



Overview of “FoodNYC: a Blueprint for a Sustainable Food System”

FoodNYC is the Manhattan Borough President’s 10-point blueprint for a sustainable food system, released in February 2010, a result of the NYC Food & Climate Summit two months prior. While not a policy itself, it provides policy proposals that could be advanced by local or state elected officials.

1. Urban Agriculture

Goal: Establish food production as a priority in New York City for personal, community, or commercial use by the year 2030.

- Assess Land Availability and Suitability for Urban Agriculture
- Create a Citywide Urban Agriculture Program
- Ensure the Permanence of Community Gardens
- Facilitate the Development of Rooftop Agricultural Greenhouses

2. Regional Food Production

Goal: Promote and support regional agriculture by connecting upstate and Long Island farms with downstate consumers, and by mapping the food grown and sourced from the region within approximately 200 miles of New York City.

- Determine the Capacity of the Regional Foodshed
- Develop a State Strategy for Farmland and Food Production
- Accelerate the Protection of New York’s Farmland

3. Food Processing And Distribution

Goal: Increase the sale and consumption of regionally grown foods by expanding regional distribution and local processing capacity.

- Modernize and Expand Hunts Point Produce Market
- Build Small-Scale Wholesale Farmers Markets
- Promote Public Investment in Processing and Distribution Facilities

4. New Markets

Goal: Increase the number and type of retail food outlets that deviate from the traditional grocery store model by identifying spaces for use as “alternative” food markets.

- Increase the Number and Quality of Indoor Food Markets
- Ensure Long-Term Viability of Outdoor Farmers Markets
- Fund Farmers Market Infrastructure

5. Procurement of Regionally Grown Food

Goal: Incorporate preferences for locally-sourced food in New York City’s procurement rules.

- Mandate Procurement of Regional Food
- Level the Procurement Playing Field for Regional Farmers
- Capture Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions in City Food Metrics

- Reduce the Cost of Liability Insurance for Small- and Mid-Sized Farmers

6. Education

Goal: Educate New York City's children to become a new generation of healthy and environmentally aware eaters.

- Require a Food Curriculum in Public Schools
- Expose City Students to Farms and Gardens
- Institute Meatless Mondays in City Schools

7. Food Waste

Goal: Launch twin composting initiatives: (a) support for large-scale composting through creation of a municipal facility; and (b) support for small-scale composting through education, decentralized composting bins, and more pick-up locations.

- Reduce Food Waste
- Build a Municipal Composting Site
- Promote Small-Scale Composting
- Eliminate Barriers to Food Composting in Community Gardens

8. Plastic Water Bottles

Goal: Increase access to drinking water fountains while reducing the consumption of disposable plastic water bottles in New York City.

- Reduce Bottled Water Consumption
- Increase the Number of Water Fountains
- Encourage the Sale of Water Canteens

9. Food Economy

Goal: Cultivate the food economy by creating a focused economic development strategy.

- Dedicate Staff and Resources at the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYC EDC) to Develop the Local Food Economy in NYC
- Ensure that Government Support for the Local Food Economy Results Not Just in Additional Jobs, But the Creation of Good Jobs
- Support the Rights of Farm Workers

10. Government Oversight and Coordination of Food Policy and Programs

Goal: Create a Department of Food and Markets to coordinate and lead systemic reform of the City's food and agricultural policies and programs.

- Create a Department of Food and Markets
- Require PlaNYC to Address Food

More information: <http://www.mbpo.org/uploads/FoodNYC.pdf>