

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES



The following questions were received from members of the Twin Oaks Board and were answered by the DGS Project Managers and Team.

1. A map (Kenny called it a grid) of the new garden location with dimensions and key features.
The modernization team is currently working on a detailed site plan of the garden at the new location. This will be distributed to the 'transition' team prior to the meeting on August 19th.
2. The results of the soil test at the new garden location.
The results will be posted on the DGS website by COB Tuesday, August 12th.
3. Copies of the Environmental Impact Screening Forms for both the new garden (if it has been completed) and the Powell project (as requested earlier by Robin Griffin).
A copy of all documents submitted to date for the existing project will be made available within the next week.
4. What is the budget or maximum expenditure available for the new garden project (including buffer funding to cover overages)?
There is contingency in the Powell modernization budget that will be used in order to relocate the garden to the new site. Contingency is included in the proposal from the contractor (MCN Build) in order to address any cost overages for the community garden project as they may arise.
5. Does DGS plan to remove trees at the new location? If so, is there a permitting process for that and how long is that process expected to take?
At this time we are not proposing to remove any trees at the new garden location.
6. Are there any other permitting issues involved with new garden construction? In other words, are there things other than our collaboration that need to happen before construction is completed?
DGS will need to submit permits in order to perform this work, however we (DGS) are comfortable that we will be able to complete this project in a timely manner with the assistance of our sister agencies.

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7. We are concerned that there could be unforeseen permitting or other issues that would delay the new garden – is DGS willing to commit in writing to leaving the old garden in place until the new one is completed?

DGS is committing to a plan that will relocate the garden and not disrupt any of the planting seasons for the plants currently located in the Twin Oaks community garden.

8. Is the area behind the new apartment building to the east of the new garden location available for inclusion in the new garden?

This is private property.

9. What role will the Department of Parks and Recreation play in the process of developing the new garden design and timeline?

They will be involved in the design and construction process to provide input and oversight as necessary since they are the tenants of the garden. We (DGS) have requested specifications for community gardens from DPR so that Twin Oaks is in compliance with other community gardens across the district.

10. What is the status of the zoning permits for the Powell Elementary expansion, including the approval of the proposed parking lots?

The Zoning review has been completed and approved by DCRA.

11. Does the Environmental Impact Assessment for the Powell Elementary expansion include the garden destruction and new parking lot? The last one we saw only included the smaller parking lot and made no mention of the garden or larger lot.

The construction of the Powell modernization is phased by building (Building A, B, C and D). Similarly the permit applications and the EISF are phased as well.