

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON
STATE OF WASHINGTON

In the Matter of:
creating a policy framework
for identifying planning, analysis
and actions for the purpose of
strengthening Jefferson County's
food system economy and security

Resolution No. _____

WHEREAS, the food system of Jefferson County is influenced by elements of the Jefferson County Code and areas of planning that include housing, transportation and infrastructure development; and

WHEREAS, among the Community Vision Statements of the Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan are: the support and encouragement of economic opportunities; the protection and conservation of agricultural resource lands; and

WHEREAS, a fuller understanding of our local food system can provide data to support the priorities of the 2010 Jefferson County Strategic Plan for strengthening the efficiency and quality of a county-wide food security program; and

WHEREAS, assuring the security of our local food supply is essential for our emergency preparedness and important for day-to-day local self-reliance; and

WHEREAS, many farmers have limited access to capital which challenges farmland preservation and future food production; and

WHEREAS, the American Planning Association Board of Directors adopted on April 15, 2007 a Policy Guide on Community and Regional Food Planning recommending the inclusion of food policies in local and regional plans and the American Public Health Association adopted a policy on November 6, 2007 entitled "Toward a Healthy, Sustainable Food System", recommending a food system approach as key to better human health and environmental quality and in June of 2010, the American Dietetic Association, American Nurses Association, American Planning Association, and American Public Health Association initiated a collaborative process to develop a set of shared food system principles and these principles have been published as "Principles of a Healthy, Sustainable Food System"; and

WHEREAS, over one hundred fifty cities and regions have established Food Policy Councils

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners does hereby support the formation of a Food Policy Council (FPC) for which the outcome shall be an Assessment and Report undertaken with the collaborative work of all segments of the county's food system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners shall consider the recommendations of the Planning Commission in defining the FPC mission; structure; member selection, member appointment and recommendation-making process; and schedule as presented in the Jefferson County Planning Commission's attachment to this Resolution.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners hereby request the Jefferson County Planning Commission and, once formed, the Food Policy Council, commence work at the earliest possible date to produce a draft food policy.[]

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ADOPTED and signed this _____ day of _____, 20__.

JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SEAL:

ATTEST:

Lorna Delaney
Deputy Clerk of the Board

John Austin, Chair

Phil Johnson, Member

David Sullivan, Member

Insert BoCC signature/date info here (see line 334)

DRAFT

77 PLANNING COMMISSION ATTACHMENT for a FOOD POLICY COUNCIL (FPC)

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79 The composition of the FPC shall be broad based and inclusive so that the widest possible
80 diversity of opinion, experience and perspective can inform Jefferson County's Food Policy.
81 The FPC recommendations should be based on the needs and wishes of those partners
82 representing all segments of the county's food system who will have assisted with the
83 production of the Assessment and Report as described in Section 3 as follows.
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85 Section 1. Goals.

86 These goals are meant to provide guidance for analysis, program development, policy
87 development and actions related to Jefferson County and the region's food system sustainability
88 and security. The overall intent of this local food action initiative is to create a healthy,
89 sustainable local food system and in doing so, advance the County's interrelated goals of
90 environmental sustainability, economic development, public health and emergency
91 preparedness. These goals include:

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- 93 a. Strengthen community and regional food systems by linking food production,
94 processing, distribution, consumption, and waste management to increase self-reliance
95 on local food resources
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 - 97 b. Encourage activities within a regional food system that strengthen Jefferson County's
98 ecological and economic health
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 - 100 c. Ensure that no Jefferson County resident experiences hunger and promote strategies that create the
101 systemic change necessary to eliminate the need for emergency and charity-based food sources
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 - 103 d. Ensure that access to local, safe and nutritious food is not limited by economic status, location, or
104 other factors beyond residents' control, prioritizing underserved residents
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 - 106 e. Support food system activities that encourage the use of local and renewable energy
107 resources and minimize energy use and waste including:
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 - 109 ➤ Reducing food in our waste stream, and
 - 110 ➤ Discouraging or restricting excessive and environmentally inappropriate food
111 packaging at all levels of the food system (production, wholesale, retail and consumer),
112 and
 - 113 ➤ Reducing the embedded and distributed climate impacts of Jefferson County's food
114 system, and
 - 115 ➤ Reducing food miles, and
 - 116 ➤ Promote energy efficiency at all stages of the food system by promoting local, sustainable food
117 production, and
 - 118 ➤ Incorporate "green business" principles (such as energy efficiency and water conservation) for all
119 food-related businesses in Jefferson, and encourage the adoption of clean technologies and
120 renewable energy sources into all food system industries, and
 - 121 ➤ Promote a "closed-loop" food system that emphasizes eliminating pollution, consumption of non-
122 renewable materials and the use of non-compostable food packaging, and
 - 123 ➤ Promote food scrap composting by Jefferson County's residents and businesses, and encourage the
124 utilization of food scraps as compost for Jefferson County's urban agriculture and community
125 garden programs, as well as regional foodshed agriculture.
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 - 127 f. Stimulate demand for healthy foods, especially in low-income communities, through
128 collaboration with community-based organizations and institutions
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 - 130 g. Support the development of balanced food environments that allow residents the opportunities to
131 make healthy food choices by prioritizing and improving food environments in communities that

- 132 suffer from diet-related disease and that are underserved by full-service grocery stores, farmers'
133 markets, community gardens, and other healthy, food options
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- 135 h. Increase access for all of Jefferson County's residents to healthy and local foods
136 through:
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- 138 ➤ Increasing opportunities for Jefferson County's residents to purchase and grow healthy
139 food in Jefferson County
 - 140 ➤ Dissemination of food preparation and preservation knowledge through educational
141 programs
 - 142 ➤ Supporting new opportunities for distribution of locally and regionally produced food
 - 143 ➤ Addressing disparities in access to healthy foods in inadequately served populations
144 and neighborhoods
 - 145 ➤ Supporting increased recovery of surplus edible food from businesses and institutions
146 for distribution to food banks and meal programs
 - 147 ➤ Addressing the needs of vulnerable populations, such as children, people living with
148 disabilities and seniors to accessing adequate, healthy food
 - 149 ➤ Increasing the amount of fresh fruits, vegetables, dairy and meat in the food support
150 system, including food banks, school and hospital meal programs
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- 153 i. Develop new models of land ownership which acknowledge the limited access next-generation
154 farmers have to start-up capital and that will ensure the continued use of farm land
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- 156 j. Integrate food system policies and planning into County land use, transportation and
157 other planning activities
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- 159 k. Develop and enhance partnerships within the County, as well as regionally, to research
160 and promote local solutions to food issues
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- 162 l. Establish a strong interdepartmental focus among County departments on programs and
163 policies affecting food system sustainability and security
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- 165 m. Support procurement policies that favor local and regional food sourcing
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- 167 n. Enhance emergency preparedness related to food storage, access and distribution
168 including working toward the goal of establishing a capacity for feeding the population
169 without food importation.
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- 171 o. Support local agriculture that is economically viable, environmentally sustainable and socially
172 responsible for the processing and consuming of local food. Promote policies and programs that
173 aim toward increasing the consumption of food produced within Jefferson County's foodshed to
174 30% of all food consumed by supporting such activities and endeavors as:
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- 176 ➤ local sourcing or purchasing agreements, farmers' markets, and Community Supported
177 Agriculture
 - 178 ➤ Advocate for regional Smart Growth policies that direct growth away from agricultural
179 soil
 - 180 ➤ Maximize Jefferson County's self reliance and capability to grow and provide
181 sustainable and nutritious local food for its citizens through urban agriculture initiatives
182 such as community farms and gardens, rooftop gardens, and building code
183 recommendations for edible landscaping
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- 185 p. Support the preservation of environmental resources by reducing food miles and increasing the
186 consumption of food grown using local inputs as well as less chemical, water, and energy-
187 intensive production, processing, and distribution practices

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- q. Support local agricultural activities as a method of preserving open space.

Section 2. Assessment and Report.

The Assessment and Report to provide information the BoCC can use for the development of local food system security. Recommended actions should follow from a comprehensive assessment of Jefferson County's current level of food system security. This assessment should be based on high-quality data as provided by all those who contribute to the food system; from producers to distributors to consumers to waste recyclers and managers.

- a. The Planning Commission, with the aid of County staff, and in partnership with other volunteer groups as the Planning Commission sees fit, is requested to initiate a county-wide series of neighborhood discussion groups focused on the needs and aspirations of all segments of the food system
- b. The Planning Commission, with the aid of County staff, and in partnership with other volunteer groups as the Planning Commission sees fit, is requested to identify potential partners who could assist in gathering quality data from all segments of the food system. Potential partners include, but are not limited to: membership organizations; non-profit service organizations; industry trade associations; volunteer groups; and centers of education. The Planning Commission is further requested to seek the assistance of these organizations in gathering feedback from those segments of the community they serve or represent concerning the creation of a healthy, sustainable food system
- c. The Planning Commission with the aid of County staff, and in partnership with other volunteer groups as the Planning Commission sees fit, is requested to submit a report to the Board of County Commissioners within one year of the date of this Resolution which should, at a minimum:
 - summarize the findings of the community dialogue meetings
 - summarize the findings of the public outreach conducted by partner organizations
 - identify barriers to the goal of creating a healthy, sustainable food system within the Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan (Plan)
 - make recommendations for changes to the Plan that would remove such impediments
 - make recommendations for changes to the Plan that would help to create a healthy, sustainable local food system
 - Identify regulatory impediments to the goal of creating a healthy, sustainable food system that fall outside the purview of the Planning Commission's directive
 - make recommendations as to the creation of a Food Policy Council including, but not limited to, the FPC's mission; member selection, member appointment and recommendation- making process; structure; and schedule

Section 3. City/County Coordination.

The BoCC requests that the City of Port Townsend recognizes the important role of food policy in regional and local planning and invites the City to assist in creating a healthy, sustainable local food system

Section 4. Learning Centers.

The BoCC supports the development of a partnership with universities, colleges, technical schools and other centers of learning or learning programs to assist in the development of a Food Action Plan and other policy and technical analysis that contributes to meeting the goals in Section 1

Section 5. Collaborative Design.

The County supports development of a partnership with individuals or groups in the fields of agronomy, water conservation, Permaculture, appropriate technology, food processing, product

244 marketing, food distribution, food justice, participatory planning and processes, and all others
245 that contribute to meeting the goals in Section 1

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247 Section 6.State Leadership.
248 The BoCC calls upon the State Department of Agriculture to increase its role in working toward
249 a state food policy consonant with the goals in Section 1

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