

Seventh Avenue Farms (SAF)

Proposal for a **Community Farming Park** at 7th Avenue & Brommer Street

Draft by Jean Brocklebank 7-29-09

Goal: To create a working park on an historically significant agricultural property, honoring the history of Live Oak, the land's original farmer (Emilio & Rose Maggiolo), and providing a real opportunity to lower our carbon footprint through planting & soil carbon sequestration.

1. To be a zero cost maintenance budget item for S.C. County by charging a small fee for the garden allotments and for sales at a Farmer's Market (which can be open daily, not just on weekends).
2. Design inviting walkways to encourage the public to stroll through and watch those at work producing local food. Add benches for viewing & socializing. Encourage student field trips.
3. Possible use of UCSC Agroecology Program interns who live on the eastside, reducing their weekly commute to main campus.
4. Provision of small-scale commercial composting facility, lessening trips to the landfill; compost to be used on-site and/or sold to residents for their home gardens for a small fee.
5. Provision of lots of bicycle parking, to encourage park visitors to either walk or bicycle to the Farm Park.
6. Small fruit tree orchard and nursery.
7. Small gazebo with ability of area commercial nursery & farm businesses to give free presentations on their services.
8. Irrigation system with small-scale cisterns to collect seasonal rainwater for re-use in summer months. Solar panels on built structures to provide any electrical needs.
9. Chicken house, secured from predators, for recycling vegetable & fruit scraps. Fresh eggs available daily to garden allotment holders or sale at the Farmer's market for a small fee. No roosters allowed.
10. Commercial hostel business for out-of-town visitors to the Harbor area. Meals derived from the farm park.
11. Part time Farm Overseer to manage Farm Park activity, salary derived from allotment fees & market sales. Community volunteers also encouraged.
12. Set aside and planting of a biodiverse natural area habitat, including milkweed (Asclepias californica or Asclepias tuberosa) for Monarch butterflies (Danaus plexippus) who may over winter on the Eucalyptus trees on the west side of the property. This can then be used as a student field trip resource.