



California Gets \$7 Million Grant to Support the Vibrant Community Garden Growth

 James Patrick | 4 days ago



People of all walks of life are enjoying the Community Garden Concept Photo by Getty Images via [redfin.com blog website](https://www.redfin.com/blog)

From Silicon Valley to Watts, gardens have become the norm in yards and community gardens. Many have become inspired to grow their own food even if they are surrounded by asphalt in their homes and apartments or by big lawns.

In Southern California, [Rev. Eddie Anderson](#) got an idea during the early days of the pandemic. He called U.S. Representative Sydney Kamlager-Dove and wanted her to be a part of what he called "Freedom Farms". The idea has spread like wildfire. It was so inspiring that the State of California has given a \$7 million grant from the state budget surplus to start and maintain urban gardens in the Los Angeles area. From rooftops of churches, they will plant wherever they can.

This concept is not new to many forward-thinking people who have been doing this for years. Phil Gauna in the center of Silicon Valley took it one step further and ditched his front lawn to grow delicious fruits and vegetables and even grapes in his front yard. MH Forte of South Los Angeles has nurtured the Good Earth Community Garden for years.

The Stanford Avalon Community Garden in Watts has been growing fruits and vegetables for a long time. People would buy small plots so that they could grow things on them. Due to the land owner taking back the land and being unwilling to sell it, they raised millions to try and buy land to continue with their work. This battle was documented in the Oscar-nominated film "The Garden".

Some of these people have come to America to find opportunities to improve their lives. Many of them are very giving and kind, often supporting others by giving the fruits of their labor away for free.

[Conrado Esquivel](#) told the Los Angeles Times that he always gives some of his products away for free. The karma will come back in the greenness and lushness of the next crop, he believes. "If you want to buy, go to El Super," he said, referencing the supermarket chain. "Friendship is better than money."

Community Garden

Los Angeles

California

Fruits and Vegetables

State Grant