
A REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM PLAN FOR SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN

Environmental Justice Task
Force Meeting

June 13, 2023



PROJECT PURPOSE

- To connect food system stakeholders (e.g., producers, distributors, consumers)
- To improve access to affordable, healthy, fresh, and desirable food options for all residents
- To address long-standing economic and health disparities
- To increase locally owned and sustainable farms
- To preserve productive agricultural land and natural resources
- To increase educational efforts on nutrition and food literacy

REPORT OUTLINE

- Chapter 1: Introduction
- **Chapter 2: The Food System**
- Chapter 3: Consumers
- Chapter 4: Environmental Stewardship
- Chapter 5: Recommendations
- Appendix: Case Studies & Glossary

- 2.1 Introduction
- 2.2 Agricultural Production
- 2.3 Processing
- 2.4 Food and Beverage Manufacturing
- 2.5 Distribution
- 2.6 Point of Sale
- 2.7 Supply Chain
- 2.8 Consumption
- 2.9 Food Waste



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE INPUT

EJTF MEETING INPUT

03/16/2022



EJTF MEETING

- Several members asked about topics related to consumer access to food, most of which will be discussed in Chapter 3, *Consumers*.
 - Farmers markets, food trucks, and flea markets (Chapter 2, pg. 49, and Chapter 3)
 - Farm ownership and people of color (Chapter 3)
 - Transportation access to food, supermarkets, and convenience stores (Chapter 3)
 - Costs of hydroponic technology and impacts on consumer costs (particularly those living in food deserts) (Chapter 2, pg. 22)
 - Historical trends that created food deserts (Chapter 3)
 - Concern about identification of food desert locations, and factors that contribute to food insecurity (Chapter 3)
 - Impacts of food insecurity on unhoused people in the Region & relative access to emergency food programs and facilities (Chapter 3)

EJTF MEETING

- Jobs and wages at food production facilities and migrant seasonal workers
 - Chapter 2 includes information regarding migrant seasonal workers, particularly in the agriculture industry (Chapter 2, pg. 14-16). We also discuss wages for each industry sector in the food system (production, processing/manufacturing, distribution, point-of-sale) (Chapter 2, pg. 10, 33, 34, 46, 47).
- Will we consider how COVID-19 impacted the food system?
 - In Chapter 2, we discuss the labor force and the impacts of COVID-19 on employment and our supply chain (Chapter 2, pg. 48, 52-53).
- Are there similar education programs to Vincent High School's agriculture program?
 - We will discuss these types of education programs in Chapter 3, Consumers.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE INPUT

AC MEETING #2

02/21/2023



ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING #2

- Presented an overview of Chapter 2: The Food System
- Much of the input/questions were related to consumer access to food which will be covered in Chapter 3: *Consumers*, or environmental issues related to the food system which will be covered in Chapter 4: *Environmental Stewardship*.

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AC MEETING #2

Changes made to Chapter 2 based on AC input:

- Added information to the food production section on dairy farm closures, both locally and as a general trend (pg. 7-8)
- Added a section on food related entrepreneurship, which includes information on home processing and manufacturing of food (and the regulation of it), food entrepreneurship programs in the Region, and added to our section on shared kitchen spaces and food incubators (pg. 24-28)
- Added a sub-section on micro-fulfillment food distribution centers (pg. 38)
- Added a section on the Food Safety Modernization Act rules that would impact food hubs and those working with food hubs (e.g., producers, processors, manufacturers, distributors) (pg. 40-44)
- Added information to the food waste section on food packaging waste and composting programs (pg. 55 & 57-58)

NEXT STEPS

Continue Research

Continue Drafting the Report

Advisory Committee and EJTF Meetings