

# MADISON FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

## WORK GROUP CHARTER

- This document was prepared by Work Group members and Staff to provide overall direction at the vision and values level; specific projects undertaken by the group will be further defined in separate documents designed for that purpose.
- Principles of Equity and Sustainability were considered in the preparation of all responses in this Charter; tools and frameworks specific to these principles are essential elements of the Project Scoping Tool and will be addressed for every project.
- Work Group Charters will be reviewed and updated periodically, changes noted by current version number/date, and prior versions will be saved.
- This Charter was recommended for approval by the Madison Food Policy Council and Dane County Food Councils on August 12, 2020.

Version: 1 Date: 8/12/2020

OVERVIEW	
NAME OF WORK GROUP:	REGIONAL AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SOVEREIGNTY
<b>STATEMENT OF PURPOSE/NEED:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is this Work Group important now?</li> <li>• Identify the problem/current state, i.e. what is happening?</li> <li>• What opportunities are presented by the current state?</li> <li>• What is the need to address equity issues in the community and impacts on communities of color and low-income populations?</li> <li>• What is the need to promote sustainability and build community resilience?</li> <li>• Other?</li> </ul>	<p>The Madison Food Policy Council and Dane County Food Council seek to address existing issues of food insecurity that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis.</p> <p>Food access was an issue prior to the pandemic and continues to pose challenges now and for the future. Communities across the county experience inequitable access to fresh, healthy, and culturally appropriate food as well as to land on which to grow food, the latter of which is especially relevant to many of Madison's immigrant and minority farming communities.</p> <p>The need to bolster opportunities for regional agriculture and create support structures for food sovereignty practices, especially within the context of a changing climate, are critical to fostering a resilient and inclusive local food system. Food sovereignty is defined by the U.S. Food Sovereignty Alliance as "the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems. It puts the aspirations and needs of those who produce, distribute and consume food at the heart of food systems and policies rather than the demands of markets and corporations."</p> <p>The pandemic has highlighted fragility in the food supply chain and daily tasks such as grocery shopping pose increased risks of exposure to the virus and subsequent illness. This is particularly true for many of Madison and Dane County's communities of color and low-income populations, who carry the additional burdens of high rates of chronic</p>

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	<p>disease and barriers to fresh food access, and environmental injustice. Furthermore, as Midwest producers <b>continue to see the changes in climate volatility and extreme weather events</b>, the economic viability of farm businesses must be considered. Supporting networks in which to share information and best practices to support sustainable changes will be necessary. All of these circumstances compromise the certainty of safely and sustainably acquiring culturally appropriate food to support a healthy diet.</p> <p>Supporting Madison and Dane County residents, community groups, and businesses in food sovereignty and regional agriculture enterprises and activities can have positive impacts on economic and environmental sustainability, community resiliency, and overall community health and action must be taken.</p>
<p><b>VISION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the desired condition; consider principles of equity and sustainability.</li> <li>What is the scope of the group's work?</li> <li>What is outside the boundaries of the group's works?</li> <li>How does the group's work relate to that of others?</li> </ul>	<p>This group will approach its work through the lenses of regional agriculture and food sovereignty. Projects will be guided by environmental sustainability research and materials developed and/or adopted by local governments and municipalities.</p> <p>The scope of our work is to identify and support new and existing food cultivation activities. <b>A review of land zoning policies will enhance the group's understanding of how planning, zoning, and land tenure issues impact these activities.</b> Policies that inhibit food sovereignty will be examined and support will be given to those that encourage a more resilient and inclusive local food system.</p> <p>This group's work may align with that of the Pandemic Food Access work group. There may be overlap in reviewing policy related to inclusionary zoning (where can food be grown and/or sold), food cultivation to increase fresh produce in the emergency food system <b>(after the CARES funding for local food boxes ends)</b>, or food sold at retail access points that can be purchased using EBT and other affordability programs (Double Dollars, etc.). <b>This group's work is also related to that of the Food Systems Recovery &amp; Resilience work group since expanded growing also necessitates planning for aggregation and distribution.</b></p>
<p><b>APPROACH:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe how you will address the problems identified.</li> </ul>	<p>The work group will clarify its goals, member roles and responsibilities, and timeline as project ideas are discussed and adopted. Preliminary ideas to address identified projects may include:</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe how you will take advantage of opportunities that may be presented.</li> <li>• Describe how you will advance this work in the community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and engage community partners who reflect the diversity of Madison and Dane County to participate in the process.</li> <li>• Gathering stories of residents' experiences and interactions with the local food system to understand challenges and opportunities and sharing these stories with decision-making bodies.</li> <li>• Identifying resources and opportunities needed to address said concerns.</li> </ul>
<p><b>OBJECTIVES &amp; MEASURES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What outcomes does the approach envision?</li> <li>• What are the potential impacts in the community?</li> <li>• How will their effectiveness be measured?</li> </ul>	<p>Potential impacts on the community could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanded growing opportunities for residents</li> <li>• Increased support for community gardens, food pantries</li> <li>• Greater collaboration among stakeholders</li> </ul> <p>To measure effectiveness, the work group will establish both quantitative and qualitative measures using the Project Scoping Tool for each of its projects.</p> <p>Knowing how many such projects have been initiated/completed, how many partnerships have been formed, and which policy changes are being pursued will be valuable in building support and communicating the importance of its efforts to policy-makers and potential funders.</p> <p>Potential metrics could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of new growing projects initiated/established</li> <li>• Number of new marketing and distribution opportunities</li> <li>• Number of new stakeholder groups participating</li> <li>• Number of ordinance changes proposed to expand food retail and food growing opportunities</li> </ul> <p>Process based metrics are equally valuable and can provide insight into the effectiveness of the work group's outreach and collaboration efforts in the community. Potential metrics could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholder participation in all levels of proposed projects – planning, decision-making, implementation and evaluation</li> <li>• Timeline alignment with the growing season</li> </ul> <p>The work group will be accountable to its <b>jurisdictional authority</b> and its community stakeholders.</p>
<p><b>RESOURCES REQUIRED:</b> e.g. staff, technology, consultant, etc.</p>	<p>Staff, meeting space, and technology. <b>We do not anticipate a need for outside consulting services.</b></p>

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ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES	
<b>CHAIR/CO-CHAIR</b>	<b>Aaron Kelly</b> <b>Sheena Tesch</b>
<b>LEAD STAFFER:</b>	Jess Guffey Calkins - Extension Dane County
<b>STAFF SUPPORT:</b>	George Reistad – City of Madison Nick Heckman – Public Health Madison & Dane County Claire Mance – Extension Dane County
<b>MFPC MEMBERS:</b>	
NAME	ROLE/RESPONSIBILITY
1. Aaron Kelly	Co-Chair and member
2. Regina Vidaver	Member
3. Jamie Bugel	Member
4. Daniel Zhou	Member
5. Hedi Rudd	Member
6. Allison Dopf	Member
7. Nan Fey	Advisor
8. Nicholas Leete	Member
<b>DCFC MEMBERS :</b>	
NAME	ROLE/RESPONSIBILITY
1. Marcia Caton Campbell	Member
2. Sheena Tesch	Co-Chair and member
3. Julie Schwellenbach	Member
4. Bill Warner	Member
<b>EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER ADVISORS OR MEMBERS :</b>	
NAME	ROLE/RESPONSIBILITY
1.	
2.	
3.	

POTENTIAL PROJECTS	
Each will require further analysis using Project Scoping Tool (includes RESJI and Natural Step tools)	
TITLE/FOCUS	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Public Land for Cultivation	Identify public land with potential for cultivation and supporting edible landscapes
Backyard Gardens	Encourage gardening in private spaces, e.g. residential lots, street terraces, porches, container gardening, with support from local programs and networks that focus on growing food in small spaces.
Farm Partnerships	Identify, develop and support peer to peer partnerships with Dane County farmers
Grower support	Facilitate connections between growers and food businesses to support local sourcing and strengthen food supply chain. Support growers in increasing the variety of food grown.

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Youth Agriculture Programming	Support new and existing programming that provides employment opportunities for youth of color to engage in urban agriculture
Pantry Gardens *	Support and work to expand pantry gardens
Harvests Donations *	Facilitate harvests for donation
External Funding *	Identify external funding opportunities to support work group projects and initiatives and/or community partners
Stakeholder and resource mapping *	Identify stakeholders, the resources they provide, and to whom they provide them
Other Projects TBD	

\* = Not yet discussed

CHANGE IN SCOPE			
Consult with Staff to determine when changes in scope would require approval by MFPC			
DATE OF CHANGE	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE	ACTION TAKEN	APPROVED BY