Louisville Metro Government's Local Food Initiatives

Economic Growth and Innovation February 12, 2014





3 Themes:

Regionalism
Economic Development
Quality of Life/Quality of Place



One overarching driver:







A Whirlwind Tour of Louisville's Local Food Initiatives from a Very High Altitude

- Louisville Farm to Table
- Louisville Agribusiness Loan Program
- Healthy in a Hurry Corner Stores
- Food Trucks, Restaurants and Farmers Market support (informal)
- Urban agriculture, including community gardens, zoning amendments to support new garden development, safe soils education and a toolkit for citizens interested in starting a garden
- Louisville Barn Raising
- Food hub project
- Supply and demand studies
- Mobile vending project
- Relationships with two food policy organizations
- Exploring potential for large urban demonstration garden
- Support for a number of organizations active in urban agriculture, food access and education
- Middlebury College FoodWorks Louisville Program

Building Louisville's Local Food Economy: Strategies for increasing
Kentucky farm income through
expanded food sales in Louisville

May 2008



23 county region	# farms
Cattle and Calves	9,243
Tobacco	6,745
Other crops and hay	4,454
Grains, dry beans	1,527
Horses, Mules	1,486
Sheep, goats	586
Milk Dairy from cows	471
Nursery, Greenhouse	394
Vegetables, melons, potatoes	313
Poultry and Eggs	308
Hogs and Pigs	246
Other animal and products	182
Fruits, tree nuts and berries	177
Cut Christmas trees	40
Aquaculture	23
Total	26,195
Certified Organically Produced	139

http://www.louisvilleky.gov/HealthyHometown/healthyeating/farmtotable/BackgroundandStudies.htm

Strategy	Туре	Score
Agritourism	Farm-based	66
Meat Processing	Infrastructure	66
Farmers' Markets	Retail	63
Indoor Public Market	Retail	61
Local Distribution Company	Wholesale	41
Restaurants	Wholesale	40
CSA	Retail	29
New Farmer Development	Farm-based	21
Wholesale Farmers' Market	Wholesale	17
Food Processing	Infrastructure	8
Schools and Institutions	Wholesale	-30
Branding / Packaging	Infrastructure	-33
Supermarkets and Chain Buyers	Wholesale	-46

- Expresses
 farmer
 preferences for
 market
 development
- Highly dependent on past personal experiences with markets

Louisville Farm to Table

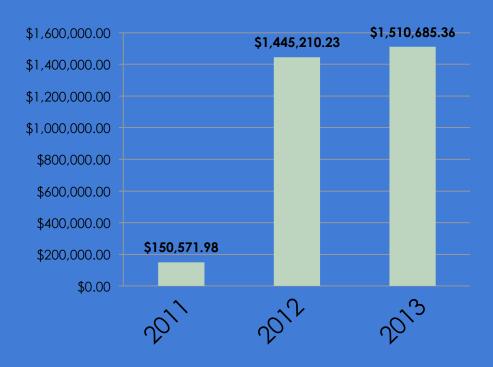
Mission—Market Development

To connect Kentucky's producers with opportunities to sell edible agricultural products to large-volume buyers, processors and manufacturers in Louisville and to simultaneously break down barriers and increase willingness and capacity of buyers to work with locally-raised foods



Mission—Food System Capacity

To promote the development of a more comprehensive system of aggregation, distribution, processing and manufacturing facilities in Louisville to support Kentucky farmers transitioning from tobacco to other crops

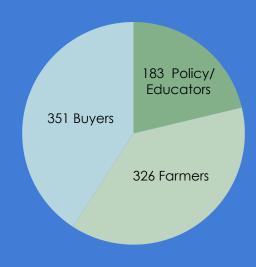


Annual Sales Facilitated (2011-2013)



Partnerships

- Local Food Economy Work Group
- Jefferson County Public Schools
- University of Louisville
- The Berry Center
- Seed Capital, Kentucky
- Real Food Challenge
- Winston Industries

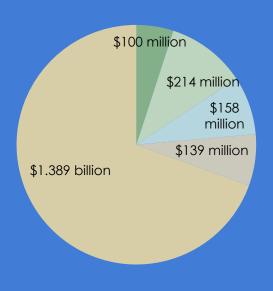


Louisville Farm to Table Workshop Attendees by Type (2011present)

Local Food Demand Survey

http://www.louisvilleky.gov/HealthyHometown/healthyeating/farmtotable/BackgroundandStudies.htm

- Examined consumer and commercial buying in Louisville
- Total food purchases valued at \$2 billion annually
- Identified willingness among all consumers (socioeconomically and geographically diverse) to spend more money to purchase local food



Currrent and Potential Purchases of Local Food in Louisville

- Consumers (current)
- Commercial buyers (current)
- □ Consumers (future)
- Commercial buyers (future)

- Included gap analysis among commercial buyers, which noted quality, consistency, volume and minimal processing as barriers to additional food purchases
- Buyers choose local food to support local economy and farmers, as well as for its quality, freshness and taste

Food Access and Data

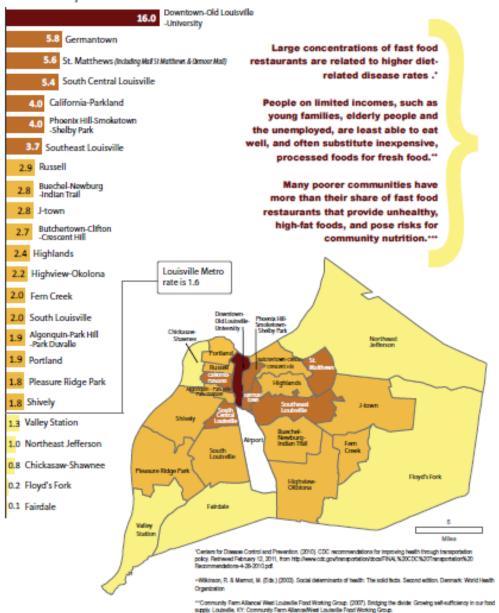
- Healthy corner stores—looked at population within walking distance as part of eligibility for program
- 28 farmers markets across the community but how to equitably disperse them? Are there alternatives?
- Bridging the Divide—report prepared by Community Farm Alliance, looked at fresh food retail disparities based on a wide variety of socioeconomic data





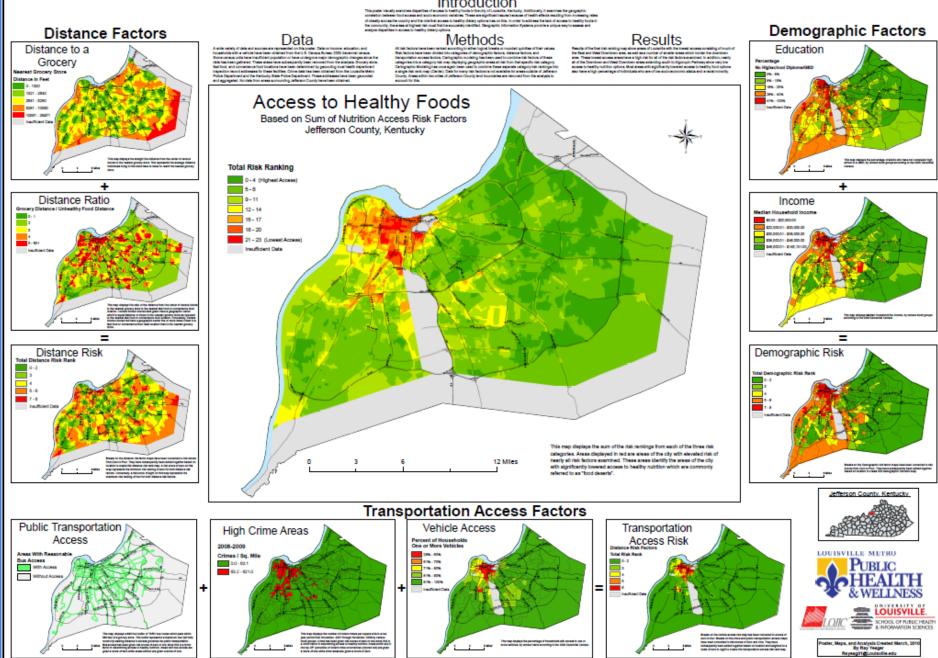
FAST FOOD OUTLET DENSITY (Number of Fast Food Outlets per Square Mile)

2010 Food Inspection Data



 Center for Health Equity (Louisville Metro Department of Health and Wellness) prepares annual Health Equity Report that looks at food access in a variety of ways

A Geographic Analysis of Access to Healthy Foods



What's next for Louisville?

- A more comprehensive survey of existing and potential sources of local food in the 23-county region around Louisville (in progress)
- Project implementation following the Louisville Barn Raising to address gaps in the supply side of the local food system
- Continued efforts to develop a cluster of small-scale processing in the Portland neighborhood
- Participation and support for the development of a food hub in Louisville
- Ongoing support for urban agriculture and expansion of community and market garden system