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THE LATEST NEWS ABOUT THE FARM

With an incredible outpouring of donations and good will, the farmers and their allies have raised a substantial amount of money for a nonprofit trust to buy and manage the Farm. The City of Los Angeles agreed to match that money—but so far, those efforts have fallen short, and on May 24, the farmers' last legal option evaporated.

The LA County Sheriff now has legal authority to evict all 350 families and let the developer demolish the South Central Farm. The farmers and the community have no choice but to resist, and we have refused to be moved from this land we've worked for over 13 years. "Aquí estamos, y no nos vamos," which means, "we are here, and we are not going anywhere."

New support is coming in everyday, and now even prominent national activists and celebrities are getting involved down at the Farm: Leonardo DiCaprio, Daryl Hannah, Vietnam vet and peace activist Ron Kovic, environmentalist Julia "Butterfly" Hill, musicians Tom Morello, Ben Harper, and Joan Baez, to name a few.

But big names won't be enough. The farmers are asking for your help. If possible, please come down to the Farm and join in the community encampment and tree-sit. Your donations of supplies are also welcome. This struggle isn't over—not by a long shot. So if you've been planning to get involved—or get more involved—on behalf of the South Central Farm, now's the time.

To learn more:

South Central Farmers
7309 Clybourn Av, Ste 1
Sun Valley, CA 91352
www.southcentralfarmers.com
southcentralfarmers@yahoo.com
1-888-SCFARM1 or 1-909-605-3136

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SOUTH CENTRAL FARMERS AND THE GREENING OF LOS ANGELES

THE LAND WAS BROKEN, SCARRED, PAVED OVER. Wherever you looked, you saw abandoned refrigerators, shards of glass, old tires, piles of rags, discarded furniture. The lot was slated to become a warehouse, to join dozens of other warehouses in the area, a place of repose for the bales of tube socks, oceans of diet soda, and trainloads of novelties we require for our modern quality of life.

And then the city decided it wanted the land for a trash incinerator. It took the land through eminent domain. But the people who lived nearby said no thank you, we breathe enough smoke as it is.

The land waited. Rats became resident. Crimes went unheeded. The Los Angeles Regional Food Bank happened to have its offices across the street, saw this land in limbo and got an idea: what about letting people grow food here?

The city agreed that perhaps the citizens of South Central Los Angeles might benefit from a better use of the land than the dump it had become. And that's where this story begins.

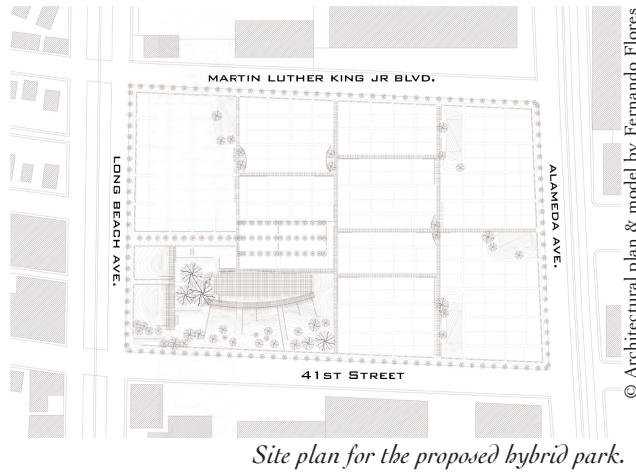
We were invited onto the land. We took away the trash, cut down the weeds, got rid of the rats. We reached into the soil, turned it over, and found that the soil could live again. Soil breathes, soil drinks, soil sweats. Soil harbors life. Soil harbors dreams. When you give to the soil, the soil gives back.

FOR MANY CITY DWELLERS, having neighborhood green space allows for some great hobby gardening. But for us, it means creating our own access to fresh produce. It means maintaining a vibrant community where our families can grow traditional foods. And it means providing a space to spend time with our kids in a gang-free environment.

Right now, this 14-acre farm which we have worked for over 13 years is threatened with demolition. Real estate is always a rough-and-tumble game in Los Angeles, and a byzantine backroom deal has put the title of this once publicly owned land back in the hands of developers who would use it for—a *warehouse!*

But in our hands, we have something much more powerful. We have the 350 farmers who work this land every day. We have their husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters, cousins and uncles and aunts and nephews and nieces, and all their friends. We have the thousands of city residents who visit the farm regularly, and who buy fresh organic fruits, vegetables, and herbs here. We have the growing tens of thousands of supporters around the world who know our story and are taking up our cause. We have our two resident owls, our resident hawk, and the

Inside of brochure



exploding variety of songbirds which haven't been seen in this part of the city for decades. We know that this time, the better angels of our city will prevail, and this land will not be lost to lifeless pavement again.

► You are probably wondering how.

We will raise a park here: the hub of a city-wide green movement, a learning center for schoolchildren, a demonstration garden for home gardeners, a community space for art and



performance, a plaza for our farmer's market, a commons for all of us. From here, urban community gardens will sprout all over the city, all over the state, all over the Americas.

The plans are on the table. The designs are in the works. The movement is coming together, gathering momentum, building steam. City residents, organizations, and businesses are joining the fight. The media and the politicians are taking notice. And it's only a matter of time before you will come up against the question for yourself: **which side are you on?**

JOIN US.

We are staying on this land. We will secure the Farm as an oasis of peace, of tradition, of family, of friendship. We will transform these 14 acres into a hybrid park for the whole of Los Angeles, so that all Angelenos can come and learn how to grow a garden, learn how to grow a community, learn how to grow into themselves. Just as we have done.

We are raising money and we are raising a movement. We are going to buy this land for the people. We are going to stop the bulldozers from destroying our 13 years of labor. And we welcome your participation.

Please visit us at www.southcentralfarmers.com, or come by our Farmer's Market: Sundays from 8AM to 5PM at 41st & Long Beach Ave, (1 block west of Alameda) just south of downtown LA.