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Report of the residents' event regarding the Tuomarila allotment area

Information about the event:

This report lists the wishes and feedback received from the users of the Tuomarila allotment area at the event and describes how these wishes have been taken into consideration when the final plan was devised.

About 30 plot users attended the event that was held in the plot area on Wednesday 3 November 2021 from 15.00 onwards. The event organisers were the contact persons for the plot users, Anneli Isopuro and Raija Avila.

Anneli Isopuro and Raija Avila began the event, after which the City's representatives and consultant introduced themselves. After this, Leena Ihalainen, manager of the City's green areas, presented the implementation schedule, and the planning officer presented the plan in brief. The plan had also been sent to the plot users in advance, and they had already provided feedback on it. After these presentations, the users asked questions and offered comments regarding the refurbishment project

The users expressed that they were happy with the event where they could meet the City's representatives. Overall, they saw it as a good thing that the plot area be refurbished.

Comments:

1. How will the move of perennial/multiyear plants and structures on the plots be arranged? Why can't we store the structures on the plots, like in the Latokaski allotment area?

The plan includes a transplant area for perennial plants. This area will be created by the City in early October 2022. Plot users can place the plants in this area between 17th and 30th of October. For other parts, the construction of the plot area will begin in November 2022. The transplant area will be sized about 400 m², and there will be up to 2.5 m² of space for each plot. Plot users will be able to water and nurture the plants during the construction project since the transplant area reserved for them is outside the construction site, and a water storage tank for irrigation will be placed close to the transplant area. Plot users will be responsible for their own plants.

Other structures and furniture on the plots must be disassembled and removed from the city's area completely for the duration of the construction work. At the beginning of the construction work, the city will remove any remaining structures and plants on the plots permanently. Bringing the structures back will be possible in accordance with the allotment rules once the construction ends.

Building a larger transplant area or a separate temporary location for the structures is not possible as this would require the existing trees to be removed extensively. The parking area is also a part of the construction site, which makes it unsuitable for a transplant area. Moving and storing plants and structures in the middle of the plots is also not possible, since large machinery will require access to the construction site throughout the project so that all actions, such as shaping of the surface terrain, can be performed. At the same time, the plants and structures will be safe from damage during the construction.

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The solutions described above are based on the goals of improving the overall cultivation conditions and usability of the area, and the goal of implementing the project in accordance with the Economically Sustainable Espoo programme approved by the Espoo City Council. The programme places a special emphasis on cost-efficient and resource-efficient construction.

The City does not have an established operating model regarding refurbishment projects on allotment areas; instead, the operating methods are agreed on a case-by-case basis. In addition to these considerations, the Tuomarila allotment area is significantly larger than the one in Latokaski, which requires especially efficient and cost-efficient construction.

2. Why will the 25-cm gap be left between the boundary stakes even though its maintenance will be difficult?

When the plots have four boundary stakes each, there will be no misunderstandings about the boundaries, and everyone will be able to fence their plot regardless of other plots. The distance of 25 cm has been estimated as optimal. In this case, the plot areas will be clearly distinguishable from each other, but the overall size of the plot area will not decrease significantly. This dimensioning is based on the current allotment rules, and this project will also follow these rules.

3. Is it not possible to preserve the plots marked for removal (154 and 110–118)? The plot users are happy with them. Could the plots be preserved if the plot size is reduced once the boundary ditch is restored?

The plots are close to the adjacent property and shading birches. Furthermore, restoring the boundary ditch will take up space. The cultivation conditions on the plots are also quite poor. The plot size will not be reduced; rather, the goal is that all plots in the allotment area would be about the same size. The users will be assigned new plots from a location with better growing conditions. Since the plots are rentable, the interests of the future users also need to be taken into account in the planning.

4. The open ditches will only have narrow strips (1 m) and restoring them will be difficult.

The plot boundaries have been updated so that the open ditches can be expanded and it will be easier to dry and maintain the area. The pathway width has also been increased to make movement easier.

5. Will the soil on the plots be contaminated during the construction?

In the area of the existing plots that will remain in place, the soil will be dug up during the construction to avoid soil compaction and weeds. This way, the plots will be suitable for cultivation once the construction finishes.

6. Users wish that the whole area would be fenced to avoid damage by animals (there are large populations of deer and other animals).

The refurbishment project does not involve the construction of game fences.

7. Users would like to have toilets in the area.

The refurbishment project does not involve the construction of toilets.

8. Users would like the City to provide a skip for throwing things away during the relocation.

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Skips will not be brought to the allotment area. Other structures and furniture on the plots must be disassembled and removed from the City's area completely for the duration of the construction work. At the beginning of the construction work, the City will remove any structures and plants on the plots permanently. Bringing the structures back will be possible in accordance with the allotment rules once the construction ends.

9. Users would like to extend the pathway next to plots 1, 7 and 8 up to the fitness track to make plot maintenance easier.

The pathway will be extended up to the existing route.

10. Users would like to have pathways that make movement easier with a walker or other mobility aids.

The pathways will be 1.2 m wide, they will have rock dust surfaces, and they will be as flat as possible.

11. The parking area is seen as sufficient, especially if it has a time limit.

The parking area will have a time limit of four hours.

12. Users would like to have more water points close to the area in the second phase.

The area will have more water points, which can be seen in the final plan.