



## City Innovations Work Group Meeting Minutes

Tuesday December 22, 2009

9:00 – 10:30 am

Offices of Public Health Law & Policy  
2201 Broadway, Suite 502  
Oakland

### Attendance

Heather Wooten, Margot Lederer Prado, Mike Church, Christopher Waters, Trina Barton, Alethea Harper

### General Discussion

- Margot asked if we create a matrix of all the policies passed by jurisdictions across the country that deal with food. Heather may have some resources to get this started.
- Mike announced that Café Katrina is serving free meals to 200 homeless families on Christmas.

### Agenda Item 1: Goals for the year

- 1a: Use of the *Whole Measures for Community Food Security* tool
  - Discussion:
    - Let's add a rating of *how important* each item is, then focus our work on things we rate both as important and in great need of improvement
    - The rating scale is confusing right now – can we revise it so it's clear what question we're asking? Make it clear that we're trying to figure out to what extent each value/item is happening in Oakland right now.
    - Let's form a small committee to determine which items on the list we're rating are actionable, and which scale they need to happen at (local, regional, state, etc).
  - Action:
    - Alethea and Food First interns will create an editable version of the rating scale (excel and/or survey monkey) with the addition of space to rate how important each item is. Margot will provide a model for the 'importance' rating
    - Alethea will suggest a revision to the rating scale
    - We will present these suggestions to the whole group at the 1/21/2010 meeting
- 1b: Workshops, dialogs, or forums to initiate

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INSTITUTE FOR FOOD AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY  
[www.foodfirst.org](http://www.foodfirst.org)

- Discussion:
  - Have an event to introduce ourselves to planners etc. at the City, but let's set our areas of work first using the WMCFS tool
    - Aim at having a meeting in February or March or so with planners, a couple city councilmembers, bring a chart of our priorities
    - Different city departments who deal with food are siloed; can we help make connections? In Seattle each city department was asked to look at their existing practices and see how they could better support the food system. This might be too much to people to do, but maybe we can do something like this for each department
  - Draft code is being written for the zoning update now; we should talk to the planners before it's completed, and then hold an educational event for city manager, health officials, etc on our zoning recommendations
    - Let's develop recommendations on zoning issues for five food categories: grocery, urban ag, processing/production, restaurants/cafes, mobile vending
  - Aim to have an Urban Agriculture Summit, perhaps this summer or fall
    - The Oakland Museum reopens in May; could we have a summit there, perhaps in conjunction with an exhibition on the history of urban ag/food production in Oakland? This could tie in with a small exhibit at the airport as well
  - Margot talked to Dick Walker (UC Berkeley Geography) at a recent event; he's an engaging speaker, willing to speak at events whenever
  - Could we produce a simple brochure on food and zoning? This would cover types of kitchens, whether a restaurant plans to serve wine, etc, and how this works according to how a property is zoned
  - It would be nice if the permit process for food retail/restaurants could be streamlined, so there is one point person; maybe a dedicated planner available to help with permits etc for each type of establishment, also help from a mechanical/plumbing specialist.
- Action:
  - Mike and Margot will make a chart of important timelines at the City, i.e. zoning update, waste management contract renewal, etc.
  - Before our 1/22 meeting, create zoning recommendations in five categories. Recommendations to include background, best practices, current code barriers, and things a new owner/operator might not know about the process. **(UPDATE: Devan Reiff in Planning wants to meet with us in January, will likely need to accelerate timeframe to create the recommendations):**
    - Grocery: Heather
    - Urban ag: Heather
    - Processing/production: Margot