

## **Madison Food Policy Council---Possible Working Groups (draft)**

**Introduction:** All of the working groups will be given general guidance on the responsibilities and scope of their work. However, working groups will be given wide authority to create its own schedule, goals, and approaches to the various different topics. Working groups will also be responsible for pulling from the community in order to enrich the work of each group. Some of the working groups will be limited in term, meaning they will be specifically designed for a shorter term topic that has a clear end date. Staff's suggestion is for the Food Policy Council to have 4 or 5 standing, permanent working groups and 1 or 2 others that are short-term groups with an end date. All working group topics and goals are subject to change (and probably will) over time, and the working groups will be largely in control of those changes.

**Process:** First, we will ask for volunteers for each working group. Then, the Chair, in consultation with staff, will be responsible for making appointments to the working groups. The appointments will be made based on a combination of interest and expertise in each area.

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### **POSSIBLE WORKING GROUP TOPICS**

#### **Healthy Vending (short-term)**

A healthy vending working group would be responsible for gathering more information on public contracts for vending, meeting with key stakeholders, and hearing from members of the public. The group would be responsible for choosing a direction to pursue and outlining a plan of action. The group would report that information back to the full Food Policy Council, and upon approval, would begin implementing the plan. The group mission and scope would be limited to the plan of action and would not be a permanent working group.

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#### **Edible Landscaping and Terrace Plantings (short-term)**

**Responsibilities:** To oversee the implementation of the edible landscaping policy. The group would work with city staff, including Engineering, Parks, Water Utility, and Information Technology to develop a process of application and approval of edible landscaping permits. The group would also be responsible for overseeing the terrace plantings policy.

**Scope:** Once both processes and procedures are in place, the group would no longer have to meet, save for checking in on the process from time to time. This would not be a permanent working group.

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### **Institutional Local Food Procurement (permanent)**

Responsibilities: To convene stakeholders within the city and county that have large food purchasing contracts.

Scope: To define “local food” in the context of food procurement and to develop guidelines, policies, and/or ordinances that guide food procurement within the city.

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### **(Healthy) Food Access (permanent)**

Responsibilities: To assess the state of food access in the city, to prioritize food access by topic and area, and make recommendations on policy.

Scope: This group will have the broadest reach, but must determine priorities for the city in terms of food access. This group will pull from other stakeholders in the community to help guide its work in creating an action plan for food access issues within the city.

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### **Community Education/Outreach (permanent)**

Responsibilities: To identify gaps and support ongoing efforts in community education and outreach related to food issues.

Scope: A permanent working group, it would be pull together stakeholders to assess the current state of food and nutrition education and to look for funding opportunities both within and outside of the scope of the Food Policy Council.

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### **Local Food Infrastructure (permanent)**

Responsibilities: To identify gaps and collaboratively work on large-scale projects to fill those gaps in our local food infrastructure.

Scope: This would be a permanent working group looking at issues from refrigeration (or, lack thereof) within schools, to the opportunities for more aggregation points, to developing an application for utilizing available commercial kitchen space.

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### **Funding Process/Oversight**

- Group would meet as necessary to oversee the grant funding process.