



September 21, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

In 2013, The Garden Project entered a partnership with Lennar Corporation to cultivate California native plants for use on their construction projects. Founded in 1992, we are a nonprofit environmentally based employment and training program for low-income San Francisco residents. Since 2004, with support from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, we created, and we operate and maintain a nursery of California native plants to promote the use of native plants on public works projects. Since 2004, public agencies and community groups have partnered with us and used our plants on numerous projects.

We were pleased Lennar approached us about a partnership, and about their specific interest in using native plants. This partnership not only supported our mission to impact the local environment and encourage sustainable practices, but it helped us to extend our historic commitment to the residents of Bay View Hunter's Point.

First, we worked closely with Lennar staff to identify plants for their sites. Because our participants learn through working, this project offered us the opportunity to expand our production and our teaching. Participants learned more about different species of native plants, and about how to plan and manage a growing nursery.

Second, the Lennar partnership allowed us to continue our work to hire and train low-income minority residents of Bay View Hunter's Point, which we have done since 1992. Last summer, over 200 high school students from the neighborhood worked in our environmentally based job and life skills summer program. Meanwhile, throughout the year, residents work in our year long program for college students. Because of their work in our program, more students from Bay View Hunter's Point are gaining the support they need to be able to complete high school and college.

The Garden Project is proud to have Lennar as a partner.

Sincerely,

Cathrine Sneed
Founder
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