

# Doolittle Senior Center Community Garden 1200 Blankenship Ave.

Submitted At Meeting  
Date 12/1/16 Item 6

The City of Las Vegas Doolittle Senior Center Community Garden Project located at 1200 Blankenship was formally dedicated on May 17, 1995. The garden is currently celebrating its 20th anniversary.

169'x119', the garden has 51 4'x8' raised beds that are 20" high. Wide paths and raised beds allow for handicap accessibility. A large portion of the garden is under 50% shade cloth.

The garden has served as a learning center and educational tool for groups such as Operation Head Start - a program for disadvantaged children. Head trauma victims have received rehabilitation services.

Our favorite feature is the Linn Mills Demonstration Garden for crops not normally considered to be easily grown in our Zone 9 climate zone. Currently growing and thriving are cotton, peanuts, sugar beets, rice, amaranth, quinoa, sorghum, sugarcane and 5 varieties of heat-tolerant potatoes.

Eight varieties of fruit trees, an herb garden and a "pizza" garden with spring wheat for pizza dough add to the beautiful and healthy variety of edible crops.

The local gardeners warm-season favorites include okra, mustard, collards, tomatoes, eggplant and garden beans. Other favorites include popcorn and the pumpkin patch. Even the cacti surrounding the outer fence produce edible fruits for local residents and our gardeners.

Local wildlife reside in and enjoy the garden too. The garden has been a certified wildlife habitat since December 29, 2007.

Another important purpose is helping to feed the hungry in our community. We are proud of our association with National Plant a Row for the Hungry Program. This program was initiated at the garden on April 8, 2003. The garden devotees have donated over 6,600 pounds of surplus fruits and vegetables to the needy in our community.

The Doolittle Senior Center Community Garden feeds the hungry, provides education and enjoyment to the local community and a beautiful haven for wildlife.

Come check us out!