Zion Garden Park
AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Conservation District of Southern Nevada

This program is funded by a grant from:
National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)
in partnership with:
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Core Partner Organizations

Conservation District of Southern Nevada
Program Administrator

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
Garden Services & Workshop Administration

Zion United Methodist Church
Garden Location & Management

USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service
Seasonal High Tunnel Development

State Renewable Energy
3D Project Design & STEM Education Development

Terra Firma Organics, Inc.
Composting, Soil, & Garden Services

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Recycling, Reclamation, & Landfill Diversion

Green Chips
Media
CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE

The Choice Neighborhood Grant is giving the City of North Las Vegas and its residents the opportunity to work together to share ideas on the best ways to create beautiful and safe neighborhoods. The City would like your input. For more information, please contact the City of North Las Vegas staff, the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority, Nevada Partners, or Lutheran Social Services to learn more about the Choice Neighborhood Grant and how you can impact the future of your Neighborhood.

For more information on how to get involved, please contact Jim Haye at 702-633-1441 or email to hayej@cityofnorthlasvegas.com.

The future of Your Neighborhood needs your input now!
THE BACKGROUND

• Zion United Methodist Church is in an underserved community in North Las Vegas, NV
• Designated a revitalization area by the N. Las Vegas Choice Neighborhood Initiative
• North Las Vegas & CDSN are partners in the Southern Nevada Strong Regional Plan
• Bordered by the highest food insecurity zones in the valley: 27.5%, 23.2%, 21.5%
• The garden is located in a Low Income (LI), Low Access (LA) food desert
• The Las Vegas Valley receives 4.19” of annual rainfall, 89% less than the national avg.
Planning Meetings at Zion Church

- Included land surveys, 3D designing, soil testing, guest speakers, & expert analysis
- Raised garden beds, irrigation, plants, trees (fruit, nut, shade, & other pollinators)
- Fencing, pathways, benches, shade structures, hoop houses, composting area
INTERACTIVE 3D MODELING

Designed By:
State Renewable Energy

GROUP COLLABORATION

• Provides a virtual environment to view, change, and adjust the design

• This also allows for mobile access to the garden and remote planning capabilities
• Built an additional 47 raised garden beds
• The 1-acre garden area now has 64 raised beds
  • (40) are 14’ by 5’ and (24) are 8’ by 4’ and ADA accessible
• Garden features automatic irrigation from PD Landscaping
• Constructed by Zion church members with support from Nevada Partners
**SEEDLINGS PROVIDED BY WEST CTA**

- Grown at West Career and Technical Academy, a local high school with a licensed nursery
- Planting done by PACE students
- Grew over 1,000 seedlings for the garden (broccoli, chard, kale, tomatoes, peppers, etc.)
**TIME TO PLANT – SOIL FROM TERRA FIRMA**

- Soil donated by Terra Firma Organics and tested for safety
- Testing included checking for aminopyralid which can damage vegetable gardens
- Seedlings were fertilized with an organic mixture prepared by West CTA
Zion Community Garden Park

- City of North Las Vegas donated an iron fence & permeable pathway surrounding the 1-acre garden
- They also donated a 30’ by 30’ shade structure and concrete for park benches
- Hoop Houses are being funded through USDA-NRCS
- Working with USDA-NRCS & NDF to obtain trees
**Community Outreach**

- Community Garden Liaison: Visiting 30 local gardens to coordinate regional data, identify challenges, and communicate successes and failures.

- Web Information Technician: Compiling data and local farmer’s market information, organizing video series, managing social media.
ZION COMMUNITY GARDEN PARK GRAND OPENING

• Garden beds are leased to and managed by community members for $60 per year
• Zion Garden Team oversees the garden along with assistance from UNCE Master Gardeners
• Gave away seedlings from West CTA with purchase of raised bed at grand opening
• Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno and Assemblyman William McCurdy attended, sponsored
• University of Nevada Cooperative Extension sponsored 30 raised beds for community members
COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

- Veggies is Small Places
- Growing Fruit in Southern NV
- Troubleshooting your Garden
- Nutrition and Healthy Eating
- Understanding your Soils
- Chemicals in the Garden
- Diabetes Meal Planning
- Fertilizing
COMMUNITY GARDENING & NUTRITION WORKSHOPS
CREATE A CHANGE NOW

LIVE CHEF DEMONSTRATIONS

- Taught by local chefs
- Featuring culinary students
- Health & nutrition information
- Utilizing food from the garden
- Audience participation
- Tasting samples
LIVE CHEF DEMONSTRATIONS
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS & SPONSORS

West Career and Technical Academy
PD Landscaping
Nevada Partners
Impact Sand & Gravel
Star Nursery
Ahern
Home Depot
University of Nevada Las Vegas
Nevada Division of Forestry
Create a Change Now
Online articles include:

- USDA-NRCS
- NACD eResource
- Nevada Farm Bureau
- Green Chips
- UMC Newsletter
- EL Mundo, Las Vegas
- LV Review Journal
- various social media

The grant funds were matched two to one within three months from the start of the project.”

Zion Garden Project received the 2016 “Conservation Excellence in Agriculture” award from the NvACD, first time given to an urban agriculture program.

Zion Garden Project received the 2017 “Community Partner” award from Green Chips and the 2017 “Transformers” award from USGBC and Green Alliance.

NACD CEO, Jeremy Peters and Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Michael Scuse have both toured the garden.

Photo: Nevada Farm Bureau’s Agriculture and Livestock Journal, January 2017
PLANS IN PROGRESS

• Farmer’s Market  •  Hoop Houses  •  Composting Area  •  Redevelopment
FEATURES:
• Community Orchard
• Hydroponics, Aquaponics
• Solar Power
• Robotics & Automation
• STEM Learning Lab