

City of Madison Task Force on Farmland Preservation

Topics and Questions

Big Questions

1. Definition of Farmland Preservation for Task Force purposes
2. Who needs farmland preservation in the city?
3. Definition of people-focused entrepreneurial, e.g. urban ag vs. monocropping ag
4. Accessibility of farmland to urban growers
5. How to create affordable housing with land access - AgriCommunities
6. How to create a one-stop shop or pathway through city regulatory processes to enable growers to access farmland and get to work more efficiently?
7. What metrics do we want to see in policy recommendations to measure progress
8. Can we quantify potential impacts of proposed policies?

Land Evaluation Topics

1. Comprehensive Plan [strategies](#)
2. Review of Sustainability Plan food goals
3. Soil Characteristics - quality for ag purposes, potential contamination issues, need for remediation; need for “brownfield site” definition and policy
4. Location of City infrastructural investments
5. Land characteristics already defined in terrace planting, edible landscapes and recommendations for ag leases on city-owned properties
6. Review updated Dane County Farmland Preservation map
7. Model farmland preservation policies from other cities
8. Explore revising Campus-Institutional zoning districts to allow urban ag

Parcel-level Topics

1. Location and review of city-owned parcels: currently leased for ag purposes, not being used for food production, available for temporary food production -- temporarily and/or long-term
2. Update community gardens map to specify which public agency controls city-owned land
3. Review of privately owned ag land within the City of Madison

Staff Questions

1. Planning staff summary on their perspective (addressed by 12/14/22 presentation)
2. What info went into Comp Plan map and how were their terms defined (e.g. Productive Agriculture Soils and Natural Limitations for Building Site Development)?
3. Food Innovation District memo review
4. Review conditional use standards for ag/greenhouses including hoop house vs. greenhouse distinctions