

## RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

### Urban Agriculture

Rosemount has a long history with agriculture and agricultural businesses. As Rosemount grows and changes, the City desires to maintain a connection with our history and the land. The City is interested in linking the community garden program with local farming in the community.

#### Questions / Issues:

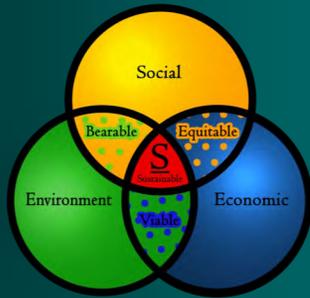
- Are there linkages between the small community plot, the existing land farmers, and the tenant farmers located over much of the eastern portion of Rosemount?
- Are farmers encountering problems with local distribution systems? Is there a mechanism to bring the various interests together and capitalize on their involvement to bring fresh product to local markets, perhaps within Rosemount?
- Is it possible to market the community as an agri-business center to obtain locally grown product and determine an appropriate location for public sales?
- Are there opportunities for restructuring or expansion and is there the ability to bring various individuals into a cooperative or other structure?

#### Deliverables:

- Explore the ability to capitalize on the existing local agricultural economy and marketing of local product from Rosemount.
- Examine opportunities for adding value to locally grown food, such as Community Supported Agriculture status or food hubs.

#### Sustainability:

This project provides a sustainable environmental impact because it reduces the amount of vehicle miles needed for food shipment. It provides a social impact by connecting residents with the people who grow or produce their food and an economic impact by adding value to food producing either as a hobby or a business. This project is relevant to the City because it fulfills the 2013-2014 City Council's goals to maintain an engaged, healthy, inviting, prepared, and safe community.



### Staff/Partners

#### PROJECT LEAD

*Tom Schuster*  
Parks Supervisor  
Parks & Recreation Dept.

#### PARTNERS

Univ. of Minnesota Tenants  
Local Farmers

