

# 2017 Homegrown Minneapolis Highlights



Homegrown Minneapolis  
healthy food. healthy city.

Homegrown Minneapolis is a citywide initiative started in December 2008 by the City of Minneapolis to expand the community's ability to grow, process, distribute, eat and compost more healthy, sustainable, locally grown foods.

The initiative brings together key partners from local government, area businesses, community organizations, non-profits and residents to build a healthy local food system.

## Food system snapshots



295 community gardens

141 food trucks

26 farmers markets

2 mobile grocery stores

3 incubator kitchens

300+ backyard chicken coops

95 beekeepers

6 food retail co-ops

43% of residents participated in organics recycling

3,800+ tons of organics collected

Numerous urban farms and market gardens

## Supported access to healthy food

- Hosted a City Goal Results Minneapolis roundtable conversation and produced a [healthy food access report](#) in partnership with Minneapolis City Coordinator's Office, Minneapolis Health Department and Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development Department (CPED).
- Distributed more than \$3,000 in fresh fruits and vegetables to more than 1,500 local children at 11 farmers markets in Minneapolis through a [Power of Produce](#) pilot project and provided technical assistance to 6 markets in partnership with the Minneapolis Health Department.
- Leased 57 vacant City-owned lots for community and market gardens, in partnership with Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development Department (CPED).
- Successfully advocated for addition of new lots to the [Garden Lease Program](#) through partnership with Minneapolis Public Works Department.
- Distributed more than 1,500 "At the Farmers Market" children's books at 21 farmers markets in partnership with the Mayor's office.
- Advocated for promotion of healthy food systems, local food economy and healthy food access in the City's 2040 comprehensive planning process.
- Supported development and promotion of food donations guidelines.
- Successfully advocated for amending a key Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board (MPRB) ordinance to allow for implementation of community gardens and picking from approved fruit and nut tree species within certain areas in the parks.
- Supported successful state passage of urban agriculture funding and additional funding for the Good Food Access Fund.

## Supported developing food businesses

- Supported development and launch of new logo, Facebook page, website and marketing campaign for the [Farmers Markets of Minneapolis](#) collaborative with support from City of Minneapolis Great Streets program, General Mills Foundation, Minneapolis Health Department with funding from the MN State Health Improvement Partnership, Minneapolis Urban Scholars program, and many other partners, with participation from all farmers markets in Minneapolis.
- Provided more than \$23,000 in support for participation of 23 farmers markets and leadership of 5 markets in the 2017 Citywide metrics project to quantify market impacts in partnership with the University of Minnesota Applied Economics, Funders Network and Greater Twin Cities United Way.
- Joined [Twin Cities Good Food Purchasing Program](#) coalition and cultivated partnership with City procurement staff; Minneapolis Public Schools participated in initial Good Food Purchasing Program assessment.
- Successfully advocated for changes to the [Homegrown Business Loan](#), to reduce match requirements, expand eligible uses and administrators, and develop a pilot grant component in the Promise Zone, in partnership with Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development Department (CPED) and a local philanthropic partner.
- Supported food safety training for farmers market vendors, in partnership with University of Minnesota and West Broadway Farmers Market.
- Distributed 5,000 "Homegrown Minneapolis edition" copies of the 2017 Minnesota Grown directory, in partnership with Minnesota Department of Agriculture.
- Hosted Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program for City employees in partnership with two local farms.

## Improved the environment for pollinators, plants and people

- Partnered with Minneapolis Health Department to distribute more than 2,000 native wildflower seed balls during Pollinator Week.
- Provided free and reduced price compost to 38 community gardens, in partnership with the Minneapolis Solid Waste and Recycling Department.
- Distributed more than 8,000 Farmers Markets of Minneapolis reusable bags at all of the farmers markets in the City.
- Over 150 Pollinator patches planted with volunteers groups along with 900 residents who helped plant 10,000 more pollinator friends plants around the city through the Wells Fargo National Fish and Wildlife Defense Fund Community Grant.

## Communicated with and involved the community in local food efforts

- Welcomed more than 100 guests at monthly Food Council meetings throughout the community.
- Distributed a monthly e-newsletter to nearly 3,400 subscribers.
- Facilitated conversations and represented Homegrown Minneapolis at numerous events regarding healthy food access, land access, and food business development.

## Advocated and received recognition for the City's support for local food systems

- Signed onto the [Milan Urban Food Policy Pact](#).
- Represented Minneapolis local food systems efforts on panels at the American Planning Association's national conference.
- Included in the annual Food Tank and James Beard Foundation Good Food Guide.

[minneapolismn.gov/homegrown](http://minneapolismn.gov/homegrown)

### 2017 Food Council members include:

Andrew Dahl • Allison Meyer • Beth Dooley • Briana MacPhee • Caroline Devany • Cam Gordon • DeVon Nolen • Donald Warneke  
Ellen Kennedy • Gayle Prest • Halston Sleets • Jillia Pessenda • Journey Gosselin • Kate Seybold • LaCora Bradford Kesti • Latasha Powell  
Mai Yang • Martin Brown • Miguel Goebel • Pakou Hang • Patty Bowler • Ruhel Islam • Russ Henry • Saba Anduaalem • Zoe Hollomon

**Staff:** Tamara Downs Schwei, Local Food Policy/Homegrown Minneapolis Coordinator, Bengi Durgunoglu, Local Food Policy Intern, Arianna Reid, Urban Scholar

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Para asistencia 612-673-2700, Yog xav tau kev pab, hu 612-673-2800, Hadii aad Caawimaad u baahantahay 612-673-3500.

