



# LOCAL FOOD ACTION PLAN

## CITY OF COLUMBUS & FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

March 11, 2016 • Columbus Public Health Auditorium • 9:00am-12:00pm

### *Café Conversation Harvest*

#### **GOAL 1**

Enhancing coordination and communication among existing food resources and agencies

| ID                  | Action   | Summary  | Revisions Needed?   |   |
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|                     |  |  | <i>Language<br/>(Report Content)</i>  | <i>Core Concept<br/>(Action itself)</i>   |
| <b>059/<br/>363</b> | Establish a centralized local food “office” to coordinate food system initiatives throughout the City of Columbus and Franklin County. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permanent city/county staff to implement LFAP</li> <li>• Engage the FCLFC</li> <li>• Connect consumers to local food</li> <li>• Support coordination of Emergency Food providers</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would an office be all-encompassing enough to provide services?</li> <li>• Wondering how such a role would serve the entire food system. Need in Emergency Food System to coordinate and enhance the work - would someone in this office focused on local food be able to work more broadly with non-local food coordination in the emergency system?</li> <li>• A separate entity that monitors, not the county/city organization.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essential, how will it be communicated to the community.</li> <li>• Missing engagement in the neighborhoods piece, reporting back to the community</li> <li>• Missing accountability: who is responsible for letting the plan live and keeping track of the plan</li> <li>• Governance structure</li> <li>• Clarify how it will be funded</li> <li>• Sensitivity to political climate and</li> </ul> |

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|  |  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A statement of intent woven in to cover “all” people, minorities, refugees, etc. that are not represented at the table.</li> <li>• Who pays for this position and who do they report to?</li> <li>• The next 3 actions could be priorities of the local food office; the following 3 actions need to be moving in conjunction</li> <li>• If office is a public agency who will be the financial partner? Example: Healthcare Collaborative is the fiscal supporter for Celebrate One</li> <li>• Address “initiative fatigue”--people only have a certain amount of time/energy (incorporate with other existing efforts such as Celebrate One)</li> <li>• Need engagement and accountability duties</li> <li>• provide more info on Waterbury Resource Committee (snapshot) for more context</li> <li>• Further description on how this position/office oversees the implementation and monitoring of the entire plan</li> <li>• Too much use of “can also” - not strong enough</li> <li>• Would this office implement whole plan? By a separate 501c3; Many models for staff/resources - example: Baltimore maintained food council board who wrote plan</li> </ul> | <p>changes as it relates to setting project timeframe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a disconnect in having an independent 501c3 (FCLFC) implement a government plan</li> <li>• Agrees that the City-County Celebrate One as one possible model</li> <li>• Local environmental efforts also offer potential models - example Office of Environmental Stewardship</li> </ul> |
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|            |                                      |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does office support micro to macro-small organizations? Important to expedite ideas of smaller groups not just large organizations</li> <li>• Locally could the FCLFC advise this office?</li> <li>• The office needs to streamline; cultivate process</li> <li>• Need to define process</li> <li>• More opportunity for all orgs including small ones to share in resources</li> <li>• How to get support/\$</li> </ul>   |   |
| <b>010</b> | Establish an Agricultural Land Trust | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve existing farmland</li> <li>• Connect local producers with available farmland</li> <li>• Public agency or nonprofit conservation organization operated</li> <li>• Urban-rural connection</li> <li>• Work with regional land trusts for best practices</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concern of small vs large farming groups?</li> <li>• Suited for Goal/This is a placement issue in the report.</li> <li>• Add Farmers Union. Better identify groups.</li> <li>• Best Practices should be reworded.</li> <li>• Further explanation of incentives.</li> <li>• The functions of a land-trust listed here are different from the functions of other land-trusts in Ohio - typically legal entities that hold deeds to protect/preserve land; the things listed here are very valuable, but may not be things traditional land trusts have the capacity/resources to do - the idea/concept belongs here but needs further research</li> <li>• Sees potential for land-trust to protect/preserve urban lands (gardens, farms) for production - but needs to be further flushed out</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there enough land to worry about this? Long-term commitment for land to be used for a specific purpose - not sure there is enough land to actually do this</li> <li>• If this is about small plots of land (e.g. in Franklinton) then it ties up land that could be used for investment and development and is perhaps a disincentive for investors to come in and do their work, despite the small scale food production benefits</li> <li>• Like the idea of protecting smaller urban plots but when you look at the whole county it might be problematic for impeding development - how to balance small-scale food production with</li> </ul> |

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|  |  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land trust fits better under “coordination” than “communication”</li> <li>• how can we not only think about the land but the ecosystems supporting the land?</li> <li>• May not need to “establish” a new Land Trust</li> <li>• Suggestion: ensure adequate infrastructure to meet the goal</li> <li>• is there enough land area in this immediate area of Franklin County?</li> <li>• just hearing the term “Land Trust” implies large scale</li> <li>• Can it refer to small-scale in an urban environment such as Franklinton?</li> <li>• This action assumes larger acreage rather than smaller parcel production, i.e. biointensive production</li> </ul> | <p>large-scale development?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some of this land could come from the Appalachian-Ohio Trust (Implementation concern)</li> <li>• The action as written here seems like its own 501c3 but the capacity to execute may exist elsewhere, without requiring a separate entity</li> <li>• Why invest in a new non-profit when there are entities that already exist?</li> <li>• Questions of feasibility</li> <li>• County and Soil/Water already hold easements, don’t want to waste resources by starting a new organization</li> <li>• Clarify existing land trust from Southern Ohio serving Franklin County (easements in Jackson Twp already); Conservation Foundation of America - <a href="http://findalandtrust.org/land_trusts/206064">http://findalandtrust.org/land_trusts/206064</a> Reference existing planning work about land for urban agriculture (land bank)</li> <li>• Should include agricultural lands outside Franklin County</li> </ul> |
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| <b>500</b>            | Create a food processing collaborative   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Processing to bridge local producers with commercial and institutional buyers</li> <li>• Extend local food availability beyond the growing season</li> <li>• Public-private partnership for funding/technical assistance</li> <li>• Shared resources and costs to decrease overhead for start-ups</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Existing” is not inclusive. Remove the language</li> <li>• “processing” may be too broad a word - many different types; not only are we lacking food processing but also supply chain coordination - needs to be included</li> <li>• This looks like goal 3 ECDI and the Commissary are already doing this. Processing is available for orgs with capital as in wholesale but not for smaller orgs</li> <li>• Is it strictly “local food”?</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation issue. Important to utilize existing facilities through this process.</li> <li>• What is processing infrastructure collaboration? Affordable for micro organizations?</li> </ul> |
| <b>2016 /429/ 776</b> | Create a farmers market collaborative for the City of Columbus and Franklin County | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical assistance for EBT expansion</li> <li>• Strategically plan for new markets</li> <li>• Support expansion of Veggie SNAPS</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not as much a question around the concept of creating a farmers market, but more so that the scope and implementation are the question</li> <li>• Implementation concern around putting FMs in low-income neighborhoods - how do farmers recoup their costs, what is the health impact for the community, impact on farm economics, affordability for residents in low-income communities</li> <li>• Lots of research out there around viability</li> <li>• Farmers market could be opportunity for summer jobs for youth; doesn’t just want to see a tent - running water, electricity</li> <li>• Connection to land trust - are there plots</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is this a part of the existing farmers market network?</li> </ul>   |

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|  |  |  | <p>dedicated to growing/selling within neighborhoods?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross-reference with Veggie SNAPS in Goal 2</li> <li>• The Ohio FMMN has regionals chapters, local should build out of that structure</li> <li>• 50 total farmers markets and farm stands locally</li> <li>• 13 farmers markets in Franklin County currently accept EBT</li> <li>• Important to also emphasize senior farmers markets</li> </ul> |  |
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## ***Café Conversation Harvest - General Comments***

### ***GOAL 1***

#### **Enhancing coordination and communication among existing food resources and agencies**

- Need to get the word out about this plan. In the process, we will generate more energy, motivation, and spread awareness of the issues. Articles such as the Ohio Farm Bureau's website/magazine and Edible Columbus magazine have high readership (200,000 members of the Ohio Farm bureau alone).
  - <https://ofbf.org>
  - <http://www.ediblecolumbus.com/>
- Continue keeping the process opened. The more discussion, the stronger this document becomes, but it's important for people to see how it changes overtime as noted feedback is incorporated through each revision.
- Thinking "Food in All Policies" - tie in food with other hot topics, especially infant mortality and economic development
- The first action seems to be the cornerstone of Goal 1, though the office may not house all of the actions that follow
- Question of if the office will house financial resources
- Cross-reference similar actions between different goals? (for example, 2016 with 775?)