

Homegrown Minneapolis: Expanding the Local Foods Movement

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Homegrown Minneapolis: Goal



A citywide initiative to expand the growing, processing, distribution, eating and composting of healthy, sustainable, locally grown foods in the city and the surrounding region.

The 3 HGM* Phases, 2008-2012

- Launched in December 2008 by Mayor R.T. Rybak
- **Phase 1:** Launch and development of recommendations for ways in which the City could support and advance the local food system
- **Phase 2:** Implementation of recommendations
- **Phase 3:** Formation of a Food Council

A Unique Approach



Unlike other communities, Homegrown Minneapolis did not begin with the formation of a Food Council. Instead, the Food Council resulted from years of intensive city-community partnership.

Phase I: Nov. 2008 - June 2009

- **Nov. 2008 – Dec. 2008:**
 - HGM Steering Committee formed
 - Three chairpersons and subcommittee co-chairs
 - Kickoff meeting with 60 stakeholders
- **Jan. 2009 – Apr. 2009:**
 - Four subcommittees submit recommendations and action steps
- **May 2009:**
 - Public comment period including community meetings
- **June 2009:**
 - City Council receives HGM report with 57 recommendations
 - City Council passes resolution authorizing an 18-month Implementation Task Force to pursue recommendations, focusing on eight high priority recommendations

Phase II: July 2009 – Dec. 2011

- **July 2009:**
 - Implementation Task Force begins work
- **Aug. 2009 – June 2011:**
 - Task Force comes up with 18 recommendations and plans for a Food Council
 - HGM stakeholder meeting held in Dec. 2010
- **Summer 2011:**
 - City staff implement recommendations
 - City Council passes resolution forming a Food Council
- **Oct. 2011:**
 - City-Community Transition Team leads nomination and appointment process for Food Council
- **Dec. 2011:**
 - City Council appoints Food Council members

Phase III: Jan. 2012 - Present



- **Jan. 2012:**
 - Food Council begins to craft work plan to advance the HGM vision
- **Mar. 2012 – May 2012:**
 - Food Council develops bylaws and work plans
 - Food Council advocates for City Council passage of zoning text amendments for urban agriculture, and a composting ordinance

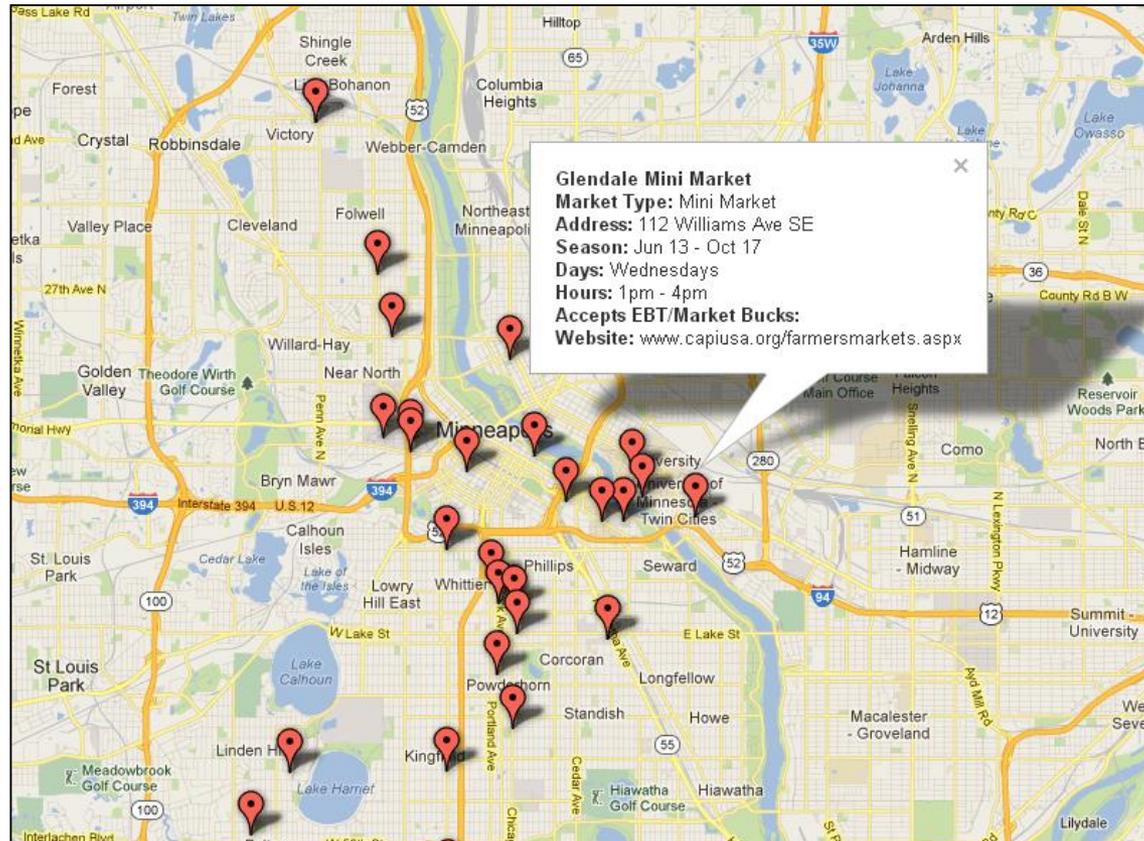
The City's Food Landscape



- **25** farmers markets
- **212** community gardens
- **13** city lots leased to community gardens
- **700** Food Resource Hub members
- **>12** urban farms and related businesses
- **48** community kitchens
- **30** healthy corner stores

The City of Farmers Markets

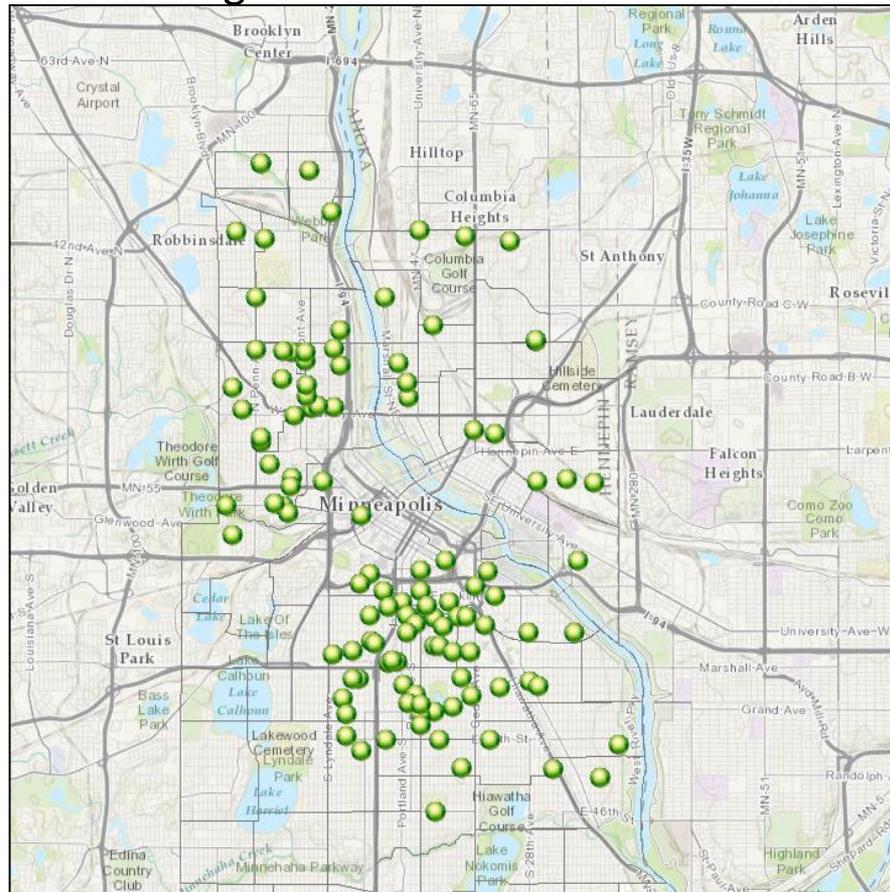
2013: 25 farmers/mini markets



www.minneapolismn.gov/farmersmarkets

Minneapolis Community Gardens

2012: 106 gardens on 21.5 acres



Vision Statement



The Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council envisions a vibrant local food system that enhances the health of all residents, protects the earth, increases economic vitality, expands social connectedness, and improves food security.

Mission Statement



2014-2015 Food Council

- 21 members: **co-ownership**
- 15 community representatives:
 - Cooperatives: 2 representatives
 - Chef: 1
 - Healthcare: 1 (foundation)
 - Educators: 2 (university and Extension)
 - Farmers: 6 (3 nonprofit, 3 for-profit)
 - Nonprofit and government: 3 (2 nonprofit, 1 state)

Six City Representatives



- Mayor's Office
- City Council Member
- Health Department
- Community Planning & Economic Development
- Environmental Services
- City Coordinator's Office

2013 Working Groups' Highlights

Staple Foods Ordinance

Surveyed over 100 small retail food outlets to assess availability of healthy foods and potential impact of ordinance changes.



Community Engagement

Strategic outreach to recruit new Food Council members, resulting in 6 of 8 new members coming from immigrant communities or communities of color.



Policy Changes



Farmers Market Changes



- Regulatory changes
- Mini-markets
- Mobile farmers markets

Farmers Markets Regulations

- **2011:**
 - Farmers markets regulations rewrite
 - Creation of mini-markets
- **Fed. 2014:**
 - State law changed to allow sampling at farmers markets
- **May 2014:**
 - Regulatory changes allowing mobile farmers markets and grocery stores



Staple Food Requirements

Dairy, Fresh meat, whole grains, fresh fruit and vegetables.

Staple Food Ordinance

- **Oct. 2009** - Staple Foods Ordinance approved, requires minimum dairy, fresh fruit and vegetables
- **Jan. 2013** – Proposal for all corner stores to meet WIC requirements
- **Feb. 2013** – Community survey of 125 corner stores
- **Oct. 2014** – public hearing on the proposal
- **April 2015** – proposed start date for new requirements

Urban Ag. Text Amendments



- **March 2012** – Urban Ag Text Amendments approved
- **May 2013** – access to water policy established
- **Sept. 2014** – Market Garden provisions expanded

Amendment Details

- Zoning code text amendment approved two new land uses—for market gardens and urban farms—and set development and design standards.
- Regulatory barriers are removed that make it difficult to establish land uses for agriculture in the city. Urban agricultural land uses are now expanded in all zoning districts.





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Growing Food & Communities