



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE REGIONAL MEMBER (FARM) POLICY COMMITTEE

Friday, June 14th, 2024
10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
Virtual Only

MS Teams Meeting

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Meeting ID: 275 535 570 611

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Phone Conference ID: 160 335 017#

PROPOSED AGENDA

10:00 A.M. 1. WELCOME AND MEMBER REFLECTIONS ON 2024: LEARNING AND NEXT STEPS

Councilmember Jon Stehle, FARM Chair

Council President Andrew Friedson, FARM Vice Chair

The Chairs will provide a brief welcome to the FARM Policy Committee's June meeting, including any high-level observations on FARM's recent events.

Chair Stehle will review the meeting handouts, call for introductions, and determine quorum. He will lead discussion and facilitation on listed items, to include member reflections, other commentary, and meeting summary approval.

- A. Short recap of recent meetings and approval of meeting summaries.
- B. Facilitated member reflections on recent meetings and next steps (15 minutes)
 - 3rd Annual USDA Forum
 - Regional Food Aggregation and Distribution Summit hosted by FARM's Work Groups

Reasonable accommodations are provided upon request, including alternative formats of meeting materials.
Visit www.mwco.org/accommodations or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD).

Recommended Action: Approve meeting summaries and discuss next steps.

10:45 A.M. 2. USDA'S OFFICE OF URBAN AGRICULTURE AND INNOVATIVE PRODUCTION'S OVERVIEW AND PROGRAMMING

Jon Stehle, FARM Chair

Brian Guse, Director, Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (UAIP), NRCS, USDA

Nina Bhattacharyya, Senior Technical Specialist and People's Garden Initiative Coordinator, UAIP

Sean Potts, Management and Program Analyst, UAIP

Chair Stehle will introduce Mr. Guse, Ms. Bhattacharyya, and Mr. Potts and share remarks on urban agriculture initiatives taking place in the City of Fairfax and the larger region. The UAIP staff will provide an overview of the [Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovation Production's \(UAIP\)](#) initiatives and grant programs. They will share resources and technical assistance opportunities that can be leveraged at the county and municipal level to advance urban agriculture.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing.

11:10 A.M. 4. MEMBER SPOTLIGHT & DISCUSSION: FACILITATING URBAN AGRICULTURE INNOVATIONS IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Andrew Friedson, FARM Vice-Chair

Kim Rush Lynch, Urban Agricultural Conservation Planner/Program Manager, Soil Conservation District Office

Takisha James, Mayor, Town of Bladensburg (invited)

Margaret Morgan-Hubbard, Founder & CEO, ECO City Farms

Vice-Chair Friedson will facilitate remarks from stakeholders in Prince George's County. Ms. Rush Lynch, Mayor James, and Ms. Morgan-Hubbard will respond to the UAIP staff's presentation and share local context, challenges, and successes from their work to develop an urban agriculture sector in the county.

There will be 15 minutes for questions and answers and member discussion following the speaker's remarks.

Recommended Action: Discuss and approve next steps.

11:45 A.M. 3. FARM OUTREACH UPDATES

Jon Stehle, FARM Chair

Hugo Mogollon, Executive Director, FRESHFARM

Chair Stehle will provide an update on recent outreach and next steps to advance related FARM priorities. Mr. Mogollon will share some remarks on National Farmers Market Week.

- Submitted 2024 Farm Bill Priorities Letter

- Submitted Congressionally Directed Spending Request
- 25th Anniversary of National Farmers Market Week
 - [National Farmers Market week is August 4-10, 2024.](#)

Chair Stehle will facilitate feedback from FARM and Work Group members. All participants are welcome to share any announcements of regional interest in the chat.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing. Provide feedback on next steps. Share announcements in the chat.

11:55 A.M. 4. WRAP UP AND ADJOURN
Jon Stehle, FARM Chair

The next regularly scheduled FARM Policy Committee meeting (virtual only) is Friday, August 9th.