



LIVABILITY22202



July 15, 2021

Dear HUG Contributor and Garden Enthusiast:

On behalf of the Livability22202 Open Space Working Group and the Arlington Friends of Urban Agriculture, we wish to express our gratitude for your contribution to the great success of the Highlands Urban Garden (HUG) pilot project in Virginia Highlands Park.

We have clearly achieved our key goals: showcasing how community-driven agriculture can transform and enhance urban spaces, and demonstrating the power of partnerships across public, private, civic and non-profit communities. Some 45 volunteers have given 405 hours in the preparation, planting, tending, and harvesting of our crops. So many people have passed by the HUG and expressed appreciation for the beauty and efficacy of the project. In return, the project has shown how working in a small space with limited resources can create a highlight for community action.

To date, we have grown and donated over 100 lbs of produce to various charities:

Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC)

Rock Spring Church Produce DropOff

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church

Produce included: lettuce, mustard greens, kale, Swiss, chard, herbs, bok choy, beans, cucumbers

We are well on our way to reach the goal of donating 500 pounds of produce this year. We have requested permission to continue for another year, with winter crops continuing into the cold months, and new plants beginning again in early spring. None of this would be possible without our wonderful donors who contributed funding and in-kind donations.

To thank our donors and volunteers and to formally present the HUG to the larger community, we invite you to attend a short inauguration ceremony on **Monday, July 26, at 10 am**, in front of the HUG. We plan opening remarks of thanks from Livability, FOUA, and County Board member Libby Garvey. We will then harvest whatever produce is ready that day. Press is invited.

Please join our celebration at the HUG July 26 at 10:00 am.

From the Garden,

Carol Fuller
Livability22202Open Space Working Group

David Sachs
Friends of Urban Agriculture