



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Draft MADISON FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

*Consider: Who benefits? Who is burdened?
Who does not have a voice at the table?
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?*

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

5:30 PM

Virtual

The City of Madison is holding the Madison Food Policy Council meeting in virtual format.

Written Comments: You can send comments on agenda items to mfpc@cityofmadison.com

Register for Public Comment:

- Register to speak at the meeting
- Register to answer questions
- Register in support or opposition of an agenda item (without speaking)

If you want to speak at this meeting you must register. You can register at <https://www.cityofmadison.com/MeetingRegistration>. When you register to speak, you will be sent an email with the information you will need to join the virtual meeting.

Watch the Meeting: If you would like to join the meeting as an observer, please visit <https://www.cityofmadison.com/watchmeetings>.

Listen by Phone: (877) 853-5257 (Toll Free) **Webinar ID:** 868 0063 5494

Interpretation and Accessibility

Call to Order/Roll Call

Others Present: Nicholas Heckman, George Reistad, Lourdes Shanjani. MFPC joined by Dane County Food Council members at 6:00PM: Jess Guffey Calkins, Kerry Marren, Erika Janisch, Addi Ferber, Shirley Nenning, Bill Warner, Richelle Andrae, Sebastian Hassel

Madison Food Policy Council Meeting called to order at by Chair Leete at 5:30PM.

Present: 16 - Bill Tishler; Tag Evers; Nicholas S. Leete; Logan C. Morrow; Rebecca Kemble; Hedi L. Rudd; Noah R. Bloedorn; Christopher G. Brockel; Cathryn Herlihey; Devika J. Suri; Nina R. Comiskey; Cassandra H. Vetter; Kelsey Abad; Walter H. Strange; David D. Leeper and Nan Fey

Absent: 2 - Josh Perkins and Katie L. Strader

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from February made by Fey. Second by Brockel.
Motion passed with unanimous approval.

Public Comment

[92321](#) Public Comment MFPC: 3/18/26

None

Disclosures and Recusals

Comiskey discloses a connection to the Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens Association, via the board of directors for Community Action Coalition.

New Business**Action Item**

1. [92322](#) 2026 SEED Grants

Attachments: [2026 SEED Grants Pres MFPC 031626.pdf](#)
[2026 FUNDING RECS MEMO SEED Grants March2026.pdf](#)

Reistad presented from the attached slides and funding recommendation memo.

Motion to approve the funding recommendation made by Evers. Second by Brockel. Motion passes with unanimous approval.

Special Presentation

2. [92323](#) Food System Action Plan - Draft recommendations

Attachments: [Dane County Food Action Plan Draft Goals Strategies MFPC DCFC](#)

Bloedorn presented from the attached slides.

Bloedorn proposed suspension of the rules for discussion. Seconded by Vetter. Motion approved by unanimous approval.

Motion to return to regular order made by Fey. Second by Bloedorn. Motion passes with unanimous approval.

Update from the Chair

3. [72741](#) Madison Food Policy Council Chair

Introducing new members Herlihey and Comiskey.

Regular Business Reports

4. [72192](#) Regional Food System Planning
No report.
5. [72193](#) Regional Agriculture and Food Sovereignty
No report.
6. [77772](#) Dane Food Access Network
No report.
7. [75103](#) Farmland Preservation Task Force
No report.
8. [72198](#) Madison Metropolitan School District
No report.
9. [72199](#) Double Dollars Program
Double Dollars moves forward with 2026 planning cycle in advance of the 2026 market season. Work continues to collaborate with statewide partners.
10. [72197](#) Community Gardens
No report.
11. [77773](#) Food System Assessment
No report.

Staff Reports

12. [72194](#) Business Development Specialist
No report.
13. [72195](#) Public Health Madison & Dane County
No report.
14. [72196](#) Extension Dane County, UW-Madison
No report.

Announcements

FEED Kitchens Taste the Future Event will be on Friday, March 20 from 4:30-7:30PM at Warner Park Community Center. Tickets available online at: <https://feedkitchens.org/taste-the-future/>

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the MFPC made by Brockel. Second by Rudd. Motion approved by unanimous approval at 7:12PM.