

City/County Comp Plan Food System Integration (FSI) Background Information For Discussion Purposes

Premise – To improve and streamline our work in building a stronger local food system (FS) and local food economy for our region, it is important to work together across organizations, jurisdictions, institutions and stakeholder groups. Including food system recommendations as part of the City of Madison and Dane County comprehensive planning updates could help us to understand and better integrate the food system into the larger urban/rural planning context.

Comprehensive Plan (CP) – The purpose of comprehensive planning is to create a vision and long – range plan to guide the future growth of a community. CP allows communities to protect valued resources and public investments, ensure public health and safety, and shape their community’s appearance and economy. Comp planning also provides continuity across time for successive public bodies and a common framework for decision making. It is a document that results from a multi-disciplinary process organized around eight elements – all linked to the food system:

- Issues and Opportunities
- Housing
- Transportation
- Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Community Facilities
- Economic Development
- Intergovernmental Cooperation
- Land Use

While local governments may chose to include additional elements in their comp plans, WI Comprehensive Planning Law, State Statute 66.1001, requires communities to include the above eight elements. It also includes a ninth element on plan implementation.

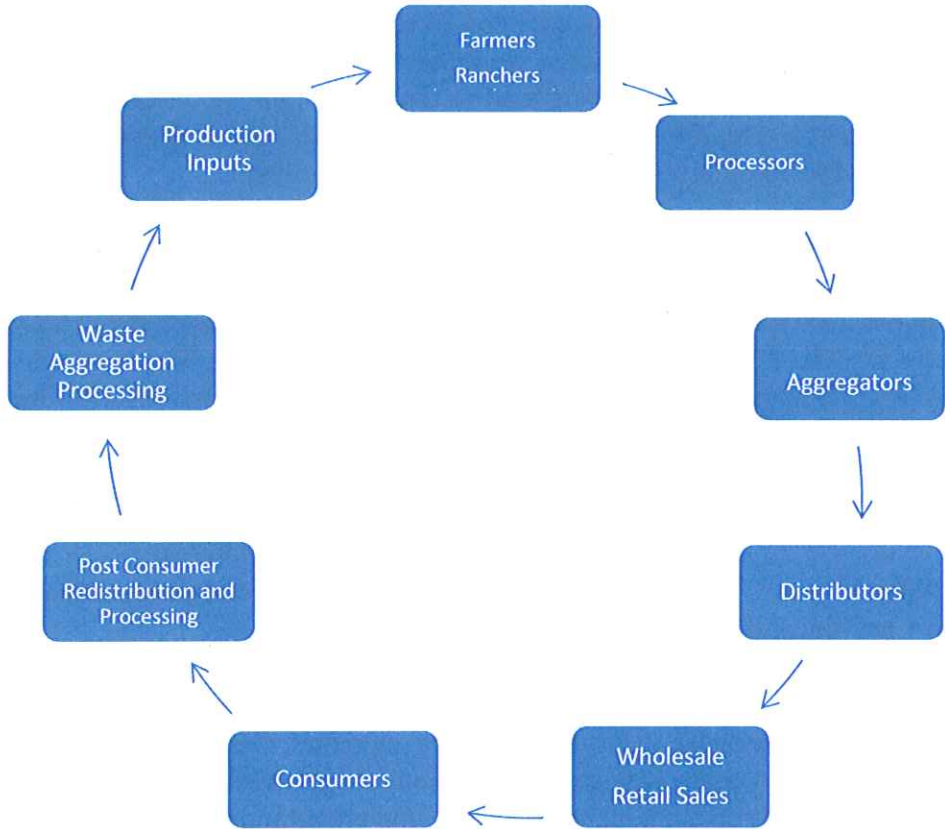
Food System Planning (FSP) - The purpose of food system planning is to better understand the food supply chain and the relationships that support and connect it. FSP can help to plan for and guide a more sustainable and equitable provision of food, and build the local food economy. Food system planning is a locally specific, multi-phased, multi-disciplinary process, and may include the following:

- Identify food system components
 - Issues and opportunities
 - Inventory assets and resources that make up the food supply/value chain
 - Outline of relationships that support and connect components
 - Assess community demographics
- Identify policies, programs and recommendations

Benefits of food system planning:

Work together, across jurisdictions to 1) invest in high growth agricultural and food production opportunities 2) combat inequitable food distribution 3) increase environmental sustainability and reduce agricultural and food related emissions that contribute to climate change 4) prevent duplication and streamline existing FS efforts. Food system planning complements and is integral to all of the required core comp plan elements.

Food System Supply Chain Components



Comprehensive Plan Elements

