



## D.C.'s Food System by the Numbers



- **38** farmers markets, 5 open year round
- **55** full-scale grocery stores
- **67** healthy corner stores
- **63** community gardens in DC
  - More than 1800 plots/gardeners
  - ~26.5 acres under cultivation
- **127** active school gardens
- **11+** commercial farms
- **147** locations for free summer meals
- **35+** CSAs delivering in DC
- **1000+** Community members participating the Food Policy Council





### ***“Promote food access, food sustainability, and a local food economy in the District”***

#### **Government Organization**

- Food Access and Security Task Force of City agencies convened in 2013 to evaluate food access, urban agriculture, and DC’s food economy
  - Issued Sustainable DC Mayor’s Order Food Access & Security Report – study of accessibility of healthy food in neighborhoods
- Food Policy Council and Director Establishment Act of 2014 established structure with **Food Policy Director** (funded beginning in 2015) located in Office of Planning

#### **Funding**

- \$200,000 for local food economy study
- 1 FTE Food Policy Director
- 1 FTE Food Policy Analyst (FY18)

#### **Stakeholder Engagement**

- **DC Food Policy Council**
  - Meets 6x/year and led by Food Policy Director
  - 12 **Mayoral-appointed community members**; 8 non-voting City government members;
  - 4 Working Groups, meeting bi-monthly: Local Food Business & Labor Development; Food Equity, Access, & Health and Nutrition Education; Sustainable Food Procurement; Urban Agriculture & Food System Education
  - 1000+ community residents and business owners engaged annually

#### **Programmatic Goals**

- **Increase agricultural land uses within the District** (*By 2032, put 20 additional acres of land under cultivation for growing food.*)
- **Ensure universal access to secure, nutritious, and affordable food supplies** (*By 2032, ensure 75% of DC residents live within 1/4 mile of a community garden, farmers’ market or healthy corner store.*)
- **Develop the food industry into a strong and viable economic sector** (*By 2032, produce or obtain 25% of food within a 100-mile radius.*)

City Metrics	
Population	672,228
% Food Secure	82%
% Pop receiving SNAP	15%

***Vision: Create a just, healthy, equitable and sustainable food system for all by engaging, empowering, and informing DC residents and effecting positive policy change.***

### **City-wide Priorities**

#### **Communications & Outreach Strategy**

- Information sharing about all aspects of the food system
- Data collection and using this information to guide decision making
- Advocating for core priorities and required goals of the FPC
- Broadening the conversation to be more inclusive

#### **Fundraising**

- Sustainable ongoing funding for government food programs
- Funding for the FPC specifically – work to illuminate, and expand support for food policy and the Food Policy Council in the budget
- Identifying and expanding the available funding in support of the FPC’s goals, programs, and legislative initiatives from external institutions or private resources
- Assisting with funding for small local community groups and organizations

#### **Growing a Network**

- Prioritizing events & engagement around different aspects of the food system
- Coordinating and strategizing food policies across District government agencies as well as regional and federal partners
- Taking an equitable approach to all that we do. Being conscious of the intersectionality of gentrification & larger systemic forces on the city.
- Prioritizing collaboration and facilitation for all.

### **OVERALL IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

- Assess existing District food policies, current conditions, food system stakeholders, and community needs for our local food system.
- Report annually on existing conditions to the Mayor, Council, and community.
- Develop annual action plan and engagement strategy that spells out the cost, duration, priority, and accountability for each strategy.
- Assess progress of the FPC at least twice annually and report on outcomes publicly.

# DC Food Policy Council



- 12 members appointed by Mayor
- **VISION:** Create a just, healthy, equitable and sustainable food system for all by engaging, empowering, and informing DC residents and effecting positive policy change.
- Promote food access, food sustainability, and a local food economy, including non-mainstream producers
- Monitor regulatory barriers to the local food economy, including barriers to
  - farmers markets,
  - existing food assets
  - job creation potential
- Collect and analyze data on the local food economy and food access in the District, including an assessment of food deserts; and
- Monitor and research national best practices in food policy, and determine how they could be implemented in the District.
- *Applying an equity lens to all that we do*





# Local Business & Labor Working Group



- Support the FPC food economy assessment study
- Study the policies, regulations, and legislation that affect food businesses and compile for easier sharing with the business community.
- Assist with the Cottage Food Act guidelines, regulations, and implementation of the new law.
- Support food polices that support FEED-DC Act supermarket tax incentive and food retailers.
- **Sustainable DC Food Goal 3:** Develop the food industry into a strong and viable economic sector. Target: By 2032, produce or obtain 25% of food within a 100-mile radius.



# Food Equity, Access, and Health & Nutrition Education Working Group



- Focus on overhauling FEED DC Act to help meet goal of promoting the development of full-service supermarkets in underserved communities as well as including nutrition education and funding to meet its goals; examples may include cooperative support, smaller grocery support, etc.
- Promote city's use of federal nutrition programs (SNAP, WIC, school meals, summer meals, child care meals, and out-of-school time meals) and maximize city's leveraging of federal dollars.
- Assist the implementation of FEED-DC. Solidify plans for supermarket developments in Wards 7 & 8. Protect and strengthen use of federal and local nutrition programs in DC through adoption of policies and work to maintain entitlement structure of the programs.
- **Sustainable DC Food Goal 2:** Ensure universal access to secure, nutritious, and affordable food supplies. Target: By 2032, ensure 75% of residents live within ¼ mile of a community garden, farmers' market and/or healthy corner store.





## Sustainable Food Procurement Working Group



- Focus on school food making procurement processes more transparent. Work with OSSE to update the Healthy Schools Act (HSA), and convene stakeholders around central kitchen facility.
- Focus on wasted food learning more about the scope of the issue, opportunities to shift policy, and opportunities to engage.
- Study the Good Food Purchasing program, work with DC Public Schools and other partners determine if the program is a good fit for DC.
- Partner & advocate for inclusion in Healthy Students Amendment Act





# Urban Agriculture & Food System Education Working Group



- Implementing of the D.C. Urban Farming and Food Security Act of 2014 Collaborating with DC agencies to get land in the hands of local farmers. Pursue potential amendments.
- Provide support for key challenges for urban ag. including land access, barriers to production, community education, community garden training and support.
- Assess the current state of food system education in DC and collaborate with partners to expand and systematize it as a core part of education for DC's youth.
- ***Sustainable DC Food Goal 1:*** Increase agricultural land uses within the District. Target: By 2032, put 20 additional acres of land under cultivation for growing food.



***Vision: Create a just, healthy, equitable and sustainable food system for all by engaging, empowering, and informing DC residents and effecting positive policy change.***

### **Policy Engagement**

- DCFPC Strategic Plan development and approval in March 2017
- Collaboration with the local Good Food Purchasing Program coalition on sustainable purchasing
- Cottage Food Act Regulations – public comment, issuance, and implementation assistance
- Submitted amendments to the District’s [Comprehensive Plan](#) twenty-year plan
- FEED-DC grocery store incentive, review & proposal for amendment
- Food Economy Study – funded & initiated
- Updated food systems datasets and food system assessment development

### **Input on Legislation**

- Save Good Food Act of 2017
- East End Grocery Legislation (3 bills) May 2017
- Healthy Students Amendment Act of 2017
- Urban Farming & Food Security Act of 2015/Amendments – implementation assistance

### **Community Engagement**

- 1,350 attendees at 8 full FPC meetings, and 28 working group meetings
- Meetings held locations throughout the city in all 8 wards
- Social Media presence raised – [www.dcfoodpolicy.org](http://www.dcfoodpolicy.org) set up, 1000+ [Mailchimp](#) subscribers, 1,017 [Twitter](#) followers, and 443 on [Facebook](#)
- Presentations from 7 community partners (DPW, DOEE, SodexoMagic, DCPS, The Reinvestment Fund, Food Chain Workers Alliance, Bainum Family Foundation and others)

### **Council Organization**

- August 2016 FPC Member Retreat
- 13 community-based members Mayorally-appointed, 10 DC government agency members appointed and participating



**INTERACTIVE INPUT – Amending Sustainable DC Goals & New Focus for Next Year**

**6 Stations – 3 Rotations**

- 1. Local Food Business & Labor Development**
- 2. Food Equity, Access, Health & Nutrition Education**
- 3. Sustainable Food Procurement**
- 4. Urban Agriculture & Food System Education**
- 5. Crosscutting Policies**
- 6. Communications, Engagement & Events**

**7:50pm – Come back together & Report out**