



Table of Contents

Three New Garden Additions	2
Coming Soon!	
Two New Garden Projects	3
New Website and Newsletter	4
Garden Events	4
Kids in the Garden	4
The Future:	
From Drains to Dreams	5
Community Outreach	6





LBO has been busy in the last year or two. Here is an update showing your donations at work:

Three New Garden Additions

LBO's mission is to create a "quilt" of garden spaces throughout the city. In the past 18 months, we have added three new organic community gardens to our collection:

Saint Luke's Church, a downtown landmark, had a small garden on the premises that had fallen into disuse. A year ago May we were approached by Rev. Anna Olsen for advice, and agreed to take over management of the garden, which is now used by both parishioners and neighbors. Fruit trees for a small orchard were donated by Tree People, and we recently rebuilt the beds, making them larger and adding three new ones, providing 16 households with room to garden.



The Wrigley Village Community Garden is only a year old, and it has already become a focal point on Pacific Avenue. Annette LaBarca, the owner of the property at 2044 Pacific, donated the use of the lot for 5 years. The garden was created in collaboration with the Neighborhood Leadership Program, which made it one of their team projects. An existing Art Deco fence was salvaged and reconfigured. The garden has 24 individual plots, a small orchard, herb and iris beds, a kid's garden area, and arched grape arbors along a central path.



The South 40 Community Garden, on South Street in North Long Beach, is another project on private property, its use donated by Francisco de los Santos, a local businessman. Arrangements like these give property owners a break from insurance bills, weed abatement and other maintenance, as well as a tax deduction, and the community benefits by having a place to grow and learn. The garden opened in April 2010 and is a work in progress featuring 46 individual plots and a large demonstration area where produce is being grown for charity. There is a schoolhouse-style shed and a large pergola, both built by students from Jordan High School, as well as a pond and butterfly habitat, a chicken coop, and a memorial flower garden to Mrs. de los Santos.

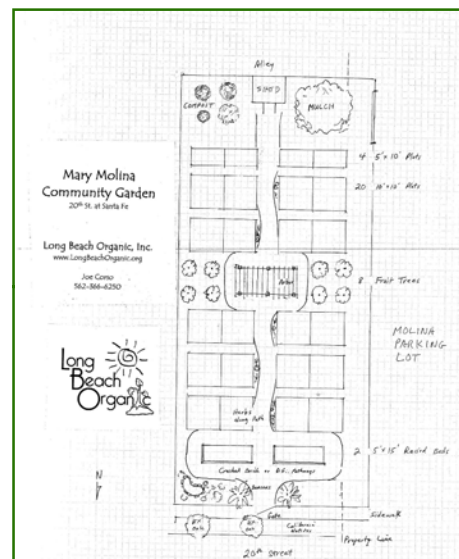


Gardeners at work in the South 40

Coming Soon!

The “Top of the Town” Community Garden, near Atlantic and the 91 Freeway, will be located in the large front yard of Bill and Lynette Tholkes, who own adjacent horse stables.

The Mary Molina Community Garden will be our first on the west side of Long Beach, on 20th St, near Santa Fe. LBO will help create and manage the garden for the city Parks, Recreation and Marine Department, which will fund the project.



New Website and Newsletter



An interactive website and a colorful quarterly newsletter help us keep in touch with members and the public. Readers can subscribe online to receive regular updates on LBO events.



Community Events

The 2nd Annual **Summer Solstice Celebration** in June was an opportunity to invite the public into our Wild Oats garden for fun, sun, food, live music and an introduction to organic gardening. This fundraiser is one of the high points of the year



A **May Garden Party** at Wrigley Village was a chance to invite back to the garden all those who helped to launch this project, to show how far the garden has come in such a short time. Over 100 invitees enjoyed wine and hors d'oeuvres on a beautiful spring afternoon.

Kids in the Garden

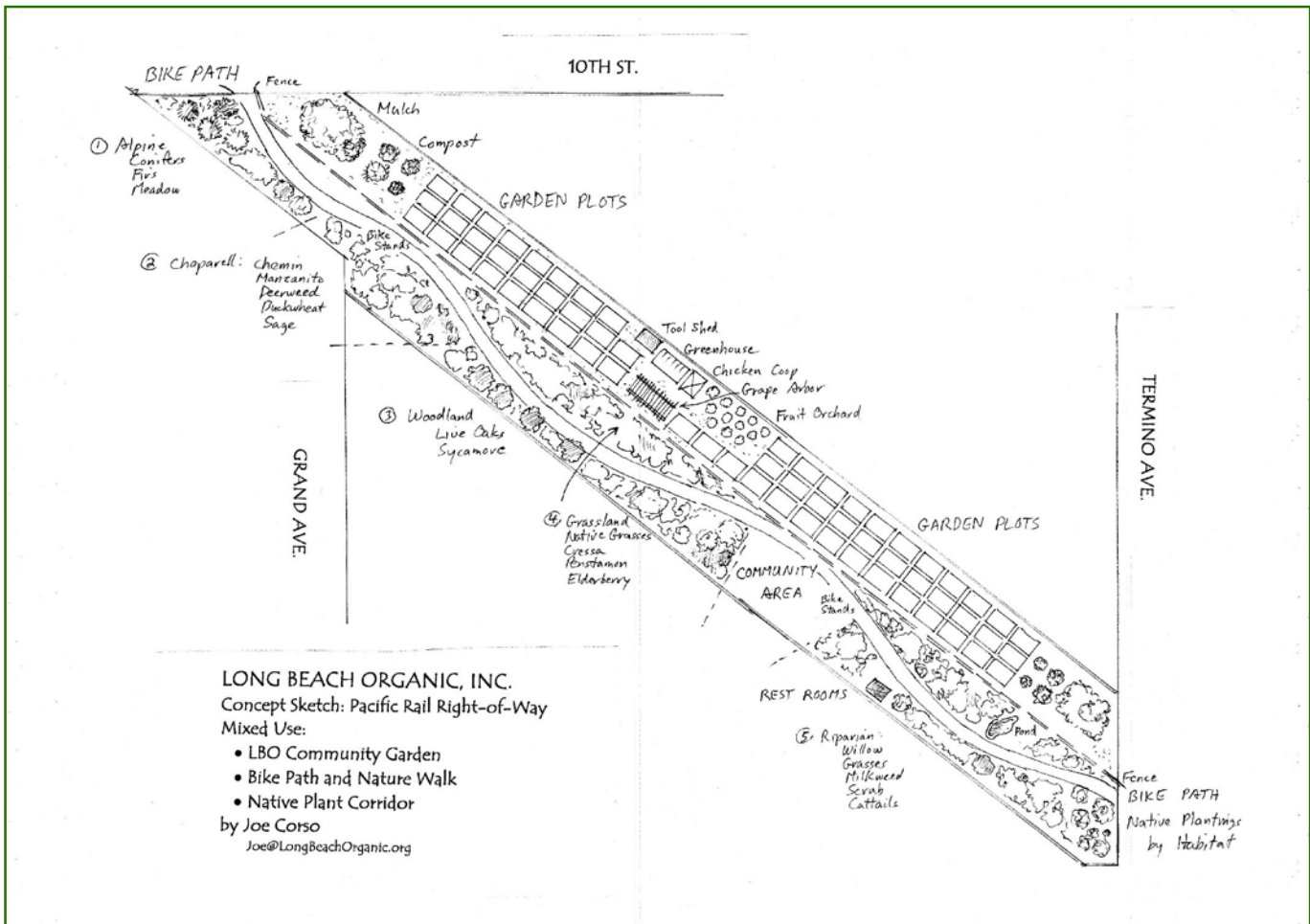
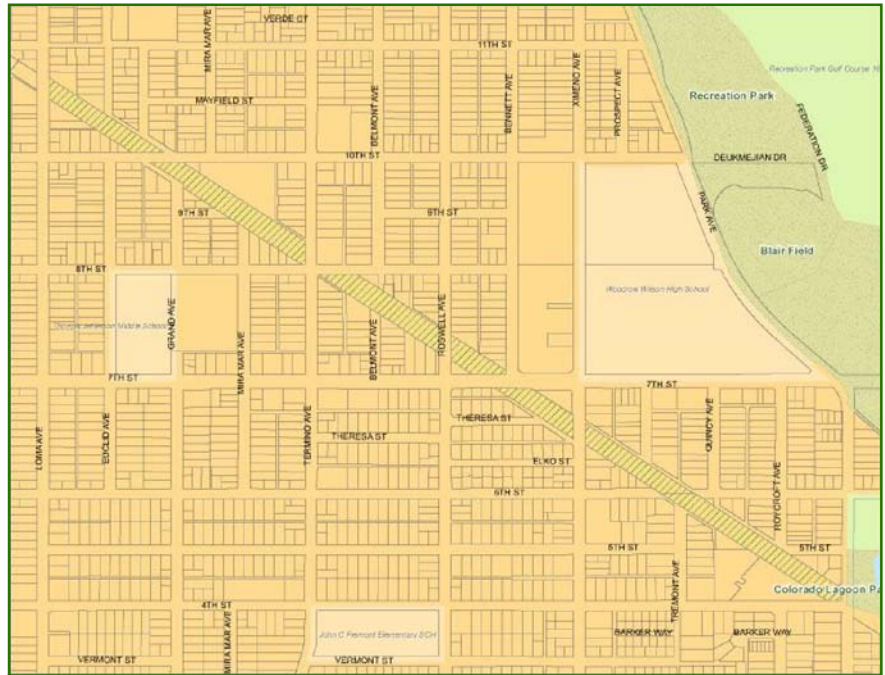
Through the city's **Summer Youth Employment Program**, we spent last summer working with a group of at-risk youth, who participated in the major construction of the South 40 Garden.

Chef Paul Buchanan's annual **"Days of Taste"** for students at Fremont Elementary School was featured on Jamie Oliver's *Food Revolution*. Kids toured the gardens and visited a Farmers' Market.



The Future: From Drains to Dreams

The Termino Drain Project, which is now being run through the Pacific Rail right of way, will displace our Wild Oats Garden for a while. However we look forward not only to a clean slate to re-design the garden, but the potential for community garden space along the entire corridor! We are talking with city departments and community organizations about a possible mixed use for the green belt, with a ribbon of community gardens along the north side and a bike and pedestrian path through a series of native plantings.



Community Outreach

City officials and community leaders have recognized LBO as a key organization to partner with in achieving healthier and more livable neighborhoods. Here are some of the ways we have recently partnered with groups and individuals who share our vision:

Participated in the Youth Obesity Conference at Miller Children's Hospital this Spring.

Spoke at the Southern California Public Health Association's Annual Conference, leading to our expertise being sought by the Health Department in designing an on-site garden for staff use and public demonstration.

Consulted with the New City School on renewing the student-tended garden.

A USC student film team interviewed LBO representatives about how community gardens can help overcome health and income disparities.

Introduced the documentary "**Food, Inc.**", featuring Michael Pollen, at the Art Theater, speaking to how community gardens can be the antithesis to industrial food.

Provided an organic lunch for several city council offices presenting information about how organic community gardening improves communities.

Spoke at the Food Environmental Forum, hosted by the Long Beach Diabetes Collaborative and the Long Beach Alliance for Food and Fitness.

Gave tours of our gardens to numerous groups and individuals, including students and teachers from Freeman Middle School, Tom Good and others from the International Trade Education Program, and the management of Whole Foods Market.

Spoken at Neighborhood Association meetings and garden clubs

Featured in the Grunion Gazette, Long Beach Report, Press Telegram, and most recently in Long Beach Magazine "The Best Of" issue which listed three LBO gardens. Bill Pearl of LBReport.com has done extensive coverage of our projects, with videos chronicling the openings of the Wrigley Village and South 40 Gardens.



Dr. Julie Bolton, LBO Secretary, with founding LBO board member Regina Taylor at the Food Environmental Forum