



Annual Internal Review

This report covers the time period of 7/1/2021 to 6/30/2022

City of Austin/Travis County Sustainable Food Policy Board

The Board/Commission mission statement (per the City Code) **is:** to serve as an advisory body to the City Council and Travis County Commissioners Court concerning the need to improve the availability of safe, nutritious, locally, and sustainably-grown food at reasonable prices for all residents, particularly those in need, by coordinating the relevant activities of city and county government, as well as nonprofit organizations, and food and farming businesses.

The Board shall:

- a) monitor the availability, price and quality of food throughout the Austin and Travis County areas;
- b) collect data on the food security (i.e., access to an affordable, diversified local food supply) and the nutritional status of city residents;
- c) inform city and county policy makers, administrators, and the public at large about the status of the region's food system and food security;
- d) monitor and analyze the administration of city and county food and nutrition programs;
- e) explore new means for the city and county to improve the local food economy, the availability, sustainability, accessibility, and quality of food and our environment, and assist city and county departments in the coordination of their efforts;
- f) review availability and recommend measures to promote the preservation of agricultural land in the City of Austin and Travis County; and
- g) recommend to the city and county adoption of measures that will improve existing local food production and add new programs, incentives, projects, regulations, or services.

1. **Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**

The work over the last year is summarized below. Over the course of the 2021-2022 year, the board made the following recommendation to the Austin City Council:

Receommendation_ATCFPB_20211213_4.a.i_Supporting Values-Based Procurement

And received to following presentations to the board:

Multiple presentations from Edwin Marty, Food Policy Manager, City of Austin. Topics included:

- Food System Planning Updates
- State of the Food System Report
- Disaster Food and Water appendix
- City of Austin Updates and Council Resolution Updates
- City of Austin food related contracts

Travis Gatlin, Ellen Stein, Planning and Budget Office at Travis County, Budget Updates

Jeffrey Clemmons, Chair of the College Student Commission, Recommendation Number #20210122-3b College Food Insecurity Grant Program

Donald Jackson, Economic Development Department, Request for Proposals for Development of Nonprofit or Cooperative Food Retail

Staff presentation from Marcel Elizondo with Austin Public Health Environmental Health Services. Review and take possible action on two proposed code amendments: i. Ordinance amending City Code Chapter 3-2-16 (Enclosures for Fowl) relating to enclosure setback distance ii. Ordinance amending City Code Chapter 10-3 (Food and Food Handlers) relating to permits for farmers market vendors.

Staff presentation from Grisel Saenz with Austin Public Health Environmental Health Services regarding Charitable Feeding Organization permitting updates.

The board additionally had five working groups that met throughout the year. They were: I) Healthy Food Access for All, II) Food System Plan III) Charitable Feeding Organization Permitting, IV) Food and Climate , V) Building Opportunities for Food Entrepreneurs, VI) Governance, and VII) COVID-19 Food System Response. Highlights of the working groups are presented below.

Healthy Food Access for All

Co-Chairs: Andrea Abel, Emily DeMaria, and Kacey Hansen

PURPOSE: To support City, County, and nonprofit programs that work to increase access to food for communities in need.

The work completed by this group supports the following elements of the Food Policy Board's mission statement:

- Monitor the availability, price and quality of food throughout the Austin and Travis County area
- Collect data on the food security (i.e., access to an affordable, diversified local food supply) and the nutritional status of city residents
- Monitor and analyze the administration of city and county food and nutrition programs
- Explore new means for the city and county to improve the local food economy,, the availability, sustainability, accessibility, and quality of food and our environment, and assist city and county departments in the coordination of their efforts

Food System Plan Working Group

Co-Chairs: Karen Magid

PURPOSE: To assist the Office of Sustainability in the development of the Community Action Committee selection process. The CAC that will be a part of the City of Austin Food System Plan.

The work completed by this group supports the following elements of the Food Policy Board's mission statement:

- Inform city and county policy makers, administrators, and the public-at-large about the status of the region's food system and food security
- Recommend to the city and county adoption of measures that will improve existing local food production and add new programs, incentives, projects, regulations, or services

Charitable Feeding Organization Permit Working Group

Co-Chairs: Sharon Mays

PURPOSE: To assist Austin Public Health's Environmental Health Department with the development of the CFO Permit.

The work completed by this group supports the following elements of the Food Policy Board's mission statement:

- Monitor the availability, price and quality of food throughout the Austin and Travis County area;
- Monitor and analyze the administration of city and county food and nutrition programs
- Inform city and county policy makers, administrators, and the public-at-large about the status of the region's food system and food security
- Explore new means for the city and county to improve the local food economy,, the availability, sustainability, accessibility, and quality of food and our environment, and assist city and county departments in the coordination of their efforts
- Recommend to the city and county adoption of measures that will improve existing local food production and add new programs, incentives, projects, regulations, or services

COVID-19 Food System Response Work Group

****This work group was dissolved. All tasks had been completed.****

Food and Climate

****This work group dissolved. The board member(s) that led this group were no longer available.****

Building Opportunities for Food Entrepreneurs

****This work group evolved into the Charitable Feeding Organization Permit work group.****

Governance

****This work group dissolved. The board member(s) that led this group were no longer available.****

2. Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.

(If any of the board's actions were outside the scope of the mission statement, the report should explain the non-compliance issues.)

The board's actions complied with their mission statement in that it focused on all aspects of the food system, and how to improve it for all Austin and Travis County residents.

3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.

(Make sure the goals and objectives fall within the mission statement of the board/commission.)

The board's priorities for 2022-2023 include:

- Supporting the Office of Sustainability with the City of Austin Food System Plan work
- Create a working group dedicated to supporting and increasing community agriculture in Austin/Travis County
- Getting more involved with the local business community related to our Food System and supporting their efforts to become more resilient
- Identifying priorities of the Board and metrics to demonstrate success.