



LOCAL FOOD ACTION PLAN

CITY OF COLUMBUS & FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

June 17, 2015 • Columbus Public Health Board Room • 9:30am-11:00am

Purpose of the Local Food Action Plan Working Committee:

- To engage in a broad, community-focused process to guide the development of the Local Food Action Plan
- To share expertise representing varied facets of the local food system to inform:
 - Creation of a vision for the Local Food Action Plan
 - Identification of policy and programmatic targets for the Local Food Action Plan
 - Development of action steps to achieve our vision
 - Preparation of the Local Food Action Plan and supporting documents

Attendance:

Local Food Action Plan Sponsors

Councilmember Priscilla Tyson, City of Columbus City Council

Commissioner John O'Grady, Franklin County Board of Commissioners

Dr. Teresa C. Long, MD, MPH Health Commissioner

Local Food Action Plan Project Team

Michelle Moskowitz Brown, Local Matters

Matt Brown, Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Department

Noreen Warnock, Local Matters

Autumn Trombetta, Columbus Public Health

Cheryl Graffagnino, Columbus Public Health

Barb Seckler, Columbus Public Health

Molly Stout, Columbus Public Health

Nicole Harper, City Council

Jonathan Lee, Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Department

Meeting Facilitator:

Tuesday Ryan Hart – Confluence Unlimited

Working Committee Members:

Jill Clark – John Glenn College of Public Affairs
Jeremy Taylor -DNO Produce
Nick Stanich – Franklinton Gardens
Joe Brown – Columbus City Schools
Mike Hogan – OSU Extension
Brad Draper – Lutheran Social Services Food Pantries
Peggy Murphy - Greater Columbus Growing Coalition
Michael Jones - Good Food Enterprises
Amy Bodiker - Franklin County Local Food Council
Emily Savon – The Columbus Foundation
Randy Sokol –Central Ohio Restaurant Association
Dwight Beougher –Farm Bureau
David Ciccone - United Way of Central Ohio
Jenny Pope – Franklin Park Conservatory
Ellen Williams - Godman Guild
Sarah Lenkay - Mid-Ohio Foodbank
Ruben Herrera - Ohio Fair Food
Ernest Perry – Hands-On Central Ohio
Brian Williams - Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Mark Barbash - Finance Fund
Kyle O’Keefe - Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio
Bob Leighty - Parsons Avenue Merchants Association

Invited Guests:

Chance Shannon – Franklin County
Mary Weiler – CPH Dietetic Intern
Annie Ryznar – Franklin County
Rebecca Nelson – Columbus Public Health
Jordan Harrison – City Council Intern

Meeting Agenda

| Time | Activity |
|-------------|--|
| 9:30am | Welcome Dr. Teresa C. Long, MD, MPH Councilmember Priscilla Tyson Commissioner John O’Grady |
| 9:45am | Introduction to Process Tuesday Ryan Hart - Confluence Unlimited Purpose of this meeting Agenda How we will work together |
| 9:50am | Check In Tuesday Ryan Hart - Confluence Unlimited <i>Who I am, and what has my attention in the food system right now?</i> |
| 10:05am | Project Overview - Matt Brown Local Food Action Plan Project Team What, Why, When, How, Who |
| 10:20am | Working Committee role Tuesday Ryan Hart - Confluence Unlimited Role of the Working Committee Four Areas of Focus of the Food Action Plan Givens/Parameters |
| 10:25am | Informing Current Conditions and Vision Tuesday Ryan Hart - Confluence Unlimited <i>What are the unmet needs in our food system?</i> <i>What is our food system doing well?</i> <i>What changes would you like to see in the food system in the next 5 years?</i> |
| 10:50am | Next Steps: <i>What’s one thing our small group thinks should change as part of this plan?</i> |
| 10:55am | Check Out: |

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| <i>What's one thing I'm thinking about as I leave today?</i> |
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Project Overview-Matt Brown and Project Team:

Why a Local Food Action Plan:

Strengthen the local food system to improve community health, the economy and the environment

- 76% of County residents do not eat the rec'd amount of fruits and vegetables daily
- Some Columbus residents can live over 2 miles away from a healthy food option
- 62% of County residents are overweight or obese
- 66% of deaths are due to chronic health condition

Create a strong local food system to create and support jobs

- Currently ~58,026 people employed within the food system in Franklin County

Increase local food production to reduce our dependence on food from other regions

Establish clear priorities for city and county funding initiatives.

Prepare a collaborative approach for future funding proposals to support the local food system

Four Areas of Focus:

- Improving access to nutritious, affordable food, and education about healthy food
- Increasing the role of food in economic development
- Preventing food-related waste
- Enhancing coordination and communication among existing food resource and agencies

Project Timeline:

January to July 2015 – Research and Analysis

- Collect data
- Review Existing Food Plans
- Interview Stakeholders
- Survey Stakeholders (Mailed and Online)
- Seven Neighborhood Food Planning Events

June 2015 – Working Committee Orientation

August 2015 – Current Conditions & Vision

- Analyze the existing conditions in the food system
- Outline the desired future state
- Make available for comment by the community

September 2015 – Working Committee and Regional Planning Advisory Group review process

October 2015 – Policy Research

November 2015 - Working Committee reviews the Policy Research data

December 2015- Policy and Program Recommendations

- Working Committee and Regional Planning Advisory Group select policies in-line with the communities goals and vision
- Selected written policies will be made available for comment by the community

January 2016 - Working Committee and Regional Planning Advisory Group review comments for revisions

April 2016 – Draft a Food Plan – The compilation of current conditions & vision, policy recommendations, and implementation

May 2016 - Working Committee and Regional Planning Advisory Group review the Draft

June 2016 – Public meeting to discuss contents of Draft prior to release

August 2016 – Release of the Local Food Action Plan

Informing Current Conditions and Vision - Working Committee Small Group Discussion

Strengths: What is Our Food System Doing Well?

- Vision – deliberative, systematic planning to take advantage of our resources
- The existing system - has “good pieces to connect and models to build on”
- Positive and attractive energy – this is a place people can make a difference.
- This Group – The Food Action Plan Working Group
- The Growing Infrastructure of Farmer’s Markets
- The Increased focus on local food and access to it.
- Stakeholder awareness and the fact that we are all at the same table
- Experiments happening within the community which could be scaled up.
- A Sense of community and philanthropy
- We are currently producing a lot of food and a good variety
- Food costs are fairly low in certain areas
- Our food is safer
- More healthy grocery stores
- Consumer consciousness of the relationship between food and health
- A robust emergency food system
- Ability to attract healthy/premier grocers and consumers are buying in
- Consumer consciousness on fresh and local
- A robust emergency food system that distributes fresh foods
- Infrastructure in place
- Momentum – lots of people in the mix advancing solutions
- Comprehensive attention from community stakeholders, entrepreneurs, decision-makers, and business leaders to build a comprehensive system

Needs: What are the Unmet Needs in Our Food System?

- A Local competitive and affordable food supply
- Meat and other processing
- Local procurement models of sufficient and significant scale
- Financing
- Stronger coordination between the different groups
- Capacity – having all the food to distribute
- Greater Community awareness

- Participation from community health resources such as OhioHealth, OSU, NCH, and insurers

Needs: What are the Unmet Needs in Our Food System?(cont.)

- Reconciling what are really multiple food systems – Retail, restaurant, emergency feeding, farmer’s markets, CSA
- Integrate national and other data, priorities, and models to inform the local plan and policies.
- More strategic locations that provide access to nutritious foods
- Education on nutrition and healthy food preparation and preservation
- Affordability
- Science-based food and nutrition information for consumers
- Consumer understanding of food “attributes” or designations (organic, fresh, all-natural)
- More farmers
- Infrastructure needed for the local food system
- Ways to manage food waste
- Consumer education of varying growing attributes
- More farmers producing non-comm.
- Consumer education on food prep/storage/cooking/food safety
- More infrastructure to support local food production, distribution, and processing
- A food waste system
- We have talked about plan not system
- Inequity issues (Racial and Environmental)
- Still a small choir using a lot of jargon

Aspirations: What Changes Would You Like to See in the Food System in the Next 5 years?

- Local Scale and Competitiveness
- Neighborhoods with Food system identity based on their strengths in a countywide context
- A Well-known model of institutional demand
- Have a good infrastructure and system inside the different neighborhoods
- To create jobs in the neighborhoods
- An increase in nutrition education and healthy food preparation

- Work to exceed national norms and mandates on food, health outcomes, and economic development.
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Aspirations: What Changes Would You Like to See in the Food System in the Next 5 years?(cont.)

- We need an AND approach because all families obtain food from multiple sources and systems
- This work needs to be part of a larger community goal or it risks being under-resourced
- More opportunities to access healthy, local nutritious foods
- Policies align with market, the producers, and the residents in need
- Identification of projects and organizations that are making the education, production, and availability possible.
- Expansion of grocery stores in all Columbus neighborhoods
- Fix the disconnect/inequities
- More farms and food producers in urban and peri-urban areas
- A grocery store in every neighborhood
- Connect the value of food and food production to consumers of all socio-economic levels
- More farmers in rural and urban agriculture
- A robust food waste system
- A plan that articulates our shared fate in a healthy food system
- A clear, tactical, plan that people can implement
- Efficiently moving more healthy and affordable food through the system