

Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone (UAIZ)

Environmental Layer

Healthy Communities







What is IPS – Institute for Public Strategies?

- Founded in 1991
- Focus solely on Environmental Prevention
 - Protection Public Health & Safety
 - System/Project Design
 - Project Implementation
 - Current Projects: San Bernardino, San Diego & Los Angeles Counties
- Pomona: Champions for Change (C₄C)







IPS Pomona: Champions for Change (C4C)

- Program created to make healthy living easier in places we:
 - live, learn, work, play, pray & shop
- 3 Layers:
 - Individual Layer Nutritional Education
 - Pomona, Covina & West Covina
 - Institutional Layer School Gardens & Nourish
 - School Wellness Policy & Smarter Lunch Room
 - Environmental Layer Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone Policy
 - Community Gardens





What is the Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone?

- Program that uses vacant lots & land for a "small-scale agricultural purpose" to provide residents with healthier food options
- Created to address social & ecological factors that impact our region & residents
 - Lack of fresh produce in low income areas
 - Vandalism & littering





Mission & Goals

• Goals:

- Create a more sustainable & ethical form of living
- Improve the quality & nutritional content of food accessible to residents

• Mission:

- Increase land access for urban agriculture
- Community beautification
- Garden to table
- Family & child engagement
- Create supplemental income \$\$





Community Beautification

- Greener spaces
 - Empty lot = beautiful green garden
 - Reduce waste through compost
- Opportunity for recreation
- Decrease in vandalism
 - Reduce/stop illegal trash dumping
 - Increases "eyes on the street"



http://www.resilience.org/stories/2014-04-17/greening-philly-s-vacant-lots/



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Access to Healthier Foods

- Garden to table
 - Reduce "food miles" when transporting foods
 - Reduce the impact of "food deserts"
- Fresh grown fruits, vegetables & herbs
- Diverse foods
 - Opportunity to learn & try foods from different cultures



https://www.red-wing.org/red-wing-community-gardens.html





Family & Child Engagement

- Active time between family & children
 - Increase physical activity through garden maintenance
 - Improve poor nutrition & decrease obesity
 - Encourage kids to go outside
- Educate children & family on food, agriculture, environmental sustainability & health



http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2010/06/urban_farms_taking_root_in_gra.html





Economy \$\$

- Opportunity to create a supplemental income
 - Participants are able to sell their produce in local Farmers' Markets \$\$
- Educate themselves on the practice of gardening & agriculture



https://www.yelp.com/biz/farmers-market-pomona-valley-pomona



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Implementation

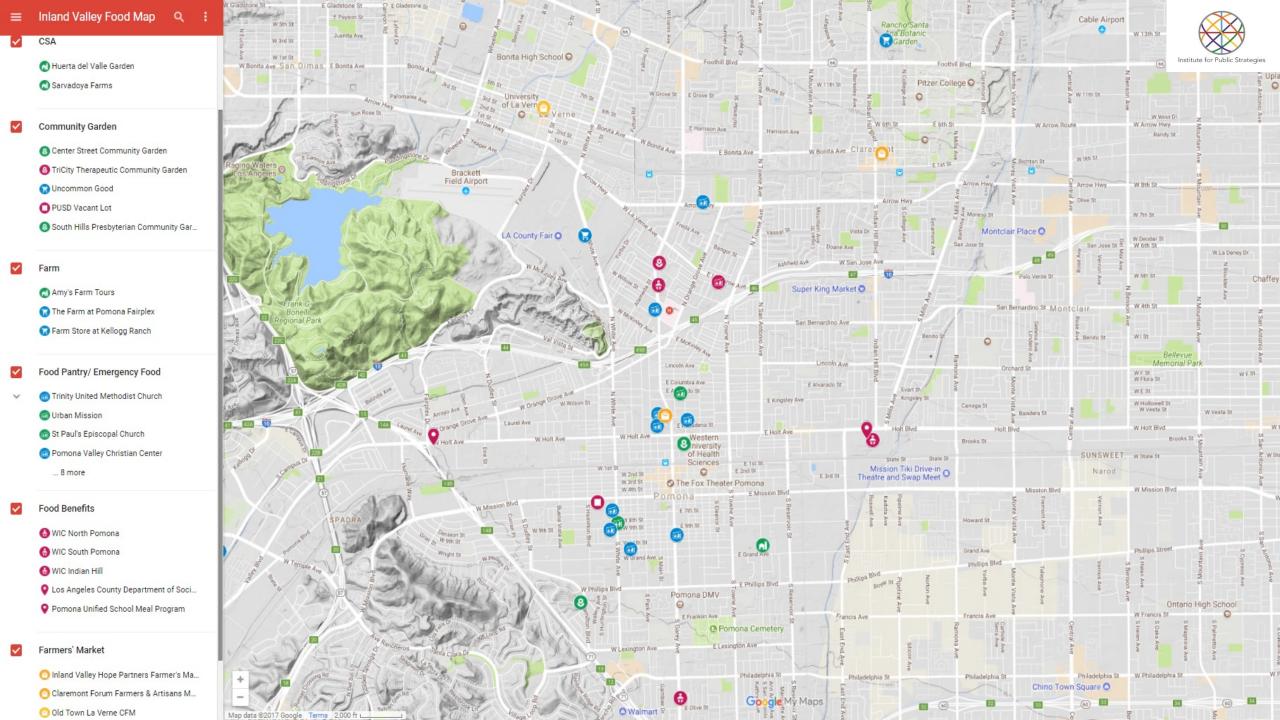
- Who can participate?
 - Community residents interested in growing their own food
- What can be harvested?
 - Fruit, vegetables & herbs
- How will the land be acquired?
 - Owners with empty lands can apply for a 5 yr lease to offer their land up for gardening & receive a tax reduction in property taxes.





Land Owners

- Can receive a tax reduction by leasing their land for a minimum of 5 yrs to be used as a garden in the UAIZ program
- The property qualifies if:
 - It's vacant
 - It's between o.1 -3 acres







Overall View

- The UAIZ was created to give residents access to fresh & healthy food
- Community gardens will help:
 - Improve the quality & nutritional content of food
 - Engage the community
 - Decrease vandalism
 - Educate people on food & health
 - Encourage kids to go outside



https://communitygarden.org



http://sustainablemaui.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/community-garden-sign.jpg





Contact Info

- Valeria Segura IPS Health Educator
- Phone #: (909) 266 1660 x 149
- Email: <u>vsegura@publichealthstrategies.org</u>