

NHCA Board of Directors

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July 6, 2022

Mr. Jeroen Wright
NorCal East Bay - Vice President General Manager
BrightView Landscape Services
7039 Commerce Circle, Suite B
Pleasanton, CA 94588

RE: Community Garden Partnership

Dear Mr. Wright;

This letter is to both acknowledge and commend BrightView Landscape Services and your personal commitment, along with that of your staff, for the tremendous achievement that you made in enhancing our NHCA **Gateway Garden and Pavilion** community garden. Your and your staff's dedicated efforts and professional knowledge to cull the gardens of inappropriate vegetation and other garden management applications has made a marked improvement to this garden and its public image in just one weeks' time.

It would not have been possible for a group of inexperienced volunteers to attempt nor manage or make the tremendous progress you did during your recent work on the park. While our organization had a contract for BrightView Landscape to do the work, you and your company went far beyond the original scope, and in fact removed much more inappropriate vegetation material than was specified under the contract. This much needed additional work was very necessary to pull the garden into manageable shape.

As you know, we face a constant threat of another devastating fire that could impact much of the Oakland Hills. Our focus for these gardens is to showcase appropriate drought tolerant vegetation that can be planted that are less likely to create the beginnings of a fire ladder that could extend into the tree canopy and adjoining homes that would create a catastrophic conflagration. Your efforts helped us with this cause.

We particularly want to acknowledge the planning that BrightView undertook to accomplish this task, along with your dedicated hard work to help us plan & develop a more sustainable longer-term program that would work for the Gateway Garden.

As you know, we have also asked your company to work on our other NHCA garden on Hiller, the **Firestorm Memorial Garden**. We look forward to working with you on that garden and continue the 'Community Garden Partnership' into the future.

As a way of acknowledging your efforts, we propose to update our NHCA website to make certain that we have publicly acknowledged your company's support of our community gardens, which are accessible to all <https://northhillscommunity.org/>.

Thank you again for your attention to detail, and for your service to our community.

Sincerely,



Steven Hanson
Chair

cc: Michael Underwood - Group Vice President, BrightView Landscape Services
Fred Freund - Senior Vice President, BrightView Landscape Services
North Hills Community Association Board of Directors Website