Introduction
Goals for Today

- Share ideas
- Create interest in designing for food
- Identify ways to move ahead with designing for food
Food in the spotlight

- Focus on health
- Link to climate change;
- Growth pressure on agricultural land;
- Popular culture trends around food;
  - Sustainable dining;
  - 100 mile diet.
Increasing urbanization and densification

Urban planning with a focus on livability

Design led approach to food
What does design for food mean?

- “Hard wiring” to provide for food growing areas and related food activities
- Program design
BENEFITS OF DESIGNING FOR FOOD

Social

- community development and capacity building,
- therapy and recreation,
- crime reduction,
- addiction rehabilitation,
- education around healthy diets,
BENEFITS OF DESIGNING FOR FOOD-Ecological/Infrastructure

- Open space management;
- Storm water management;
- Habitat creation, increase urban biodiversity;
- Waste diversion and composting.
**BENEFITS OF DESIGNING FOR FOOD**

**Economic**

- Marketing focused on health and sustainability;
- Increasing property values;
- Investment in local economies.
Design Principles and Considerations
Design Principles

- Multi-use
- Think-like-a-gardener
- Flexibility & adaptability
- Visibility and Appearance
- Demonstration
Technical Considerations

- Soil type and depth
- Drainage
- Wind exposure
- Access
- Water sources and uses
- Size and dimension of beds
- Orientation/exposure
- Materials
- Supporting structures
Management Considerations

- Who and how will UA spaces be managed?
  - Requires local solutions;
  - Working with strata councils;
  - Neighbourhood organizations and NGOs; and
  - Partnerships with landscape caretakers.

Solaire Green Roof Garden in Battery Park
Spaces where food can be planned/designed:

- Rooftops, balconies
- Around buildings
- Inside buildings
- Courtyards
- Parks
- Plaza
- Waterfront
- Streets
- Schools and Community Centres
- Community Demonstration Garden
Design Considerations

- Intensive and extensive green roof for gardens;
- Espalier fruit/nut trees;
- Arbour with vines;
- Cold frames;
- Bee hives;
- Themed Gardens;
- Living/green wall;
- Public art & ornamental structures;
Local Examples of Designing for Food
SEFC
Multi-functionality

Growing areas, community table, Children's play area

Site Plan Courtesy of Durante Kreuk Landscape Architects
SEFC
Supporting Structures
Hose bib, composter, potting bench, cold frame

Site Plan Courtesy of Durante Kreuk
Landscape Architects

Holland Barrs Planning Group
SEFC Accessibility

Ramp, raised beds
SEFC
Space for preparing and sharing food

BBQ, Sink, Community table,

Site Plan Courtesy of Durante Kreuk Landscape Architects
Planned dedication of lands for community agriculture.

These lands will be planted with appropriate fruit trees and will be available for community allotment gardens (Pg 27).
Langford
Community Agriculture areas

- 3 Community agriculture areas
- Westhills is a
  - residential development (5000+ unit mixed use community) and
  - LEED ND project.
- Food growing and associated activities have been identified as important to sustainability of the project.
Fresia

- Voluntary
- Plots sold separately from units
- Plots are available for approx 30% of units
- Has an associated amenity room with lockers
Fresia
High density context
Fresia
Multi-use
Fresia Container design
Policies and Guidelines to Support Designing for Food
POLICIES & GUIDELINES
LEED ND- Option 1

➢ Neighbourhood farms and gardens
POLICIES & GUIDELINES
LEED ND- Option 2

- Community supported agriculture
POLICIES & GUIDELINES

LEED ND- Option 3

- Proximity to farmers market
In large projects food growing areas can be considered in negotiations.

Discussion point: Can food growing areas be considered an amenity?
POLICIES & GUIDELINES
Urban Agriculture Guidelines

- City of Vancouver
- Consultation process
- Is specific to allotment plots and edible landscaping
POLICIES & GUIDELINES
Urban Agriculture Guidelines

- Addresses the following topics
  - Siting and Access
  - Co-locating with Other Amenities
  - Number and Size of Garden Plots
  - Design of Garden Plots
  - Support Facilities
  - Edible Landscaping
  - Stewardship
Cool stuff
LEADING EDGE
Center for Urban Agriculture

Source: Mithun Architects
Green Walls- Indoor
Green Walls - Outdoor
Green Walls - Outdoor
Sooke Harbour House
Herb and Veggie Growing
Sooke Harbour House-Composter
Sooke Harbour House
Cold Frames
Next Steps- How to start designing for food

- Internal workshops on how to design for food;
- Design charrettes;
- Food strategies;
- Public education.
Conclusion

- Food is a key piece of the sustainability challenge;
- Designing for food enhances multiple objectives;
- Designing for food is easy.
Questions & Discussion
Thank-you!

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