

TO: General Government Committee  
FROM: Dana Bowers, Associate Planner  
DATE: May 14, 2025  
SUBJECT: Food System Plan – Development Update

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1) Recommended Action:

No action is requested. This is an update with the consultant who will present the Draft Community Food Assessment and request input regarding goals and objectives that will guide the strategy to improve the food system.

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2) Background:

The City Council included the preparation of a City Food System Plan to address community concerns with food insecurity on the local level on the 2025 Long Range Planning Work Program.

City staff have been working with our consultant Rebeca Potasnik to prepare a Plan that focuses on supporting ways to access food more effectively and consider the role of local and community-based agriculture activities, such as community gardens and local producers and processors to build a more resilient food system.

The strategy will focus on how to improve the food systems by eliminating barriers, addressing gaps in the current system, producing solutions to implement at appropriate scale, and identifying how to maintain and update resource materials through jurisdictional and community partners.

The General Government Committee was briefed on the project in November 13, 2024, and on March 18, 2025. This follow-up discussion with the General Government Committee will provide a draft of the Community Food Assessment. The consultant will request input regarding goals and objectives to guide the next steps of the project. Staff and the consultant plan to present goals and objectives to City Council at a work session scheduled for July 8, 2025.

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3) Policy Support:

Strategic Priority: Build a Community Recognized for Quality, Compassion and Humanity.

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4) Alternatives:

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5) Fiscal Notes:

Preparation of the Plan is internally funded.

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6) Attachments:

- A. Staff Memorandum
- B. Community Food Assessment