



MARICOPA COUNTY
FOOD SYSTEM COALITION

Maricopa County Food System National Best Practices: Policies & Regulations

A Report by the Maricopa
County Food System
Coalition (MarCo)

Volume II of III
Public Policy Project



Table of Contents

The Public Policy Project:	10
Analyzing National Best Practices and Regulations	10
Project Overview	10
Research Methodology	10
REPORT FORMAT	11
City Name	11
Section 1 - Introduction	11
Section 2 - Public Policy Identification	11
Section 3 - Public Policy Implementation	11
Section 4 – Examples of Additional Implementation Topics	11
HOW TO USE THIS TOOLKIT	12
Example: TUCSON	12
Section 1 – Introduction	12
Section 2 - Public Policy Identification	12
Section 3 - Public Policy Implementation	12
Section 4 - Additional Implementation Steps	12
.....	13
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO	14
SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION	14
SECTION 2 - FOOD SYSTEM PUBLIC POLICIES	15
ABC Comprehensive Plan’s Guiding Principles:	15
SECTION 3 – PUBLIC POLICY IMPLEMENTATION	16
SECTION 4 - ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	17
FOOD RESCUE AND RECOVERY	17
Mid-Region Council of Governments: Local Food Program	17
WATER USE	17
WATER 2120: Water Resources Management Strategy	17
URBAN AGRICULTURE INCENTIVES	17
Urban Agriculture	17
Community Garden Rows	17
Partners for Success	17
.....	19

AUSTIN, TEXAS.....	20
SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION	20
SECTION 2 – PUBLIC POLICY IDENTIFICATION	21
IMAGINAUSTIN – Comprehensive Plan – Vibrant. Livable. Connected.....	21
Chapter 2: EXPERIENCING AUSTIN: WHO ARE WE TODAY?.....	21
Health and Healthcare Page 65 (Food System Related).....	21
Chapter 4: Shaping Austin: Building The Complete Community	21
Key Issues and Trends Page 170 (Food System Related).....	21
SECTION 3 – PUBLIC POLICY IMPLEMENTATION	21
Implementation Programs.....	21
Work Program Page 195 (Note: Action Steps are selected specific to food system issues and programs not related to the food system are not included resulting in missing program numbers.)	22
Relationship to Other Priority Programs:	22
Related City Initiatives:.....	22
7. Create a Healthy Austin Program. Page 205.....	23
WORK PROGRAM.....	23
ONGOING AND LONG TERM (3+ YEARS)	23
Local Food Production	23
Food Rescue & Recovery	24
Community Support.....	24
Water Use	24
Urban Agriculture Incentives	24
Research and Reports	24
DENVER, COLORADO	26
SECTION 1- INTRODUCTION.....	26
SECTION 2 – PUBLIC POLICY IDENTIFICATION	26
City of Denver Comprehensive Plan 2040	26
Vision Elements: Environmentally Resilient	26
Vision Elements: Healthy and Active	27
Comprehensive Plan 2014 - A summary of DENVER'S PLAN FOR THE FUTURE and 2020 ANNUAL REPORT	27
SECTION 3 - PUBLIC POLICY IMPLEMENTATION	27
City of Denver Zoning Code	27
Code of Ordinances, City of Denver	27

NOTE: SEE - DIVISION 11.6 AGRICULTURAL PRIMARY USE LIMITATIONS – Page 5.....27

SECTION 4 – ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION STEPS.....27

Local Food Production27

 Denver Department of Public Health and Environment – Neighborhood Health Profiles27

 Denver Food in Communities27

 Denver Sustainable Food Policy Council.....27

 Denver Sustainability Food Policy Council Policy Platform27

 Denver’s Food System 2016 (Economic Benefits of Urban Ag).....27

Climate Change.....27

 Climate Action.....27

 Denver Climate Action Plan27

Local Food Production28

Food Rescue and Recovery28

Community Support.....28

Water Use28

 CENTRAL COLORADO WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT28

Incentives.....28

 Westwood Community, Denver: Urban Farm Training Program, Prevention Institute.....28

 The Urban Farm – The Farm in the City.....28

COLORADO FOOD SYSTEMS ADVISORY COUNCIL28

 Colorado Food Systems Advisory Council.....28

 The Colorado Blueprint of Agriculture & Food28

 Colorado Food Systems Advisory Council – White Papers.....28

 Agritourism Best Practices Guides.....28

 Agritourism Publications.....28

 Food Systems – Colorado State University – Newsletters28

DIVISION 11.6 AGRICULTURAL PRIMARY USE LIMITATIONS29

Section 11.8.4 GARDEN29

Section 11.9.4 ALL OTHER TYPES (of Home Occupations).....29

Section 11.10.10 GARDEN29

Section 11.12.6 PRIMARY AGRICULTURE USES30

 A. Definition of Agriculture Use Category30

Agriculture Use Category includes cultivation, production, keeping, or maintenance for personal use, donation, sale or lease, of: (1) plants, including but not limited to: forages and sod crops; grains and seed crops; fruits and vegetables; herbs; and ornamental plants; and (2) livestock, including but not limited to: dairy animals and dairy products; poultry and poultry products; cattle and cattle products; or horses.	30
B. Specific Agriculture Use Types and Definitions	30
2. Garden, Urban	30
Land that is (1) managed by a public or nonprofit organization, or by one or more private persons, and (2) used to grow and harvest plants for donation, for personal use consumption, or for off-site sales by those managing or cultivating the land and their households. This use does not include or permit the growing of marijuana.	30
Section 11.12.7 DEFINITIONS OF USES ACCESSORY TO PRIMARY RESIDENTIAL USES	30
Section 11.12.8 DEFINITIONS OF HOME OCCUPATIONS ACCESSORY TO PRIMARY RESIDENTIAL USES	30
PORTLAND, OREGON	33
SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION	33
SECTION 2 – PUBLIC POLICY IDENTIFICATION	33
The Portland Plan.....	33
5 Year Action Plan – Page 87	34
2009 Portland Plan Food Systems Report	35
2035 Comprehensive Plan	35
Governing Policies and Training Resources	35
SECTION 3 – PUBLIC POLICY IMPLEMENTATION	35
Urban Food Zoning Update	35
Multnomah County Codes for Chickens, Bees & Farm Animals.....	35
SECTION 4 – ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION STEPS.....	35
Local Food Production	35
Food Rescue and Recovery	36
Community Support.....	36
Water Use	36
Incentives.....	36
Urban Agriculture and Local Food Access Resources And Publications.....	36
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	39
SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION	39
Seattle Food Facts.....	39
SECTION 2 – PUBLIC POLICY IDENTIFICATION	39

The Seattle Comprehensive Plan	39
SECTION 3 - ZONING REGULATIONS	42
Urban Food Zoning Update, Council Bill 116907	42
Seattle Municipal Code for Urban Farms and Community Gardens	42
Health Food Availability and Food Bank Network Report	42
SECTION 4 - ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	42
Local Food Production	42
Growing Food in the City	42
Regional Food Systems Resources.....	42
34 Seattle-Area Organizations Working for a Better Food System	42
Farmland Preservation	42
Ag Land Preservation	42
Farmland Preservation Programs	42
PCC Farmland Trust	42
King County Transfer of Development Rights Program.....	42
Agrihoods	42
Skokomish Valley Farms	42
Food Rescue and Recovery	42
Love Food Stop Waste Program	42
Food Rescue Innovation Labs	42
Food Waste Prevention and Recovery Assessment	42
Community Support.....	43
Farmers Market Sustainability — Obstacles and Strategies	43
Farmers Market Report	43
Farmers Market Access Project	43
Food Action Plan Implementation	43
City of Seattle Food Action Plan, 2012	43
Seattle Food Action Plan 2014 Update.....	43
Local Food Initiative 2018.....	43
Healthy Food Policy Project (Policy Database, Food Systems Crosswalk, & Case Studies).....	43
Sugary Drink Tax for Seattle, WA.....	43
Water Use	43
Director’s Water Rules and Policies.....	43

2019 Water System Plan.....	43
Incentives.....	43
Fresh Bucks Program	43
Fruit & Vegetable Incentive Program	43
URBAN AGRICULTURE AND LOCAL FOOD ACCESS RESOURCES AND PUBLICATIONS	43
Urban Agriculture in Seattle: Policy & Barriers	43
Community Food Security Coalition Recommendations for Food Systems Policy in Seattle, 2011 ...	43
Community Gardens and Urban Agriculture Puget Sound.....	43
Championing Food Systems Policy Change in Seattle, Washington.....	43
.....	44
SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION	45
Tucson Food Facts.....	45
SECTION 2 - PUBLIC POLICY IDENTIFICATION.....	46
Plan Tucson Goal(s):.....	46
SECTION 3 – PUBLIC POLICY IMPLEMENTATION	47
Unified Development Code – Zoning Code	47
SECTION 4 - ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	47
LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION	47
FOOD RESCUE AND RECOVERY.....	47
Social Economy Arizona – Food & Urban Agriculture	47
WATER USE	47
2020 Strategic Plan	47
URBAN AGRICULTURE INCENTIVES	48
Tucson’s Urban Agriculture Network: A Resource Guide for Gardeners	48
City of Tucson Unified Development Code Amendment	48
Urban Agriculture	48
Urban Agriculture - Community Partners.....	48
Partners for Success	48

The Public Policy Project: Analyzing National Best Practices and Regulations

Project Overview

The MarCo Policy Work Group (PWG) initiated the Public Policy Project (PPP) as a critical element of the Community Food Assessment (CFA). The PWG recognized the role that public policies and regulations play in how local agriculture can be accepted and encouraged. The PWG also recognized that without the appropriate policies and regulations in place, local agriculture will be restricted and not be successful.

In response, the PPP, as an important component of the CFA, addresses public policy and regulations in the food system by examining major issues confronting local agriculture:

- agriculture land transitioning to urban land uses;
- public policies & regulations not written to accommodate urban agricultural uses;
- the need for municipalities to create an inventory of “urban ag parcels”;
- defining the struggle by small producers to fit within a land use system that is adjusting to providing opportunities for local food production;
- and a realistic approach to preservation of farmland.

In the Local Best Practices Guide, we heard from 10 cities and towns in Maricopa County about unique ways that municipalities are addressing issues confronted by local farmers. This is accomplished by improving the local food system through setting goals, adopting policies and regulations that make the production, distribution and consumption of healthy, local food a priority for their communities.

In this National Best Practices Guide, we look at six major cities beyond Maricopa County to examine how those municipalities are addressing public policy and monitoring implementation action steps in response to community needs relating to providing a sustainability land healthy local food system. The underlying goal of this report is to create an environment of learning where national best practices are highlighted and shared. The National Best Practices report is an opportunity for local governments to gain expertise and have access to a reference guide to identify new, innovative public policies and regulation that enhance the food system in Maricopa County.

Research Methodology

This section will focus on six US cities that have played a leadership role in addressing food access issues. The cities selected include Albuquerque, Austin, Denver, Portland, Seattle, and Tucson. It is recognized that there are hundreds of cities that have taken innovative steps to address local food issues and could have been included in this discussion. These cities were selected for the following reasons;

- Location – located in the west or southwest
- Growth – all are experiencing rapid population growth
- Size – Austin is the largest at 988,000 people; Tucson the smallest at 546,000 people
- Population Diversity
- Past experience supporting urban agriculture and health food access
 - Albuquerque – Programs to encourage new farmers
 - Austin – Community Gardens permitted in public parks
 - Denver – Focus on food action plan
 - Portland – Urban Agriculture Ordinance
 - Seattle – P-Patch Program
 - Tucson – Focus of public policy on encouraging urban agriculture

REPORT FORMAT

Following is a template of how each section of the National Best Practices Report is laid out. There are six sections based on six cities across the nation. The format is based on the on-line survey and the in-person surveys conducted with cities/towns in Maricopa County.

City Name

Section 1 - Introduction

Overview
Food Facts

Section 2 - Public Policy Identification

Food System Public Policies
(Identify General Plan or Comprehensive Plan)

- Urban Agriculture Policies
- Related Policies

Section 3 - Public Policy Implementation

Zoning Regulations
(Identify Zoning Code; Development Code)

- Zoning for Urban Agriculture: A Guide for Updating Your City's Laws to Support Healthy Food Production and Access
- Drafting Definitions in Local Healthy Food Access Policies

Section 4 – Examples of Additional Implementation Topics

- Local Food Production
- Food Rescue and Recovery
- Community Support
- Water Use
- Urban Agriculture Incentives
- Other Policies, Programs, Projects as identified

HOW TO USE THIS TOOLKIT

The National Best Practice Report can be used as a resource for a specific urban agriculture issue and as a review document to determine how other communities have responded to urban agriculture and food system issues. For the purpose of this discussion, we are using Tucson as the example of how to use the toolkit.

Example: TUCSON Section 1 – Introduction

Section 2 - Public Policy Identification

Using Tucson as the example, when looking for urban agricultural policies the reference will be to review Section 2 – Public Policy Identification. The **Plan Tucson – City of Tucson General & Sustainability Plan 2013** is referenced including the text from The Social Environment Section, Chapter 3, Urban Agriculture (Pg. 3.32) in the Plan. Following a discussion of the Urban Agriculture vision, the four specific urban agriculture polices are introduced on Pg. 3.35. Also included on that same page is a list of policies in other sections of the Plan that relate to Urban Agriculture.

Section 3 - Public Policy Implementation

This section provides the opportunity for you to review what action Tucson – or one of the other cities – has taken to implement the food system policies identified in the general/comprehensive plan. Using Tucson as our examples, once you’ve reviewed the Policies included in Plan Tucson, you can go to the Public Policy Implementation section and review the modifications made to the City of Tucson **Unified Development Code** through the adoption of the Urban Agriculture Ordinance. The Urban Agriculture Ordinance will identify the specific sections of the Unified Development Code that have been modified.

Also included in this section for Tucson is the **Urban Agriculture Metrics**. The Metrics provide the guidelines by which the Tucson community can measure their implementation progress that is reported to the community on an annual basis in the Tucson Urban Agriculture Report.

Section 4 - Additional Implementation Steps

In addition to the amendment of the Urban Agriculture Ordinance, there may be additional implementation action steps taken by any of the cities reviewed. In the case of Tucson, the city has taken additional steps to implement the Urban Agriculture Public Policies identified in Plan Tucson. For example, Tucson has partnered with Compost Cats, a UA student organization to collect and compost organic materials. Other city action steps are identified in Section 4.



Albuquerque



ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION

Founded in 1706, Albuquerque is the epicenter of the New Mexico Technology Corridor. Its economy is quite diverse – offering jobs in technology, medicine, science, education, and entertainment. It has been ranked by various entities such as *Forbes* and *National Geographic Adventure* as one of the best places in the country to live and start a career.

Albuquerque is a city located in Bernalillo County, New Mexico. With a 2020 population of roughly [560,000](#) people, it is the largest city in New Mexico and the 32nd [largest city in the United States](#). The city is currently growing at a rate of 0.09% annually and its population has increased by 2.81% since the most recent census, which recorded a population of 546,000 in 2010. A city that spans over 189 miles, Albuquerque has a population density of 2,998 people per square mile. (Metro population – 887,000)

The average household income in Albuquerque is roughly \$70,000 with a poverty rate of 17.60%. In recent years, average rent has been \$855 per month, and the median house value is \$193,000. The median age in Albuquerque is 36.3 years, 34.9 years for males, and 37.6 years for females. For every 100 females there are 95.3 males.

[Based on the 2010 US Census](#), Albuquerque has a relatively diverse population, with 39.4% identifying as White, non-Hispanic and 49.0% identifying as Hispanic or Latino. In 2000, 36% of New Mexico’s residents self-identified as bilingual – with much of this population residing in Albuquerque. The most common spoken languages are Spanish and English. Due to its diversity in food, language, and culture, Albuquerque was named the country’s most creative medium-sized city.

Like many Southwestern cities, Albuquerque has experienced great population growth. Approximately 311,000 people are expected to move to the city by 2040 – a 46% increase from 2012. Due to this anticipated population growth, the city of Albuquerque is committed to thoughtfully planning and implementing policies that allow the city to grow sustainably.

Albuquerque Food Facts

From a variety of angles, Albuquerque has a rich history of food systems improvement. New Mexico was the [first state](#) to reduce the availability of junk food in schools and continues to be a leading example today. Across the state, the [New Mexico Food Gap Task Force](#) identifies food systems issues and seeks sustainable, concrete solutions that promote food-based economic development and healthy food access. Additionally, food activism in Albuquerque engages the Navajo Nation through tribal extension agents as well as senior citizens through their Senior Farmers’ Market Program.

Albuquerque, and New Mexico more generally, also has a thriving environmental food movement. In July 2020, the New Mexico legislature appropriated [\\$1.8 million](#) over three years to the New Mexico Agriculture and Natural Resources Pilot Program – which focuses on soil and water conservation projects. Albuquerque policies and programs also focus on [preserving native seeds](#), developing urban agriculture corridors, and promoting food, land, and water sovereignty.

SECTION 2 - FOOD SYSTEM PUBLIC POLICIES

The following section identifies chapters of the [Albuquerque and Bernalillo County \(ABC\) Comprehensive Plan 2017](#) that contain food system policies and priorities. The guiding principles identify the overarching goals and priority areas ABC planners highlight throughout the plan. The Land Use section of the ABC Comprehensive Plan outlines policies and actions that protect and enhance the distinct nature and activities of particular development areas. In extension, the Economic Development section discusses how particular areas can be revitalized to promote long-term economic growth. The Heritage Conservation section discusses Albuquerque's unique agricultural history and how to maintain those cultural ties. Finally, the Resilience and Sustainability section includes a discussion of what Albuquerque can do to promote long-term sustainable development, especially in regard to ensuring an adequate, clean water supply and conserving other natural resources.

ABC Comprehensive Plan 2017

ABC Comprehensive Plan's Guiding Principles:

- Strong Neighborhoods - Creating new, desirable places to live while respecting the character and history of each neighborhood.
- Mobility - Improving and expanding options to get to work, recreation, and services.
- Economic Vitality – Supporting diverse market activities and promoting financial security for all.
- Equity – Providing access to services, housing, and healthy places to work, learn, and play.
- Sustainability – Protecting and conserving natural and cultural resources.
- Community Health – Ensuring access to healthy food, recreational space, and services.

[ABC Comprehensive Plan – Land Use](#)

Goal 5.5 – County Developmental Areas - Use Development Areas to foster the distinctness of communities in the unincorporated County by guiding their form, character, and density

- Maintain existing irrigation systems as Community Green Space to help ensure agricultural lands in rural areas.
- Develop setback standards for and encourage clustering of open space along the irrigation system.
- Ensure that development in Rural Areas is compatible with natural resource capacities, including water availability, acequias, soil capacity, community and regional goals, and includes trail corridors where appropriate. Maintain rural densities where water and sewer service is not available.
- Maintain, to the extent feasible, land that is suitable for agriculture in agricultural production using a variety of techniques, including conservation easements, acquisition of properties, and agricultural zoning, to discourage non-agricultural development in these areas.
- Discourage mineral extraction in highly scenic or prime recreational, agricultural, or residential areas.

[ABC Comprehensive Plan – Economic Development](#)

Goal 8.1 – Placemaking – Create places where business and talent will stay and thrive.

- Protect natural resources, including land and resources necessary for agricultural economic development in rural areas

[ABC Comprehensive Plan – Heritage Conservation](#)

Goal 11.1 – Traditional, Rural & Agricultural Heritage - Preserve and enhance farmland, the acequia system, and traditional communities.

- Promote incentives to preserve farmland and open space and to maintain ditches and acequias for agricultural and low-impact recreational purposes.
- Create incentives and promote community and family gardens, farms, locally grown produce, and continued livestock raising.
- Support farmers markets for local growers.
- Foster educational and recreational programs and signs highlighting rural and agricultural heritage.

[ABC Comprehensive Plan – Resilience and Sustainability](#)

Goal 13.2 – Water Supply & Quality - Protect and conserve our region’s limited water supply to benefit the range of uses that will keep our community and ecosystem healthy.

Coordinate with ABCWUA, state, and other agencies to plan and maintain an adequate water supply to meet municipal, agricultural, and ecosystem needs that ensure the overall resilience and sustainability of our community

Goal 13.4 – Natural Resources - Protect, conserve, and enhance natural resources, habitat, and ecosystems.

Protect and conserve our region’s limited water supply to benefit the range of uses that will keep our community and ecosystem healthy.

Goal 13.5 – Community Healthy - Protect and maintain safe and healthy environments where people can thrive.

Buffer residential neighborhoods and agricultural land from heavy industry with less intense, non-residential land uses to protect the health and safety of residents, agricultural products, and groundwater, while promoting diverse economic activity

Recognize and work to address adverse environmental impacts that are experienced disproportionately by underrepresented and at-risk communities, in order to help improve the health outcomes of their residents over time

SECTION 3 – PUBLIC POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

[Unified Development Code – Zoning Codes](#)

Table 4-2: Allowable Uses - Page 131 - Identifies where agriculture and agriculture related uses are permitted. Livestock and birds are generally allowed on areas of at least 1 acre.

Section 4-3-(B)(2)(d) - The cluster development project site shall include a common open space set aside for agriculture, landscaping, on-site ponding, outdoor recreation, or any combination thereof allowed in the zone district, and for the use and enjoyment of the residents.

[Urban Agriculture Metrics](#)

A range of metrics can be used to evaluate the state of urban agriculture in the Albuquerque community. Some measures are: higher ag wages, increased use of existing infrastructure, ability to have primary income from farming, and increase in exported food products.

SECTION 4 - ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION

The City operates [Open Space Farmlands](#) to preserve farmland and provide residents with unique opportunities to learn about and engage in farming.

FOOD RESCUE AND RECOVERY

The City allows and encourages backyard composting. Classes are offered through the city's [Master Composting Program](#).

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

[City of Albuquerque Food Assistance](#)

[Mid-Region Council of Governments: Local Food Program](#)

WATER USE

WATER 2120: Water Resources Management Strategy

- Water is provided by the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Authority.
- Albuquerque's [WATER 2120](#) is a 100-year water plan that explores a number of supply alternatives while considering various scenarios of climate change and population growth. The plan and its attendant policies focus on optimizing the use of existing water supplies rather than seeking new sources.

[Water Conservation Programs](#)

URBAN AGRICULTURE INCENTIVES

Urban Agriculture

The Open Space Farmlands is the City's largest urban agriculture program. By offering community plots, the City is expanding access to land – a key barrier to engaging in urban agriculture. There are also opportunities for kids in the Albuquerque Public Schools Growing Gardens Team.

Community Garden Rows

Sign up for a row in the community garden with [Rio Grande Community Farms \(RGCF\)](#).

Partners for Success

[Albuquerque Public Schools Growing Gardens Team](#) is a gardening initiative out of Albuquerque Public Schools. There is a network of 84 gardening spaces where students can learn about how food is grown and where it comes from, along with associated nutritional and environmental themes.

[Growing Awareness Urban Farm](#) is an urban farm centered on community engagement. Its projects include growing vegetable seedlings, sustainable irrigation projects, edible landscaping, and beekeeping. All profits are reinvested back into the community through work mentoring as well as supporting a community health clinic, food co-op, and a housing co-op.

[MoGro](#) is a nonprofit mobile grocery project committed to providing healthy food that people can depend on.

The [New Mexico Food & Agriculture Policy Council](#) is New Mexico's local food policy council, and was established to engage community partners to understand and develop our food system through education, outreach, and policy change.

[Soilutions, Inc.](#) specializes in composting, food waste recycling and permaculture-based landscape design.



AUSTIN, TEXAS

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION

Austin is the capital of Texas, the second most populous state. The Austin metropolitan area serves as a center for academic, political, research and technological activities. Numerous lakes and dramatic terrain make Austin an oasis for sports and recreation. The University of Texas at Austin (UT) and its 50,000 students influence the character of the community toward education and achievement.

- Austin's 2020 population is 988,000, which makes it the 11th largest city in the US, but its 5-county metropolitan area has an estimated population of 2,170,000.
- Austin is the youngest big city in the US per capita with 90,000 total college and university students. Over 50,000 students are at The University of Texas, 33,000 students are at Austin Community College and the rest are spread among the remaining institutions of higher learning.
- Austin's land mass comprises 280 square miles.
- 70% of the city's \$600 million dollar budget is spent on police, fire and emergency services.
- For the past eleven decades --- since 1895 --- Austin has grown EACH year by 3.5% population. That means every 20 years Austin has doubled in population.
- In 2012 we added over 12,800 new jobs. The CEO of Angelou Economics forecast 45,000 new jobs will be added to Austin's five-county metro area in 2012 and 2013, more than doubling the job expansion of the past two years.
- Every day 85 new residents are added to Austin. This includes new people moving to town ---- and births/deaths. That equates to 70 more cars on the road each day.
- Texas is the fastest growing State in the US. Texas adds 500,000 people to the State each year. Austin is the fastest growing city in the fastest growing State.

Austin Food Facts

Austin's Office of Sustainability released the [State of the Food System Report](#) in 2015. It took an in-depth look at the full cycle and impact of food in the city, from production to consumption. Case studies include Bryce Gilmore's transformation of Odd Duck from food trailer to restaurant while still focusing on using local food. Butcher shop/restaurant Salt & Time was heralded as a successful example of "start-up businesses scaling up to the national level." Here are five restaurant-centric facts gathered from the dispatch.

- 1) When looking at Austin's food industry, the city made a total of \$4.1 billion in annual sales and tax revenues. That ended up being 0.45% of Austin and Round Rock's gross domestic product. Eating and drinking equals \$1.98 billion of that amount.
- 2) There are about 1,000 food trucks in Austin.
- 3) The number of restaurants is six times greater at approximately 6,000.

4) Despite the city's love of eating local, only "less than 1% of the food that is consumed in Travis County is produced locally," unfortunately.

5) There are 23 urban farms in the city, which provide produce to local restaurants like Qui, Eden East, Dai Due, and many more. According to the report, there are "more private urban farms than any city its size in the country."

SECTION 2 – PUBLIC POLICY IDENTIFICATION

IMAGINAUSTIN – Comprehensive Plan – Vibrant. Livable. Connected

Chapter 2: EXPERIENCING AUSTIN: WHO ARE WE TODAY?

Health and Healthcare Page 65 (Food System Related)

- Diabetes, heart disease, and chronic lower respiratory disease result in about 29 percent of deaths in Travis County. These diseases also reduce Austinites' quality of life. Eight percent of Travis County residents suffer from diabetes, 5 percent from cardiovascular disease, and 7 percent from asthma.
- Hispanics and African Americans experienced higher rates of obesity and diabetes than the general population. Whites and African Americans experienced higher rates of cardiovascular disease and asthma (with African Americans experiencing twice the overall asthma rate).

Chapter 4: Shaping Austin: Building The Complete Community

Key Issues and Trends Page 170 (Food System Related)

- According to the Austin Independent School District, in the 2008-2009 school year, less than 65 percent of students had healthy body mass index — a ratio of a person's height and weight often used as a health indicator.
- Long term trends showing significant increases in diabetes rates will place a strain on delivery of health services.
- Access to healthy foods is limited in some neighborhoods. Proximity and cost can both be limiting factors for access, particularly in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Health and Human Service Policies – Page 171 (Food System Policies)

- S P6. Promote the availability of and educate the community about healthy food choices, including "slow food" (local food traditions, small-scale food processing, and organic agriculture) and nutritional education programs. (See also E P18, CE P13)
- S P7. Provide broad access to fresh foods, local farmers markets, co-ops, grocery stores, community gardens, and healthy restaurants in neighborhoods. (See also E P18, CE P13)

SECTION 3 – PUBLIC POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation Programs

The priority programs are:

1. Invest in a compact and connected Austin
2. Sustainably manage our water resources
3. Continue to grow Austin's economy by investing in our workforce, education systems, entrepreneurs, and local businesses
4. Use green infrastructure to protect environmentally sensitive areas and integrate nature into the city
5. Grow and invest in Austin's creative economy
6. Develop and maintain household affordability throughout Austin
7. Create a Healthy Austin Program
8. Revise Austin's development regulations and processes to promote a compact and connected city

Healthy Community Program

- Create a Healthy Austin Program. Develop a strong local food system in which food production, processing, distribution, and consumption are integrated to enhance the environmental, economic, social, and nutritional health of Austin and central Texas. Page 194

4. Use green infrastructure to protect environmentally sensitive areas and integrate nature into the city.

Work Program Page 195 (Note: Action Steps are selected specific to food system issues and programs not related to the food system are not included resulting in missing program numbers.)

Short Term (1-3 Years)

1. Create an integrated green infrastructure plan and ongoing green infrastructure program.

The plan should:

- b. Perform an initial inventory and evaluation of existing green infrastructure resources, such as conserved land, the urban forest, habitat, trails and bike paths, greenbelts, community gardens, urban farms, parks and recreation areas, and green streets. Identify current plans, such as the Travis and Hays County Greenprint plans, networks, and identify gaps.

4. Use green infrastructure to protect environmentally sensitive areas and integrate nature into the city.

Ongoing and Long Term (3+ Years)

5. Protect farmland and conduct and stimulate research to facilitate growing techniques that minimize water usage and build healthy soils accounting for regional climate change.

Relationship to Other Priority Programs:

- Create a Healthy Austin Program. Investing in accessible walking and biking networks, community gardens, family farms, parks, and open space will provide Austin residents increased opportunities for outdoor exercise as well as contribute to healthy lifestyles by increasing access to local and nourishing food and reducing air pollution.

Related City Initiatives:

- Austin Climate Protection Plan
- Austin Strategic Mobility Plan
- Bicycle Master Plan
- Central Texas Greenprint Plan
- Healthy Austin Code
- Invasive Species Management Plan
- Parks and Recreation Department Long Range Plan
- Trails Master Plan
- Travis County Colorado River Corridor Plan
- Urban Forestry Management Plan
- Urban Parks Workgroup Report
- Watershed Protection Master Plan
- Town Lake Plan

7. Create a Healthy Austin Program. Page 205

Making healthy choices should be affordable and easier than making unhealthy ones. A Healthy Austin Program will reduce chronic and diet-related diseases and risk factors by coordinating access to community and health services, local and healthy food, physical activity, and tobacco free living. It will also support a “healthy community code” that promotes active living, access to healthy food, and prevention of chronic and diet-related diseases in all aspects of community life.

This program will look beyond nutrition to help develop a strong local food system in which food production, processing, distribution, and consumption are integrated to enhance the environmental, economic, social, and nutritional health of Austin and Central Texas.

WORK PROGRAM

SHORT TERM (1-3 YEARS)

1. Create a Healthy Austin Program plan to develop and document program priorities, findings, recommendations, and outcomes related to:
 - d. Promoting healthy foods and discouraging unhealthy ones; and
2. Enact strategies and policies to boost the impact of federal food and nutrition assistance programs.
3. Create a healthy community code, including revisions to Austin’s land development ordinances that make it easier to produce and access healthy, sustainable food and to lead a more active lifestyle.
 - a. Support and expand farm direct programs (such as farm-to-work and farm-to-school) that link local farmers and food vendors to consumers; and
 - b. Expand the market for local food producers by connecting them to hunger-relief organizations, community institutions, restaurants, and retail food markets.
5. Encourage use of public land for community gardens.
6. Encourage successful formation and patronage of healthy-food retail establishments, such as farmers markets, community supported agriculture, corner and neighborhood stores, and supermarkets, throughout the city—with emphasis placed on under served areas.

ONGOING AND LONG TERM (3+ YEARS)

8. Expand urban farms and community gardens.

RELATED CITY INITIATIVES:

Healthy Austin Code -
African American Quality of Life Study
Hispanic Quality of Life Initiative
Bicycle Master Plan
Pedestrian Master Plan
Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan

Land Development Code

https://library.municode.com/tx/austin/codes/land_development_code

SECTION 4 – ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

Local Food Production

[Economic Impacts of Austin’s Food System](#)

Food Rescue & Recovery

[Curbside Composting Collection Program](#)

[Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan Documents](#)

[Austin Zero Waste Recovery Plan](#)

[Universal Recycling Ordinance](#) (Rebates for food permitted businesses to participate in Composting)

Community Support

[Austin Healthy Food Access Initiative Report to City Council](#)

[Fresh for Less](#) (Healthy Food Retail Initiatives)

[Austin's Healthy and Equitable Food System](#)

[Austin-Travis County Food Policy Board](#)

Water Use

[Austin Water 2023 – A Strategic Plan](#)

Urban Agriculture Incentives

[Austin Community Garden Program](#)

[Sustainable Urban Agriculture and Community Garden Program](#) (Community Gardens)

[Sustainable Urban Agriculture and Community Garden Program](#) (Sustainable Urban Farms)

[Sustainable Urban Agriculture and Community Garden Program](#) (Sustainable Urban Farms)

Title 3: [Austin City Code](#)

Research and Reports

[2018 State of the Food System Report](#)

[2018 State of the Food System Report Resources](#)

[Food Access in Austin](#) (Map of the System)

[Austin Healthy Food Access Initiative Improving Access to Good and Affordable Food](#)

[State of the Food System Report - 2015](#)

Austin's [State of the Food System Metrics](#)

Austin – [Other Regional Research & Reports](#)

Austin's [Healthy and Equitable Food System](#)

[Improving Food Access](#)

Denver



DENVER, COLORADO

SECTION 1- INTRODUCTION

In 2040, Denver is an equitable, inclusive community with a high quality of life for all residents, regardless of income level, race, ethnicity, gender, ability, or age.

To achieve the promise of opportunity for all Denverites, we must focus on the needs of our most vulnerable residents and work to mitigate the negative impacts of gentrification, especially involuntary displacement, while helping people access tools to build their wealth, including quality education and attainable homeownership.

This means the benefits of growth and change are shared by all community members and no neighborhood is disproportionately burdened by the region's growth. It also means providing reliable and quality basic services—including public safety and clean water—for all residents.

Denver Food Facts

Until now, Denver did not have a unifying vision for how food could help address these challenges and create a better city. The Denver Food Vision, after an intensive community and industry stakeholder engagement process, sets forth an ambitious, comprehensive approach to further developing the Denver food system. Participants were asked to consider their needs for today, but also their dreams for the year 2030. The Denver Food Vision weaves together a nuanced set of priorities that collectively elevate the world class status of Denver's food system while ensuring that all residents are served by an efficient, coordinated, and equitable food system both today and into the future.

The Denver Food Vision includes priorities, strategies, and winnable goals to provide direction and guide day-to-day decision-making related to land use, public investment, private development, and partnerships. The Vision is intended to be a strong guiding framework that is also flexible enough to allow for unforeseen opportunities that arise and new challenges that emerge over the coming decades.

Successfully achieving the Denver Food Vision will take a concerted and collaborative alignment of resources. The City and County of Denver, relevant state and federal government agencies, nonprofit stakeholders, residents, businesses, property owners, investors, and others must all be strong partners to advance the Vision. Denver Population – 620,000; Metro – 2,900,000.

SECTION 2 – PUBLIC POLICY IDENTIFICATION

[City of Denver Comprehensive Plan 2040](#)

Vision Elements: Environmentally Resilient

Goal 10 – Promote diverse and environmentally responsible food systems.

Strategies

- Encourage climate-smart food production practices.
- Expand and preserve regional food system assets and infrastructure.
- Reduce food waste to help ensure that today's food systems preserve natural assets for the food systems of tomorrow.

Vision Elements: Healthy and Active

Goal 3 – Ensure access to affordable, nutritious, and culturally-diverse foods in all neighborhoods.

Strategies

- Expand efforts to recruit and retain fresh-food retailers in low-income and underserved areas.
- Expand community food production and sharing.
- Build community-driven food resources.
- Increase enrollment in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

[Food System Policies](#)

[Comprehensive Plan 2014](#) - A summary of DENVER'S PLAN FOR THE FUTURE and 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

SECTION 3 - PUBLIC POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

[City of Denver Zoning Code](#)

Code of Ordinances, City of Denver

[Chapter 8 - Animals](#)

[Chapter 8, Article 3 – Livestock & Fowl](#)

NOTE: SEE - DIVISION 11.6 AGRICULTURAL PRIMARY USE LIMITATIONS – Page 5

SECTION 4 – ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

Local Food Production

Denver Department of Public Health and Environment – [Neighborhood Health Profiles](#)

Denver **Food in Communities**

[Denver Sustainable Food Policy Council](#)

PURPOSE

- Promote and Oversee Progress on the Denver Food Vision and Action Plan;
- Advise City on Food-Related Plans, Reports, and Programs;
- Provide Recommendations to the City on Regulations and Policies; and
- Build public and political will to support innovation and positive policy changes within the food system.

[Denver Sustainability Food Policy Council Policy Platform](#)

[Denver Food Vision](#)

[Denver Food Action Plan](#)

Denver's Food System 2016 (Economic Benefits of Urban Ag)

https://www.denvergov.org/content/dam/denvergov/Portals/771/documents/CH/Food%20Action%20Plan/Baseline_2016.pdf

Climate Change

[Climate Action](#)

[Denver Climate Action Plan](#)

In addition to General Plan/Comprehensive Plan goals and policies, the Public Policy Project also considered the following topics relating to the local food system. (expand discussion)

Local Food Production

Home gardens; community gardens; roof gardens, green houses; school gardens, and similar activities.

[Denver Urban Gardens](#)

[Growing Community Gardens](#), A Denver Urban Gardens' Best Practices Handbook for Creating and Sustaining Community Gardens

[Denver Food in Communities Program](#)

Food Rescue and Recovery

[Denver Food Matters](#)

- CONNECTING TO THE VISION

Winnable Goal: 57% reduction in tons of residential food waste collected by the City

Priority: Resilient - Reduce amount of food going to waste in the City and County of Denver

Strategies:

- Support consumer education and reduce the amount of food going to waste in the City and County of Denver
- Encourage businesses to reduce food waste and celebrate expanded food donation efforts
- Expand residential and commercial composting opportunities to reduce bulk and emissions at landfills

[Denver Composts Program](#)

Community Support

[Denver Sustainability Food Policy Council](#)

[Sustainability Food Policy Council Policy Platform](#)

Water Use

[Water Wise Landscape Handbook](#) Denver Water

[Rebates & Efficiency Tips](#) Denver Water

[Water Sense](#) Denver Water

[CENTRAL COLORADO WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT](#)

Incentives

Westwood Community, [Denver: Urban Farm Training Program](#), Prevention Institute

[The Urban Farm](#) – The Farm in the City

COLORADO FOOD SYSTEMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

[Colorado Food Systems Advisory Council](#)

[The Colorado Blueprint of Agriculture & Food](#)

[Colorado Food Systems Advisory Council](#) – White Papers

Agritourism [Best Practices Guides](#)

Agritourism [Publications](#)

Food Systems – Colorado State University – [Newsletters](#)

City & County of Denver [Zoning Code](#)

DIVISION 11.6 AGRICULTURAL PRIMARY USE LIMITATIONS

The Use and Parking Tables in Articles 3 through 9 reference any limitations and standards applicable to permitted primary, accessory, or temporary uses. This Division contains limitations and standards applicable to specific uses within the Agricultural Primary Use Classification across multiple zone districts and neighborhood contexts.

11.6.2.1 All Zone Districts

In all zone districts, where permitted with limitations, bee keeping is permitted as accessory to the Urban Garden use, subject to compliance with the standards for accessory bee-keeping stated in Section 11.8.5, Keeping of Household Animals, except that the bee keeping use need not be sited within the rear 50% of the zone lot, and except that in an Industrial Context zone district, Open Space Context zone district, or CMP-NWC zone district, the number of permitted bee hives may be increased to a maximum of 2 hives per 6,000 square feet of gross zone lot area.

Section 11.8.4 GARDEN

11.8.4.2 All Residential Zone Districts

In a Residential Zone District, where permitted with limitations, retail or wholesale sales of goods or products derived from a Garden accessory to a primary residential use are prohibited in a Residential Zone District unless permitted as a Fresh Produce and Cottage Foods Sales Home Occupation

Section 11.9.4 ALL OTHER TYPES (of Home Occupations)

In all zone districts, where permitted with limitations, the following types of Home Occupations are permitted subject to compliance with the use-specific limitations listed below.

11.9.4.11 Fresh Produce and Cottage Foods Sales

Fresh Produce and Cottage Foods Sales is permitted as a Home Occupation subject to compliance with the following standards:

- A. Items for sale are limited to the products defined in Subsection 11.12.8.2.9 Fresh Produce and Cottage Food Sales;
- B. Sales are permitted only from 8:00 a.m. until dusk daily; and
- C. The home occupation permittee must have grown, cultivated, and/or prepared all items for sale.
- D. Wholesale activities are prohibited.

Section 11.10.10 GARDEN

11.10.10.1 All Zone Districts

In all zone districts, where accessory garden uses are permitted with limitations:

A. The growing of marijuana in an accessory garden is prohibited when the marijuana is made available for use in a marijuana establishment requiring a license by the City or made available for sale. Any growing of marijuana in an accessory garden shall occur inside a completely enclosed structure and shall not exceed the number of plants allowed under the laws and rules and regulations of the City.

B. Bee keeping is permitted as incidental to the accessory Garden use, subject to compliance with the standards for accessory bee-keeping stated in Section 11.8.5, Keeping of Household Animals, except that the bee keeping use need not be sited within the rear 50% of the zone lot, and except that in an Industrial Context zone district, Open Space Context zone district, or CMP-NWC zone district, the

number of permitted bee hives may be increased to a maximum of 2 hives per 6,000 square feet of gross zone lot area.

C. In a Residential Zone District, retail or wholesale sales of goods or products derived from a Garden are permitted when such use is accessory to a primary nonresidential use, including but not limited to a permitted Public, Institutional and Civic Use. In all other zone districts, retail or wholesale sales of goods or products derived from a Garden are permitted when such use is accessory to a primary nonresidential use.

Section 11.12.6 PRIMARY AGRICULTURE USES

A. Definition of Agriculture Use Category

Agriculture Use Category includes cultivation, production, keeping, or maintenance for personal use, donation, sale or lease, of: (1) plants, including but not limited to: forages and sod crops; grains and seed crops; fruits and vegetables; herbs; and ornamental plants; and (2) livestock, including but not limited to: dairy animals and dairy products; poultry and poultry products; cattle and cattle products; or horses.

B. Specific Agriculture Use Types and Definitions

2. Garden, Urban

Land that is (1) managed by a public or nonprofit organization, or by one or more private persons, and (2) used to grow and harvest plants for donation, for personal use consumption, or for off-site sales by those managing or cultivating the land and their households. This use does not include or permit the growing of marijuana.

Section 11.12.7 DEFINITIONS OF USES ACCESSORY TO PRIMARY RESIDENTIAL USES

11.12.7.3 Garden

The growing and cultivation of fruits, flowers, herbs, vegetables, and/or other plants. An accessory Garden use may operate as either an enclosed or unenclosed use.

Section 11.12.8 DEFINITIONS OF HOME OCCUPATIONS ACCESSORY TO PRIMARY RESIDENTIAL USES

11.12.8.1 General Definition of Home Occupation

A business use (e.g., personal care services or, office), accessory to a primary residential use, which is conducted entirely within a Dwelling Unit, or in a detached structure accessory to such Dwelling Unit, which is carried on by the occupants thereof, and which is clearly incidental and secondary to the primary use of the Dwelling Unit for Residential Occupancy.

11.12.8.2 Specific Home Occupation Use Types and Definitions

7. Food Preparation

A Home Occupation where prepared food items that are not Cottage Foods, as defined in Fresh Produce and Cottage Food Sales, are made and assembled for off-premises consumption by others and/or for off-premises sale.

9. Fresh Produce and Cottage Foods Sales

A Home Occupation where:

- a. Raw, uncut fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs, excluding marijuana, that were grown in a permitted accessory Garden or primary Urban Garden are sold; and/or

b. Cottage Foods are prepared and/or sold. - Cottage Foods are defined in the State of Colorado Cottage Foods Act (House Bill 13-1158) unless otherwise prohibited by the Department of Environmental Health. Cottage Foods shall not include any food products made with marijuana.

Portland



PORTLAND, OREGON

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION

Portland is a city of 653,000 and is located in the northwestern part of Oregon. Located 110 miles from the Pacific Ocean, Portland lies between two mountain ranges – the Cascade Range to the east and the lower Coast Range to the west. The Columbia River Gorge runs through the state, creating a boundary with Washington state. Portland is known for its rainy winters, with 55 percent of the annual rainfall happening between November and February. The area around Portland was once inhabited by the Multnomah and Clackamas tribes.

Portland’s non-white population was 27% in 2010. The race and ethnicity makeup of Portland is as follows (as of July 2019): White alone 77.1%, Black of African America 5.8%, American Indian and Alaska Native .7%, Asian 8.1%, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander .7%, Two or more races 5.5%, Hispanic or Latino 9.7%, White alone, not Hispanic or Latino 70.5%. Around 20% of households speak a language other than English at home and 18.1% of persons are under 18 years old. Around 92% of the population has a high school degree or higher, and 49% hold a bachelor’s degree or higher. Only 60 percent of Portland’s high school students graduate in four years and 20 percent drop out altogether. Median household income was \$65,740 in 2018 and nearly 15% of the Portland population is below the poverty threshold.

Portland Population 2020 – 664,000; Metro – 2,151,000

Portland Food Facts

Portland has more than 20 farmers markets and 35 community gardens. Chronic disease rates have increased, and more than half of Multnomah County residents are overweight or obese. Portland is experiencing rising rates of obesity and Type 2 diabetes, and areas of the city have fewer food access options. These factors can impact the city’s communities disproportionately.

SECTION 2 – PUBLIC POLICY IDENTIFICATION

[The Portland Plan](#)

Prosperous. Educated. Healthy. Equitable. Developed to respond to many of Portland’s issues, like income disparities, high unemployment, low high school graduation rate and environmental concerns, the Portland Plan is not your typical plan. It presents a strategic path forward, requiring the community at large to work smarter, be more practical, partner across jurisdictions and be ready to have difficult conversations.

During Phase One of the Portland Plan, many Portlanders shared that equity is important to their community’s future. So, [advancing equity](#) is the foundation of the Portland Plan (extensively covered in page 17-23). Equity issues are addressed in all nine of the Portland Plan action areas. The plan encompasses 5-year action plans and 25-year goals for the entire city. Plan summary is [here](#).

Portland Plan Measures, Pages 12-13

How to Read the Portland Integrated Strategies – Pages 27-30

Breakdown of ways to review the Portland Plan’s strategies and goals.

Thriving Educated Youth, Portland Today -- Health Concerns- Page 34

This page discusses food access for youth and how it influences youth achievement.

“Youth living in poverty, youth of color, immigrants and refugees, and youth with disabilities experience

disproportionate barriers to receiving resources to meet their physical, mental, social and sexual health needs. Poverty and food insecurity play a significant role in consistent attendance and youth achievement. In the 2010–11 school year, more than half of all Multnomah County public school children were eligible for the Free or Reduced-Price Lunch program.”

Healthy Connected City – Page 73

“Promote complete and vibrant neighborhood centers. Our neighborhoods must provide: 1) businesses and services, 2) housing that is easily accessible by foot, wheelchair, bike and transit, 3) healthy food and 4) parks and other gathering places so residents have options for living a healthy, active lifestyle.”

2035 Objectives – Page 77

“**Access to healthy food:** Ninety percent of Portlanders live within a half-mile of a store or market that sells healthy, affordable food.” #24

Vibrant Neighborhood Centers – Page 84

Neighborhood centers include:

Neighborhood businesses and services

Quality, affordable housing

Healthy and affordable food

Active transportation — walking, biking and transit

Guiding Policies:

“Expand access to healthy, affordable food by supporting the viability of grocery stores, local markets and community gardens in neighborhood centers.” H-15

5 Year Action Plan – Page 87

Implementation – Pages 99-103

#9 Complete Neighborhoods – Page 127

20-Minute Neighborhoods Index – Page 128-130

#10 Healthier People – Page 133

[2009 Portland Plan Food Systems Report](#)

[2035 Comprehensive Plan](#)

[Governing Policies and Training Resources](#)

SECTION 3 – PUBLIC POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Urban Food Zoning [Update](#)

- Explores descriptions and new regulations on: Market Gardens, Community Gardens, Food Membership Distribution Sites and Farmers Markets.
- Includes Zoning Language and Adopted Zoning Code Amendments – Pages 8-88
- Includes templates for: project schedules, impacts/benefits, planning definitions - Pages 89 -101

Multnomah County Codes for Chickens, [Bees & Farm Animals](#)

SECTION 4 – ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

Local Food Production

Oregon [Sustainable Agriculture Land Trust](#)

Oregon [Agriculture Heritage Program](#)

[Pringle Creek](#) in Salem, OR

[Growing Gardens](#)

Mission: Uses the experience of growing food in schools, backyards and correctional facilities to cultivate healthy and equitable communities.

[Friends of Portland Community Gardens](#)

Mission: Friends of Portland Community Gardens (Friends) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to support and expand community gardening opportunities for all Portland-area residents to grow healthy food and build community

[Grow Portland](#)

Mission: Grow Portland exists to connect the community to the natural world and healthy food by creating and supporting vibrant and productive school-based garden sites that engage the entire learning community.

Roof-top Gardens

[Portland Environmental Services](#)

[Edible Roof-top Garden](#)

Portland Public Schools, [Green Schoolyards](#)

Food Rescue and Recovery

The city has adopted [curbside composting](#) with 12 different companies picking it up.

[Waste Not Food Tax](#) - Working to reduce food waste and fight hunger, we're partnering with other charities throughout the greater Portland area to get wholesome food to the people who need it; to coordinate services for the houseless, the hungry, and the poor; and to share resources in the interest of more efficiency and effectiveness.

[Urban Gleaners](#) – At Urban Gleaners we collect delicious, fresh food before it can go to waste. And we get it to people who need it. Pure and simple.

[No Scrap Left Behind](#) – The No Scrap Left Behind program raises awareness about wasted food on campus through interactive activities and outreach that provide practical solutions for the Portland State University community.

[Fork it Over!](#) - a peer-to-peer initiative that helps food businesses in Portland Oregon to donate surplus prepared, perishable foods that have not been served, by showing that it is safe, simple and the right thing to do.

Department of Environmental Equality's [Strategic Plan](#) for Preventing the Wasting of Food

Community Support

[Multnomah County Food Action Plan](#)

[Key players](#)

[Center for Small Farms and Community Food Systems](#) - To advance sustainable agriculture, community food systems, and economic progress for Oregon's small farmers and ranchers and provide a leading-edge experience for students

[Oregon Community Food Systems Network](#)

Water Use

[Water Management and Conservation Plan](#)

Incentives

[Community-Funded Incentive Programs](#) Galvanize Neighborhood Support for Food Equity in Portland

[Double Up Food Bucks](#)

Urban Agriculture and Local Food Access Resources And Publications

Impact of [Seven Cents](#) with Farm to School

Farmers Market [Study](#)

[Lessons Learned](#) from the Portland Multnomah Food Policy Council:

[Future of Oregon's Agricultural Land](#)



SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION

Environment Seattle is a city of 753,675 (metro are of 3,433,000) and is a seaport city in the Pacific Northwest. Seattle is the county seat of King County, Washington and is the largest city in both the state and in the Pacific Northwest region. The city is situated on the isthmus between Puget Sound and Lake Washington, about 100 miles south of the Canadian/US border. Logging was Seattle’s first major industry. The area around Seattle was once inhabited by Duwamish and Suquamish tribes.

Demographic Information The race and ethnicity makeup of Seattle is as follows (as of July 2019): White alone 68%, Black of African America 7%, American Indian and Alaska Native .6%, Asian 15.1%, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander .3%, Two or more races 6.8%, Hispanic or Latino 6.6%, White alone, not Hispanic or Latino 64.5%. Almost a fifth of Seattle residents were born in another country and nearly a quarter of residents speak a language other than English at home. The Seattle school district reports that among all of its students, 120 languages are spoken.

Three-quarters of Seattle residents are adults between 18 and 64 years of age, with an especially high and growing concentration of young adults ages 25 to 34. Around 92% of the population has a high school degree or higher, and 49% hold a bachelor’s degree or higher. About 95% of Seattle residents have a high school diploma and 62.8% hold a bachelor’s degree or higher. Median household income was \$85,562 in 2018 and 11.8% of Seattle’s population is below the poverty threshold.

US Census Data - Percentage of residents needing food assistance – 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013.

Seattle Food Facts

- In 2010, 47 percent of Seattle adults and 22 percent Seattle youth in grades 8, 10, and 12 were overweight or obese.
- Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in King County.
- Seattle has more than 15 farmers markets and 46% of total residential and commercial food waste diverted from composting and processing.
- Food-processing businesses in King County represent \$5.9 billion in gross sales and support over 11,000 jobs.
- One in five children in King County does not always have enough to eat, and growing economic inequality makes healthy food even harder for many to afford.
- Food sales, restaurants, food products, and food service are a growing sector of the local economy. Food production, food sales, and dining establishments account for over 130,000 jobs in the Seattle area and King County residents spend an estimated \$4.8 billion each year on groceries and food to eat at home.

SECTION 2 – PUBLIC POLICY IDENTIFICATION

[The Seattle Comprehensive Plan](#)

Goal of the Comprehensive Plan is to guide the physical development of the city. However, in shaping how we create new spaces for people to live, work, and play, this Plan also aims to give all Seattle

residents better access to jobs, education, affordable housing, parks, community centers, and healthy food. Page 11

Growth Strategy, Page 31

GS 1.14 Support convenient access to healthful and culturally relevant food for all areas where people live by encouraging grocery stores, farmers' markets, and community food gardens.

Built Environment, Page 39

GS 3.17 Encourage the use of land, rooftops, and other spaces to contribute to urban food production.

Citywide Planning, Land Use, Page 48

LU 5.17 Help preserve active farms in the region through strategies such as offering incentives to developers who transfer development rights from regional farmland to sites in the city.

Citywide Planning, Page 133

EN G1 Foster healthy trees, vegetation, and soils to improve human health, provide wildlife habitats, improve drainage, give residents across the city access to nature, provide fresh food, and increase the quality of life for all Seattleites.

Food Policies

EN 1.8 Encourage gardening and food production by residents as a way to make fresh, healthy food available in the city

Climate, Policies, Page 136

EN 3.7 Support a food system that encourages consumption of local foods and healthy foods with a low carbon footprint, reduces food waste, and fosters composting.

Access to Food and Shelter, Page 154-15

Discussion Seattle's quality of life and economic future depend on the overall health of its people. With a growing population, the City must be innovative and responsive in helping all Seattleites meet their basic needs. There are people in the city who lack food or shelter, who are vulnerable, or who face barriers to functioning independently. The City's goal is to make Seattle the kind of place where all people want to live and raise their families, and where those who are most vulnerable have access to the assistance they need. See the Housing element for how the City works to provide housing for low-income households. Ensuring that people in our communities have access to food and shelter before and after an emergency or disaster is especially critical.

POLICIES

CW 2.1 Encourage coordinated service delivery for food, housing, health care, and other basic necessities for people and families in need. CW 2.2 Contribute to efforts that help people meet their basic needs, maintain their independence as long as possible, and remain in their neighborhoods of choice.

CW 2.3 Support efforts to provide access to healthy, affordable food for all people in Seattle.

CW 2.4 Encourage public and private efforts that support culturally appropriate food opportunities, including grocery stores, farmers' markets, food banks, and nutrition programs, especially to meet the nutritional needs of infants, children, elders, and other vulnerable populations in their neighborhoods.

CW 2.5 Provide access to healthy food by encouraging better distribution and marketing of healthy options throughout the city and by addressing nutrition standards in programs supported by the City.

CW 2.6 Encourage local food production, processing, and distribution through the support of home and community gardens, farmers' markets, community kitchens, and other collaborative initiatives to provide healthy foods and promote food security.

CW 2.7 Consider using City land to expand the capacity to grow, process, distribute, and access local food, particularly for distribution to households in need.

URBAN AGRICULTURE GOALS, Page 221

BL-G18 Stores, restaurant, and schools that provide healthy food choices.

BL-G19 An abundant local food economy that draws from urban agriculture activity in the neighborhood as well as regional food sources.

URBAN AGRICULTURE POLICIES

BL-P41 Expand access to locally grown food, by attracting farmers' markets and a wider range of grocery stores.

BL-P42 Create opportunities for the community to learn how to establish and maintain urban agriculture practices in the neighborhood through projects such as P-Patches and community gardens, as well as on private property.

Economic Development Policies, Page 229

CA-P39 Support projects that increase affordable, culturally appropriate and healthy food.

Town Center Policies, Page 336

NBH-P11 Retain local access to food, including a grocery store in the commercial core.

Community Life Polices, Page 350

NR-P25 Support local agriculture and access to locally grown food through public mechanisms such as P-Patches and the Cultivating Communities program, as well as nonprofit and private mechanisms including farmers' markets and on-site landscaping.

Neighborhood Plans, Page 362

O-P45 Support the creation of a variety of open spaces for informal public gathering and recreation, including an open space in the town center that can be used for community functions such as a farmers' market and cultural celebrations.

Capital Facilities Policies, Page 376

RB-P17 Support the Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands Project to convert the Parks Department's Atlantic Street Nursery into an urban farm and wetlands restoration project.

Human Development Goal, Page 377

RB-G16 Ready access to healthy food.

Seattle Public Utilities: Inventory and Capacity, Page 575

A network of public and private service providers and facilities collect, transfer, process, and landfill Seattle’s discards. All Seattle’s municipal solid waste that is not recycled or composted is, by law, under city control. SPU contracts with private firms to collect residential garbage, recyclables, and yard and food waste (organics). The same contractors collect commercial garbage. Open-market providers collect commercial recycling and organics. Businesses may choose to “self-haul” their solid waste materials.

SECTION 3 - ZONING REGULATIONS

Urban Food Zoning Update, [Council Bill 116907](#)

[Seattle Municipal Code for Urban Farms and Community Gardens](#)

[Health Food Availability and Food Bank Network Report](#)

SECTION 4 - ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

Local Food Production

[Growing Food in the City](#)

Regional Food Systems [Resources](#)

[34 Seattle-Area Organizations](#) Working for a Better Food System

Farmland Preservation

[Ag Land Preservation](#)

[Farmland Preservation Programs](#)

[PCC Farmland Trust](#)

King County [Transfer of Development Rights Program](#)

Agrihoods

[Skokomish Valley Farms](#)

Food Rescue and Recovery

[Love Food Stop Waste](#) Program

[Food Rescue Innovation Labs](#)

[Food Waste Prevention and Recovery Assessment](#)

Community Support

Farmers Market Sustainability — [Obstacles and Strategies](#)

Farmers Market [Report](#)

Farmers Market Access [Project](#)

Food Action Plan [Implementation](#)

City of Seattle [Food Action Plan](#), 2012

Seattle [Food Action Plan 2014 Update](#)

[Local Food Initiative 2018](#)

[Healthy Food Policy Project \(Policy Database, Food Systems Crosswalk, & Case Studies\)](#)

[Sugary Drink Tax](#) for Seattle, WA

Water Use

Director's [Water Rules and Policies](#)

2019 [Water System Plan](#)

Incentives

[Fresh Bucks Program](#)

[Fruit & Vegetable Incentive Program](#)

URBAN AGRICULTURE AND LOCAL FOOD ACCESS RESOURCES AND PUBLICATIONS

Urban Agriculture in Seattle: [Policy & Barriers](#)

Major Urban Agriculture [Legislation](#)

[Community Food Security Coalition Recommendations](#) for Food Systems Policy in Seattle, 2011

[Community Gardens and Urban Agriculture](#) Puget Sound

[Championing Food Systems Policy Change](#) in Seattle, Washington



TUCSON

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION

Tucson is the oldest permanently settled community in the United States, going back about 4,000 years to the Hohokam Culture. Three hundred years ago, the Franciscan Order arrived in Tucson and established Mission San Xavier del Bac, a mission that is being restored and continues to serve the Tohono O’odham Nation. The Tucson Presidio, established in 1775 under Spanish rule, is the official birthplace of Tucson. The territory that would become Arizona was purchased by the United States from Mexico in 1854.

Tucson is a city located in [Pima County, Arizona](#). With a 2020 population of 553,871, it is the 2nd [largest city in Arizona](#) (after [Phoenix](#)) and the 33rd [largest city in the United States](#). Tucson is currently growing at a rate of 0.72% annually and its population has increased by 6.49% since the most recent census, which recorded a population of 520,116 in 2010. Spanning over 238 miles, Tucson has a population density of 2,327 people per square mile.

The average household income in Tucson is \$55,689 with a poverty rate of 23.44%. The median rental costs in recent years comes to \$825 per month, and the median house value is \$146,500. The median age in Tucson is 33.4 years, 32.2 years for males, and 35 years for females. For every 100 females there are 99.1 males.

[Tucson](#) has a robust temporary population, which grows and recedes seasonally. Much of the city's economy is centered on the University of [Arizona](#), which is the city's second largest employer, as well as tourism, with over 3.5 million people visiting the city each year. Along with vacationers, there are many winter residents (snowbirds) who come for the mild winters — many own second homes in the area.

Population: In 2011, based on the 2010 US Census, Tucson had a diverse population of 525,798 people, with 47.1% identifying as White, non-Hispanic and 42.8% identifying as Hispanic. The median age of Tucsonans was 33.8 years with children under 18 years representing 22.3% and people over 65 years representing 12.0% of the population. Tucson’s population increased by 6.9% between 2000 and 2010.

The estimated population of Tucson in 2019 was 563,975 in a metro area with a population of approximately 1,060,000 people.

Tucson Food Facts

Every day, tens of thousands of cars barrel down Interstate 10, a highway that hugs the western edge of Tucson, Arizona. Many of these drivers may not realize that they are driving past a region with one of the longest food heritages on the continent. Often considered the birthplace of Tucson itself, this swath of Sonoran Desert nestled at the base of the Tucson Mountains is where the O'odham people settled, planting crops of maize, tepary beans and other produce amid a landscape punctuated by prickly pear cacti and sagebrush.

This vast agricultural past, along with a thriving culinary scene that rivals those found in much larger urban areas, is what helped this city of more than half a million people earn the coveted title of UNESCO Capital of Gastronomy.

SECTION 2 - PUBLIC POLICY IDENTIFICATION

The following identifies the Urban Agriculture section of Plan Tucson – City of Tucson General & Sustainability Plan 2013. This includes a discussion of what Tucson can do to encourage urban agriculture and specific policies and provide direction for local decision makers.

Plan Tucson – [City of Tucson General & Sustainability Plan 2013](#)

Plan Tucson Goal(s):

- The City strives for a sustainable urban food system.
- The City strives for a community that is healthy physically, mentally, economically, and environmentally.

THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT Chapter 3 - URBAN AGRICULTURE (Pg. 3.32)

The City of Tucson can promote healthy eating and active living, while also making Tucson a more attractive, livable place. “Urban agriculture” has emerged in cities across the United States to increase access to affordable food and provide more green and active space for residents. “Agriculture” has traditionally been associated with “rural” areas; however, the increase in attention to locally grown food has led to many cities updating urban policies involving land and water use, waste removal, development standards, and human service programs to account for and improve a changing urban “food system.”

There are several ways in which the City of Tucson can play a direct role in the future of urban agriculture within its boundaries. One is through land use decisions and the other is through land provision. Through its Sustainable Land Use Code Integration Project in 2012, the City began addressing barriers faced by individuals and groups to starting their own gardens and selling locally produced food. As a first step, the Project included recommendations supportive of urban agriculture, such as allowing the onsite sale of food grown in community or backyard gardens in residential zones and allowing community gardens to be counted toward open space requirements for new development.

Urban Agriculture Policies (Pg. 3.35)

AG1 - Reduce barriers to food production and food distribution, including home and community gardens, and facilitate access to new markets for small-scale farmers and gardeners.

AG2 - Adopt zoning and land use regulations that promote and facilitate the safe, equitable growth and distribution of locally produced food.

AG3 - Facilitate community food security by fostering an equitable, healthy local and regional food system that is environmentally and economically sustainable and accessible to all.

AG4 - Collaborate with key partners to facilitate new opportunities for urban-scale gardens, farms, gleanings, and distribution systems.

Other Related Policies – Pg. 3.35

Public Health Policies

- Improve access to healthy, affordable food, particularly in underserved areas of the city.
- Tourism & Quality of Life Policies

- Promote Tucson as a destination for epicurean adventure capitalizing on the diversity of locally-owned restaurants, authentic Mexican food, local wineries and breweries, farmers markets, and culinary expertise and events.
- Land Use, Transportation & Urban Design Policies
- Support urban agriculture and green infrastructure opportunities in new development or redevelopment when appropriate.
- STAR Community Rating System has a “Food & Nutrition” Objective:
- Tucson received a score of 11.8 out of a possible 15 points.
- As of October 2014, the average score for certified communities is 8.4 points.

SECTION 3 – PUBLIC POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Unified Development Code – [Zoning Code](#)

December 8th, 2015, the Mayor and Council adopted the [Urban Agriculture Ordinance](#), enabling backyard farming and promoting local food production (use footnotes to reference policies).

- [Ordinance #11328 Urban Agriculture](#) Dec. 8, 2015
- Allows residents to raise backyard chickens

Urban Agriculture Metrics

[A range of metrics](#) can be used to evaluate the state of urban agriculture in the Tucson community. One measure is Tucson’s rating on Food Access & Nutrition in the [STAR Community Sustainability Rating System](#), a national rating system that assesses community-wide sustainability in a quantitative and comprehensive fashion. Other metrics can be found through the [U.S. Census Bureau](#) and USDA’s [Food Access Research Atlas](#).

SECTION 4 - ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION

Proposed Outline of Draft Urban Agriculture Best Practices [Webpage](#)

FOOD RESCUE AND RECOVERY

The City established a commercial organics collection and composting program with the [Compost Cats](#). Organics to be collected include food waste, green waste, and waste at the Reid Park Zoo (Zoo Doo).

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

[State of the Tucson Food System 2018-2019](#) UA Center for Regional Food Studies

[Social Economy Arizona](#) – Food & Urban Agriculture

WATER USE

2020 Strategic Plan

- Tucson Water's 2020 Strategic Plan addresses the risks, the needed investments, and the opportunities likely to arise within its five-year horizon. The plan spotlights the behavioral values

and business values that define our fundamental role in this community and our commitment to excellent customer service.

- Tucson Water [2020 Strategic Plan](#)
- Water Harvesting – [Guide to Water-Efficient Landscaping](#)

URBAN AGRICULTURE INCENTIVES

Tucson’s Urban Agriculture Network: [A Resource Guide for Gardeners](#)

Greening the Food Deserts of Tucson, University of Arizona Project

City of Tucson [Unified Development Code Amendment](#)

Urban Agriculture

[Plan Tucson](#) promotes community food security through policies that a) focus on the role of zoning land use regulations to reduce barriers to local food production and distribution, and b) support a wide range of opportunities, including small-scale home and community gardens, gleanings, [urban agriculture](#), and local farms. Collaboration with [key partners](#) is emphasized.

Urban Agriculture - Community Partners

The City plays an indirect role in urban agriculture through land use and zoning, and collaborative efforts with community partners. As a result, our community partners are essential in helping realize the Plan Tucson goal of “*a sustainable urban food system.*”

In 2015, the City of Tucson established a [Commission on Food Security, Heritage, and Economy](#). Among the roles of the Commission are to: foster cooperation and efficiency among the member organizations; develop food access, food security, nutrition, and economic development goals and targets; recommend strategies to meet those goals and targets; identify potential funding or other resources to implement those strategies; and promote ideas, practices, and programs to increase access to healthy foods, increase demand and markets for locally-produced foods, improve local food distribution, reduce food waste, expand composting and other uses of food waste, expand food industry job opportunities, and expand food entrepreneur support.

Partners for Success

The Pima County Food Alliance is the local food policy council and was established to engage community partners to understand and develop our food system through education, outreach, and policy change.

Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona is a nonprofit charity that ensures the people of Southern Arizona have access to the food and programs they need. Their mission statement reads: “*Through education, advocacy, and the acquisition, storage, and distribution of food, we will anticipate and meet the food needs of the hungry in our community.*”

Edible Baja Arizona (also see if we can use a picture of one edition) aims to provide high quality reporting, writing, and photography that illuminate a wide range of food-related and food system topics specifically relevant to the Baja Arizona food shed.

Native Seeds/SEARCH is a nonprofit seed conservation organization based in Tucson, Arizona that aims to collect and preserve endangered traditional seeds.