



## FOOD AND AGRICULTURE REGIONAL MEMBER (FARM) POLICY COMMITTEE

Friday, August 9th, 2024  
10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.  
Virtual Only

### MS Teams Meeting

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### DRAFT AGENDA

#### 10:00 A.M. 1. WELCOME

*Councilmember Jon Stehle, FARM Chair*

*Councilmember Zachary Parker, FARM Vice Chair*

*Council President Andrew Friedson, FARM Vice Chair*

The Chairs will provide a brief welcome to the FARM Policy Committee's August meeting. They will invite new FARM members present to introduce themselves. Chair Stehle will call for any member reflections on June's Urban Agriculture-focused meeting, determine quorum, and seek approval of the meeting summary.

**Recommended Action:** Provide reflections from June FARM Committee meeting and approve meeting summary.

#### 10:10 A.M. 2. UPDATE FROM FARM WORK GROUPS AND MEMBER REFLECTION

*Jon Stehle, FARM Chair*

*Michelle Caruso, Montgomery County Food Council, DMV Food Collaborative Member (invited)*

*Beth Sastre, Virginia Cooperative Extension - Loudoun County, Regional*

*Agricultural Work Group Member  
Victoria Treski, FARM Member, consultant, and outgoing Director of Bainum  
Family Foundation's Food Security Initiative*

Chair Stehle will introduce members from FARM's Work Groups to provide a report from their recent meeting on May's Regional Aggregation and Distribution Summit. Michelle Caruso from the DMV Food Council Collaborative and Beth Sastre from the Regional Agricultural Work Group will share identified strategies and next steps. (10 min)

Chair Stehle will also welcome outgoing FARM Member, Victoria Treski. Ms. Treski was a founding member of FARM representing philanthropy. As Ms. Treski transitions to a new professional role, she will share some reflections on her time with FARM, including the Catalytic Opportunities Work Group, and thoughts on areas for continued or increased committee focus. (15 minutes)

**Recommended Action:** Receive briefing.

**10:30 A.M. 3. PANEL CONVERSATION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION WITH OUR REGION'S FARMERS MARKETS**

*Council President Andrew Friedson, FARM Vice Chair  
Brittney Drakeford, AICP, Community Planner, National Capital Planning  
Commission and Planning Team, The Capital Market  
Hugo Mogollon, Executive Director, FRESHFARM*

In recognition of National Farmers Market Week, Vice Chair Friedson will introduce Brittney Drakeford and FARM member Hugo Mogollon. They will discuss the importance of farmers markets in the region, along with unique contributions and challenges. Ms. Drakeford and Mr. Mogollon will share opportunities for the FARM Committee and local governments to support their work.

Vice Chair Friedson will facilitate member discussion following this dialogue.

**Recommended Action:** Receive briefing and discuss.

**11:05 A.M. 4. MEMBER SPOTLIGHT & DISCUSSION: TRENDS AND STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY**

*Zachary Parker, FARM Vice-Chair  
Radha Muthiah, President & CEO, Capital Area Food Bank  
Jennifer Montgomery, President & CEO, Loudoun Hunger  
Nanya Chiejine, MPH, Executive Director, Montgomery County Food Council  
Caroline Howe, DC Food Policy Director*

Vice-Chair Parker will welcome FARM member Radha Muthiah to provide an update on Capital Area Food Bank's (CAFB) new facility in Lorton. She'll also discuss CAFB's food distribution across the region last year and reflect on the impacts CAFB's network is seeing in an era of increased costs and decreased

public funding for food security.

Jennifer Montgomery, Nanya Chiejine, and Caroline Howe will provide brief responses through the lens of what they're seeing in their jurisdictions, including any new approaches that have emerged to improve food security and healthy food access.

Vice Chair Parker will facilitate member questions and discussion.

**Recommended Action:** Receive briefing and discuss.

**11:50 A.M. 4. REGIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURN**

*Jon Stehle, FARM Chair*

In lieu of FARM's regular meeting in October, FARM members are invited to join this year's farm tour in the District of Columbia on Friday, October 18.

**September events at COG**

Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 2:00 pm: COG [Human Services Policy Committee](#) virtual meeting.

Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 1:30 pm: Annual Compost Update with [COG's Recycling Committee](#).