



## FOOD AND AGRICULTURE REGIONAL MEMBER AD-HOC COMMITTEE (FARM)

Friday, April 9, 2021  
11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

WebEx Webinar:

<https://mwcog.webex.com/mwcog/j.php?MTID=m394acabbe88e05185dcecd73d1e30b4f>

Meeting number: 185 620 8758

Password: FoodSecurity21\*

### AGENDA

**11:00 A.M. 1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL**

*Mary Cheh, FARM Chair*

**11:05 A.M. 2. RECAP OF PREVIOUS MEETING, MEETING SUMMARY APPROVAL, AND OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

*Mary Cheh, FARM Chair*  
*Craig Rice, FARM Vice Chair*

Chair Cheh will provide a brief recap of February's meeting, including action items. She'll share several proposed food security-related goals and deliverables with the FARM Committee for feedback and a request for volunteers. Vice Chair Rice will share a request for a letter of support from FARM for a NACO Resolution on federal childhood nutrition programs.

**Recommended Action:** Approve draft meeting summary, identify members interested in working on deliverables, and consider letter of support on NACO Resolution.

**11:15 A.M. 3. FOOD SECURITY: COMMUNITY VOICE**

*Dr. Aminta H. Breaux, President, Bowie State University*

Dr. Breaux will brief the FARM Committee on Bowie State University's systems approach to supporting food security on campus.

**Recommended Action:** Receive briefing.

**11:25 A.M. 4. REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY AND FOOD ACCESS: REGIONAL DATA AND UPDATE ON THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN**

*Lindsay Smith, Regional Food Systems Coordinator, COG  
Crystal FitzSimons, Director of School and Out-of-School Time Programs, Food Research Action Center*

Ms. Smith will provide a five-minute data update on food insufficiency in the region and SNAP enrollment. Ms. FitzSimons will provide an overview of key provisions of the American Rescue Plan which will benefit children and families.

**Recommended Action:** Receive briefing and identify items for further investigation in FARM deliverables and related meetings.

**11:50 A.M. 5. FUTURE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN THE REGION: FARMER ROUNDTABLE**

*Chris Van Vlack, Urban/Ag Conservationist Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District and Loudoun Farm Bureau  
Hiu Newcomb and Stephen Bradford, Potomac Vegetable Farms  
Amanda Cather, Plow and Stars Farm, Montgomery County Agricultural Advisory Committee, and Million Acre Challenge  
Gale Livingstone, Deep Roots Farm*

Mr. Van Vlack will start the roundtable with a brief review of opportunities for building more resilience in our region's food system from an agricultural perspective. He'll introduce four other farmers with relationships throughout the region who operate in Fairfax, Loudoun, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties. They will provide insights into how they're supporting food security, and ways that policy and programs can support increased regional self-reliance, equity, and resilience.

**Recommended Action:** Receive briefing.

**12:40 P.M. 6. DISCUSSION AND FARM COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES**

A time for FARM members to discuss agenda items further, reflect on any actions taken related to the last meeting, and share news about local food and agriculture policy and program developments.

**Recommended Action:** Provide updates and recommendations for any meeting issues to be addressed in subsequent meetings or FARM deliverables.

**1:00 P.M. 7. REVIEW ACTION ITEMS AND ADJOURN**

*Mary Cheh, FARM Chair*

The next virtual FARM Committee meeting is Friday, June 11th at 11:00 am