

MARICOPA COUNTY FOOD SYSTEM NATIONAL BEST PRACTICES: POLICIES & REGULATIONS

Public Policy Project Resource Guide

A Report by the Maricopa
County Food System
Coalition (MarCo)
Volume III of III
Public Policy Report



MarCo Policy Work Group

2021

MarCo Public Policy Project – Resources Guide

Introduction

As a follow-up to the section of the National Best Practices Report that took a comprehensive focus on 6 cities that represent a cross section of successful approaches to urban agriculture, this section of the report focuses on a variety of cities and counties throughout the country and specific policy and/or regulation successes.

Minneapolis, MN

- Homegrown Minneapolis, <http://www2.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/homegrown/index.htm>
- Minneapolis Food Action Plan, <http://www2.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/homegrown/WCMSP-218227>
- Urban Agriculture Policy Plan, A Land Use and Development Plan for a Healthy, Sustainable Local Food System, http://www2.minneapolismn.gov/cped/planning/cped_urban_ag_plan
- The Minneapolis Staple Foods Ordinance:
A novel policy approach to improving healthy food offerings in neighborhoods without full-service grocery stores. In 2014, the Minneapolis City Council approved and adopted what is now known as the Minneapolis Staple Foods Ordinance. <https://healthyfoodpolicyproject.org/case-studies/minneapolis-mn>
- Healthy Food Policy, <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/hr/benefits/WCMS1P-096529>
In October 2011, Minneapolis City Council passed a healthy food policy to support the health and wellness of City employees by ensuring the availability of healthy options in vending machines and cafeterias located in City buildings and at city-sponsored meetings.
- Corner Store Program, <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/health/living/new%20cornerstores>
- Health Department, Healthy Eating: Current Initiatives, <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/health/living/eating/index.htm>

Santa Fe, NM

- Santa Fe Food Plan, <http://www.santafefoodpolicy.org/food-plan/>
In October 2014, the first ever Food Plan for Santa Fe region, "*Planning for Santa Fe's Food Future: Querencia, a Story of Food, Farming, and Friends*," was released. The document highlights several goal areas and policy action items, focusing on how our community accesses, produces, and shares knowledge about food.
- Santa Fe Farmer's Market Institute: The Importance of the Market - The cultural, nutritional, and economic impacts of the Santa Fe Farmers' Market, <https://farmersmarketinstitute.org/the-importance-of-the-market/>

San Francisco (City and County)

- San Francisco Healthy and Sustainable Food Policy, <http://sfgov.org/sffood/>
The Food Security Task Force (FSTF) was established in 2005 by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and charged with the responsibility of creating a city-wide plan for addressing food security. The FSTF educates the public about the role of food security in public health and community development, and advocates for policies and programs that improve food security.

Current members of the FSTF include community based organizations and government agencies addressing hunger in San Francisco.

Madison, WI

- Comprehensive Plan Madison, WI
https://www.cityofmadison.com/dpced/planning/documents/Part1_ComprehensivePlan.pdf
https://www.cityofmadison.com/dpced/planning/documents/Part%202_Comprehensive%20Plan.pdf
- Strategic Plan 2016-2020 <https://www.publichealthmdc.com/documents/strategicPlan2016.pdf>
Goal 2: Healthy Eating and Active Living
Support and encourage healthy eating and active living in youth and early childhood, encourage access to safe, nutritious, and affordable food options, and encourage community design and development that supports physical activity
- Double Dollars Program <https://www.cacscw.org/services/food-security/double-dollars/>
The Double Dollars program provides EBT card shoppers with a dollar-for-dollar match up to \$25 per market day at participating farmers' markets. The extra money spent by shoppers goes straight into the pockets of the vendors who get reimbursed for the full value of every Double Dollar they redeem. Double Dollars is sponsored by the City of Madison and Dane County and administered by CACSCW.

Atlanta, GA

- Fulton County Comprehensive Plan
https://dca.ga.gov/sites/default/files/fulton_county_comp_plan_2016_0.pdf
- Atlanta Local Food Initiative <https://atlantaregional.org/natural-resources/sustainability/natural-resources-sustainability-atlanta-local-food-initiative/>

The Atlanta Local Food Initiative (ALFI) is a diverse coalition of stakeholders who are working to build a more sustainable food system for metro Atlanta. The stakeholder group includes communities, nonprofits, universities, government agencies, individuals, and corporations. ALFI envisions a transformed food system in which every metro Atlanta resident has access to safe, nutritious, and affordable food produced by a thriving network of sustainable farms and gardens

ALFI envisions a transformed food system in which every metro Atlanta resident has access to safe, nutritious, and affordable food produced by a thriving network of sustainable farms and gardens. ALFI's mission is to build a local food system that enhances human health, promotes environmental renewal, fosters local economies and links rural and urban communities. **The ALFI Plan** has guided this work for ten years since it was developed in 2008. ARC maintains an inventory of **Gardens, Farms and Orchards in the Atlanta Region** using information provided by the regional food community, which includes ALFI, the Atlanta Community Food Bank, Captain Planet Foundation, Food Well Alliance, Georgia Organics, Metro Atlanta Urban Farm, and the University of Georgia.

- AgLanta <https://www.atlantaga.gov/government/departments/city-planning/office-of-housing-community-development/economic-development-division/aglanta>

AgLanta is the home for all things Urban Agriculture and Local Food Businesses in Atlanta. Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms set a bold goal: to ensure that 85% of Atlanta residents are within a half-mile to healthy food by 2022. The Department of City Planning's Economic Development team is working with the Mayor's Office of One Atlanta's AgLanta team to help meet this goal.

Chicago, IL

- Food Systems Report October 2009
<https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/documents/10180/31446/012610+FOOD+SYSTEMS.pdf/67bf510e-62f8-4cec-ae58-c91f0212aef3>
- Good Food Purchasing Program <https://goodfoodpurchasing.org/chicago-food-policy-action-council-secures-good-food-purchasing-program-for-city-of-chicago/>

The Chicago City Council's adoption of the Good Food Purchasing Program (GFPP) demonstrates a meaningful commitment to values-based food purchasing that contributes to overall health and community wellness. Once implemented, the measure will impact a significant portion of nearly \$200 million in spending toward local food businesses and farmers. The policy will prioritize nutrition, affordability, local economies, sustainable production practices, sound environmental practices, fair prices for producers, safe and fair working conditions for employees and food workers, and humane treatment of animals. The Center for Good Food Purchasing provides a set of Standards around five values and supports institutions by helping them make more informed decisions about the food they buy.

Los Angeles, CA

- LA County General Plan
https://planning.lacounty.gov/assets/upl/project/gp_final-general-plan.pdf
- Child Nutrition Policy
http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2002/02-1756_rpt_ccyf_10-21-05.pdf

The development of the Child Nutrition Policy has been a collaborative effort of the Los Angeles Child Health and Nutrition Task Force. The Task Force was instructed by City Council to develop a nutrition policy aimed at improving the distribution of healthy food and beverage to children and youth participating in City-sponsored programs. Included in the Policy is a nutrition education plan to empower children to make healthy eating choices that contribute to their well-being and health. The Task Force, comprised of representatives from several local government and nonprofit agencies, is responsible for oversight and support to City-sponsored programs to ensure that the affected programs are following the Child Nutrition Policy

- Food Leaders Lab
<https://www.goodfoodla.org/food-leaders-lab>

Leadership training program offered by the Los Angeles Food Policy Council. The FLL trains community advocates and residents on the histories of food justice movements, political leadership, and strategies for a healthy, resilient, and just food system in Los Angeles through a ten-week intergenerational multi-lingual course. Each Food Leaders Lab session explores food system dynamics and case studies from various social movements including anti-hunger and community food security, food sovereignty and regenerative agriculture. In addition, the Food Leaders Lab emphasize leadership development and skill building relevant policy, advocacy and community organizing.

- Los Angeles Food Policy Council – 2020 Food System Dashboard
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5bc50618ab1a624d324ecd81/t/5e45c5915750af6b4e5e5c4b/1581630905550/2020FoodSystemDashboard.pdf>

With over 250 indicators, the Dashboard contains data from the Los Angeles Foodshed, County, City, and neighborhoods within the city. The Dashboard combines data from large, nationally used

databases, local government agencies, and reliable community partners. The Dashboard includes both quantitative and qualitative data to provide contextualization of the witnessed trends. Our indicators have been tracked since the first version of the Dashboard (originally called the “Food System Snapshot” in 2013) and continue to be adjusted to best reflect our values and available data.

The Dashboard includes Expert Commentaries from members of our Leadership Circle, Case Studies from our programs and other partner organizations, and Video Interviews from knowledgeable members of local organizations in our communities.

Des Moines, IA

- Healthy Food, Healthy Iowans, Healthy Communities: Public Health Tools to Advance Healthy, Sustainable Food Systems
<https://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/Files/CHNAHIP/IPDH%20Community%20Food%20Systems%20Primer%20June%202014.pdf>
- Creating the Des Moines Food Security Task Force
<https://councildocs.dsm.city/Resolutions/20201221/49.pdf>
- The Tomorrow Plan Polk County <http://www.thetomorrowplan.com/documents/ttp-final.pdf>

Public Policy Implementation

Cincinnati, OH

- Urban Farm and Community Garden Ordinances
<https://farmlandinfo.org/law/cincinnati-ohio-urban-farm-and-community-garden-ordinances/>
- Office of Environment & Sustainability, Urban Agriculture Grants
<https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/oes/food/urban-agriculture-grants/>

Fort Worth, TX

- Using Urban Farming to Improve Healthy Food Access & Economic Development
<https://healthyfoodpolicyproject.org/case-studies/fort-worth-tx>
Fort Worth is the fifth largest city in the state and the 16th largest city in the U.S. As with communities across the U.S., many residents in Fort Worth, particularly those in low income areas, have limited access to fresh food. These areas of the city are labeled “food deserts,” defined as locations that lack ready access to healthy and affordable food, including vegetables and fruit. According to the Tarrant Area Food Bank, an estimated 280,000 Fort Worth residents live in a food desert (situated a mile or more from a full-service grocery store). In fact, a recent study found 11 separate zip codes in Tarrant County that are considered food deserts and several zip codes in the City of Fort Worth that do not have a single grocery store in the community.⁴

Boston, MA

Good Food Purchasing Policy: Building A More Transparent and Equitable Food System

<https://healthyfoodpolicyproject.org/case-studies/boston-ma>

- In March 2019, the Boston City Council passed “An Ordinance Regarding Good Food Purchasing Standards in the City of Boston” to require the city’s departments and agencies to meet new food procurement standards.¹ This is a first-of-its-kind ordinance on the East Coast, based on the Center for Good Food Purchasing’s values-based framework for local procurement, the Good Food Purchasing Program (GFPP).
- Office of Food Access, Urban Farming in the City,

<https://www.cityofboston.gov/food/urbanag/>

- Urban Ag Resources – Grants; Microloans; Land Purchases; Training Programs; Business Planning
<https://www.boston.gov/departments/food-access/urban-farming-city>
- Boston Urban Ag – A City’s Vision for Growing Food,
<https://bostonurbanag.wordpress.com/>
- In December 2013, Boston passed [Article 89](#), a new addition to the city’s zoning code that allows for urban agriculture. Since this time, the support for urban agriculture in the city has been tremendous, but there has been limited collaboration between the public, private, and non-profit sectors on how to create a vision for its future in Boston. A multitude of organizations and individuals throughout Boston are working on urban agriculture, both in the non-profit and for-profit sectors.

Urban Agriculture Rezoning Initiative – Article 89,

<http://www.bostonredevelopmentauthority.org/getattachment/a573190c-9305-45a5-83b1-735c0801e73e>

Prince George’s County, MD

Food Equity Council: Taking on Food Swamps through Policy Change

<https://healthyfoodpolicyproject.org/case-studies/prince-georges-county-md>

Prince George’s County, Maryland is an urban area located thirty-five miles south of Baltimore City. The county spans 500 square miles and borders Washington, DC. It is one of the highest-income African-American-majority counties in the country.

The Problem - Food swamps in the most urban areas of Prince George’s County

While Prince George’s County has higher rates of weight-related chronic diseases than the state overall, there are also health inequities that exist within the county. In 2015, the Prince George’s County Planning Department released a food system study, “Healthy Food for All Prince Georgians,” describing these disparities. The report showed that residents living in the most urban areas and inside the Capital Beltway² have much higher rates of diet-related illnesses relative to people living in other parts of the county. Individuals in these communities also have lower income levels and higher rates of food insecurity.³

Atlanta, GA

Urban Livestock Ordinance

<https://farmlandinfo.org/law/atlanta-georgia-urban-livestock-ordinances/#:~:text=This%20ordinance%20allows%20and%20regulates,cows%2C%20goats%2C%20and%20sheep.>

This ordinance allows and regulates the keeping of animals within city limits. It specifies requirements for raising dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs, chickens, turkeys, horses, cows, goats, and sheep.

Food Rescue & Recovery

San Francisco, CA

San Francisco Food Service Waste Reduction Ordinance

Resolution for a Food Secure San Francisco: Using Data and Citywide Coordination to Improve Food Security and Health Outcomes for the City’s Most Vulnerable Residents

<https://healthyfoodpolicyproject.org/case-studies/san-francisco-ca>

How an Academic Partnership and Community Engagement Helped Design a Food Safety Rating System in Seattle & King County

<https://healthyfoodpolicyproject.org/case-studies/seattle-wa>

Public Health – Seattle & King County (Public Health) is one of the largest metropolitan health departments in the United States (U.S.). Serving a resident population of 2.1 million people¹ speaking over 100 languages, Public Health’s mission is to protect and improve the health and wellbeing of all people in King County.² Between 2000 and 2016 the county’s population grew by 21%, with most of this growth coming from immigrants from all parts of Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and Africa.³

Food Policy Councils

Montgomery County, MD

Food Council (Bethesda, Maryland)

<https://mocofoodcouncil.org/>

Policy Committee Guidelines

<https://mocofoodcouncil.org/policy-committee-guidelines/>

Community Food Access Assessment – 2013-2015

<https://mocofoodcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/MoCo-Food-Access-Report-2015.pdf>

San Francisco, CA

San Francisco Food Policy Council

<https://sfgov.org/sffood/san-francisco-healthy-and-sustainable-food-policy>

Mayor Newsom Executive Directive: Healthy and Sustainable Food for San Francisco

<https://sfgov.org/sffood//sites/default/files/Documents/sffood/MayorNewsomExecutiveDirectiveonHealthySustainableFood.pdf>

Los Angeles, CA

LA Food Policy Council

<https://www.goodfoodla.org/>

Strategic Direction 2018-2023

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5bc50618ab1a624d324ecd81/t/5c144dac758d463b97fa86d0/1544834486003/lafpc_strategicdirection_presentation_07132018CD.pdf

2019 Annual Report

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5bc50618ab1a624d324ecd81/t/5dfd703f96c1db55a0baec0e/1576890525846/LAFPC+Annual+Report+2019-Final_Compresed.pdf

San Diego, CA

San Diego Food System Alliance

<https://www.sdfsa.org/>

Operating Strategy

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d51ab12fea20500010a114b/t/5e755af16e27d0443d26c01b/1584749325553/SDFSA+Operating+Strategy+FINAL+%286%29.pdf>

2019 Annual Report

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d51ab12fea20500010a114b/t/5ee25b3144361d44253cac97/1591892789345/2019-Annual-Report-compressed.pdf>

Tarrant County (Fort Worth), TX

Tarrant County Food Policy Council

<http://www.tarrantcountyfoodpolicycouncil.org/home.html>

Miami, FL Miami/Dade County

City Commission Approves Plan to Create Food Policy Council

<https://www.wuft.org/news/2019/03/21/city-commission-approves-plan-to-create-food-policy-council/>

Florida Food Policy Council

<https://flfpc.wildapricot.org/>

Baltimore, MD

Food Policy Action Coalition

<https://planning.baltimorecity.gov/baltimore-food-policy-initiative/food-policy-action-committee>

Baltimore City Food Resilience Strategy

<https://planning.baltimorecity.gov/sites/default/files/Baltimore%20City%20Food%20Resilience.pdf>

Massachusetts Local Food Action Plan

Massachusetts Food Policy Council

<https://mafoodsystem.org/static/plan/pdfs/MLFSPFull.pdf>

Food Policy Councils - Resources

FOCUS AREAS - Governing Model; Food Assessment; Strategic Plan; Funding

Food Policy Councils: Lessons Learned

https://s30428.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2019/09/Food_Policy_Councils_1.pdf

Food Policy Councils act as both forums for food issues and platforms for coordinated action. The first Food Policy Council started in 1982 in Knoxville, Tennessee. Since then, Food Policy Councils have been established at state, local and regional levels across the county. Some have remarkable success stories. Others have failed, disbanded, or spun-off into other service and non-profit organizations.

What lessons can be taken from North America's three-decade experiment in formulating local food policy? *Food Policy Councils: Lessons Learned* is an assessment based on an extensive literature review and testimony from 48 individual interviews with the people most involved in Food Policy Councils.

Food Policy Council Self-Assessment Tool: Development, Testing, and Results

https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2017/16_0281.htm#contribAff

Many food policy councils (FPCs) exist in the United States, Canada, and Tribal Nations (N = 278), yet there are no tools designed to measure their members' perceptions of organizational capacity, social capital, and council effectiveness. Without such tools, it is challenging to determine best practices for FPCs and to measure change within and across councils over time. This study describes the development, testing, and findings from the Food Policy Council Self-Assessment Tool (FPC-SAT). The assessment measures council practices and council members' perceptions of the following concepts: leadership, breadth of active membership, council climate, formality of council structure, knowledge sharing, relationships, member empowerment, community context, synergy, and impacts on the food system. All 278 FPCs listed on the Food Policy Network's Online Directory were recruited to complete the FPC-SAT. Internal reliability (Cronbach's α) and inter-rater reliability (AD, rWG(J), ICC [intra-class correlations][1], ICC[2]) were calculated, and exploratory and a confirmatory factor analyses were conducted. Responses from 354 FPC members from 94 councils were used to test the assessment. Cronbach's α ranged from 0.79 to 0.93 for the scales. FPC members reported the lowest mean scores on the breadth of active membership scale (2.49; standard deviation [SD], 0.62), indicating room for improvement, and highest on the leadership scale (3.45; SD, 0.45). The valid FPC-SAT can be used to identify FPC strengths and areas for improvement, measure differences across FPCs, and measure change in FPCs over time.

Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture

<https://www.leopold.iastate.edu/leopold-center-sustainable-agriculture>

Best Practices of the Regional Food Systems Working Group

<https://www.leopold.iastate.edu/files/pubs-and-papers/2014-11-best-practices-regional-food-systems-working-group.pdf>

Communities of Practice create an environment of learning where members share expertise and build on ideas. The ideas evolve into best practices and are eventually recorded in a book of knowledge. Just as engineers document their standard of work and best practices for automobile assembly, the Regional Food Systems Working Group (RFSWG) is documenting the food system activities that have advanced the work of building a regional food system in Iowa.

This manual is a compilation of food system activities implemented to date by the regional coordinators of the RFSWG.

These coordinators were asked to fill out and submit best practice questionnaires on the following program focus areas:

1. Coalition Building
2. Funding, Fundraising, Funder Relationships
3. Local Food Promotion (Buy Fresh Buy Local)
4. Celebration Events, Agri-tourism
5. Producer Training/Workshops
6. Local Food Sales to Institutions
7. Farm to School
8. Business development, Connector role, Value Chain Facilitator

Iowa State University Agricultural Urbanism Toolkit

https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=&httpsredir=1&article=1007&context=extension_pubs

Iowa State University Community Design Lab

STRATEGY: The Agricultural Urbanism Toolkit is a PROCESS that promotes public interest design through ENGAGEMENT with community leaders, leading to a holistic design incorporating community values around food. We use AGRICULTURAL URBANISM TACTICS to promote local food system revitalization in communities. The Toolkit has the potential to improve food security, create resilient communities, promote social equity, increase environmental diversity, and build financial sustainability for individuals and communities.

Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems

<https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=Michigan+State+University+Center+for+Regional+Food+Systems>

Creating Change in the Food System: The Role of Regional Food Networks in Iowa

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/creating-change>

Using Kania and Kramer's (2011) notion of collective impact, we present a case study of an integrated effort to build long-term local and regional food commerce in Iowa using a community of practice approach. Kania and Kramer contend that five conditions must exist within a network of organizations to effect meaningful change. Those conditions include:

Common agenda across organizations;
Shared measurement systems;
Mutually reinforcing activities that create synergy rather than redundancy;
Continuous communication across and within organizations; and
Backbone support organizations that can plan, manage, and support the initiative so it runs smoothly.

Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future - Bloomberg School of Public Health

<https://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/johns-hopkins-center-for-a-livable-future>

Food Policy Networks - Research on food policy groups

<http://www.foodpolicynetworks.org/research/>

The Food Policy Networks (FPN) project aims to reduce the burden of over-research on FPGs by streamlining and reducing duplicative efforts. Our Census updates condense survey requests made of FPGs in the US and Canada. We share non-confidential survey results with researchers upon request. The [bibliography](#) we've compiled highlights existing and emerging research on FPGs. We also encourage researchers and FPGs to post their research needs and interests on our [FPN listserv](#) to more cohesively foster research that is proactive and responsive.

- Download [annotated bibliography](#) of existing and needed research on food policy groups
- Download [tips for fruitful community-university partnerships and research](#)

Public Health Law Center

<https://publichealthlawcenter.org/topics/healthy-eating/food-policy-council>

Most of our food is produced on large, industrial farms that grow only a few different crops. Food is typically transported long distances from where it is grown to where it is eaten, and much of it is processed into manufactured products prior to being consumed. There are emerging ways of getting food that rely on smaller producers and focus on local networks for buying and selling food.

Many communities are figuring out innovative ways to support that local food system by creating Food Policy Councils. The councils examine how the local food system operates and provide policy recommendations to improve that system. Food Policy Councils involve a variety of stakeholders from different segments of the local food system. In some cases, the councils are created through a governmental action, such as an executive order or local resolution. In other situations, grassroots efforts drive and maintain the Food Policy Council structure.

Food hubs are organizations that connect local food producers with local or regional buyers. By helping local producers sell their products in more places throughout a community, such as local and regional grocery store chains, co-operative food markets, local governments, schools, and restaurants, food hubs increase access to fresh, local food.

Food hubs usually require a certain amount of money to get started. Local policies can help by providing public loans or some other type of financing or creating public-private partnerships with local businesses. Food Policy Councils can also play an important role in establishing food hubs.

Other Helpful Resources:

- [Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future - Food Policy Networks](#)
- [State & Local Food Policy Councils](#)
- [Food First, Institute for Food & Development Policy](#)
- [USDA, National Good Food Network](#)
- **Older resources can be found in our [Food Policy Council resource archive](#) page.**

Public Health Law Center

Guides & Toolkits

<https://publichealthlawcenter.org/documents/publications/guides-toolkits>

https://assets.jhsph.edu/clf/mod_clfResource/doc/PHLC_Food_Council_Bylaws.pdf

Kansas Food Council Bylaws

<https://publichealthlawcenter.org/sites/default/files/resources/Kansas-Food-Council-Bylaws-2017.pdf>

Food councils examine how the community food system operates and provide recommendations for promoting local economic development and creating a more environmentally sustainable, healthy, and socially just food system.

Michigan State University, Center for Regional Food Systems

Racial Equity in the Food System Workgroup – Interesting Reference

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/racial-equity-workgroup/>

An Annotated Bibliography On Structural Racism Present In The U.S. Food System

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/foodsystems/uploads/files/Annotated-Bibliography-on-Structural-Racism-Seventh-Edition.pdf>

Community Wealth

Local Food Systems

<https://community-wealth.org/strategies/panel/urban-ag/index.html>

Models & Best Practices

<https://community-wealth.org/strategies/panel/urban-ag/models.html>

Urban Agriculture Tools

<https://community-wealth.org/content/urban-agriculture-tools>

ARTICLES

Food Policy Councils Are Emerging as A Model to Address Gaps in Local Policies

Author: [Clare Gupta](#), Feb 19, 2019, Food BLOG, Food news from the UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

<https://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=29361>

In a growing number of communities, food policy councils (also called “food system alliances”) have emerged to address gaps in local policies that focus on food. Most communities have transportation, housing, or land use policies, but food policies are frequently missing. Food policy councils (FPCs) are an important way to bring community members together with local government to promote the social, economic, and environmental health of local and regional food systems.

Best Practices for Creating a Sustainable and Equitable Food System in the United States

By Ashley Blackwell Posted on May 12, 2016, Center for American Progress

<https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/poverty/reports/2016/05/12/137306/best-practices-for-creating-a-sustainable-and-equitable-food-system-in-the-united-states/>

Over the past century, the nation’s food system radically transformed from one sustained by family farms to an industrialized system dependent on toxic agricultural practices, farm consolidation, food processing operations, and distribution warehouses. Such a system often further elongates the distance between food sources and consumers.

Despite increased food production, there is still a lack of healthy, affordable food in low-income communities and communities of color, as well as varying disparities in rural localities compared with urban ones. An estimated 14 percent of American households were food insecure at some point in 2014, meaning that they lacked access to enough food to encourage an active, healthy life for all household members.

How to Structure a Food Policy Council

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

This article was [originally published](#) on the [Livable Future Blog](#).

“How should we structure our council?” That’s a question frequently uttered by people working with food policy councils (FPCs). And, as with so many questions out there, there is not a clear and easy answer. Decisions like this depends on many factors such as the mission and goals for the group, who is involved, what resources are available, policy objectives and the culture of the group. Deciding the structure will be one of several decisions you make in the process of organizing. Your structure might also be influenced by your relationship with government. By clarifying the mission and goals for the council, you attract members to get involved. Having a clear structure helps members understand their role of the council in making decisions about food policy.

When FPCs began forming decades ago, groups picked between being inside or outside of government. Now most groups select a hybrid model, which allows them to take several factors into account as they work to change the food system. Form follows function. The descriptions below attempt to delineate some of the options out there.

FPC Structures: Some Examples

<https://americanhealth.jhu.edu/article/how-structure-food-policy-council>

Food Policy Councils: Is There a Best Structure?

Laura DiGiulio, Guest Blogger, Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future

<https://clf.jhsph.edu/viewpoints/food-policy-councils-there-best-structure>

Food Policy for All: Inclusion of Diverse Community Residents on Food Policy Councils

https://assets.jhsph.edu/clf/mod_clfResource/doc/Food%20Policy%20For%20All%204-81.pdf

Food Policy for All: Inclusion of Diverse Community Residents on Food Policy Councils (2014)

<https://www.foodpolicynetworks.org/food-policy-resources/?resource=488>

Read More –

<https://livablefutureblog.com/2017/08/food-policy-councils-best-structure>

Food Safety System

How an Academic Partnership and Community Engagement Helped Design a Food Safety Rating System in Seattle & King County

<https://healthyfoodpolicyproject.org/case-studies/seattle-wa>

Public Health – Seattle & King County (Public Health) is one of the largest metropolitan health departments in the United States (U.S.). Serving a resident population of 2.1 million people¹ speaking over 100 languages, Public Health’s mission is to protect and improve the health and wellbeing of all people in King County.² Between 2000 and 2016 the county’s population grew by 21%, with most of this growth coming from immigrants from all parts of Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and Africa.³

Food Economy/Economic Benefits and Programs

Agriculture & Economic Opportunity - Montgomery County Food Council

The Food Council seeks to develop and sustain an economically viable local food system through relationships with local food entrepreneurs, retailers, restaurateurs, distributors, farmers, and food and beverage businesses, and the expansion of our MoCo Made Program. Through the [MoCo Made](#) program, we seek to increase the visibility of the more than 75 Montgomery County-based food businesses and farms through connections to networking opportunities, new individual, retail, and wholesale customers, educational resources, and events, and more.

<https://mocofoodcouncil.org/food-economy/>

Alternative Retail Model Catalogue (2020) – Food Policy Network

<http://www.foodpolicynetworks.org/food-policy-resources/index.html?resource=1327>

The food and grocery retail market—that is to say, the industrial complex encompassing the sale and consumption of all nonservice-oriented food and beverage items—has undergone a series of rapid and continuous transitions over the past several decades. The table provided herein catalogues 93 unique and emergent retail models that have demonstrated promise in their ability to improve household access to healthy foods and build communities around growers, sellers, and buyers.

https://assets.jhsph.edu/clf/mod_clfResource/doc/food%20retail%20models_022820.pdf