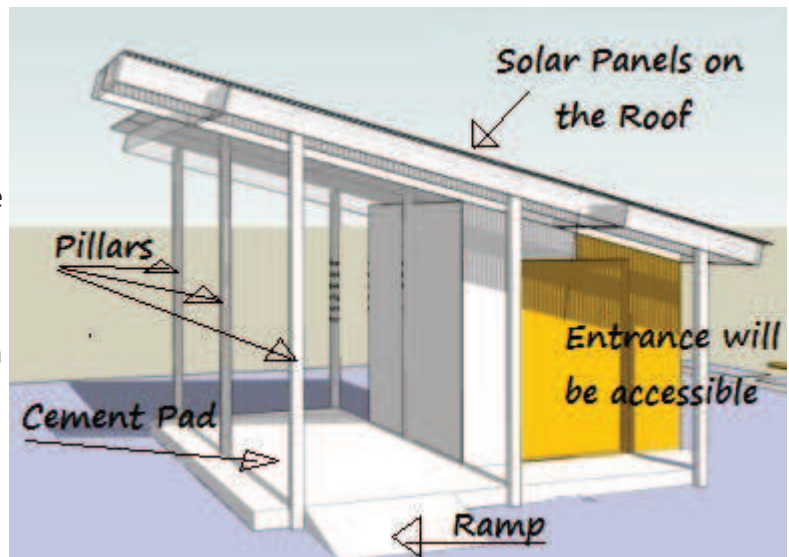


## The parts of the project:

The **basic goal** of our project will address structural and aesthetic improvements to our garden shed. The shed is used to store gardening supplies and tools and can only accommodate 1 or two gardeners at a time. We are proposing the construction of a 6 foot wide porch with a roof that can provide shade and cover in case of rain. Currently, if there is a sudden rain, hiding in the shed is very unpleasant and dark. The porch would have a ramp to accommodate disability scooters, to protect them from the rain as well. And we will also have a 3 foot wide walkway to the entrance to the shed, that will make it Wheelchair accessible.



We would like to have a cement pad as the base - the foundation - of the porch and shed. It is the beginning and most important part of the project.

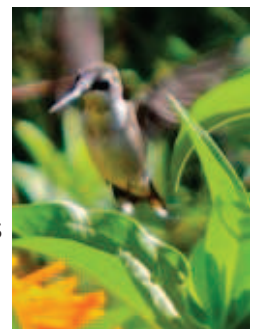
The next part is the pillars, several of them at least - 4" x 4" and 10' tall ... and as deep as they need to be. They will be holding the weight of the solar panels, not just the weight of the roof, so they need to be strong. The roof is designed to be able to accommodate solar panels at the set up, so that we can start with one or two, and add more as necessary.



Installation of solar panels. The portion of the park that makes up the garden has no access to the city's power grid. Therefore, we would like to install solar panels onto the roof of the garden shed to generate our own electricity. Along with the solar panels we would require a battery storage system for more efficient and reliable power, as well as the converter, that would change the "direct current" (DC) from the sun, to the "alternating current" (AC) that most appliances use. The generated electricity would be used for lighting both inside and outside the garden shed.

Running water feature for our pollinator Garden. We hope to also use some of the electricity generated from the solar panels to power a running water pool or fountain. This will provide a water source for beneficial birds and insects. Running water, as opposed to standing water, is necessary to keep mosquitoes away.

Last year in one of our community garden meetings, it was agreed on by consensus that the gardeners were willing to add \$10 each (\$250) to upgrade from pine to cedar, if it was necessary to add money to the project.



## What are the expected outcomes of this investment?



- Increased usage of the park and its facilities. A walk through the gardens has become a daily routine for many in the neighbourhood.
  - Providing an outlet for healthy, physical activity. One of our gardeners is using his gardening exercise as a rehabilitation exercise from a stroke.
  - Providing educational opportunities for children in the neighbourhood. There are 3 junior schools within a 5-minute walking distance of our garden.
  - Increased community awareness about nurturing a native plant garden, preserving heritage seeds and organic growing methods.
  - Produce more healthy food for donation to a local food bank..
  - Increased activity and a sense of safety in the park and garden.
  - To continue being a model for other community gardens across the city. We would be pioneering the way for other community gardens to also have power on their garden area sites.
- It will be easier for us to hold workshops on gardening and urban agriculture techniques. More varieties of birds, butterflies and other insects in the garden and park. In The seven short years of the garden's existence, we have see a great increase of songbirds, we even has a hawk!

