LOCAL FOOD DISTRIBUTION WORK GROUP MEETING

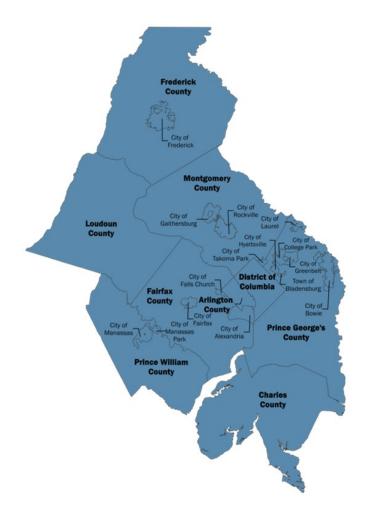
The Year Ahead and Getting to Know Local Social Enterprise Members

Lindsay Smith, COG November 17, 2017



About COG

- The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is an independent, nonprofit association
- Brings area leaders together to address major regional issues in the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland and Northern Virginia
- Membership is comprised of 300 elected officials from 24 local governments, the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and U.S. Congress





April 28th: Local Food Distribution Conf

VA Dept of Ag • MD Dept of Ag • MD Farm Bureau • VA Farm Bureau • Future Harvest Chesapeake Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture ● VA Association of Biological Farming ● PA Association for Sustainable Agriculture ● WV Food & Farm Coalition • MWCOG • Montgomery County Economic Development • Loudoun County Pulled and Water Conservation District ● Southern MD Ag Dev Commission ● USDA● MD Food Center Authority

MD SHA

VA DOT

DDOT

Baltimore Metropolitan Council

■ Baltimore Food Policy Initiative • Keany Produce • Coastal Sunbelt Produce • Local prora Organic Growers • Food Hub ● 4P Foods ● From the Farmer Chesapeake Harvest

Mock's Greenhous Capital Area Food Bank • Arlington Food Assistance Center • Food for Others • Arcadia • United Fresh Produce Association • LuLu's Local Food Hub • Northern Neck Fresh, LLC ● Virginia Community Food Connections ● Community Foodworks ● DC Greens • Montgomery County Food Council • Prince George's Food Equity Council • MD Farmers Market Assoc • Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission ● Chesapeake Foodshed Network ● Second Spring Farm ● Chesapeake Farm to Table ● Glen's Garden Market ● The Common Market ● T&E Meats ● Virginia State Dairymen's Association

 Chesapeake Farm to Table

 Potomac Sprout

 Table

 Table

 Potomac Sprout

 Table

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 Potomac Sprout

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 Tabl Company ● Dorchesters Farm FoodHUB ● Shenandoah Growers ● UMD Extension (PGC) ● MD Organic Food and Farming Assoc

Additional Work

- June: <u>MD Market Center</u> <u>presentation</u>, review of meeting themes
- July: Local Food Distributor
 Listening Session (call) with
 DC Dept of Transportation
- August: Cold storage visit with DC urban farmer, initial 2018 schedule vetting
- November 2017 NESAWG
 Discussion: Exploring
 Potential and Emerging
 Niches for Local Food



April 28, 2017 Panel: Infrastructure and Transportation Perspectives on Distributing Food to the Region



Themes and Observations

- Expertise
- Farmers want to supply more local food
- Relationships and Networks
- Decentralization and Optimization
- Infrastructure and Information
 Values-based
 Near and Long Term Focus
- Education
- Desire to Collaborate
- Strategic Engagement
- Invest in Small



April 28, 2017 Panel: Meeting the Demand for Local Food: Grower and Distributor Perspectives on Demand and Getting Produce to Market

<u>Link</u> to Local Food Distribution Conference Webpage



Discussion: The Year Ahead

Prioritize issues for future inquiry, including meetings for Local Food Distribution Work Group

Key issues

Proposed speakers, site visits?

Timing, location, frequency, and collaboration opportunities

Who is missing?

Can we measure the value of this learning collaborative and information exchange at this time?



November 2017 <u>NESAWG Discussion</u>: Exploring Potential and Emerging Niches for Local Food in the Chesapeake



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