



Urban Agriculture and the City of London's 2023-2027 Strategic Plan

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Background

- Urban Roots is a nonprofit that revitalizes underutilized land for agriculture in the City of London.
- Through community consultations, the City of London created the Urban Agriculture Strategy, signaling a strong commitment to urban agriculture at all scales.
- **The 2023-2027 Strategic Plan should build on and expand this commitment.**



Benefits of Urban Agriculture

- Increased food security
- Increased access to fresh food
- Strengthening of the local food system
- Increased connection to food, nature, and neighbourhoods.
- Equitable access to agricultural training and education
- Contributes to healthy urban ecosystems and biodiversity
- Organic, small-scale agriculture helps mitigate the effects of climate change (FAO, 2022)



Urban Agriculture in the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan

- Increased access to land for urban agriculture on multiple scales.
- The continued promotion of urban agricultural practices and operations within the City of London.
- The development of clear and transparent processes for establishing urban agricultural sites, **especially on City-owned land.**
- Adoption of a food justice framework which seeks “to ensure that the benefits and risks of where, what and how food is grown, produced, transported, distributed, accessed and eaten are shared fairly.” (Food Secure Canada, n.d.)

An aerial photograph of an urban farm. The farm is divided into several sections. On the left, there are rows of plants in raised beds, some covered with blue plastic mulch. In the center, there are several small greenhouses or covered walkways. To the right, there are more rows of plants, some covered with grey or blue plastic. A large, flat, brown dirt area is visible in the upper left quadrant. The farm is surrounded by green trees and grass. A road with several cars is visible at the bottom of the image. A power line tower is visible on the right side.

Thank-you!

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