



**Bloomington Sustainability Action Plan Local Food and Agriculture
Working Group Meeting Four Notes (Part 2)
26 April 2018
City Hall
6 pm – 8:30 pm**

Topic: Identify challenges regarding food utility and food stability and propose solutions.

Facilitator: Stephanie Richards

Computer notes: Steven Chybowski

Number of participants: 13 (Janice Lilly, Marcia Veldman, John Galuska, Ryan Conway, David Parkhurst, Larry Howard, Stephen Stoll, Jodie Ellett, Whitney Shlegel, Autumn Salamack, Stephanie Richards, Ma’Cie Moore, Steven Chybowski)

The top voting priorities of the Local Food and Agriculture group were:

- Hire City full-time employee dealing with Food to explore partnerships and funding, particularly local food system research and projects; local food-related events; promotion of agritourism; and encouragement of new food-related business in the region
- Provide space/opportunity within city to vend
- Adapt zoning to allow for sale of produce from urban farms
- Develop City composting program and make composted materials readily available to residents for use in gardens and other urban agriculture activities
- Garden at every school to teach children to have connection with their food
- Additional research on food issues

| Action | Vote |
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| Provide space/opportunity within city to vend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pop up Farmers Markets (e.g. Fresh Stops in Louisville) ○ Additional Farmers Market Location | 4 |
| Foster network/collaboration opportunities for gardeners/farmers | |
| Influence institutional purchasing policies to favor local purchase | 2 |
| Research appropriate legislation to promote farming (e.g. allow farmers to collect food scraps) | |
| Encourage churches and other places citizens frequent to have community gardens | |

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| Encourage schools to have their own gardens and involve children to create connection with food | |
| Adapt zoning to allow for sale of produce from urban farms | 1 |
| Tours of urban agriculture initiatives | |
| Encourage and educate people on container gardening to get them started | |
| Adopt composting program to minimize food waste and improve soil | |
| Identify resources and land available that can be repurposed for growing | 1 |
| Foster new farming through immigration | |
| Remove zoning and licensing barriers to farming | 3 |
| Organize to apply for grants and publicly funded programs | |
| Create incentives for urban and periurban farming | 1 |
| Encourage utilization of SNAP for fresh food | |
| Create farm market on Wednesday mornings at Monroe County United Ministries to sell half-priced food from Tuesday farmers market | 1 |
| Expand outreach regarding SNAP Double Bucks | |
| Ensuring living wage for all city employees | 2 |
| Explore partnerships with FoodBank Gleaning Program to clean up farm land | |
| Introduce sustainability metrics to Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding criteria | 1 |
| Educate community on current situation in Bloomington to identify appropriate changes | |
| Research on food storage vehicles, hubs, and logistics | |
| Provide free Bike Share for low income families | |
| Improve public transportation to decrease food deserts | 1 |
| Promote businesses that provide living wage | 1 |
| Provide farmers market shoppers for people with limited mobility | |
| Provide refrigeration at community gardens | |
| Encourage food rescue and repurposing | 1 |
| Garden at every school with City playing consultative role | 2 |

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| Hire City full-time employee dealing with Food to explore partnerships and funding, particularly local food system research and projects; local food-related events; promotion of agritourism; and encouragement of new food-related business in the region | 6 |
| Reconsider zoning for fast food restaurants or ways to promote healthy food access | |
| Hire City agronomy consultant | |
| Ongoing support for nonprofits supporting food culture | 1 |
| Education re: nutrition through one-on-one consultation | |
| Education re: use of 2 nd 's ("ugly" food) | |
| Promote more local food and food festivals and celebration of cultural diversity | |
| Incorporate local food in schools | |
| "Local" Mondays | 1 |
| Meatless Mondays Challenge | |
| Develop City composting program and make composted materials readily available to residents for use in gardens and other urban agriculture activities | 4 |
| Encourage commercial composting program | |
| Map available farmland (urban vs. rural) | 1 |
| Conduct community gardening survey online and ask for volunteers to help mentor gardening | |
| Giveaway rainbarrels for completing online survey | |
| Education re: climate impacts | |
| Conduct vulnerability assessment | 1 |
| Establish community food storage facility | 1 |
| Establish public/private partnership for grain mill | |
| Facilitate mobile abattoirs | 2 |
| Garden tours and mentors | |
| Veggie Gardener yard signs to signal interest and willingness to help others | 1 |
| Designate additional spaces for public gardening programs | 1 |
| Create additional land use designations within the city's boundary to include an urban agriculture zoning category | |

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| Evaluate use of additional city or county owned agriculture pilot projects | |
| Work with county and others to designate or incentivize the preservation of farmland on the edges of Bloomington and in Monroe and surrounding counties | 2 |
| Groups and institutions in and around Bloomington should document full range of educational opportunities currently being offered and to promote participation | |
| Partner to build local seed banks, tool share programs, and other ways to support new agriculture projects | 2 |
| Conduct additional interdisciplinary research on food security/sovereignty in Monroe County and surrounding counties | 2 |