**HISTORY OF THE GARFIELD PARK COMMUNITY ORCHARD**

**2010-2012**

President Obama's Stimulus Plan allocates funding to the City of Chicago to create a re-entry jobs program for residents returning from the Department of Corrections to the Garfield Park neighborhood. The Safer Foundation, Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance and a local landscape company create a two-year green job training program. The southwest corner of Sacramento and Fifth Ave. was a site developed under the green jobs program.

**May 2013**

The Garfield Park Community Council participates in World Business Chicago's Kickstarter campaign. Over $7,000 was raised from local residents and supporters to open the market at Kedzie and Lake Street.

**2013-present**

The Neighborhood Market sells over 3,000 pounds of locally grown fresh vegetables between June through October. Residents have made numerous requests for local fruits be sold at the Market.

**2015**

The Garfield Park Garden Network and Openlands apply to the City of Chicago for Open Space Impact Fee Funds.
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### 2015
**July 2015 & September 2015**
The City of Chicago hosts two community meetings in East Garfield Park to discuss methods for helping the community become better prepared for extreme weather events. This was a part of the City’s analysis in developing a plan to identify locations for projects that divert stormwater from the City’s combined sewer system and provide multiple community benefits in the communities that are most vulnerable to extreme heat and urban flooding. **These are the meetings when the City first heard about the community’s desire to build an orchard.**

### Summer 2017
The City applies for a green infrastructure grant from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) to provide funding for Orchard construction. MWRD awards $500,000 to project in early 2018.

### February 2018
City Council committee considers funding the community fruit orchard.

### Feb. 2018-now
The community fruit orchard is on the Garfield Park Community Council's monthly community meeting agenda.

### August 2018
Community meeting at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 3162 W Monroe, to discuss stormwater flooding and emergency readiness.

### September & October 2018
Door to door outreach for the orchard project. Over 2,100 postcards delivered door to door. Several outreach days knocking on doors surrounding the orchard site.

Community Orchard design meetings with the Chicago Department of Planning and Development, AECOM and the Garfield Park Community Council.