Today’s Agenda:

• Lightning Presentations:
  • Kansas Food Action Network Policy Updates – Eileen Horn
  • Growing Growers & Urban Food Systems Updates – Semra Fethahovic
  • Growing an Equitable & Sustainable Food System in the KC Region – Andrea Clark
  • Kansas Black Farmers Association – Ingrid Perez

• RFSP Grant Project Updates – Rebecca McMahon
  • Community Roundtables Report Overview

• Discussion & Announcements of local food system efforts in Kansas

• Evaluation

Notes & Recordings of all Town Halls can be found at: https://www.k-state.edu/kansaslocalfoods
Welcome Poll:

• Have you attended a quarterly Local Food Town Hall in the past?
  • Yes, more than one time
  • Yes, one other time
  • No, this is my first
  • I’m not sure

• Please put your name, location, and organization or business affiliation (if any) in the chat.

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Legislative Update + State Food Policy Council Update

Local Food Virtual Town Hall
April 24, 2024

Presented by: Eileen Horn
2024 Legislative Session Update

- The legislature adjourned their regular session on April 6th.
- They are on a three week break before returning on Friday, April 26th to work through Tuesday, April 30th for their Veto Session.

Big picture items for Veto session:

- Final passage of a K-12 budget bill.
- Tax plan sent to Governor Kelly, awaiting veto or signature: Reduces income tax rates from three to two tiers and lowers the rates; ends the sales tax on food July 1st; eliminates the tax on social security; and increases standard deductions and exemptions.
2024 Legislative Session
Food Systems Update

Farm to Food Bank Program Established at KDA:
• The mega-budget, CCR on SB 28, includes $900,000 for the Farm to Food Bank Program.
• The Budget passed the House 78-44 and the Senate 26-12, and the Governor should approve in the coming days.

Sales Tax on Food could be eliminated 6 months earlier than planned:
• The Legislature’s tax plan sent to the Governor accelerates the end of the food sales tax to July 1, 2024.

Land and buildings devoted to registered agritourism activity would be taxed as agricultural land. The selling of merchandise associated with agritourism would not change the tax classification:
• HB 2254: Agritourism: Amending the definition of land devoted to agricultural use for property tax purposes to include properties used as part of registered agritourism activities. Included in CCR on SB 410.
• Passed the House 120-0 and the Senate 34-2. Awaits Governor's approval.

Custom meat processing services are now tax exempt:
• SB 60: Providing sales tax exemptions for custom meat processing services. Included in CCR for HB 2098.
• Passed the Senate 34-1 and the House 102-17. Awaits Governor's approval.
Announcing: Kansas Food Policy Council

• KFAN will convene the first statewide food policy council this summer!
• The purpose of a statewide food policy council is to inform and influence state level policies impacting the food system and to foster coordination between statewide food system partners.
• 19 stakeholders have been invited to serve on the inaugural council. Representatives bring expertise from across the food system - from production to retail to food access to waste.
• Our first few meetings of 2024 will focus on building knowledge and wisdom across Council disciplines.

Do you have a resource that the state FPC needs to know about? Please add in the chat!
Urban Food Systems Initiative (UFSI)

An interdisciplinary collaboration by students, faculty, extension professionals, communities and industry who are focused on developing sustainable urban food systems that are inclusive, resilient, safe and diverse.
Why are UFS important?

- Urban, peri-urban, and rural communities benefit from and contribute to urban food systems.
  - Public health and wellness
  - Food equity
  - Economic development

- Agriculture within cities will not be able to feed a dense population.

- We envision a food system that transcends the urban/rural spectrum and is resilient to social and environmental change.
URBAN HIVES: NURTURING BEES FOR BIODIVERSITY AND NUTRITION

A webinar to discuss the integration of bees in urban agriculture as a means of income generation, pollinator enhancement, biodiversity improvement, and a rich source of nutritious honey.

May 1st 2024
10:00AM CST
ZOOM

K-STATE
OLATHE
Urban Food Systems Initiative
UFSI Research

GRIP Project Team
- Horticulture
- Food Science
- Soil Science
- Plant Pathology
- Biology
- Ecology
- AgEconomics
- Sociology
- Education/Training
- Consumer Behavior
- Public Policy
- Social Science
- Urban Planning
- Data Science
- Machine Learning
- Engineering

K-STATE Research and Extension | Local Food Systems
Urban Food Systems Symposium

2024 URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS SYMPOSIUM

JUNE 11-13, 2024

DEVELOPING URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS FOR SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

HYATT REGENCY
DOWNTOWN COLUMBUS
350 N HIGH ST, COLUMBUS, OH 43215

URBANFOODSYSTEMSSYMPOSIUM.ORG

2026 Symposium will return to Kansas City
Growing Growers

- Beginning farmer apprenticeship program wherein apprentices:
  - engage in hands-on farmwork at their host farm
  - receive 12-month access to an extensive online course
  - attend a series of in-person workshops and farm tours

- Online course (launched in 2023) & expansion into KS and MO
  - 20th season in 2024, supported by an organizing committee representing various organizations across Kansas and Missouri.
KBFA
Kansas Black Farmers Association
Ingrid Perez-Esquível
The mission of the Kansas Black Farmers Association is to preserve the Kansas minority farmer legacy through education, promotion of the agricultural lifestyle and collective niche product development.
Latest Projects

01 Farm Tours

02 Trainings & Programs

03 Veryl Switzer/MANRRS Agriculture Camp for Youth
FARM TOURS
Adam’s Family Farm with Representative Sharice Davids

Feb 20, 2024 KBFA hosted House Representative Sharice Davids at KBFA Members Adam’s Family urban farm in Shawnee, KS
March 28, 2024 had the opportunity to host a visit to Bar H Fresh Farms in Oakley, KS. A family-owned farm with over 100 years of farming experience in western Kansas. Home to 4th generation farmers keeping the legacy of black farming alive for generations to come.
SWITZER 2024 SUMMER CAMP!

ENROLL TODAY!

Camp Dates:
June 23-28, 2024

Activities:
Two Days at KSU NRCS Water Field Day, Horseback Riding, Fishing, Farming and more!

Enrollment Requirements:
Ages: 10yr - 17yr olds
$25 Enrollment Fee

Training & Programs

FSMA/PSA Trainings

Summer Camp

Tax Assistance
This quarter, KBFA has focused on enhancing member access to requested resources and education, aiming to prepare them for success as they embark on their farming journey or seek additional support as seasoned farmers.
PROGRAMMING

Veryl Switzer/MANRRS Agriculture Camp for Youth

Two days jam-packed with hands-on activities at KSU NRCS, thrilling Water Field Day, fishing fun, horseback riding, farming adventures, and more!
Contact details

www.kbfa.org

ingrid.p@kbfa.org
Growing an
Equitable & Sustainable
Food System

A Plan for Collaborative Action in Regional KC
Project Goal
To identify equitable and sustainable strategies to connect local food producers and consumers, expand new and existing markets, and improve community food security.
Community Engagement

Over two years, we engaged 218 people at 22 focus groups in 8 priority counties.

About 87% of participants said they were likely to collaborate
Action Plan

Goals
Milestones
Towards our shared vision

Strategies
Methods to achieve the goals

Models
Demonstrate the strategies in action

Partners
Groups to collaborate with
8 Goals

1. Food Security
2. Food System Workers
3. Consumers Buy Local
4. Food System Careers
5. Land Access
6. Local Food Infrastructure
7. Farm to Market
8. Food System Resources

Image: Ivanhoe Farmers Market
From Plan to Action

Scan the QR code or visit our webpage to find out how you can get involved.

Find other regional food systems plans, current projects, and funding resources in the full action plan.

Contact Us

Project Manager: Andrea Clark
Email: aclark@kchealthykids.org
Phone: 816-523-5353
Web: kchealthykids.org/food-system-planning
Community Roundtable Report Overview
What We Did

Modified World Café Roundtable Discussions at:

- K-State Research & Extension Annual Conference
- Dodge City
- Clay Center
- Topeka
- Quinter
- Colby
- Salina
- Wichita

- Hutchinson
- Olathe
- Ottawa
- Pittsburg
- Liberal
- Four Virtual Town Halls
- Kansas Black Farmers Association
- Prairie Band Pottawatomi Nation Food Network
Three Primary Questions We Asked:

- What do you want your future local food system to look like?
- What are the unsolved challenges of your local food system?
- What are your needs in order to make progress?
What do Kansans want their local food systems to look like in the future?

- **Local, fresh, nutritious foods** are available and accessible to all community members through a **wide range of market outlets**, including grocery stores, local restaurants, schools and institutions, farmers’ markets, food hubs, and more.

- **Profitable, diversified farms** using environmentally sustainable practices are functioning within a **healthy, equitable economic ecosystem** and **meeting the demand for a wide range of fresh, healthy foods** in their local and regional communities.

- **Effective, collaborative networks and systems** ensure that farms, businesses, consumers, and those in need have access to the knowledge, funding, and resources to be successful, sustainable, and healthy.
What are the unsolved challenges facing the Kansas food system?

• **Food Access and Food Insecurity**
  - Access to food and food insecurity are persistent challenges facing many Kansans, in all parts of the state, both rural and urban. We have many shared and some unique experiences related to food access.

• **Capacity for Food System Entrepreneurship**
  - Across the state, Kansans identified the challenges facing existing farms and businesses and the lack of capacity to address those challenges.

• **Consumer Knowledge, Awareness, and Skills Related to Food and Food Systems**
  - Consumers are important drivers of local food markets, but many lack the awareness, knowledge, and skills to get involved.
What do Kansans need in order to make progress on our local food systems?

• **Connection, Collaboration, and Communication**
  • People and organizations that facilitate additional connections, communication, and collaboration between businesses, farmers, consumers, government, and non-profits to make progress on food system efforts.

• **Financial Resources**
  • Access to capital, grants, incentives, and insurance that have low barriers to participation to help farms, small businesses, and non-profits sustain and grow their food system capacity.

• **Awareness, Education, and Engagement around Local Food Systems**
  • A shared vision and broad community support for the value of local food from local leaders and officials, schools, and consumers, as well as an understanding of what is needed to make progress.
What do Kansans need in order to make progress on our local food systems?

• **Human Capital**
  • Paid positions that support food system development as well as reliable, trained labor for farms and businesses.

• **Technical Assistance and Resources**
  • Resources to help farms and businesses navigate challenges, increase sustainability, mitigate risk, navigate regulations, and increase capacity.

• **Policy, Regulations, and Government Support**
  • Government leaders engaged with local food system needs in meaningful ways, including city, county, school district, and state. This includes addressing policies and regulations that create barriers.
Questions or Comments?

Complete report available by late June or early July.
Kansas Local Food Summit

August 28, 2024
Wichita, KS

www.kansaslocalfoods.org
Local food systems are successful when they have many diverse partners working together for a common goal. We invite you to join in our virtual or in-person events to help us continue building a thriving Kansas Local Food System.

Email Newsletter: [http://eepurl.com/isRfUU](http://eepurl.com/isRfUU)
Discussion and Updates
Next Town Hall:
Wednesday, July 24th at 11 a.m.

Register at: https://bit.ly/2024localfoodtownhalls

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Closing Poll:

• Did you learn something new today?
  • Yes
  • No

• Which topics were valuable to you today?
  • KFAN Legislative Update & State Food Policy Council
  • Urban Food Systems Initiative & Growing Growers
  • Kansas Black Farmers Association
  • Regional KC Food System Report
  • Kansas Community Roundtable Report
  • Discussion and Other Updates/Announcements

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Closing Poll:

• How many people will you share something with from today’s town hall?
  • None
  • 1
  • 2-5
  • 6 or more

• Do you have suggestions for speakers or topics at our next Town Hall?
  • Please submit suggestions in the chat

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Thank you!