Garden as a special place within the Farm. Whether a living wall, a sculptural element, or signage, a marker will help support the LGs identity and programs.
Learning Garden Site Options
Option 1 is the essential Learning Garden elements (approx. 1575 sf) – the Teaching Area and the Raised Beds. It is located close to an accessible parking space at the Public Safety Lot, south of the wet areas. This configuration can be expanded over time to include the Pollinator Garden.

**PRO**
- Short distance from Parking
- Visible from Federal Road and Farm Stand
- Near Wash Station

**CON**
- Uses possible productive farmland
Option 2 expands the footprint to 2800 sq ft, engaging the solar panels and Pollinator Garden. It also recognizes the lower wet zone of the site, celebrating it as a garden. This would be an ideal area for the raised wooden walk.

**PRO**
- Short distance from Parking
- Visible from Federal Road and Farm Stand
- Near Wash Station
- Connects to Pollinator Garden and Solar Panels

**CON**
- Uses possible productive farmland
- Structures obstruct view to southern farm programs
Option 3
(No Shade Structure)

Option 3 is the most minimal of the layouts, only the raised beds at less than 1000 sf. This option co-ops the area north of the Summer Kitchen as a shaded zone. It has neither a Teaching Area nor Storage.

**PRO**
- Uses land unlikely to be farmed
- Visible from Lincoln
- Easiest to implement and expand
- Learning structure can be supported by trees

**CON**
- Less visible from Farm Stand
- Does not have structure or storage
Option 4 expands Option 3 to the north, adding back the Teaching area and a Sensory Garden, while still using the natural shaded area of the Summer Kitchen for an overall footprint of 2,275 sf.

PRO
- Visible from Lincoln
- Easiest to expand
- Creates a community of structures with SK and High Tunnel
- Shaded Tree Area can replace shade structure

CON
- Less visible from Farm Stand
Option 4a pushes the Learning Garden footprint to the south, making more of a community of structures by adding the Teaching Area to the High Tunnel and Seed House. Overall footprint is 1575 sf.

**PRO**
- Visible from Lincoln
- Easy to expand
- Creates a community of structures with SK and High Tunnel

**CON**
- Less visible from Farm Stand
Mission: to grow food, inspire learning, build community, and foster connection to the land with the support of dedicated volunteers.
Master Plan Goals

Frontage on Federal Road
- This area is the main interface with the public and provides parking, sales, compost drop-off, and vehicle access into the farm.

Accessibility and the Learning Garden
- Handicapped accessibility
- A shade structure with a teaching space
- A sensory garden
- Raised, wheelchair-accessible plant beds
- Room for families or helpers to participate

Infrastructure: Power & Water
- Three power distribution boxes to cover Farm Program Areas and Solar Array
- Working w/ NCRS on irrigation plan
- Relocated wash station

Compost Operation
- Improve the efficiency by which food scraps are dropped off, moved to the compost area, composted, and then spread on the fields.
- Consider expanding drop-off to Public Safety lot

The Southwest Corner
- Unprogrammed area at the top of a rise, with nice shade trees. Possible place for gatherings, picnics, etc.?

Commemoration
- Donations, memories, recognitions ... consider ways to remember Friends of the Farm.

Vehicle Access
- More clearly define the lane for vehicles to bring and remove items