

DC Food Policy Council Meeting Notes  
August 5, 2020

For more information, please see the [Slides](#) and [Recording](#) of this meeting.

- Welcome
- Working group updates
  - **Entrepreneurship & Food Jobs**
    - Just hosted a successful webinar on the role of Community Development Financial Institutions in building an equitable food system. Recording available at <https://dcfoodpolicy.org/recordings/>
    - Our September working group meeting will be focused on sharing information about upcoming events, workshops, and funding
  - **Food Access & Equity**
    - Friday, August 7: History of DC's Grocery Gap (Session 4 of FPC's Race, Racial Equity, and DC's Food System Discussion Series). Register here: <https://dcfoodpolicy.org/events-and-meetings/coffee-chats/>
    - June 2020 Food Resources for Seniors Webinar: The FPC and DC Hunger Solutions hosted a webinar focused on food resources for seniors living in the District.
      - i. Here is a link to the recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dqkbKBqAqtE&feature=youtu.be>
      - ii. This is a link to the resources on the DC Hunger Solutions Website with the FAQs and PDF Slides: <https://www.dchunger.org/home/covid-19-food-resources/>
  - **Urban Agriculture**
    - Strategizing for fall collectively sharing what they would like to work on together
    - Inclusive engagement & outreach
    - Exploring how WG members can participate in advocacy on behalf of urban ag
    - Better defining/redefining urban ag
  - **Nutrition & Food System Education**
    - 2020 Goals update
    - Nutritional and education landscape assessment: working with GW Public Health School
    - Working with grad student from Townsend University on developing a story map for nutrition/food education during COVID-19. If you are interested in being interviewed for this project please email [clnemphos@gmail.com](mailto:clnemphos@gmail.com).

- If you are interested in joining biweekly calls with food and nutrition educators please email: Kristy McCarron <Kristy.McCarron@ymcadc.org>
- **Sustainable Supply Chain**
  - Considering ways to assess how institutional purchases can comply with sustainability standards
  - Guest speaker from MAFRAC (Mid Atlantic Food Resources Action Coalition): Tom McDougal discussing board member Zachary Curtis' new program where they are support producers of color to benefit from institutional purchasing power to build relationships with lenders
- COVID-19 Response and Recovery
  - DCPS Fall: continuation of grab n go meals at DCPS sites, but children will have to go to the school were they are registered in order to receive meals. This is because USDA did not extend a waiver that allowed children to receive a meal at any school (this waiver has been in effect since March) i.e. Your child lives in Ward 8 but goes to school in Ward 3 then you must travel to that school to get the meals. States are pushing USDA to reconsider this; don't want to approve certain waivers as they believe this crisis will be over by September. Continued efforts and conversations are being had to further reapply or find additional ways to make meals more accessible (i.e. creating MOU with schools that would allow a child to pick up meals closest to them.)
  - OSSE has Nutrition team bi-weekly calls on school meals (next Thursday): contact [Lindsay.Palmer@dc.gov](mailto:Lindsay.Palmer@dc.gov)
  - Free grocery distribution/Get Help hotline continuing
    - Grocery distribution is now administered by Martha's Table and DC Central Kitchen at the same 10 DCPS sites. Please note the hours have changed from 12:30-2pm to 10-11:30am to avoid the hottest part of the day. The school sites and hours can be found at [coronavirus.dc.gov/food](https://coronavirus.dc.gov/food).
    - Get Help Hotline: Residents that are homebound because of COVID-19 can request support from the District for food and other essential items. Call 1-888-349-8323 or click here: <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/gethelp>
  - Spotlight: Capital Area Food Bank 2020 Hunger Report- Sabrina Tadele
    - Sabrina provided a high level summary of the report, available here: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/e764da62715f4931985ee493e15e0dfc>
    - Q&A for Sabrina
      - Q: Camille: A lot of historical data in the report- are there any takeaways from what we have learned from the past? How do we not get history to repeat itself?
        - A: We will never address food insecurity by just giving more food in the homes; but must address all factors- economy, food banks, family life ets. We look to use programs that provide meals but, also looking for root

causes and how to address all factors that go hand in hand to combat the total issue of food insecurity. Need to think more creatively to find ways to simultaneously deal with why individuals are experiencing food insecurity vs. band-aid treatment of the problem.

- Q: Patrick- Are there any policy recommendations for FPC-Council?
  - SNAP is definitely a way. Most programming recommendations come at state and local levels.
  - Recommendations are spread throughout the response recovery section but for FPC section 2 maybe most beneficial.
- Spotlight: DMPED [Neighborhood Prosperity/Great Streets](#) Funding Opportunities - Stephanie Thomas
  - The Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) invites the submission of proposals for the FY20 Neighborhood Prosperity Fund (NPF). DMPED will award up to maximum of \$3 million in FY20 to grantees under this program. The application deadline is Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 12:00 noon EST
  - DMPED is also planning on announcing more funding opportunities through the Small Business Retail Fund and Great Streets Fund. See presentation slides (linked above) for more detail.
- FY21 Budget Updates:
  - See slides
  - Learn more here: <https://www.dccouncilbudget.com/fy-2021-budget>
- New Resources (all available at <https://dcfoodpolicy.org/resources/data-maps/>):
  - Farmers markets: New farmers market map showing Senior/WIC/SNAP benefits (also Happy National Farmers Market Week!)
  - Urban Agriculture story map highlighting importance of farms during COVID-19 for food resources
  - 2-pager on new grocery stores opening in Wards 7 and 8
- Announcements:
  - **Shana Donahue Memorial Fund:** <https://www.freshfarm.org/foodprints/shana-donahue-memorial-fund>
  - **History of DC's Grocery Gap Event:** <https://dcfoodpolicy.org/events-and-meetings/coffee-chats/>
  - **Dream Grant-** Funding opportunity coming in September. If anyone is interested in receiving information on the Ward 7 & 8 Dream grants please sign up here to be added to the distribution list: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dream-grants-sign-up-for-the-email-list-tickets-115500036719>
  - **New job opportunity at Department of Energy and Environment:** The DC Department of Energy and Environment is now hiring for an Equity and

Engagement Program Analyst. Located in the Urban Sustainability Administration, this position will advise the administration and the agency on social equity and strengthening inclusive resident engagement related to urban sustainability. Strong facilitation, coaching, community engagement, communications, project management, and analytical skills are required in addition to experience in, and knowledge of equity theory and practice.

- This position will be supporting the following activities:
- Building partnerships with community organizations to better align sustainability and environmental goals with community priorities.
- Incorporating principles of equity and inclusive community engagement into agency-wide planning, policy, and specific initiatives such as Sustainable DC, Climate Ready DC, and Clean Energy DC.
- Helping develop equity and diversity trainings for DOEE staff
- Attending events and organizing residents and community groups around environment, sustainability, and climate to increase support and awareness of sustainability.
- The position is listed as “Open to the Public” and has a **closing date of September 2, 2020**. For more detailed information regarding this opportunity, please visit the District’s career website at <https://careers.dc.gov> and in the search area please enter 11019.

Contact us at [dcfoodpolicy@dc.gov](mailto:dcfoodpolicy@dc.gov) if you have any questions