

1up Design Competition

St. James Town Community Garden

Team 3

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Project Statement

The St. James Town Community Garden is redesigned with the theme of *My Neighbor Totoro*, which is a famous animated film. This film was chosen as the theme because it revolves around the connection to nature and it inspired efforts to preserve nature, supporting the garden's objective of improving community greenery and food security. It also creates a sense of belonging, coziness, and an appealing journey of discovery for people who would like to visit the garden.

The focus of our design was to provide better accessibility, climate resiliency, and multigenerational engagements. These are reflected in our walkways, plant diversity, and numerous elements of decorations and interactions.

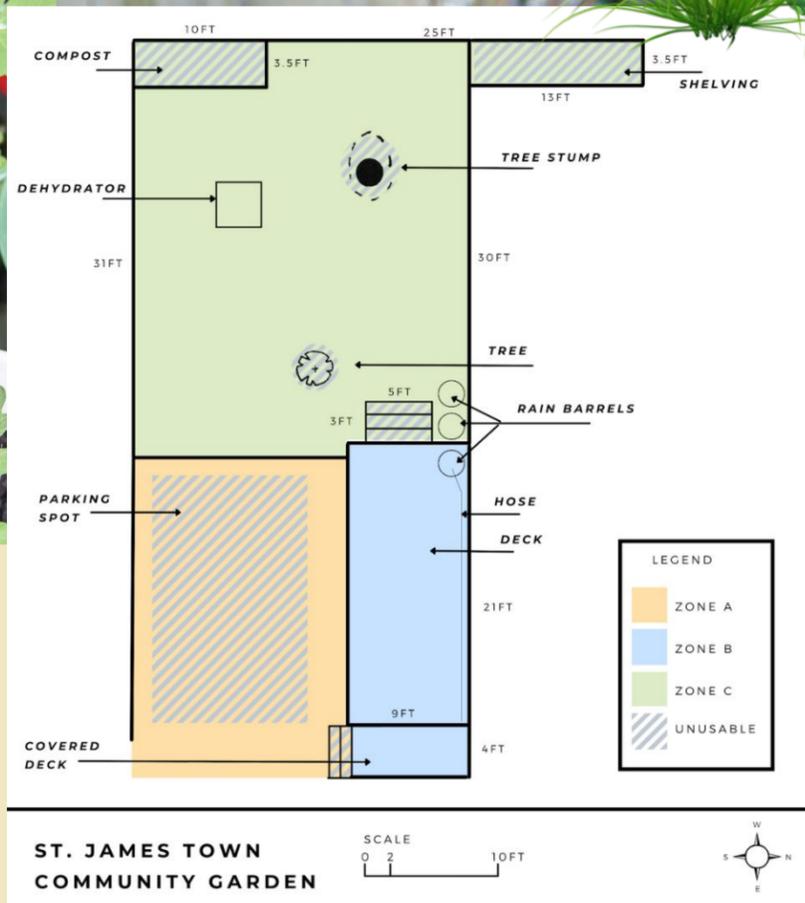


Site Context

St. James Town Community Garden is located in a backyard near Sherbourne and Wellesley in Toronto.

The community significance of the garden is its OASIS Food Hub program, which is a small part of the co-op's long term vision of improving food sovereignty in St. James Town.

In 1991, the Low Income Families Together (LIFT) formed in St. James Town for support. In 2006, St. James Town residents called for healthy and accessible food and water in a study on the neighborhood. Hence, the garden is seen as a place for residents to engage with and improve the community.



Site Users



The garden is designed for all age groups and people of different backgrounds who live in the community. This includes physically-disabled people, immigrants, children, teenagers, adults and elders. The garden can provide knowledge and learning experiences for the youth, while granting a place for families to interact and individuals to take a break from reality.

St. James town has a high population density and the greenbelt is insufficient. 36% of the population are categorized as "low income" and 56% indicated that their first language is not English. Thus, many residents can come to the garden for socialization and the fantastic growing process of the plants.



Precedent 1 of 3



Zone A

Parking Lot



Graphics and illustrations will be painted on the walls of the parking lot, introducing the theme of the garden to the visitors.



Waste management recycle bins will be placed in the parking lot with educational illustrations about recycling progresses and classification of different types of wastes. Guiding the newcomers while educating children.

Precedent 2 of 3



Zig-zag walkways with vertical gardening to welcome visitors.



A doodle wall is granted for everyone!



Zone B

A relaxing, welcoming area for visitors.
Let's take a break from everything ...

Graphics will be painted on the deck floor for decoration and educational purposes.



Umbrellas will be provided for visitors.

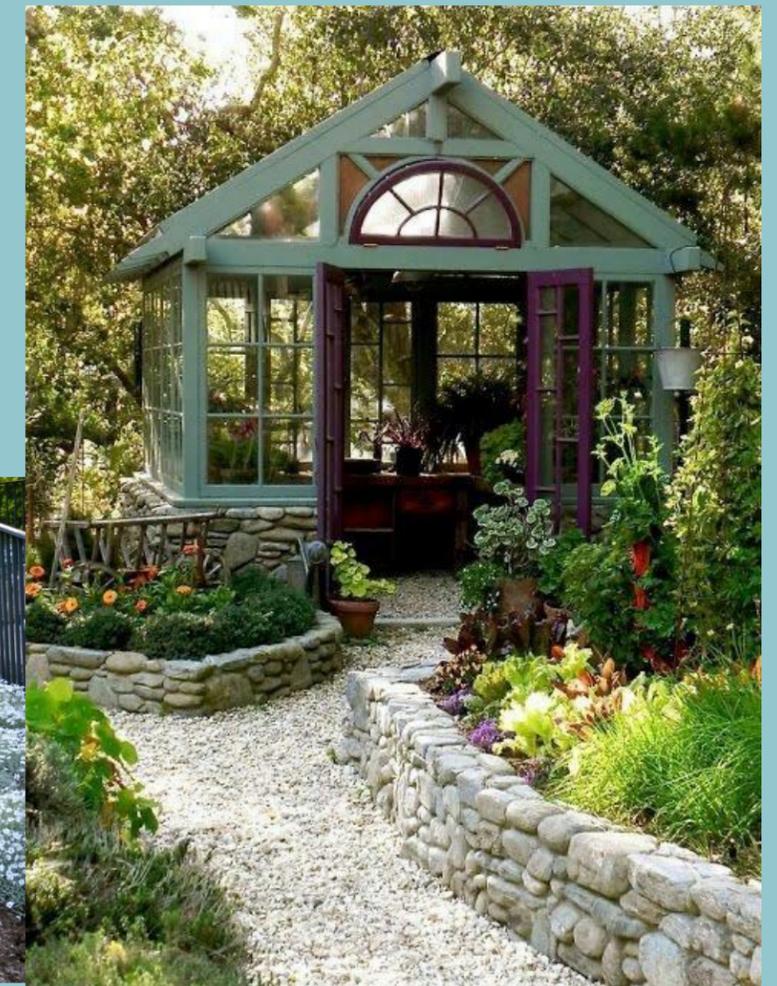
Precedent 3 of 3



Vertical gardening will be featured to save space and create a mysterious environment the visitors can immerse themselves in.



Zone C



Lights will be built around the walkways and in the garden to create a warm atmosphere.



The greenhouse will be used as a gardening and gathering area for the winter months.

Program



Team 3 Concept Plan

Welcome to

St. James Town Community Garden

