

McCarren Park Urban Farms and Green Infrastructure Corridor

LEAD SPONSOR: GrowNYC



The project will create an urban farm and green infrastructure corridor. The urban farm will contain a rain garden, demonstration urban gardens, and an area for community events and environmental education activities for residents, schools, and community groups.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES:

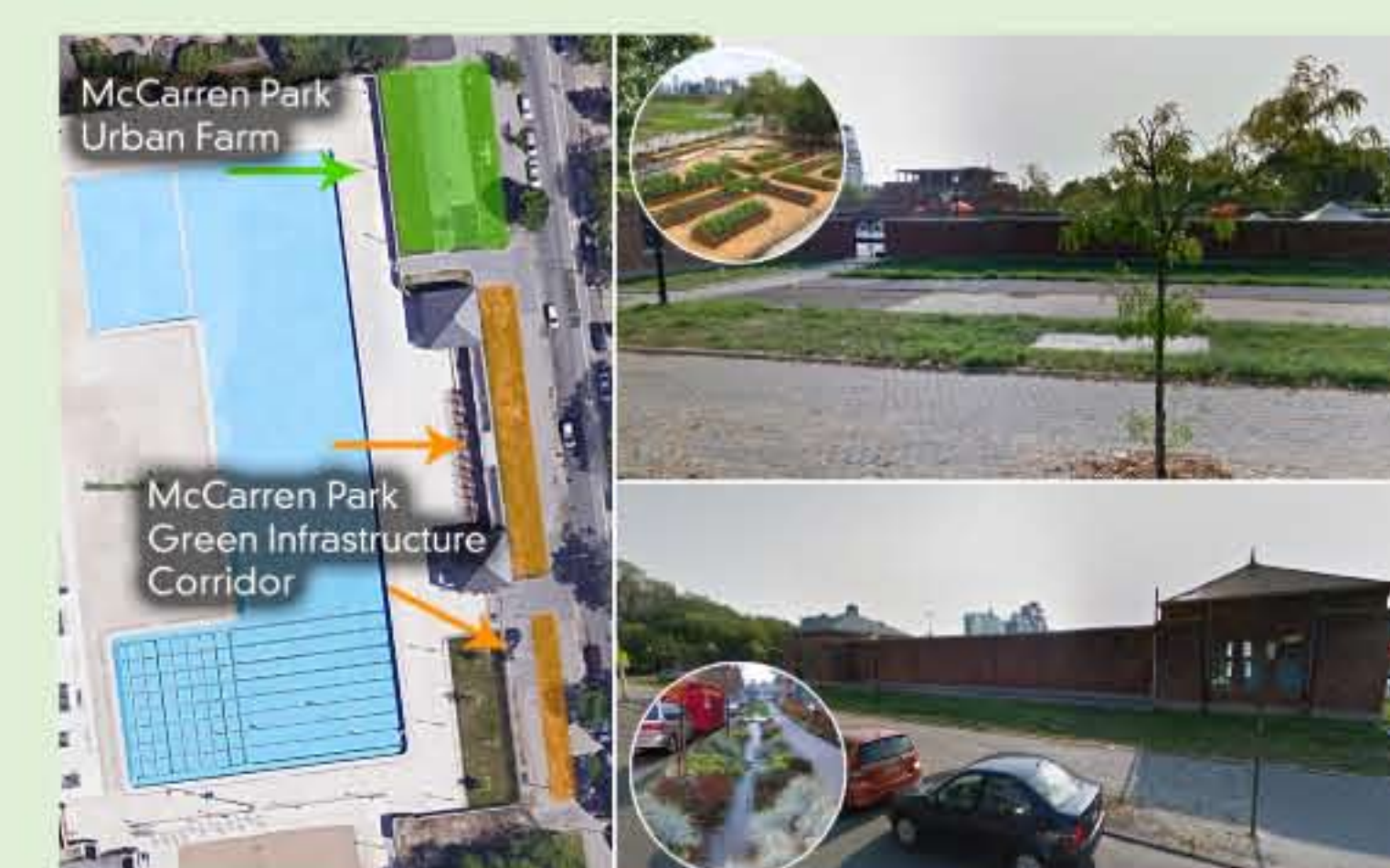
- Create rain gardens.
- Install model demonstration urban gardens with programs about soil health, raised beds, and plants.
- Install signs about environmental stewardship and conservation.
- Create a “best practices” manual with information for Greenpoint residents about the principles and concepts used in the project.
- Conduct community programming including site tours and workshops about how to build a garden and use green infrastructure (e.g., rain gardens and rainwater harvesting) in backyards, on roofs, and in community spaces; and use the urban farm to teach about environmental sustainability, energy, ecosystems, safe urban gardening practices, and more.
- Offer three on-site workshops for students (grades 5-12), teachers, and parents about energy, solar, earth science and other topics.
- Provide a community event space, tours, and workshops.

The project will provide additional garden and green space, harvest, capture, and treat polluted rainwater before it enters sewers and waterways; provide wildlife habitat; and improve air quality. The enhancements will be “learning gardens” to be used as sites for environmental education for residents, schools, and community groups. The proposed model urban gardens will be set up to encourage community members to support residential green space expansion by showing residents how to transform their own space.

GRANT REQUEST: \$477,084

VALUE OF APPLICANT & PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS: \$307,700

LOCATION: McCarren Park, Greenpoint



PROJECT GOALS

- Capture approximately 210,800 gallons of polluted stormwater annually.
- Provide 12,400 sq. ft. of green space.
- Provide 1,500 sq. ft. of model urban gardens.
- Improve air quality.
- Build awareness about urban gardening and environmental topics in the community.
- Engage residents in transforming and expanding their own green spaces.

PROJECT PARTNERS: GreenThumb, Open Space Alliance for North Brooklyn, and NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation