

FY 2026 Final Budget for District Food Programs



NEW INVESTMENT

The Farmers Market Support Amendment Act of 2025 fully funded



\$494,000 for Dept. of Health to support farmers markets, farm stands & mobile markets by:

- providing technical assistance around permits, licensing, and nutrition benefits;
- a grant program to support the operations of farmers markets in low food access areas; &
- conducting marketing and promotion activities.

\$220,000 for Dept. of Licensing and Consumer Protection to create a centralized application system for licensing and permitting of farmers market.

EXPANDED PROGRAMS

Senior Nutrition Programs



An increase of \$452,000 to add 2 new **Community Dining Sites** in Ward 7 and pilot a program for seniors to enjoy restaurant dining once a month. An increase of \$930,000 to expand **Home Delivered Meals** to reduce the current waitlist.

Grocery Access Pilot Program for free online grocery deliveries



\$120,000 in one-time funding to extend the Dept. of Health's program into a 2-year pilot, which provides 1,000 SNAP-Ed participants with access to buying groceries online without delivery fees.

Lederer Communal Farm greenhouse



\$1.5 million to rebuild a greenhouse at the **Lederer Garden** in Ward 7, which was destroyed by the fire in 2024. It will serve as a seedling production facility serving 3 Communal Farms and their weekly produce giveaway events.

Residential composting



Increase of \$2,270,000 to expand the **Compost DC Food Waste Collection Program** from 9,000 households to 12,000 households and install additional 20 **Food Waste Smart Bins**, expanding the program to a total of 51 locations across the District.

Food retail investment opportunities



\$20 million for Hill East and \$15 million for Saint Elizabeths site infrastructure..
\$350,000 in one-time funds for the Rhode Island Avenue NE Support Grant Program.

CONTINUED FUNDING



Produce Plus	\$2.05 million (\$50,000 reduction)
Joyful Food Market	\$1.77 million (\$50,000 reduction)
Medically-tailored Home Delivered Meals	\$1.33 million (maintained)
Healthy Corner Stores	\$750,000 (maintained)
Produce Rx	\$500,000 (maintained)
Healthy Schools Fund	\$5.69 million (maintained)
Urban Agriculture Infrastructure & Operations Grant	\$75,000 (restored)
Donation & Reuse Grant	\$75,000 (restored)



POLICY CHANGES

Changes to the Initiative 82 Tipped Minimum Wage Timeline



- The tipped minimum wage will maintain at \$10/hour (56% of the regular minimum wage) until July 2026, increase to 60% of the regular minimum wage in July 2028, and increase it by 5% every two years thereafter, capping it off at 75% of the regular minimum wage in 2034.
- Employers will be required to begin providing detailed breakdowns by source on pay stubs effective January 1, 2026.
- Office of the Chief Financial Officer will report on the impacts on tipped restaurant workers and the restaurant industry every two years.

Changes to the Street Vending Advancement Act



- 1 Staff position dedicated to serve as a Sidewalk Vending Manager at Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection (DLCP).
- DLCP was given an authority to issue grants to support vendors in purchasing vending equipment (but no funding was allocated).
- The Office of Tax Revenue will be required to notify all registered vendors of the Vending Amnesty Program.

FY27 BUDGET PRIORITIES



Increase local funding for existing nutrition programs to serve eligible residents who are waitlisted.



Fund the Secure DC Act Section 32 to improve nutrition standards for meals served at DC Correctional Facilities.



Protect vital federal nutrition programs from cuts such as SNAP, SNAP-Ed, WIC, and SUN Bucks



Fund the Food Access Fund and Nourish DC to support local food businesses in food apartheid neighborhoods.



Establish Central Food Processing Facilities and support values-aligned procurement across agencies.



Increase the funding for the Urban Agriculture Tax Abatement Program.



Fund the Dept. of General Services' Agency Food Scrap Collection and Food Waste Innovation Grant.

LEGISLATION REPEALED

Give SNAP a Raise Act

No Senior Hungry Omnibus Act

Zero Waste Omnibus Act's provisions on Organic Management Plan and on-site organic processing grant

Metro for DC Act's Fare Free Bus provision