

Community and Regional Food Planning

A Resource for Healthy People,
Communities, & Environments

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Key Themes

- ✦ Planners' involvement in community-food issues has increased over 10 yrs.
- ✦ Planning an important resource for sustainable & just food systems
- ✦ Many obstacles exist for food planning
- ✦ How to build support for food planning?

(Re)Placing Food on Planners' Agenda—1997-2007

- ✦ Research papers, journal issues
- ✦ APA food planning policy guide
- ✦ APA PAS Memos
- ✦ Comm. & Reg. Planning for food



Source: Lawson, L. 2005. City Bountiful. Berkeley: UC Press, 176.



Source: Mayo, J. 1993. The American Grocery Store. Westport, CT: Greenwood.

Market Terminus, Philadelphia, 1859

Victory Garden Poster, WW II

Key Problems

- ✦ Obesity
- ✦ Food Deserts, Food Insecurity
- ✦ Erosion of Regional Agri-Food Systems
- ✦ Ecological Degradation
- ✦ Loss of Cultural Food-ways



Why planning?

- ✦ Problems manifest in local areas
- ✦ Problems have land use, spatial links
- ✦ Problems link multiple systems
- ✦ Local, spatial, systems: Planner domains
- ✦ Local (partial) solutions are possible
- ✦ Solutions link to community planning goals

Community & Regional Food Planning Goals

- ✦ Build stronger, more sustainable LOCAL food systems from farm to fork and back
- ✦ Enhance community benefits from conventional food system, e.g., healthy food access in impoverished communities



The APA Food Planning Policy Guide

✦ Structure

✦ 7 General Policies, Specific Policies

- Comprehensive Food Planning
- Economy
- Health
- Ecology
- Equity
- Native/Ethnic Cultures
- Federal and State Policy (APA L&P Comm.)

<http://www.planning.org/policyguides/food.htm>



Dane County Comprehensive Plan

Draft 5/17/2006

Goals, Objectives, Policies & Programs Agricultural Resources

Goals

- 2. Maintain Dane County's status as one of the nation's most productive and economically viable agricultural areas. Keep farming economically viable in Dane County through the 21st century.*

- ♦ **A Sustainable Agricultural Community.** Marin's working agricultural landscapes will be protected and the agricultural community will remain viable and successfully produce and market a variety of healthy foods and products.

Economy

Woodbury County, IA

1. Local Food Purchase Policy
2. Organic Conversion Tax Incentive Program



Resolution

Woodbury County Policy for Rural Economic Revitalization “Local Food Purchase Policy”

Preamble

It is the policy of Woodbury County to promote the economic vitality, and public health and safety, of its rural communities. The “Local Food Purchase Policy” is intended to increase regional per capita income, provide incentives for job creation, attract economic investment, and promote the health and safety of its citizens and communities.

Summary

Woodbury County shall purchase, by or through its food service contractor, locally produced organic food when a department of Woodbury County serves food in the usual course of business. The Woodbury County Jail, Work Release Center, and Juvenile Detention facilities are presently serving food in their usual course of business. The contractor may cover for unavailable local organic supply through its current procurement practices with preference to be given local non-organic food products. An arbitration board shall be established to assure fair value to Woodbury County. A single-point-of-contact broker, located in Woodbury County, shall interact with food service contractor, for availability, price, quality, presentation and delivery terms of all locally produced organic food. The current food service contract shall be modified to carry out the intent of this policy. Purchases under this policy shall begin June 1, 2006.

Economy



River Market, Little Rock, Ark.



Food
Infrastructure in
Local Economic
Development
Plans



Health

Grocery Stores in City Neighborhoods:

*Supporting access to food choices, livable
neighborhoods, and entrepreneurial opportunities
in Madison, Wisconsin*

Heather Stouder, Author and Intern
Office of the Mayor
Madison, Wisconsin
Mayor David J. Cieslewicz
May, 2004



Photos: K Pothukuchi



Dave's Supermarket
Cleveland, OH



Madison, Wisconsin

Health

Bringing a Grocery
Supermarket to an
Underserved
Neighborhood

Rochester, NY
Upper Falls Neighborhood

Rochester Economic Development
Corporation

Mayor William Johnson, Jr.

Tops Markets



- ✦ Healthy Bodegas Program, New York
 - ✦ "Mooooove to 1% Milk"
 - ✦ "Move to fruits and Vegetables"
- ✦ Healthy Corner Stores, Oakland, CA

Health



Photos: Dana Harvey, envsciinst@earthlink.net



Health

Urban Agriculture Policies

Madison, WI, Comp Plan:
“Protect existing community gardens and establish additional areas for community gardens ”

Milwaukee, WI Zoning:
“Agriculture permitted in residential, industrial areas, parks”

Seattle, WA, Comp Plan:
“1 Community Garden per 2500 people”

Portland, OR, Analysis:
“Diggable City—assessment of public agency property for suitability for agriculture”



Photo: K Pothukuchi



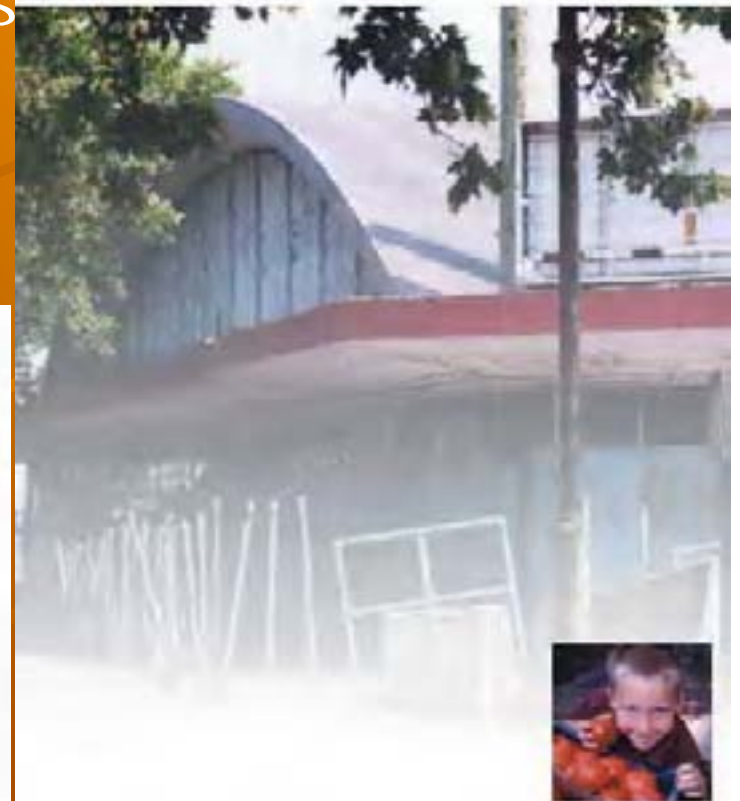
Photo: Growing Power, Chicago

Fresh Food Financing Initiative, PA

- ✦ Low supermarket access has health consequences
- ✦ \$20 million in state funds plus \$60 million to leverage
- ✦ 27 supermarket projects in state
- ✦ \$22.9 million+ in grants and loans
- ✦ 2,442 new jobs created
- ✦ 782,450+ square feet of retail space

SPECIAL REPORT

The Need for More Supermarkets in Philadelphia



Health

Integrating food in neighborhood life

Photos: K Pothukuchi



Ecological Sustainability

Conservation, Farm-centered Subdivisions



www.nahb.org

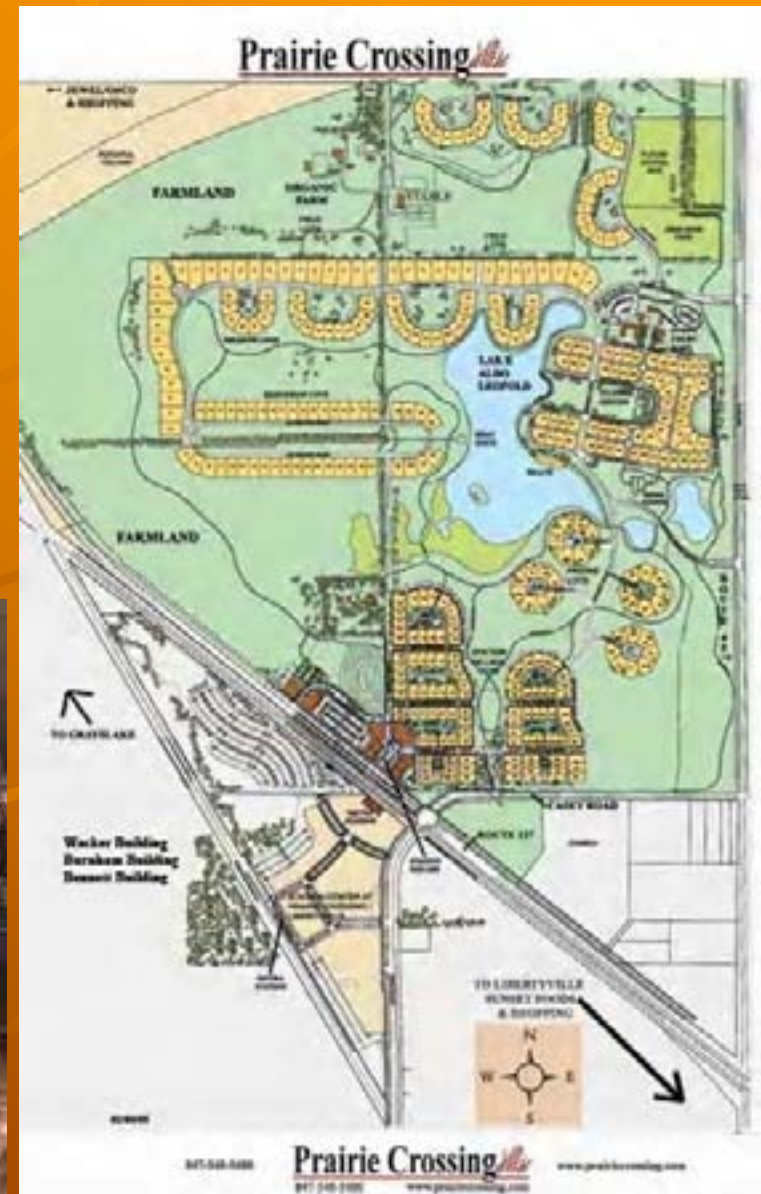


www.prairiecrossing.com

Grayslake, Ill
Praire Crossing



www.prairiecrossing.com





Ecological Sustainability

Restored
Prairie

Troy
Community
Farm

Troy Community Farm -- organic Certification

Troy
Community
Gardens

30 Mixed-
income town
houses with
Common
House

Troy Gardens, Madison, Wisconsin

Ecological Sustainability

Conservation Element



L. Agricultural Resources

Goals

- ♦ Retention of productive agricultural lands.

- ♦ **Greater use of sustainable agriculture practices.**

- ♦ Reduction in land use conflicts between agriculture and other | Policies

- ♦ Retention of the rural agricultural character of river valleys.

City of San Diego General Plan

Final Public Review Draft
October 2006

CE-L.1 Manage agricultural activity to minimize soil erosion and minimize the release of contaminants into surface and groundwater resources.

CE-L.2 Limit retail activity in agriculturally-designated areas to uses that are reasonably related to agriculture (e.g., sale of locally grown farm products).

CE-L.3 Encourage agricultural operations (especially on City-leased lands) to provide for educational experiences which demonstrate the history, importance and value of agricultural operations.

CE-L.4 Continue water reclamation research programs to develop realistic methods of providing inexpensive means of leaching soils, irrigating crops and preventing salt water intrusion.

CE-L.5 Encourage sustainable agricultural and water quality best management practices, such as tillage, use of grass filter strips, runoff detention basins, and organic farming, on all private land and require BMPs on new or renewed City land leased for agricultural purposes. Provide the minimum amount of flood control/channelization.

CE-L.6 Provide mechanisms to permit private land owners of prime agricultural lands to take advantage of the Williamson Act.

CE-L.7 Balance the economic benefits provided by agricultural uses with the competing water resource, biological and cultural resource management and recreation priorities.

Ecological Sustainability

Food Wastes to Farms

Food Scrap Composting
Program, San Francisco, CA



Equity



Bashas'
Crownpoint, NM (Navajo Nation)

Photo: K Pothukuchi

Equity



Photos: K Pothukuchi



Bashas'
Chinle, AZ
(Navajo Nation)



People's Grocery, Oakland, CA



Photos: K Pothukuchi



Council on Environment of New York City, Greenmarket Program

Equity

- 45 Community gardens
- 44 Greenmarkets, 15 year-round; City Council funding to support EBT outreach, use
- New Farmer Development Project: 11 immigrant farmers brought produce to Greenmarkets in 2006



Yeng Wue, Hmong Farmer
National Immigrant Farmer
Initiative

Native and Ethnic Food Cultures



Food Sovereignty Assessment Tool

Native Agriculture and Food Systems
Initiative

First Nations Development Institute

Native and Ethnic Food Cultures

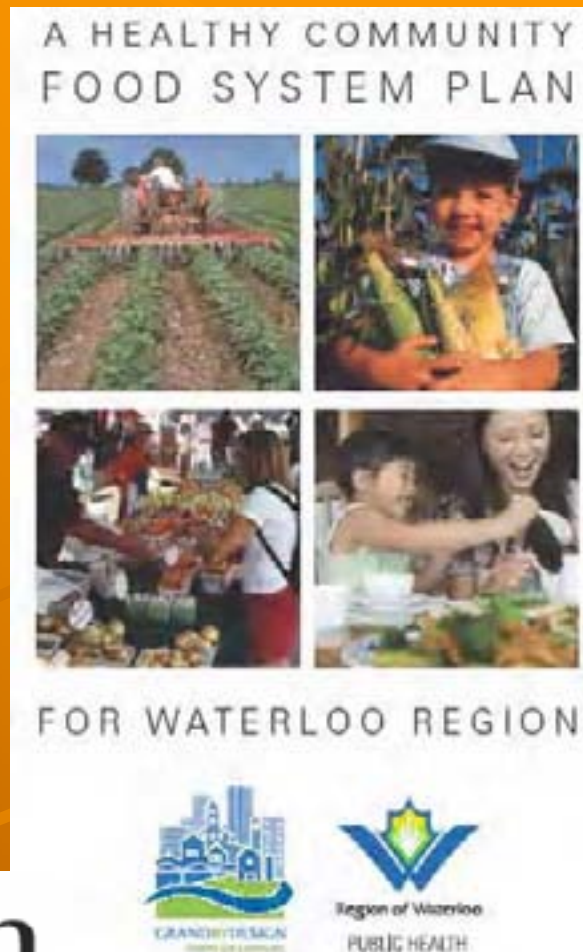


Tohono O'odham
Community Food
System Project
www.tocaonline.org

Mino Mijim (Good Food)
White Earth Land Restoration Project
www.nativeharvest.com

Comprehensive Food Planning

- ◆ Multiple food goals
- ◆ Comprehensive, Area Plans and Sectoral Plans
 - Marin Co, CA
 - Dane Co, WI
 - Waterloo Region, Ontario, Canada
- ◆ Food Policy Councils



Marin Countywide Plan

Revised Draft
(May 2007)

DANE COUNTY

Comprehensive Plan

Challenges to local food planning

- ✦ Global Agri-Food Systems
- ✦ Land Use and Growth Pressures
- ✦ Home Rule v Regionalism
- ✦ Sectoral Stovepipes
- ✦ Community Apathy; Local Politics



How to Build Support for Food Planning?

- ✦ Community and Regional Food Assessments
- ✦ Bottom-up Strategies
- ✦ Top-down Strategies
- ✦ Federal/State Policies and Programs;
Private funding

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