

Maricopa County Food System Coalition

2016 Work Plan

A member of the Program Support Committee will contact the steward(s) of each Committee/Work Group on a quarterly basis to ask about progress and see if support is needed.

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Certification Work Group

2016 Goal

Build the framework for a certification program that will give transparency to consumers and forward the Coalitions mission.

Activities

Objectives	Approx. Timeline	Resources Needed	Activities
Research past and present certification programs. Identify possible programs to model after.	April-December 2016	None	Online research and outreach to program representatives
Present one or more certification options for feedback and revision process.	July-December 2016	None	Working Group will attempt to meet 1-2 times per month
Begin forming operating structure for the Certification program	September-December 2016	None	Working Group will meet and form drafts of the operating structure. Working Group will ask for 10-20 minutes of time at Coalition meetings to update and gain feedback. This may take several months, into 2017.

Members

J.D. Hill (steward), Chris Fox, Chris George, Burcu Yavuz

Food Assessment Coordination Team (FACT)

2016 Goal

Prepare a food assessment of Maricopa County.

Objectives	Approx. Timeline	Resources Needed	Activities
Launch an interactive web-based platform using LiveStories.com to house data and publish existing and future data/studies so that they are accessible to the public and readily available to Food Coalition members and partners to easily incorporate into presentations, funding proposals, and social media.	April-December 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for LiveStories.com Support from Food Access interested members 	Work with Food Access members to collect existing data and studies, as well as food access related assets that should be included on LiveStories.com
Design and deliver a survey to catalogue all Food Access organizations and assets in Maricopa County	April-December 2016	Support from Food Access interested members	Work with Food Access members to design the survey tool.
Complete the first steps towards conducting an Economic Contribution Analysis on agriculture and local food.	Oct-December 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding to contract with UofA. A work group to oversee this analysis. 	Meet with UofA AREC Impact Analysis team to identify indicators and parameters, as well as to understand which pieces need primary data collection.
Engage with trade associations and UofA to improve our Food Supply Chain Asset Inventory.	Oct-December 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding to contract with Local First Arizona. A work group to oversee this. 	Identify which supply actors to prioritize, as well as a strategy for engagement. Support Local First Arizona in identifying and reaching out various organizations with member listings.
Develop CFA indicators and proposed methods for understanding gaps and opportunities for scaling up local food in Maricopa County	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A work group to oversee this. Funding to contract with a researcher 	Work with MCFSC to develop indicators. Seek additional funding if necessary. Coordinate with AREC on primary data collection needs
Develop CFA indicators and proposed methods assess Land and Water issues (urban, peri-urban and rural)	March-December 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A work group to coordinate with other work groups 	Coordinate with other work groups such as the policy work group and the urban ag work group to further explore interest and assessment

Objectives	Approx. Timeline	Resources Needed	Activities
		<p>interested in land and water.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content expertise and guidance outside the coalition. 	<p>needs related to land and water.</p> <p>Interview content experts to help refine indicators and methods/understand what we need to assess.</p>

Members

Kate O’Neill (steward), Gina Lacagnina (co-steward), Jane Pearson, Dave Brady, Joe Drazek, Shyryn Joy, Dave Laney, Erica Sanford, Adrienne Udarbe, Allie Nicodemo, Ashley Shimke, Sara Horner, Chris Kaine, Rachel Morningstar, Paris Masek, Mary O’Brien, Michael Pierce, Jenna Brumit, and Jamie Balesteri.

Food Distribution Working Group

2016 Vision

All Maricopa County agricultural producers should have access to cost effective and efficient distribution channels for *truly* locally grown products to all of the community.

Activities

- 1) Comprehensive list and location of current producers in Maricopa County regardless of size. Coordinate with FACT.
- 2) Comprehensive list and location of current distributors of agricultural products. Coordinate with FACT.
- 3) Identification of existing and potential points of sale
- 4) See where the gaps are in production/distribution/sales network
- 5) Identify how to fill those gaps through education and promote that they exist

Members

Paris Masek (steward)

Policy Work Group

2016 Vision

Identify and advocate for polices that enhance the mission of the Maricopa County Food Systems Coalition.

Activities

Inventory Public Policy Related to Food System: Identify the impacts current city, town and county regulations relating to land use, zoning, access to potable water and similar topics have on the local food system. Share this knowledge with the other workgroups to inform their work and to drive policy change and implementation.

Subactivities	Approx. Timeline	Resources Assigned
Prepare a survey to send out to cities/towns and the county to inventory current codes, ordinances and regulations relating to the food system	Prepare draft survey by May 3 rd workgroup meeting; finalize survey by June 7 th workgroup meeting. Send out survey by the end of June. Partner with MAG.	Joe Drazek, Tina Ledbetter, Kenneth Steel, Dean Brennan
Engage with other MCFSC members and workgroups to assess and compile the general policy issues they are running into in their day to day work. This will be a second survey	No date determined Workgroup will focus on this activity once the policy survey has been sent to	Workgroup
Work with Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) to assist with collecting the data from MAG member government. Possibly partner with MAG to send out the survey. Determine which MAG committee is best to work with.	Begin discussions with MAG by May 3 rd workgroup meeting. Partnering with MAG to conduct the survey is critical and may impact the survey schedule	Rosanne, CJ
Re-engage with Ag Innovations to determine best practices for the inventory, inquire about survey templates etc.	Complete – Joseph provided website links	Dean

Monitor and advocate for inclusion and implementation of policies in city/town general plans and the county comprehensive plan that are supportive of a healthy, local food system: Use general plans as platforms for building relationships with cities and towns, and the comprehensive plan to build a relationship with the county. Advocate for the inclusion of language in plans to support healthier, local food systems. Monitor and assist cities, towns, and the county to be accountable for implementation of policies that support a healthy, equitable food system.

Subactivities	Approx. Timeline	Resources Assigned
Possibly start with Peoria.	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Kenneth Steel and Dean Brennan</i>

Subactivities	Approx. Timeline	Resources Assigned
Monitor general plans of cities and towns and the county comprehensive plan with a specific focus on the City of Phoenix General Plan Monitor the implementation process	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Kenneth, Dean Meghanne – Provide existing General Plan inventory. Intern at County Health Department preparing tracking inventory tool</i>
Share our results with the other MCFSC workgroups to inform their work, identify barriers and opportunities.	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Partners – Arizona Alliance for Livable Communities</i>

Advocate for the adoption of policies that support a healthy local food system: Influence decision-making at various levels to be supportive of a healthier local food system.

Subactivities	Approx. Timeline	Resources Assigned
Continue to work with the City of Phoenix to adopt a temporary-use permit process to reduce barriers to implementing farmers' markets.	Adoption by City Council no later than July 1, 2016	Prepare letters of support for submittal to Phoenix Planning Commission and Phoenix City Council
Continue to advocate for the passage of State legislation such as SB1004 (now HB2518).	End of legislative session	Tracking agendas

Establish and maintain a Policy Workgroup webpage on the MCFSC Website: Establish a webpage on the Coalition website that provides connectivity to Policy Workgroup activities and access to the data collected by the workgroup.

Subactivities	Approx. Timeline	Resources Assigned
Provide an update of Policy Workgroup activities to the Communication Committee following the monthly Coalition meeting.	Initial Webpage Complete Monthly Updates - Ongoing	Steward or designated Workgroup member
As resources become available and data is collected, provide web links to the Communication Committee for inclusion on the Policy Workgroup webpage.	Ongoing	Steward or designated Workgroup member

Members

Dean Brennan (steward), Kenneth Steel (co-steward), Rosanne Albright, Tina Ledbetter, Joe Drazek, Connie Ballard, Robin DeWeese, Paige Mollen, C.J. Hager, Richard Starling, David Martinez III, and Vania Fletcher

Urban Ag Work Group

2016 Vision

Identify and encourage work that fosters, sustains, and strengthens existing and new/emerging urban agricultural projects, operations and organizations throughout Maricopa County.

Activities

Provide support for a network of community gardeners by improving access to technical, organizational and/or financial resources needed to improve the long-term sustainability of existing and new gardens.

Subactivities	Approx. Timeline	Resources Assigned
Initiate a regular meeting of community gardeners to identify and assess needs to improve their long-term success.	May - Sept 2016	Katie, David Hill
Encourage community gardener participation in the coalition	May – Sept 2016	Chris Kane
Identify best practices and establish a means by which these can be shared among gardeners	Sept – December 2016	Katie, MCC, Cartwright, Native Health, St. Vincent de Paul, and Maricopa County

Improve access to available land in the County for use by urban (and other) agriculture

Subactivities	Approx. Timeline	Resources Assigned
Develop temporary land lease agreement for use by community garden and urban	Done!	Dave
Develop “landlink” modeled after a similar system in other states that connects farmers who need land with those who have it	Sept –December 2016	Kelly, Tommy, Dave

Identify current land usage patterns in urban zone with respect to urban agriculture

Subactivities	Approx. Timeline	Resources Assigned
Dependent on work to be completed by assessment work group	To be determined	To be determined

Establish and maintain a Community Garden webpage on the MCFSC Website: Establish a webpage on the Coalition website that provides a resource to the community gardeners in Maricopa County to improve access and communication about and between gardening operations.

Subactivities	Approx. Timeline	Resources Assigned
Provide communication committee with list and map of verified information about existing community gardens in the County	Sept – December 2016	Dave
Provide update to the list and map on an as needed basis		

Work with policy work group to help reduce taxes and create incentive for land owners to lease land to farmers

Subactivities	Approx. Timeline	Resources Assigned
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To be determined	To be determined	Tim O
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Members

Katie Poirier (steward), Kate Radosevic, Tommy Bleasdale, David Hill, Dave Laney, Troy Albright, Dr. George Brooks, Burcu Yavuz, Tim Amlaw, Timothy Olorunfemi, Greg Peterson, Kelly Young, and Jillian Robinson.

Program Support Committee

2016 Vision

Accountability; “to have excellent business processes.”

Activities

Activities	Approx. Timeline	Resources Assigned
Organize the Google Drive, with a “table of contents”	update: wait until we have a formal process; ask the coalition; ask if there is any strong opinions	Meghanne
Have a conversation about how to pursue grant opportunities; establish transparent “ground rules” about funding opportunities and potential conflicts	June	Rosanne, Dean, CJ and Jayson
Membership List—update most recent	End of April	Burcu
Update Work group and committee lists; once updated assign this responsibility to each of the committees and work groups		Burcu and Meghanne
Develop on-boarding packet for new members	August	Jayson and CJ
Become a fiscally sponsored project	<i>DONE!</i>	Chris, Chris and Allie
Oversee relationship with TAPAZ; coordinate with grant applications regarding financials	On-going	
Develop job description for future interns	end of May	Burcu
Coordinate intern recruitment with outside organizations		Chris K.
Establish an endorsement list for future grant opportunities	May	Chris & Burcu
Building a standard practice of facilitation	November/December	Meghanne and CJ
Update the Coalition work plan on a quarterly basis	June, September, December	CJ
Perform evaluation/reflection on 2016 work plan; assemble accomplishments		
Develop a comprehensive funding development plan	September	Rosanne, Jayson, Chris K., Allie, Kenneth

Members

Jayson Matthews (co-steward), C.J. Hager (co-steward), Rosanne Albright, Dave Laney, Richard Starling, Dean Brennan, Meghanne Bearden, Kenneth Steel, Chris Kaine, Chris Fox, Allie Nicodemo, Rachel Morningstar, J.D. Hill, Kate Radosevic, Tim Amlaw, Shyryn Joy, Chris George, Dave Brady,

Communications Committee

2016 Vision

Accountability; “to have excellent business processes”

Activities

Activities	Approx. Timeline	Resources Assigned
Coordinate Green Living Articles	Each month	Paris
Coalition hard launch in October; tie it with Food Day	October	
Maintain Facebook and Website	Ongoing	Paris, Jamie and April
Develop a calendar form to submit events to the website	May; waiting to hear back from Communications Committee about event parameters	CJ
Establish a calendar reminder to be sent to Members		Meghanne
Establish a speakers' bureau; add this list to the website	May	Chris
Have media training	December	

Members

Paris Maesek (steward), Chris Kaine, Jamie Balesteri, April Bradham, J.D. Hill, and Burcu Yavuz.