

# MWCOG Roundtable on Regional Food Business Centers

August 23, 2022

# March 10: Federal Register

- **Admin:** Authorized under American Rescue Plan; AMS using cooperative agreements
- **Purpose:** backbone for local and regional supply chain development to create “more resilient, diverse, and connected supply chains.”
- **Roles:** 1) support coordination, 2) fund technical assistance providers, 3) provide small grants to food businesses
- **Flexibility in development; collaborative networks**

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# June 1: Framework Announcement

- **Competition, not consolidation:** “combats market dominance... creating new, more, and better local market options”
- **Accessibility, affordability, and equity:** “speed the transition to more equitable growth”
- **\$400M investment:** coordination, technical assistance, and capacity building support
- **Stakeholders:** processing, distribution and aggregation, and market access challenges; “support underserved communities”

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Eastern Food Hub Collaborative