

# Committee of the Whole

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## February 14, 2012 Handouts

1. Items VII-F1 & 2 General Corporate Fund FY2012 Budget Projection Report & Budget Change Report
2. Item VII-F3 Remarks to County Board by Kevin Sandefur
3. Item IX-A7 & 8 Republican Central Committee Nominations for County Board District 3
4. Item IX-F1 Illinois Farm Bureau Meet the Buyers Event
5. Item IX-F1 Comments in Support of the Establishment of a Champaign County Local Food Policy Council
6. Item IX-F1 Draft Letters II & III Establishing a Champaign County Local Food Policy Council

**FY2012 General Corporate Fund Revenue Projection Report**

February 12, 2012

<b>SIGNIFICANT REVENUE LINE ITEMS/CATEGORIES</b>	<b>FY2011 YTD 1/31/2011</b>	<b>FY2011 ACTUAL Received</b>	<b>FY2012 BUDGET 12/1/2011</b>	<b>FY2011 Actual 1/31/2012</b>	<b>Projected % to be Received</b>	<b>Projected \$\$ to be Received</b>	<b>\$ Difference to Original Budget</b>
PROPERTY TAXES (CURRENT)	\$0	\$8,069,033	\$8,285,724	\$0	100%	\$8,285,724	\$0
PROPERTY TAXES (ESCROW)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	\$0
PROPERTY TAXES (BACK)	\$0	\$3,010	\$5,200	\$0	100%	\$5,200	\$0
MOBILE HOME TAXES	\$25	\$8,814	\$8,500	\$0	100%	\$8,500	\$0
PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES	\$0	\$4,929	\$4,500	\$0	100%	\$4,500	\$0
COUNTY HOTEL/MOTEL TAX	\$514	\$22,232	\$25,000	\$0	88%	\$21,945	-\$3,055
COUNTY AUTO RENTAL TAX	\$613	\$19,140	\$15,000	\$2,366	143%	\$21,375	\$6,375
PENALTIES ON TAXES	\$1,674	\$678,071	\$674,000	\$2,604	101%	\$681,535	\$7,535
BUSINESS LICENSES & PERMITS	\$1,028	\$40,495	\$33,500	\$620	100%	\$33,500	\$0
NON-BUSINESS LIC. & PERMITS	\$98,121	\$821,218	\$876,500	\$163,076	103%	\$902,795	\$26,295
FEDERAL GRANTS	\$37,795	\$594,999	\$444,826	\$31,626	100%	\$444,826	\$0
STATE GRANTS	\$10,727	\$218,090	\$209,911	\$35,131	100%	\$209,911	\$0
CORP. PERS. PROP. REPL. TAX	\$0	\$736,887	\$832,000	\$4,294	93%	\$773,731	-\$58,269
1% SALES TAX (UNINCORPOR.)	\$98,236	\$1,102,692	\$1,138,484	\$103,217	99%	\$1,128,360	-\$10,124
1/4% SALES TAX (ALL COUNTY)	\$418,063	\$5,009,241	\$5,145,952	\$410,451	101%	\$5,205,927	\$59,975
USE TAX	\$47,029	\$478,219	\$509,294	\$38,074	91%	\$463,268	-\$46,026
INHERITANCE TAX	\$0	\$32,698	\$165,709	\$42,764	100%	\$165,709	\$0
STATE REIMBURSEMENT	\$8,676	\$1,860,082	\$1,296,033	\$0	59%	\$761,033	-\$535,000
SALARY REIMBURSEMENT	\$0	\$228,813	\$293,360	\$2,748	100%	\$293,360	\$0
STATE REV./SALARY STIPENDS	\$0	\$38,900	\$32,400	\$0	100%	\$32,400	\$0
INCOME TAX	\$319,123	\$2,713,396	\$2,639,433	\$322,478	96%	\$2,541,797	-\$97,636
POLICE TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT	\$0	\$0	\$17,000	\$0	0%	\$17,000	\$0
OFF-TRACK BETTING	\$3,041	\$41,142	\$55,000	\$7,189	147%	\$80,887	\$25,887
LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE	\$49,467	\$592,188	\$521,281	\$54,258	110%	\$573,251	\$51,970
LOCAL GOVERNMENT REIMBURSE.	\$39,302	\$525,618	\$486,600	\$42,450	107%	\$521,457	\$34,857
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$434,781	\$4,048,232	\$4,133,500	\$385,329	100%	\$4,120,983	-\$12,517
FINES	\$79,696	\$906,733	\$1,065,000	\$70,453	85%	\$901,542	-\$163,458
FORFEITURES	\$250	\$53,034	\$25,000	\$1,250	150%	\$37,435	\$12,435
INTEREST EARNINGS	\$2,069	\$21,194	\$19,500	\$1,484	90%	\$17,583	-\$1,917
RENTS & ROYALTIES	\$457,933	\$1,007,936	\$631,623	\$45,179	100%	\$631,623	\$0
GIFTS & DONATIONS	\$4,350	\$21,444	\$7,500	\$9,550	127%	\$9,550	\$2,050
OTHR FIN. SOURCES--FIX. ASSETS	\$0	\$15,922	\$8,000	\$8,309	104%	\$8,309	\$309
OTHR. MISC. REVENUE	\$13,379	\$79,011	\$67,508	\$12,585	153%	\$103,171	\$35,663
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	\$221,403	\$1,433,309	\$1,460,523	\$81,742	100%	\$1,460,523	\$0
INTERFUND REIMBURSEMENTS	\$4,067	\$456,061	\$418,331	\$974	100%	\$418,331	\$0
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES							
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,351,363</b>	<b>\$31,882,783</b>	<b>\$31,551,692</b>	<b>\$1,880,198</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>\$30,887,042</b>	<b>-\$664,650</b>

**FY2012 General Corporate Fund Expenditure Projection Report**

<b>SIGNIFICANT EXPENDITURE LINE ITEMS/CATEGORIES</b>	<b>FY2011 YTD 1/31/2011</b>	<b>FY2011 ACTUAL 12/31/2011</b>	<b>FY2012 BUDGET 12/1/2011</b>	<b>FY2012 YTD 1/31/2012</b>	<b>PROJECTED % TO BE SPENT</b>	<b>PROJECTED \$ TO BE SPENT</b>	<b>\$ DIFFERENCE TO ORIGINAL BUDGET (+/-)</b>
<b>PERSONNEL</b>							
Regular Salaries & Wages	\$1,811,014	\$12,478,798	\$12,915,636	\$1,802,690	98.83%	\$12,764,992	-\$150,644
SLEP Salaries	\$972,299	\$6,771,176	\$6,918,892	\$984,413	100.75%	\$6,970,709	\$51,817
SLEP Overtime	\$57,658	\$391,223	\$416,676	\$51,746	87.94%	\$366,421	-\$50,255
Fringe Benefits	\$211,111	\$2,623,967	\$2,652,089	\$429,996	97.28%	\$2,579,978	-\$72,111
<b>COMMODITIES</b>							
Postage	\$65,983	\$230,619	\$241,227	\$66,681	108.24%	\$261,116	\$19,889
Purchase Document Stamps	\$120,000	\$500,925	\$448,800	\$120,000	111.61%	\$500,925	\$52,125
Gasoline & Oil	\$16,160	\$225,469	\$248,234	\$16,940	118.43%	\$293,993	\$45,759
All Other Commodities	\$61,831	\$613,044	\$582,851	\$57,221	100.00%	\$582,851	\$0
<b>SERVICES</b>							
Gas Service	\$11,984	\$355,604	\$400,000	\$46,653	115.92%	\$463,686	\$63,686
Electric Service	\$55,780	\$863,826	\$900,000	\$54,782	95.87%	\$862,818	-\$37,182
Medical/Professional Services	\$201,108	\$1,029,512	\$1,042,097	\$170,275	97.80%	\$1,019,158	-\$22,939
All Other Services	\$505,644	\$3,565,621	\$4,014,405	\$519,069	100.00%	\$4,014,405	\$0
<b>CAPITAL</b>							
Vehicles	\$0	\$182,942	\$80,000	\$0	100.00%	\$80,000	\$0
All Other Capital	\$0	\$121,920	\$7,050	\$0	100.00%	\$7,050	\$0
<b>TRANSFERS</b>							
To Capital Improvement Fund	\$0	\$123,028	\$86,884	\$0	100.00%	\$86,884	\$0
All Other Transfers	\$0	\$175,133	\$170,096	\$0	100.00%	\$170,096	\$0
<b>DEBT REPAYMENT</b>							
	\$244,004	\$393,050	\$549,246	\$399,544	100.00%	\$549,246	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,334,575</b>	<b>\$30,645,858</b>	<b>\$31,674,183</b>	<b>\$4,720,012</b>	<b>99.68%</b>	<b>\$31,574,327</b>	<b>-\$99,856</b>

**FY2012 General Corporate Fund - Fund Balance Projection Report**

FUND BALANCE 11/30/11 ( <i>unaudited</i> )	\$4,136,581	<i>Fund Balance Less Loan</i> \$3,803,454
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE % OF BUDGET -	13.06%	12.01%
	<b><i>Budgeted</i></b>	<b><i>Projected</i></b>
ADD FY2012 REVENUE	\$31,551,692	\$30,887,042
LESS FY2012 EXPENDITURE	\$31,674,183	\$31,574,327
<b>Revenue to Expenditure Difference</b>	<b>-\$122,491</b>	<b>-\$687,285</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE PROJECTION - 11/30/12</b>	<b>\$4,014,090</b>	<b>\$3,449,296</b>
<b>% OF 2012 Expenditure Budget</b>	<b>12.67%</b>	<b>10.89%</b>
<b>Outstanding Loan to Nursing Home</b>	<b>-\$333,127</b>	<b>-\$333,127</b>
Unreserved Fund Balance Projection - 11/30/12	\$3,680,963	\$3,116,169
% of FY2012 Budget	11.62%	9.84%

**GENERAL CORPORATE FUND - FY2012 BUDGET CHANGE REPORT**

General Corporate Fund Original Budget As Of:	12/1/2011
Expenditure	\$31,660,183
Revenue	\$31,551,692
Revenue/Expenditure Difference	(\$108,491)

General Corporate Fund Budget As Of:		2/12/2012
Expenditure	\$31,674,183	% Inc/Dec 0.04%
Revenue	\$31,551,692	% Inc/Dec 0.00%
		<b>Revenue/Exp.</b> (\$122,491)

**EXPENDITURE CHANGES**

Department	Description	Expenditure Change	Revenue Change	Difference
County Board	Intergovernmental Agreement to Challenge EPA Clinton Landfill Decision	\$14,000	\$0	(\$14,000)
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$14,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$14,000)</b>

<i>Changes Attributable to Recurring Costs</i>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Changes Attributable to 1-Time Expenses</i>	\$14,000	\$0	(\$14,000)

REMARKS TO COUNTY BOARD AS PREPARED 2/14/2012

Good evening. My name is Kevin Sandefur. I live in Royal, and I am currently a candidate for the Democratic nomination for County Auditor. As a result, I have a direct personal interest in the discussion you will be having later tonight on the salaries of our elected county officials.

We are still living in a time of relative economic uncertainty. We've seen some signs, both nationally and locally, that things may be improving, but we still have a long way to go. This uncertainty has been made worse for our county by a general decline in property values over the last several years, as well as by the continuing disaster in state government that has resulted in record deficits and an ongoing delay in state payments.

We all hope that things will get better, and I expect they will eventually, but there is no way to know for sure how long it will take for this situation to improve. That is why I am here tonight to ask for both caution and conservatism in the consideration of salaries for elected officials. I believe that it is too soon to start spending new money before we have any guarantee that there will actually be any new money.

Our county administrator and the various department heads have done an outstanding job in reining in the county budget and trimming our spending as conditions have required. I would hate to see us undermine their efforts by moving too quickly to increase any portion of our county budget. I realize that the dollar amounts involved here are relatively small compared to the overall budget, but I think it sends entirely the wrong message to increase officials' salaries in light of the continued uncertainty.

*(over)*

God forbid that we should somewhere down the road need to ask our county employees for any further cutbacks or sacrifices, after raising the salaries of those at the top. I just don't see how we could justify that.

I also recognize that there is a desire for parity in salaries between our elected officials who have roughly similar work loads and responsibilities. This is perfectly understandable, and only seems fair. I would point out, however, that increases are not the only way to achieve this parity. That is why I am asking tonight that this county board give serious consideration during your discussion to the possibility of actually reducing slightly the salaries of the County Auditor, Coroner, and Recorder, in order to bring them into line with the currently lower salaries of our County Clerk and Treasurer. It is my personal opinion that such a reduction in salary would not only be more fiscally responsible, but also send a clear message to the taxpayers that we take very seriously the responsibilities of stewardship of their tax dollars.

As always, thank you most sincerely for your time and consideration.

Kevin Sandefur

304 E. Main, Box 219

Royal, IL 61871

217-583-3146



## Champaign County Republican Central Committee

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**Mailing Address:**  
P.O. Box 7975  
Champaign, IL 61826

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February 9, 2012

*Delivery via first-class mail and email to: [cweibel@co.champaign.il.us](mailto:cweibel@co.champaign.il.us)*

C. Pius Weibel  
Brookens Administrative Center  
1776 East Washington Street  
Urbana, Illinois 61802

Dear Chairman Weibel,

On February 8, 2012, a committee of elected precinct committeemen who represent voters in Champaign County Board district three unanimously nominated Max Mitchell and Jeffery Kibler to serve in the vacant county board seats. We respectfully ask that you add this matter to the February 12 meeting agenda for confirmation.

Please let me know if I can provide you with additional information related to this matter.

Habeeb Habeeb  
Champaign County Republican Central Committee,  
Acting Chairman & Treasurer





*"Improve the economic well-being of agriculture and enrich the quality of farm family life."*

**Meet the Buyers Event  
for Fruit and Vegetable Farmers  
March 27  
Champaign County Farm Bureau**

Farmers wanting to meet regional fresh produce buyers are invited to attend a Meet the Buyers event scheduled for March 27, 2012 at the Champaign County Farm Bureau, 800 N. Country Fair Drive, Champaign, IL from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Buyers from Illinois will be in attendance to provide an overview of their organization and their procurement needs. Farmers will have the opportunity to meet with buyers one-on-one.

"We have a great line up of buyers attending such as Schnucks, Central Illinois Produce, Strawberry Fields, Common Ground, Feeding Illinois, Feeding America, Hendrick House, University of Illinois-Foodservice, and others," states Cynthia Haskins, manager of business development and compliance, Illinois Farm Bureau. "We will also feature education sessions."

The day will be kicked off by Steve Ayers and John Pike, Extension Educators for University of Illinois-Extension, presenting MarketReady, a training session focusing on the evolving commercial market opportunities for locally produced foods followed by a presentation covering Good Agriculture Practices (GAP). Another presentation will center on packing houses and food hubs by Todd Rusk, Associate Director, Energy and Sustainable Business Programs, Business Innovation Services, University of Illinois. Terra Brockman, Dave Bishop and Elaine Sebald, Steering Committee Members of The Edible Economy Project, will provide an update regarding a joint food hub project planned for central Illinois.

Champaign County Farm Bureau and University of Illinois-Extension are the hosts for the event. Other collaborators include county Farm Bureaus throughout central Illinois, Illinois Farm Bureau and Illinois Specialty Growers Association.

"The meeting is a great opportunity for farmers who are currently growing specialty crops and for those who are considering diversifying their current production to meet the demand for local food," stated Brad Uken, manager, Champaign County Farm Bureau. "We are pleased to facilitate connections between buyers and farmers so that business relationships can be formed."

Please RSVP directly to the Champaign County Farm Bureau, (217) 352-5235 by March 22nd. The event is free to farmers.



**ILLINOIS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION®**  
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Comments on Local Food Policy Council for Champaign County Board 2/14/2012

I am Steve Ayers, University of Illinois Extension Educator in Local Food Systems and Small Farms serving Champaign, Ford, Iroquois and Vermilion Counties. I assumed this role in July 2010. I am one of thirteen local food systems educators throughout the state. In addition we have Extension specialists on the U of I campus and research centers.

The program objectives for the local food systems and small farms educators are:

- Develop business plans for new and transitional producers
- Increase locally grown food production
- Increase understanding of marketing and distribution
- Improve food safety procedures for locally produced foods.

EARLIER THIS

~~Last~~ winter a local foods group met with the Bloomington Edible Economy steering group. Their goal is to create a local food hub for central Illinois. During this meeting, a grower suggested meeting with produce buyers to better understand what produce may be the best fit for grower and marketplace.

Our next local foods event will be a Meet the Buyers Workshop for Fruit and Vegetable Farmers on March 27. The meeting is at the Champaign County Farm Bureau from 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Champaign County Farm Bureau and U of I Extension are sponsoring the event. In addition to education sessions, buyers from eight firms will provide an overview of their organization and procurement needs. Farmers will also have an opportunity to meet one on one with buyers.

U. of I Extension's role is education, collaboration, and coordination. I support the Local Foods Council and would be willing to assist with the effort.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
EXTENSION



**Steve Ayers**

*Extension Educator, Local Food Systems and Small Farms  
Serving Champaign, Ford, Iroquois and Vermilion Counties*

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(217) 333-7672 • fax (217) 333-7683  
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url <http://extension.illinois.edu>

**The following are comments in support of establishing a Champaign County Local Food Policy Council.**

I am including these per the request of the senders so they become part of the meeting record.

**Hi Patti, 6 February 2012**

You know my husband, Russ Rybicki, from Green Drinks and we met at 10,000 Villages awhile back. Anyway, I received an email from the Co-Op about your proposal for a county Food Policy Council, and I would like to go on record as supporting this effort. In addition to collaboration among stakeholders, I support efforts to bring healthy, affordable food to areas of the county that might not have access to it, and I think a FPC might help to address this.

Thanks for your efforts in this matter,  
Nancy Dietrich  
Urbana, IL

**6 February 2012**

Local councils are needed to help the people and farmers, who grow our food. I believe this council will facilitate communication between parties and may provide outlets for excess produce, to be given to those in need. I also feel that this would produce more organic produce and the importance of eating more natural food. It may allow for community gardens, with help from organic folks, that could help teach and lead others to the beauty and healthy living benefits of gardening, and don't forget the fun of watching young sprouts grow, plants and people. If there is a way that I could help get community gardens off the ground, I would love to help. Sincerely Nancy Penney

**7 February 2012**

I am writing to convey my support for a local food policy council. As an avid consumer of local food, a registered nurse, and a public health advocate, I would love to see this council established.

Last year I was part of a group of professors who linked our classes on the topic of local food issues, sponsoring many joint events and learning experiences connected to our course material. The courses included nutrition (me), environmental health, graphic design, political science, anthropology, and others. I always knew the health benefits of local, fresh produce, but learned a great deal about the economic benefits as well. Ken Meter, who came to the area through the Land Connection, presented his study on our local agricultural economy at one of our events. So much of the money in agriculture goes to those outside of our region, and I believe a council

such as this can help the County Board enact policies that promote more development in our county to support agriculture and, as a result, our local economy.

Thank you for your time,

Lisa Searing  
1908 East Main St  
Urbana, IL 61802

## Document II

The following are comments in support of establishing a Champaign County Local Food Policy Council.

I am including these per the request of the senders so they become part of the meeting record.

13 February 2012

Elaine Sebald

Edible Economy Project

<http://www.edibleeconomy.org>

The fertile soil and temperate climate of Central Illinois are ideal for growing hundreds of kinds of fruits and vegetables, along with staple grains and livestock for meat, eggs, and milk. **Yet over 95% of the food we buy and eat is grown outside our community.** As a result, based on a 2011 study of 32 Central Illinois counties—including Champaign County, food system expert Ken Meter estimates **the Central Illinois economy LOSES \$5 BILLION EVERY YEAR!**

**So . . . why is Central Illinois—with its strong agricultural heritage and some of the best soil in the world—unable to feed its own people?** Fifty years ago, Central Illinois communities had locally owned processing, distribution, and transportation facilities that served local farmers and helped in moving food from the farm to people's tables.

**Today, that local food infrastructure is long gone.** This is true in communities across the United States, according to USDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan: "As I talk to farmers across the country, regardless of what they produce or where, they all share one common challenge: how to best move product from the farm to the marketplace. This is especially crucial for small and midsize farmers who may not have enough capital to own their own trucks, their own refrigeration units, or their own warehouse space. They might not have the resources to develop sophisticated distribution routes, build effective marketing campaigns or network with regional buyers and customers."

**If we want to change our local food system so it better serves the interests of local communities—local farmers, local citizens, and local entrepreneurs, we will need to take charge and do it ourselves.** We cannot count on the large, multi-national corporations that are responsible for our current, mainstream food system to make these changes for us. **We need to localize more of our food system so that more opportunities, more local money, more jobs flow back into our local communities,** instead of leaving our community and flowing into the pockets of big corporations located far away.

**How do we do this? It will not be easy.** Our food system is complex and tightly bound by policy issues that restrict local communities' ability to take back responsibility for feeding themselves. According to the Agricultural Law Center at Drake University, a Food Policy Council provides a "unique, non-partisan form of civic engagement" that convenes "a diverse array of food system stakeholders to develop food and agriculture policy recommendations." **A Food Policy Council in Champaign County will be an important catalyst—helping to**

**remove barriers, create incentives, and provide advocacy for development of a community-based, local food system**—where more local money goes back into the local community. The Edible Economy Project congratulates the Champaign County Board for exploring this important step—and we highly encourage the Board to move forward with creation of a Champaign County Local Food Council.



February 12, 2012

Dear Champaign County Board Members:

I am writing on behalf of The Land Connection, a Central-Illinois-based educational nonprofit engaged in preserving farmland and training new farmers, to express our support of the proposal for a broad-based Food Policy Council in Champaign County.

We all know where dependence on foreign oil has led our country. But we can survive without oil -- it wouldn't be pretty, but we could survive. However, we can *not* survive without food. Our communities and our nation are becoming ever more vulnerable as we import more and more food from faraway places, even though we are blessed with some of the most fertile farmland in the world.

Because there is no governmental "food department," food-related issues are addressed by disparate agencies that often do not communicate with each other. This makes it very difficult to address important goals such as improving access to healthy food, supporting farmers, and preserving farmland. Food policy councils across the United States have been successful in coordinating existing food and farm programs, starting new programs, and shaping policies to better serve producers and consumers of local foods.

A local food policy council could have great power to change our communities for the better in many ways -- for example, by enacting policies that encourage elders to pass on their agricultural values, knowledge, and skills, and that encourage young people to start entrepreneurial food and farm businesses. I urge you to support a food policy council that can help facilitate, among other things, a new generation of farmers who will work to satisfy the great demand for local food in Champaign-Urbana, as well as in communities across the region.

Thank you,

Terra Brockman  
Founder, The Land Connection

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P. O. Box 3332 | Bloomington, IL 61702 | 217-840-2128

[www.thelandconnection.org](http://www.thelandconnection.org) | [info@thelandconnection.org](mailto:info@thelandconnection.org)

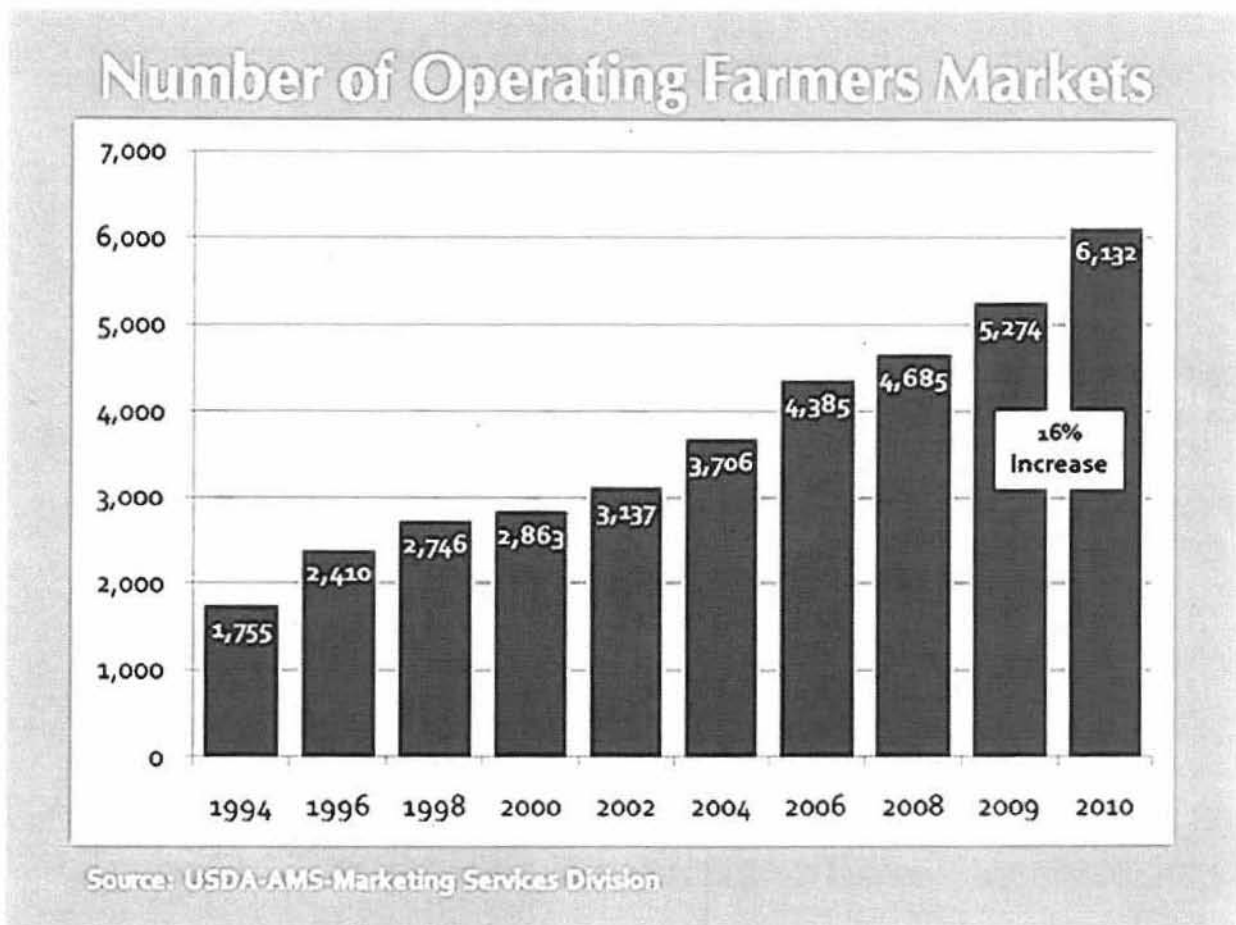
# Comments on Local Foods Council

My name is Cathe Capel.

I live at 1123 County Road 2300 E, Sidney, and I'm speaking in support of the proposal for a Local Food Council in Champaign County.

I raise sheep and chickens on my small farm, serve on the Champaign County ZBA, and I am the former Director of Farmer Programming for The Land Connection, a central Illinois nonprofit founded to preserve farmland.

Food production for local markets and direct farm sales of food has increased significantly in the last few years. One of the indicators is the increase in the number of Farmers' Markets.



At the request of the Edible Economy Project, Ken Meter of Crossroads Resource Center in Minneapolis did an assessment of the potential economic benefits of developing a robust local food system in central Illinois.

The Edible Economy Project, located in Bloomington, is working to increase the percentage of Illinois-grown food eaten in Illinois. In partnership with local farmers, schools, businesses, and community

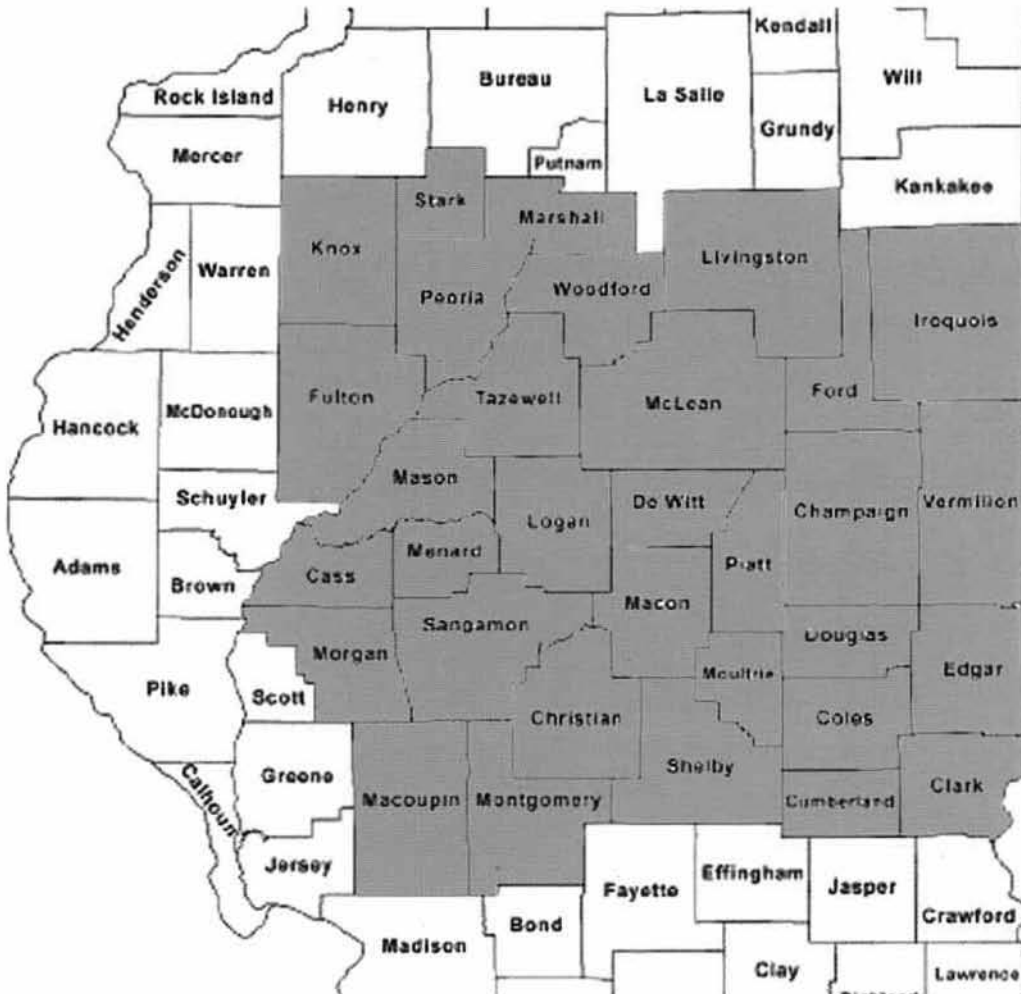


members, the Edible Economy Project is facilitating development of local food production, distribution, and processing facilities. According to their website, their goal is to foster a healthier, more self-sufficient community where more local money goes back into the local community.

**“Your region has the opportunity to significantly boost economic development, create and retain wealth, and provide Illinois residents greater access to fresh, affordable, locally produced foods.”**

--Ken Meter, Food System Economic Analyst

Mr. Meter’s research data included 32 counties in central Illinois.



Key points in Mr. Meter’s report:

1. The current food system takes wealth out of our community

**“Farmers produce \$4.8 billion of products per year *and* spend \$4.3 billion to raise them, Gaining \$464 million after production costs**

All told, Central Illinois:

- Gains \$464 million in ag production
- Gains \$538 million in subsidies
- Loses \$2.3 billion buying ag inputs
- Loses \$3.9 billion buying food

**NET LOSS = \$5.0 billion**

2. Community-based food systems may be the best path to economic recovery

If our region's consumers bought 15% of their food directly from local farms, **Central Illinois farmers would earn \$639 million in new income.**<sup>1</sup>

This data has been pulled from the presentation Mr. Meter gave last fall in Bloomington. Links to that presentation and to a summary of his data are at the end of this document.

Slide 7:

What could a local food system look like?

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<sup>1</sup> This data has been pulled from the presentation Mr. Meter gave last fall in Bloomington. Links to that presentation and to a summary of his data are at the end of this document.

# CENTRAL ILLINOIS LOCAL FOOD HUB

REINVENTING OUR LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM; BUILDING OUR LOCAL ECONOMY

## Modern Infrastructure for Local Food

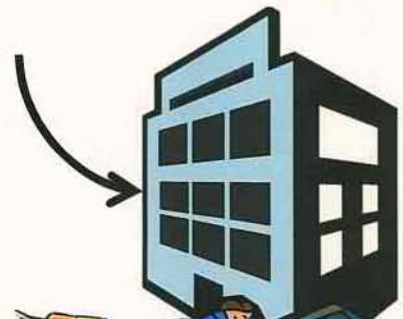
The USDA defines it as "a centrally located facility with a business management structure facilitating the aggregation, storage, processing, distribution, and/or marketing of locally/regionally produced food products."

1

**What is a LOCAL FOOD HUB?**

**Money spent on local food recycles through our economy an average of 7 times, with potential retail value of \$138 million**

\$1 spent on non-Illinois food returns only 20 cents to the local economy  
 \$1 spent on locally produced food returns \$1.34 to the local economy  
 Based on 2010 Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture research, potential retail value generated in our 32 central Illinois counties is estimated at \$138 million annually



PROCESSED ELSEWHERE

### We have the farmers

We estimate there are over 2,000 small farms in the 32 central IL counties we targeted that grow foods that could be marketed, processed, and distributed through a Local Food Hub

### We have a significant opportunity

95% of the food eaten in Illinois is imported from outside our borders  
 Most of the \$48 billion we spend annually for food leaves the Illinois economy



GROWN & PROCESSED HERE

### This is the right place & right time!

These 32 Central Illinois counties are located at the confluence of several major interstates with easy access to major metro areas, where the interest in locally produced foods is at an all-time high

Why is it important?

2

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Why now?

### We have the consumers

ISU Dining Services has committed to buying local foods starting in 2011.  
 More and more individuals, businesses, and institutions are asking for local foods.

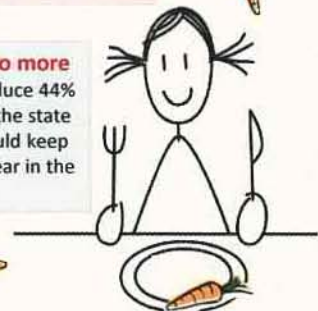
GROWN & PROCESSED HERE

**We have the capacity to do more**  
 Illinois has the capacity to produce 44% of the food consumed within the state  
 Producing at this capacity would keep an additional \$19 billion per year in the Illinois economy

Why here?

3

GROWN ELSEWHERE



This is one model of a food system with a regional food hub located in Bloomington.

The USDA's working definition of a food hub is "a centrally located facility with a business management structure facilitating the aggregation, storage, processing, distribution, and/or marketing of locally/regionally produced food products."

USDA goes on to say that "by actively coordinating these activities along the value chain, food hubs are providing wider access to institutional and retail markets for small to mid-sized producers, and increasing access of fresh healthy food for consumers, including underserved areas and food deserts (<http://blogs.usda.gov/2010/12/14/getting-to-scale-with-regional-food-hubs/>. Accessed February 13, 2012).

What would a Champaign County Local Food Council do?

**1. Provide a forum for "a diverse array of food system stakeholders to develop food and agriculture policy recommendations."**

The composition of the proposed Council includes farmers and growers, personnel from UIUC departments such as the student farm, ACES, NRES, and/or Urban Planning, educational organizations such as Extension, a representative from the Champaign County Farm Bureau, and end users such as local food retailers and/or the foodbank. This broad membership will provide an inclusive perspective from which to develop and recommend policy that will promote a robust local food system.

**2. Become a catalyst to remove barriers, create incentives, and provide advocacy for development of a community-based, local food system—where more local money goes back into the local community.**

A community-based food system will contribute to economic development, farmland preservation, and improving the health and welfare of Champaign County residents. The county has identified these very things as goals to be met. Further, the entrepreneurship that is an essential part of community-based food systems stays here! Developing inclusive, broad policies to guide the development of the local food system is important if Champaign County residents are to share in the many benefits of local foods.

May I answer any questions?

I would like to thank Elaine Sebald of the Edible Economy Project and Terra Brockman of The Land Connection, both located in Bloomington, IL, for allowing me to use information from presentations they've developed.

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<http://www.crcworks.org/crcppts/ilcent11.pdf> (data)  
<http://www.crcworks.org/crcdocs/ilcentsum11.pdf> (presentation)

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# BUILD HEALTH WEALTH

**EDIBLE ECONOMY...** reinventing Central Illinois' local food system to create and retain wealth while enhancing health.



All told, annually the 32 Central Illinois counties in this study...

- Gain \$464 million in production
- Gain \$538 million in subsidies
- **Lose \$2.3 billion** buying inputs
- **Lose \$3.9 billion** buying food

Source: Ken Meter, based on 1987-2009 averages.

Central Illinois' **TOTAL LOSS** is **\$5 billion** annually!

## MISSED OPPORTUNITIES!

Producing inputs and food for local consumption is a missed opportunity for Central Illinois. The infrastructure to support these activities can create jobs and economic opportunity for our rural and urban communities.

**Over 90%** of the dollars we spend on food goes to businesses outside our community. Central Illinois consumers buy **\$4.3 billion of food each year** — \$3.9 billion from outside our region.

Source: *Local Food, Farms & Jobs: Growing the Illinois Economy* (March 2009)



Healthy local economies create prosperous, resilient communities and personal, economic, and environmental well-being.

## DID YOU KNOW?

If Central Illinois consumers bought **just 15% of their food** directly from local farms, our farms would generate **\$639 million of new income annually.**



## MULTIPLIER EFFECT:

A dollar spent locally generates two to seven times as much income for the local economy as a dollar spent at a local chain.



# BUILD HEALTH WEALTH

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## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:

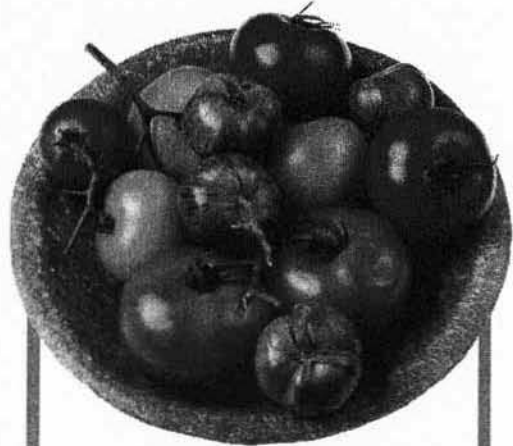
Local food means fewer fossil fuels used in transportation, a lower carbon footprint, and agricultural practices that enhance our soil, air, and water, while improving biodiversity and natural habitat for wildlife.

## FARMLAND PRESERVATION AND RURAL ECONOMIES:

Supporting local farmers supports responsible land development. When you buy local, you give those with local open space — farms and pastures — an economic reason to stay open and undeveloped.

## HEALTHIER FARMERS AND FARMLAND:

Small local farms are more likely to use sustainable farming practices and to grow a wider variety of crops. Most farmers who grow for local consumption use few herbicides, insecticides, or fungicides, leading to cleaner air and water for all.



## PERSONAL HEALTH:

Local food is miles fresher than what is available in stores, restaurants and cafeterias. Fresh food is high in nutrients and low in calories, and **the fresher it is, the healthier it is.** Plus, local food just plain tastes better: Ever tried a tomato that was picked within 24 hours? 'Nuff said.

## HEALTHY BABIES AND CHILDREN:

Studies show how vulnerable fetuses and young children are to agricultural and other chemical exposures. Even minute levels can cause birth defects, leukemia, and other cancers.



## NATIONAL HEALTH & NATIONAL SECURITY:

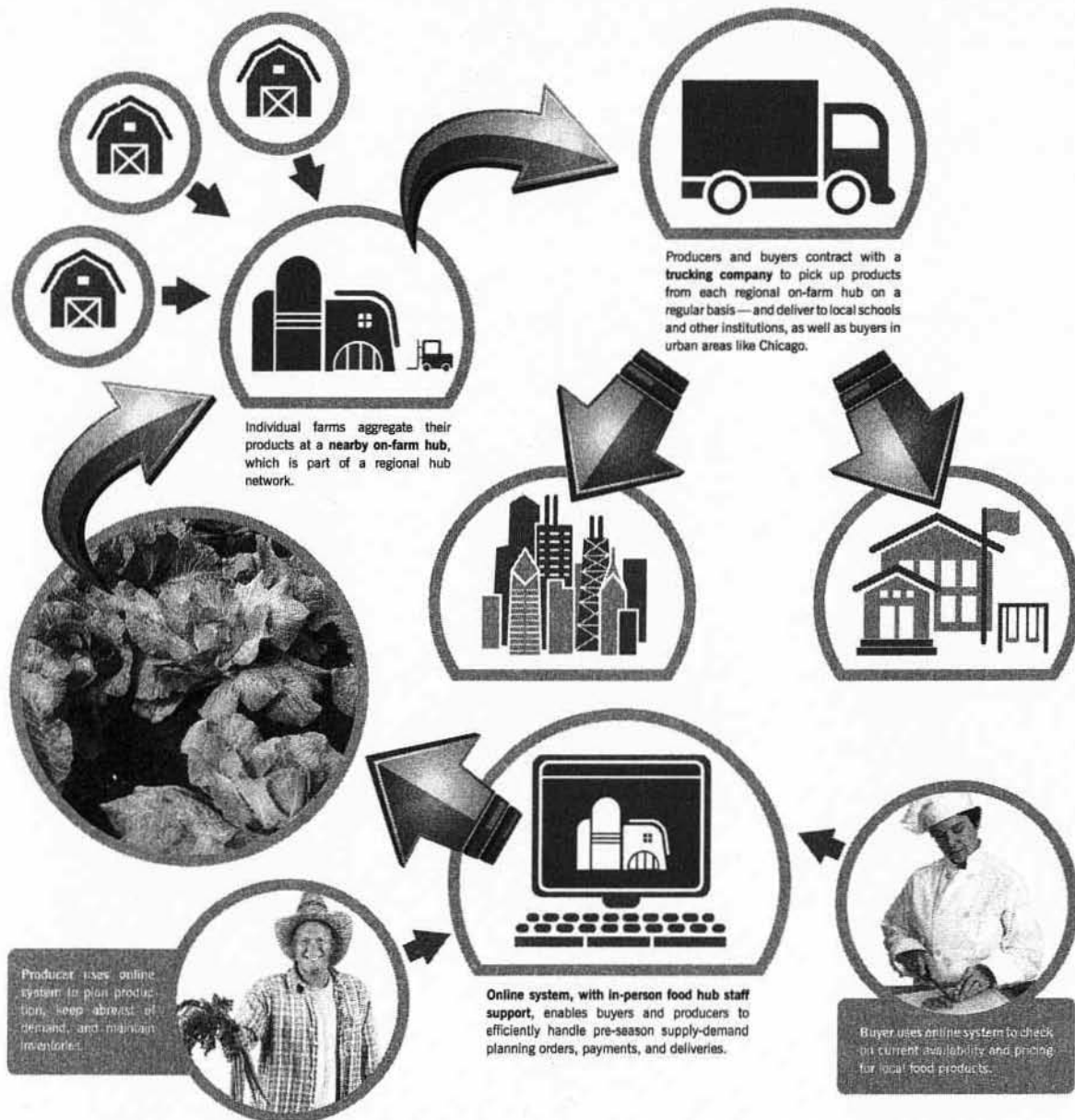
The epidemic levels of obesity cost our nation **\$174 billion a year** (CDC stat). In addition, relying on other countries for food puts the U.S. in a precarious position.

*A community-based food economy discovers and utilizes assets within the community FIRST, creating opportunities, jobs, and wealth that stay in the community and benefit the people who live there, enhancing health and quality of life.*

# CONNECT UP SCALE

**EDIBLE ECONOMY...** reinventing Central Illinois' local food economy by connecting community members and scaling community resources.

Before we can scale up our local food economy, we need to build connections among food producers, buyers, and consumers — so they can more efficiently collaborate, aggregate and transport their products, and match supply to demand.

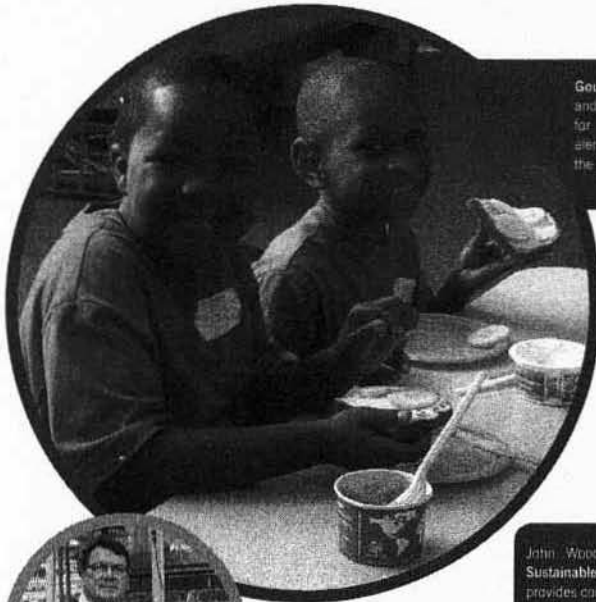




# CONNECT SCALE UP

**EDIBLE ECONOMY...** reinventing Central Illinois' local food economy by connecting community members and scaling community resources.

Here are examples of what other communities are doing to scale up their local food systems — and what we can do here in Central Illinois, as well. One organization can't do all of these things. It will take all of us working together and empowering each other.



Gourmet Gorilla serves sustainable, local, and organic meals to 80 public, private for-profit and nonprofit pre-schools, elementary schools and high schools in the greater Chicago area.



The UW-Madison Division of University Housing, Dining and Laundry Services spends 12.5 percent of its annual food budget on locally-grown products.



Michigan Freeze Pack, LLC specializes in individual ounce frozen (IQF) food processing of mostly locally grown vegetables and fruits in Hart, MI.

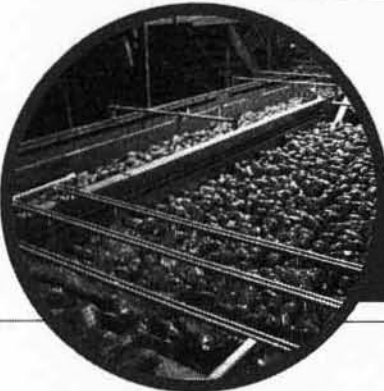
John Wood Community College's new Sustainable Local Foods Farming program provides courses and hands-on training in sustainable fruit and vegetable production, entrepreneurship, and marketing.



The Local Food Hub located in Charlottesville, VA, operates a rural Ed Organic Educational Farm as a community-based learning center providing farm education classes, volunteer opportunities, workshops and community events.

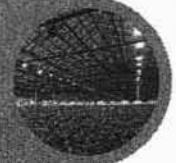


Wisconsin Innovation Kitchen in Mineral Point, WI, is a food processing center that employs people with disabilities while providing value-added food stabilization and processing services for local farmers and other local food entrepreneurs.



Alsum Produce in Wisconsin works with 60 local growers to pack and ship produce to state institutions and school systems.

Energy-efficient greenhouse in Galena, AR, will utilize recovered heat from the city's diesel-fired power plant to produce food year-round. Other projects around the country use recovered waste heat from such sources as refrigeration plants, ice mills, and data centers.



# DRAFT II

(This draft edition contains no major changes, just minor adjustments based on comments that I have received as of 7 February. If there are other comments received before 14 Feb., I will try to integrate them.)

16 January 2012

To: Carol Ammons, County Board Policy Chair

From: Patti Petrie

Re: Establishing a Champaign County Local Food Policy Council

**Caveat:** This is a draft that is being shared with fellow county board members along with other community decision makers and people involved in the production and use of local foods. The request to all of these individuals is to share comments and thoughts with me @ [patti2@gmail.com](mailto:patti2@gmail.com) These will be considered and integrated into a final draft to be on the February County Board policy agenda.

## **Historic Background Pertaining to Local Foods and Policy:**

Across the country various counties and organizations have been creating alliances and collaborations to enhance the expansion of the production and use of local foods for a number of reasons. Some of these are economic development; encourage the establishment of small businesses; better and fresher food available locally; encouragement of larger institutional entities to commit to the use of 10% of local food to support the growth, the economy, and as a health issue; efficient use of land; preservation and conservation of agriculture; reduction in food transportation; and as an educational resources for the local population. Actually, this is not a new concept for Champaign County. County board member McGinty has mentioned that the idea has been presented to him by several individuals interested in the issue of expanding local food production.

As a reminder, the county board has an economic development policy that contains as one of the goals:

### **Diversification, Business/Agriculture**

*Goal ED-4: Preserve the strength of agriculture and agritourism, and the existing business base, while diversifying the local economy.*

*Objectives:*

*ED-4.1. Promote the growth of agriculture and agritourism that is both sustainable and profitable*

*ED-4.2: Encourage development of enterprises that add value to local agricultural production*

*ED-4.3: Encourage development of appropriate non-farm enterprises that augment income for farm families.*

Here is the url if you would like to reference the policy

<http://www.co.champaign.il.us/COUNTYBD/EconomicDevelopmentPolicy.pdf>

Based on economic information, local food production farms, such as Prairie Fruit Farm and Blue Moon, yield a higher return rate per acre than farms producing row crops. Further, it takes much less

infrastructure cost for the county to support agriculture than other forms of development, which is rarely taken into the cost consideration of converting agriculture land to other uses.

At the end of this memo are references to various organizations within Illinois and surrounding Midwest states along with information about North Carolina are included to give a broader perspective as to what other communities and counties are pursuing to enlarge the opportunities for local food as a means of economic development. Also included, as a resource, is the 2009 press release that “Governor Patrick Quinn signed landmark legislation that will put the state on the road to a vastly expanded supply of Illinois-grown food for Illinois tables.”

### **Purpose of Local Food Policy Council**

- Enhance economic development and strengthen local food systems within the county, per the county board policy reference above;
- Bring stakeholders together and provide mechanisms for seeking stakeholder advice and expertise;
- Explore means for small business loans;
- Coordinate and collaborate with existing programs within Champaign County and other county and state food policy organizations regionally;
- Bring to the attention of the county board new programs;
- Address policy barriers and bring these to the attention of the county board;
- Collaborate to establish and broaden community outreach;
- Council function is designed to be on a macro level;
- Establish a web site presence on the county web site.

### **Structure of the Council**

- Council will have **nine members** chosen by the board chair in consultation with a Republican and Democratic member of the board and confirmed by the whole county board. **Two** members will be chosen from communities within the county; **two** from local foods representatives—growers, marketers, Land Connection, as examples; **two** from academic institutions—extension, UIUC student farm, ACES, NRES, Urban Planning, as examples, **two** from end users of local foods, such as restaurants, institutions, county nursing home, etc. and **one** from the Champaign County Farm Bureau. Ex officio members will be determined by the council, as necessary, such as a county board member.
- Council will develop a statement of purpose, by-laws, goals, objectives, and basic timeline for the first two years after appointed. The council will determine a meeting schedule subject to the Illinois Open Meetings Act.
- **Sunset clause**—24 months from appointment. Purpose is to revisit the structure to determine if this still is appropriate or if so much progress has ensued a different structure would prove more fruitful. The council can bring forth this assessment to the county board.

- **Term limits**—if the council continues beyond the original 24 months, appointees will serve only two two-year terms for the purpose of rotation on the council among the county population involved with and knowledgeable about local foods as a means for economic development.

**Cost to the County to Establish this Council**

Since there is no staff time involved for the first 24 months, there ought to be no cost.

## References:

Here is a [link](#) to a food policy council developing in Springfield.

List of Illinois and Iowa Food Policy Councils from the [North American Food Policy Council](#)

- An S in front of a council name designates a state-level council;
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## Illinois

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Phone: [\(515\) 229-2679](tel:5152292679)

Web: [www.foodfarmjobs.org](http://www.foodfarmjobs.org)

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**Email:** angie.tagtow@mac.com

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**Contact:** Bahia Barry, Local Food Coordinator, Golden Hills RC&D

Southwest Iowa Food and Farm Initiative, 712 S. HWY 6, PO Box 189, Oakland, IA 51560

**Phone:** [\(712\) 482-3029](tel:(712)482-3029)

**Web:** [www.swiffi.org](http://www.swiffi.org)

**C: Pottawattamie County Local Food Council**

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**North Carolina**

North Carolina Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program

<http://www.sustainable-ag.ncsu.edu/>

**USDA Resource**

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/pubs/agnic/susagorgs.shtml>

**NACO Resource**

*Counties and Local Food Systems* [http://www.farmentoschool.org/files/publications\\_133.pdf](http://www.farmentoschool.org/files/publications_133.pdf)

Viktor Schrader and Joseph Lauchlan. **Local Food Systems in Central Illinois: An Economic Impact Analysis.** July 2009. Department of Economics and the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development, Illinois State University. (I have a copy of this paper that I am willing to share.)

Ken Meter. *Sangamon Region (Illinois) Local Farm & Food Economy: Highlights of a data compilation.* 25 March 2010. Illinois Stewardship Alliance.

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- **Term limits**—Initial members will all serve two-year terms. After two years, 4 of 9 members will serve single one-year terms and subsequent terms for all members will be two years in length.
- **Cost to the County to Establish this Council** --Since there is no staff time involved for the first 24 months, there ought to be no cost.

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### **C: Pottawattamie County Local Food Council**

**Contact:** Bahia Barry, Local Food Coordinator, Golden Hills RC&D--

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**Phone:** [\(712\) 482-3029](tel:(712)482-3029)

**Web:** [www.swiffi.org](http://www.swiffi.org)

### **North Carolina**

North Carolina Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program

<http://www.sustainable-ag.ncsu.edu/>

### **USDA Resource**

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/pubs/agnic/susagorgs.shtml>

### **NACO Resource**

*Counties and Local Food Systems* [http://www.farmtoschool.org/files/publications\\_133.pdf](http://www.farmtoschool.org/files/publications_133.pdf)

Viktor Schrader and Joseph Lauchlan. **Local Food Systems in Central Illinois: An Economic Impact Analysis.** July 2009. Department of Economics and the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development, Illinois State University. (I have a copy of this paper that I am willing to share.)

Ken Meter. *Sangamon Region (Illinois) Local Farm & Food Economy: Highlights of a data compilation.* 25 March 2010. Illinois Stewardship Alliance.