



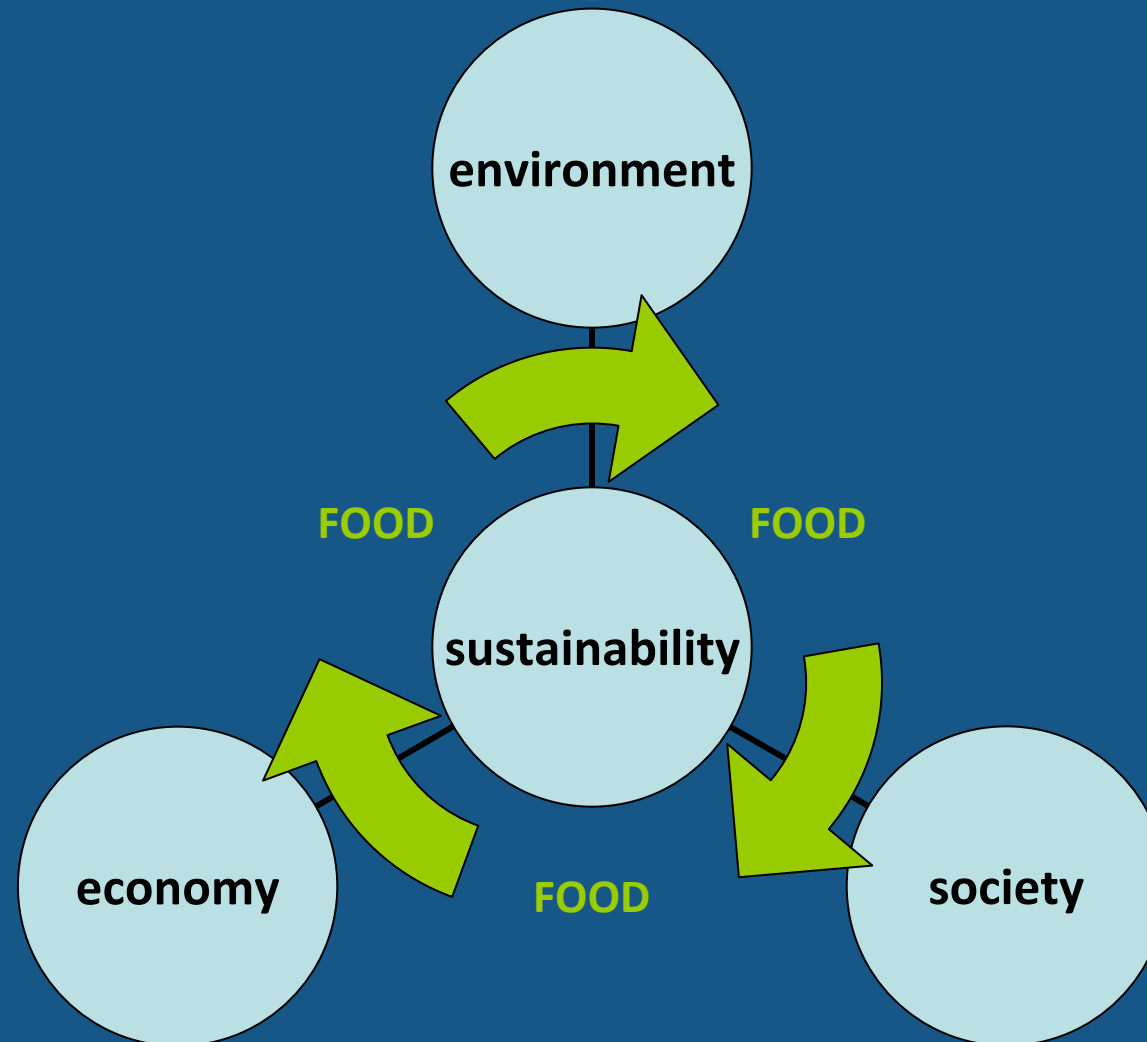
The Importance of Collaboration in Food Systems Planning

DVRPC Food System Stakeholder Committee Meeting

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Sustainability and the Food System



Complexity of the Food System

- Reciprocal relationship between food system and other urban systems
- Multiple stakeholders with different interests, values, positions, perspectives, knowledge-base, goals and levels of power
 - Economic development
 - Community development
 - Public health
 - Ecological stewardship and conservation
 - Social equity
- **Multidisciplinary problem requires multidisciplinary action**

Complexity requires Collaboration

- Collaborative, systematic, and inclusive process
- Diverse group of stakeholders, representing a variety of interests, values, and perspectives
- Convene and engage in face-to-face, long-term dialogue to address a policy issue of common concern

American Planning Association

- Non-profit, professional membership & education organization
- Over 44,000 members
- Advocates & encourages good planning practices

Ultimate Goal of Local Level Planning

- Create communities of lasting value
- Create communities that offer better choices for where and how people live, work, and play
- Enable civic leaders, business, and citizens to play a meaningful role in the planning process

Planners offer...

- Comprehensive perspective
- Community-wide spatial and place-based perspective
- Long-term outlook
- Unintended consequences
- Long-term cumulative impacts
- Community engagement
- Convener of stakeholders
- Consensus building

Planners engage in...

- Internal collaboration
 - within a discipline, organization, or jurisdiction
- Horizontal collaboration
 - cross discipline, organization, or jurisdiction
- Vertical collaboration
 - cross levels of power

Collaborative Food Systems Planning



APA's Planning & Community Health Research Center

- Integrate community health into planning practice through a combination of:
 - Research
 - Education
 - Outreach
 - Policy Development



Collaboration & Community Food Systems Planning

- Collaborative planning process of developing and implementing local and regional economic, environmental and social programs and policies to:
 - Promote sustainable agriculture and food production
 - Support local and regional food value chains and related infrastructure
 - Facilitate community food security
 - Support and promote good nutrition and health
 - Facilitate reduction, reuse, and recycling of solid food-related waste

Planning for a Healthy, Sustainable Food System

1. Partnerships & Collaboration
2. Visioning & Goal Setting
3. Assessments
4. Plan-Making
5. Regulations
6. Site Design & Development
7. Public investment



Potential Outcomes of Collaborative Planning & Consensus Building

(Innes and Booher 1999)

First Order Effects	Second Order Effects	Third Order Effects
Social Capital <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Trust •Relationships 	New Partnerships	New Collaborations
Intellectual Capital <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Mutual Understanding •Shared Problem Frames •Agreed Upon Data 	Coordination and Joint Action	More Co-evolution, Less Destructive Conflict
Political Capital <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Ability to Work Together for Agreed Ends 	Joint Learning Extends Into the Community	Results on the Ground <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Adaptation of Cities •Adaptation of Regions •Adaptation of Resources •Adaptation of Services
High-Quality Agreements	Implementation of Agreements	New Institutions
Innovative Strategies	Change in Practices	New Norms and Heuristics
	Change in Perceptions	New Discourses

Planning & Community Health Research Ctr

- **RESEARCH**
 - Planning for Food Systems through Comprehensive Planning
- **EDUCATION/OUTREACH**
 - Food Systems Planning QuickNotes
 - A Planners Guide to Community and Regional Food Planning
 - Old Cities Green Cities: Communities Transform Unmanaged Land
 - Planning for Metropolitan Agriculture and Resilient Communities
 - Community-Based Brownfields Redevelopment Strategies Workbook
 - Food systems planning Interest Group (FIG)
 - Food Systems Planning Forum
 - Planning Healthy Communities Forum
- **POLICY**
 - Policy Guide on Community and Regional Food Planning
 - Policy Guide on Agricultural Land Preservation
 - Partnering with Practitioner Organizations

Examples of Collaboration





King County

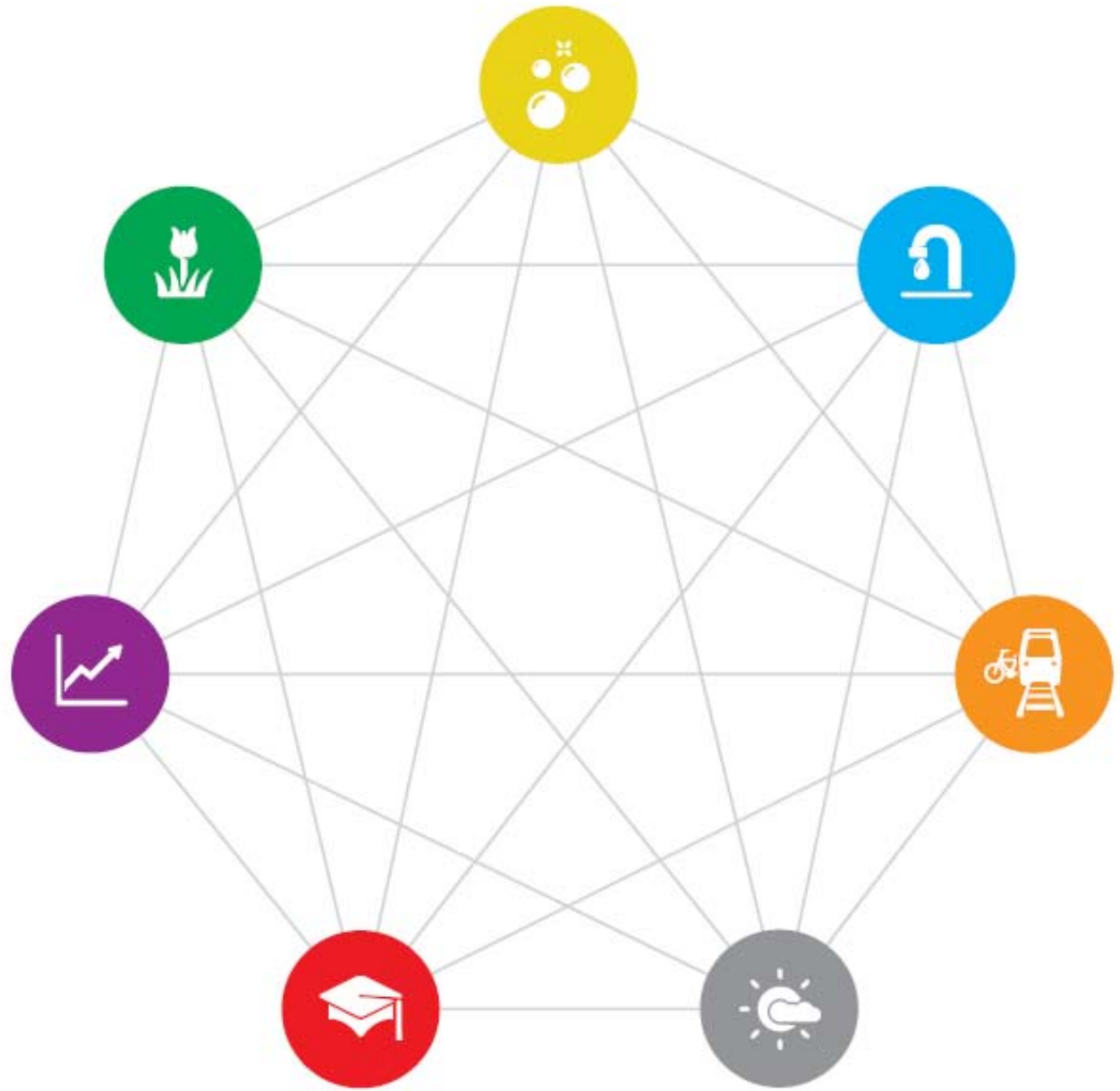
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2008

Adopted October 2008

Food is as essential to our health and well-being as air and water. For example, King County is experiencing a rise in the rate of obesity, and at the same time, an increase in food insecurity and malnutrition. Both can be caused by lack of access to adequate amounts of nutritious food, and both can lead to the same thing - a diminished quality of life that ends with premature death due to diet-related chronic disease. King County plays an important role in guiding and supporting system improvements that will result in King County residents eating local, healthy food. King County supports food systems that are ecologically and economically sustainable and that improve the health of the county's residents.

Source: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/property/permits/codes/growth/CompPlan.aspx>

The Baltimore Sustainability Plan



Source: <http://www.ci.baltimore.md.us/government/planning/sustainability/>

Community Engagement in Food Systems Planning Process

- Why?
 - Promotes relationship building and trust through shared learning
 - Strengthen the understanding and exploration of community values
 - Increase non-traditional stakeholder involvement
 - Strengthens public commitment to issue at hand
- How?
 - Illustration, painting, photography
 - Storytelling
 - Performances and exhibits
 - Technology
 - Community gatherings/events
 - Community based participatory research

Recommendation

- Create a regional food policy council consisting of a diverse range of stakeholders to facilitate internal, horizontal and vertical collaboration and community engagement in the food systems planning process throughout the region.
 - **Facilitator/Coordinator** - DVRPC
 - **3 Co-Chairs** – Planning, Public Health and Sustainability Representatives
 - **Stakeholders** – multi-stakeholder group including municipal governments, community based organizations, universities, commercial retail and wholesale sectors, business sector, agriculture sector, and representatives from underrepresented groups such as youth
 - **2 Types of Committees** – issue-specific committees; jurisdiction specific committees; with overlap of membership

Resources

- Kimberley Hodgson, Manager of APA's Planning & Community Health Research Center, healthycommunities@planning.org
- American Planning Association – Planning & Community Health Research Center, Food Systems Related Work
<http://www.planning.org/nationalcenters/health/food.htm>
- A Planners Guide to Community and Regional Planning: Transforming Food Environments, Facilitating Healthy Eating,
<http://www.planning.org/apastore/search/Default.aspx?p=3886>
- Planning Magazine, Aug/Sept 2009, Food Issue
<http://www.planning.org/planning/open/aug/>
- Planning Healthy Communities Forum
<http://planninghealthycommunities.ning.com/>
- Food Systems Planning Forum
<http://foodplanning.ning.com>
- Twitter
[@planning4health](https://twitter.com/planning4health)