

## Summary

The City of Tumwater wants to address food insecurity at the local level by focusing on 1) how to provide healthy food for all members of the community, 2) reduce food waste, and 3) support local food production and processing. This project will prepare a Food System Plan which will identify the most impactful activities in addressing core food insecurity issues, identify how to eliminate barriers and address gaps in the current system, and offer appropriately scaled solutions implemented at the municipal level through collaborations between the City and community partners. The Plan will include key performance indicators to assist the City in monitoring the effectiveness of the activities. It will also provide a method by which the City and its jurisdictional and community partners can maintain and update relevant resource materials.

## Methodology & Approach

Guiding principles. The Plan will be grounded in the principles of equity, sustainability, stability, resiliency, and efficacy.

- Equity. A food system should support food security with an emphasis on those community members that experience the greatest inequities.
- Sustainability. A balance between environmental health, economic profitability, and social equity creates a resilient food system that meets current food needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- Stability. All community members should have reliable access to sufficient, safe, appropriate, and nutritious food, even in the face of unexpected challenges.
- Resiliency. The food system should maintain its functionality and continue to provide food security and nutrition under various adverse conditions.
- Efficacy. The audience for the plan is the City of Tumwater, therefore, the objectives and actions in this plan will be the areas where this level of government can have the most impact.

Community engagement. Subject matter experts (SMEs) from the community will be identified to holistically represent Tumwater's current food system including natural, physical/built, political, and social aspects. SMEs will be consulted via interviews and survey tools to aid in creating an inventory and evaluation of the current landscape. City staff, Planning Commission, and City Council members will be consulted in identifying SMEs.

Community Food Assessment. Information obtained from SMEs will be synthesized in a Community Food Assessment to show key challenges, developments, current collaborations, and opportunities. The key findings from the assessment will inform the strategies addressed in the Food System Plan.

Develop goals. The overarching goals of the Food System Plan will be developed using the key findings of the Community Food Assessment. These goals will be drafted and then shared with SMEs, City staff, and Planning Commission and City Council members. The final goals of the Plan will reflect feedback received from these reviewers.

Develop recommendations. Recommended strategies and actions will support the vetted goals and be informed by the opportunities highlighted by SMEs in the Community Food Assessment. SMEs will have the opportunity to review the recommendations and provide feedback before the Food System plan is finalized.

**Food System Plan**

The Food System Plan will summarize the trends and current conditions revealed from the Community Food Assessment and focus on the recommended actions to meet the community’s goals. The actions may include opportunities for policy solutions, potential partners and community collaborations, infrastructure, education, and programming. All actions will be grounded in the feasibility of what can be accomplished at the municipal level. The Plan will include suggested metrics to evaluate its efficacy over time.

**Your feedback is requested on the following preliminary list of subject matter experts (SMEs).** This list is organized alphabetically by affiliation. These community members were identified to represent Tumwater’s current food system including natural, physical/built, political, and social aspects. Select SMEs will be consulted via interviews and the remainder via survey tools to aid in creating an inventory and evaluation of the current landscape.

- Who else should be consulted?
- What voices and perspectives are missing?
- Should any of these be excluded due to duplication, obsolescence, etc.?

| NAME              | TITLE   | AFFILIATION   | CATEGORY      |                         |            |
|-------------------|---|---|---------------|-------------------------|------------|
|                   |   |   | hunger relief | processing / production | food waste |
| Rae Lee           | Director  | Adventist Community Service Center  | X             |                         |            |
| Dani Madrone      | Pacific Northwest Senior Policy & Planning Manager  | American Farmland Trust   |               | X                       |            |
| Khurshida Begum   | Executive Director                                  | ASHHO Cultural Community Center   |               | X                       |            |
| Mark Clark        | Owner, farmer                                       | Bush Prairie Farm   |               | X                       |            |
| Peter Epperson    | Community Kitchen volunteer                         | Catholic Community Services   | X             |                         |            |
| Rhys Roth         | Executive Director                                  | Center for Sustainable Infrastructure   |               | X                       | X          |
| Deborah Sioux-Lee | Interim Executive Director                          | CIELO   | X             | X                       |            |
| Todd Anderson     | Old Town Center                                     | City of Tumwater, Parks & Rec Dept  |               | X                       |            |
| Alyssa Jones Wood | Sustainability Coordinator                          | City of Tumwater, Water Resources & Sustainability  |               |                         | X          |
| Kim Gaffi         | Consultant  | co-founder of GRuB, QUEST Consortium  | X             | X                       |            |
| Jennifer Colvin   | Owner, rancher                                      | Colvin Ranch  |               | X                       |            |
| Jeanine Toth      | Editor in Chief of <i>Fresh from the Farm Guide</i> | Community Farm Land Trust   |               | X                       |            |
| Pat Labine        | board member, committee member, faculty emeritus    | Community Farm Land Trust, Thurston County Agriculture Advisory Committee, Evergreen State College Ecological Agriculture |               | X                       |            |

| NAME               | TITLE                                  | AFFILIATION  | CATEGORY      |               |               |
|--------------------|--|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                    |  |  | hunger relief | hunger relief | hunger relief |
| John Peters        | Managing Member & Lead Developer       | Tumwater Craft District  |               | X             | X             |
| Margaret Garrett   | Farm-to-School Coordinator             | Educational Service District 113   | X             | X             | X             |
| Meredith Arseneau  | Child Nutrition Cooperative Supervisor | Educational Service District 113   | X             | X             | X             |
| Beth Henriquez     | Executive Director                     | Enterprise for Equity  |               | X             |               |
| Tanikka Watford    | board member, Executive Director       | Enterprise for Equity, The Moore Wright Group, Deep Roots Foods  | X             | X             | X             |
|                    | Basic Needs Navigator                  | Family Education and Support Services  | X             |               |               |
| Joel Hansen        | Tumwater citizen                       | former Tumwater Planning Commission member, Tumwater Farmers Market, Thurston Union of Low Income People | X             | X             | X             |
| Cathy Visser       | nutritionist, dietician                | South Sound Food System Network & Senior Services for South Sound; True for You Nutrition, LLC           | X             | X             | X             |
| Kerensa Mabwa      | Growing Home Collective Manager        | GRuB   | X             | X             |               |
| Deb Crockett       | Executive Director                     | GRuB, South Sound Food System Network  | X             | X             | X             |
|                    |  | Haki Farmers Collective  |               | X             |               |
| James Wirth        | Field to Food Bank Coordinator         | Kiwanis Food Bank Gardens  | X             | X             |               |
|                    |  | Mountain View Church   | X             |               |               |
| Elise Krohn        | Co-Director                            | Native Plants & Foods Institute, Tahoma Peak   |               | X             |               |
| Tony & Kira DeRito | owners                                 | Olympia Seafood, Tumwater Craft District   |               | X             |               |
| Treacy Kreger      | owner                                  | Our Community Kitchen, South Sound Fresh, Vern's Foods   |               | X             | X             |
| Robby Rutledge     |  | Rutledge Family Farm   |               | X             |               |
| Stephanie Penland  | Senior Nutrition Program Director      | Senior Services of South Sound   | X             | X             | X             |
| Jenni Crain        | board chair                            | Slow Food Greater Olympia  | X             | X             | X             |
| Chris Hyde         |  | Souper Sunday  | X             | X             | X             |

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|----------------------|--|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                      |  |  | hunger relief | hunger relief | hunger relief |
|                      | Food Pantry, Student Life                            | South Puget Sound Community College                                | X             |               |               |
| Kyle Rogers          | Executive Director                                   | South Puget Sound Intertribal Planning Agency                      | X             | X             | X             |
| Annie Salafsky       | Ag Research Tech, former owner Helsing Junction Farm | SW WA Growers Cooperative & SW WA Food Hub                         |               | X             | X             |
| Dave & Karissa Jekel | owners   | Spud's Produce Market  |               | X             | X             |
| Mitch Lewis          | owner, farmer, President Tumwater Farmers Market     | Summit Farms   |               | X             | X             |
| Leejay & Lea Lee     | owners   | Sweet Lee's Ice Cream, Tumwater Craft District                     |               | X             |               |
| Aherlow Kasjaka      | Program Coordinator                                  | Thurston Asset Building Coalition, South Sound Food System Network | X             | X             |               |
| Tina Wager           | Community Agriculture Programs Coordinator           | Thurston Conservation District, Farm My Yard Program               |               | X             |               |
| Judy Jones           | Senior Director of Operations                        | Thurston County Food Bank  | X             |               | X             |
| Michaela Winkley     | Community Engagement Coordinator / School Gardens    | Thurston County Food Bank  | X             | X             |               |
| Mackenzie McCall     | Agricultural Resources Supervisor                    | Thurston County Food Bank; South Sound Food System Network         | X             | X             | X             |
| Raymona Smiedala     | Community Wellness: Education & Outreach Specialist  | Thurston County Public Health & Social Services                    | X             |               |               |
| Al Quioco            | Environmental Health: Food & Environmental Services  | Thurston County Public Health & Social Services                    |               | X             |               |
| Hope Springer        | Recycling & Waste Reduction Specialist               | Thurston County Public Works                                       |               |               | X             |
| Aslan Meade          | Director of Strategic Alliances                      | Thurston Economic Development Council                              |               | X             | X             |
| Tina Sharp           | Regional Agricultural Development Manager            | Thurston Economic Development Council                              |               | X             | X             |
| Meghan Sullivan      | Deputy Director                                      | TOGETHER!  | X             |               |               |
| Brooke P             | Market Manager                                       | Tumwater Farmers Market  |               | X             | X             |

| Kristen Maring   | lead instructor, Tumwater FRESH Program (Farm Rooted Education for Sustainability & Health) | Tumwater High School   | X             | X             |               |
|------------------|---|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| NAME             | TITLE   | AFFILIATION  | CATEGORY      |               |               |
|                  |   |  | hunger relief | hunger relief | hunger relief |
| Carrie Lerud     |   | Tumwater Rotary  | X             |               |               |
| Akemi Nagano     | Support Services Technician   | Tumwater School District, Food Services  | X             | X             | X             |
| Bob Gibson       | Food Service supervisor   | Tumwater School District, Food Services  | X             | X             | X             |
| Tammi Morgan     | Food Service Coordinator  | Tumwater School District, Food Services  | X             | X             | X             |
| Chris Wells      | Executive Director  | United Way of Thurston County  | X             |               |               |
| Nate Lewis       | Conservation Manager, owner   | Washington Farm Land Trust, Oyster Bay Farm  |               | X             |               |
| Katie Rains      | Food Policy Advisor   | Washington State Dept of Agriculture   | X             | X             | X             |
| Dillion Johnson  | Business Solutions Navigator  | WorkSource Business Solutions Navigator for the Food Production sector at the Thurston Chamber of Commerce |               | X             | X             |
| Stephen Bramwell | Extension Director & Agricultural Specialist  | WSU Thurston County Extension  |               | X             | X             |

1. When you think about our local food system, what comes to mind?
2. How would you describe your role in the local food system?
3. What is the biggest barrier to accessing local, nutritious food?
4. What are some emerging issues in your sector of the food system?
5. What unmet needs, challenges, or barriers do you see in your sector of the food system?
6. How is your sector impacted by external market forces?
7. How is your sector impacted by climate change?
8. How has your sector been affected by waste management practices?
9. What are the biggest upcoming or current opportunities for improving our local food system that you know about?
10. What policies or practices are currently in place in Tumwater that hinder a thriving local food system from your sector's perspective?
11. What policies or practices could we enact in Tumwater to support a thriving local food system from your sector's perspective?
12. Are there any best practices you've seen in other places you'd like to see replicated in Tumwater?
13. Is there anyone else you think I should speak to?