Food and Agriculture ReGIOnal Member (FARM) Policy committee

Friday, June 10, 2022

11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Hybrid Meeting

MS Teams Meeting details

**Join on your computer or mobile app**

[Click here to join the meeting](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3Ameeting_ZWJlZTkwZDYtMzFjNS00ZWRjLWIzMGEtOTU3NWVkMzY3MjRk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22dc508cfa-4cfb-4b61-ac4d-0c43aceb0e43%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22e88c573f-b5e4-4af7-88a9-f0405bb4be95%22%7d)

**Or call in (audio only)**

+1 202-650-0424,,182229688#   United States, Washington DC

Phone Conference ID: 182 229 688#

In-Person (RSVP deadline has passed)

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

777 North Capitol Street NE

Washington, DC 20002

AGENDA

11:00 A.M. 1. Welcome, Call to Order, RolL Call, and Meeting Summary Approval

 Councilmember Craig Rice, FARM Vice Chair

Vice Chair Rice will provide a welcome and call for approval of the April 2022 meeting summary.

**Recommended Action:** Approve draft meeting summary.

11:10 A.M. 2. FARMERS Market VISIT REPORT OUT

 Councilmember Rice, FARM Vice Chair

Vice Chair Rice will ask members to reintroduce themselves briefly before sharing a two-minute overview of their visits, what they learned, and any questions.

**Recommended Action:** Approve draft meeting summary.

11:25 A.M. 3. BRIEFING: MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA LeGIslation Sessions AND Budget Highlights from MD, VA, and the District of Columbia

Eddie Oliver, Executive Director, Federation of Virginia Food Banks

Anna Sierra, Chief Development Officer, Maryland Department of Emergency Management, (MDEM)

Steve McHenry, Executive Director, MARBIDCO

Ona Balkus, DC Food Policy Director

Mr. Oliver, Ms. Sierra, and Mr. McHenry will report out on food security-related legislative and budget items in this year’s legislative sessions. They may also preview priorities for 2024 following the 2023 legislative sessions. Ms. Sierra will also introduce, Ms. Brittany Cook, the new Food Resilience Specialist at MDEM.

Ms. Balkus will provide an update on the recently approved DC budget and food security highlights.

FARM Committee Members are invited to share updates on local legislation or budget-related items at this time.

**Recommended Action:** Receive briefing and discussion

12:00 PM 4. Release of the Healthy Food Access Policy Compendium for Metropolitan Washington AND OTHER FARM COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Councilmember Rice, FARM Vice Chair

Outreach Work Group

Catalytic Opportunities Work Group

Jeremy Criss, Director, Montgomery County Office of Agriculture

Lindsay Smith, COG

Vice Chair Rice will release the Healthy Food Access Policy Compendium for Metropolitan Washington prepared for the FARM Committee: a baseline assessment of federal, state, and local policies in place to support food access and food security.

Members of the Outreach and Catalytic Opportunities Work Groups will share brief reports. Mr. Criss will provide an update on the September visit to the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve.

FARM Members will also consider changes to the FARM Policy Committee Bylaws, review the FY23 level of effort for FARM, and provide feedback for the FY23 FARM Work Program.

**Recommended Action:** Review and approve changes to Bylaws and FY23 level of effort.

12:30 P.M. 5. WHITE HOUSE Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health

 Shelby Luce, Health Legislative Assistant, Office of Congressman Jim McGovern

Ms. Luce will provide a briefing on the upcoming [White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health](https://health.gov/our-work/nutrition-physical-activity/white-house-conference-hunger-nutrition-and-health), scheduled for September. Congressman McGovern is a longtime champion on policies to improve food security and led Congressional efforts to call for the conference.

FARM Members are encouraged to share any updates on how they may be engaging within their own organizations or offices to provide input into the conference.

**Recommended Action:** Receive briefing and discussion

12:45 P.M. 6. USDA Food System TransformATION FRAMEWORK ANNOUNCEMent

*Alex Cordova, Community Development Specialist, Office of Partnerships & Public Engagement. United States Department of Agriculture*

Mr. Cordova will brief FARM on Secretary Vilsack’s announcement on [Wednesday, June 1st](https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2022/06/01/usda-announces-framework-shoring-food-supply-chain-and-transforming) of a new framework for strengthening the food supply chain and “transforming the food system to be fairer, more competitive, and more resilient.” He will offer a few high-level observations on how stakeholders may want to collaborate locally, at the state-level, and regionally to leverage current and forthcoming investment opportunities.

**Recommended Action:** Receive briefing

12:50 P.M. 7. Other FARM COMMIttee UPDATES

FARM Policy Committee Members and Alternates are invited to share any additional updates on local legislation, budget-related items, upcoming events, or issues or concerns.

1:00 P.M. 8. Review Action Items and AdJourn

 Councilmember Rice, FARM Vice Chair

The next FARM Committee meeting is Friday, August 12th at 11:00 am.

In-person attendees are invited to stay for additional networking and lunch. Lunch may be eaten in the meeting room, outside, or taken to go.