

For Immediate Release
Feb 16th 2022

Urban Tilth

NEWS ADVISORY: #NoShade: Save the North Richmond Farm Action in North Richmond

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North Richmond's only community-run farm calls on developers to cancel the project.

Urban Tilth and North Richmond community members demand that this historic land be preserved for agriculture and community driven development

What: Direct action denouncing the planned Panattoni development that threatens Urban Tilth's community farm and asking the Nabeta Family to consider selling their farm to the community.

When: Friday February 18, 2020 @ 3:00pm - 5:00pm PST

Where: 411 Brookside Drive and Fred Jackson Way, Richmond

Who: Urban Tilth, Our Power Richmond and allied organizations

Visuals: Street mural at Brookside Drive and Fred Jackson Way, signs, speakers, musicians and performers

Background

Urban Tilth, the Richmond Our Power Coalition and community allies are holding an action to demand that Panattoni development at 411 Brookside Drive, be stopped.

The proposed Panattoni project threatens to shade out the North Richmond Farm, and dramatically decrease the farm's food production capacity and its ability to continue to grow much needed healthy food for hundreds of Richmond families. The proposed development will also threaten community health by bringing yet another large scale warehouse/ fulfillment center that will increase air pollution and street traffic to a community that already disproportionately suffers from asthma and other related chronic illnesses.

Founded in 2005, Urban Tilth inspires, hires, and trains local residents to cultivate agriculture, feed our community, and restore relationships to land to build a more sustainable food system, within a just and healthier community.

The [North Richmond Farm Project](#) is a community-informed and driven plan to develop the adjacent parcel at 323 Brookside Drive which was recently purchased by Urban Tilth from Contra Costa County.

Dreamed of, built, and led by the community for the past 7 years, the North Richmond Farm Project is a demonstration of the power of food as a catalyst for transformation, resilience, and health equity in urban communities.

At the action, these groups will challenge the development proposal. A range of community leaders will discuss:

- The impact of increased emissions on sensitive sites near the planned development such as Verde Elementary School.
- The impact of adding over 150 additional cars on Brookside Drive each day, and the additional impact of truck traffic if the ultimate tenant has a distribution business.
- The impact of the 4 story warehouse on solar exposure of the farm
- The potential erasure of the historic greenhouses and related invaluable Japanese American agricultural history of the site
- The potential impact on Ohlone historical assets
- The community's alternative vision for the site which will preserve and uplift its history and create real opportunities for community members to solve local problems while lifting themselves out of poverty.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

- Isabella Zizi, Urban Tilth, Idle No More Bay Area, & local resident, isabella@urbantilth.org
- Doria Robinson, Urban Tilth Executive Director, & Richmond resident, doria@urbantilth.org
- Katherine Ramos, Richmond Our Power Coalition, Richmond resident, katherineramos@ourpowerrichmond.org
- Princess Robinson, Cooperation Richmond & local resident, princess@cooperationrichmond.org
- Dulce Galicia, Richmond Land & North Richmond resident, dulce@richmondland.org
- Denny Khamphanthong, Asian Pacific Environmental Network and North Richmond resident, denny@apen4ej.org

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