This is the Sustainable DC Mayor’s Order Food Access and Security Task Force, led by the Office of Planning’s study of the accessibility of healthy food in neighborhoods by evaluating existing conditions for food access, urban agriculture, and agricultural economy in the District. The report provides recommendations to increase the accessibility of healthy affordable foods and the reduction of food insecurity of District residents consistent with the goals identified in the Sustainable DC Plan.
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Executive Summary

The Sustainable DC Mayor’s Order of 2013\(^1\) directed the Office of Planning (OP) to convene a task force to evaluate existing conditions for food access, urban agriculture, and agricultural economy in the District. The Food Access and Security Task Force consists of staff members from the Office of Planning (OP), Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), DC Public Schools (DCPS), District Department of the Environment (DDOE), Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), the Department of General Services (DGS), Department of Small and Local Businesses Development (DSLBD), and the Department of Health (DOH).

The task force studied the existing conditions for food access, security, production and economy by: (1) identifying the District’s many food assets, including grocery and convenience stores, community gardens and farms, food non-profits, school gardens, senior feeding centers and more; and (2) conducting focus groups with food policy stakeholders and holding community meetings, and by hosting discussions among District agencies. From these activities and through research and analysis, the task force developed a series of goals and recommendations to improve food access, which are included in this report. The goals cover improvements in healthy foods communications, education, and awareness; supporting healthy food suppliers and retail; healthy food affordability; streamlining government processes and information; expanding urban agriculture; engaging nonprofit farmers; improving physical access and reducing food waste.

The recommendations of the Food Access and Security Task Force are grouped into the following goal areas:

**GOAL 1: Share information about available resources with in-need populations more effectively.**

**ACTION 1.1:** Develop one full-time equivalent (FTE) staff position, to focus on an outreach and marketing campaign about available food resources. Dedicate resources to promoting food access and security programs and services for District residents, business owners, and others.

**ACTION 1.2:** Create a government-based webpage of consolidated food resources, policies, regulations, District programs, and data on food access and food security resources in the District.

GOAL 2: Create demand for healthy food and beverages.

ACTION 2.1: Develop, expand, and promote cooking demonstrations on fresh healthy food in high-need areas and populations, with community partners.
ACTION 2.2: Raise consumer awareness about unhealthy foods by providing access to data about nutrition by requiring or incentivizing healthy food information on restaurant labels.
ACTION 2.3: Share information about existing programs that can help reduce the cost of healthy foods and beverages.

GOAL 3: Support and increase the number and geographic diversity of healthy foods, businesses, and suppliers.

ACTION 3.1: Support the creation and expansion of small food businesses, and their efforts to create jobs for DC residents and returning citizens by providing technical and financial assistance, better information, and capacity-building training for businesses.
ACTION 3.2: Support the opening and expansion of businesses that sell healthy and affordable food in food deserts and other high-need areas by providing incentives and business outreach.
ACTION 3.3: Support the creation of a new food hub and/or collaboration with existing regional food hubs that makes commercial purchase and delivery of healthy food and beverage products and locally grown produce an affordable option.

GOAL 4: Make healthy food and beverage choices more affordable and educate consumers about real and perceived costs of food and beverage choices.

ACTION 4.1: Provide incentives to lower the costs of healthy food and beverages in high-needs areas.
ACTION 4.2: Collect and analyze data about the price of healthy food and beverages in the District at supermarkets and corner stores. Create a marketing campaign about the real cost of healthy food and beverages; and cost/benefit of choosing them over less healthy options.
GOAL 5: Review all laws and regulations that have an impact on food access and security to reduce barriers that impede access to healthy and sustainable food.

ACTION 5.1: Consolidate and streamline business and zoning regulations for food-related businesses, farmers markets, and farming. Streamline the farmer’s markets licensing process to reduce costs and contribute to lowering the cost of local foods.

ACTION 5.2: Review existing funding mechanisms for grants, incentives, and food access related policies and make recommendations for improvements to new and existing processes and programs.

GOAL 6: Conduct a government-led overview of current and pending food access challenges, related programs, and services.

ACTION 6.1: Establish a Food Policy Council (FPC) that addresses food insecurity, nutrition and health, food access, food distribution and the hospitality industry (especially considering workforce development). This oversight body should require internal government coordination on food access and insecurity.

GOAL 7: Provide information about and access to unused lands for urban agriculture, especially District government owned lands or rooftop spaces.

ACTION 7.1: Establish a program that makes pre-identified parcels of land available for urban agriculture prioritizing areas of high-food need.

ACTION 7.2: Prioritize locating community gardens and public urban agriculture opportunities in food deserts and other high-need geographic locations in the city.

ACTION 7.3: Require all new District-owned or private building projects using public financing constructed after 2016 to have rooftops with a load-bearing capacity at least 100 pounds per square feet to accommodate roof top gardens or other sustainable features.

ACTION 7.4: Establish a program to provide District funds to community partners through grants for the establishment of new urban agriculture projects, community gardens and rooftop gardens with a priority in high-need areas.
GOAL 8: Build off of existing network of faith-based organizations, non-profits, and food pantries and develop opportunities for mutual learning.

ACTION 8.1: Explore ways to better connect educational institutions with food access education, employment, and community needs.
ACTION 8.2: Set up a policy and process framework for non-profits and service providers to connect and collaborate on food policy.

GOAL 9: Bring healthy affordable food and beverage options closer to all District residents.

ACTION 9.1: Analyze healthy food access and physical barriers (e.g. distance, hours, physical ability of consumer, infrastructure, transportation) based on consumer demographics (e.g. seniors, low-income heads of household, schools, clinics).
ACTION 9.2: Include of establishments that provide healthy food in the development of affordable and low-income housing (e.g. pair development with farm stand, new grocery store, community garden, etc.).

GOAL 10: Encourage businesses to offer healthy affordable food and beverage options to address physical access barriers.

ACTION 10.1: Encourage Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs), online grocery retailers, and food trucks to include routes and delivery in food deserts through incentives.
ACTION 10.2: Coordinate with Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs) and online grocers to accept SNAP and other food assistance “coupons” so that healthy affordable food and beverages can be delivered to residents in food deserts, low-income individuals/heads of household, seniors, etc.
ACTION 10.3: Encourage farmers markets in the District to accept SNAP/WIC/SFMNP.
ACTION 10.4: Incentivize new businesses to open and operate in areas with limited or no healthy affordable food and beverage options (for example, to encourage food truck routes in food deserts; reduced taxes for corner stores with a certain percent of healthy affordable food and beverage options).
GOAL 11: Divert food waste from landfill by providing education and opportunities for the reuse and salvage of all leftover food.

ACTION 11.1: Reduce the amount of food waste generated through gleaning, education, and changes in food handling practices.

ACTION 11.2: Set up a food salvage program to redistribute leftover food from businesses to the local community.

ACTION 11.3: Require separated organic waste collection in all government facilities with commercial kitchen and food distribution, including parks.

ACTION 11.4: Introduce and enforce food waste reporting and benchmarking at all government facilities and private businesses.

ACTION 11.5: Create incentives, programming, and a public education campaign to encourage the practice of food composting.
Background & Methodology

Background

This report provides recommendations to improve the accessibility of healthy affordable foods and the reduction of food insecurity of District residents consistent with the goals identified in the Sustainable DC (SDC) Plan. The SDC Plan sets a vision for a District with healthier residents and a more diverse economy fueled by access to a local, self-sustaining food production and distribution system. Grocery stores, commercial urban farms, and community gardens will distribute a secure supply of safe, nutritious, affordable foods and residents will be knowledgeable about and participate in growing, harvesting, and processing their own food. The SDC Plan states the food access goal is to “Ensure universal access to secure, nutritious, and affordable food supplies” (Food Goal 2 (FD 2.0)). The SDC Plan also sets a target to ensure that by 2032, 75% of DC residents live within ¼ mile of a community garden, farmers’ market or healthy corner store. The Task Force recommends that this goal be supplemented to also track the locations of grocery stores and other food retailers, the proximity of residents to these retailers, and the ability for the District’s poorest residents to walk safely to them, in addition to farmers’ markets, community gardens, and healthy corner stores.

While the original target in the SDC Plan focuses on important supplemental food access, they do not solely represent day-to-day food access and food security needs for at-risk populations. The Task Force is still interested in tracking the information from the original SDC Plan Target, but along with outlets that serve as primary daily sources of food (such as large or full-service grocery stores specifically). The task force focused its research and recommendations on the SDC Plan Food goal related to food access. The SDC Plan Food Goals 1 and 3 address increasing agricultural land use and building local food economy, which are supportive and related to the primary goal food access. However, the work of the task force did not focus on Food Goals 1 and 3 since the task force focused its recommendations squarely on the issue of food access and security, rather than covering the food system as a whole in its analysis and recommendation in this report.

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2 See Appendix A – Definitions.
The task force studied the existing conditions for food access, security, production and economy by: (1) identifying the District’s many food assets, including grocery and convenience stores, community gardens and farms, food non-profits, school gardens, senior feeding centers and more; and (2) conducting focus groups with food policy stakeholders, holding community meetings, and engaging in discussions with District government agencies. Out of this research and analysis, the task force developed a series of goals and recommended actions to improve food access, which are included in this report. The goals cover improvements in healthy foods communications, education, and awareness; supporting healthy food suppliers and retail; healthy food affordability; streamlining government processes and information; expanding urban agriculture; engaging nonprofit farmers; improving physical access to healthy foods; and reducing food waste. The task force presents these recommendations in the context of two key pieces of legislation regarding food policy and urban agriculture which are under development by the D.C. Council and which would respectively create a Food Policy Council and Director to staff the Council, and set up a system for providing District government lands for urban agricultural uses. These recommendations are designed to complement those proposed pieces of legislation, even as the specific language and phrasing are in the process of being updated and finalized.

**Methodology**

The task force conducted background analysis and research to determine the existing conditions for food access and security in the District. These efforts included a public meeting led by Sustainable DC, and two stakeholder focus meetings with community groups, non-profit providers, and food access program stakeholders. Stakeholders who participated in the focus groups included urban agriculture advocates, hunger advocates, food banks, healthy food education providers, urban gardeners and farmers, food policy advocates and more. Both the public focus groups and the task force each completed a SWOT analysis (a structured planning method used to evaluate the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) to review and brainstorm for the most pressing issues and generate ideas for the scope and focus of the task force. The task force has obtained a large range of data from partner agencies about grocery stores, senior feeding centers, community gardens, grocery stores, farmers’ markets and other food access assets. Data that could be studied geographically was mapped and provided in the Appendix B, while data that could not be mapped, or has not yet been mapped, was studied for trends that need to be addressed for improved food access and are included in Appendix C. This section contains a summary of all the existing food access related programs in District government, as well as the related regulations and legislation is provided below.
Food Policy Related Data & Maps

DISTRICT-SCALED MAPS – See Appendix B

1. Farmers’ Markets
2. Community Gardens
3. Full-Service Grocery stores ³ (located in DC & within the surrounding counties of Maryland and Virginia)
4. Healthy Corner Stores Program locations
5. Full-Service Grocery Stores and Supermarket Tax Credit areas
6. Food Deserts ⁴ locations
7. Food Deserts with Supplemental Food Sources⁵
8. Food Deserts with Planned Grocery Stores
9. DC Public Schools school garden locations
10. Department of Parks and Recreation Summer Feeding Locations
11. All locations that accept Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) supplemental food assistance
12. Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) locations
13. DC Office of Aging Senior Group Meal Centers & Aging Disability Resource Centers

NON-GEOGRAPHIC DATA SETS – See Appendix C

1. All National School Lunch/breakfast program locations
2. Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs) that deliver within DC
3. Grocery stores or services that deliver within DC
4. Commercial kitchens and food business incubators

DC Government Food-Related Agencies & Programs Summary

• Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) – Provides permits for farmers’ markets and food trucks; Issues certificates of occupancy for all other food businesses or uses, vending and business licenses; Oversees permitting and permission for water and power utilities, farmers markets etc.

³ See Appendix A Definitions.
⁴ See Appendix A Definitions.
⁵ See Appendix A Definitions.
- District Department of the Environment (DDOE) - Leads composting working group, pilot project in office, potential composting locations; Manages FEED DC Act energy incentives
- Department of General Services (DGS) - Evaluates parcels of land for suitability for agriculture; leading compost pilot sites; Pilots composting program at DC public schools
- Department of Health (DOH) – Manages the Women, Infants and Children (WIC), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Farmers’ Market nutrition, the Healthy Corner Stores program, and other nutrition programs; Conducts all food inspections for the District
- Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) – Manages the federal Community Development Block Grant for neighborhood-based activities
- Department of Human Services (DHS) – Provides SNAP benefits to residents through its Income Maintenance Administration
- Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)- Runs and manages community gardens on DPR properties, composting, beehives program on some National Park Service properties; Provides afterschool meals and free summer meals for school age children; Provides healthy vending at DPR properties
- DC Office of Planning (DCOP) - Led food policy public working group for Sustainable DC, Sets food goals and policy recommendations; Tracks and maps food deserts, land use, food access, and other urban agriculture issues
- Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED)- Conducts land use planning and real estate development; Manages the Neighborhood Reinvestment fund, Great Streets grant program, grocery store ambassador, and the Grocery store tax incentive
- Department of Small and Local Business (DSLBD) –Manages the Healthy Food Retail program and Small Business Food Processing Incubator; Provides technical assistance and other resources to help retain and develop retailers including those in the food industry
- Department of Youth Rehabilitative Services (DYRS) – Provides food services for committed youth
- District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) – Manages the local implementation of national school lunch and breakfast programs, afterschool meals and DC free summer meals; Manages DCPS school gardens and composting, which is rapidly expanding; and manages the FEED DC Act
• Office on Aging (DCOA) – Manages and funds congregate meals, nutrition education, wellness centers, and supplemental food programs

• Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) – Oversees the National School Lunch Program, child and adult care food program, free summer meals, and school food purchases; Manages school gardens and farm to school initiatives.

DC Food Access-Related Legislation

Active Proposed Legislation:

• **B20-0821 – Food Policy Council and Director Establishment Act of 2014** – To establish a Food Policy Director in District Government to promote food policy in the District, attract new participants to the local food economy, assist individuals already participating in the local food economy, and achieve the food goals identified in the Sustainable DC plan, and to establish a Food Policy Council to identify regulatory burdens on the local food economy, collect and analyze data on the food economy and food equity, promote positive food policies, and guide organizations and individuals involved in the food economy. – Under Council Review now.

• **B20-0677 - D.C. Urban Farming and Food Security Act of 2014** - To amend the Food Production and Urban Gardens Program Act of 1986 to establish an urban farming land leasing initiative; to establish a nonrefundable tax credit for food commodity donations made to a District of Columbia food bank or shelter; and to establish a real property tax abatement for unimproved real property leased for the purpose of small-scale urban farming. – Under Council Review now.

• **PR20-0227 - Fresh Healthy Mobile Cart Vending Pilot Expansion Emergency Declaration Resolution Of 2013** - To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to expand the fresh healthy mobile cart vending pilot program to encourage healthy food vendors to sell in underserved areas of the city.

• **B20-0641 - Sustainable Solid Waste Management Amendment Act of 2014** – To adopt progressive environmental policies related to waste management and support additional waste practices that are not currently in the DC Code. More specifically, Bill 20-641 would align the District with other progressive U.S. cities by: updating the source separation requirements to include compostable materials; establishing registration and reporting requirements for solid waste collectors in the District; establishing an Office of Waste Diversion within the Department of Public Works; establishing an Interagency
Waste Reduction working group that includes participation from the District Department of the Environment and the Department of Public Works; and requiring manufacturers to establish electronic waste recycling programs in the District. Additionally, Bill 20-641 would update the District's solid waste requirements by repealing various waste laws, including the Solid Waste Management and Multi-Material Recycling Act of 1988.

Current Legislation or Regulations:

- **B20-0168 - COTTAGE FOOD ACT OF 2013** – To amend the DOH Functions Clarification Act of 2001 to permit cottage food businesses in the District to operate without a license from the Department of Health if the specific laws concerning cottage food businesses are followed, to authorize DOH to define food products to be sold by cottage food businesses, to authorize inspections of cottage food businesses if a complaint is received by DOH, and to authorize the DOH to issue regulations concerning cottage food businesses. – Official Law

- **DC Law 19-385 – Healthy Schools Act of 2010, Amended in 2012** - The Act addresses the following areas: Breakfast/Lunch Access; School Nutrition; Farm to School; Physical Activity & Education; Health Education; School Environment; Competitive Foods/ Snacks; Health & Wellness setting nutrition guidelines for food available on school campuses. – Official Law

- **DC LAW L18-0353 - FOOD, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ACT OF 2010** (FEED DC Act) - To establish a program to attract grocery stores and renovate grocery stores in low-income areas in the District; to require participating grocery stores to employ District residents and provide them with quality jobs, accept SNAP benefits, and accept WIC benefits; to designate a grocery ambassador to assist grocery retailers; to amend Chapter 38 of Title 47 of the District of Columbia Official Code to modify the tax exemption provisions for supermarkets; to establish a program to expand access to healthy foods in low-income areas in the District by providing assistance to corner stores, farmers markets and other small food retailers; to develop a plan for establishing a commercial distribution system for fresh produce and healthy foods to corner stores; and to assist corner stores in becoming more energy efficient. – Official Law
DC Regulations – Current

- **DCMR-Title 24-902 Fowl Regulations** – Sets restrictive permissions for keeping chickens or other birds
- **DCMR Title 24 – 900 – Animal Control** – Sets permissions and restrictions for keeping livestock.
- **DCMR Title 24 – 400 – Farmers’ Markets** – Sets requirements for farmers’ market locations & use of public spaces and permits.
- **DCMR Title 24 – 401 – Farmers’ Market Space Fees** – Sets fees for use of public spaces for farmers’ markets
- **DCMR Title 24 – 500-512; 521-532; 544-548; 550-599 Vending Regulations** – Sets requirements for street vending, both on sidewalks, parking spaces, and roadways and specifically addresses food trucks.
Findings & Recommendations

GOAL 1: Share information about available resources with in-need populations more effectively

ACTION 1.1: Develop one full-time equivalent (FTE) staff position, to focus on an outreach and marketing campaign about available food resources. Dedicate resources to promoting food access and security programs and services for District residents, business owners, and others.

a. **Summary:** The District has many available food resources, and programs to provide food assistance or access to in-need populations, but there are disconnects between available resources and those in need. The task force proposes a new staff position to create and manage an outreach and marketing campaign about local and national resources for local residents and business owners. A FTE position would oversee this outreach and marketing campaign and could potentially function under the proposed Food Policy Director position currently under discussion by the Council, as well as take on the task of marketing and educating the public about this database and other resources. This position would also focus on strategic partnerships with other government agencies, service providers, and non-profits.

b. **Expected Benefits:** Community members will know about and therefore better utilize government and non-government resources to increase their access to healthy, fresh and affordable foods. Entrepreneurs seeking to open a food-based business, and existing food business owners, can readily see on a map which areas are underserved and have unmet demand. Maps provide a quick visual for stakeholders and possible partners to see the landscape of areas of interest, as well as for the community members to find new resources. The FTE will be available for these individuals to use as a resource for connecting with communities in need of more fresh foods and for the businesses looking to move into those communities.

c. **Completion Date:** 1 year

d. **Fiscal Impact:** Short-term fiscal impacts include funding (including benefits) for one full-time equivalent staff position and an operating budget for marketing of these initiatives. Funding for the creation and maintenance of the outreach marketing campaign will also need to be written in as implementation costs of a
government agency. Salary costs are based off a grade 12 position, with benefits, at a step 1 and increasing to a step 2 for the second year, and so forth. Implementation costs are based off the operating budget for comparable new programs within DC Government agencies, such as the school garden program at OSSE, with $2,000 additional dollars allocated for year one. Long-term impacts will include increased revenue for local businesses that sell healthy and affordable fresh products, and lower food and health care costs for District residents and their employers over time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Total Costs</th>
<th>FTE Increase</th>
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e. **Political/Citizen Impacts:** Political impacts are likely to include ongoing maintenance of the database for the foreseeable future. District residents will benefit from the implementation of this goal because they will gain better knowledge about affordable, healthy food in their area. Adverse impacts are minimal, but citizens may feel that this issue is not as important as the task force believes and could be dissatisfied with their tax dollars being allocated towards this FTE.

f. **Legislative/Regulatory Impacts:** This position directly correlates to the Food Policy Director position currently in pending DC Council legislation and will therefore provide the same legislative, regulatory, and budgetary impacts as foreseen for that position.

g. **Recommendations:** The task force is recommending that a position be created to oversee the creation and maintenance of marketing and outreach campaigns to better assist District residents in finding healthy, affordable, and fresh foods in their area. The task force recommends that whichever agency hosts the Food Policy Director position collaborate on creating this new position and campaign.
ACTION 1.2: Create a government-based webpage of consolidated food resources, policies, regulations, District programs, and data on food access and food security resources in the District.

a. **Summary:** Information regarding food policy, programs, regulations, and legislations is not consolidated in a single location. A central clearinghouse of food-related information should be created to ease and improve public access to this data. Information about food access, food policy, programs and regulations should be readily available to District residents through a variety of resources. Creating a user-friendly webpage housed within the District Government’s website, ensures this information will be monitored and updated as changes occur, such as with seasonal food programs and new or closing farmer’s markets. Information from many different District agencies programs, processes, funding, and rules should be studied and presented clearly in a public-facing website with an easy to use interface. In addition to District government agencies, this site should include links to non-profit partners and resources for food access, gardening, and food business related needs. Some of this information has already been gathered by the task force, and some exists in private sector resources, but further research will need to be completed to gather complementary resources and links to information. OCTO could potentially host this website, or an external web provider, depending on budget and current available technologies.

b. **Expected Benefits:** Benefits include greater clarity of information about existing resources, processes, regulations, and available funding and food resources for members of the public. The intended outcome is a one-stop shop for all information regarding food policy and access in the District, rather than the scattered and hidden current information.

c. **Completion Date:** 1 or 2 months after appropriate funding is provided to the agency tasked with working on food policy.

d. **Fiscal Impact:** N/A

h. **Incentives (if applicable):** N/A
e. **Political/Citizen Impacts:** Better citizen access to information, better ease in opening, operating, or creating new food-related businesses. There are no specific expected political impacts.

f. **Legislative/Regulatory Impacts:** Foreseeable impacts are only around gathering information for the database and ensuring all available resources are included in this process, rather than there being any new required legislation or regulatory changes.

g. **Recommendations:** The task force recommends creating a government-based webpage of consolidated food resources, policies, regulations, District programs, and data on food access and food security resources in the District. This website should fill a critical gap to finding clear and easy to use information on the District’s food resources.

h. **Incentives (if applicable):** N/A

**GOAL 2: Create demand for healthy food and beverages.**

**ACTION 2.1:** Develop, expand, and promote cooking demonstrations on fresh healthy food in high-need areas and populations, with community partners.

a. **Summary:** This action will be best implemented through partnering with community based organizations and non-profits in the District, as well as local food businesses. This action is intended to build on and better support the work of many non-profit partners and community organizations by tapping into the existing vast network of partnerships to encourage competition and collaboration. A Request for Applications (RFA) or Request for Proposals (RFP) should be created that asks for organizations interested in creating or expanding healthy cooking programs for in-need residents. Applicants should have an established presence in the nutrition and cooking landscape of the District and have experience working with populations of all ages, speakers of different languages, and preparing food across a variety of culinary styles. Applicants should be open to partnering with District government agencies and local businesses to tie their programming into existing opportunities for purchasing healthy and affordable foods in the neighborhood. The action will take the form of directly providing grants to community or nonprofit partners to provide these services in high-need communities.
b. **Expected Benefits:** Involving community based organizations and non-profits will ensure there are enough resources to meet the needs of the high number of District residents interested in this type of service. This will also create healthy competition between community partners to develop robust, unique programming that appeals to all residents. Both the residents and the partnering organizations will benefit from this established support from the District because organizations will be able to accomplish their own goals while also being supported by the District government in their efforts and residents will increase their knowledge about choosing healthy foods for themselves and their families. The intended outcome is that residents who have access to fresh and healthy foods will have equal access to information about how to budget for, understand nutrition, and cook those same foods.

c. **Completion Date:** RFA/RFP release 1 year; implementation 2 years and ongoing.

d. **Fiscal Impact:** District or external grant funding will need to be secured to support the community-based organizations and non-profits applying through the RFA/RFP. This funding will be used for implementation of each organization’s unique programming, such as cooking demonstrations, mobile market and farmer’s market expansion programs and broadening the reach of nutrition education programs in schools and community centers.

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<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
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e. **Political/Citizen Impacts:** Political impacts include public and private interest in which community-based organizations and/or non-profits receive support from the District government to implement these programs. Citizens will receive free or low-cost programming around cooking and choosing healthy foods for themselves and their families.
f. **Legislative/Regulatory Impacts:** Regulations around cooking and the safe handling of food will need to be considered when funding a project such as this. The DOH should be consulted for training staff in proper food handling. The District has strict regulations that mandate nutrition personnel be licensed as Registered Dietitians in order to practice nutrition education and counseling, and this will need to be factored in when selecting qualified organizations for teaching about nutrition and food choices.

g. **Recommendations:** The task force recommends that the District make educating the community around healthy and affordable food choices a priority. Education is just as important as making the food available to residents, as individuals will not purchase this food if they do not know it is a healthy and affordable choice. Doing this requires funding to support community-based organizations and nonprofits to establish evidence based nutrition education programs and skills-based cooking demonstrations and classes. The task force recommends developing, expanding, and promoting cooking demonstrations on fresh healthy food in high-need areas and populations led by community partners.

h. **Incentives (if applicable):** Grant funding will be available for community-based organizations and nonprofits, as discussed above.

**ACTION 2.2:** Raise consumer awareness about unhealthy foods by providing access to data about nutrition by requiring or incentivizing healthy food information on restaurant labels.

a. **Summary:** The District does not have an existing local menu labeling law for chain restaurants. On a federal level, there are regulations that require establishments with 20 or more locations nationwide to list the calorie content of standard menu items on boards and restaurant menus\(^6\). This is called for in the Affordable Care Act and is designed to ensure that consumers have more nutritional information when they make food choices. There are a number of small-scale restaurant chains that are not obligated to comply with the federal law due to their size. Many cities have passed local laws to close this gap. For example, Philadelphia requires chain restaurants and retail food establishments

\(^6\) [http://www.fda.gov/Food/IngredientsPackagingLabeling/LabelingNutrition/ucm248732.htm](http://www.fda.gov/Food/IngredientsPackagingLabeling/LabelingNutrition/ucm248732.htm)
with more than 15 locations nationwide to post nutrition information to the public. Creating menu labeling laws have proven effective in other cities, such as Philadelphia to increase public awareness about the nutritional value of the food they are consuming.

b. Expected Benefits: Residents will increase their knowledge about choosing healthy foods for themselves and their families, and by having more clear choices, will choose more healthy options and see resulting health benefits.

c. Completion Date: This is expected to be an ongoing project that will require policy changes, new and revised legislation, infrastructure changes, as well as a public information campaign. Implementation is expected to occur in 2018. More information is required and it is suggested that a more thorough information gathering process be implemented.

d. Fiscal Impact: Additional research is warranted to determine the fiscal, based on the implementation costs of other cities.

e. Political/Citizen Impacts: There will be some pushback from the franchise restaurant industry in response to increased regulation. Nonprofits and residents are expected to support this action.

f. Legislative/Regulatory Impacts: Legislative and regulatory rule changes are required.

g. Recommendations: The District should make educating the community about healthy and affordable food choices a priority. Education and information-sharing is just as important as making healthy food available in the first place. By providing labels of nutrition information, District residents will have the information they need to make healthy food choices. The task force recommends that the Department of Health and Department of Small and Local Business Development collaborate on the educational campaign.

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h. **Incentives (if applicable):** If the suggested new labeling requirement is not passed into law, an alternative route is to provide incentives to businesses to post the same type of nutrition labeling.

**ACTION 2.3:** Share information about existing programs that can help reduce the cost of healthy foods and beverages.

a. **Summary:** This action item is a direct result of comments and suggestions made during facilitated focus groups and meetings of both public and private stakeholders. District specific data, maps, and anecdotal information were used to support the concept that there is a lack of affordable healthy foods and beverages particularly in high need areas of the District (see the Food Deserts Map). Suggestions to improve access include streamlining licensing processes for businesses that will vend fresh fruits and vegetables, and providing better information about the true costs of fresh, healthy food products, to overcome perceptions that healthier foods are always more expensive. This should be a two-pronged approach that first works to make better information available about ways to reduce the costs of healthy foods and beverages such as the **Produce Plus** program or SNAP or WIC assistance. Secondly, the program should work to provide outreach and marketing about how often healthier foods are perceived to be more expensive and showing the actual costs of healthy foods.

b. **Expected Benefits:** Increased access to and information about affordable, healthy food choices, especially for those in low-food security or high-need populations.

c. **Completion Date:** This is expected to be an ongoing project that will require policy changes, new and revised legislation, infrastructure changes, as well as a public information campaign.

d. **Fiscal Impact:** Additional research is warranted to determine the fiscal impact of this action. Depending on the scale of implementation, this action could be very low cost and be based on better outreach, or additional funds could be allocated to do a larger scale education and outreach marketing campaign.

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8 See Appendix B, Map 6. Food Deserts.
e. **Political/Citizen Impacts:** There is no expected political impact. Residents can expect increased access to and information about affordable healthy food choices, especially for those in low-food security or high-need populations.

f. **Legislative/Regulatory Impacts:** N/A

g. **Recommendations:** The task force recommends first making better information available about ways to reduce the costs of healthy foods and beverages such as through the Produce Plus program or SNAP or WIC assistance. Secondly, the program should work to provide outreach and marketing about how often healthier foods are only perceived to be more expensive and show the actual costs of healthy foods.

h. **Incentives (if applicable):** Existing incentive programs such as Produce Plus could be expanded to provide additional residents with the incentive. The Produce Plus program provides low-income residents with additional SNAP or WIC benefits when spent on fresh produce at farmers’ markets. Additionally, business owners could be incentivized in numerous ways to increase healthy food options including such as tax incentives or fee waivers.

**GOAL 3: Support and increase the number and geographic diversity of healthy foods business suppliers and employees.**

**ACTION 3.1:** Support the creation and expansion of small food businesses, and their efforts to create jobs for District residents and returning citizens by providing technical and financial assistance, better information, and capacity building training for businesses.

**ACTION 3.2:** Support the opening and expansion of businesses that sell healthy and affordable food in food deserts and other high-need areas by providing incentives and business outreach.

**ACTION 3.3:** Support the creation of a new food hub and/or collaboration with existing regional food hubs that makes commercial purchase and delivery of healthy food and beverage products and locally grown produce an affordable option.

a. **Summary (Actions 3.1, 3.2, 3.3):** Currently, the District has a wide variety of retailers, service and manufacturing/processing businesses that sell or produce food products. Hospitality and leisure make up 9% of the District’s economy
(including food-related businesses) according to the 2011 Census. The District Government could exponentially increase the number of businesses located throughout the District that sell healthier food and beverage options by:

i. Educating existing and start-up businesses on the competitive advantages of selling healthier food and beverage options;

ii. Providing financial assistance, technical assistance, tax benefits and information resources to incentivize and sustain repositioning their businesses to do so; and

iii. Coordinating with existing food industry groups and nonprofits that are also working to expand the healthy food industry.

The agencies that would lead coordination and implementation of these initiatives would be the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) and the Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) with support from Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), the Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR), and Department of Health (DOH).

Integral to the implementation of this action would be an increased demand for healthy food and beverage (Sustainable DC Plan Food Goal 2: Create demand for healthy food and beverages). Implementation of recommended actions for Goal 2 of this report should be coordinated with supporting the expansion of food industry businesses. With an ever-expanding food industry in the District (retailers, service and production), there is an opportunity for the District Government to support businesses’ efforts to create jobs for retaining District residents and returning citizens in food industry positions, particularly in jobs that provide a career path to economic self-sufficiency.

The District Government could support job creation for District residents in the food industry by:

i. Providing financial incentives to recruit, train and retain District residents, by providing tax benefits and incentives using grants to defray costs of recruiting, training and retaining food industry workers in living wage positions; and

ii. Coordinating recruitment efforts with existing culinary job training programs for adults and high school graduates.

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The agencies that would lead coordination and implementation of these initiatives would be the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED), the Department of Employment Services (DOES), and DC Public Schools (DCPS).

The proximity of businesses that sell healthy food and beverages, and their availability during evening and weekend operating hours are a critical component to achieving the goal of having 75% of District residents within a quarter mile of healthy, local food (Sustainable DC Food Goal 2).

The District Government can support this goal by:

i. Identifying areas of the District that are food deserts or other high-need areas (“food desert areas”) and regularly updating this data set to capture changing conditions;

ii. Promoting available commercial and vending spaces in food desert areas to prospective businesses that are seeking their first commercial location, and to existing food businesses that may be seeking to expand to a second location;

iii. Providing incentives for all types of food suppliers (i.e., corner stores, food trucks/vendors, farmer markets, home delivery services, community support agriculture pickup locations) to open, operate in and service food desert areas; and

iv. Educating existing business, which are located in food desert areas, how to expand their product lines to include healthier food options and providing incentives for them to diversify their product line.

The agencies that would lead coordination and implementation of these initiatives would be the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) and the Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD).

Small businesses that are seeking to add produce and locally-prepared healthier foods to their product line are often deterred by the cost to purchase these products from wholesale food distributors and the quantity that they must purchase and store in their smaller commercial spaces to make this product inclusion cost-effective. Sourcing these products directly from farmers or locally prepared-food manufacturers is generally not a viable option given that limited
staff size and long retail operating hours prevent many small business owners from going directly to the these suppliers.

Food hubs can better connect producers with small businesses by creating a local distribution network and offering more cost-effective procurement options. The USDA defines a food hub as a business or organization that actively manages the aggregation, distribution, and marketing of source-identified food products primarily from local and regional producers to strengthen their ability to satisfy wholesale, retail, and institutional demand.

The creation of a District-based food hub facility, with produce and healthy prepared foods sourced from local or regional vendors, would make the purchase, delivery and storage of these products a more attractive option for small food businesses and would mitigate their aforementioned challenges. Additionally, nonprofit hunger advocates could readily supplement their food inventory and District residents would have an additional food supplier of locally sourced products.

Such a facility would be operated by a private entity that could also manage:

i. Collection, aggregation, and distribution of local food products;
ii. Packaging of value-added enhancements to base food products;
iii. Shipping, trucking, and distribution management for small local businesses;
iv. Promoting these services to increase number of participating businesses and, consequently, their collective buying power;
v. Optional inventory delivery to retail locations; and
vi. Coordinating gleaning produce from DOH-qualified micro-producers that would otherwise go to waste (e.g., produce from UDC Muirkirk Farm and school/community gardens.)

The District Government could support the food hub creation by:

i. Donating a parcel of land to be used for the creation of the hub facility;
ii. Subsidizing development costs through tax incentives and grants;
iii. Facilitate and expedite the regulatory process to open and operate the food hub by 2017; and
iv. Facilitating collaboration with existing food hubs, such as the Local Food Hub (Charlottesville, VA) or Blue Ridge Produce (Elkwood, VA) to benchmark their best practices and connect with prospective vendors (for example, convening working group of stakeholders such as local producers and small food retailers to define demand for service and features of the new hub).
The agencies involved could include Department of General Services (DGS), Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED), Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD), and Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA).

b. **Expected Benefits:**

- Increase the number and type of businesses that sell healthy food and beverages to District residents and visitors. (SDC Plan Jobs & Economy Target: By 2032, develop 3 times as many small District-based businesses.)
- Mitigate issues of access that inhibit DC residents from accessing healthy food near their homes.
- Increase the employment of workers in green industry (supports SDC Target: By 2032, cut citywide unemployment by 50% and increase by 5 times the number of jobs providing green goods and services.)
- Decreased District unemployment and under-employment. As more District residents work in the production, preparation, and sales of healthier food and beverages, they may become nascent advocates and consumers of healthier food options. Increase self-sufficiency though living wage jobs with career paths.
- Reduce costs and regulatory barriers that may inhibit small businesses from including produce and healthy food/beverage products as part of their inventory. Enable small businesses to competitively price healthy food products with larger competitors that have access to larger distribution chains. Coordinate food access non-profits to increase their efficacy. Encourage production and consumption of locally grown and prepared food by local residents. Create jobs around food access. Reduce food waste of unsold produce from District urban farms.
- Increase business opportunities and collected sales taxes from local farmers and food manufacturers

c. **Completion Dates:** The food hub would not be expected to be completed before 2017 (maybe longer for the creation of a food hub if a District government transfer of land is required).

d. **Fiscal Impact:** There could be potentially increased sales tax revenue from future retail prepared food sales taxes and prepared food and beverage (10% restaurant). The District could see increased income from business license fees
for food-related licenses\textsuperscript{10}, which may be offset by increased investment of public funds in financial incentives (grants, tax offsets). Better retention of existing food businesses by supporting their expansion of their business model to include new products (healthy food/beverage) and services (e.g., home delivery of healthy food) could lead to an increased tax base in the District. Specific fiscal impact figures will require full financial analysis of the proposed incentives, and necessary design and business plans for the food hub.

\begin{center}
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
Fiscal Year & Implementation Costs & Operational Costs & Total Costs & FTE Increase \\
\hline
2014 & N/A & N/A & N/A & N/A \\
2015 & Complete fiscal analysis for TBD funding for technical assistance, TBD Funding grants program; TBD design and build plans for food hub & Existing staff hours at DMPED and DSLBD to research and plan & N/A & Existing staffing at engaged agencies (no new funding needed) \\
2016 & TBD & Existing staff hours at DMPED 1 FTE at DSLBD for to manage implementation & N/A & 1 \\
2017 & TBD & Existing staff hours at DMPED 1 FTE at DSLBD for to manage implementation & N/A & (Same as new FTE proposed for FY16) \\
2018 & TBD & Existing staff hours at DMPED 1 FTE at DSLBD for to manage implementation & N/A & (Same as new FTE proposed for FY16) \\
\hline
TOTAL & & & N/A & \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{center}

\textsuperscript{10} Food-related licenses include; Bakery; Candy Manufacturing; Caterers; Commission Merchant; Delicatessen; Food Product; Food Vending Machine; Grocery Store; Ice Cream Manufacturer; Mobile Delicatessen; Restaurant; Street Vendor etc. 

http://dcra.dc.gov/service/directory-all-basic-business-license-categories
e. **Political/citizen Impacts:** Creation of a local food hub and additional branches of local food businesses could increase employment options for DC residents. Better wage jobs and new businesses could work to transition lower-wage workers in food industry to self-sufficient employment. There are no expected political impacts, either positive or negative.

f. **Legislative/regulatory Impacts:** These actions may lead to legislative or regulatory conflicts, which may then need to be updated in the future. The specific legislative or regulatory changes will not be fully identified until the action is completed. It is expected that the Food Policy Council and Director Staff positions will complete this further analysis.

Some **legislative changes** related to these recommended actions may include:

- Creation of a Small Business Development Fund with eligible use of funds that include projects, grants and loans that support the outreach and education of small business; technical assistance to build their capacity to market and sell healthy food and beverage products and produce;

- Creation of tax incentives including credits and abatement that support businesses or property owners with business tenants that will sell healthy food and beverage products; and those that hire DC residents for food-related jobs. Activities for which tax credits or abatement may be needed are: commercial property acquisition; rehab or redevelop commercial buildings; sales of healthy food and beverage during first year of inclusion in business’ inventory; property tax for food hub during its initial years of operation; job creation; and on-the-job employment training.

- Require food delivery services (e.g. Giant’s Peapod) to accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Some **regulatory changes** related to these recommended actions may include:

- Health code and other requirements associated with operation of wholesale food distribution center;

- Allowing sales of produce grown in DC’s urban farms including community gardens and roof tops;
• Commercial transportation, loading, and parking requirements for a food hub;

• Expedite regulatory processes for new and existing food businesses seeking to sell healthy food and beverage products.

g. **Recommendations:** Include the requirement to complete these actions in a District agency’s performance plan, and assign the action to the specific staff person who has been designated to work on food policy. Affected agencies would include DCRA, DGS, DOES, DOH, DSLBD, OTR, DMPED, DSLBD, and OP. These agencies will need to collaborate on supporting and increasing the number and geographic diversity of healthy foods business suppliers and employees.

h. **Incentives (if applicable):** Providing incentives for all types of food suppliers (i.e., corner stores, food trucks/vendors, farmer markets, home delivery services, community support agriculture pickup locations) to open, operate in and service those areas. Incentives could include:

   i. Grants to offset costs to rehab retail space, purchase equipment to store healthier food options and procure inventory (similar to DSLBD and DOH healthy food retail/corner store programs);

   ii. Reduced regulatory fees, reduced requirements and expedited processing (such as reduced fees to sell fresh and prepared healthy foods); and

   iii. Tax breaks for initial years of operation as long as healthier food option is maintained (similar to current tax incentives for larger grocery stores).

**GOAL 4:** Make healthy food and beverage choices more affordable and educate consumers about real and perceived costs of food and beverage choices.

**ACTION 4.1:** Provide incentives to lower the costs of healthy food and beverages in high-needs areas.

a. **Summary:** There is the perception that healthy local foods are more costly and less available in some high-need areas of the District. This action to reduce food costs is a direct result of comments and suggestions made during facilitated focus groups and meetings of both public and private interested parties. Actual District-specific data and anecdotal information was used to support the perception that there is a lack of affordable, healthy foods and beverages, particularly in high-need areas (see food insecurity map in Appendix B). The task
force recommends providing incentives to lower the costs of healthy food and beverages in high-need or food desert areas of the city. Incentives to improve access could include streamlining licensing processes for businesses that will vend fresh fruits and vegetables, and other measures to ease the process of selling healthy local foods. In essence, the task force is hoping to have lower cost healthy food and beverages for sale in areas that currently have either little access to healthy foods and beverages, or those foods are available for sale, but are priced prohibitively high.

b. Expected Benefits: Increased access to affordable, healthy food choices for high-need populations in high-need areas of the cities and food desert areas. A more streamlined process for business owners offering healthy food options will also result with potentially lower costs of doing business in healthy food perishables. The intended direct benefit is to District residents in high-need food desert areas to have better access to affordable fresh and healthy foods.

c. Completion Date: More information is required and it is suggested that a more thorough information gathering process be implemented to develop a complete scope of work for the initiative.

d. Fiscal Impact: Additional research is warranted to determine the fiscal impact of this action. The specific fiscal impact will depend on the size of the allocated budget, as well as the scope of the incentives provided to local retailers. For example, the current Healthy Food Retail Program by DSLBD provides approximately $10,000 in incentives per healthy food retail location to help with technical assistance and actual food and equipment costs.

e. Political/Citizen Impacts: Citizens in high-need areas can expect to have lower cost access to fresh healthy foods, as well as better information about actual costs of fresh healthy foods. With this better information, it is expected that more District residents in high-need areas will be able to have healthier food choices and see related health benefits in terms of obesity, and chronic diseases. There are no expected political impacts, either positive or negative.

f. Legislative/Regulatory Impacts: N/A

g. Recommendation: The task force recommends forming a sub-group of the to-be-created Food Policy Council to more fully study the impact of current legislation and regulation on resident access to healthier food choices, food
sales, and local business practices. The District should provide incentives to lower the costs of healthy food and beverages in high-need areas.

**h. Incentives (if applicable):** Residents could be offered incentives to consume healthier food options with programs such as Produce Plus, a District funded Farmers’ Market Incentive Program. Business owners could be incentivized in numerous ways to increase healthy food options including but not limited to: tax incentives or fee waivers related to the sales of healthy foods. Additional study is needed to determine specific types and amounts of incentives to offer.

**ACTION 4.2:** Collect and analyze data about the price of healthy food and beverages in the District at supermarkets and corner stores and then create a marketing campaign about the real cost of healthy food and beverages; and cost/benefit of choosing them over less healthy options.

**a. Summary:** During the information gathering process, it became apparent that there are a significant number of programs that offer nutrition and wellness guidance to District residents. This guidance comes in the form of nutrition education provided by various publically and privately funded programs. In addition, there are numerous grassroots and faith-based organizations that fund their own programs. A recurring theme suggested during focus group discussions and public meetings involved establishing a nutrition education campaign using a standardized message that stakeholders would promote. It is suggested that one of the messages target perceptions that could interfere with positive behavior change. As a baseline, food policy staff should collect more data about actual food costs in different areas of the District and develop a marketing campaign for high-need populations. This campaign would work to combat perceptions that healthier foods are higher cost, as well as provide information about the nutritional and health benefits of choosing healthier foods as opposed to low-cost unhealthy foods.

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\[\text{12 Nutrition education is any combination of educational strategies, accompanied by environmental supports, designed to facilitate voluntary adoption of food choices and other food- and nutrition-related behaviors conducive to health and well being. Nutrition education is delivered through multiple venues and involves activities at the individual, community, and policy levels.}
\]

b. **Expected Benefits:** A change in the negative perception about the cost of healthy eating can lead to behavior change for residents that become better informed about healthy food choices. Increased information sharing among programs and service providers can lead to an increase in access by District residents to new and existing food programs. Additional research is required to substantiate the expected benefits.

c. **Completion Date:** Initial analysis of existing data and the outline for a strategy for the marketing campaign should be completed in 2015, with the marketing campaign being put into place in 2016, followed by analysis of its impacts to determine its effectiveness.

d. **Fiscal Impact:** A further impact study is required to determine the fiscal impact.

e. **Political/Citizen Impacts:** Additional study is recommended to quantify the anticipated impact on the health and wellness of District residents. That impact should be measured on different levels including social and financial.

f. **Legislative/Regulatory Impacts:** N/A

g. **Recommendations:** The District should collect and analyze data about the price of healthy food and beverages in the District at supermarkets and corner stores and then create a marketing campaign about the real cost of healthy food and beverages; and cost/benefit of choosing them over less healthy options.

h. **Incentives (if applicable):** N/A

**GOAL 5:** Review all laws and regulations that have an impact on food access and security to reduce barriers that impede access to healthy and sustainable food.

**ACTION 5.1:** Consolidate and streamline business and zoning regulations related to food-related businesses, farmers markets, and farming. Streamline the farmer’s markets licensing process to reduce costs to contribute to lowering the cost of local foods

a. **Summary:** Common information needed for food-related businesses, farmers’ markets, and urban agriculture regulatory processes should be gathered and easy-to-use guidance should be provided to community members seeking to grow businesses in this sector. This should include relevant legislation, regulations, processes, and timelines to develop, manage, and operate these
types of businesses or land uses. In essence, it should be easy to find necessary information, rules, and procedures in a single location or source of information. This information could be hosted on a government central food policy website.

b. Expected Benefits: District residents, community advocates, service providers, and business owners will find it to be easier to find information about government regulations, processes, and timelines related to food policy. Potential and existing business owners may find it to be easier to create a new business or manage an existing food-related business.

c. Completion Date: One year

d. Fiscal Impact: It is expected that these actions can be completed within existing staff.

e. Political/Citizen Impacts: This action could help businesses run more smoothly and to potentially add additional staff persons, as businesses are able to operate more efficiently.

f. Legislative/Regulatory Impacts: This action could potentially identify legislative or regulatory conflicts, which may then need to be updated in the future. The specific legislative or regulatory changes will not be identified until the action is completed.

g. Recommendations: The task force recommends including this action to develop a website and review, streamline, and consolidate existing laws/regulations.

h. Incentives (if applicable): N/A

**ACTION 5.2:** Review existing funding mechanisms for grants, incentives and food access related policies and make recommendations for improvements.

a. Summary: A good deal of the financial support provided to at-risk populations needing better access to food comes in the form of direct financial assistance or grants provided to non-profits or service providers to manage programs. Feedback from community benefits providers has indicated that tweaks to
procurement, and grant making processes could lead to funding being distributed more quickly and more efficiently, with a greater percentage of funds going directly to in-need populations. Government staff at DOH, DSLBD, OCP, and other funding providers should assess their current practices as well as specifically solicit feedback about the grant-making process. The District should then identify next steps to make improvements, such as policy, internal agency practice, or regulatory changes.

b. **Expected Benefits:** The expected benefits include greater percentage of funding being received directly by at-need populations; faster grant-making processes; better results in terms of those in need being served; greater satisfaction in the non-profit community with grant-making process.

c. **Completion Date:** Six months to one year

d. **Fiscal Impact:** Estimates of fiscal impact are based on the task force’s best estimates of necessary work, but additional fiscal impact will need to be determined by fiscal impact experts.

| Estimated Fiscal Impact: Overview |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Fiscal Year | Implementation Costs | Operational Costs | Total Costs | FTE Increase |
| 2014 | Zero new costs | Minimal part-time staff time | 20 hours of staff work for existing FTE | None required |

e. **Political/Citizen Impacts:** This action item could help District businesses run more smoothly and to potentially add additional staff persons as businesses are able to operate more efficiently. Specific feedback and impact on the non-profit sector is expected in the following ways: more non-profit partners will apply for available funds because the application process will be faster, clearer, and more straight-forward. Those non-profits may be able to better staff because contract outcomes are more clearly defined and terms set in reasonable and expected ways. Relationships with nonprofits and community partners could be improved.

f. **Legislative/Regulatory Impacts:** The specific legislative or regulatory changes will not be identified until the action is completed.
g. **Recommendations:** The task force recommends including in a District government agency’s performance plan the requirement to review existing funding mechanisms for grants, incentives and food access related policies and make recommendations for improvements, and assign the action to a specific staff person who has been designated to work on food related grants, funding, or other incentives. Assess existing food access programs, procurements, and grants at DSLBD, DOH, OCP, OSSE, OP, and DCPS for inefficiencies and opportunities to improve and make the existing programs more efficient.

h. **Incentives (if applicable):** N/A

**GOAL 6:** Conduct a government-led overview of current and pending food access challenges, related programs, and services.

**ACTION 6.1:** Establish a Food Policy Council (FPC) that addresses food insecurity, nutrition and health, food access, food distribution and the hospitality industry (especially considering workforce development). This oversight body should require internal government and external stakeholder coordination on food policy, access, and insecurity.

a. **Summary:** A food policy council is an organization of stakeholders from different sectors and backgrounds (producers, processors, distributors, government and consumers) who collaborate to assess and improve their regional, state or local food system. The task force recommends that a FPC be established for the District. The FPC should coordinate on setting policy recommendations for the District to improve access to healthy and affordable food. The FPC should be tasked with completing a detailed food policy plan and a set of guiding principles for the District. This plan should include annual strategic or work plans and potential sources and types of funding needed. The FPC should coordinate with jurisdictions in the region to advance a regional food policy agenda. The FPC would serve as a supplementary set of resources and experts to identify practices and policies that enhance the local food economy in the District. The FPC should contain 21 members, 8 of the members should come from the executive District agencies and 13 should be volunteer experts with experience in identified subject areas. Members should include membership from the task force agencies, as well as a spread of emergency food providers, nutrition and public health, cultural and community, agriculture, and hunger relief advocates.
All members should be appointed by the Mayor and should serve without compensation and be required to hold meetings open to the public at least every other month. The task force offers these as model recommendations for how Food Policy Council could be created and are not intended to be a strict recommendation for the specific members, size, and makeup of the council.

b. **Expected Benefits:** Improved internal government coordination, as well as better external partnerships and cooperation, including specifically better coverage and assistance for food-insecure populations.

c. **Completion Date:** 6 months – 1 year to identify and appoint FPC members.

d. **Fiscal Impact:** The expected costs come from staff positions and basic operational costs to manage the FPC (setting regular meetings, printing, office space and equipment, training, etc.) Potential savings come in the form of a greater percentage of grant funds going directly to grantees rather than being spent on overhead. There are no specific identified areas of savings as of yet, though some may be identified through the future work of the FPC. Cost estimates below include two FTEs, one at a Director level position, and an assistance staff at Grade 12 pay level, with an additional $200,000 to oversee initial office start up programs, grant-making and office oversight.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Implementation Costs</th>
<th>Operational Costs</th>
<th>Total Costs</th>
<th>FTE Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1 FTE for Food Policy Director, 1-2 additional FTEs for staff to assist</td>
<td>2 FTE salaries, 1 at Director level, other maybe GS 9-12 to assist; plus additional operational and training costs for FPC max $200/yr.</td>
<td>Total 2 FTEs, plus operational costs $200 for the office, conferences, training etc.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

e. **Political/Citizen Impacts:** Potential impact on citizens includes better access to fresh, healthy, and affordable food in all areas of the city; better collaboration and interaction with non-profit partners and service providers who provide
direct hands-on support to high-need populations. Also expected is better coordination among District government staff and agencies, less redundancy and conflict between programs, grants, regulations and food-related legislation. Political impacts could result in having a new Director-level position appointed or hired before the change in election.

f. **Legislative/Regulatory Impacts**: Specific legislative or regulatory changes will not be identified until the FPC is created, but future changes should be expected from the FPC on an annual basis.

g. **Recommendations**: The task force recommends assigning funding to, and hiring staff to manage and oversee the positions associated with the Food Policy Council. Include in an agency’s performance plan the requirement to complete this action, and assign the action to a specific staff person who has been designated to work on managing the Food Policy Council.

h. **Incentives (if applicable)**: N/A

**GOAL 7**: Provide information about and access to unused lands for urban agriculture, especially District government owned lands or rooftop spaces.

**ACTION 7.1**: Establish a program that makes pre-identified parcels of land available for urban agriculture, prioritizing areas of high-food need.

**ACTION 7.2**: Prioritize locating community gardens, and public urban agriculture opportunities in food deserts and other high-need geographic locations in the city.

**ACTION 7.3**: Require all new District-owned or private building projects using public financing constructed after 2016 to have rooftops with a load-bearing capacity at least 100 pounds per square feet to accommodate rooftop gardens or other sustainable features.

**ACTION 7.4**: Establish a program to provide District funds to community partners through grants for the establishment of new urban agriculture projects, community gardens, rooftop gardens with a priority in high food-need areas.

a. **Summary (Actions 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4)**: In recent years the District has seen a significant expansion of urban agriculture to meet the increasing demand to grow and access free healthy and sustainable food. The biggest roadblock in this
expansion of urban agriculture across the District is the availability of affordable or free land or rooftop space. One solution to the land access difficulty is to establish a program that identifies parcels of land and rooftop spaces on District owned properties. The Department of General Services (DGS) manages most of the District government’s land/roof space, and will therefore need to draft standard land agreements for each urban agriculture project. DGS may need to provide new water and or electric connections on these plots of land in order for them to be viable for use for agricultural projects.

In order to ensure that new urban agriculture projects help communities experiencing food security issues, the creation of public and private urban agriculture projects and opportunities must be prioritized to high-need geographic locations in the District. Where the District has funding or opportunities for urban agriculture projects, private agricultural projects should be located in areas that are food deserts.

In order to increase rooftop spaces available for urban agriculture, starting after 2016, all new District buildings constructed should be built with a load-bearing capacity for at least 100 pounds per square feet to accommodate roof top gardens or other sustainable features. Either the agency constructing the building or DC Parks and Recreation should be responsible for coordinating the use of each new load-bearing rooftop space for urban agriculture projects.

Another significant obstacle in urban agriculture, especially for non-profits, is the lack of funding to meet the demand for healthy and sustainable food. The District can help this problem by making available funding through a grant program for starting urban agriculture programs, community gardens, and rooftop gardens, and a food hub on District and non-District owned land.

There are key areas of the city with high-need populations, or food insecure populations. To assist with additional urban agricultural opportunities in those areas, the task force recommends establishing a grant program that can provide District funds through grants for the establishment of new urban agriculture projects, community gardens, rooftop gardens with a priority in high food-need areas. These grants should be given to community nonprofits or commercial urban agriculture enterprises that will directly benefit the surrounding communities. The task force recommends the District make $50,000 in grants available to public and private organizations in the District every year to create or improve urban agriculture projects. task force recommends these grants be distributed in small grants ideally around $5,000 to $10,000 apiece.
b. **Expected Benefits:** These actions will expand the urban agricultural projects in a variety of different models, which will improve food access to local, sustainable, and healthy food across the District. There will be a greater percentage of local food being produced in the District, contributing towards the Sustainable DC Food Goal 1 “put 20 additional acres of land under cultivation for growing food” and Food Goal 3 “Produce or obtain 25% of food within a 100 mile radius.” Additional urban agriculture projects in the District are expected to provide education opportunities for local residents and schoolchildren. The same new businesses and agricultural enterprises will also put vacant land under productive use, and create new jobs.

c. **Completion Date:** This is expected to be an ongoing project that will require policy changes, new and revised legislation, infrastructure changes (such as water or utilities on public properties), as well as a public information campaign.

d. **Fiscal Impact:** Examples of infrastructure changes, which may have a fiscal impact, may include water and electric connections on publicly owned sites, or additional load-bearing capacity on new or renovated rooftops to carry additional weight for urban agriculture or other sustainable uses. Infrastructure improvements are estimated to cost approximately $50,000 for water hookups and any erosion control or storm water runoff projects. These funds will cover water and any other utilities from the sites that aren’t covered by additional agreements between the organization managing the garden and the District. The for-profit operating organizations for these new agriculture sites will begin paying the utilities once they are established in the first year. As the community gardens increase each year so with the utility usage. New community gardens and urban agriculture projects will need water access. All other expenditures should be provided by the organizations constructing and building the gardens or urban agriculture projects. There are expected to be no specific costs for the government associated with updating the building codes to reflect additional load-bearing capacity. Additionally a grant program to provide financial support for urban agriculture projects will need to be scoped and have a complete fiscal impact analysis in order to make realistic cost estimates.
### Estimated Fiscal Impact: Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Implementation Costs</th>
<th>Operational Costs</th>
<th>Total Costs</th>
<th>FTE Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$50,000 for water hookup</td>
<td>$25,000 for water and utilities</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
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<td>$25,000 for water and utilities</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$50,000 for water hookup</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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### Estimated Fiscal Impact: Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Implementation Costs</th>
<th>Operational Costs</th>
<th>Total Costs</th>
<th>FTE Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$100,000 for grants</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$100,000 for grants</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$100,000 for grants</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$100,000 for grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
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</table>

e. **Political/Citizen Impacts:** These actions will create urban agriculture jobs and job training by allowing public land to be more available for a variety of urban agriculture projects. There will be a greater percentage of local food being produced in the District, contributing towards the Sustainable DC Food Goal 1 “put 20 additional acres of land under cultivation for growing food” and Food Goal 3 “Produce or obtain 25% of food within a 100 mile radius.”

f. **Legislative/Regulatory Impacts:**
i. Action 7.1 - No specific legislative change is needed in order to require this, but legislation could be created to reinforce this priority.

ii. Action 7.2 - Sufficient legislation already exists to support this action.

iii. Action 7.3 - There will need to be an update to the building codes and or zoning regulations in order to require all new District buildings being constructed after 2016 to have rooftops with a load-bearing capacity at least 100 pounds per square feet to accommodate rooftop gardens or other sustainable features. This action will likely require legislation to establish the regulations to enforce this action.

iv. Action 7.4 - This program will need to identify the correct District agency to administer the grant program, and budget authority set in the 2016 budget to begin distributing grants in 2016.

g. Recommendations:
   i. Action 7.1 - Establish a program that makes pre-identified parcels of land available for urban agriculture, prioritizing areas of high-food need.
   ii. Action 7.2 - Prioritize locating community gardens, and public urban agriculture opportunities in food deserts and other high-need geographic locations in the city.
   iii. Action 7.3 - Require all new District-owned, or private projects using public financing to be constructed after 2016 to have rooftops with a load-bearing capacity at least 100 pounds per square feet to accommodate rooftop gardens or other sustainable features.
   iv. Action 7.4 - Establish a program to provide District funds to community partners through grants for the establishment of new urban agriculture projects, community gardens, rooftop gardens with a priority in high food-need areas.

h. Incentives (if applicable): N/A
GOAL 8: Build off of existing network of existing faith-based organizations, non-profits, and food pantries and develop opportunities for mutual learning.

ACTION 8.1: Explore ways to better connect educational institutions with food access education, employment, and community needs.

ACTION 8.2: Set up a policy and process framework for non-profits and service providers to connect and collaborate on food policy.

a. Summary (Action 8.1, 8.2): The goal of improved partnership and community engagement is about furthering the collaboration already taking place between community-based groups, nonprofits, food pantries, and faith-based organizations as it relates to food distribution, food access, health, skills training, and employment. It is also about tapping into some of the resources available through our educational institutions in the District, such as University of the District of Columbia’s (UDC) Muirkirk Research Farm, a 144-acre land parcel that could be used for sustainable agriculture innovation and job skills training. UDC also has plans to develop small-scale aquaponics facilities and offers a master gardening program. Partnering with other local universities in the area to tackle food-based research projects is also a key strategy. The Office of Planning and District Department of the Environment worked with a Capstone class from George Washington University in the spring of 2014 to develop new GIS layers for food access maps based on proposed and potential future sites for grocery stores. Proposed legislation to create a Food Policy Council and Food Policy Director for the District would provide the vehicle to ensure greater collaboration among all relevant partners moving forward. Through the Food Policy Council, educational partners would be able to coordinate more effectively and tailor programming to reach high-need populations. Community partners and non-profit service providers are the cornerstone of the District’s food system, providing emergency food access, education, training and communications about fresh, local, and healthy food options. This goal is aimed at building off of that strength and building ongoing communication and collaboration between community partners and government. The creation of a Food Policy Council will establish regular channels of communication and information sharing to facilitate collaboration between community partners.

b. Expected Benefits: Better collaboration among all the partners involved in food policy in the District will create a stronger and more efficient food system. When educational institutions are able to expand their outreach and education efforts, residents will have access to better information about available food resources, nutrition, and opportunities.
c. **Completion Date:** Ongoing.

d. **Fiscal Impact:** One full time staff position (FTE) to focus on and facilitate these efforts.

e. **Political/Citizen Impacts:** Citizens can expect a more robust, collaborative and efficient food system in the District. There is also expected to be improved and more open communication between community stakeholders, advocates and government agencies.

f. **Legislative/Regulatory Impacts:** There is currently draft legislation proposed to create a Food Policy Council and a Director of Food Policy for the District that is before the Council. The task force does not specifically endorse the draft legislation as it is still in development and specific language is not currently available at the time of this writing, but the task force supports the concept of the creation of a Food Policy Council and potentially a Food Policy Director, who could help to spearhead and facilitate the proposed action(s).

g. **Recommendations:**

i. Action 8.1 - Explore ways to better connect educational institutions with food access education, employment, and community needs.

ii. Action 8.2 - Set up a policy and process framework for non-profits and service providers to connect and collaborate on food policy.

h. **Incentives (if applicable):** N/A

**Goal 9: Bring healthy affordable food and beverage options closer to all.**

**ACTION 9.1:** Analyze healthy food access and physical barriers (e.g., distance, hours, physical ability of consumer, infrastructure, transportation) based on consumer demographics (e.g., seniors, low-income heads of household, schools, clinics)

**ACTION 9.2:** Include healthy food in the development of affordable and low-income housing (e.g., pair development with farm stand, new grocery store, community garden, etc.)

a. **Summary (Actions 9.1, 9.2):** The physical barriers to accessing healthy food range from transportation issues, physical disabilities (visual, cognitive, self-care,
mental, and emotional), senior citizen or aging challenges, and distance. For many residents, the corner grocery store remains the primary source of food. Farmers markets are mostly seasonal and offer limited food choices.

The number of senior citizens in the District is expected to rise as the overall population of the U.S. ages. In 2012, 69,045 District residents (11.4%) were over 65 years old\(^\text{13}\). According to a 2013 study by the Kaiser Family Foundation, about one in four seniors (26%) are living in poverty in the District.\(^\text{14}\) To assist senior citizens with access to healthy food, the District’s Office of Aging maintains a list of Senior Group Meal Centers. Of the 45 Centers listed, most are located in the Northeast and Northwest quadrants (Northeast-14, Northwest-22, Southeast-8, and Southwest-1)\(^\text{15}\).

In order to increase the access to healthy foods for the aging and physically-challenged populations, it is expected that District government will need to study the place-based location of those in need and their proximity to fresh, healthy and affordable foods. Based on that analysis, the District will be able to give more specific policy changes and direction to better to coordinate access to food for those in need. Some examples may include more or expanded home deliveries of food and establishing more local food distribution centers.

The task force will collaborate with DCHA to require that a portion of green space in new affordable and low-income housing projects take the form of community gardens (if applicable). Indoor and outdoor public meeting space should be utilized for farmers’ markets on a regular basis in low food access areas.

**b. Expected Benefits:** Access to healthy foods will increase the overall health of DC residents. Home delivery of food has the added benefit of serving as a “wellness check” for senior citizens or other high-need populations living alone. Senior citizens with home delivery of food may be able to stay in the homes longer as they age, reducing the need for beds in senior living homes. Community gardens and farmers’ markets at affordable and low-income housing developments will increase the overall knowledge of healthy food choices and provide periodic supplemental food access.

\(^{13}\) U.S. Census data, 2012


\(^{15}\) Office of Aging, 2014 Excel spreadsheet, “Group Meal Centers.”
c. **Completion Date:** Analysis and mapping can be completed within 1 year, while the actions to follow will be ongoing.

d. **Fiscal Impact:** N/A until the initial analysis is completed.

e. **Political/Citizen Impacts:** By improving food access for high-need populations, populations can expect to potentially need fewer other social service subsidies, and realize lower transportation costs when healthy affordable food is more easily accessible.

f. **Legislative/Regulatory Impacts:** N/A

g. **Recommendations:** The task force recommends analyzing healthy food access and physical barriers (e.g., distance, hours, physical ability of consumer) based on consumer demographics (e.g., seniors, low-income heads of household, schools, clinics) to make better-informed decisions about food policy. The task force recommends including healthy food in the development of affordable and low-income housing (e.g., pair development with farm stand, new grocery store, community garden, etc.) The DC Office of Aging, Department of Housing and Community Development, the DC Department of Disability Services, and DC Housing Authority will need to coordinate efforts to remove physical barriers to accessing healthy food. If the Council passes legislation to create a Food Policy Council, it should help to conduct these investigations after being formed and staffed. There is also overlap with the work of the Healthy by Design Sustainable DC Mayor’s Order Task Force recommendations.

h. **Incentives (if applicable):** Property tax credits to owners of private land who grant easements for community gardens, urban agriculture projects, or healthy corner stores should be considered as a potential incentive to expand access to fresh healthy foods.
Goal 10: Encourage businesses to offer healthy affordable food and beverage options to address physical access barriers.

ACTION 10.1: Encourage Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs), online grocery retailers, and food trucks to include routes and delivery in food deserts through incentives.

ACTION 10.2: Coordinate with Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs) and online grocers to accept SNAP and other food assistance “coupons” so healthy affordable food and beverage can be delivered to residents in food deserts, low-income individuals/heads of household, seniors, etc.

ACTION 10.3: Encourage farmers’ markets in the District to accept SNAP/WIC/SFMNP.

ACTION 10.4: Incentivize new businesses to open and operate in areas with limited or no healthy affordable food and beverage options (e.g., reduced taxes or permit fees for corner stores with a certain percent of healthy affordable food and beverage options)

a. Summary (Actions 10.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4): The primary physical barrier to access healthy food continues to be distance and lack of access. Years ago, many American homes received daily deliveries of fresh milk. Today, residents may live miles from a grocery store, and corner or convenience stores can offer inexpensive processed options close by. The task force recommends providing incentives and assistance to help supplement existing food access, in addition to the existing grocery store tax credit program. The areas identified as having the greatest concentrations of food-insecure residents should be the focus of physical access. Programs that promote fresh food delivery (rather than fast food delivery) need to be incentivized in low access areas. Another way to address physical access barriers of cost and a lack of proximity could be to require or incentivize Community Supported Agriculture’s (CSAs) and online grocery delivery services to deliver in high-need areas. Grocery deliveries can be a pivotal community connection for homebound residents and ensure that grocery and fresh food delivery services accept supplemental food assistance will open up these types of services to those populations. Additionally, more than half of the District’s farmers’ markets already accept SNAP and WIC, but in order to improve access, the District should provide technical assistance or incentives so that all markets will be able to accept those benefits. In addition to providing ways to make current food resources more easily available to food insecure populations, the task force recommends working with small local food businesses to open or expand in high-needs areas. By encouraging businesses to open in these areas,
the District can better meet demand for good food in those areas as well as provide new jobs and economic development potential.

b. Expected Benefits: Expected benefits include a greater percentage of residents currently on supplemental food assistance being able to purchase Community Supported Agriculture’s (CSAs) or items at farmers’ markets. Benefits would also include additional job creation from new or expanding businesses. The residents with the highest food insecurity would have improved physical access and potentially all of the District’s food deserts could be eliminated.

c. Completion Date: Initial work scaling up and further developing incentive programs will be completed in 2015, with programs launching in 2016, based on available funding.

d. Fiscal Impact: Fiscal impacts for these actions are directly dependent of the amount of available funding, and the size of the proposed incentive programs. Estimates below are based on similar programs for incentives that currently exist, such as federal funding for SNAP assistance for fresh and healthy foods at farmers’ markets. Property tax incentive or reduced permit fees total volume will depend on the demand for the incentive, but should likely not exceed $10,000 per business. Operational costs should not exceed 10 hours per week of existing staff time to manage incentives. FTE increase will use existing FTEs and newly created Food Policy Council Director position and support staff.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Implementation Costs</th>
<th>Operational Costs</th>
<th>Total Costs</th>
<th>FTE Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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</table>

e. Political/Citizen Impacts: Potential citizen impacts include improved access to fresh, healthy, and affordable foods. No political impact.
f. **Legislative/Regulatory Impacts:** This action will require the passage of legislation that requires that all farmers’ markets, online grocery retailers, and Community Supported Agriculture’s (CSAs) in the District to accept SNAP/WIC/SFMNP supplemental food assistance benefits.

g. **Recommendations:** The task force recommends collaborating with the DC Food Truck Association and other small businesses, entrepreneurs, and Main Street organizations to bring healthy fresh foods to food desert and food insecure areas of the District. Grocery stores, who offer inexpensive or free home delivery to high need areas, should be granted parking enforcement exemptions, or reduced permit fees for their delivery trucks. Alternatively, these grocers should be required to accept SNAP or WIC and to deliver to high-need areas.

h. **Incentives (if applicable):** The task force recommends providing property tax incentives or reduced permit fees for food businesses to locate or expand in food deserts. The expected total volume will depend on the demand for the incentive, but should likely not exceed $10,000 per business.

**GOAL 11:** Divert all food waste from landfill by providing education and opportunities for the reuse and salvage of all leftover food.

**ACTION 11.1:** Reduce the amount of food waste generated through gleaning, education, and changes in food handling practices.

**ACTION 11.2:** Set up a food salvage program to redistribute leftover food from businesses and to the local community.

**ACTION 11.3:** Require separated organic waste collection in all government facilities, with commercial kitchen and food distribution, including parks.

**ACTION 11.4:** Introduce and enforce food waste reporting and benchmarking at all government facilities and private businesses.

**ACTION 11.5:** Create incentives, programming, and a public education campaign to encourage the practice of food composting.

a. **Summary (Actions 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.5):** The Sustainable DC Plan has a goal of sending zero solid waste to landfills by 2032. The District is behind a number of other major cities in recycling diversion rates and the city lacks a central system for organic waste disposal. Many solutions currently in place are small-scale and lack the scope that it will take to get to zero food waste citywide. Part of reducing food waste is ensuring that more leftover food finds hungry mouths – either from kitchens, grocers, restaurants, farms, and other food-based businesses. To do this, the District should set up a robust food salvage
program between local food service businesses and community feeding centers that provide food to individuals in need. The other part of reducing food waste is to collect that waste separately and use it to produce compost. The Council passed legislation in July that addresses this (See B20-0641). The legislation calls for a composting feasibility study, the subsequent implementation of a three-bin waste collection system, enhanced data reporting measures, and significant public outreach. There are already some examples of organic waste already being collected separately in certain District facilities, including at the District Department of the Environment’s offices and 11 DC Public Schools through a pilot program run by the Department of General Services, with plans for expansion. Bill 20-641 creates an Office of Waste Diversion and Recovery within the Department of Public Works that is charged with implementing solid waste policies, public education and outreach on source separation, registering collectors, and tracking collection information, including tonnage of each type of waste collected and drop-off facility information. Public education campaigns should include best practices in backyard and neighborhood composting, with potential community drop off centers for organic waste at community gardens or farms.

b. Expected benefits: Diversion of organic waste from landfill. More residents in need receiving low-cost and healthy foods. A larger local supply of nutrient rich compost for local and backyard farmers and gardeners.

c. Completion date: Long-term implementation is expected by 2032, with interim milestones at 2-year intervals.

d. Fiscal impact: The creation of incentives, programming, and a public education campaign around composting could have potential costs for the District, as could a District government-operated food salvage program. However, there are a number of local partners in the private sector who would likely be able to assist or even implement some of these actions. The requirements to separate organic waste and to benchmark waste will have costs associated with them. For example, San Francisco’s three-bin collection service is entirely funded by collection rates of roughly $35/month. If residents switch from 32 to 20-gallon garbage bins, the monthly rate drops to $25. The figures below are from the Fiscal Impact Statement of Bill 20-641.

16 http://www.sfenvironment.org/zero-waste/overview/zero-waste-faq
### Estimated Fiscal Impact: Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Implementation Costs</th>
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<th>FTE Increase</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
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<td>2015</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$2,989</strong></td>
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**e. Political/Citizen Impacts:** There could be some pushback due to presumed vector or rodent control issues with composting. However, proper education and training of how to manage organic waste and proper maintenance of compost would prevent this.

**f. Legislative/Regulatory Impacts:** The approved legislation (see B20-0641) provides the necessary waste benchmarking legislation and associated regulation for the private waste and composting sector.

**g. Recommendations:** Work across District agencies and with community partners to promote a public education campaign about composting. Bring together local businesses, grocery stores, restaurants, and farms with community feeding...
centers and food banks to develop a food salvage program. Conduct a cost analysis on the implementation of a District–wide organic waste collection service.

h. **Incentives (if applicable):** Incentives could include subsidizing the cost of or providing free, composting bins for residents to use in their backyards.
## Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Event/Action</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td><strong>GOAL 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Complete background research into elements to include in the website, setup potential website framework</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Receive funding and staff positions to specifically work on website development</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ACTIONS 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Begin working on legislation for FY15.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Begin identifying parcels and rooftops for agriculture purposes.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Work with local food banks and food access non-profits to identify a 5-acre district parcel for a food hub</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td><strong>GOAL 1</strong></td>
</tr>
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<td>- Launch and edit new webpage of food policy resources</td>
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<td><strong>GOAL 3</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>ACTION 3.1</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Research and design grant program, financial incentives and technical assistance services, financial incentives (including grant program and tax benefits) and information resources that will incentivize businesses (food suppliers) to open and operate a business that sells healthy food in food deserts. Food suppliers include: corner stores, food trucks/vendors, farmer markets, home delivery services, community support agriculture pickup locations [DSLBD, DMPED with support of DCRA and DOH]</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ACTION 3.2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Identify existing food industry groups (e.g., restaurant association), nonprofits, and culinary job training programs with which District Government will coordinate implementing Goal 3 recommended actions [DSLBD, DMPED with support of DOES and OP]</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ACTION 3.3</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Convene working group with representatives from agencies that will design and implement Goal 3 recommended actions; coordinate with agencies charged with Goal 2 (increase demand for healthy food and beverages). Draft regulatory changes need to minimize barriers to business expansion/creation. [DSLBD, DMPED, DOES, OP, DCRA, OTR, DGS, DOH]</td>
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<td>Fiscal Year</td>
<td>Event/Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
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### ACTION 5.2
- Complete the action within six months and begin implementing outcomes

### ACTIONS 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4
- Create regulations that require all District building created in FY16 to be load-bearing for rooftop gardens
- Establish a program in FY16 that creates funding through grants for urban agriculture projects
- If legislation is complete in time begin the program to make District land available for urban agriculture

### GOAL 11
- Begin public education campaign around composting
- Implement incentives for composting bins
- Begin developing food salvage program
- Collect benchmarking data and implement organic waste collection in DC government facilities with commercial kitchens and food distribution

### ACTION 3.1
- Continue education campaign to encourage new and existing business to sell healthy food products
- Continued provisions of technical assistance services
- Coordinate with agencies charged with Goal 2 (increase demand for healthy food and beverages)
- Launch first competitive grant application round (contingent on dedicated funding) for small businesses for business expansion, inventory purchase, worker training/hiring, etc
- Follow-up with food industry groups and nonprofits for progress on barrier reduction and impact on financial/technical assistance provided to date
- Draft regulatory changes needed to minimize barriers to business expansion/creation and opening and operating a food hub
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Event/Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Explore tax benefits to food business employers and fiscal impact.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Make recommendations to EOM’s Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• (Contingent on funding in FY16 budget) Launch campaign to educate existing and start-up businesses on the competitive advantages of selling healthier food and beverage options; print related materials for businesses; coordinate with private entities that work with small and local businesses [DSLBD, DMPED with support of DCRA]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ACTION 3.2**

- Publish updated food desert data map
- Launch campaign to promote these locations to new/expanding businesses
- Regulatory changes take effect FY16
- Implement tax breaks, reduced fee schedule and expedite processing

**ACTION 3.3**

- Draft regulatory changes related to food hub
- Promote utilization of regional food hubs to small businesses (interim services until DC-based hub is launched in 2017)
- Conduct RFA for grant funds to support a hub; or RFP for food hub operator and facility construction.
- Identify food vendors
- Identify possible parcels that could be leased/donated for food hub
- Communicate with existing food hubs in region to benchmark best practices and exploring offer services in DC while a local hub is developed

**ACTIONS 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4**

- Begin the bid process and construction for the food hub
- Begin receiving RFPs for the Districts urban agriculture grant funding program and awarding grants.
- Begin regulations to require all new District buildings being constructed to have load-bearing roofs for roof top gardens
- Begin working with District Parks and Recreation and other government agencies to establish more rooftop farms on newly constructed District buildings with load-bearing roofs.
- Continue funding grants for urban agriculture projects

**GOAL 11**

- Have operating food salvage program in place
- Conduct detailed cost analysis and feasibility study on implementing District-wide organic waste collection
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Event/Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2017</strong></td>
<td><strong>GOAL 3</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|             | • Measure impact of financial assistance, technical assistance and tax credits/abatements on sales tax and job creation  
|             | • Continue provisions of technical assistance services  
|             | • Implement second grant round  
|             | **ACTION 3.2**  
|             | • Publish updated food desert data map  
|             | **ACTION 3.3**  
|             | • Facility construction and opening  
|             | • Promote to small food businesses  
|             | **ACTION 5.1**  
|             | • Implement District-wide organic waste collection  
|             | **ACTIONS 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4**  
|             | • Continue creating the food hub until completed  
|             | • Continue funding grants for urban agriculture projects  
|             | • Begin working with District Parks and Recreation and other government agencies to establish more rooftop farms on newly constructed District buildings with load-bearing roofs  
|             | • Continue receiving RFPs for the Districts urban agriculture grant funding program and awarding grants  
| **2018**    | **ACTION 3.2**  
|             | • Publish updated food desert data map  
|             | **ACTIONS 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4**  
|             | • Continue creating the food hub until completed  
|             | • Continue funding grants for urban agriculture projects  
|             | • Begin working with District Department of Parks and Recreation and other government agencies to establish more rooftop farms on newly constructed District buildings with load-bearing roofs.  
|             | Continue receiving RFPs for the Districts urban agriculture grant funding program and awarding grants.  
|
Appendices

This section includes any additional food policy research that the task force consulted and obtained information from while writing the plan.

Appendix A - Definitions

At-risk populations include infants, children, seniors, persons with low-income, low-income households, persons with food-related health issues (Such as chronic diseases like diabetes, obesity, heart disease, etc.).

Farmers’ Market is defined as a multi-stall market at which farmer-producers sell agricultural products directly to the general public at a central or fixed location, particularly fresh fruit and vegetables (but also meat products, dairy products, and/or grains).

Food deserts are defined as an area where an individual cannot obtain a wide selection of fresh produce and other nutritious foods at a full-service grocery store within a one-half mile of the individual’s residence, and highlights areas in which limited access overlaps with relatively high poverty.

Full-service Grocery Store is defined as business establishments with a minimum of 5,000 square feet primarily engaged in retailing food for home consumption and preparation.

Supplemental Food Source is a source of food that is available on a seasonal or periodic basis, and may amend a main source of food like a grocery store. Examples include emergency food assistance, farmers’ markets, healthy corner stores, community gardens, or school gardens.
Appendix B Maps

1. Farmers’ Markets
2. Community Gardens
3. Full-Service Grocery stores (located in DC & within surrounding counties of Maryland and Virginia)
4. Healthy Corner Stores locations
5. Full-Service Grocery Stores and Supermarket Tax Credit areas
6. Food Deserts Locations

August 2014 Food Desert Locations with DC Grocery Stores

Data Sources:
Food Access DC Office of Planning
Total Population 2000-2012 American Community Survey (Census)
Poverty Information 2000-2012 American Community Survey (Census)

Definitions:
Insufficient Food Access: Greater than a 10-minute walk to any grocery store
Low Poverty: 0-20% of population below the poverty level
Moderate Poverty: 20-50% of population below the poverty level
High Poverty: 50%+ of population below the poverty level

% Poverty by Census Tracts
0 - 20%
20% - 50%
50% +

Large Grocery Stores in MD VA
DC Large Grocery Stores
2012 Wards
Street Centerlines

Government of the District of Columbia
Office of Planning - April 16, 2014
This map was created for planning purposes from a variety of sources. It is neither a survey nor a legal document. Information provided by other agencies should be verified with them where appropriate.
7. **Food Deserts with Supplemental Food Sources**

August 2014 Food Desert Locations with Supplemental Food Sources

Data Sources:
- Food Access, DC Office of Planning
- National Population Survey (Bureau of the Census)
- Food Access Information System (FoodPrint)

Definitions:
- Sufficient Food Access: Within a 10-minute walk to any grocery store
- Low Income: 0-30% of population with income below 185% of the poverty level
- Moderate Poverty: 30-50% of population with income below 185% of the poverty level
- High Poverty: 50% and above of population with income below 185% of the poverty level

Government of the District of Columbia
Office of Planning - April 10, 2014
This map was created for planning purposes from a variety of sources. It is neither a survey nor a legal document. Information provided by other agencies should be verified with them where appropriate.
8. Food Deserts with Planned Grocery Stores

August 2014 Food Desert Locations with Planned Grocery Stores

Data Sources:
Food Access: DC Office of Planning
Food Population: 2009-2013 American Community Survey (Tracts)
Poverty Information: 2009-2013 American Community Survey (Tracts)

Definitions:
Insufficient Food Access: Greater than a 10 minute walk to any grocery store
Low Poverty: 0-25% of population below 185% of the poverty level
Moderate Poverty: 25-50% of population with incomes below 185% of the poverty level
High Poverty: 50%+ of population with incomes below 185% of the poverty level

% Poverty by Census Tracts

0 - 20%
20% - 50%
50%+

Planned Grocery
Large Grocery Stores in MD, VA
DC Large Grocery Stores
2012 Wards
Street Centerlines
9. DC Public School Garden Locations
10. Department of Parks and Recreation Summer Feeding Locations

August 2014 Food Desert Locations with DPR Summer Feeding Locations

Data Sources:
- Food Access: DC Office of Planning
- West Population 2009-2012 American Community Survey (Tracts)
- Poverty Information: 2009-2012 American Community Survey (Tracts)

Definitions:
- Insufficient Food Access: 6 or more food deserts
- Low Poverty: 0-20% of population with income below 50% of the poverty level
- Moderate Poverty: 20-60% of population with income below 55% of the poverty level
- High Poverty: 60%+ of population with income below 50% of the poverty level

Government of the District of Columbia
Office of Planning – April 10, 2014

This map was created for planning purposes from a variety of sources. It is neither a survey nor a legal document. Information provided by other agencies should be verified with them where appropriate.
11. All locations that accept WIC, SNAP
12. Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) locations
13. Senior Group Meal Centers & Aging Disability Resource Centers

August 2014 Food Desert Locations with Senior Group Meal Centers & Aging Disability Resource Centers

Data Sources:
Food Access: Office of Planning
Food Access Study: Food Access to Fresh Produce in English
Poverty Information: 2009-2013 American Community Survey (tracts)

Definitions:
Insufficient Food Access: Greater than a 10 minute walk to any grocery store
Low Poverty: 0-20% of population below 150% of the poverty level
Moderate Poverty: 20-50% of population below 150% of the poverty level
High Poverty: 50% or more of population below 150% of the poverty level

Government of the District of Columbia
Office of Planning ~ April 10, 2014
This map was created for planning purposes from a variety of sources. It is neither a survey nor a legal document. Information provided by other agencies should be verified with them where appropriate.
Appendix C – Additional Data

NON-MAPPED DATA SETS

1. All National School Lunch/breakfast program locations - Data still in development.

2. Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs) that deliver within DC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>DC Neighborhood</th>
<th>DC Street Address or Intersection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bending Bridge Farm</td>
<td>Adams Morgan</td>
<td>1724 California St NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bending Bridge Farm</td>
<td>Capitol Hill</td>
<td>11th St. NE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bending Bridge Farm</td>
<td>Tenleytown</td>
<td>Albemarle St. NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big White Barn CSA</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bigg Riggs Farm</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bull Run Mountain Vegetable Farm</td>
<td>Dupont Circle/Logan Circle</td>
<td>1424 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clagett Farm</td>
<td>Dupont Circle</td>
<td>1737 20th St NW Washington, DC 20009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dragonfly Farms</td>
<td>EMAIL to determine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Bloomingdale</td>
<td>2nd St., between Rhode Island Ave. &amp; Florida Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Bloomingdale</td>
<td>104 Rhode Island Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>NOMA</td>
<td>a few block SE of the Noma/Gallaudet Metro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Mount Pleasant</td>
<td>near intersection of Lamont &amp; 19th Streets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Mount Pleasant</td>
<td>3068 Mount Pleasant Street NW, Washington, DC 20010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Mount Pleasant</td>
<td>3258 Mt Pleasant St NW, Washington, DC 20010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Petworth</td>
<td>on Taylor between 7th and 8th between Georgia and New Hampshire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Petworth</td>
<td>on Jefferson between 4th and 5th, 1 block south of Kennedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Columbia Heights</td>
<td>near intersection of Sherman Ave. &amp; Irving St. NW, 2 blocks from Wonderland Ballroom &amp; near Bruce Monroe Community Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Crestwood</td>
<td>upper 16th St., near Carter Baron Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Palisades</td>
<td>across the street from Key Elementary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Capitol Hill</td>
<td>2.5 blocks NE of Eastern Market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAME</td>
<td>DC Neighborhood</td>
<td>DC Street Address or Intersection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Cleveland Park</td>
<td>on Idaho between Porter &amp; Quebec Streets, just east of Wisconsin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Spring Farm</td>
<td>Logan Circle</td>
<td>1529 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Even’ Star Organic Farm</td>
<td>Chevy Chase</td>
<td>Jocelyn St., Washington, DC 20015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Even’ Star Organic Farm</td>
<td>Chevy Chase</td>
<td>Chestnut St., Washington, DC 20015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Even’ Star Organic Farm</td>
<td>Chevy Chase</td>
<td>Nebraska Ave. at Connecticut Ave., Washington, DC, 20008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Even’ Star Organic Farm</td>
<td>Chevy Chase</td>
<td>5701 Broad Branch Rd NW, Washington, DC 20015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm of Peace</td>
<td>Chevy Chase</td>
<td>3220 Morrison St NW Washington, DC 20015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm to Family/Farm Bus</td>
<td>Capitol Hill</td>
<td>225 7th St SE, Washington, DC 20003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm to Family/Farm Bus</td>
<td>Petworth</td>
<td>Arkansas Ave NW and Allison Street Washington, DC 20011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm to Family/Farm Bus</td>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>800 4th St SW, Washington, DC 20024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field to City</td>
<td>Bloomingdale</td>
<td>1818 2nd St NW, Washington, DC 20001.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh and Local CSA</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
<td>16th Street NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh and Local CSA</td>
<td>16th Street Heights</td>
<td>1415 Decatur Street, NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh and Local CSA</td>
<td>Tenleytown</td>
<td>4350 Alton Pl NW Washington, DC 20016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden by the Woods</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gravel Springs Farms</td>
<td>Capitol Hill</td>
<td>U.S. House Offices and other surrounding office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundworks Farm</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster Farm Fresh</td>
<td>Capitol Hill</td>
<td>907 Maryland Avenue Northeast Washington, DC 20002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster Farm Fresh</td>
<td>Capitol Hill</td>
<td>1500 block Independence Ave SE Washington, DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster Farm Fresh</td>
<td>Shaw</td>
<td>925 Rhode Island Avenue Northwest Washington, DC 20001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster Farm Fresh</td>
<td>South Capitol</td>
<td>First block North Carolina Ave SE Washington, DC 20003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licking Creek Bend Farm</td>
<td>Adams Morgan</td>
<td>18th and Columbia Road, NW, Farmer’s Market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licking Creek Bend Farm</td>
<td>Brookland</td>
<td>Brookland Farmers Market, outside Brookland Metro Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAME</td>
<td>DC Neighborhood</td>
<td>DC Street Address or Intersection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Mountain Pastures</td>
<td>Bloomingdale</td>
<td>1708 3rd St NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Acre Farm</td>
<td>Capitol Hill</td>
<td>219 11th Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radix Farm</td>
<td>Columbia Heights</td>
<td>1525 Newton St. NW, Washington, DC 20010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radix Farm</td>
<td>Bloomingdale</td>
<td>1700 1st St NW Washington, DC 20001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radix Farm</td>
<td>Petworth</td>
<td>4100 block of 9th St., NW (Petworth Farmer's Market)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>U Street/Mid City</td>
<td>917 V Street, NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Penn Quarter</td>
<td>425 8th Street NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Capitol Hill</td>
<td>620 G Street, SE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Capitol Hill</td>
<td>215 G St NE Washington, DC 20002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Tenleytown</td>
<td>Chesapeake St. between 40th St. and Nebraska Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Downtown</td>
<td>1350 I Street, NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Adams Morgan</td>
<td>1724 California St NW, Washington, DC 20009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Takoma Park</td>
<td>232 Carroll St NW Washington, DC 20012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>H Street NE</td>
<td>1600 Maryland Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Petworth</td>
<td>9th St. NW between Taylor St. NW and Upshur St. NW.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>NOMA</td>
<td>1110 Congress St NE, Washington, DC 20002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Logan Circle</td>
<td>1630 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Southwest Waterfront</td>
<td>301 G St SW, Washington, DC 20024.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Mount Pleasant</td>
<td>3213 Mount Pleasant St NW, Washington, DC 20010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>U Street/Mid City</td>
<td>1612 U St NW, Washington, DC 20009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Brookland</td>
<td>600 block of Jackson St. NE just off 7th St. NE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Logan Circle</td>
<td>1200 S St NW, Washington, DC 20009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>U Street/Mid City</td>
<td>917 V St NW, Washington, DC 20001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>West End</td>
<td>2425 N St NW Washington, DC 20037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relay Foods</td>
<td>Georgetown</td>
<td>Georgetown Medical Center and French Embassy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual Food for the New Millennium</td>
<td>Capitol Hill</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual Food for the New Millennium</td>
<td>Tenleytown</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual Food for the New Millennium</td>
<td>Takoma Park</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star Hallow Farms</td>
<td>Adams Morgan</td>
<td>18th and Columbia Road, NW, Farmer's Market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sycamore Spring Farm</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
<td>TBD (Not listed on website)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Grocery stores or services that deliver within DC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Provider</th>
<th>Delivers in DC</th>
<th>Web Site</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Offers HFB</th>
<th>Accepts SNAP</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue Apron</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.blueapron.com">http://www.blueapron.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes, meal delivery by membership</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ClickE</td>
<td>TBD - stated USA</td>
<td></td>
<td>(587) 708-6666</td>
<td>yes, including perishable</td>
<td></td>
<td>ClickEMart is an online grocery service for Edmonton area, Canada and USA. ClickEMart is a company founded in 2013 in partnership with Lucky Supermarket.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Grocer</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.germangourmet.com">http://www.germangourmet.com</a></td>
<td>703-379-8080</td>
<td>Yes, only non-perishable</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gourmet @ Home</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gourmetathome.net/">http://www.gourmetathome.net/</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes, only non-perishable;</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H-Mart</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hmart.com/">http://www.hmart.com/</a></td>
<td>(not listed)</td>
<td>Yes, only non-perishable</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HomeGrocer</td>
<td>TBD (no phone to call)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.homegrocer.com/">http://www.homegrocer.com/</a></td>
<td>not online</td>
<td>Yes, only non-perishable</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>InstaCart</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.instacart.com">www.instacart.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes, including perishable</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBD Connect you with Personal Shoppers; less than one hour; under 2 hours is just $3.99!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MexGrocer</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mexgrocer.com">http://www.mexgrocer.com</a></td>
<td>(877) 463-9476</td>
<td>Yes, only non-perishable</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Brands</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://mybrands.com">http://mybrands.com</a></td>
<td>585-273-8480</td>
<td>Yes, only non-perishable</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBD Hard to find brands grocery/gourmet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service</td>
<td>Availability</td>
<td>Website</td>
<td>Fragility</td>
<td>Delivery Method</td>
<td>Notes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mySupermarket</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mysupermarket.com">www.mysupermarket.com</a></td>
<td>Yes, only non-perishable</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>online shopping and comparison website for groceries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netgrocer</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.netgrocer.com/">http://www.netgrocer.com/</a></td>
<td>Yes, including perishable</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>limited produce selection</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PeachDish</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.PeachDish.com">www.PeachDish.com</a></td>
<td>Yes, meal delivery by membership</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Monthly subscription, the company will mail a box of fresh food and recipe cards every week. There are two meals for two in each box. Just like the other services, on the surface PeachDish is a bit costly. It costs $50 a week for these two meals. That works out to $12.50 a plate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peapod</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.peapod.com/">http://www.peapod.com/</a></td>
<td>Yes, including perishable</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plated</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://plated.com">http://plated.com</a></td>
<td>Yes, meal delivery by membership</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safeway Inc.</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://shop.safeway.com/ecom/home">http://shop.safeway.com/ecom/home</a></td>
<td>877-505-4040</td>
<td>Yes, including perishable</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Grocery</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.urbangrocery.com">www.urbangrocery.com</a></td>
<td>202-544-5081</td>
<td>Yes, including perishable</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Grocer (AUL Super Store)</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="https://www.usgrocer.com/">https://www.usgrocer.com/</a></td>
<td>800-791-2114</td>
<td>Yes, only non-perishable</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Green Grocer</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.washingtonsgreengrocer.com/">http://www.washingtonsgreengrocer.com/</a></td>
<td>301-333-3696</td>
<td>Yes, pre-selected produce only</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>we bring a selection of 12 to 14 different types of fruits and vegetables to your doorstep; no membership fee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole Foods</td>
<td>Yes, all zipcodes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wholefoodsmarket.com">www.wholefoodsmarket.com</a></td>
<td>Yes, only at Thanksgiving</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **Commercial kitchens and food business incubators - Data still in development.**

- EatsPlace – EatsPlace is a pop-uppery! We are a food and restaurant incubator, a community commercial kitchen, and marketplace with dining space to host pop-up restaurants and guest chef residencies. [http://eatsplace.com/](http://eatsplace.com/)

- Mess Hall - Mess Hall is a unique culinary incubator located in the Brookland neighborhood of Washington, DC. We support independent food entrepreneurs in a brand new facility designed to foster growth through a Membership model, while creating a vibrant and diverse local food community. Mess Hall provides exclusive resources, support and innovative programs to help pave a path to success for our Members. [http://www.messhalldc.com/](http://www.messhalldc.com/)

- StartUp Kitchen – StartUp Kitchen is an eight-week rapid incubator for culinary entrepreneurs including formal mentorship with a DC based business owner and opportunity to partner with a local restaurant to temporarily operate their food concept in a restaurant setting. [http://www.thinklocalfirstdc.com/initiatives/startup-kitchen/](http://www.thinklocalfirstdc.com/initiatives/startup-kitchen/)

- Union Kitchen - Union Kitchen is a food incubator focused on growing food businesses by providing Members with the kitchen, catering opportunities, distribution services, access to partnered businesses, discounted vendors, marketing, and facility maintenance. At Union Kitchen, we seek people and businesses with great products, efficient processes, and resilient mentalities. [http://unionkitchendc.com/](http://unionkitchendc.com/)