

# Proposal for Community Garden



# SGI-SA - Who We are

- Soka Gakkai International (“Society for the creation of value”)
- Nichiren Buddhist organisation promoting peace, culture and education
- National Centre
  - Used for community activities such as AfriKids Festival on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2016
  - Hope Talks - public dialogues on social issues for nation building
  - Exhibitions, launches
  - Interfaith engagements
  - Regular meetings of SGI Gauteng chapter

# Broader motivation for such a project

- Going local
  - Grow most perishable, vitamin-rich foods close to where we live or commute
- Culture: food at the heart of our community
  - A chance to reconnect with nature and one's neighbours
  - Respite from the quick tempo of urban life
- Health and nutrition
  - 'Greening' our plates
  - Tackling food justice
- Food security and waste
  - Understanding what it takes to grow what we need, and
  - how to develop ecosystems around food production that reduces waste-to-landfill

# Jozi Food Gardens

- Comprised of individuals interested and involved in urban small-scale food production in Johannesburg communities
- Initiated in 2014
- Aim for community connectedness and benefits by example and education in enhancing the urban space
- Working with like-minded partners such as SGI-SA

# Community Food Garden

- SGI-SA and Jozi Food Gardens have agreed to cooperate to create a Community Food Garden on the site of one of the bowling greens
- Subject to approval by Joburg Property Company (JPC)

# Purpose of Community Garden:

- To demonstrate the viability and sustainability of urban food production by growing organic produce in an urban space.
- To provide the community with access to fresh produce.
- To create employment and training opportunities as well as education and awareness around growing food and nutrition.
- The aim is that this garden becomes a sustainable community food garden model that can be replicated in other neighbourhoods.

# Still to be decided:

- Ultimate beneficiaries
- How it will be sustainable
- Community involvement

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