Project Oasis: 
An Urban Garden in Worcester

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Problem
Fresh, healthy food options are unavailable for residents living in the Shrewsbury Street Food Desert in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Solution
Implement an urban garden in a vacant lot located at Gateway Park.

Mechanics
Support
• Contact lot owners and corner store owners

Construction
• Plant seeds / Grow crops
• Train volunteers and store owners

Marketing and Distribution
• Promote garden and stores to community
• Establish community membership cards
• Distribute produce to stores

Potential Transformation

Assessment
• Survey residents
• Analyze garden production
• Evaluate corner store progress

Cost Estimates / 5000 ft²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price ($)</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fencing</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>Part-time Farmer</td>
<td>8,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soil</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>Seeds</td>
<td>2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Piping/Hydrant</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>Soil Tests</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garden Beds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tools / Equipment</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL 15,000</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL 10,930</strong></td>
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Benefits
1. Local Community
   • Easy access to healthy food
   • Improved diet
2. Store Owners
   • More customers
   • Increased sales
3. WPI
   • Pro-sustainability
   • Empowers students
   • Builds community

References
USDA Food Access Research Atlas.


http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b3/North_view_of_a_Chicago _urban_garden.jpg