

**Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council**  
**Land Access/Urban Ag Working Group**  
**Themes & Recommendations\***  
April/May 2013

## Governance

### Policy

- Chickens etc. (7, 13)
- Water Access (11)
- Farm Stands (14, 21)
- Land Access (1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 17, 21)
- Regulations/Standards (1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 12, 14, 16, 19, 20)
- Zoning (1, 6, 8, 10, 16)

### Evaluation (for city/Homegrown MPLS) (4, 5, 6)

- Impact
- Reach
- Engagement

### Partnerships (See "INPUT" section) (18, 19, 21)

- Schools (15, 15a)
- Neighborhood Orgs.
- Community Orgs./Ctrs.
- Faith-based Institutions
- Local Businesses

## Recommendations

1. As a group, create a set of core principles that will guide future decisions, policy recommendations, and projects.
2. Use above themes to develop project ideas, time line, and goals for the next X# of months.
3. Develop a rich picture of working group focus and/or goals.
4. Have further discussion on "food as utility" vs. "food as a right." (9)
5. Expand policy around urban farms to include chickens on farm sites, water access for farms, and increase # of farm stand days, as well as the ability to aggregate produce at farm stands.
6. Develop "best use" guidelines and practices that are adaptable and could be used for working group, food council, homegrown, and general urban agriculture/land access—specifically looking at the topics under "community" and gaining insight from groups and community members that are representative of broader demographics.
7. Use participatory research techniques to engage community. (Ref: 12a)

## Community (8)

### Community Gardens and Urban Farms (10)

- Engagement (4)
- Impact (4)
- Land Access (1)
- Resources (17)

### Education (1, 6, 12, 17)

- Policy
- Land Use/Zoning
- Regulations

### Empowerment (3, 12, 17, 21)

- Skill Development (15a)
- Neighborhood Outreach
- Community Development
- Sustainability
- Resiliency
- Equity (1, 2)

# Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council

## Land Access/Urban Ag Working Group

### Themes & Recommendations\*

April/May 2013

\*These “Themes & Recommendations” were pulled and created from the group brainstorm done on 4-17-13. The flip-chart notes were transcribed and their numbers correlate with the aforementioned themes and recommendations, for reference. Please note: many of the numbered items overlap in many ways that aren't accounted for.

## Outcomes

- 1) Develop a system to equitably determine “best use” for city owned land.
- 2) Local residents in area where allocated land exists should be first priority.
- 3) Land access & Urban Ag. as a tool for community development as the bottom line, rather than for profit for those outside of that neighborhood.
- 4) A way to measure “success”
- 5) Making sure people and climate are centered—not production and land grabs without input from those who are not representative of those in the neighborhood.
- 6) That input on policy changes, land use, and land access, be inclusive of low income, indigenous, and people of color folks in the immediate communities.
- 7) Chickens at farms.
- 8) Urban Ag. as a “normal/preferred/above normal,” regular land use.
- 9) Food as utility (i.e. water, power, gas)
- 10) Variety of land security arrangements (e.g. long-term, short-term, matchmaker roles).
- 11) Facilitation of water access for urban farms.
- 12) Urban Ag. best practices, standards, good neighbor guide, ecological stewardship.
  - 12a) Research on city-wide land access projects locally and nationally, that are innovative and successful.
- 13) Establish Home Grown Minnesota as regulator body for farm animal welfare.
- 14) Open up farm stands to all days of growing season and allow produce aggregation.
- 15) Partner with MPLS public schools for school based urban ag.--summer programming.
  - 15a) Preserved/frozen food for school year consumption.
- 16) Ease restrictions on “production and processing” in commercial zones.
- 17) Easier access to licenses and more help navigating.
- 18) Recommendation on need for “Food Hub” (intermediary).
- 19) Economic incentive to property owners who lease to urban ag and community gardens for 10 year contract (property tax reevaluation, see: California Model Bill 551)
- 20) Farm/small business vehicle parking on street and at rental property.
- 21) Food grown on allocated land reaches people in the surrounding neighborhood.

## Survey

**What are the steps involved with developing and administering the survey around land access and urban ag to the HG MPLS listserv? What are you willing to assist with?**

- A) HHH (Humphry school, UMN) students can help and survey.
- B) Work with other sub-committees to coordinate.
- C) Door-to-door in neighborhood adjacent to allocated land.
- D) Translation/interpretation of survey materials.

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**Input**

**Who are the groups and individuals we should connect with beyond the listserv who would like to have input into the plan for urban agriculture and land access? Given your suggestions, what are you willing to do?**

- I. MPLS Nutrition Dept.
- II. Schools
- III. Hmong American Farmers Association (HAFA)
- IV. Culturally specific organizations.
- V. Community newspapers.
- VI. Little Earth
- VII. Candidates for “everything”
- VIII. Center for Earth Energy and Democracy
- IX. AfroEco
- X. Nothside Fresh
- XI. Neighborhood Organizations (e.g. Central and some others who have special interest in urban ag.
- XII. Minneapolis Public Health Association (MPHA) or Minnesota Public Housing Association (MPHA)??
- XIII. Faith orgs.
- XIV. Twin Cities Ag. Land Trust.
- XV. Animal Control.
- XVI. Council Members.
- XVII. Mayor.
- XVIII. Public Works (water)
- XIX. Minneapolis Health Department.
- XX. Urban Farmer Collaborative
- XXI. State legislators
- XXII. Those who live next to or near the lots in individual neighborhoods.
- XXIII. Low-income folks and people of color (P.O.C.)
- XXIV. Immigrant groups, especially non-English speakers.