



Subject: Rockland Community Garden's Access for All Project

Dear City of Clarence-Rockland Council,

We are submitting a request for administration support to make the entrances to the Rockland Community Garden accessible, as requested in our December 2023 budget presentation.

As a reminder, this includes:

1. Fixing the Patricia roadside entrance to make it safe and accessible for parking
2. Making a path connection from Patricia road into the main garden entrance and,
3. Making a path from the secondary garden entrance up to the Raymond parking lot

We've been attempting to get this project in motion for quite some time as it's so important with all the accessibility work we've been doing inside the garden, that we also prioritize easy and safe access in and out of the garden. To that end, we've been discussing with the administration on how to collaborate to achieve this goal.

We're asking that the council support and approve the administration to work with us to plan and execute this project.

Specifically, we ask that:

- Council approves the administration to support us with applying for *Ontario's Inclusive Community Grant*, that if won, could provide 60k in project funding;
- Council approves the administration to support us with applying for alternative grants, as necessary to complete the project scope;
- The administration develops a project scope of work and estimate to support the application(s);
- The administration provides all required documents and information needed to get the application completed and submitted by the May 22nd due date (and likewise for any other grants);
- Once funding is obtained, the administration commits to executing the agreed upon scope of work, which we would like to determine *together* with an onsite meeting, by the grant(s) deadline (*Ontario's Inclusive Community Grant* must be applied between August 2024 and March 31, 2025).

See below a Google map view of our allocated space with areas of interest outlined.



- Orange arrow shows the street parking area on Patricia Street
- Purple arrow shows the path that needs to connect Patricia Street to our main entrance path
- Pink arrow shows the path that needs to connect our secondary entrance to the parking on Raymond street (it extends further than the arrow and map are showing)

We thank you for your consideration and support in making Rockland's first community garden accessible to all.

Sincerely,

Sarah Lacombe
President & Project Development Leader

Stephanie Marcil
Community Building Director

Rockland Community Garden