GREEN CITY GROWERS

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Dr Gaolach,

My name is Christopher Grallert and I am CEO of Green City Growers based in Somerville, Massachusetts. We are a major force in the industry sector referred to as Farming as a Service. Currently, GCG manages over 180 active farms and gardens in New England and beyond, including at public schools, at corporate office parks, at hospitals, senior centers, and residential complexes. We build the infrastructure as well as maintain and programmatically activate each location, teaching agricultural literacy and food systems capacity building. Green City Growers is an employee owned, certified Benefit Corporation.

The proposed project, Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities, has a breadth of support services that would help our organization in supporting the expansion of a localized, short supply chain food systems. If funded, we would actively participate in and benefit from.

- Participating in national Integrated Research Networks (IRNs) that connect researchers, Extension professionals, and urban stakeholders across key topic areas – including urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions (NbS) and urban ecosystem services (with an emphasis on urban soils and green infrastructure) – to co-create research agendas and share best practices.
- Use a data archiving and sharing platform that includes an interactive "Urban Map Room" that hosts a breadth of urban spatial data to support developing research projects and would use and contribute to a Urban Research Repository that assembles, stores, and disseminates research outputs, methods, and resources related to urban resiliency.
- Participate in professional development and training in systems thinking, resilience planning, team science, and community-driven research approaches tailored to urban contexts.
- Participate in Research Synthesis and Acceleration Activities, including year-long synthesis working groups to address knowledge gaps and research needs and proposal development workshops to facilitate acceleration of emerging ideas

I look forward to the success of your application and the ability to start participating in the activities of this project.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER P. GRALLERT

Christopher P. Grallert
CEO

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION

1200 17th St NW, Suite 210
Washington, DC 20036

November 24, 2025

Dear Dr. Gaolach,

The Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF) is a nonprofit organization based in Washington, DC and its mission is to support the preservation, improvement and enhancement of the environment. LAF does this by investing in research, scholarship, and leadership to increase the collective capacity of landscape architects and other designers of the built environment to achieve sustainability.

Our primary research focus is on landscape performance: the evaluation and documentation of quantified environmental, social, and economic benefits of sustainable landscape solutions. Our award-winning *Landscape Performance Series* is an online set of resources to help designers, agencies, and advocates evaluate performance, share best practices, and make the case for sustainable landscape solutions. The database of over 210 Case Study Briefs of built projects with quantified performance benefits, 215 Fast Facts from published research, and over 30 tools and calculators to estimate performance is visited by over one hundred thousand users per year. This includes research and data on a wide range of nature-based solutions as well as information pertaining to urban agriculture and food systems and green infrastructure.

This proposed project, *Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities,* has a breadth of support services that would help my organization in disseminating high quality research related to urban resiliency that would be of great value to our audience of landscape architects and others interested in the sustainability of the exterior built environment. If funded, LAF would participate in and benefit from:

- **Participating in national Integrated Research Networks (IRNs)** that connect researchers, Extension professionals, and urban stakeholders like my organization across key topic areas – including urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions (NbS) and urban ecosystem services (with an emphasis on urban soils and green infrastructure) – to co-create research agendas and share best practices.

- **Participate in Research Synthesis and Acceleration Activities,** including year-long synthesis working groups to address knowledge gaps and research needs and proposal development workshops to facilitate acceleration of emerging ideas

I look forward to the success of this application and the ability to start participating in the activities of this project.

Sincerely,

Megan Barnes
Sr. Program Manager
Landscape Architecture Foundation

SCHOLARS
STRATEGY NETWORK

Dear Dr. Brad Gaolach,

I am writing on behalf of the Scholars Strategy Network (SSN), a national membership organization made up of college- and university-based researchers interested in using research to improve public policy in the United States. Over the past 14 years, SSN has grown into a network of over 2,000 researchers in 47 states. SSN members organize themselves into state and regional chapters, working to advance the use of research wherever policy decisions are made. Our scholars regularly contribute their research to inform debates related to public health, food systems, and urban ecosystems.

Your proposed project, *Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities,* offers a breadth of support services that would help SSN members conduct high quality research related to urban resiliency and then share those findings with key practitioners and policymakers. If funded, SSN members would actively participate in the project in a number of ways, including:

- Participating in national Integrated Research Networks (IRNs) that connect researchers, Extension professionals, and urban stakeholders across key topic areas outlined in the application
- Participating in Research Synthesis and Acceleration Activities, including working groups to address knowledge gaps between policy actors, practitioners, and scholars and workshops to facilitate acceleration of research to action on emerging ideas

In addition to the participation of SSN members with the project, the SSN national staff would offer public engagement training for participants. The training program emphasizes generalizable and repeatable skills that help participants communicate their research and its significance to policy, media, and practitioner audiences. The final training options will ultimately depend on the participants, but will include:

- Policy-focused sessions that help participants identify how to move from scholarly research to policy recommendations, how to identify relevant policymakers and build a relationship with them, and how to write persuasively for policy audiences
- Media-focused workshops that equip participants with the skills necessary to share their research with reporters through media interviews and how to disseminate their findings by successfully writing and pitching op-eds

By pairing the research support described in the project with policy and media professional development opportunities, the project as a whole promises to boost the capacity of researchers to build meaningful relationships with diverse stakeholders, conduct more relevant research, and share that research with a range of audiences so that it has an impact.

I look forward to the success of your application and working on this project together.

Sincerely,

Andrew Pope, PhD
Director of Policy, Scholars Strategy Network

November 25, 2025

Dear Dr. Gaolach,

I am writing to confirm my support and enthusiasm for the proposed NRSP project entitled "*Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities."* I serve as Associate Director of Healthy Living for the Institute for Advancing Health Through Agriculture (IHA) at Texas A&M AgriLife Research.

The IHA is the world's first academic institute to bring together precision nutrition, responsive agriculture, and social and behavioral healthy living research. Uniquely, the Healthy Living arm of IHA encompasses expertise in community engagement, Extension and outreach, and clinical-community partnerships in research. This project is well-matched to our focus areas as it relates to urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions (NbS), and urban ecosystem services. If funded, I would actively participate in activities related to urban resiliency. In particular, I would be involved in:

- **Participating in national Integrated Research Networks (IRNs)** that connect researchers, Extension professionals, and urban stakeholders across key topic areas – including urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions (NbS), and urban ecosystem services (with an emphasis on urban soils and green infrastructure) – to co-create research agendas and share best practices.
- **Using a data archiving and sharing platform** that includes an interactive "Urban Map Room" that hosts a breadth of urban spatial data to support developing research projects and using and contributing to an Urban Research Repository that assembles, stores, and disseminates research outputs, methods, and resources related to urban resiliency.
- **Supporting professional development and training** in systems thinking, resilience planning, team science, and community-driven research approaches tailored to urban contexts.

I look forward to the opportunity to participate in the activities of this project.

Sincerely,

Rebecca A. Seguin-Fowler, PhD, RDN, LD, CSCS

***Rebecca A. Seguin-Fowler**, PhD, RDN, LD, CSCS, Associate Director, Institute for Advancing Health Through Agriculture (IHA)*
Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Norman E. Borlaug Building, 498 Olsen Blvd, College Station, TX 77843

November 18, 2025

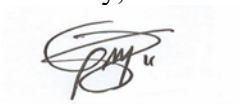
Dear Dr. Gaolach:

I am pleased to write this support letter for the proposed NRSP project entitled "*Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities."* This project is a good match to ongoing efforts at the Human Behavior Lab in collaboration with colleagues in the School of Public Health and the Institute for Advancing Health through Agriculture. If funded, I would actively participate in activities related to human behavior. More specifically, I would be involved in:

- **National Integrated Research Networks (IRNs)** that connect researchers, Extension professionals, and urban stakeholders across key topic areas – including urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions (NbS) and urban ecosystem services (with an emphasis on urban soils and green infrastructure) – to co-create research agendas and share best practices.
- **Professional development and training** in systems thinking, resilience planning, team science, and community-driven research approaches tailored to urban contexts.

I look forward to the success of your application and the ability to start participating in the activities of this project.

Sincerely,



Dr. Marco A. Palma
Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics
Director, Human Behavior Laboratory
Presidential Impact Fellow
IHA Associate Director
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843-2124
Office (979) 845-5284
Fax (979) 845-7444
E-mail: mapalma@tamu.edu
http://hbl.tamu.edu

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Cooperative Extension

Office of the Associate Vice President & Director

1140 E. South Campus Dr., Tucson, AZ 85721 • Phone: (520) 621-7205 • Fax: (520) 621-1314 • extension.arizona.edu

November 21, 2025

Dear Dr. Gaolach,

My name is Dr. Edward Martin, Associate Vice President and Director of the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension. Although Extension addresses many issues, one of our key topics is urban agriculture. In fact, this year, UA Cooperative Extension established a new Center for Urban Smart Agriculture at the Maricopa County Cooperative Extension Office. Serving the fourth-largest populated county in the United States, the new center focuses on issues related to the establishment and success of small and beginning urban food systems, including business plans and production practices in urban-center populations.

The proposed project, *Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities,* has a breadth of support services that would help me/my lab/my organization in conducting high quality research related to urban resiliency. If funded, I/we would actively participate in and benefit from.

- **Participating in national Integrated Research Networks (IRNs)** that connect researchers, Extension professionals, and urban stakeholders across key topic areas – including urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions (NbS) and urban ecosystem services (with an emphasis on urban soils and green infrastructure) – to co-create research agendas and share best practices.
- **Use a data archiving and sharing platform** that includes an interactive "Urban Map Room" that hosts a breadth of urban spatial data to support developing research projects and would use and contribute to a **Urban Research Repository** that assembles, stores, and disseminates research outputs, methods, and resources related to urban resiliency.
- **Participate in professional development and training** in systems thinking, resilience planning, team science, and community-driven research approaches tailored to urban contexts.
- **Participate in Research Synthesis and Acceleration Activities,** including year-long synthesis working groups to address knowledge gaps and research needs and proposal development workshops to facilitate acceleration of emerging ideas

I look forward to the success of your application and the ability to start participating in the activities of this project.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Martin, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President and Director
UArizona Cooperative Extension
Division of Agriculture, Life, & Veterinary Sciences, and Cooperative Extension

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
PULLMAN

Department of Crop and Soil Sciences
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, HUMAN, AND NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENCES

November 19, 2025

Dr Gaolach,

My name is Holly Henning and I am an Associate Professor in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences at Washington State University. Prior to my time at WSU, I worked two presidential commissions focused on public-private partnerships to advance sustainability. I currently teach undergraduate students in Agriculture and Food Systems about systems thinking while connecting them to the research and Extension resources of our Land Grant University to develop more resilient and sustainable food systems.

The proposed project, *Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities,* has a breadth of support services that would help me and my organization in conducting high quality research related to urban resiliency. If funded, I would actively participate in and benefit from:

- **Participating in national Integrated Research Networks (IRNs)** that connect researchers, Extension professionals, and urban stakeholders across key topic areas – including urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions (NbS) and urban ecosystem services (with an emphasis on urban soils and green infrastructure) – to co-create research agendas and share best practices.
- **Use a data archiving and sharing platform** that includes an interactive "Urban Map Room" that hosts a breadth of urban spatial data to support developing research projects and would use and contribute to a **Urban Research Repository** that assembles, stores, and disseminates research outputs, methods, and resources related to urban resiliency.
- **Contribute to and participate in professional development and training** in systems thinking, resilience planning, team science, and community-driven research approaches tailored to urban contexts.
- **Participate in Research Synthesis and Acceleration Activities,** including year-long synthesis working groups to address

PO Box 646420, 379 Clark Hall, Pullman, WA 99164-6420
509-335-3475 http://css.wsu.edu

knowledge gaps and research needs and proposal development workshops to facilitate acceleration of emerging ideas

I look forward to the success of your application and the ability to start participating in the activities of this project.

Sincerely,

Holly Henning
Associate Professor, Crop and Soil Sciences
Swantz Distinguished Professor of Teaching and Learning
College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Resource Sciences
Washington State University

Dawn H. Gouge Ph.D.
Professor – Medical Entomologist & IPM Specialist
Extension Interim Associate Director of Agriculture & Natural Resources
University of Arizona, Department of Entomology
MAC Experiment Station, 37860 West Smith-Enke Road, Maricopa, AZ 85138
Office Tel. (520) 374-6223; Fax. (520) 374-6394; Mobil (602) 418-5202
dhgouge@arizona.edu

November 21, 2025

Re. Letter of Support for National Research Support Project Grant - Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities

Dear Dr. Gaolach,

Please accept this letter of support for the National Urban Research & Extension Center National Research Support Project grant application. I am an entomologist with over 25 years of experience both conducting research in urban communities and evaluating science-based operational solutions to real-time challenges in cities. I see great value in activities that support urban research. There is a critical need for an Integrated Research Network and platform support for urban research initiatives.

Hired in 2000 as an Urban Entomologist for the University of Arizona I am based at an Experiment Station site between our two largest metropolitan areas (Phoenix and Tucson). I have been acutely aware of the many unique issues generated by urban living, with zoonotic and vector-borne disease issues central to my own field of research.

The University of Arizona has a number of entomologists, plant scientists and engineers working in urban agriculture, horticulture, and nature-based solutions addressing climate adaptation needs.

Formation of Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities would provide an exceedingly valuable array of

support services that would benefit my own research ability and those I collaborate with across the nation, allowing the expansion of quality research related to urban resiliency. A warming desert climate brings both agricultural opportunities for year-round, urban production and food access improvements, but comes with extreme heat and water scarcity challenges. Research opportunities abound, but collaboration and support systems are needed.

If funded, I would actively participate in and benefit from:

- Participating in national Integrated Research Networks that connect researchers, Extension professionals, and urban stakeholders across key fields of science including urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions and urban ecosystem services (with an emphasis on soil health and green infrastructure) to co-create research agendas.
- Using a data archiving and sharing platform that includes an interactive “Urban Map Room” that hosts spatial data to support developing research projects and would use and contribute to a Urban Research Repository that assembles, stores, and disseminates research outputs, methods, and resources related to urban resiliency.
- Participating in professional development and training in systems thinking, resilience planning, team science, and community-driven research approaches tailored to urban contexts.
- Participating in Research Synthesis and Acceleration Activities, including year-long synthesis working groups to address knowledge gaps, research needs, and proposal development workshops to facilitate acceleration of emerging needs and novel science initiatives.

I look forward to participating in these activities, all of which are urgently needed. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Dawn H. Gouge
Medical Entomology Professor & Integrated Pest Management Specialist
Department of Entomology,
University of Arizona

Department of Horticulture
Oregon State University
4017 Agricultural and
Life Sciences Building
Corvallis, Oregon, 97331

P 541-737-5175 | **F** 541-737-3479
gail.langellotto@oregonstate.edu

11/25/2025

Dr Gaolach,

My Gail Langellotto, and I am a Professor of Horticulture at Oregon State University, where I also Direct the BioResource Research (BRR) Program and serve as Principal Investigator for the Garden Ecology Lab.

BRR is a unique undergraduate major, where students complete 600-800 hours of research, write an undergraduate thesis, and present and defend their research to a faculty committee. Because of the hands-on, highly mentored nature of our program, our students go on to great success upon graduation, including enrollment in highly selective M.D./Ph.D. programs and selection for highly competitive graduate fellowships (e.g. NSF, NIH). Unlike other undergraduate research programs at OSU, BRR is open and accessible to all: we do not require a minimum GPA or payment of additional fees in order to participate.

The Garden Ecology Lab studies garden habitats as a socio-ecological system, with relevance to nature-based solutions, urban ecosystem services, and urban agriculture and food systems. We have several studies of urban soils, microbes, plants, and invertebrates published or in process, with a focus on how garden-level biodiversity translates to ecosystem services and urban resiliency.

Your proposed project, *Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities,* has a breadth of support services that would help me in conducting high quality research related to urban resiliency. If funded, I/we would actively participate in and benefit from:

- **Participating in national Integrated Research Networks (IRNs)** that connect researchers, Extension professionals, and urban stakeholders across key topic areas – including urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions (NbS) and urban ecosystem services (with an emphasis on urban soils and green infrastructure) – to co-create research agendas and share best practices.
- **Use a data archiving and sharing platform** that includes an interactive "Urban Map Room" that hosts a breadth of urban spatial data to support developing research projects and would use and contribute to a **Urban Research Repository** that assembles, stores, and disseminates research outputs, methods, and resources related to urban resiliency.
- **Participate in Research Synthesis and Acceleration Activities,** including year-long synthesis working groups to address knowledge gaps and research needs and proposal development workshops to facilitate acceleration of emerging ideas

I look forward to the success of your application and the ability to start participating in the activities of this project.

Sincerely,

Gail A. Langellotto, Ph.D.
Professor of Horticulture

Oregon State University

Department of Horticulture
Oregon State University
4017 Agricultural and
Life Sciences Building
Corvallis, Oregon, 97331

November 17, 2025

Dear Dr Gaolach,

I am an Associate Professor of Pollinator Health Extension in the Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University. I was the first Pollinator Health Extension Specialist in the United States. While there have traditionally been Apiculture Extension programs that primarily serve a rural agricultural clientele (e.g., beekeepers and growers of crops that rent bees for pollination), my position came out of pesticide poisonings in a primarily urban context. Since being hired in 2016, there has been an explosion of interest and need in creating habitat for managed and wild bees in urban landscapes. There has been a commensurate growth in the literature around creating habitat, but much of it is disconnected and difficult to interpret across contexts.

The proposed project, *Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities*, would fill a gap among researchers working on bee conservation in cities, providing a much needed structure to synergize research and put it into practice on the ground. If funded, my lab would actively participate in and benefit from

- **Participating in national Integrated Research Networks (IRNs)** that connect researchers, Extension professionals, and urban stakeholders across key topic areas – including urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions (NbS) and urban ecosystem services (with an emphasis on urban soils and green infrastructure) – to co-create research agendas and share best practices.
- **Use a data archiving and sharing platform** that includes an interactive "Urban Map Room" that hosts a breadth of urban spatial data to support developing research projects and would use and contribute to a **Urban Research Repository** that assembles, stores, and disseminates research outputs, methods, and resources related to urban resiliency.
- **Participate in professional development and training** in systems thinking, resilience planning, team science, and community-driven research approaches tailored to urban contexts.
- **Participate in Research Synthesis and Acceleration Activities,** including year-long synthesis working groups to address knowledge gaps and research needs and proposal development workshops to facilitate acceleration of emerging ideas

I look forward to the success of your application and the ability to start participating in the activities of this project.

Sincerely,

Andony Melathopoulos
Associate Professor
Andony.Melathopoulos@oregonstate.edu
541 452 3038

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Crookston • Duluth • Morris • Rochester • Twin Cities

Department of Horticultural Science
College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences

305 Alderman Hall
1970 Folwell Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108

612-624-4742
Fax: 612-624-4941
http://horticulture.umn.edu

November 21, 2025

Dear Dr. Gaolach,

As associate professor in the Dept. of Horticultural Science at the University of Minnesota, my responsibilities include teaching, research, and Extension. In my education role, I serve as the Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems program teach both the introductory course and capstone course for this program. This program emphasizes community engagement and experiential learning and supports green infrastructure in the Twin Cities metropolitan area via collective action. In my research role, I am currently exploring the effect of invasive swede midge insects on brassica crops in urban agriculture, a new pest that is constraining local production of high-quality vegetables here. My Extension program is focused on urban agriculture, specifically working with community partners to practice sustainable integrated pest management. These practices are largely preventative and take a holistic approach, including weed management and maintaining soil health and fertility.

The proposed project, *Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities,* has a breadth of support services that would contribute to my team's ability to conduct high quality research related to urban resiliency. If funded, I would actively participate in and benefit from these activities:

- **Participating in national Integrated Research Networks (IRNs)** that connect researchers, Extension professionals, and urban stakeholders across key topic areas – including urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions (NbS) and urban ecosystem services (with an emphasis on urban soils and green infrastructure) – to co-create research agendas and share best practices.
- **Participate in professional development and training** in systems thinking, resilience planning, team science, and community-driven research approaches tailored to urban contexts.
- **Participate in Research Synthesis and Acceleration Activities,** including year-long synthesis working groups to address knowledge gaps and research needs and proposal development workshops to facilitate acceleration of emerging ideas

I look forward to the success of your application and the ability to start participating in the activities of this project.

Sincerely,

Mary Rogers, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Sustainable & Organic Horticultural Food Production Systems
612-624-8871

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Cooperative Extension
Maricopa County

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
Center for Urban
Smart Agriculture

Office of the Director

4341 E. Broadway Road - Phoenix AZ 85040-8807 - Phone: 602-827-8200 - Fax: 602-827-8292
http://extension.arizona.edu/maricopa - https://extension.arizona.edu/center-urban-smart-agriculture

November 29, 2025

TO: Dr. Brad Gaolach

FROM: Dr. Ayman Mostafa

SUBJECT Letter/Memo of Collaboration as Co-Principal Investigator

Dear Dr. Gaolach,

As Director of **Maricopa County Cooperative Extension (MCCE)** and **the University of Arizona Center for Urban Smart Agriculture (UA-CUSA)**, I lead these two Departments with a vision to advocate for and support the development, adoption, and implementation of science-based solutions to the unique challenges facing agriculture and food production in urban areas of Arizona and beyond. The UA-CUSA and MCCE facilitate a process to identify environmental, socioeconomic, and political challenges and opportunities that shape the development of urban smart agriculture in Arizona. We engage stakeholders by providing opportunities for applied research and education in urban smart agriculture tailored to their needs and challenges, facilitating collaborations, and increasing the adoption of sustainable, nature-based practices and solutions in the Sonoran Desert. We are collaborating with the University of Arizona faculty and institutions to find science-based solutions to client-identified issues. The two departments are reaching out to thousands of urban agriculture, small-scale, and beginning farmer communities, relevant academic and professional collaborators, government and industry representatives, and graduate and undergraduate students interested in this area.

The proposed project, ***Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities***, includes a wide range of support services to assist the teams at UA-CUSA and MCCE in conducting high-quality research on urban resiliency. If funded, I/we would actively participate in and benefit from:

- **Participating in national Integrated Research Networks (IRNs)** that connect researchers, extension professionals, and urban stakeholders across key areas—including urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions (NbS), and urban ecosystem services—with a focus on urban soils and green infrastructure to develop research agendas and share best practices.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Cooperative Extension
Maricopa County

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
Center for Urban
Smart Agriculture

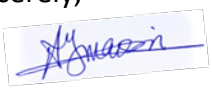
Office of the Director

4341 E. Broadway Road - Phoenix AZ 85040-8807 - Phone: 602-827-8200 - Fax: 602-827-8292
http://extension.arizona.edu/maricopa - https://extension.arizona.edu/center-urban-smart-agriculture

- **Use a data archiving and sharing platform** that includes an interactive "Urban Map Room" that hosts a breadth of urban spatial data to support developing research projects and would use and contribute to an **Urban Research Repository** that assembles, stores, and disseminates research outputs, methods, and resources related to urban resiliency. UA-CUSA has built a substantial needs-assessment database over the past four years, highlighting issues of significant concern to the relevant community in Arizona. These needs assessment surveys could help identify research topics and connect them with appropriate researchers.
- **Participate in professional development and training** in systems thinking, resilience planning, team science, and community-driven research approaches tailored to urban contexts.
- **Participate in Research Synthesis and Acceleration Activities,** including year-long synthesis working groups to address knowledge gaps and research needs, and proposal development workshops to facilitate acceleration of emerging ideas

I look forward to the success of your application and the ability to begin participating in this project's activities.

Sincerely,



Ayman M. Mostafa, Ph.D.

HORTICULTURE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Agricultural Sciences
Horticulture and Landscape Architecture
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-1173
agsci.colostate.edu

December 1, 2025

Dr Gaolach,

My name is Jennifer Bousselot, an Associate Professor of Horticulture at Colorado State University (CSU). I lead the Green Roof and Urban Agriculture research team at the Metropolitan Agricultural Research Center at the CSU Spur campus in Denver, Colorado. We study green roof plant-pollinator interactions, green roof system stormwater capture, rooftop agriculture, and the integration of solar panels on green roofs, also known as rooftop agrivoltaics.

The proposed project, *Building Integrated Research Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities*, has a breadth of support services that would help my team in conducting high quality research related to urban resiliency. If funded, we would actively participate in and benefit from the following four network/activities:

- **Participating in national Integrated Research Networks (IRNs)** that connect researchers, Extension professionals, and urban stakeholders across key topic areas – including urban agriculture and food systems, nature-based solutions (NbS) and urban ecosystem services (with an emphasis on urban soils and green infrastructure) – to co-create research agendas and share best practices.
- **Use a data archiving and sharing platform** that includes an interactive "Urban Map Room" that hosts a breadth of urban spatial data to support developing research projects and would use and contribute to an **Urban Research Repository** that assembles, stores, and disseminates research outputs, methods, and resources related to urban resiliency.
- **Participate in professional development and training** in systems thinking, resilience planning, team science, and community-driven research approaches tailored to urban contexts.
- **Participate in Research Synthesis and Acceleration Activities**, including year-long synthesis working groups to address knowledge gaps and research needs and proposal development workshops to facilitate acceleration of emerging ideas

I look forward to the success of your application and the ability to start participating in the activities of this project.

Sincerely,

Best- Jen

Jennifer Bousselot, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture,
College of Agricultural Sciences, Colorado State University
Jennifer.Bousselot@colostate.edu