

# POLICY AGENDA

(Approved 9/12/16)



County	Action	Priority
Full Council	Advocacy	1. Identify opportunities for the County to engage in establishing a <b>living wage and safe working conditions for all food service and seasonal/migrant farm workers.</b>
Planning & Zoning	Advocacy	2. Coordinate with municipal planning departments to stress the importance of <b>including food systems</b> as part of the <b>Master Planning Process.</b> 3. Place an emphasis on food system development in the countywide <b>economic development strategy</b> , utilizing SPARK and other county resources to ensure <b>siting and investment</b> of food system infrastructure in a <b>systematic and deliberate way.</b>
Farmers & Institutional Purchasing	Standards	4. Support change to the County Procurement Policy to give preference to <b>locally grown, processed, and prepared foods</b> , local goods and services, with an aim of the County and its vendors <b>purchasing 20% of food products locally by 2020.</b>
Food Waste & Packaging	Standards	5. Amend the Environmentally Preferred Purchasing section of the County Procurement Policy to <b>mandate the purchase of foodservice ware</b> and packaging that is <b>reusable, compostable, or recyclable.</b> Require funds to be allocated for the education and resource development of County purchasing staff as well as for adequate recycling and composting containers and services at every county building.
Planning & Zoning	Guidelines	6. Develop system to examine and provide opportunities to utilize foreclosed/vacant/abandoned land in the food system.
Food Waste & Packaging	Advocacy	7. Advocate that municipalities implement a <b>landfill ban on commercial and institutional organic material generated within 20 miles</b> of a composting facility or anaerobic digester.

  

Fed / State	Action	Priority
Food Access & Nutrition	Advocacy	8. Ensure the <b>preservation of funding</b> , and advocate to <b>reduce barriers</b> to participating in food assistance programs.
Farmers & Institutional Purchasing	Advocacy	9. Identify and support opportunities and alternative models that <b>reduce barriers for small farmers</b> to participate in the marketplace. 10. Identify and support programs and policies that <b>increase access to capital for local farmers and food producers</b> , particularly beginning and historically under represented farmers.

  

Institutional	Action	Priority
Pollinators	Advocacy	11. Recommend and support that institutions within the county to use grounds <b>management practices</b> that preserve our <b>essential pollinator populations</b>
Farmers & Institutional Purchasing	Advocacy	12. Encourage institutions to adopt policies and practices leading to the purchase of 20% of food products locally by 2020.
Food Access & Nutrition	Guidelines	13. Recommend and support that institutions within the county establish policies and implement environmental and organizational changes that ensure <b>availability of safe drinking water</b> and increase the <b>availability, affordability, and sensory appeal of nutritious, and when possible, local and sustainable, food.</b>

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Municipal		<i>Action</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Planning & Zoning	Standards	14. Coordinate across municipalities to establish recommendations and standards regarding need, timing, siting, and market saturation of farmers markets. Establish recommended <b>zoning best practices that address access, scale, location, infrastructure, services, and waste management.</b>	
Food Access & Nutrition	Advocacy	15. Encourage municipal planning offices to consider food access in transportation decision making, while encouraging transportation providers to provide <b>coordinated and connected transportation to food access sites</b> (including, but not limited to, grocery stores, farmers markets, and food pantries etc.).	
Food Waste & Packaging	Standards	16. Establish policies around the donation of surplus food; encourage municipalities to <b>require donation of surplus food</b> from department purchasing and community events in accordance with food safety regulations.	
		17. Develop policies, goals and standards for municipally sanctioned events to be <b>zero waste compliant.</b>	
		18. Provide model <b>solid waste ordinance</b> language to encourage all municipalities to include a <b>commercial and residential organics collection</b> program through public or private vendor services.	
Planning & Zoning	Standards	19. Provide model ordinance language around <b>mobile food vending</b> throughout the County, identifying underserved areas that may benefit from mobile vending and farm stands offering <b>fresh and healthy food.</b>	
		20. Provide <b>model ordinances</b> , including data and tools for municipalities to conduct <b>Health Impact Assessment</b> as an integral component of the planning process.	
		21. Develop <b>model ordinances</b> that define and allow <b>small scale food production</b> on residential, commercial, industrial and public land.	

School Boards		<i>Action</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Food Access & Nutrition	Advocacy	22. Advocate <b>school boards'</b> adoption of policies and practices that <b>increase participation in and utilization of school nutrition programs.</b>	
Food Waste & Packaging	Guidelines	23. Develop and offer <b>guideline materials</b> and encourage school boards to adopt <b>zero waste programs at K-12 schools.</b>	



*The Michigan Good Food Charter's Goals served as the foundation for this Agenda.*

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