



POLICY AGENDA

Revised November, 2021



Mission: The Washtenaw County Food Policy Council increases and preserves access to safe, local and healthy food for all residents of Washtenaw County.

Equity Statement: The WFPC believes food is a basic human right and a core part of our society. We believe the laws and rules that shape our food system are rooted in white supremacy and must evolve. To work towards a more equitable food system, the WFPC prioritizes policies and projects that promote equity for groups that have been systemically excluded.

Please note: The ID# column is intended to label priorities, but does NOT indicate hierarchy.

Policy Level	ID #	Priority
County	1	Amend the County Procurement Policy to mandate the purchase of foodservice ware and packaging that is reusable, compostable, or recyclable . Advocate for funds to be allocated for the education and resource development of County purchasing staff as well as for adequate recycling and composting containers and services at every County building.
County	2	Advocate that food system infrastructure that promotes equity, accessibility, nutrition and sustainability be prioritized in countywide economic development.
County	3	Advocate that institutions establish policies and implement changes that protect safe drinking water sources and increase the accessibility and demand for nutritious, local, and sustainable food.
County	4	Champion amendment to County Procurement Policy to give preference to locally grown, processed and prepared foods , goods and services.
County, Municipal	5	Coordinate with planning departments to champion inclusion of food system priorities in the Master Planning Process.
County, Municipal	6	Champion opportunities to utilize vacant land to improve local food systems.
County, Municipal	7	Advocate for policies that require donation of surplus food from department purchasing and community events in accordance with food safety regulations.
County, Municipal	8	Champion the use of existing data, tools, and resources as integral components of the planning process.
County, Municipal	9	Advocate for ordinances that define and allow small scale food production on residential, commercial, industrial, and public land.
County, Municipal	10	Advocate for access to fresh, nutritious and culturally appropriate foods in underserved areas.
County, Municipal, State/Fed	11	Identify and champion programs and policies that increase access to capital for local farmers and food producers , particularly beginning and underrepresented farmers.
County, Municipal, State/Fed	12	Promote policies and practices leading to the purchase of food products that are produced locally , using sustainable methods.
County, State/Fed	13	Champion opportunities to establish a living wage and safe working conditions for all food service and seasonal/migrant farm workers.
County, State/Fed	14	Advocate for adequate funding of food assistance programs .
County, State/Fed	15	Identify and champion opportunities and alternative models that reduce barriers for small and underrepresented farmers to participate in the marketplace.
County, State/Fed	16	Advocate to reduce/remove barriers to increase participation in food assistance programs .
Institutional	17	Advocate that institutions within the County use grounds management practices that preserve our essential pollinator populations .
Municipal	18	Advocate that municipalities implement a landfill ban on commercial and institutional organic material generated within 20 miles of a composting facility or anaerobic digester.
Municipal	19	Encourage municipal planners to prioritize food access in transportation decision-making to ensure coordinated and connected transportation to food access sites.
Municipal	20	Champion policies, goals and standards for municipally sanctioned events to be zero waste compliant .
Municipal	21	Encourage all municipalities to include commercial and residential organics collection programs through public or private vendor services.
School Boards	22	Advocate for the adoption of programs that utilize local products in school meals .
School Boards	23	Strongly encourage school boards to adopt policies and practices that increase participation/utilization of school nutrition programs .
School Boards	24	Strongly encourage school boards to implement zero waste programs .