

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION NO. 02-093

Establishing a Portland/Multnomah County Food Policy Council, a Sub-committee of the Portland/Multnomah County Sustainable Development Commission

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a) Issues of food production and distribution significantly affect the public health, land use, economy and quality of life of the Portland and Multnomah County metropolitan region.
- b) All residents of Multnomah County and the City of Portland should have access to nutritious, affordable, locally and sustainably grown food.
- c) There is no existing agency, organization or body dedicated to addressing the implications of local government policy, programs, operations and land use rulings related to the food system and its corresponding impacts on community health and well-being.
- d) On February 2, 2002 over one hundred people including local farmers, restaurants, markets, educators, health care providers and local governments met in Portland for a Food Policy Forum and identified major issues impacting the health of our local food system including:
 - food practices in medical and government institutions that promote unhealthy diets and poor environmental stewardship,
 - a lack of awareness by local residents regarding nutrition, food skills and the source of their food,
 - a high rate of hunger and barriers preventing access to affordable, nutritious food for local residents, regardless of income-level or geographic location,
 - urban land use policies and rules negatively affecting local food production and distribution,
 - business and economic issues affecting the viability of local farmers, and
 - the environmental impacts associated with food production, consumption and waste disposal.
- e) Participants in the Food Policy Forum expressed overwhelming support for the creation of a local Food Policy Council to provide ongoing data collection and analysis, and recommendations to local governments regarding policies, programs, operations and land use rulings related to local food issues.
- f) The Portland/Multnomah County Sustainable Development Commission has recognized and identified the long term environmental, economic and social implications of policy decisions related to local food issues.
- g) The Commission supports and has approved forming a sub-committee to serve as a Food Policy Council.

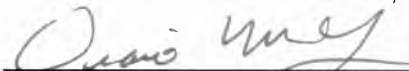
The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:

1. To approve formation of a Portland/Multnomah County Food Policy Council, a sub-committee of the Portland/Multnomah County Sustainable Development Commission.
2. The Portland/Multnomah County Food Policy Council shall be composed of 11 members serving one-year terms representing the diversity of the local community and providing a wide range of expertise on local food issues including hunger relief; nutrition; food business and industrial practices; local farming; community education and institutional food purchasing and practices.
3. The Portland/Multnomah County Food Policy Council shall:
 - a) Provide ongoing advice and input to City and County staff on food related issues as needed, such as the current efforts to attract and site a food composting facility in the Portland Metropolitan area.
 - b) Develop a set of governing principles to guide future local government and community decision making related to food issues by June 1, 2003.
 - c) Identify and report back to City Council and the County Board by June 1, 2003 on options for improving:
 - local land use policies and rules related to food production and distribution;
 - methods for building regional demand for locally produced foods and food products;
 - City and County food purchasing policies and practices;
 - the availability of healthy, affordable food to all residents; and
 - the capacity of local communities to promote and engage in healthy food practices.
 - d) Develop a work plan, proposed structure and potential sources of additional funding for the Food Policy Council in fiscal year 2003-04 and subsequent years.
4. The Portland/Multnomah Food Policy Council shall regularly communicate with and actively solicit participation and engagement from interested members of the general public.
5. The Multnomah County Department of Business and Community Services, the Multnomah County Health Department, and the Portland Office of Sustainable Development shall support the efforts of the Council through resources dedicated to the Sustainable Development Commission.

ADOPTED this 20th day of June, 2002.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON



Diane M. Linn, Chair

REVIEWED:

THOMAS SPONSLER, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By 

John S. Thomas, Assistant County Attorney