

February 15, 2014

## Planning for Greater Philadelphia's Food System







## **Overview of DVRPC**

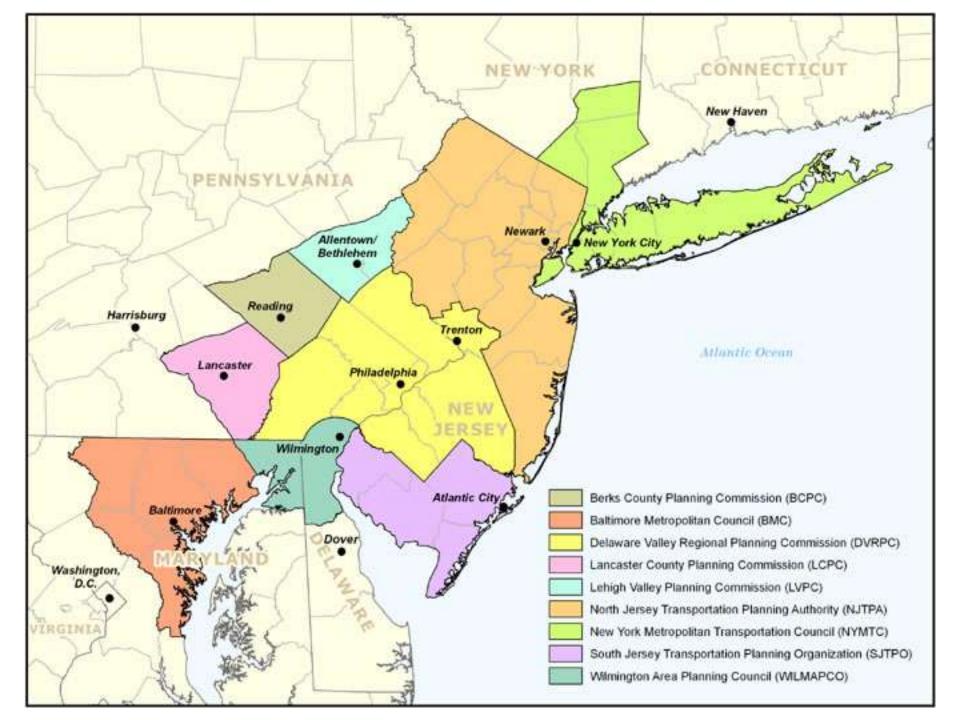
- Philadelphia's Metropolitan
  Planning Organization
  (MPO), created in 1965
- Interstate, intercounty, and intercity agency
- Prioritize transportation
  funding
- 2 States, 9 Counties, 353 Municipalities (home rule)
- Issue areas Transportation, Land Use, the Economy, and the Environment



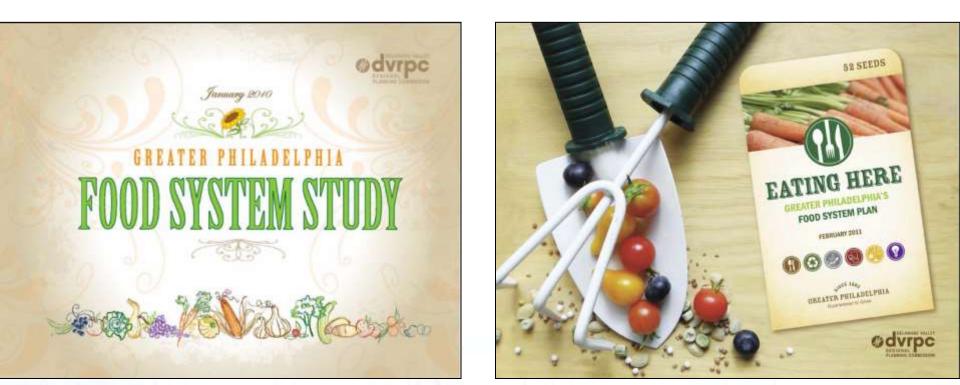


ELAWARE VALLEY

GREATE



## Highlights from DVRPC's Food System **Planning Projects**



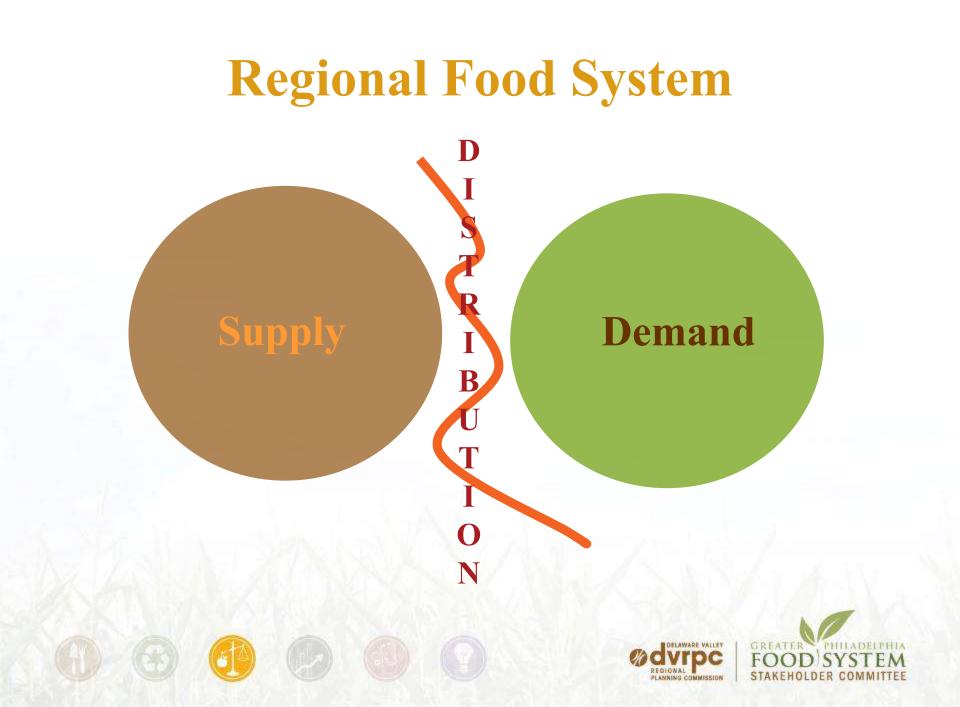
#### Published in 2010

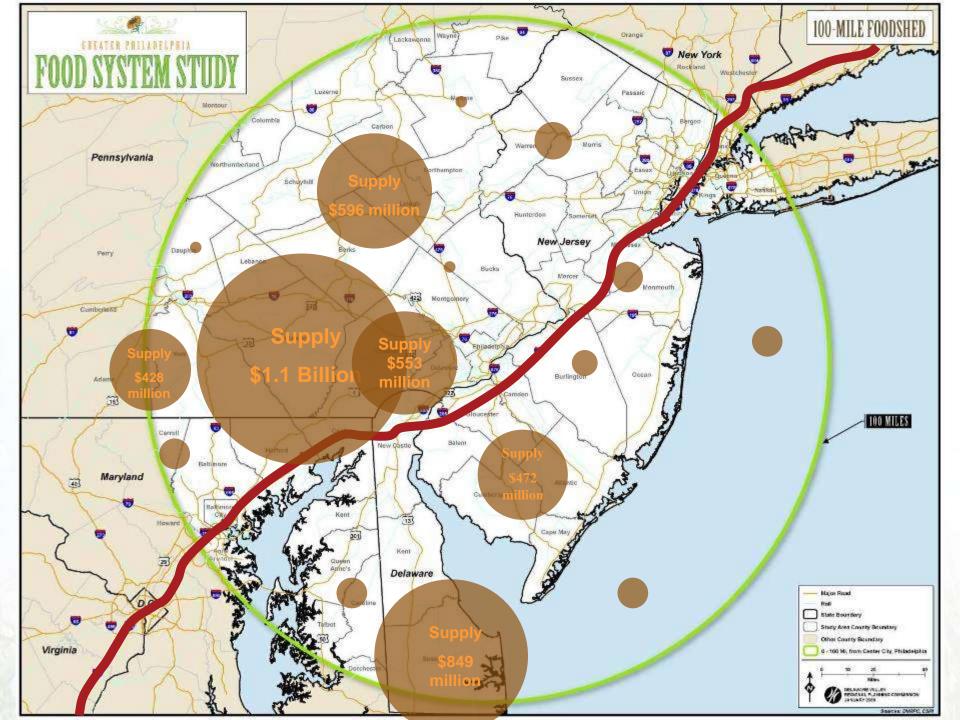
Published in 2011

FOIONA











## **Planning Assumptions**

- The metro region of 5.5 million people consumes more than the 100-mile foodshed could ever produce
- The region has a relatively temperate climate and exceptionally fertile soil
- Specialization in labor, in services, in crop production – is a good thing
- Diversity in people, in nature, in opinions is a good thing





### Lancaster County, PA

#### **Gloucester County, NJ**

#### **Cumberland County, NJ**

#### Lancaster County, PA

#### Urban Farming

#### **Specialty Crops**

#### **Plain Sect Community**

#### Large Regional Brands

## **Stakeholder Planning Process**

- 250+ stakeholders
- 6 Values and Goals
- 10 Indicators
- 52 Recommendations
- Grant opportunity to implement top recommendations







### Values & Goals



### Farming and Sustainable Agriculture



**Economic Development** 

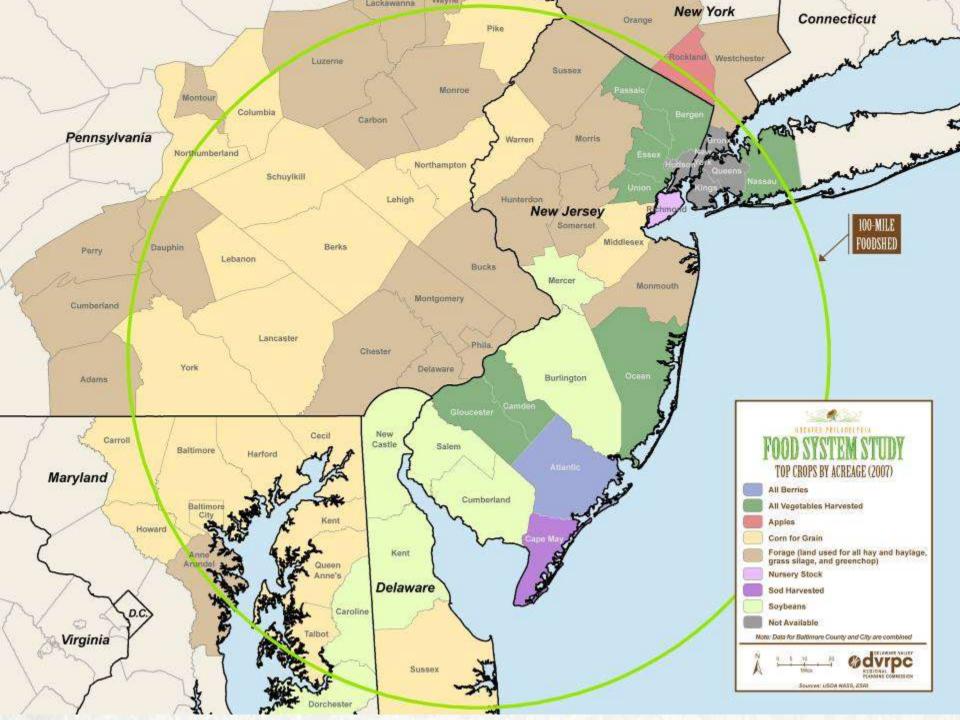


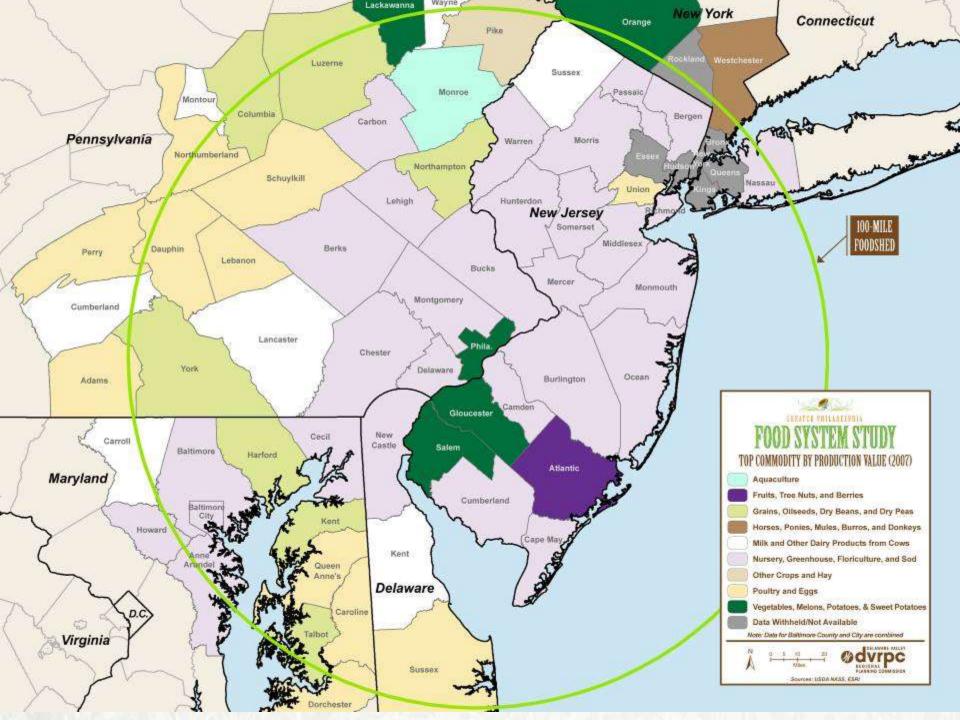




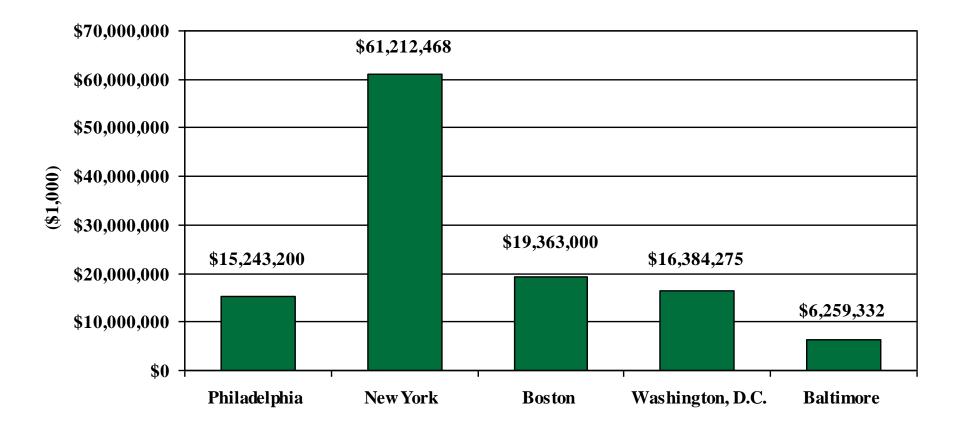


**Ecological Stewardship and Conservation** 



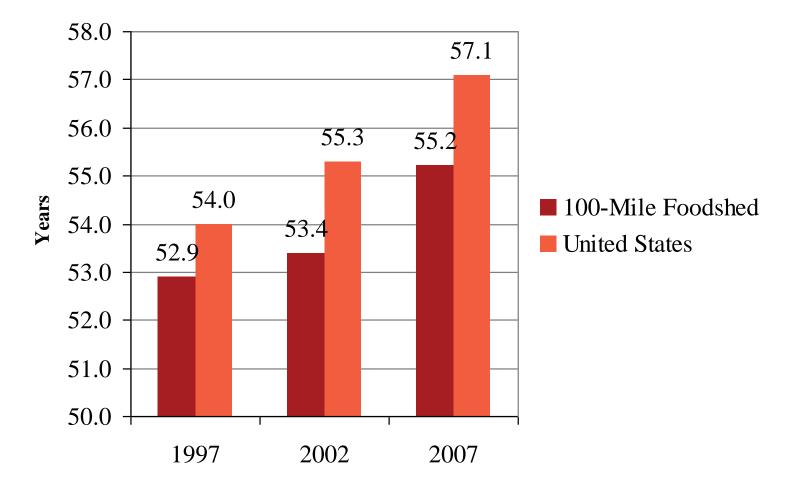


### Large Metropolitan Areas Close By



Source: BLS 2008

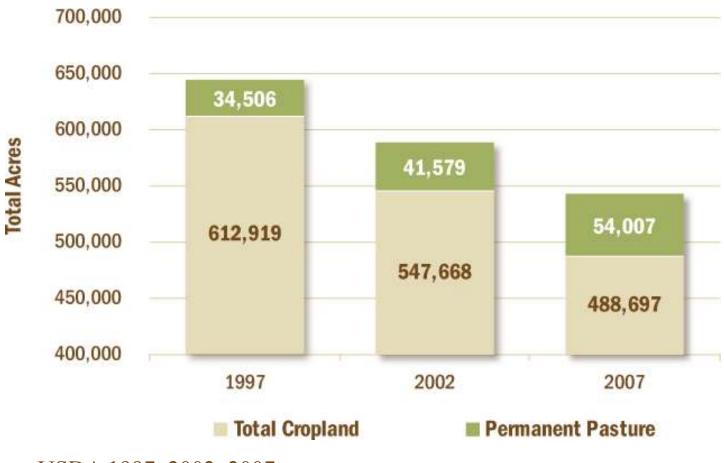
### **Age of Farmers**



Source: USDA 2007

### **Indicators**

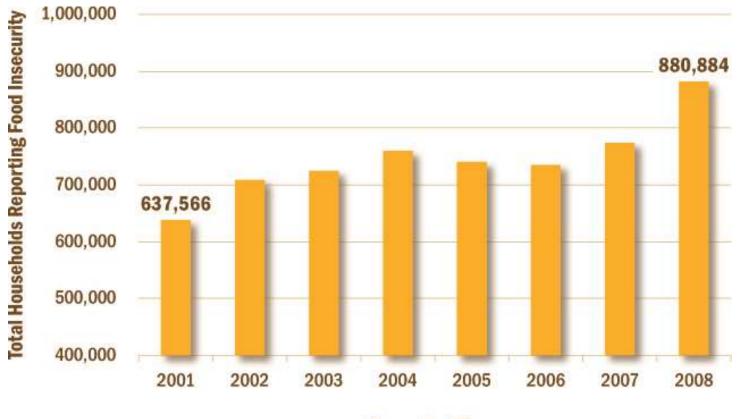
Land in Production in New Jersey (1997 to 2007)



Sources: USDA 1997, 2002, 2007

### **Indicators**

Household Food Insecurity in NJ and PA (2001 to 2008)

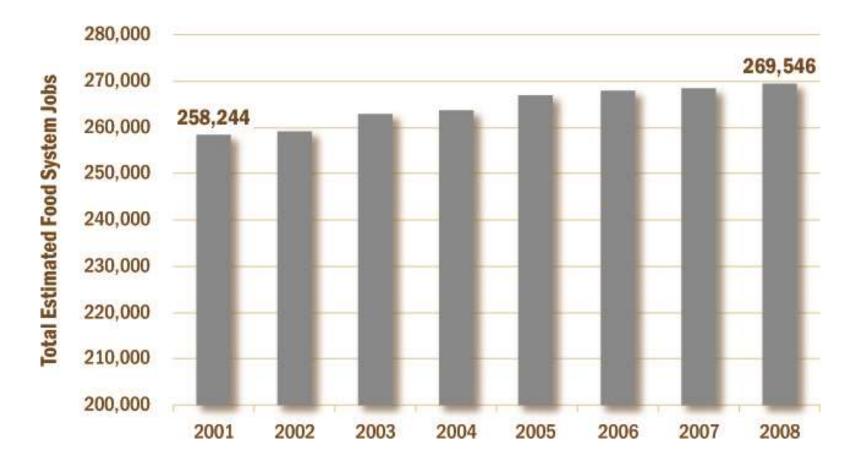


**Survey End Years** 

Sources: USDA 2009.

### **Indicators**

Food Sector Employment in Greater Philadelphia (2001 to 2008)



Sources: BLS 2010

## **52 Recommendations**



Keep farmland affordable through a range of new business models like lease agreements.



**Implement market-based solutions** to protect natural resources such as marketing programs or new brand development.



Establish long-term eating habits and healthy behaviors through food choices, education, and activities in local schools, which will also create customers for our local food providers.





## **52 Recommendations**



**Implement business development strategies** ranging from training programs to financing innovations to reduce the barriers of entry for entrepreneurs and farmers.



**Increase public awareness of healthy food** through interactive programs and educational experiences.



Build capacity and expand our expertise by continuing to engage the Food System Stakeholder Committee.





## **Implementation and Partnerships**

- Greater Philadelphia Food System Stakeholder Committee members are the implementers
- Grant opportunity, administered by DVRPC, funded by the William Penn Foundation
- Technical assistance opportunities
- DVRPC-focused work with member governments and partners
- DVRPC will monitor implementation of plan and regularly update indicators





# **Other DVRPC Projects**

- Transforming Open Space to Sustainable Farm Businesses
- Camden Food Economy Strategy
- Greener Pastures: New Farm Financing







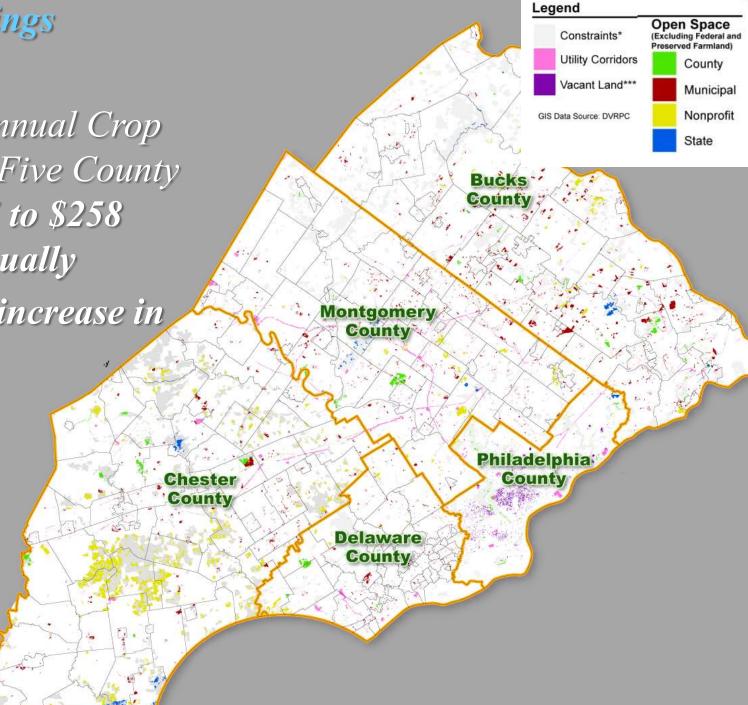




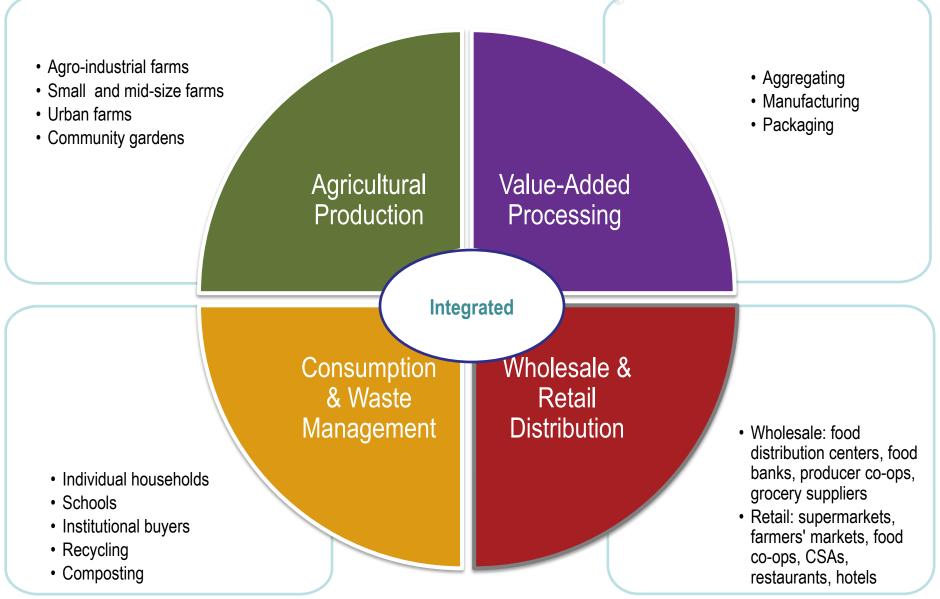


•Potential Annual Crop Value in the Five County Area is \$155 to \$258 Million Annually

• 25 to 40% increase in Crop Value



## Food Economy



Courtesy of TRF, Opportunity Finance Fund, and CDFI Fund

## Lessons Learned from Regional Food System Planning

- Started with a large surveying effort; involved a lot of partners at the beginning; identified key questions to answer through analysis.
- Created a planning and funding process that allowed for other to keep "doing."
- Lifted others' work up.
- No single solution or one top priority. Systemic problems call for systemic solutions.
- Meeting local governments where they are





#### **Healthy Habits**

### **Stabilizing Neighborhoods**

-

**Economic Development** 

#### **Beginning Farmer**



# **Thank You!**

#### WWW.DVRPC.ORG/FOOD

Alison Hastings ahastings@dvrpc.org 215.238.2929



