

# Updates from the Local Agriculture Community Coordinator- March 2025

## Open Space Agriculture Lands

OSD is pursuing long-term lease agreements that enable farmers to invest in long-term visioning and apply for programs and grants that support farmland infrastructure. The agreements emphasize regenerative agriculture and wildlife habitat.



## Resources and Technical Support

- The OSD completed a large-scale wildfire mitigation project in the Bosque. Invasive trees were mulched and over 1,000 cubic yards of that were delivered to 21 schools, community gardens, and greening projects by OSD staff in 2 seasons, over \$120K value.
- 130 cubic yards of organic compost was provided to 21 community and school garden sites throughout the city.
- The Local Agriculture Community Coordinator also conducted soil testing workshops at two OSD agricultural sites, and seven partner sites.



## Collaborations and Conferences

- 2024 APS School Gardens Conference: Seeding the Future (planner and co-sponsor)
- 2024 Rooted In Community National Youth Summit (minor sponsor)
- 2025 UNM Food Systems Summit (participant and panelist)
- 2025 Outdoor Learning Conference: Teaching Beyond the Walls (planner and co-sponsor)
- ID Urban Agricultural Collaborative & Urban Ag Plan (participant and collaborator)



## Community Gardens

PDR is directly supporting four community gardens on City property and is creating Joint-Use Agreements to ensure shared visioning and responsibility.

- Loma Linda- PRD is partnered with The Semilla Project, has been stewarding the garden on a daily basis and is committed to supporting this site for the next 2-3 years.
- Phil Chacon- Groundbreaking in May, the Local Ag Coordinator is working with nearby community-based organizations to recruit neighbors. PRD is seeking funding matches to support a part-time, seasonal garden coordinator to support members and volunteers.
- Santa Barbara Martinez Town (SBMT)- Senior services and the SBMT Neighborhood association have been intricately involved in the planning for this garden as partners develop a JUA.
- Ilsa and Rey Garduño Community Garden- Project Feed the Hood has maintained robust production and programming at this garden for over 15 years. PRD recently facilitated and completed a \$26K grant to install electricity on site.

