



CREATING A RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEM

On the Commons - University of Minnesota

Who are we?

- ❑ College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences
 - Environmental Science and Policy Management
- ❑ College of Design
 - Interior Design
- ❑ Carlson School of Business
 - Marketing
- ❑ College of Liberal Arts
 - Urban Studies
 - Geography



Terms to Know



❑ Commons

- ❑ Shared resources
- ❑ Joint obligation to preserve
- ❑ Examples: air, water, ecosystems

❑ Resiliency

- ❑ Human and natural systems are complex
- ❑ Systems are continually adapting
- ❑ Cycles of change are both rapid and slow

Terms to Know

❑ Food desert

- ❑ Urban areas with limited or no access to healthy foods

❑ Environmental Justice

- ❑ Needs a legislative foundation
- ❑ Recognized diversity of participants
- ❑ Participation in environmental policy processes

(Bullard 1994, Schlosberg 2004)

❑ Food Shed

- ❑ A food system that connects local producers with local consumers (Kloppenborg, et al., 1996)



The Question



What structures would support a resilient, commons-based food system in Minneapolis?

Food Policy Council

- ❑ A group of representatives and stakeholders from all (five) sectors of the food system
 - ❑ Serve as forums for discussing food issues
 - ❑ Foster coordination between sectors
 - ❑ Evaluate and influence policy
 - ❑ Launch or support programs or services that address local needs (Source: Harper et al. 2009)



On the Commons



- ❑ Social justice
- ❑ Environmental harmony
- ❑ Democratic participation

- ❑ The commons as a model for structuring organizations
 - ❑ Public policies and economic initiatives
 - ❑ Support grassroots local action

Homegrown Minneapolis

- City wide initiative
 - Sales
 - Distribution
 - Consumption

- Leadership
 - Mayor R.T. Rybak
 - Minneapolis Department of Health and Family Support



Minneapolis Farmers Market

The Big Picture



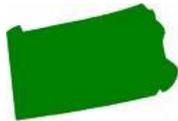
Case Studies



San Francisco, California



Portland, Oregon



Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

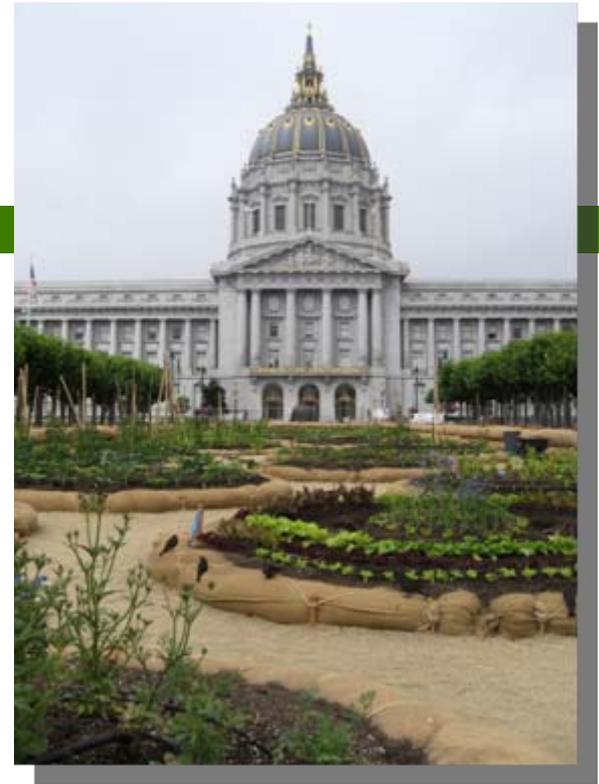


Cleveland, Ohio

San Francisco

Education

- ❑ The Edible Schoolyard
- ❑ Farm to School
- ❑ Healthy School Nutrition and Physical Exercise for San Francisco Unified School District Initiative
- ❑ Victory Gardens at City Hall came to bloom.



Victory Gardens at City Hall

Portland

Collaborative Body

- ❑ Citizen Advisory Panel
- ❑ Government Support

Tools – Geographical Information Systems (GIS)

- ❑ The Diggable City Project
Three Phase Land Inventory
 - ❑ 1st Phase examine open City property
 - ❑ 2nd Phase explore Portland's Zoning Codes
 - ❑ 3rd Phase documented potential sites for community agriculture



Farmers Market in Portland,
Oregon

Philadelphia

Resource Sharing & Communication

- ▣ Farmers' Market Program

Incentives

- ▣ Fresh Food Financing Initiative, (FFFI)



Philadelphia Farmer's Market

Cleveland



City Fresh – Fresh Stop

Scale

- ❑ City & County Scale
- ❑ Goal: create a transferable county model

Partnerships

- ❑ Co-conveners & staff: non-profits & universities
- ❑ Over 50 community partners

Listening Campaign



Engaging the System

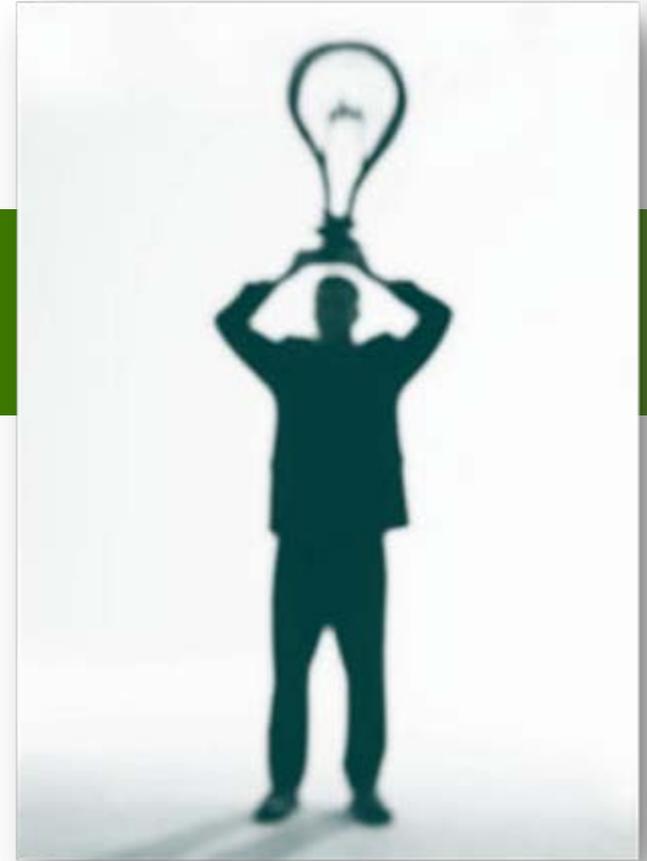


Faculty

Program

www.listeningcampaign.com

Recommendations



Brain Trust

- A coalition of community members who work to create initiatives based on commons principals and concerns taken directly from the community.
- Participation from civic, social and education sectors.
- Transparency
- Community Research Agenda



Image taken from www.shaunsamson.com

Food Policy Council

- Nested within the Office of Sustainability and operate as a research and policy body.
 - Issues address will be informed by the Brain Trust.
 - FPC is responsible to community members.
- Members of the FPC should be elected by the Brain Trust.
- Representation from each component of the food system.
- Representation of city departments that relate to food system.

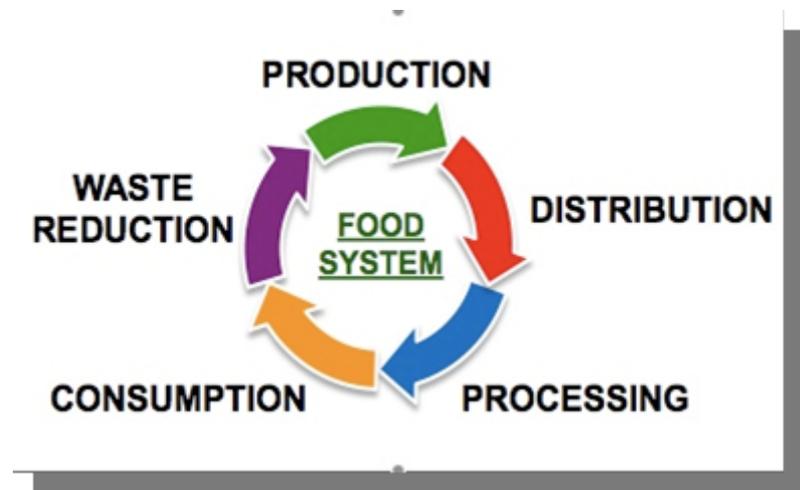
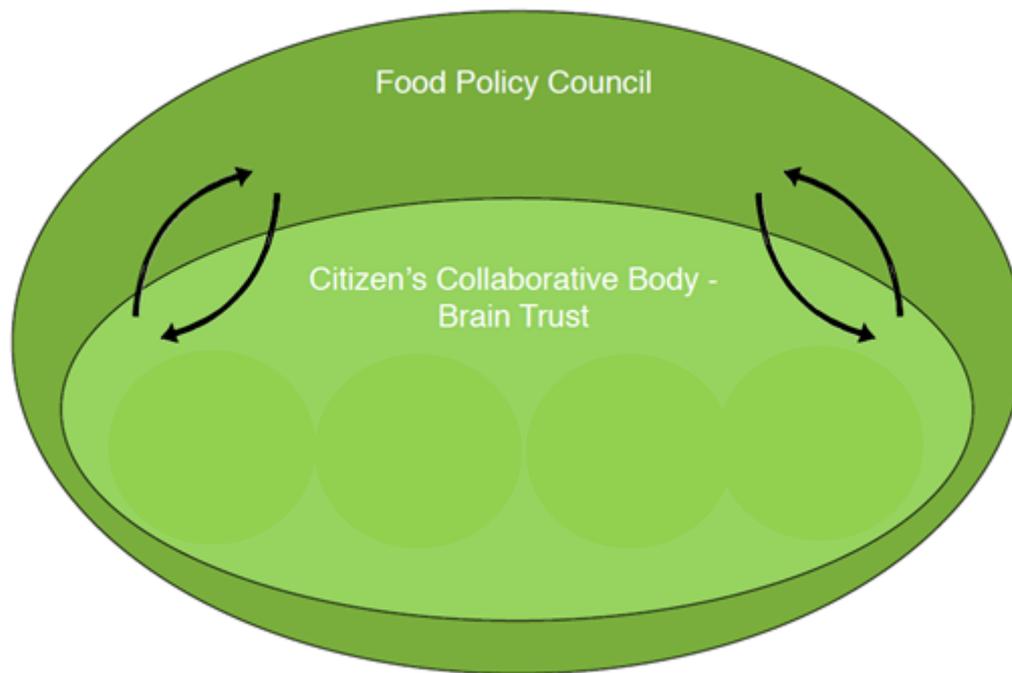


Image from CCCFPC

Brainstorming



Use What We've Got

- Maximizing current system potential
 - Park and Recreation Board
 - City programs
 - Government programs



Minnehaha Falls

Farmer's Market Alliance

- City funded position of "market coordinator"
 - Monthly market meetings
- Acceptance of EBT and Food stamps
- Preferred locations acquired through product/produce donations.
- Fresh stops
- Relationship building



Downtown Minneapolis Farmers Market

Retooling Our Communities

- Community based education
 - Feast with Neighbors program
 - Community education spaces
 - Open access volunteer forum
"Craig's List"
 - Ex-co education
 - Food forums and citizen assemblies



Picture taken from www.re-foundobjects.com

Student Engagement

- Primary school neighborhood local food liaisons
- Edible schoolyard
- Improving and expanding Farm to School program
- Integration of food education into curriculum



Picture taken from www.etsy.com

System Schematic

- ❑ Scale up
- ❑ Dynamic working groups
- ❑ Nested structures
- ❑ Account for all components of the food system
- ❑ Use existing or new non-profits



Land & Agriculture

- Community Land Inventory
- University as a resource GIS
- Re-zoning
- Community gardens
 - Urban Agriculture Trust
 - New structure: Land sharing



Digital Commons

- Online version of green plan
 - Open and participatory for government, community, non-profits.
- Live feed of policy meetings

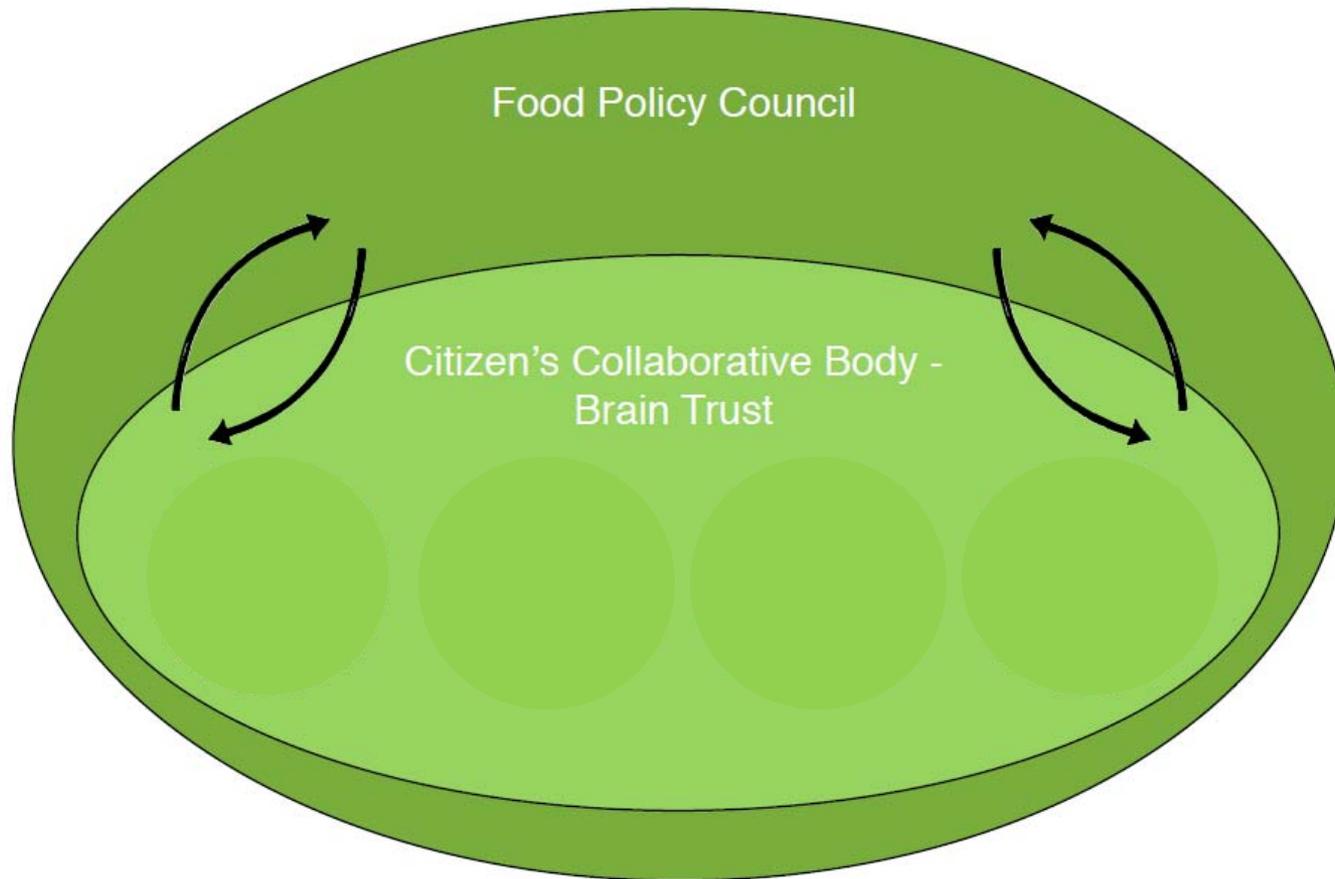


Incentives

- Incentives for companies
- Link Community Supported Agriculture to businesses
- Financing initiative for small/medium processing facilities.



The Nested Structure



Paper Slide

- Would like to bullet point a few items about why the audience should read the paper.
- Image of the cover if possible.
- Bring a color printed copy of the paper to hold up.

Thanks to all of you!

On the Commons

Julie Ristau

Ana Micka

Interviewees

Russ Henry

Giving Tree Gardens

Amy Doeun

Crazy Boy Farm

Dave Glenn

MN Project "Fruits of the City"

Lee Wallace

Peace Coffee

Mary Anderson

Wayzata Public School District

Tony Pavelko & Gina DiMaggio

Food 4 Thought

City Hall

Susan Young

Dan Huff

June Mathiowetz

Food System Group

Erin Walsh

Listening Campaign:

Abby Faust