

# DC Food Policy Council

## Public Meeting (Virtual)

### December 1, 2021

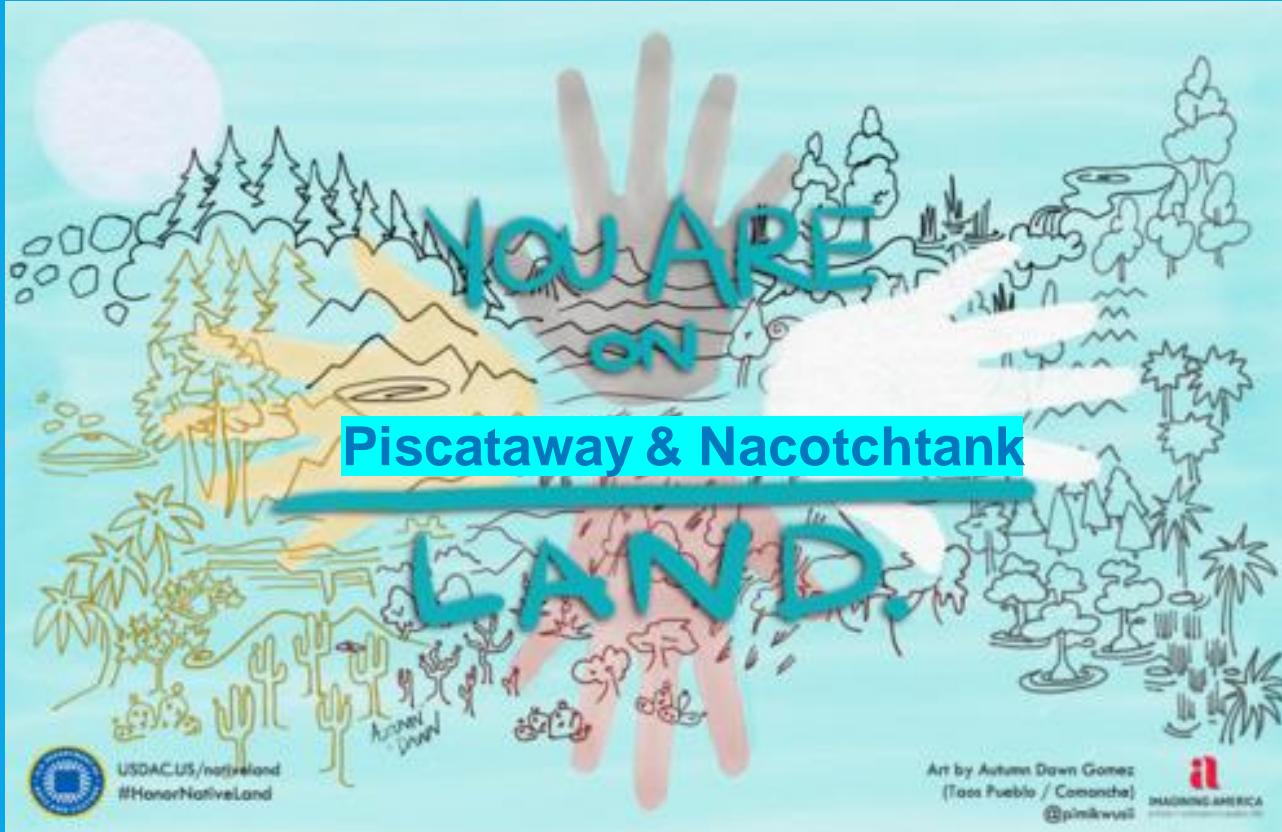


As you're waiting for the meeting to start,  
please review our virtual meeting guidelines:

- Please stay muted if not speaking
- Type questions into the chat
- Email with longer questions:  
[dcfoodpolicy@dc.gov](mailto:dcfoodpolicy@dc.gov)



# Land Acknowledgement



# Ice Breaker

What is a food that is better as leftovers than on the first day?

Groups of 4 (5 minutes)

# Agenda

- Introductions/Ice Breaker
- Working Group Updates
- Food Security Progress Report
- DMPED Food Access Fund Grantees
- Good Food Market Ward 8 Opening
- DSLBD Food Waste Innovation Grants
- Events/Announcements



# Working Group Updates

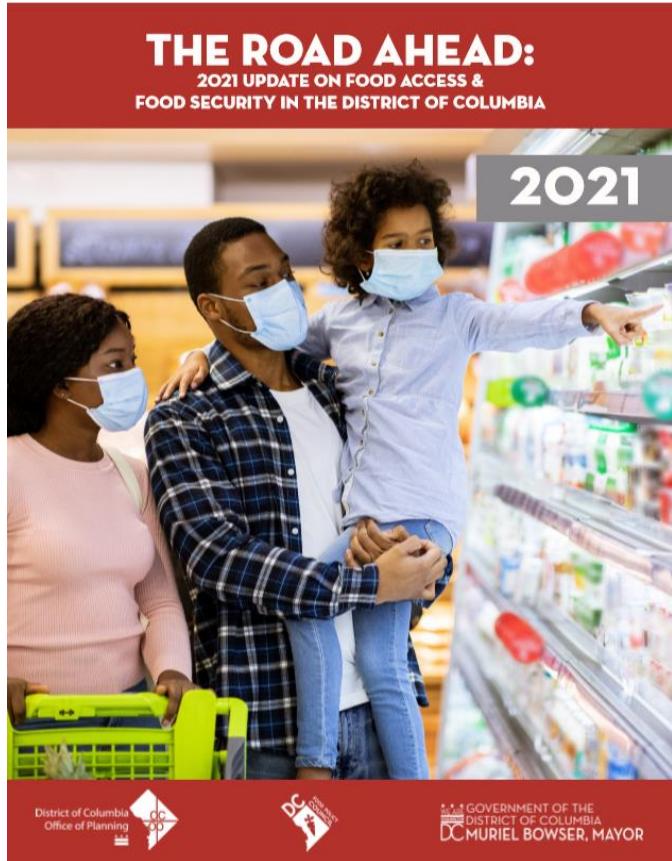
- Entrepreneurship & Food Jobs
- Nutrition & Health
- Sustainable Supply Chain
- Food Access & Equity
- Urban Agriculture



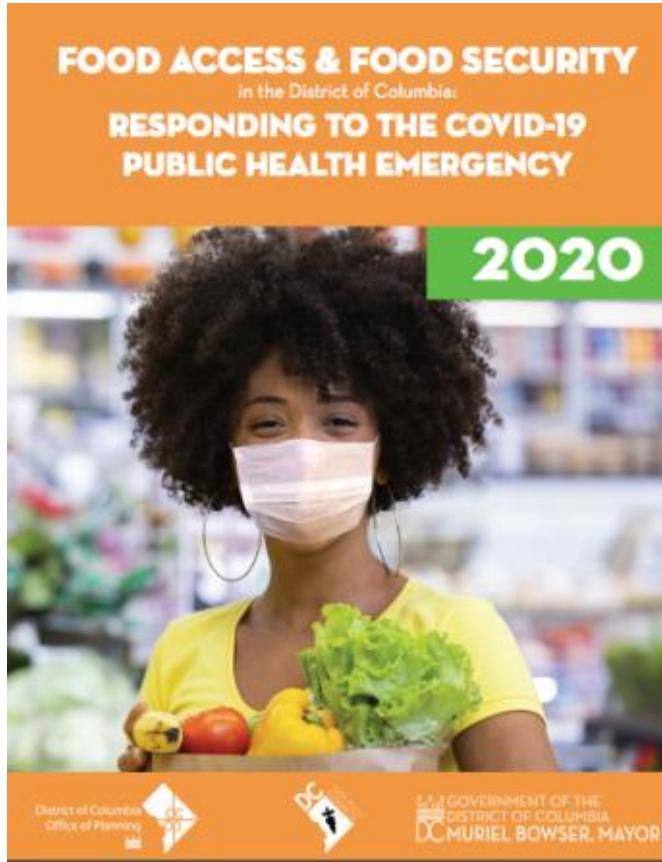
# Food Security Progress Report

Presented by Ona Balkus, Food Policy Director, DC  
Office of Planning

# Preview



# Update: 1 year later





## Big picture:

Although the overall 2021 food insecurity rate for the District (11%) will nearly return to the pre-COVID rate (down from 21.1% in 2020), this data hides continued high need for some groups, including:

- Black and Latinx households
- Households with children
- Seniors



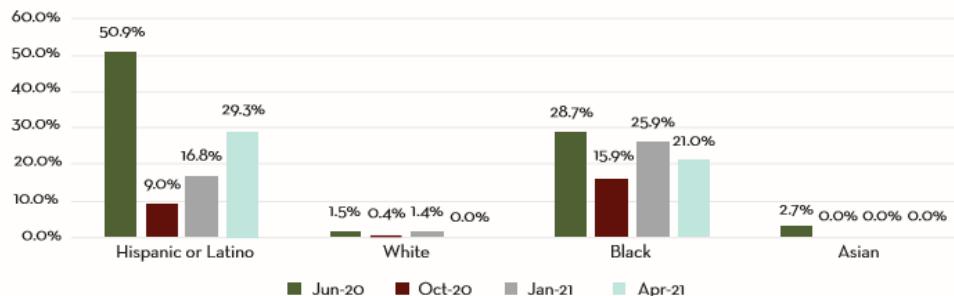
# Data

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# Key Findings

## Households with Children

Figure 2: Food Insufficiency for Households With Children By Race



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey.

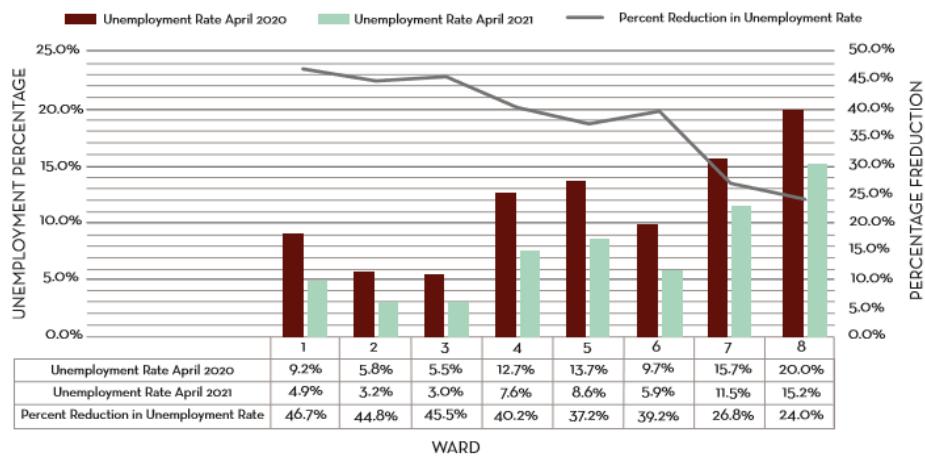
In April 2021 in the District:

- Almost 1 in 3 (29.3%) **Latinx** households with children reported food insufficiency
- More than 1 in 5 (21%) **Black** households with children reported food insufficiency
- **White** households with children reported statistically no food insufficiency.
- The survey tool could not reliably measure food insufficiency for **Asian** households.

# Key Findings

## Unemployment by Ward

Table 1: Unemployment Data by Ward April 2020 - April 2021



Source: DC Department of Employment Services - Office of Labor Market Research and Information (OLMRI)

- Unemployment is correlated with food insecurity and poverty.
- Between April 2020-April 2021, unemployment decreased in all Wards.
- But higher unemployment persists in certain Wards, particularly Wards 7 and 8.

# Seniors



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Feeding America 2019 report found that 13.5% of seniors in the District are food insecure (down from 14.2% in 2018).

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In April 2021, DACL provided home-delivered meals to over 6,000 clients (up from 3,500 pre-COVID)

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Grocery Plus (DC Health and CAFB) serves 5,400 seniors and has a 260 person waitlist

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100% of Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program benefits were redeemed in 2021



# Progress & Highlights

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## Since 2019, the District has worked on:



- Extending and Expanding **Emergency Feeding Programs**
- Expanding **Federal Nutrition Programs**
  - Pandemic-EBT Program for Families with Children
  - Emergency Allotments for SNAP Clients
  - Enhancing Benefits and Access to WIC
- **New Budget Investments:** Food Access Fund and Nourish DC Collaborative
- Developing the **DC Federal Nutrition Program Toolkit**
- Providing **Urban Agriculture Infrastructure Grants**
- Releasing the **Centralized Kitchen Study**



# DMPED Food Access Fund

Presented by:

- Tim White, Executive Director, Equitable Development at DMPED
- Amanda Stephenson, Fresh Food Factory Market

# FY21 Round Update:



Mayor Muriel Bowser announced nearly **\$9 million** in grants. The Food Access Fund recipients include:

- **DCity Smokehouse**, a Black-owned business serving smokehouse BBQ since 2013 on Florida & North Capitol St, will open a new location in Anacostia in Ward 8.
- **Fresh Food Factory**, a grocery store that sells affordably priced fresh and healthy food, will open a new location in Kenilworth in Ward 7.
- **HalfSmoke**, a restaurant serving unique and complex foodservice design, combining elements of a quick-service restaurant, café, and gastro pub, will open two new locations at Skyland Town Center and Downtown Minnesota Ave in Ward 7.
- **Highland Café**, a local hangout, a place where friends, family and neighbors can fellowship and enjoy coffee and delicious meals, will open a new location in the Penn Branch neighborhood of Ward 7.
- **MLK Deli**, a restaurant serving traditional classic sandwiches with a unique twist will open a new location in Deanwood in Ward 7.
- **Roots 657 Café**, an eat-in and take-out café and market, will open a new location at Skyland in Ward 7.
- **Sala Thai**, a restaurant serving Thai food, will open a location in the Hill East neighborhood of Ward 7.
- **Sweet Tooth**, a restaurant serving gourmet specialty cakes and pastries for over 25 years, will open a location in Anacostia in Ward 8.

# FY22 Application

Available funding for the first round of FY22 – Up to \$7 million

Eligibility changes:

1. New concepts now eligible and
2. Construction must begin within 18 months

Application Period – On a rolling basis, the applications will be reviewed per the following schedule:

- RFA Round 1 Opens 12/6/2021
- RFA Round 1 Closes 1/7/2022
- RFA Round 2 Opens 1/18/2022
- RFA Round 2 Closes 3/23/2022
- RFA Round 3 Opens 4/4/2022
- RFA Round 3 Closes 6/28/2022

Visit the Food Access Fund Grant website at [dmped.dc.gov/page/food-access-fund](https://dmped.dc.gov/page/food-access-fund).



# Good Food Market Ward 8 Opening

Presented by Philip Sambol, Executive Director  
Oasis Community Partners



# Good Food Markets

## Social Enterprise Grocery Store

GREAT PRODUCE  
FRESH MEAT,  
SEAFOOD & DAIRY  
HOMESTYLE TAKEOUT

GOOD FOOD  
MARKETS

COMMUNITY  
GROCERY  
AFFORDABLE &  
CONVENIENT

OPEN  
TODAY



Good Food Markets is a mission-driven business.

Good Food Markets (GFM) is a social enterprise of Oasis Community Partners' (Oasis), and share a mission to **improve food access and community health.**

Together, GFM and Oasis are creating small stores with **grocery and café**, living wage **jobs**, and health **education** in neighborhoods that have been written-off by the supermarket and restaurant chains.

A photograph of a woman with a purple headband and a backpack, shopping in a grocery store. She is looking at produce in a refrigerated display. The store shelves are filled with various packaged food items. A chalkboard sign above the produce section reads "all during Spring.".

## What makes Good Food Markets different?

1. Small footprint operation minimizes initial investment and operating costs.
2. Focus on fresh food drives mission, and margin.
3. Nonprofit ownership moves the goal posts for success, and facilitates innovative financing, and programmatic partnerships.

## Good Food Markets Pilot Location in Ward 5





## New Good Food Markets

Ward 8, Washington, DC

P3 partnership funding \$2.3M to build and operate neighborhood grocery and café with adjoining government offices and public community space:

- Program Related Investment from the Bainum Family Foundation,
- DMPED Neighborhood Prosperity Fund grant,
- DSLBD Healthy Food Retail grant, and
- DISB BizCAP program loan

Serving the Bellevue neighborhood of Ward 8, near public library, ground floor retail beneath 190 units of affordable and supportive housing.



## New Good Food Markets

### Seat Pleasant, Prince George's County, MD

P3 partnership funding \$1.9M to build and operate neighborhood grocery and café in legacy shopping center.

- HFFI Loan from the Low Income Impact Fund
- Grants package from Prince George's County
- Economic Development Incentive Fund loan

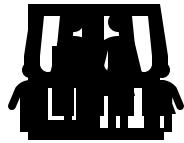
Serving the Seat Pleasant neighborhood in Capitol Heights. Replacing larger Safeway which closed in 2016, complimentary retail, large parking lot, and fast food.

The scale these stores represent creates a unique opportunity.

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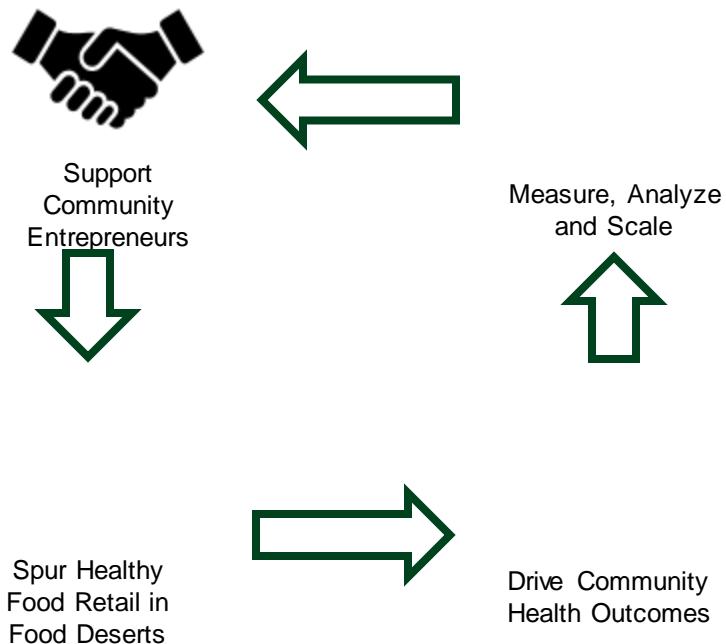
**Food deserts occur due to a complex array of factors, but at their heart is a consistent pair of issues:**

- 1) The people with the resources, systems, and expertise to successfully operate a grocery don't have relationships with the community in need
- 2) The people with the relationships, community insight, and trust to deliver a great outcome don't have the resources to make their vision a reality



# Microformat Franchise Concept

*We believe a mission-driven franchise model for small store operators has the potential to be a powerful tool for wealth creation and entrepreneurship.*



# Additional Information

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[www.goodfoodmarkets.com](http://www.goodfoodmarkets.com)

[www.oasiscommunitypartners.org](http://www.oasiscommunitypartners.org)

T: @goodfooddc

IG: @goodfoodmarket

FB: @ goodfoodmarketsdc

Philip Sambol

Executive Director

[philip@oasiscommunitypartners.org](mailto:philip@oasiscommunitypartners.org)

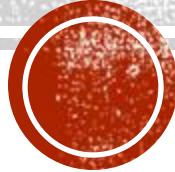


# DSLBD Food Waste Innovation Grants

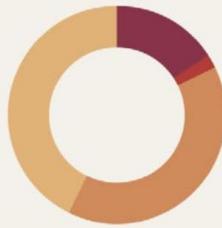
Presented by Caroline Howe, DSLBD

# **FOOD WASTE INNOVATION GRANTS**

**FY 2022**



CONSUMER-FACING  
BUSINESSES ACCOUNT FOR  
**40% OF WASTE BY WEIGHT**



■ Farms **16%**  
■ Manufacturers **2%**  
■ Consumer-Facing Businesses **40%**  
■ Homes **43%**



Learn more at [refed.com](http://refed.com)

COST OF WASTE TO CONSUMER-FACING  
BUSINESSES — **\$54.7 BILLION**



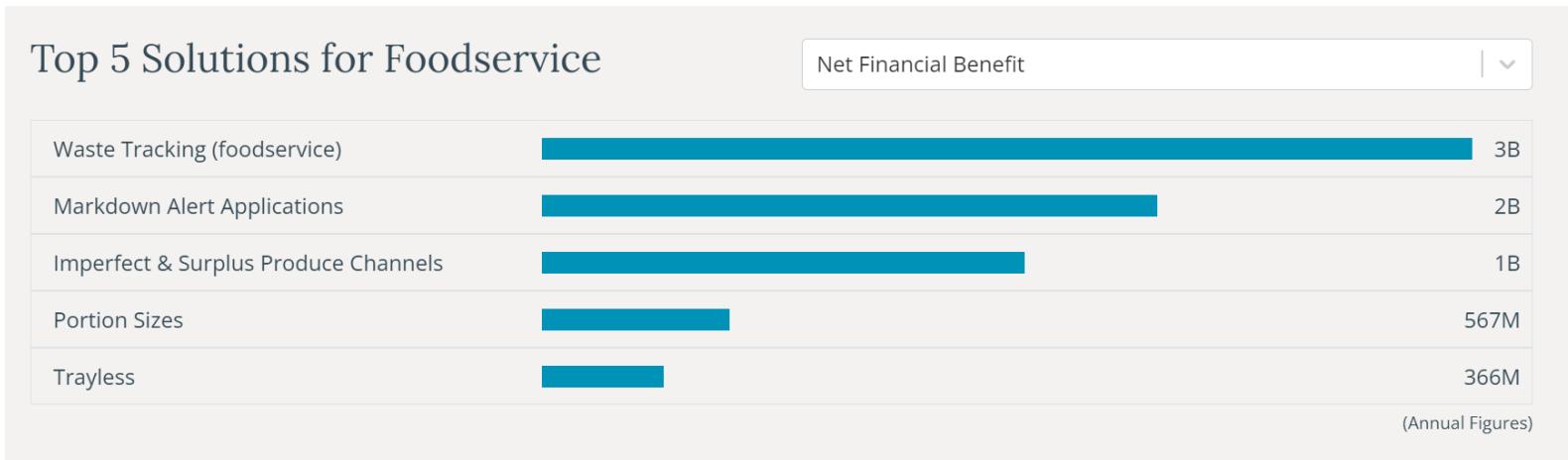
# WHY FOOD WASTE & BUSINESS?

- Economic cost for businesses in purchasing & waste disposal
- Achieving Sustainable DC 2.0 goals on waste and food access
- Reduce rodents systemically
- Potential for marketing and promotion





# DATA-BASED ANALYSIS

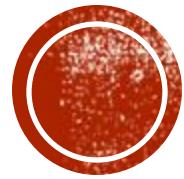


# NRDC FOOD MATTERS

## FOOD MATTERS REGIONAL INITIATIVE *A SNAPSHOT*



- Restaurant Food Waste Challenge: Denver & Philadelphia
  - Providing free compost collection to 10-15 businesses
  - Creating a cohort of restaurants “competing”
  - Publicizing Mayor’s Food Waste Challenge participants
- Health Inspector Strategy: training inspectors to speak to restaurants about food donation, food safety & preservation
- \$16,000 per year, coupled with support for larger grants



# **DISTRICT FOOD WASTE INNOVATION GRANTS**

# THREE PRONGS FOR GRANTS

- Direct food scraps collection for composting from 100 businesses
- Technical assistance for restaurants on food waste reduction
- Small businesses innovation grants for reduction, diversion, donation, and processing



# WHY FREE COMPOST COLLECTION?

- Easy way to get buy-in from restaurants
  - Reduces disposal costs
  - Reduces barrier to start
- Demonstrates quantities of food waste and informs additional strategies
- Transition businesses to be able to meet future organics separation mandate from Zero Waste Omnibus Act





## WHY AUDITS & WASTE-AUDIT TRAINING?

- Waste audits can identify top waste streams & value-added opportunities
- Layout and design of food diversion is unique to each specific food business
- Staff trainings increase buy-in and depth of impact
- Training this way to support businesses will increase local capacity





## WHY INNOVATION GRANTS?

- Addressing food systemically and incentivizing upstream food diversion
- Encouraging collaboration along commercial corridors (BIDs, Main Streets)
- Making food waste donation easier for each business and nonprofits
- Demonstrating range of possibilities across the District and tracking financial benefits



## PREVENTION

Reducing the amount of food that goes unsold.

## RECOVERY

Donating surplus food to feed the hungry.

## RECYCLING

Diverting food waste from landfills through use as animal feed, composting, or anaerobic digestion.



## INNOVATION GRANTS

- Technological or process investments to reduce volume of waste going to landfill
  - Menu development costs to increase cross-utilization or seasonal menus
  - Increased freezer or refrigeration capacity to enable donation or preservation
  - Diverting food waste to on-site composting & non-biodegradables into compactors
- Prioritize reducing food waste, then donation of edibles, then organics processing



# Events & Announcements

- **Friday 12/3:** Return of Food Policy Office Hours
- **Friday 12/17:** DC Council Climate Resiliency Roundtable
- **Wednesday, February 2, 2022:** Next FPC Public Meeting
- **Coming soon!** Survey on Draft 2022 Food Policy Council Priorities
- **FPC Call for New Members:** <https://dcfoodpolicy.org/membership/>
- To join a Working Group listserv, email the WG chairs or [dcfoodpolicy@dc.gov](mailto:dcfoodpolicy@dc.gov)
- Add other announcements to chat and/or unmute yourself.