“Kubota Senior’s dream is to leave some enduring work, a memorial that will not only beautify the community, but will promote goodwill and give Americans a better appreciation of the culture of Japan.” — John J. Reddin, Seattle Times, December 6, 1968.

Kubota Garden reflects the cultural evolution of a city. Fujitaro Kubota came to Seattle in 1914, purchased a property in the Rainier Beach neighborhood in 1927, and began a lifelong commitment to the land, to his Issei, Nisei and Sansei immigrant community, and to the broader community of Seattle when he began creating his first demonstration garden. For nearly 60 years, the Kubota family made this property into a working nursery, a home base for their landscape business, and for creating gardens to show their prowess in landscape design. After Mr. Kubota’s death in 1973, the business and garden was maintained by his son Tak and grandson Allan. The City of Seattle landmarked the Garden in 1981 and purchased the 20-acre property in 1987. The Garden is maintained by Seattle Parks in partnership with the Kubota Garden Foundation.

The 100-year master plan update honors Fujitaro through careful restoration of his designed gardens and by providing visitor improvements to accommodate increasing visitation numbers without impacting the visitor experience.