APPENDIX B: Urban Agriculture Site Analysis Template

Part I: Preliminary Analysis

The purpose of preliminary analysis is to assess whether urban agriculture is possible in a given community. The requirements listed below must be met, to establish that urban agriculture is possible and desired, before moving onto more detailed analyses. We recommend that analysis be carried out in the order listed. While a physical space and resources are necessary, gardening and farming are carried out by people so the most fundamental component is the presence of interested and supportive members of the community willing to take on the project.

- **Social**: is there desire and adequate social support for urban agriculture in the community?
- **Physical**: is there available, accessible, and adequate space for urban agriculture?
- **Resources**: are there sufficient human resources (e.g. commitment of time, labour) and money to transform the space into the community's vision for urban agriculture?

Part II: Further Analysis

The purpose of further analysis is to provide a guide on how to initiate an urban agriculture project and to identify key social, physical, and economic considerations necessary for successful implementation. There is no particular order in which to carry out these analyses; we envision that it will be an organic process dictated by the needs and abilities of those involved. See appendix ***need a letter*** for an example of a more detailed step-by-step guide on how to start a community garden.

Social Analysis

Analysis	Goals	Looks like
A. Consultation	Community involvement	- gauging opinions; obtaining reactions or options; co-thinking
	Assess the degree of neighbourhood support	- focus group studies; surveys; talking to neighbourhood associations, community centers, co-ops, apartments, local social organizations' seeking volunteers
	Identify cultural perspectives on agriculture	- identify different cultural attitudes and perspectives on agriculture, gardening - talk to different cultural groups and organisations - address negative attitudes and perspectives - use positive attitudes and perspectives to 'market' urban agriculture, gardening
	Identify potential user groups of site	- outreach to schools, churches, seniors program, apartment/co-op housing, people with farming and gardening experience - e.g. possibility of educational program that can be

		run relative to site
	Determine legal feasibility of site	- e.g. tenure situation of site
	Cost-benefit analysis for community	- assess possible benefits and negative effects to community - e.g. importance of creating social capital and health food sources - e.g. possible disruptive factors for community (e.g. aesthetic considerations, noise level, traffic access)
B. Partnership	Community engagement	- in-depth thinking by citizens about key public policy issues - citizen perspectives and values should inform policy and decision-making process - co-operating; co-defining; co-production
C. Deliberation	Place final decision-making in the hands of the public	- co-decision - planning - e.g. organise structure of management body - e.g. management policies - e.g. rough estimate of time and money needed to run site for the next 5-10 years

Physical Analysis

Analysis	Components
Site history	Historical uses: - who has used it and for what purpose - possible sources of contamination Current uses - who is using it and for what purpose
Detailed physical assessment	- size of area - soil: composition, structure, depth, nutrients, pollutants - water : availability, supply, access - slope - drainage - exposure : light, wind, runoff - presence of invasive species, noxious weeds, pests - space for structures (e.g. storage units, compost bins)
Physical surroundings	- sewage, water and transportation systems - e.g. proximity to public transportation, presence of bike racks
Accessibility and safety	- accessible for all existing and potential users - features to create a safe environment
Garden design	- layout of plots, walkways, infrastructure, other features

Economic Analysis

Types of Costs	Components
Social analysis	Consultation meetings (e.g. daycare, food, posters)
Physical analysis	- soil testing - evaluation of physical surroundings
Making site "garden-able"	- connecting site to water system - conversion or amelioration of existing ground cover - agricultural inputs (e.g. compost, manure) - building materials and gardening supplies - labour (e.g. volunteer and paid) - other features desired by the community
Other	- wage of project manager