

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON
STATE OF WASHINGTON

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5 In the Matter of the Planning
6 Commission conducting their
7 periodic assessment and creating a draft
8 policy for the purpose of
9 strengthening Jefferson County's
10 food system economy and security

Resolution No. _____

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

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

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20 WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Planning Commission as part of their periodic
21 assessment is required to review and if necessary recommend revisions to the Comprehensive
22 Plan and Development Regulations prepared under the provisions of the Growth Management
23 Act within the process identified in Jefferson County Code 18.45.050(4).: and

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

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

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

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35 WHEREAS, the American Planning Association Board of Directors adopted on April 15, 2007 a
36 Policy Guide on Community and Regional Food Planning recommending the inclusion of food policies in
37 local and regional plans and the American Public Health Association adopted a policy on November 6,
38 2007 entitled "Toward a Healthy, Sustainable Food System", recommending a food system approach as key
39 to better human health and environmental quality and in June of 2010, the American Dietetic Association,
40 American Nurses Association, American Planning Association, and American Public Health Association
41 initiated a collaborative process to develop a set of shared food system principles and these principles have
42 been published as "Principles of a Healthy, Sustainable Food System" ; and

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44 WHEREAS, over one hundred fifty cities and regions throughout the United States have
45 established Food Policy Councils to develop policy guidance in support of their communities interest in
46 food system economy and security.

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49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Planning Commission
50 facilitate the development of a food system economy and security policy working in a
51 collaborative effort with all segments of the county's food system; and

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53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Planning Commission organize the
54 process by which interested citizens, food organizations and stakeholders may generate a draft
55 food system economy and security policy to be forwarded on to the Board of County

56 Commissioners for their consideration to be adopted as policy of the County and possible
57 inclusion into the Counties strategic plan.

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59 THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Planning Commission
60 facilitate the development of a food system economy and security policy as outlined in section
61 2 of this resolution.

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

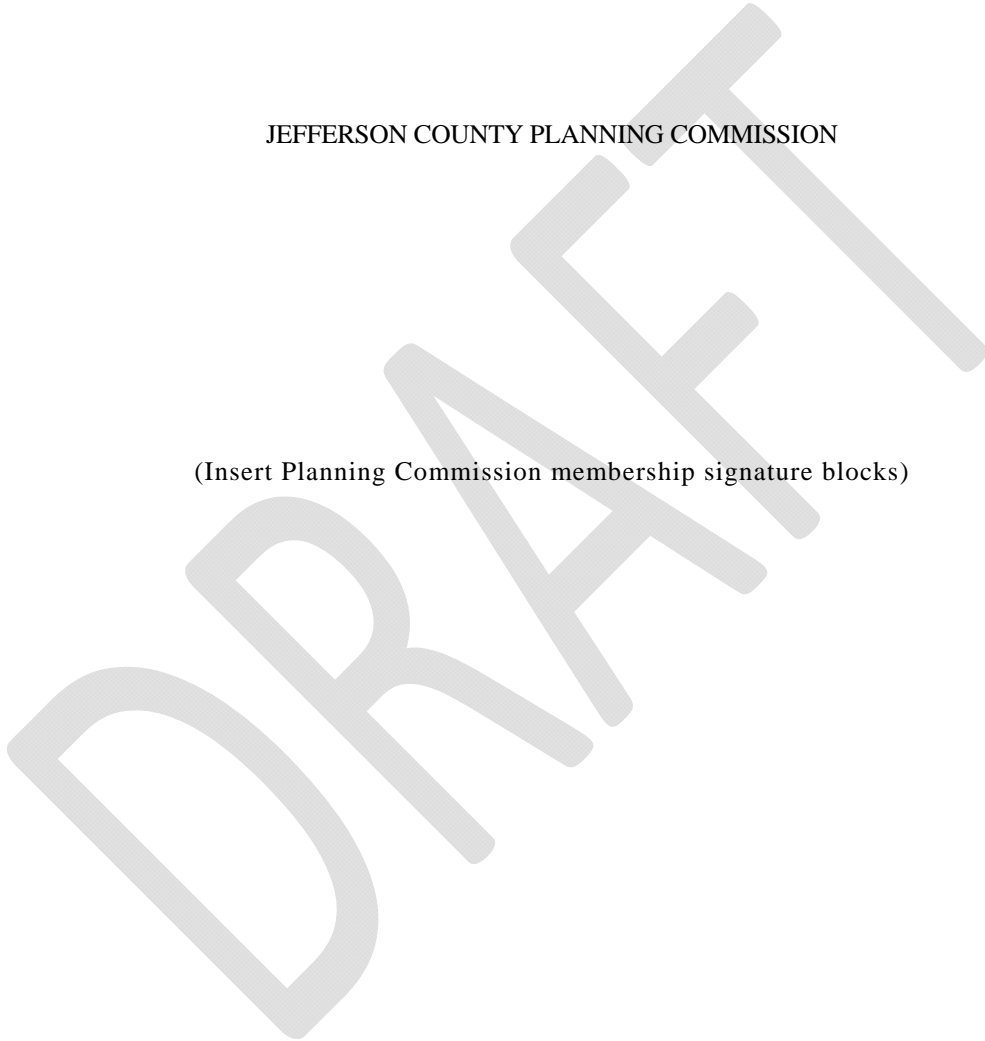
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JEFFERSON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

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(Insert Planning Commission membership signature blocks)

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85 PLANNING COMMISSION ATTACHMENT for developing a FOOD POLICY

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87 The development of a food policy should be broad based and inclusive so that the widest
88 possible diversity of opinion, experience and perspective can inform Jefferson County's Food
89 Policy. The food policy recommendations should be based on the needs and wishes of those
90 partners representing all segments of the county's food system who will have assisted with the
91 development of a food policy.

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93 Section 1. Goals.

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

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- 101 a. Strengthen community and regional food systems by linking food production,
102 processing, distribution, consumption, and waste management to increase self-reliance
103 on local food resources
- 104
- 105 b. Encourage activities within a regional food system that strengthen Jefferson County's
106 ecological and economic health
- 107
- 108 c. Ensure that no Jefferson County resident experiences hunger and promote strategies that create the
109 systemic change necessary to eliminate the need for emergency and charity-based food sources
- 110
- 111 d. Ensure that access to local, safe and nutritious food is not limited by economic status, location, or
112 other factors beyond residents' control, prioritizing underserved residents
- 113
- 114 e. Support food system activities that encourage the use of local and renewable energy
115 resources and minimize energy use and waste including:
- 116
- 117 ➤ Reducing food in our waste stream, and
 - 118 ➤ Discouraging or restricting excessive and environmentally inappropriate food
119 packaging at all levels of the food system (production, wholesale, retail and consumer),
120 and
 - 121 ➤ Reducing the embedded and distributed climate impacts of Jefferson County's food
122 system, and
 - 123 ➤ Reducing food miles, and
 - 124 ➤ Promote energy efficiency at all stages of the food system by promoting local, sustainable food
125 production, and
 - 126 ➤ Incorporate "green business" principles (such as energy efficiency and water conservation) for all
127 food-related businesses in Jefferson, and encourage the adoption of clean technologies and
128 renewable energy sources into all food system industries, and
 - 129 ➤ Promote a "closed-loop" food system that emphasizes eliminating pollution, consumption of non-
130 renewable materials and the use of non-compostable food packaging, and
 - 131 ➤ Promote food scrap composting by Jefferson County's residents and businesses, and encourage the
132 utilization of food scraps as compost for Jefferson County's urban agriculture and community
133 garden programs, as well as regional foodshed agriculture.
- 134
- 135 f. Stimulate demand for healthy foods, especially in low-income communities, through
136 collaboration with community-based organizations and institutions
- 137
- 138 g. Support the development of balanced food environments that allow residents the opportunities to
139 make healthy food choices by prioritizing and improving food environments in communities that

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

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

Section 2. Food policy development:

The Planning Commission shall oversee the development of the food system economy and security policy as it is developed by interested citizens, food organizations and stakeholders. Individual citizens, stakeholders, and food organizations are requested to plan, schedule and conduct public meetings, provide technical information and develop draft food policies. 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 will designate a portion of their monthly meeting to examine and direct the process by which the food policy is being generated. The Planning Commission shall develop a work plan with a schedule of activities to accomplish the task of first, examining the comprehensive plan and development regulations as required during their periodic assessment. Second, facilitate the drafting of a broader policy statement which is more extensive than the legal requirement under the Growth Management Act.
- b. The Planning Commission, will encourage active citizen participation at the "grassroots" level to organize interested parties in the development of the food policy. 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 places emphasis on the creation of a healthy, sustainable food system.
- c. The Planning Commission as part of their periodic assessment of the comprehensive plan and development regulations will extract from the findings of partner organizations and interested citizens specific areas which impede the food system economy and security by
 - identifying barriers to the goal of creating a healthy, sustainable food system within the Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan (Plan)
 - making recommendations for changes to the Plan that would remove such impediments
 - making recommendations for changes to the Plan that would help to create a healthy, sustainable local food system
 - Identifying regulatory impediments to the goal of creating a healthy, sustainable food system that fall outside the purview of the Planning Commission's directive
 - Drafting a broader food policy with Community Development staff to be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners as policy and incorporation into the Counties strategic plan

Section 3. City/County Coordination.

The Jefferson County Planning Commission 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 Planning Commission 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 system economy and security policy that contributes to meeting the goals in Section 1

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Section 5. Collaborative Design.

The Planning Commission supports development of a partnership with individuals or groups in the fields of agronomy, water conservation, permaculture, appropriate technology, food processing, product marketing, food distribution, food justice, participatory planning and processes, and all others that contribute to meeting the goals in Section 1

