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Charlottesville Community Food System

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Overview of Project

Community food systems are essential to any thriving community because they affect the

public health of residents, aid in economic development and growth, have immense

environmental benefits; and if implemented in policy, community food systems can work toward

bringing about social equity. The goal of this project is to identify various community food

systems in Charlottesville, evaluate them, and eventually create a policy audit that will illustrate

both the areas of success and areas in need of improvement in working toward a more

sustainable community.

Through our audit, we examined five main points of interest in relationship to community

food systems. First, we looked at public health and how a community food system can reduce

and prevent obesity and chronic illnesses such as diabetes. We then explored the benefits of

sustainable food solutions in relationship to economics, primarily how an efficient food system can help support small, local farms. Our third main topic of discussion was the environmental benefits of providing fresh food in communities, and our fourth topic conveys the importance of a regional community food system's potential impact on social equity. Finally, we established a connection between a regional food system and land conservation, and protection of farm land.

Charlottesville, Virginia is located in the southwestern portion of Virginia, 70 miles west of Richmond, Virginia. Founded in 1762, Charlottesville has a population of approximately 41,487 individuals and has an area of 10.3 square miles (US Census Bureau). The racial demographics are as follows: 72.7 percent of Charlottesville residents are White; 20.6 percent are Black; 4.4 percent are Asian; and 3.5 percent are Hispanic or Latino origin, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Regarding household income, the median household income is 31, 007 dollars in Charlottesville compared to 46,667 dollars in the state of Virginia. The percentage of persons below poverty is striking. Roughly one-fourth – 23.6 percent – of Charlottesville's population is below the Federal Poverty Level, according to the Census Bureau. In Virginia only ten percent of the population is below the Federal Poverty Level. In terms of age demographics, 17.0 percent of Charlottesville's population is under the age of eighteen; approximately 3,900 of which are enrolled in the Charlottesville Public School system (US Census Bureau, Charlottesville City Schools). These Charlottesville statistics are relevant to the following examination of the local food system as it pertains to Charlottesville families, policy, and schools.

Concerning Charlottesville City Schools, six elementary schools, an upper elementary, a middle school, and a high school exist. These schools provide an important setting for opportunities to promote healthy activity relating to food. In fact, three elementary schools

including Clark, Jackson-Via, and Johnson currently receive federal grant funding under the USDA Fresh Fruits and Vegetables and Snack Program (FFVP), and Greenbrier Elementary received FFVP funding in 2008 (Charlottesville City Schools). Charlottesville City Schools have a School Wellness Plan and School Strategic Plan that reflect concerns for public health initiatives concerning the local food system.

In the Charlottesville community, a plethora of local groups relating to food generate activity to promote a sustainable, healthy local food system. The grassroots organizations with food initiatives include but are not limited to the following groups: the Community Obesity Task Force (COTF), Local Food Hub, Quality Community Council (QCC) Farms, the Charlottesville Market, the Jefferson Area Board of Aging (JABA), Monticello Area Community Action Agency (MACAA), the Haven, and many more. Thus, the City of Charlottesville provides an environment ripe for the community to come together around the local food system.

Charlottesville Food Policy Audit Methodology

Research Method

Numerous policy documents and critical resources were examined in order to determine what direct and indirect actions Charlottesville is taking to create a sustainable food system for the community. The documents researched ranged from the local comprehensive plan, zoning ordinances, school district documents, and other programming. Each policy was assessed as part of our Charlottesville Food Policy Audit to provide an asset-based framework upon which community members might improve. By means of the Food Policy Audit process, we highlighted existing sustainable food system goals in Charlottesville and identify gaps for future endeavors.

The purpose of the City of Charlottesville 2007 Comprehensive Plan is to provide guidelines and goals for future citywide and neighborhood development. This most recent draft is an updated version of the 2001 Comprehensive Plan which outlined development objectives for the next twenty-five years in Charlottesville. The 2007 Comprehensive Plan focuses on outlining citizen and government-based concerns regarding housing, transportation, economic infrastructure, natural resources, historic features, and local cultural character and implementing local policy objectives and tools to maintain effective administrative relationships and compliance with state guidelines. The recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan provide long-and short-term guidance for developmental strategies for the next twenty years in Charlottesville. CoCo studied the Comprehensive Plan to find language included in the Food Policy Audit.

Following the adoption of the 2001 Comprehensive Plan, a revised zoning ordinance reflecting the objectives of the 2001 Comprehensive Plan was adopted. The zoning ordinance is continuously amended through an approval process in order to provide for innovative future development. Independent city ordinances provide for issue specific guidelines to protect the interests of the local government and citizens. Moreover, Virginia State and the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission policy documents promote sustainable solutions and provide guidance for state and regional planning issues such as fostering a healthy community food system. Lauren read the zoning ordinances and other independent ordinances, extracting relevant information to complete the Food Policy Audit.

Additionally, other local documents such as School District Strategic Plans and School Programming and Wellness Policies provided additional city level policy language and implementation tools for the Food Policy Audit. Janie examined the local school programs and

policy documents to find relevant information for the Food Policy Audit. Moreover, all team members focused on finding and researching other plans/strategies/programs as they are pertinent to a certain topic or subject matter such as City programs included on their website, initiatives by local schools, and local community group programs reflecting areas covered in the Food Policy Audit.

Community Engagement Method

Policy should be developed with input from the people it is meant to serve and should advance and sustain the human and natural resources of Charlottesville. The purpose of community engagement with the City of Charlottesville was to obtain community feedback for our team's food systems policy audit and gain community ideas for what policies or changes our audit suggests. Food and food production affect individuals and communities in drastic ways; the production and consumption of food affects our health, individually and collectively, the quality of our environment, and the strength of our local and regional economies. Having a safe and secure food production and distribution system is an essential kind of local infrastructure; thus, the community's input shall be crucial to the proper functioning of an effective food system.

Community food security can be defined as all community residents attaining a culturally acceptable, nutritionally dense diet through a sustainable food system that maximizes community self-organization and social equity. In order to design recommendations for community food security in Charlottesville, it was of utmost importance to take a community-based approach so to take advantage of and be sensitive toward networks of people within the community that are helping to ensure that everyone has access to nutritional diets and that resources are safeguarded for present and future generations.

We chose to not simply create our own proposals because top-down methods often stir and complicate existing problems. Knowing the needs and concerns of community members and institutions in Charlottesville in regard to their food systems provided us insight into issues of importance within the community, areas that require improvement, and how best to address insufficiencies in a sustainable and culturally sensitive manner. We envisioned community engagement as an operation of collaboration between our team and residents of Charlottesville and now, hope to provide opportunities not just to approach the food system but also a multitude of other issues that confront the community. We attempted to engage public participants by seeking guidance from participants in deciding how to provide participants with the information necessary to participate in meaningful ways, how to foster the involvement of those that may be potentially affected by or interested in a decision, and ultimately, how to invite and account for all involved community members at the public presentation of the final policy audit.

The City of Charlottesville group met with the following community members:

1. Mayor Dave Norris

2. Judy Berger, Community Nutrition Manager, JABA

3. Barbara Yager, Nutrition Program Coordination/Co-Chair at Thomas Jefferson Health District/COTF

4. Diane Behrens, Charlottesville School Administration/COTF

5. Karen Shepard, MACAA, Executive Director

6. Marnie Allen, MACAA, Hope House Director

7. Anita Shelton, Head Start Nutritionist

8. Karen Waters, QCC, Executive Director

9. Susan Pleiss, QCC Farms! Programming & Outreach Coordinator

The community members were asked the following questions:

1. Do you have any questions about our findings or method?

2. Were there any surprises of learning from our research?

3. Are there other policies, programs, or activities that should be reflected in the audit, as a way of reflecting what is happening in Charlottesville? Where else should we look? Who else should we contact?

4. If you could choose, or had to choose, what would be your top four or five priorities for policies that you would like Charlottesville to pursue?

Research Concerns and Limitations

Throughout the project there were many concerns and limitations that required critical thinking and collaborative team work within our group to accomplish the goal of creating a comprehensive food policy audit for Charlottesville. After deciding who we were going to interview, the challenge became creating a schedule for our team as well as incorporating the community members' schedules. Because of scheduling issues, we were unable to interview and speak with every stakeholder that we found important to our process. Through the meetings we were able to have with community members, however, we were given suggestions of additional people to contact - many of whom we may not have thought to contact earlier. For instance, during our meeting with MACAA, we were joined by a Head Start nutritionist who was not aware of our meeting, but happened to be in the building and available to speak with us at that time. Being flexible and open minded was most important in conducting community partner interviews.

Another limitation to the project was the advanced and complex electronic format of the audit, specifically the excel spreadsheet. Many of the community partners and stakeholders we

were able to meet with work for non-profit organizations in the area. In that vein, most of the partner nonprofit organizations we met with did not have state of the art technology and computers due to their resources being invested in other projects or office supplies. That being said, a few of our community members were unable to open or download the audit on their computer, or read it until we brought them a hard copy the day of a meeting. Although they were still able to read the audit quickly before our meeting, as students with constant access to state of the art technology, we did not think about the technological barriers that our community partners might face in their offices or headquarters.

The Audit Summary

Public Health

During the audit process, including research and community engagement, several strengths, challenges, and opportunities were revealed in regards to public health. In terms of strengths, many grassroots efforts related to public health are led by the following organizations: COTF, the Local Food Hub, the Alliance for Community Choice in Transportation (ACCT), QCC Farms!, JABA, MACAA, and many more. COTF exemplifies interdisciplinary community action around health. According to Barbara Yager, the Nutrition Program Coordination Co-Chair at the Thomas Jefferson Health District and representative of COTF, the organization is a large, umbrella task force whose mission is to plan and target funding for health related initiatives in the area. Therefore, the overarching organization is extremely influential in regards to community activity relating to public health.

Other community strengths relating to public health and food include the School Strategic Plan and School Wellness Policy, which both express concern for promoting healthy eating and physical activity in schools. An explicit objective of the School Strategic Plan is to advance

student health and wellbeing through research-based health, physical education and nutrition, school safety and prevention programs and activities. Moreover, the Strategic Plan states, "The United States faces a crisis of obesity among its youth. Our schools must be part of the solution, not part of the problem. We must not only teach students how to stay health and fit, but also help them achieve this goal" (35).

The School Wellness Policy includes a set of objectives and recommendations concerning creating a healthy school environment for Charlottesville students. One example of how the School Wellness Policy incorporates food includes the following statement: "All foods and beverages made available on campus before, during, and after the school day will be consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans," which provides evidence-based nutrition guidelines. Thus, the school programming and policy documents provide evidence for community activity to promote healthy school environments.

Furthermore, the Charlottesville City School District includes eight of nine schools that have been recognized in the Governor's Score Card circle of winners, which requires an integrated school team approach. The Governor's Score Card evaluates each school's contribution and successes to creating healthy school environments, including initiatives towards creating sustainable local and organic food systems within the schools. Thus, schools offer opportunities for increasing healthy food initiatives.

Numerous community gardens that promote healthy eating exist in Charlottesville. One example of community garden efforts includes QCC Farms!. QCC Farms! is a citizen-driven initiative that directly involved community members such as low-income families to participate in the operation of the community gardens. The goals of QCC Farms! include the following: to improve the physical health of vulnerable populations in the area; enhance the environmental

health of the community; strengthen the mental health and social capital of the community; and advance the economic health of the community through education, job opportunities, and lower pricing for healthy, fresh foods.

Although a variety of strengths exist concerning public health and food in Charlottesville, a number of challenges to sustaining a healthy local food system are present in the community. First and foremost, despite the vast number of local organizations that work to promote public health in Charlottesville, there is limited coordination among the grassroots groups. Several community members emphasized the absence of strong unity among the efforts and reality of separate endeavors to achieve similar goals. Additionally, the most recent 2007 Comprehensive Plan does not provide a detailed discussion of public health. The important planning document includes transportation objectives relating to the advancement of multimodal options for community members. Nonetheless, the Comprehensive Plan's goal to make Charlottesville the "healthiest city" in the United States is not satisfied with included planning recommendations (203).

Moreover, incomplete education programs surrounding the preparation and growing of healthy, fresh food exist in the community. There are no programs to educate cafeteria workers to prepare nutritious foods and no sustainable health education programs for public school students compared to standards of learning required courses. Also, the Charlottesville-Albemarle County Technical Education Center (CATEC) does not provide farming training for students. Finally, the price and accessibility of healthy food options also presents a challenge for Charlottesville community members.

In spite of several challenges in the community, the significant amount and diversity of strengths provide opportunities for progress in terms of public health and the local food system.

The community members offered examples of several opportunities for improvement. For example, the school environment is an important setting for activity. Increasing physical activity and nutrition education requirements for all students is crucial to create healthier students. Moreover, a Nutrition Advisory Board run by students could be a unique way to generate student-led discussion, recommendations, and action surrounding healthy eating in schools.

In regards to policy, revising the Comprehensive Plan to include a food section offers an opportunity to derive policy from extensive grassroots efforts. In fact, communication surrounding the inclusion of food in the next Comprehensive Plan ought to prompt community fusion around advancing the local food system. Finally, the Charlottesville Farmers' Market will introduce EBT/SNAP machines in the near future, and the Farm to School Program in Charlottesville is in its infancy. Therefore, the challenges associated with the accessibility of fresh, nutritious foods for vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and low-income individuals will be lifted to some degree.

Thus, according to policy and programming research and numerous conversations with community members, Charlottesville's public health activism involves the efforts of numerous community-based organizations that understand the importance of food to improve the health of the population. Establishing policy language that supports these efforts and increasing food education opportunities are critical for the sustainability of the local food system.

Economic Development

After completing our research and talking with various community members, it was clear that while there are many strengths in economic development in regards to promoting local and sustainable food systems, there are also many challenges and future opportunities for growth towards sustainable food for Charlottesville. A huge strength that Charlottesville has developed

over time is the positive reception and allegiance to the Farmers' Market. Additionally, the vacancies present on Main Street between the University of Virginia and the Downtown Mall could be zoned or could provide incentives for Green industry to move into the area. Charlottesville is also home to many restaurants that, with incentives, could begin to afford supporting local farms and farmers. Moreover, economic development strengths exist within the school system. In particular, the School Programs and Wellness Policy states that the superintendent is authorized to develop and implement an efficient, nutritious, and locally grown effective food services system for students and employees of the school division.

One great challenge in regards to economic development in conjunction with food is the current economic conditions in the United States, and in the world. Just this year, there was a law proposed that did not pass in the General Assembly of Virginia that would have allowed for provisions for schools to purchase local food. At the time, legislators were concerned that it was a bad time to take on an expensive measure during such a low economic climate with more prolific statewide concerns. Another great challenge is the price of healthy food in Charlottesville. Although the Local Food Hub, which distributes food bought from local farmers and delivers the products to local organizations and restaurants, is growing, a potential challenge is the lack of institutional support by the City of Charlottesville for the program. The Local Food Hub is, however, financially backed by Nelson County.

Some of the biggest opportunities for economic development in regards to local food are incentives, primarily tax incentives. In order to generate local food economic development, it is imperative that there are incentives for retailers to buy local produce, and incentives for businesses to use locally produced food. One community member suggested a huge opportunity for economic development in Charlottesville will be the planned renovations for the Jefferson

School. The renovations include a community kitchen and incubator for students, community members and farmers. This location, in the heart of Charlottesville, will hopefully prove to be accessible and profitable in the search for local food sustainability in Charlottesville. As mentioned before, finding a permanent location for the Farmers' Market also came up as an economic development initiative because a permanent location for such activity might attract other green infrastructure into the area.

Environmental Benefits

Throughout our research and meetings with community partners, it was apparent that there were multifaceted strengths, challenges and opportunities present in Charlottesville in regards to food policy and environmental benefits. For strengths, Charlottesville has many initiatives toward turning the city into a more environmentally friendly place. In particular, the City of Charlottesville has a statement regarding Food Miles, which is the distance between where food is grown to the plate of consumption, in its Green City Strategy. Through this statement, the City Council announces its support of local food and farmers' markets in the area. The zoning ordinance also stresses environmental consciousness and calls for measures to be taken within the city limits to reduce the environmental footprint in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the city, especially in regards to water within the city.

Charlottesville City Schools' commitment to enhance the environment in the area is another of the locality's strengths. Specifically, the Charlottesville School Programs and Wellness Policy's "Going Green Initiatives" includes many programs to reduce the environmental stresses of school cafeterias, such as reducing the number of disposable trays used in the cafeteria by leasing two new dish washing machines from Ecolab. Ecolab's compact and

solid ware-washing method minimizes storage, waste, and the impact of cafeteria supplies to our environment.

Although there are numerous strengths in Charlottesville relating to making the city a more environmentally friendly place, there are various challenges that make working towards a sustainable food system difficult. One in particular, which is common across the board, is the lack of coordination among the numerous non-profits working around land conservation in Charlottesville. There are many organizations in place that are involved with historic preservation, and land conservation, however they have yet to unite together to promote environmental benefits in regards to food systems. Another barrier is the lack of related language in the zoning ordinance. Within the zoning ordinance, there is no language that supports non-point source pollution from agriculture. While there is mention of buffers along stream banks to reduce pollution in the Comprehensive Plan, this language does not reference farmland buffers.

The opportunities present in Charlottesville moving forward towards environmental benefits are quite remarkable. One opportunity in particular is composting. Charlottesville is home to many restaurants and households that could benefit from composting waste, which would also help in greening the city. Although the Charlottesville Comprehensive Plan does not mention composting, the Charlottesville City Council's Green City statement includes a guide to composting and step-by-step instructions on how to compost from home. There is also an opportunity in Charlottesville to create a map of land that can be foraged for food.

In conversations with a community leader, he also stressed the importance of finding a permanent location for the Farmers' Market. This could eventually benefit the environment because depending on the location, there may be an opportunity for a community garden in the vicinity or foraging on or around the property. With a permanent location, the City of

Charlottesville may also be able to cut down on the use or need for cars to access the Farmers' Market through transportation planning. A final opportunity is the program being established by JABA that would create a larger gleaning project. Currently, JABA gleans after the Farmers' Market, and could expand this process at other places in Charlottesville. Thus, there is a potential to build upon what currently exists and improve environmentally friendly activities and efforts in Charlottesville.

Social Equity

In regard to social equity in Charlottesville's community food system, there are strengths, opportunities, and challenges. These notable points that relate to social equity in the Charlottesville locality are worth of exploring in greater detail. Some highlights include the following: transportation for access to markets that sell healthful foods, support for grocers providing fresh and local foods in underserved locations, a strong emergency food infrastructure, and support for equitable working conditions for food related labor, and the promotion of community involvement and ownership in its local food system.

In terms of increasing transportation options for underserved communities to access markets that sell fresh and healthy foods, Charlottesville has made progress in research but has opportunities to improve its means of transportation in practice. The Comprehensive Plan cited a transportation study that was conducted called the Charlottesville Transit Improvement Study and Transit Development Plan (106). The study investigated income levels of riders, patterns, and routes. However, in all documents investigated, there was no mention of transportation – bus service, taxi, or ride share – available during the day and evening in rural as well as urban areas. Furthermore, safe biking and walking paths to food sources were not mentioned. In fact, the documented language surrounding transportation is not destination-based.

To support the position of grocers providing healthy, local foods in diverse and underserved locations, Charlottesville – in its City databases – does not recognize the need for low income, immigrant and migrant populations to have access to fresh, healthful foods. In this vein, there are no tax credits for opening food stores in particular locations, and no regulatory incentives nor predevelopment assistance to developers for grocery stores.

For increasing the availability of fresh and healthful foods for underserved communities, an EBT machine for food stamps is coming to the Farmers' Market mid-late April. Previously, there was a currency project, "Farmers' Market Bucks," providing money to low-income families for use at the Farmers' Market. Farmers were reimbursed for these "bucks." With the introduction of the EBT machine, however, the Wholesome Wave Foundation will offer a dollar-to-dollar match through the first year of the machine's operation. In addition, the Zoning Ordinance stipulates that Charlottesville protects farm stands and carts in its zoning regulations. Thus, the availability of fresh and healthful foods for underserved communities is a source of strength and opportunity for Charlottesville.

In order to support an effective emergency food infrastructure, there is practically no mention of a right to food security. In its eighth point, however, the Wellness Policy for Charlottesville City Schools asserts, "The Division will promote and adhere to food safety and food security for all students." The Thomas Jefferson Area United Way offers a "Quick Guide to Family Resources" that includes a Food Resources section listing emergency food providers in the locality. In addition, one community partner referenced a "Central Plan for Emergency Food Providers." A recurring theme from our findings, however, proved that there was no support for coordination and cooperation between agencies.

The only mention of supporting equitable working conditions for farm labor may be found in the Zoning Ordinance's specification for a living wage. In the Zoning Ordinance there is a living wage portion that requires,

> *Every city contract for the provision of non-professional services, awarded after a process of competitive sealed bidding, shall require that the contractor pay each employee assigned to perform services under the contract, while such employee is performing such services on property owned or controlled by the city, a wage no less than the lowest hourly wage paid by the city to its own employees.*

Nevertheless, there is no provision of access to fresh, healthful food for those who produce it, training for farm labor that is comfortable and culturally accessible, adequate protection from pesticides for laborers, no available ombudsman for farm workers and, finally, no mention of housing opportunities for migrant workers.

Charlottesville has taken strides to promote community involvement and ownership in its local food system. To involve the community in the organization of food opportunities, community gardens such as the Haven and QCC Farms! offer opportunities for community members, particularly for low-wealth community members, to participate in the organization of the local food system. In effect, QCC Farms! is a citizen-driven initiative that directly involves community members in its operation. Point 3.1.1 of the School Strategic Plan proposes goals to "Engage community members in public conversations to build consensus and a common sense of purpose regarding what the community values and what the community expects from the schools" (45); however, these values do not include clear food or food related topics. Moreover, there is no evidence in official Charlottesville documents or in our community conversations of

culturally appropriate fresh foods, support for diverse, local, traditional – and fresh – food practices.

In conclusion, Charlottesville has many points of light regarding its social equity, as well as many opportunities for improvement. QCC Farms! is one example of many efforts in Charlottesville to make healthy foods more easily and readily available. "QCC Farms! is an Urban Agricultural Project designed to engage low-wealth city residents in raising organically grown produce in underutilized green spaces, while providing nutritional and environmental education" (QCC website). Hopefully, the introduction of EBT machines to the Farmers' Market and the Wholesome Wave Foundation's dollar-to-dollar match the first year of the machine's operation will increase low-income residents' access to nutritionally dense foods. A challenge that Charlottesville must overcome, though, are the silos of nonprofit organizations that operate in isolation to fill the gaps of food policy in Charlottesville. If organizations could collaborate, together, then they could achieve tremendous progress to exponentially increase healthy, fresh, and local food availability, accessibility, production and distribution.

Land Conservation and Access to Land for Food Production

In regards to our findings for land conservation and access to land for food production, the strengths of Charlottesville are very promising. Already in the city, we have seen the creation of various community gardens, including a community garden planned for the Haven, which is a local day facility for Charlottesville's homeless population. There are also many accessible parks managed by Parks and Recreation that also provide community gardens and places for foraging.

Like all issues of public policy, there are challenges to entry in the area of land conservation and access to land in the city for food production. One in particular is the limited coordination among the numerous non-profits working around land conservation in

Charlottesville. Without effective communication and collaboration, it is very hard to introduce sustainable food system language into land conservation dialogue. Another barrier lies in the language in the Charlottesville Comprehensive Plan, which does not designate land for food production in particular, but does generally use the term "garden" as acceptable uses of land.

The opportunities for land conservation and access to land for food production in Charlottesville are endless. The opportunities that our community members highlighted, however, were specific and feasible for the near future. Because of a focus on density in Charlottesville to prevent sprawl, an opportunity lies in planning for green infrastructure that incorporates consideration for food production. Another opportunity in the realm of access to land for food production is the creation of a map of all prime agricultural land available in the City.

Analysis of Findings

The audit will serve as a useful tool for community members to understand the gaps and opportunities for change. Evaluating the existence and non-existence of food policy will be essential to deriving new policies and addressing present problems. The most surprising features of the community food policy project included the following: the large role that school district plans play in food policy; the imbalance between grassroots projects and policy language; and the lack of food language in Charlottesville's comprehensive plan.

During the food audit research, most references to food were found in school policies. Therefore, the role of the education system in terms of promoting a healthy food system is significant. Additionally, the Charlottesville community contains a plethora of food related organizations that promote a dynamic food system. However, these grassroots efforts do not reflect policy language. Despite the growing trend towards creating policy instruments to

strengthen food systems, Charlottesville's three-year-old comprehensive plan does not include a food section. Hopefully, this audit will support future conversations around food policy planning and the adoption of a food section in the next comprehensive plan.

In Charlottesville a common thread in our community dialogue was the need for a cohesive assembly supporting progressive food system programming and policy. Moreover, most of our community stakeholders emphasized the importance of education for students and older residents concerning nutrition, sustainable food options, and healthy lifestyles. Thus, it was surprising that even though a significant amount of food-related activity exists, without unified communication and an educated public, widespread progress is restricted.

Community engagement was crucial for the project's success. Without talking to a variety of community leaders and organizers, we would have been unaware of many community-level achievements. Many of the individuals with whom we met stressed the importance of bottom-up change. To change the game for Charlottesville residents, transparent communication must occur among all stakeholders. It was an unexpected result that there are few local leaders that undermine the importance of food. It is astonishing that influential community members and their respective organizations agree that food will provide a unique way to promote community-wide communication and synergistic change.

Summary of community feedback on the audit and specific suggestions for policies

Many of the community members and stakeholders we spoke to were very concerned with Charlottesville's local food system and had various policy suggestions in regards to education. One individual felt very strongly about institutionalizing community gardens for both consumption and education at all of the Charlottesville public schools. She conducted an audit of her own to find out which schools already had a garden and nutritional education elements in

their curriculum. She also commented that policy increasing the amount of years of physical education classes should be looked at critically, because Charlottesville High School only provides physical education classes through 10th grade. Another community partner also suggested increasing physical education in schools through policy, stating, "Kids who have recess and PE do better in schools, and it's harmful to take that away." She would like to see policy ensuring physical activity and nutrition are part of all school curriculums.

Moreover, one community member commented on food policy in Charlottesville to include educational opportunities for adults to learn how to buy and prepare fresh foods. She comments, "People buy foods that they know. If they have not been exposed to fresh fruits and vegetables, they do not have them in their home." A community leader agrees with this concern, and would like to see more education policy that includes education on how to prepare and grow healthier foods and overall live healthier. One community partner also commented that education, including adults, is key to changing food policy in Charlottesville, stating, "Farmers do not have enough laborers and policy might possibly support this issue. There are not programs at the technical or vocational schools of PVCC or CATEC to train students to farm."

Another collaborator also suggested including more education surrounding healthy food options and the food pyramid in our current education system to allow both children and adults to "taste health, fresh options and learn how to cook [healthy food]." A community contact also agrees that education on both food and how we dispose of our food are crucial to include in food and education policy. She states, "The children [in Head Start] are introduced to composting, but there is no larger education system about waste in place." A community leader agrees that food education is the first step in creating concrete policy for healthy food for our communities. He believes that our schools are the key to increasing the healthy food our children, teachers and

staff are eating, "one source of constant frustration," He comments, "has been that Charlottesville Schools do not do more to bring fresh food into the city schools because funding is a continued struggle."

During our survey of the community, we also received many policy suggestions regarding collaboration of food efforts in Charlottesville. One of the ways to begin working toward collaboration within food non-profit organizations and local, state, and national officials is to establish a food policy comprehensive plan for schools as well as adding food-specific language to the Comprehensive Plan in Charlottesville. One community partner states, "If we're talking about food, our Comprehensive Plan does not designate land for agriculture [in Charlottesville]," which is a goal she believes stakeholders in Charlottesville should be working towards. The Comprehensive Plan for Charlottesville, she discusses, does not mention the farmers' market at all, which would be a step in the right direction to enacting change in Charlottesville's food policy.

An additional collaborator also shares grievances that there are so many individual efforts to increase accessibility of healthy foods, so many silos of organizations, but no comprehensive efforts. One way in which he suggests combating these issues is through the creation of a Food Policy Council through the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission. Melissa Wiley of the Piedmont Environmental Council drafted this proposal and established the "Buy Fresh, Buy Local" campaign. The idea was to have a regional Food Policy Council to promote local and healthy foods in the Charlottesville area. This collaborator believes that the most effective way to make change, and alter policy, is to bring more cohesiveness to the local, sustainable, health foods movement, since policy must come from a vocal, united group, "they will speak louder with one voice," he comments.

Despite such positive feedback from community members, there were still challenges and concerns that our community members expressed, and policy suggestions that could help improve these areas. As far as education, one community contact felt strongly about creating a program where adults eat with older children, to serve as role models for healthy eating. She also felt a dire need for a nutrition advisory council to help improve food conditions and education about good because, accordingly to her, "education is the biggest hurdle." A final thought on the concerns and challenges of food policy in the realm of education is the lack of emphasis on food and nutrition in our school systems. She comments, "courses that are not English, Math, Science, and social studies take priority [through the SOL tests] even if kids are unhealthy."

Another challenge that was addressed was the cost of food in Charlottesville. Many of our community stakeholders suggested that policy aiding in the cost of food could help Charlottesville progress towards a more sustainable food system. Another individual asks, "You have a lot of farms with fruits and vegetables, you have cattle, and pigs, why is food so expensive here compared to other places?" She also suggested policy gearing towards getting "more dollar value in food stamps because the WIC program's coupons and percentages to be used towards fresh fruits and vegetables is very low, compared to other things."

Final Community Priorities

After meeting with various community members from governmental officials to nonprofit organizers, partners expressed their priorities for improving the Charlottesville community food system. More often than not, community partners relayed same, similar, or connected suggestions. The following community priorities were those that all food leaders in Charlottesville mentioned or evidenced as dire needs within their locality.

Almost all community partners reported the need for more educational spaces within city schools in order to intervene early and ingrain healthy habits in young students. In some capacity, each food leader explicitly expressed a desire to ensure that nutrition and physical activity become integral to educational curriculum. An example policy for school curriculum is the New Jersey Comprehensive Health Education and Physical Education Curriculum Framework, which is a "living" document whose vision is, "Wellness is the Art of Living," and can be accessed: http://www.state.nj.us/education/frameworks/chpe/. In addition, community members were surprised by and, as a result, recommended that the City of Charlottesville should mention the goal to reduce obesity in the Charlottesville City School Wellness Plan. Therefore, the community, as represented by stakeholders and officials in authority to affect Charlottesville policies, prioritized nutrition, and physical education as well as healthier meals.

Quite relevant to the contemporary policy realm, many interested community contributors articulated gaps in the City of Charlottesville Comprehensive Plan. These stakeholders suggested that authors of the 2010 revisions for the Comprehensive Plan should include food-specific language, such as defining community gardens – their purpose and products – promoting local, fresh, and organic food, supporting transportation that is destination-based such that the City can assess transportation to markets, publishing sources for an emergency food source, and expressing the need for food security in Charlottesville. For instance, San Francisco's Department of Public Health adopted a sustainable food policy on July 18, 2006. The policy language requires an increase in purchasing and provision of sustainable food and can be found at the following address for further scrutiny: http://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/hc/HCRes/Resolutions/2006Res/HCRes112006.pdf.

Each community collaborator portrayed or evidenced the dire need to unify efforts. In Charlottesville, there are many nonprofit organizations working as "silos," or in isolation, rather than cooperatives. If nonprofit organizations joined forces to improve Charlottesville's community food system, together, they would accomplish remarkable progress to bridge gaps in Charlottesville's food policy.

Not only is nutritionally dense nourishment hard to access, food in Charlottesville is expensive. Though the introduction of an EBT machine to the Farmers' Market will make fresh, local food more accessible to low-wealth residents, community partners revealed the need to generate more dollar value in food stamps. One exemplary policy for an accessible and affordable City Market is Community Supported Agriculture Program that connecting farmers and New Yorkers (http://www.justfood.org/about-us). Just Food's Community Supported Agriculture program is an alternative to the traditional farmers' market, allowing residents to purchase farm shares from a regional farm. The payment structure supports the needs of low-income residents by providing flexible payment options, including: Food stamps, Revolving loans, Installment plans, Sliding-scale share fees, Scholarship shares, and Work shares."

Likewise, a community leader pronounced a desire to create a permanent and accessible home for the City Market such that the Farmers' Market might become more popularized as a weekly event. Culturally, farming is losing recognition as an honorable occupation. The Project for Public Spaces, Incorporated and Partners for Livable Communities prepared the document, "Public Markets as a Vehicle for Social Integration and Upward Mobility," Phase I Report: An Overview of Existing Programs and Assessment Opportunities, for The Ford Foundation in September 2003 (http://www.pps.org/pdf/Ford_Report). The Strategic Alliance ENACT, a website constructed by the Prevention Institute, Oakland, California, includes many programs,

policies, and nonprofit organizations that are dedicated to creating and sustaining public spaces, such as public markets, that build communities.

(http://63.134.213.124/sa/testenact200910/enact/neighborhood/farmers_markets.php).

The Charlottesville-Albemarle, Virginia Vocational Programs, CATEC, does not include an agricultural track. There is, however, a culinary track. The current structure of programs does not inspire new farmers and should be changed so to generate professionals to the field of agriculture. Central Carolina Community College established a Sustainable Agriculture program in 2002, partnering with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension with input from the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association to design curriculum about better growing methods. The program takes a unique approach to courses in a variety of subjects with successful farmers as main instructors (http://www.cccc.edu/curriculum/majors/sustainableagriculture/).

In conclusion, community stakeholders from Charlottesville prioritized nutritional and physical education in city curriculum as well as the inclusion of a goal to reduce obesity in the Wellness Plan, the inclusion of food-specific language in the Comprehensive Plan, collaboration of nonprofit efforts, the generation of more dollar value for food stamps, creation of a permanent and accessible home for the Farmers' Market, and an establishment for an agricultural track for vocational programming.

Appendix

Relevant Information, Concerns, Priorities, and Suggestions Raised By Community Representatives in Meetings:

1. Meeting One:

Relevant Information:

- The Community Obesity Task Force is a large umbrella task force whose goal is to draft a plan and target funding.

- The Community Obesity Task Force has been raising awareness since 1999, working to plan, analyze and take ACTION. There are not, however, very good evaluation tools in place; nonetheless, people are DOING *something*.
- There are 7 Environments for the prevention of obesity that have been validated nationally.
    - Childcare
  Types: regulated, unregulated, licensed/unlicensed
  Childcare services have never really embraced nutrition or physical activity.
    - Schools
        Alicia Cost: Nutrition Coordinator
        Things needed:
                a. Vending Machine/Contract with Beverage Company: Does it have to meet a certain number of sales? Is there advertising for it?
                b. Water fountains: How many? Who maintains?
                c. Promotion of healthy foods and beverages?
                d. School garden?

        School activity:

                a. Charlottesville data: Tanya Wancheck
                b. Only report collective data: 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th graders: height, weight, BMI

    - Community
        Susan Pleiss – QCC gardens, ACCT
        Erica – City Parks and Recreation
        Angela Tucker – Neighborhood Association (Pedestrian & Bike Plan, sidewalks around schools, to libraries, to parks, etc.)
    - Workplace
        Diane Whaley – Leadership, Foundations and Policy, Curry School
    - Health Care
        Joyce Green Pastors
    - Afterschool
        Rory Carpenter, working with housing projects in Westhaven
        Afterschool programs are school specific
    - Government
    David Toscano – Delegate to the General Assembly

Suggestions:

- Barbara suggested the "ENACT tools" that incorporate community strategies and 2-4 page documents that include enumerated strategies and policies demonstrated in various localities.

2. Meeting Two:

Relevant Information:
- Clark Elementary and Jackson Via have introduced programs
- The School Health Advisory Board is an advisory group made up of parents, students, and staff that meet to determine how to support health and physical activity.
- There is a health curriculum that serves as a guide for pacing and standards
- Virginia Department of Health: requirements of the states can be found here. The state requirements are taken directly.
- Schools with community gardens were surveyed recently. It will be sent to us, ASAP.
- The Wellness Policy helped change some things.
- "Every school, all schools except Charlottesville High School (8 of 9), received either bronze silver or gold" (Governor's Score Card).
- Charlottesville High School has tried and failed/lost points for physical activity and nutrition because "we don't have P.E. for all students, only through 10th grade." At least 30% boys and girls participate in extra curriculums. The student lunch program is through the USDA. There is a breakfast program (computerized). Charlottesville High School does okay on the food part. They have low fat milk and items; they are attempting to reduce the fat content, but most foods do not meet the requirements which are that there should be no more that thirty percent fat content and thirty-five percent sugar content."
- Clark is preparing to improve.

Concerns:
- Adults do not eat with older children. The teachers could be serving as role models for healthy eating.
- There is no nutrition advisory council.
- "Education is the biggest hurdle"
- SOLs: Courses that are not English, math, science, and social studies do NOT take priority even if kids are unhealthy.

Priorities:
- Charlottesville High School could benefit from a nutrition advisory board run by students.
- Implementation of an education component after policy change is needed including hooks, promotion campaigns that target adults and children.
- Ensure that nutrition and physical activity is part of educational curriculum.
- Health education should be taught by P.E. teachers (required)
- Change what children eat at schools in order to change habits.

3. Meeting Three:

Suggestions

- Contact JABA who does a lot of meal delivery and is very involved in the local fresh foods program
- Research Kids Café, which is a program to feed children sponsored by Second Harvest
- Look at MACAA's Angel Food Program

Concerns:

- "Food is expensive here compared to Omaha, eggs and milk are so expensive here!"
- "That's surprising because there are farms here"
- "You have a lot of farms with fruits and vegetables, you have cattle, and pigs, why is food so expensive here compared to other places"
- "More dollar value in food stamps…." "The WIC program is coupons, and percentage for fresh fruits and vegetables is very low, compared to other things"
- "There is no good shopping in low income areas"
- "People buy the foods that they know. If they have not been exposed to fresh fruit and vegetables, they do not have them in their home"
- Farmers markets are not as accessible in low-income areas

Priorities:

- The price of healthy food should be lower in Charlottesville
- There needs to be more education surrounding healthy food options and the food pyramid. This education should include exposure to foods so that they may taste healthy, fresh options and learn how to cook them.
- There needs to be more farmers' markets in/near low-income neighborhoods/housing.

4. Meeting Four:

Relevant Information:

- Health Department will be working with the families at Hope House on doing cooking demonstrations, getting kids in the kitchens with the moms, and how families can improve their bond with each other (using fresh fruits and vegetables? One of the project's goals is to "increase the parent child bond through working in the kitchen together"
- At Charlottesville Produce, you can use EBT cards

Suggestions:

- Survey for the Blue Ridge Food Bank should be a document we look at
- "There is a program to replace junk food with healthy alternatives, all organic snacks (in Vermont)," and we should compare programs here to other programs in the US
- Talk to Emily Erwin: She is doing a program at Johnson, where they cook the food, and send the parents home with the food they cook, and give snacks to parents to take home (PB&J Fund)
- Research Montessori Mountain Top private school which has a green house; gardening is part of their curriculum.
- Contact Charlottesville Albemarle Cooperative Extensive (Stage Coach Road) and Janet Brock- children's nutrition education, comes to several head start classrooms. She can go to any school with a certain percentage of free and reduced lunch to do education.
- Contact Fay Anderson, who is with the Cooperative Extension's Parent Education (Super Pantry). She does to several of the Head Start centers and brings groceries from the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank for families to take home with them.
- Contact Alicia Cost to get in touch with the USDA about emergency food banks. They supply the foods. There is a big push to move to frozen foods, which are more nutritious. This change reflects new federal legislation.
- Contact Region Ten because they have a lot of programs involving food such as in group homes. A lot of people are served by Region Ten.
- Contact low income community members to get their opinions for a well-rounded pictures.

Concerns:
- "There is a huge divide." (Regarding social equity relating to healthy food in Charlottesville)
- Limited physical activity in schools: "Kids who have recess and PE do better in schools, and its harmful to take that away."

Priorities:
- Ensure that physical activity and nutrition are part of all school curriculum

5. Meeting Five:

Relevant Information:
- " Here at Park Street, we have our own on site kitchen, we don't have to serve the typical lunch food; we serve a lot of fresh fruits and vegetables. We had gardens last year, and students planted seeds, radishes, and salads. There were field trips once a month to teach the children where food comes from (grocery store, etc.). This was a teacher-initiated project."
- There are 60 children in the Head Start program on Park Street and 216 in the area.
- The children are introduced to composting, but there is no larger education system about waste in place.

Priorities:

- Education involving fresh, healthy foods ought to be incorporated into all education curricula for young students.

6. Meeting Six:

Relevant Information:

- QCC goals include efforts to "improve the physical health of low-wealth residents," "enhance the environmental health of the community by creating a productive organic farm as well as an aesthetically-pleasing community green space," "strengthen the psychological health of the community by providing improved inter-neighborhood relations," and "advance the economic health of the community through education and the marketing of skills learned, products harvested, and lower food costs."
- QCC Farms! is an Urban Agriculture Project designed to engage low-wealth city residents in raising organically grown vegetables in underutilized green spaces, while providing nutritional and environmental education.
- In addition to their flagship Sixth Street and Monticello Avenue "Garden of Goodness," and they have also established a raised bed garden at Barrett Early Learning Center on Ridge Street.

Priorities:

- She would like to see the Comprehensive Plan address and use specific food-specific language.
- Need a food policy comprehensive plan for schools
- Need to change how "these things function in a vacuum"

7. Meeting Seven:

Suggestions:
- Q10, Q12, Q24, Q82 should all be no
- Q24 should be n/a
- Talk to JABA

Concerns:

- The mention of improving public health in the Comprehensive Plan is mere rhetoric or "hoo-hah."
- "The goal to reduce obesity is not mentioned in the Charlottesville City Schools Wellness Plan; this is damning." (The Community Obesity Task Force exists in Charlottesville!)
- There are schools in Charlottesville that do not even have functioning kitchens.

- "If we're talking about food, our Comprehensive Plan does not designate land for agriculture." Susan Pleiss disagreed that land is reserved for food in the Comprehensive Plan. "It is a bit of a fallacy to talk about open space and community garden; there is nothing in the Comprehensive Plan about food at all."
- In regard to multi-modal transportation, most grocery stores can be reached by bus, but this fact is not embedded in the documents (Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance, etc.). Similarly, sidewalks and bicycle paths are randomized; the documents are not destination based. In addition, there are not "bus transfer" fees; bus users buy a daily pass. Some routes, particularly on 29 North, are not timely due to issues crossing 29 North.
- Everything happens in "silos"
- Charlottesville planning misses the "destination factor" that is vital to protecting access.
- "It is outstanding that the Comprehensive Plan does not mention farmers' markets."

Priorities:

- Culturally diversifying the Farmers' Market
- More food language and subjects in the Comprehensive Plan
- K-Tech, Charlottesville-Albemarle, Virginia Vocational Programs, does not include an agricultural track; there is, however, a culinary track. This is not inspiring new farmers and should be changed.
- Reducing food waste
- We need comprehensive, unified change

8. Meeting Eight:

Relevant Information:

- "The timing for this audit couldn't be more perfect because Charlottesville is going to revise the Comprehensive Plan."
- There is a new gardening program at The Haven at First & Market, a multi-purpose community space that provides resources for the hungry, disadvantaged and homeless.
- Buford Middle School is designing a community garden.
- JABA receives a lot of their food from the Local Food Hub, where Kate Collier is working with a lot of farmers locally. JABA has initiated an effort to allow EBT machines for SNAP cards or food stamps at the Farmer's Market.
- C-ville Foodscapes, as highlighted in the *Cville Weekly*, designs, installs, and maintains food-producing gardens in Charlottesville, Virginia.
- Kendra Hamilton, former City Councilor, is undertaking vertical gardening.
- Montessori Mountaintop School has a greenhouse space on Pantops.
- The City of Charlottesville has a community garden.

Concerns:

- One source of constant frustration has been that Charlottesville City Schools do not do more to bring fresh food into the city schools. Funding is a continued struggle. Fundraisers include selling unhealthy foods, so the problem has become cyclical.
- This problem is compounded by the fact that the more socioeconomic need a school has, the worse the food will be.
- Even though the effort for EBT machines for SNAP cards at the Farmer's Market will have demonstratedly higher nutritional food, Social Security did not want for this program to succeed (in a very patronizing way).
- Like Susan Pleiss and Holly Hatcher, Mayor Norris shares grievances that there are so many individual efforts to increase accessibility of healthy foods. There are so many silos of organizations but no comprehensive effort.
-

Priorities:

- There was talk about creating a Food Policy Council through the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission. Melissa Wiley of the Piedmont Environmental Council drafted this proposal and established the "Buy Fresh, Buy Local" campaign. The idea was to have a regional Food Policy Council to promote local and healthy foods.
- "Bring more cohesiveness" to the local, sustainable, health foods movement, since policy must come from a vocal, united group. "They will speak louder with one voice."
- "Education is crucial. In West Virginia, someone went into a school with a basket of vegetables for which no student could identify any of the foods. It is not coincidental that Huntington, WV had the highest rate for obesity. This is a huge issue locally as well. It all comes back to nutrition." Mayor Norris would like to see more education on how to prepare and grow healthier foods and overall live healthier lives. The hard part is meeting people where they are.
- "School nutrition is huge. This is another way of educating young people. If they've never eaten fresh fruits and vegetables in school, then they cannot be held responsible." (Kristin Suokko harps on this.)
- "We need a permanent and accessible home for our city market. We need a place that is successful for the community. There is no more visible embodiment of local food movements. We need to value it enough to find a good home for it. In New York, there is a permanent pavilion for the city market." How can we make the market a scene, wherein people will stay to eat lunch, enjoy music, etc.? How can we diversify the market culturally, socially, racially?
- Even in Charlottesville, food deserts exist. Charlottesville does not have great access to groceries. Is this a marketing problem? Maybe there should be a market stand once a week in low income neighborhoods as a pilot program to see if people use it?
- We need to do more in composting. On the City website there is a guide on how to compost. Mayor Norris had proposed curbside composting, but hasn't gotten anywhere with it. There is a company that does composting for organizations and is moving to take on even larger projects.

9. Meeting Nine:

Relevant Information:

- A Farm to School program is in the beginning stages and some schools have particular policies to purchase local foods.
- JABA incorporates 20% local foods in all of their meals, serving six centers.
- This year for the Famer's Market, JABA created a currency, creating dollars, a Farmer's Market Buck," to distribute to low-income families. Farmers are reimbursed for these "bucks." The City gave $1,000 and JABA gave $1,000 in order to fund this system. Nurses and Children, Youth and Family Services distribute the currency.
- There is a gleaning program to collect foods that famers could not sell on their own. JABA delivers the food to Food Not Bombs, The Haven, and soup kitchens.
- An EBT machine is coming to the Farmer's Market, which will allow folks to swipe debit cards and use SNAP cards at the Farmer's Market. The EBT will operate dollar-to-dollar and will incentivize people to shop at the market by doubling the value.
- The Local Food Hub is a distribution center that buys food from local farmers and distributes it to local organizations and restaurants. This is a growing infrastructure that needs to continue expanding. The Local Food Hub is not supported by the City of Charlottesville, but it is financially backed by Nelson County.
- As an employer, JABA provides employees a weekly chance to have access to what JABA buys from the Local Food Hub.
- JABA applied for a grant last year to create an organization to do nothing but organize local food in order to create cohesion.
- JABA is also trying to implement a feasibility study on frozen meals, since the organization has not been content with the non-local frozen foods.
- Jefferson School was an old black high school that JABA is revamping to create a senior center, which will really function as a community center. In the kitchens, JABA is creating a culinary arts school with PVCC and K-tech to teach how to cook local, fresh ingredients. There will be space for farmers to make things to sell at the City Farmer's Market. It will truly serve as a community kitchen: there will be cooking classes and demonstrations, potlucks and teach-ins. They will be working in conjunction with The Haven doing nutrition classes and things of that nature.
-

Concerns:

- The Comprehensive Plan should mention the Farmer's Market and address where the Market should go since it is outgrowing its current home
- There was a law that did not pass in the General Assembly of Virginia that would have made provisions for schools to purchase local food. Legislators were concerned that it was a bad time to take an expensive measure due to the economic climate. "This was a decision on the state level that should have happened. A lot of the food is not prepared at the schools anymore. We don't know what's going into it, and this is something that needs to be examined."
- Transportation is a problem in terms of accessibility.

- Farmers do not have enough laborers and policy might possibly support this issue. There are not programs at the technical or vocational schools of PVCC or K-Tech to train students to farm. "If there are homeless people who are trying to save money or low-income folks that want to work but do not have transportation, we need to figure out how to get people out to farms."
- "My dream is that someday I could walk into Food Lion and buy local food… A local government that is considering incoming grocery stores can require that they carry local produce."

Priorities:

- JABA wanted to be a catalyst for bringing farmers and restaurant owners together as well as school and college administrators. They wanted to start centralizing the silos that currently exist in order to share ideas. One project that came out of these roundtable talks was the Local Food Hub and the EBT machines for the City Farmer's Market. Though they deal with elderly people JABA believes that everyone eventually grows old. "If we encourage young people to eat healthier and give them access to nutritious food, they will live better." The JABA Strategic Plan includes sustainability, intergenerational activity and healthy aging.
- Thus, continuing in the same vein as Susan Pleiss and Mayor Norris, Judy Berger believed that they must unite separate efforts. "The strides to improve local food have increased since people have collaborated."
- There is not an avenue for good education in nutrition. "If you're low-income you're definitely deprived of things." There needs to be something in place to educate parents and children on healthy eating habits. Educating low-income earners about the availability of local foods and nutritional value is crucial.
- "Accessibility and affordability is a difficult issue," but she really harped on educating people on the differences between and importance of produce and how to prepare them.
- Something needs to be established, policy-wise, with the Health Department to compost. Zach Miller picks and composts materials. It would be more efficient to use it in JABA's gardens. Institutions throw so much away; currently, there is no practical way to create something that works for the Health Department and for the institution to compost waste.
- "Really, policy should come from the grassroots."

DRAFT CHARLOTTESVILLE FOOD POLICY AUDIT	NOTE: References to "LOCAL FOOD" includes local wineries, breweries, and cideries.								
Conducted by Lauren Boswel, CoCo Fraiche, and Janie Williams (lab2kc@virginia.edu, amf7n@virginia.edu, jcw6d@virginia.edu, respectively)	**Ranking System: We will be working with a simple 'yes', 'no' or 'n/a'. Please mark the document spaces with 'yes' if there is reference, 'no' if there is a prohibition or no mention. In addition, you will need to keep detailed descriptions of why it is yes or no. You and your teammates will need to work out the qualitative analysis for your paper, in conjunction with the community contacts.**								

1. PUBLIC HEALTH

a. Reduce and Prevent Community Obesity and Chronic Ilness

		Comprehensive Plan	Zoning	Ordinances	Plans/Strategies/ Programs	Independent Ordinances	School	Programming/ Wellness Policy	School District Strategic Plan	Other	Citation of Language Used
1	Does the locality express a concern or a goal for improving public health?	yes	yes	yes		n/a	yes	yes			Comprehensive Plan (203); School Strategic Plan 2.2 (35)
2	Does the locality mention a goal to reduce obesity and/or chronic illness?	no	no	yes		n/a	no	yes			School Strategic Plan 2.2 (35)
3	Does the locality have an overall wellness plan?	no	no			n/a	yes	yes			Charlottesville City Schools (CCS) Policy (Section JHCF)
4	Does the locality clearly allow, support, or advocate for Farm to School (or similar) programs - for educational purposes, or for provision of food for school cafeteria?	no	no			n/a	yes	no			CCS Policy (Section EF)
5	Does the locality have other provisions for school purchasing of local or organic foods?	no	no			n/a	no*	no			See Supplemental Notes
6	Does the locality clearly have a policy to reduce availability of junk food in schools and public buildings (e.g., vending machines and purchasing options)?	no	no			n/a	yes	yes			School Strategic Plan 2.3 (36)
7	Do the schools have a policy or program to educate cafeteria workers on preparation of fresh, local food and/or nutrient-rich food?	no	no			n/a	no*	no			See Supplemental Notes
8	Is the locality clearly encouraging or supporting the inclusion of food-based lesson plans in schools?	no	no			n/a	yes	yes			School Programming (Health and Life); School Strategic Plan 2.2 (35)
9	Does the locality clearly encourage and/or directly support establishment of school garden programs at all levels of K-12?	no	no			n/a	no*	no			See Supplemental Notes
10	Is the locality currently employing or considering a "joint use" agreement to open the use of school land for food production (school gardens, community gardens, community urban farm)?	no	no			n/a	no	no			
11	Does the locality encourage that chain restaurants provide consumers with calorie information on in-store menus and menu boards?	no	no			n/a	no	no			
12	Does the locality have a clear tax or other strategy to discourage consumption of foods and beverages with minimal nutritional value, such as sugar sweetened beverages?	no	no			n/a	no	no			

#	Question								Notes
13	Does the locality have educational/ promotional programs to discourage the use of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) for sodas, high sugar and low nutrient foods?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
b. Engage public by increasing awareness of healthy and local food options									
14	Does the locality have a goal for increasing awareness of healthy food or lifestyle choices?	**yes**	**yes**		n/a	no	**yes**		Comprehensive Plan (215), School Strategic Plan 2.2 (35)
15	Has the locality adopted a clear policy defining "local" food?	no	no	**yes**	n/a	no	no		City Council Food Miles Statement (See Supplemental Notes).
16	Does the locality have a clear goal that supports the production and distribution of local food?	no	no	no	n/a	**yes**	no		CCS School Policy (Section EF)
17	Does the locality publish or support a public guide to local food?	no	no		n/a	no	no	**yes**	Buy Fresh Buy Local Guide (Piedmont Environmental Council)
18	Does the locality have a clear policy of encouraging (or giving preference to) event caterers or vendors that will use locally sourced food?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
19	Does the locality develop media campaigns, utilizing multiple media channels (print, radio, internet, television, social networking, and other promotional materials) to promote healthy eating?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
20	Does the locality support or participate in a Food Policy Council?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
c. Flexible Policies and Zoning for creative and adaptive uses									
21	Does the code allow for and support protection of open space? for community gardens?	**yes**	no		n/a	no	no		Comprehensive Plan (Chapter 10)
22	Does the locality promote or enable easy accessibility to community gardens, for all neighborhoods and income levels?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
23	Are there land protections for farmers' markets?	no	**yes**		n/a	no	no		Zoning Ordinance Sec. 8-1
24	Does the locality promote or enable easy, local access to community gardens by allowing small pocket parks throughout the locality to be used for, or transformed into community gardens?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
25	Does the code allow for temporary and conditional use of abandoned lots for neighborhood gardens and/or urban farms?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
26	Does the municipality sponsor or work with an area community land trust in setting aside land for community? or nonprofit gardens? or gardens where low-income residents can grow produce for sale?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
27	Does the zoning code have language that supports residential "farm" animals; chickens, goats, roosters? (look for re-defining domestic animals)	n/a	no*		n/a	n/a	n/a		Zoning Ordinance Sec. 4-7, 4-8, 4-9
28	Are there funding streams available for food related projects, such as Community Development Building Grants?	no	no		n/a	**yes**	no		Greenbrier Elementary Wellness Policy
29	Are there regulations allowing flexibility for food producers to engage in minimal on-site processing?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
d. Promote multi-modal transportation options to food sources									

#	Question								References
30	Does the locality offer multi-modal transportation in the community?	no	no	yes	n/a	yes	yes		Charlottesville Transit Authority (CTS), CCS Policy (Section EEA), School Strategic Plan 2.5.5 (43)
31	Does the locality have a policy or programs to provide multimodal transportation options in the community to enable transportation of low-income populations to grocery stores? Does it reference or include transportation for migrant farm workers from camps?	yes, no	no		n/a	no	no		Comprehensive Plan (Chapter 6)
32	Does the locality have a program that, alternatively, transports local produce to low-income neighborhoods and migrant farm worker camps? (e.g., trucks, food carts, etc.)	no	no		n/a	no	no		
33	Do safe biking and walking paths exist between neighborhoods and food stores and markets?	yes	no		n/a	no	no	yes	Comprehensive Plan (Chapter 6, 104) , Alliance for Community Choice in Transportation (ACCT)
34	Does the locality have a bus service that connects neighborhoods directly with food stores and markets? Requiring no more than one bus change?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
35	Does the locality have a low-cost taxi or ride-sharing service that connects neighborhoods directly with food stores and markets?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
36	Are these transportation services available at multiple times of day and evening?	yes	no		n/a	no	no		Comprehensive Plan (Chapter 6)
37	Does the locality have a bike path or sidewalk plan?	yes	yes		n/a	no	no		Comprehensive Plan (Chapter 6)
e. Reduce community exposure to pesticides and chemicals in foods									
38	Does the locality have a policy or program to reduce pesticide use, with appropriate enforcement?	no	no		n/a	yes	no		CCS Policy (Section EC)
39	Does the locality have or support a policy or program to ensure appropriate protection of all farm workers from exposure to pesticides? (e.g., training in farm worker language about dangers of pesticides, appropriate application and protection measures, provision of equipment, etc.)	no	no		n/a	no	no		
40	Does a program or regulation exist that ensures proper communication of sanitation and hygiene practices for farm workers to ensure food safety?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
41	Does a policy or program exist to encourage transition to low-spray, sustainable, or organic agricultural methods, to reduce human and environmental exposure to potentially harmful chemicals?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
42	Does a policy or program exist to encourage transition to sustainable or organic agricultural methods, to provide increased carbon sequestration?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
43	Is there a a policy or program that offers incentives to farmers to switch to more sustainable growing methods?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT									

a. Support local food production

#	Question								Notes
44	Does the locality offer working farmland tax incentives, such as agriculture/forestal districts?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
45	Is there a local government policy or preference for local agencies to purchase low-spray, sustainably grown, or organic food?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
46	Does the locality have economic development goals to support regional food production?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
47	Is there a local government policy recommendation for purchase of local food when available?	no	no		n/a	**no***	no		CCS Policy (Section EF)
48	Is there a support system to supply existing farmers with steady and seasonal farm labor?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
49	Are there local government or other programs to inspire and train new farmers, including assistance to immigrants who may come from farming families?	no	no		n/a	**no***	no		CCS Policy (Section IGAD)
50	Are there economic development programs or incentives or other tools for retailers to favor purchasing local food?	no	no		n/a	no	no		

b. Support development of local processing infrastructure

#	Question								Notes
51	Are the financial or other programs to support or incubate food-related businesses?	no	no	**yes**	n/a	no	no		See Supplemental Notes
52	Is there a USDA-inspected community cannery, kitchen, or other processing facility open to local farmers, food entrepreneurs, and the public?	no	no	**yes**	n/a	no	no		See Supplemental Notes
					n/a				

c. Support development of local distribution infrastructure

#	Question								Notes
53	Does the locality have a policy to allow local farmers' markets or tailgate markets?	no	**yes**		n/a	no	no		See Supplemental Notes
54	Does the locality provide institutional support for local farmers' markets or tailgate markets?	no	**yes**		n/a	no	no		See Supplemental Notes
55	Is there economic development support for businesses that provide regional distribution of regional food, such as a Food Hub?	no	no		n/a	no	no	**yes**	See Supplemental Notes

d. Support development of new businesses using locally sourced products & heritage foods

#	Question								Notes
56	Does the locality provide tax incentives, leasing agreements, or other incentives to support development of businesses using locally produced food?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
57	Does the locality have a policy or program to support the identification and development of local heritage seeds, crops, foods, and heritage food products?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
58	Does the locality have a policy or program to support stores that offer fresh local produce, meats, dairy and eggs to low-income populations, including farm workers?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
					n/a				

e. Support increased Security of Food Supply

#	Question								Notes
					n/a				
59	Does the locality have an emergency preparedness plan that includes contingency plans for short-term interruption of food deliveries?	no	no		n/a	no	no		

3. ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

a. Reduce community carbon foodprint and reduce nonpoint source stream pollution

#	Question								Notes
60	Does the locality have a policy or goal to reduce its community environmental "foodprint"?	no	no	**yes**	n/a	**yes**	no		City Council's Green City strategy; CCS Nutrition Department's Going Green Initiatives

b. Reduce nonpoint source stream pollution from agriculture

#	Question								Notes
61	Does the locality have a policy or goal to reduce nonpoint source pollution from agricultural operations?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
62	Does the locality provide support for the establishment of riparian buffers along farmland streambanks, to reduce nonpoint source pollution?	**no***	no		n/a	no	no		See Supplemental Notes.
63	Does the locality have a policy or goal to fence out all livestock from streamways?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
64	Does the locality have a policy or goal or participate in a program to manage excess animal manure?	no	no		n/a	no	no		

c. Reduce Food Waste

#	Question								Notes
65	Is there a policy or program to encourage foraging from unused home fruit and other gardens?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
66	Does the locality have a map for local food foraging?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
67	Is there a policy, program or opportunity for gleaning from local farms and restaurants?	no	no	**yes**	n/a	no	no		See Supplemental Notes, Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA)
68	Does the locality offer demonstration programs to encourage composting?	no	no	**yes**	n/a	no	no		City Council's Green City strategy
69	Does the locality offer a central site for composting home food and yard materials?	no	no		n/a	no	no		

d. Reduce Pesticides and Herbicides in Groundwater and Surface Waters *See 1.E.*

4. SOCIAL EQUITY

a. Increase transportation system access to markets that sell fresh and healthful foods by underserved communities

#	Question								Notes
70	Does the locality have a policy to provide access to quality food for all citizens, especially those with greater need?	no	no		n/a	**yes**	no		CCS Nurtrition Department's Mission Statement
71	Does the locality have a bus service, low-cost taxi or ride-sharing service that connects low-income neighborhoods directly with food stores and markets (requiring no more than one bus change) - for rural as well as urban areas?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
72	Are these transportation services available at multiple times of day and evening, in rural as well as urban areas?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
73	Has the locality done any infrastructure, transportation or other studies to identify issues of low-income neighborhoods gaining access to quality food, in rural as well as urban areas?	**yes**	no		n/a	no	no		Comprehensive Plan (Chapter 6, 106)
74	Do safe biking and walking paths exist between low-income neighborhoods and food stores and markets, in rural as well as urban areas?	no	no		n/a	no	no		

#	Question								Notes
75	Are farmer's markets geographically accessible by low income neighborhoods, in rural as well as urban areas?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
	b. Support location of grocers providing healthy local, foods in diverse and underserved locations								
76	Does the locality have an expedited development and/or permitting process for groceries that will provide healthy, local foods in underserved locations - in rural as well as urban areas?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
77	Does the locality recognize through policy or programs the need for low income, immigrant populations, and migrant farm workers, to have access to grocers that provide local, fresh foods - in rural as well as urban areas?	no	no		n/a	no*	no		CCS Policy (Section EFB)
78	Are tax credits available to developers for opening a grocery store in certain areas?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
79	Are there any regulatory incentives, such as relaxed zoning requirements, that can facilate new stores in underserved areas?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
80	Does the localty offer any predevelopment assistance to developers to expedite the review process?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
	c. Increase availability of fresh and healthful foods for underserved communities								
81	Does the locality support the purchase/ use of Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards to provide low-income access to farmer's markets?	no	no		n/a	no	no	**yes**	See Supplemental Notes
82	Does the locality support the policy of $2 or $3 for every EBT dollar, when the EBT is used at grocery stores or market venues for fresh, local food?	no	no		n/a	no	no	**yes**	See Supplemental Notes
83	Do farmer's markets and/or grocery stores accommodate WIC coupons, Senior Nutrition coupons, or EBT machines?	no	no		n/a	no	no	**yes**	See Supplemental Notes
84	Do farmer's markets enable $2 or $3 healthy food credit for every EBT dollar?	no	no		n/a	no	no	**yes**	See Supplemental Notes
85	Are markets and stores accessible at multiple times and days to accommodate varying work schedules?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
86	Does the locality support, or are there programs for mobile farms stands and mobile food carts?	no	**yes**		n/a	no	no		See Supplemental Notes
87	Do local faith, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions (public and private) have policies to buy local food for events when available?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
	d. Support an effective emergency food infrastructure								
88	Does the locality have a policy that its citizens have a "right to food security"? (cf: Belo Horizonte, Brazil)	no	no		n/a	no*	no		CCS Policy (Section JHCF)
89	Does the locality support the provision of a central directory of all emergency food providers?	no	no		n/a	no	no	**yes**	United Way "Quick Guide to Family Resources"
90	Does the locality have a system for directing / referring people in need of food to the places that can help?	no	no		n/a	no	no	**yes**	United Way "Quick Guide to Family Resources"
91	Does the locality support coordination and cooperation among emergency food providers?	no	no		n/a	no	no		

#									
92	Does the locality support a method, structure or storage facility for donations of fresh foods to emergency food providers?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
e. Support equitable working conditions for farm labor									
93	Does the locality support a living wage policy for all those who work, including migrant farm labor?	no	**yes**		n/a	no*	no		See Supplemental Notes
94	Does the locality support access to fresh, healthful food by the farm laborers who are helping to produce the food?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
95	Does the locality provide or ensure that training for farm workers is provided in a comfortable training environment, and that the training is adequate and in their native language, and that someone is available to answer farm worker questions in their own language?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
96	Does the locality provide or ensure that adequate protection against pesticides is provided to farm workers?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
97	Does the locality have a program or support a program to encourage and enable transitional farm labor to become engaged in, or participate in, or become integrated into community events - such as through volunteering for county fairs, agricultural events?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
98	Does the locality have a clear contact for migrant farm workers to contact, to participate in any aspect of the community?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
99	Does the locality have a map of where farm worker camps are, to facilitate understanding and planning for their needs?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
100	Are housing options available for migrant workers?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
f. Promote community involvement and ownership in local food system									
101	Are community members involved in the organization of markets or other food opportunities?	no	no		n/a	no*	no	**yes**	Quality Community Council (QCC) Farms!, The Haven
102	Are culturally appropriate, fresh food options available for immigrant and ethnic populations in stores?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
103	Is there support for diverse, local, traditional - and fresh - food practices?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
104	Does the locality support or have a program to incorporate the participation of local migrant workers into local food farmers' markets and farm stands, to integrate and protect workers while they're in the community, as isolation is a major factor in migrant worker life?	no	no		n/a	no	no		
105	Does the locality support or have a program to support community gardens and other agricultural opportunities for low income, immigrant and farm labor populations?	no	no		n/a	no	no	**yes**	QCC Farms!, The Haven
5. LAND CONSERVATION / ACCESS TO LAND FOR FOOD PRODUCTION									

106	Does the locality have a policy to support land conservation for food production?	no	no		n/a	no	no	
107	Does the locality encourage or support land conservation easements for food production?	no	no		n/a	no	no	
108	Does the locality clearly allow the use of public space or land for nonprofit community food gardens?	no	no		n/a	no	no	
109	Are there creative leasing or financing models to reduce start-up farming debt?	no	no		n/a	no	no	
110	Does the locality have a map of its prime agricultural lands for conservation?	no	no		n/a	no	no	
111	Does the locality have a map of prime agricultural lands that it wishes to conserve for food production, agri-tourism, heritage tourism, or other purposes supporting local food production?	no	no		n/a	no	no	
112	Does the locality limit development potential in prime agricultural land through purchase of development rights, transfer of development rights, establishment of agricultural districts, or through other means?	no	no		n/a	no	no	
113	Does the locality have a green infrastructure plan that incorporates consideration for food production into the plan?	no	no		n/a	no	no	

City of Charlottesville: Supplemental Audit Notes

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1. PUBLIC HEALTH
1a: Reduce and Prevent Community Obesity and Chronic Illness

Q1: Mention of goal for improving public health:
  - *a.* Comprehensive Plan: The plan mentions a desire to make Charlottesville the "healthiest city" in the U.S (203).

  b. School Programs and Wellness Plan: Charlottesville does have an expressed concern for improving public health. The Charlottesville City School District includes eight of nine schools that have been recognized in the Governor's Score Card circle of winners, which requires an integrated school team approach. The Governor's Score Card evaluates each school's contribution and successes to creating healthy school environments, including initiatives towards creating sustainable local and organic food systems within the schools.
  http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/departments/nutrition.html
  http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/policy/SectionJ/JHCF.pdf

  c. School Strategic Plan: 2.2 Yes, an explicit objective is to promote student health and well being through research-based health, physical education and nutrition, school safety and prevention programs and activities (35).
  http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/uploads/CCS_Strategic_Plan.pdf

  d. Zoning Ordinance: The Charlottesville's zoning ordinance does express a concern for public health. "*Fifth. Preservation of health; hospitals; births and deaths.* To provide for the preservation of the general health of the inhabitants of said city, make regulations to secure the same, prevent the introduction or spreading of contagious or infectious diseases, and prevent and suppress diseases generally; to provide and regulate hospitals within or without the city limits, and to enforce the removal of persons afflicted with contagious or infectious diseases to hospitals provided for them; to provide for the appointment and organization of a board of health or other board to have the powers of a board of health for said city, with the authority necessary for the prompt and efficient performance of its duties, with power to invest any or all the officials or employees of such department of health with such powers as the officers of the city have; to regulate the burial, cremation, or disposition of the dead; to compel the return of births and deaths

to be made to its health department, and the return of all burial permits to such department."

Q2: Goal to reduce obesity:

a. School Strategic Plan: "The United States faces a crisis of obesity among its youth. Our schools must be part of the solution, not part of the problem. We must not only teach students how to stay healthy and fit, but also help them achieve this goal" (35).

Q3: Overall wellness plan:
a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: Charlottesville City School "Wellness Policy" can be found here: http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/policy/SectionJ/JHCF.pdf
And there are "Nutrition Services" as well:
http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/departments/nutrition.html

b. School Strategic Plan: The Strategic Plan includes an implemented Wellness Policy.

Q4: Farm to School programs:
a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: Greenbrier Elementary was awarded $23,000 in federal grant money for Fresh Fruits and Vegetable Program (FFVP) to implement an initiative to provide fresh, locally purchased produce. In addition, Food Service Management asserts that the Superintendent is authorized to develop and implement an efficient, nutritious, and locally grown effective food services system for students and employees of the school division. http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/policy/SectionE/EF.pdf

Q5. School purchasing local:
a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: The "Wellness Policy" does not explicitly mention organic or local provisions; however, "food security" is included in the language of point 8.

Q6. Reduce available junk food:
a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: The Charlottesville locality does not clearly have a policy to reduce the availability of junk food in schools and public buildings. The nuance might be in point 6 of the "Wellness Policy," which holds, "All foods and beverages made available on campus before, during and after the school day will be consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans. (The *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* provides science-based advice to promote health and to reduce risk for major chronic diseases through diet and physical activity.
http://www.health.gov/dietaryguidelines/dga2005/document/html/executivesummary.htm
)

In addition, the "Nutrition Services" section claims that "Many products containing trans fatty acids or trans fat have been removed or replaced.

b. School Strategic Plan: 2.23 "Avoid the use of candy and other sweets as rewards as well as punishments related to food or physical activity" (36).

Q7. Educate cafeteria workers:
a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: No policy or program to educate cafeteria workers on preparation of fresh, local food, however, at Greenbrier Elementary, parent volunteers help prepare and serve the fresh produce to students.

Q8. Food based lesson plans:
a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: The Virginia Board of Education adopted Standards of Learning for Health. The Charlottesville City Schools address the SOL for Health within the science curriculum at the elementary level, the physical education at the upper elementary level and in separate health classes at the middle and high schools. http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/programs/health_life.html

b. School Strategic Plan: 2.2 "Maintain and/or increase minutes per week for Physical Education classes" (35).

Q9. School gardens:
a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: Charlottesville City School District does not clearly encourage the establishment of school garden programs at all levels, however, individual schools, teachers and principles have started the initiative. There are planned or functioning gardens at Greenbrier Elementary, Clark Elementary, and Jackson Via Elementary.

Q10. Joint use agreement:
Not mentioned

Q11. Chain restaurants/calories on menus:
Not mentioned

Q12. Tax on/discourage low nutritional value items:
a. School Strategic Plan: No tax, but see 2.23 "Avoid the use of candy and other sweets as rewards as well as punishments related to food or physical activity" (36).

Q13. Discourage SNAP for sugary foods and beverages:
Not mentioned.

1b. Engage public by increasing awareness of healthy and local food options

Q14. Increase awareness of healthy lifestyle:
a. Comprehensive Plan: The plan mentions the goal of the Children's Health Museum at the U.Va. Health Center in educating children to make healthy choices (215).

b. School Strategic Plan: Objective 2.2 "Promote student health and wellbeing through research-based health, physical education and nutrition, and school safety and prevention programs and activities"

Q15. Definition for local food:
a. The City Council supports local food, which is defined in an online statement, titled "Food Miles." See http://www.charlottesville.org/Index.aspx?page=2262

Q16. Support production and distribution of local food:
a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: The goal to support local food, except in Greenbrier Elementary, can be found in the Support Services for Food Service Management, which declares that the Superintendent is authorized to develop and implement efficient, nutritious, and locally grown effective food services system for students and employees of the school division.
http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/policy/SectionE/EF.pdf

Q17. Guide to local food support:
a. Buy Fresh, Buy Local Guide developed by Piedmont Environmental Council.

Q18. Purchasing preference for local:
Not mentioned

Q19. Media campaign to support healthy eating:
Not mentioned.

Q20. Support Food Policy Council:
Not mentioned.

1c. Flexible Policies and Zoning for creative and adaptive uses

Q21. Code allowance for open space or community gardens:
a. Comprehensive Plan: The plan discusses the importance of multiple types of parks and open spaces.

Q22. Promote accessibility to community gardens for all neighborhoods:
Not mentioned

Q23. Land protections for farmers' markets:

a. Zoning Ordinance: Yes, Charlottesville does protect land for a farmers' market, however the location of the market is chosen by the city manager. "**Sec. 8-1. Established; location.**

There is hereby established a city market, which shall be operated at a location designated by the city manager.

(Code 1976, § 18-1)

Q24. Pocket parks to community gardens:

Not mentioned.

Q25. Allow abandoned lots for gardens or farms:

Not mentioned.

Q26. Work with community land trust, non-profits, or allow low-income to sell produce:

Not mentioned

Q27. Code allow for residential zones to keep "farm" animals:

a. Zoning Ordinance: No, Charlottesville does not allow farm animals. There is language not permitting residential "farm" animals."

Sec. 4-7. Livestock at large.

No person shall permit a horse, mule, cow, bull, sheep or hog to run at large in the city. Any horse, mule, cow, bull, sheep or hog found at large shall be impounded until redeemed by its owner. If not redeemed within five (5) days, during which time the animal warden or pound personnel shall make reasonable efforts to identify and notify the owner, the animal may be sold by the animal warden, and the proceeds, after deducting the amount of the costs of impoundment, shall be held by the city treasurer for the benefit of the owner for sixty (60) days, after which they shall revert to the general fund if unclaimed. If sale is impracticable or no purchaser is found, an animal may instead be placed for adoption or humanely destroyed. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the destruction of a critically injured or ill animal for humane purposes.

(11-20-06(2))

Sec. 4-8. Fowl at large.

It shall be unlawful for any person to permit any chickens, ducks, geese, pigeons or other fowl belonging to him to go at large in the city; except, that homing pigeons may be released for return to their cote without violating this section.

(11-20-06(2))

Sec. 4-9. Keeping hogs, goats and sheep.
(a) No hogs or sheep shall be kept in the city except for immediate shipment or slaughter.
(b) No goats shall be kept within the city

Q28. Funding for food projects:
    a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: Greenbrier Elementary evidences a Charlottesville City School that applied to and received a federal grant for a Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program

Q29. Minimal on-site processing:
    Not mentioned

1d. Promote multi-modal transportation options to food sources

Q30. Offer multi-modal transportation:
    a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: Student Transportation Services:
    http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/policy/SectionE/EEA.pdf
    School Bus Scheduling and Routing:
    http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/policy/SectionE/EEAB.pdf

    b. School Strategic Plan: . 2.5.5 "Consider possible modifications (i.e. scheduling, transportation, subsidies) to reduce barriers to participation" (43).

    c. Charlottesville Transit Authority (CTS) exists.

Q31. Transportation for low income or migrant workers to grocery stores:
    a. Comprehensive Plan: The plan mentions the population demographics of the RTA riders but does not mention migrant farm workers.

Q32. Transport food to low income and migrant neighborhoods:
    Not mentioned.

Q33. Safe biking and walking paths to food sources:
    a. Comprehensive Plan: The Charlottesville Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, the Charlottesville Comprehensive Plan, and the TJPDC mentions bike paths to residential and non-residential areas.

    b. Other: Alliance for Community Choice in Transportation (ACCT) is a "network of citizens and groups dedicated to promoting balanced transportation options, sustainable

land-use and transit-oriented communities through education and leadership in the greater Charlottesville area." http://www.transportationchoice.org/

Q34. Bus service connects neighborhoods and food stores, does it require more than 1 transfer:
Not mentioned

Q35. Provide low-cost taxi or ride share to food sources?
Not mentioned

Q36. Is transportation available during days and nights?
a. Comprehensive Plan: The Comprehensive Plan mentions night routes.

Q37. Bike path or sidewalk plan:
a. Comprehensive Plan: The Comprehensive Plan includes a map of a bike path.

b. Zoning Ordinance: The Zoning Ordinance includes regulations for pedestrian walkways. Stating, "A pedestrian access and circulation system shall be provided for every development"

c. Other: City of Charlottesville Parks and Recreation has a Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. http://www.charlottesville.org/index.aspx?page=1309

1e. Reduce community exposure to pesticides and chemicals in foods

Q38. Reduce pesticide use, appropriate enforcement:
a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: Each school shall maintain documentation of any pesticide application that includes the target pest, the formulation applied, and the specific location of the application. "Buildings and Ground Management," http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/policy/SectionE/EC.pdf

Q39. Protect farm workers from exposure:
Not mentioned

Q40. Protect food safety through proper training of farm workers:
Not mentioned

Q41. Encourage transition to low spray or organic to reduce chemical exposure:
Not mentioned

Q42. Encourage transition to organic or sustainable for increased carbon sequestration:
Not mentioned

Q43. Offer incentives to transition to sustainable or organic:

Not mentioned

2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
2a. Support local food production

Q44. Working farmland tax incentives:
Not mentioned

Q45. Purchasing preference for low-spray, organic or sustainable:
Not mentioned

Q46. Economic development support for food production:
Not mentioned

Q47. Purchase of local food when available:
a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: The Superintendent is authorized to develop and implement an efficient, nutritious, and locally grown effective food services system for the students and employees of the school division."
http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/policy/SectionE/EF.pdf

Q48. Support system for seasonal labor for farms:
Not mentioned

Q49. Program to inspire and train new farmers, including immigrant assistance:
a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: No, however, there is an instructional "Career and Technical Education" program, by which the Charlottesville City School Board shall provide a program of career and technical education in order that students may acquire the skills, knowledge, attitudes, and habits of work necessary for life and for success in employment. http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/policy/SectionI/IGAD.pdf

Q50. Incentives for retailers to purchase local food:
Not mentioned

2b. Support development of local processing infrastructure

Q51. Programs to support or incubate food related businesses:
a. Comprehensive Plan: The comprehensive plan only mentions technology-based incubator programs (138).

b. April 5, 2010: The planned renovations for Jefferson School include a community kitchen/incubator for students, community members and farmers.

Q52. USDA kitchen or other processing facility available:

a. April 5, 2010: The planned renovations for Jefferson School include a community kitchen/incubator for students, community members and farmers

2c. Support development of local distribution infrastructure

Q53. Allow for farmers markets or tailgate markets:
   a. Zoning Ordinance: Charlottesville has a Farmer's Market protected by the zoning regulations.

Q54. Provide institutional support for farmers' markets and tailgate markets:
   a. Zoning Ordinance: Charlottesville has a Farmer's Market protected by the zoning regulations.

Q55. Economic support for regional distribution center:
   a. Local Food Hub exists; however, it is not supported by the City of Charlottesville: http://chofoodhub.blogspot.com/

2d. Support development of new businesses using locally sourced products & heritage foods

Q56. Incentives for businesses using locally produced food:
   Not mentioned

Q57. Support for identification and development of heritage seeds, food, products, etc:
   Note mentioned

Q58. Program that supports stores that provide fresh, local options for low income:
   Not mentioned

2e. Support increased Security of Food Supply

Q59. Emergency preparedness plan for disruptions in food supply:
   Not mentioned

3. ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS
3a. Reduce community carbon foodprint and reduce nonpoint source stream pollution

Q60. Goal to reduce foodprint:
   a. Comprehensive Plan: There was no mention of Foodprint or comparable idea in the Comprehensive Plan. However, City Council has a statement regarding Food Miles in its Green City strategy. The City Council supports locally food and farmers' markets in the statement. http://www.charlottesville.org/Index.aspx?page=2262

b. School Programs and Wellness Policy: "Going Green Initiatives": Charlottesville City Schools is continuing to take steps to become more environmentally friendly. They have focused on decreasing the use of disposable trays by leasing two new dish machines from Ecolab. Ecolab's compact and solid ware-washing method minimizes storage, waste and the impact to our environment. http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/departments/nutrition.html

c. Zoning Ordinance: There was a mention of reducing the footprint in the ordinance.

Sec. 10-3. Purposes.

The city council finds that this chapter is necessary to protect the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the city and the Commonwealth of Virginia and to prevent water from being rendered dangerous to the health of persons living in the city, and is supported by the findings of related studies that have been conducted. Therefore, the specific purposes of this chapter are to:

(1) Inhibit the deterioration of public waters and waterways resulting from land disturbing activities;

(2) Protect the safety and welfare of citizens, property owners, and businesses by minimizing the negative impacts of increased stormwater runoff from new land development and redevelopment;

(3) Control nonpoint source pollution, erosion and sedimentation, and stream channel erosion;

(4) Maintain the integrity of existing stream channels and networks for their biological functions, drainage, and natural recharge of groundwater;

(5) Protect the condition of public waters for all reasonable public uses and ecological functions;

(6) Provide for the long-term responsibility for and maintenance of stormwater management facilities and best management practices;

(7) Facilitate the integration of stormwater management and pollution control with other city ordinances and with federal, state and local programs, policies, regulations and guidelines; and

(8) Prohibit illicit connections and discharges to the city's municipal storm sewer system.

3b. Reduce nonpoint source stream pollution from agriculture

Q61. Reduce nonpoint source pollution from agriculture:
    Not mentioned

Q62. Riparian buffers used to reduce nonpoint source pollution:
    a. Comprehensive Plan: The Plan mentions buffers along stream banks to reduce pollution; however, there is no specific reference to farmland buffers.

Q63. Fence livestock from stream banks:
   Not mentioned

Q64. Program to manage excess animal manure:
   Not mentioned

c. Reduce Food Waste

Q65. Encourage foraging from unused locations:
   Not mentioned

Q66. Local map for food foraging:
   Not mentioned

Q67. Opportunity for gleaning from farms and restaurants:
   a. April 5, 2010: Attempting to establish bigger gleaning project. For now, JABA gleans after the Farmer's Market.

Q68. Demonstration programs for composting:
   a. Comprehensive Plan: There was no mention of composting in the Plan, however, the City Council's Green City statement includes a guide to composting and step-by-step instructions. http://www.charlottesville.org/Index.aspx?page=2260

Q69. Offer central site for composting from homes and yards:
   Not mentioned

4. SOCIAL EQUITY
4a. Increase transportation system access to markets that sell fresh and healthful foods by underserved communities

Q70. Quality food for all citizens:
   a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: The mission of the Charlottesville City School System is to provide healthy and well balanced meals to all students from preschool through grade twelve. They also serve staff, administration, parents and volunteers. In addition, Charlottesville schools invite students and staff to breakfast everyday to insure an educational boost. http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/departments/nutrition.html

Q71. Bus service, taxi or ride share in rural as well as urban areas:
   Not mentioned

Q72. Transportation available during day and evening in rural as well as urban areas:
   Not mentioned

Q73. Any studies to assess needs of low-income neighborhoods to gain access to fresh foods:
   a. Comprehensive Plan: The Plan cites a transportation study that was conducted called the Charlottesville Transit Improvement Study and Transit Development Plan (106). The study investigates income levels of riders, patterns, and routes.

Q74. Safe biking and walking paths to food sources in rural and urban areas:
   Not mentioned

Q75. Farmers' markets geographically accessible:
   Not mentioned

4b. Support location of grocers providing healthy local, foods in diverse and underserved locations

Q76. Expedited development review for food stores in underserved locations:
   Not mentioned

Q77. Does locality recognize need for low income, immigrant and migrant populations to have access to fresh, healthful foods:
   Not mentioned

Q78: Tax credits for opening food stores in certain locations:
   Not mentioned

Q79. Any regulatory incentives, ie relaxed zoning requirements, to facilitate food stores:
   Not mentioned

Q80: Offer predevelopment assistance to developers for grocery stores:
   Not mentioned

4c. Increase availability of fresh and healthful foods for underserved communities

Q81. EBT machines at farmers' markets:
   a. April 5, 2010: One community partner stated that EBT machines are coming to the Farmer's Market mid-April. Currently, there is a currency project, "Farmer's Market Bucks," providing money to low-income families for use at the Farmer's Market. Farmers are reimbursed for these "bucks." With the introduction of the EBT machines, Wholesome Wave Foundation will offer a dollar-to-dollar match, through the first year.

Q82. Dollar matching, or increased value ($2 or $3 for every one spent) opportunities for EBT dollars spent on healthful foods at grocery stores:
   a. April 5, 2010: One community contact stated that EBT machines are coming to the Farmer's Market mid-April. Currently, there is a currency project, "Farmer's Market Bucks," providing money to low-income families for use at the Farmer's Market. Farmers are reimbursed for these "bucks." With the introduction of the EBT machines, Wholesome Wave Foundation will offer a dollar-to-dollar match, through the first year.

Q83. Food sources accommodate WIC, Senior Nutrition, EBT:
a. April 5, 2010: One community partner stated that EBT machines are coming to the Farmer's Market mid-April. Currently, there is a currency project, "Farmer's Market Bucks," providing money to low-income families for use at the Farmer's Market. Farmers are reimbursed for these "bucks." With the introduction of the EBT machines, Wholesome Wave Foundation will offer a dollar-to-dollar match, through the first year.

Q84. Farmers' markets enable $2 or $3 healthy food credit for every EBT dollar:
a. April 5, 2010: One community contact stated that EBT machines are coming to the Farmer's Market mid-April. Currently, there is a currency project, "Farmer's Market Bucks," providing money to low-income families for use at the Farmer's Market. Farmers are reimbursed for these "bucks." With the introduction of the EBT machines, Wholesome Wave Foundation will offer a dollar-to-dollar match, through the first year.

Q85. Markets and stores accessible at multiple times of day:
Not mentioned

Q86. Mobile farm stands or carts:
a. Zoning Ordinance: Charlottesville protects farm stands and carts in zoning regulations.

Q87. Faith, nonprofit or institutions have purchasing preferences for local foods:
Not mentioned

4d. Support an effective emergency food infrastructure

Q88. Right to food security:
a. School Programs and Wellness Policy: . Though the Wellness Policy does not include "rights" rhetoric, it does state in point 8 that, "The Division will promote and adhere to food safety and food security for students"
http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/policy/SectionJ/JHCF.pdf

Q89. Central directory of emergency food providers:
a. The United Way-Thomas Jefferson Area offers a "Quick Guide to Family Resources" that includes a Food Resources section listing emergency food providers in the area. http://www.unitedwaytja.org/Downloads/InformationAndReferral/QuickGuide_Current.pdf

b. March 31, 2010: One collaborator referenced a "Central Plan for Emergency Food Providers."

Q90. System for referring people in need of food:

a. The United Way-Thomas Jefferson Area offers a "Quick Guide to Family Resources" that includes a Food Resources section listing emergency food providers in the area. http://www.unitedwaytja.org/Downloads/InformationAndReferral/QuickGuide_Current.pdf

b. March 31, 2010: One collaborator referenced a "Central Plan for Emergency Food Providers."

Q91. Support coordination and cooperation between agencies:
Not mentioned

Q92. Opportunity for storage of fresh foods for providers:
Not mentioned

e. Support equitable working conditions for farm labor

Q93. Living wage policy for all who work, including farm labor:
a. Zoning Ordinance: Yes, there is a living wage portion of the Zoning Ordinance that requires "every city contract for the provision of non-professional services, awarded after a process of competitive sealed bidding, shall require that the contractor pay each employee assigned to perform services under the contract, while such employee is performing such services on property owned or controlled by the city, a wage no less than the lowest hourly wage paid by the city to its own employees ("living wage").

b. School Programs and Wellness Policy: "The School Board shall annually establish and approve salaries for all school employees."
http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/policy/SectionG/GCBA.pdf

Q94. Access to fresh, healthful food for those who produce it:
Not mentioned

Q95. Ensure training for farm labor that is comfortable, accessible in native language:
Not mentioned

Q96. Adequate protection from pesticides:
Not mentioned

Q97. Opportunities for transitional farm labor to become engaged in local community:
Not mentioned

Q98. Person available for migrant farm workers to contact regarding community events:
Not mentioned

Q99. Map of farm worker camps:
   Not mentioned

Q100. Housing opportunities for migrant workers:
   Not mentioned

4f. Promote community involvement and ownership in local food system

Q101. Community involved in organization of food opportunities:

   a. School Strategic Plan: 3.1.1 "Engage community members in public conversations to build consensus and a common sense of purpose regarding what the community values and what the community expects from the schools" (45). These values, however, do not include clear food or food-related topics.

   b. Community gardens such as the Haven and QCC Farms! offer opportunities for community members to participate in the organization of food opportunities. QCC Farms! is a citizen-driven initiative that directly involves community members in its operation. http://cvilleqcc.com/Farm.aspx

Q102. Culturally appropriate fresh foods:
   Not mentioned

Q103. Support for diverse, local, traditional - and fresh - food practices:
   Not mentioned

Q104. Incorporate migrant workers in markets and community events:
   Not mentioned

Q105. Opportunities for low income, immigrant, or migrant to participate in gardens or food projects:
   a. QCC Farms! offers an opportunity for low-income community members to participate in the organization of food opportunities such as the community gardens. http://cvilleqcc.com/Farm.aspx

   b. The Haven offers opportunities for low-income community members to participate in a community garden and healthy food preparation.

5. LAND CONSERVATION / ACCESS TO LAND FOR FOOD PRODUCTION

Q106. Land conservation for food production:

Not mentioned

Q107. Conservation easements for food production:
    Not mentioned

Q108. Allow public space or land for food production:
    Not mentioned

Q109. Creative leasing or finance models to reduce farmer start-up debt:
    Not mentioned

Q110. Map of prime agricultural lands:
    Not mentioned

Q111. Map of prime agricultural lands to conserve for food production, agri-tourism, heritage tourism, or other purposes supporting local food production:
    Not mentioned

Q112. Limit development potential through PDR, TDR or other programs:
    Not mentioned

Q113. Green infrastructure plan that incorporates consideration for food production:
    Not mentioned