

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: 08/12/2020

OVERVIEW	
NAME OF WORK GROUP:	Food Systems Recovery and Resilience
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE/NEED: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is this Work Group important now? • Identify the problem/current state, i.e. what is happening? • What opportunities are presented by the current state? • What is the need to address equity issues in the community and impacts on communities of color and low-income populations? • What is the need to promote sustainability and build community resilience? • Other? 	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic crisis have created numerous challenges for the food system in Madison and Dane County. In particular, supply chain disruptions have caused cascading challenges for producers, consumers, and both large and small businesses. Emergency Food providers have had to grapple with dramatic shifts in food sourcing and paradoxically high demand with high levels of donation that have created storage and distribution challenges. Many businesses and agencies have implemented changes to their operations that will need to be supported in order to be sustained indefinitely into the future.</p> <p>However, many of these issues existed before the emergence of COVID-19 and a higher level concern for this group are the long-standing systemic barriers that make response and resilience difficult in times of challenge e.g. global pandemics, regional flooding, etc. Broadly defined, “resilience” is the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties or hardships. Applied to systems – and in particular, food systems – resilience is the ability of food systems to adapt to adverse conditions AND capitalize on opportunities quickly and efficiently. By viewing food systems issues through a mid-to-long term time horizon, this work group is poised to facilitate and support strategic investments in infrastructure, diversified agricultural systems and supply chains, and increased market access for local and regional ag products, all of which help to create more robust and resilient local, regional, and emergency food systems.</p>

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	<p>While supporting our community through the pandemic will require a focus on the immediate food needs of individuals and families who are struggling with newfound challenges, simply using resources to purchase or donate food quickly reaches a point of diminishing returns. Because of this, this WG will focus on mid and long-term solutions rather than immediate solutions. Identifying barriers and strategies to overcome them, while preparing our community to address these high level challenges for months or years to come will require a deeper understanding of our community's assets.</p> <p>This approach will allow the case to be made for strategic infrastructural investments to support a safe, healthy, affordable, and culturally appropriate food system. This will keep food costs down, increase variety of produce and value-added agricultural products, and support the producers and entrepreneurs working in the Dane County food system. As funding opportunities present themselves, it will be important to be prepared with these concepts so that we are well positioned to move forward when timing is appropriate.</p>
<p>VISION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the desired condition; consider principles of equity and sustainability. • What is the scope of the group's work? • What is outside the boundaries of the group's works? • How does the group's work relate to that of others? 	<p>The work group will explore ways to address and overcome structural barriers towards achieving equitable and resilient food systems. These barriers are related to both the COVID-19 pandemic and emergent economic challenges. It will be essential to understand the historical barriers related to systemic inequities in our community. Doing so will allow for planning and investment in longer-term solutions. By utilizing racial equity analysis tools created through the City's Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative (RESJI) as well as the Natural Step Framework (TNS) adopted by the city to analyze issues through a sustainability lens, the work group will infuse racial equity and sustainability considerations into projects, policies, and programs.</p> <p>This group will focus on solutions that can enhance the capacity of our food system, and will not focus on immediate food access challenges related to the pandemic.</p>
<p>APPROACH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe how you will address the problems identified. • Describe how you will take advantage of opportunities that may be presented. 	<p>In order to assess the scope of the challenges facing our community and how these may change in the face of protracted economic upheaval and continuation of the pandemic, this workgroup will meet consistently to lead the strategy development. As projects are formed, workgroup members may involve themselves in sub-groups.</p> <p>Community input – especially input from members of the Dane County community who identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color as</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe how you will advance this work in the community. 	<p>well as members of the community who represent diverse socio-economic backgrounds will be vital to confirm that the efforts are not only <i>theoretically</i> beneficial, but also that they will be appreciated and impactful to members of the community. Because of the time scale involved in planning of infrastructural improvements, it is important to include community voice at all stages of the process.</p> <p>Additionally, it will be critical for this work group, and the MFPC and DCFC as a whole, to explore and secure external funding opportunities to advance and operationalize project, policy, and program ideas.</p>
<p>OBJECTIVES & MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What outcomes does the approach envision? What are the potential impacts in the community? How will their effectiveness be measured? 	<p>If this workgroup's activities are successful, there may be additional marketplaces and opportunities for local ag products and goods to be sold, which will help buoy the sales of small and mid-sized producers in our area. There also may be enhancements to the emergency food system that support increased gleaning, storage, and distribution efforts. These advances can be achieved by operationalizing policies and programs that spur strategic and impactful investments in food systems infrastructure, diversified ag systems and supply chains, and market access opportunities.</p> <p>Measurement of these outcomes will focus on collecting qualitative and quantitative data that illustrates the robustness and resiliency of our local, regional, and emergency food systems through the lenses of market access and opportunities for local producers and food systems businesses as well as other qualitative and quantitative metrics to be determined.</p>
<p>RESOURCES REQUIRED: e.g. staff, technology, consultant, etc.</p>	<p>In addition to the time allocated by MFPC and DCFC staff, additional expertise may need to be drawn upon from Planning and other City/County departments as well as community partners. Further independent expertise may also need to be drawn upon.</p>

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES	
CHAIR/CO-CHAIR	Donale Richards and Bill Warner
LEAD STAFFER:	George Reistad – City of Madison
STAFF SUPPORT:	Jess Guffey Calkins - Extension Dane County Nick Heckman - Public Health Madison and Dane County Claire Mance - Extension Dane County
MFPC MEMBERS:	
NAME	ROLE/RESPONSIBILITY

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1. Lindsey Day Farnsworth	Member (Madison Terminal Market & Community Food Locker Project Liaison)
2. Chris Brockel	Member
3. Aaron Kelly	Member
4. Hedi Rudd	Member
5. Jumoke Falomo	Member
6. Sarah Larson	Member
7. Henry Aschauer	Member
DCFC MEMBERS :	
NAME	ROLE/RESPONSIBILITY
1. Donale Richards	Co-chair and member
2. Bill Warner	Co-chair and member
EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS :	
NAME	ROLE/RESPONSIBILITY
1. Anne Reynolds (IDENTIFIED) – PMDC/MPMF	Advisor/Technical Expert
2. April Yancer (IDENTIFIED) - DATCP	Advisor/Technical Expert
3. Electeds @ the State level	Assembly and Senate – elections are coming up and catching them early on these issues would be important for this group - Creating relationships early and then looping in as necessary
4. State Agency Staff	- DATCP - WEDC - DWD - DHS - Connections to CIAS COVID Local Food listserv/participants

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

Each will require further analysis using Project Scoping Tool

TITLE/FOCUS	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
1. Community Scan of existing assets, resources, info, data on pertinent work group issues	This work group-led scan or review will help us flesh out the current landscape of what is out there and implement better decision-making for this work group.
2. Food enterprise economic recovery	Focus on food enterprise economic recovery
3. Utilizing under-used or shuttered facilities for food processing, prep, etc.	Match food entrepreneurs, businesses, and organizational efforts with institutions that have available facilities
4. Cultivating strategic investments and investors	Identify strategic infrastructural investments that aid in economic recovery and future resilience - Supporting business-level strategic investments e.g. more robust e-commerce presence for food service operations
5. Supporting food systems labor	Strategize on policy or programmatic solutions to assist workers in our local and regional food system (food service, farmers, farm labor, etc)

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	- Supporting training programs and orgs that offer them
6. Other implementation opportunities	Other mid-to-long term implementation opportunities that emerge around food systems recovery and resilience efforts

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