



# Homegrown Minneapolis

## ANNUAL REPORT

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### **Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Year 2012**

**Public Safety, Civil Rights and Health Committee  
January 30, 2013**

# Background

- The Homegrown Minneapolis (HGM) initiative unfolded into three distinct phases:

**Phase I:** Launch of HGM and the development of recommendations for ways in which the City can support and advance the local food system

**Phase II:** Implementation of recommendations

**Phase III:** Formation of a food council

- The HGM Food Council was established in January 2012 by 2011R-445 as a permanent body for the City of Minneapolis to serve as a nexus of citywide food related efforts

# Purpose

- **The purpose of the Food Council is to:**
  - Advise the Mayor, City Council, and Park Board
  - Develop innovative policies and strategies
  - Provide technical expertise and recommendations in the ongoing development of the City's Local Food sustainability targets
  - Advance the food system
  - Assist in development, implementation, and evaluation of HGM recommendations
  - Support, participate, and provide leadership
  - Assist with opportunities to celebrate food and its role in strengthening the connections of Minneapolis' many communities and cultures

# The HGM Food Council

## 21 Total Members (co-ownership)

- 6 City Representatives
  - Health Department: Patty Bowler
  - Community Planning and Economic Development: Bob Lind
  - Mayor's Office: Erica Prosser
  - Regulatory Services: Tim Jenkins [replaced by Katie Lampi, 2013]
  - City Coordinator's Office: Gayle Prest
  - City Council: Cam Gordon

- **15 Community Members**
  - Cooperatives: Rhys Williams & Aaron Reser
  - Grocery Industry: Neil Oxendale & Kurt Schreck
  - Chef: Beth Dooley
  - Health Care: Alison Rotel
  - Academia: Kris Igo & Mustafa Sundiata
  - Hunger Relief Organizations: Sara Nelson-Pallmeyer
  - Farmers: Deborah Ramos, Eric Larsen, Russ Henry
  - Nonprofit and Business: Julie Ristau, Rebecca Reed, Tracy Singleton

# 2012 Highlights

- Supported the 2012 Urban Agriculture Text Amendments and continue to talk with urban farmers, gardeners and small businesses to learn how regulations can continue to be improved.
- Developed by-laws and work plans which strategically address all five major components of the food system (growing, processing, distributing, eating and health and composting).

# 2012 Highlights

## Advocacy

- Submitted letters of support advocating for local food in public venues, nutrition and small farmer programs in the Farm Bill, Hennepin County composting regulations and allowing urban agriculture in the Minneapolis Park system.
- Responding to stated needs of community members including more mobile food options.

# 2012 Highlights

## Community Engagement

- Speaking and tabling at community meetings and events.
- Held Food Council meetings in various neighborhoods in the city, hosted by nonprofit organizations and one local food business.
- Homegrown monthly newsletter, which reaches over 700 individuals



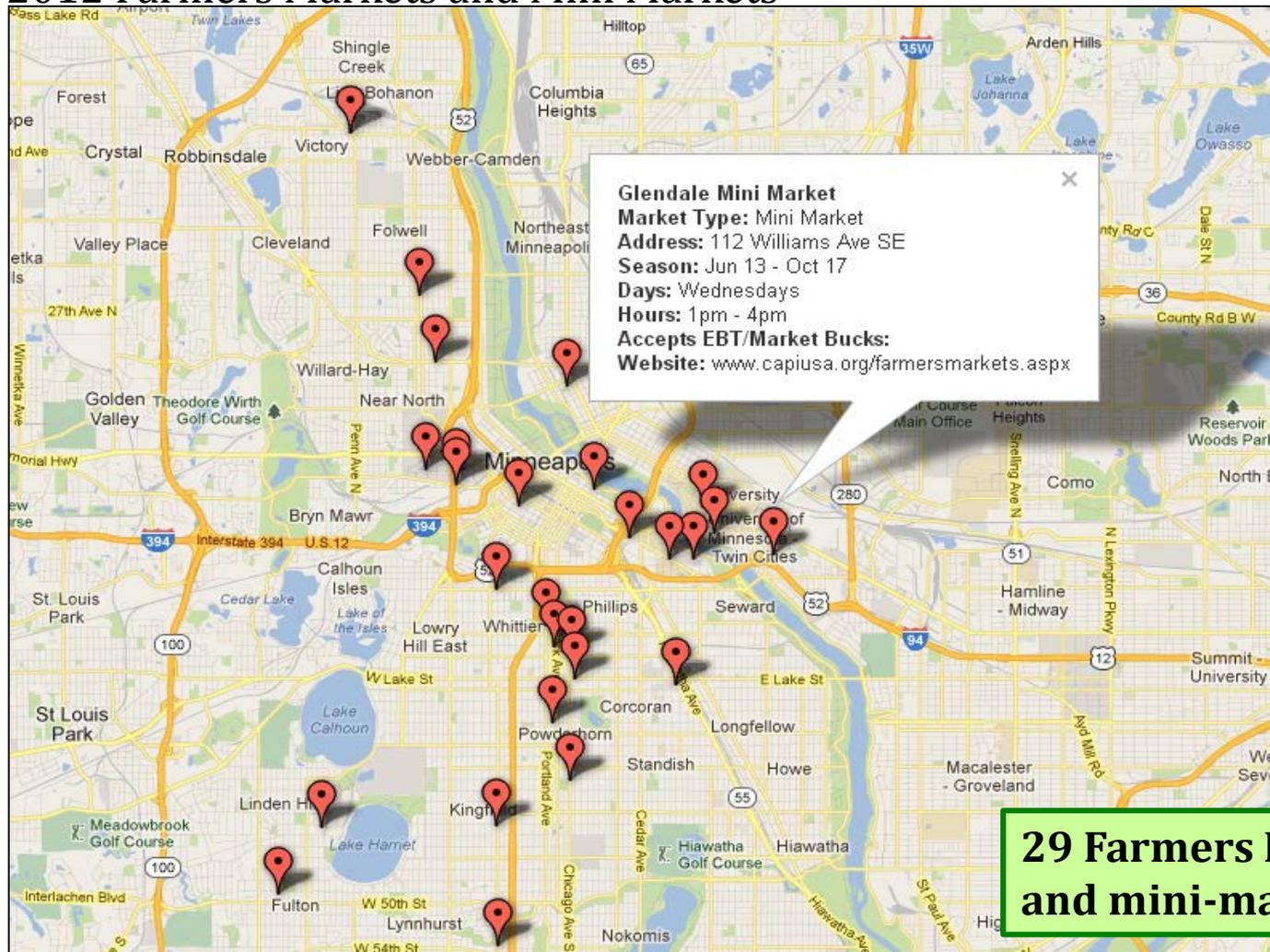
# Minneapolis Food Landscape

- Farmers Markets
- Community Gardens
- Food Resource Hubs
- Urban Farmers
- Community Kitchens
- Healthy Corner Stores



# Minneapolis – The City of Farmers Markets

## 2012 Farmers Markets and Mini Markets



**29 Farmers Markets  
and mini-markets**

[www.minneapolismn.gov/farmersmarkets](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/farmersmarkets)

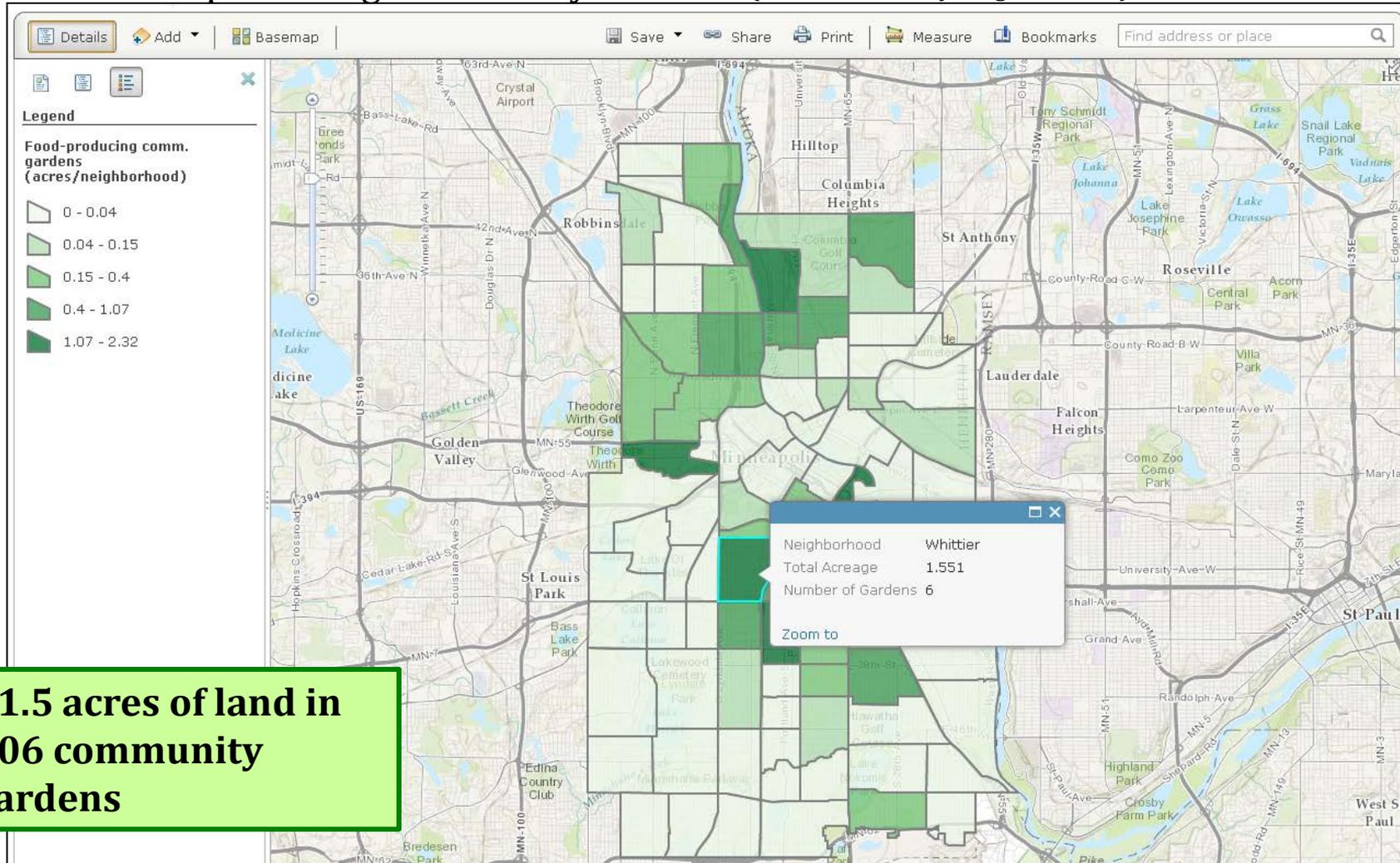
# EBT at Farmers Markets

- Thirteen markets across Minneapolis, are equipped with Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) systems
- In 2012, nearly 3,000 people used EBT to purchase healthy food
- With EBT sales and a matching incentive program, over \$63,971 in additional income went to local growers.
- Proactive partnership with General Mills



# Minneapolis – Community Gardens

2012 Food-producing Community Gardens (concentration by neighborhood)



[www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/indicators](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/indicators)

# Local Food Resource Hubs Network



**The local food hubs are designed to give Minneapolis residents the tools they need to grow their own fresh produce. Approximately 700 gardeners participated in 2012.**

# 2012 Open House Event

**Over 180 individuals  
attended the  
Homegrown  
Minneapolis Open  
House event on  
December 5, 2012 at  
the East Phillips Park  
and Cultural  
Community Center**



# Additional Benchmarks

- 49 community kitchens
- 8 city lots leased to community gardens
- 29 Healthy Corner Stores
- 110 cherry and 400 apple trees planted



# 2013 Activities

- A one year evaluation of the Food Council is in process
  - Evaluation will inform the development of the 2013 work plan
- Hosting a series of dialogues with urban farmers and local food businesses
- In the 2013 Farm Bill, support maintaining nutrition funding and programs directed to small and organic farmers, including urban farmers.
- Participating in a national study due in mid 2013 on strategies to link local food and economic development in urban areas.
- Advocate for changes in State composting rules.

# Questions?

