
Food Oasis Policy Action: Table Discussions

OUR PURPOSE: Build on policy ideas from the first Policy Breakfast (and utilize existing/sample policies, guidelines, standards, or ordinances) to identify the high-priority activities we could pursue as a group.

OUR GOALS: Increasing ACCESS and AFFORDABILITY to eliminate food deserts in Solano County, making it easier to make the healthy choice!



Policy Table Groups:

1. **LAND USE, TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY**
2. **HEALTH & NUTRITION**
3. **FOOD DISTRIBUTION**
4. **EDUCATION & SCHOOLS**
5. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**Business: Cross-cutting - please join a group that suits you most.*

Many policy ideas were generated at the Food Oasis Policy Breakfast in August 2016. In addition, a review of national best practices highlights policy directions that support our places (and thus residents) to become healthier. These are listed on the Table Discussion sheets for each group.

To move this work forward, we are interested in learning which policies your group is either already working on or wants to work on collectively, AND/OR which policies any individual in the group plans to advance going forward.

Please check “Y” for yes for the policies that your group MOST want to address in the next 1-2 years, and RANK the first 1-3 in order of priority: IMPORTANCE and ACTIONABILITY. Jot down the major results expected in the notes section.

NOTE: If there are one or more group members that are or want to work on an issue that is not top-ranked, please note the organization and contact person/information for that issue in the “comments/notes” section.



LAND USE, TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY POLICIES

	Policy Description	Y	Rank	Comments/Notes/Group/or Name
A	Increase the number of Farmers' Markets , mobile produce markets (e.g. Fresh Approach's <i>Freshest Cargo</i> mobile farmers' market program).			
B	Incentivize "healthy" stores and restaurants e.g. less admin fee or expedited permit process, decreased permit fees, less regulations, financial incentives, etc.			
C	Subsidize resources that support the increase of healthy foods and products (e.g. refrigeration or make healthy foods more affordable to be provided at no cost to the owner).			
D	Exclude deed restrictions that prevent the development of new grocery stores.			
E	Promote policies that support and protect community gardens (funding, permitting, land availability). PDF Sample Planning Zoning			
F	Place bus stops at grocery stores, increase hours or routes. Ensure bus routes provide service from underserved neighborhoods to healthy food retail outlets.			
G	Provide transportation benefits such as: – Deduct transportation costs from total income for those with limited access to supermarkets; Reduced price bus passes for those with SNAP benefits or for low-income individuals; Complementary shuttle services for elders or those in low-income areas or those living in food deserts.			
H	Enact complete streets policies to create safe and efficient roads for residents to walk, bike, ride on to get to grocery stores. Sample policy + ordinance PDF ChangeLab Sample Ordinance PDF What are complete streets?			
I	Limit density of unhealthy food outlets and mandate inclusion of affordable and culturally appropriate healthy food stores and outlets.			
J	Implement healthy store and/or checkout ordinances (e.g. Require stores to stock			

	some fresh produce and healthy foods and beverages in strategic locations such as checkout. Support connection and use of locally sourced produce and items). Healthy Checkout Ordinance CLS			
K	Require access to free and safe drinking water in public places.			
L	Bring the food to the residents living in underserved areas – e.g. Baltimarket: Allows shoppers to order groceries online (from home or public libraries) and delivery arrives later in the week with no fee for residents to libraries, schools, and senior living facilities or public housing. PDF			
M	Enact a moratorium on new fast food outlets in a certain square-mile zone surrounding Solano County or cities' that have food deserts (but have access to many fast food outlets and convenience stores without fresh or healthy foods). In addition, decrease the ubiquity of high sugar/fat/salt snack foods in both food and nonfood establishments, and reduce portion sizes of restaurant foods with little nutrient value. PFD			
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	Land Use, Transportation & Safety Policy Description(s)	Lead(s) [Agency, individuals, etc.]
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HEALTH CARE & NUTRITION POLICIES

	Policy Description	Y	RANK	Comments/Notes/Group/or Name
A	Provide technical assistance during county and city general plan and area specific processes to plan for access to healthy food locations similar to how parks, hospitals and schools are planned. ChangeLab Solutions Healthy General Plans PDF			
B	Determine nutrition standards for “healthy” stores , foods, beverages, menu labeling, healthy store program/recognition program, etc.			
C	Prioritize the issues and needs of communities of color and low-income population/areas. For example, segregated, low-income areas are more likely to lack adequate access to healthy and affordable foods/beverages.			
D	Implement or participate in programs that increase access or offerings of healthy foods and beverages such as the Healthier Hospitals’ Healthier Foods challenge (framework for hospitals to serve healthier foods to improve the health of patients, staff, and communities).			
E	Provide “Food Rx” —where clinical institutions partner with supermarkets to better engage their patients in health education at the point of sale or assist making healthier dietary choices.			
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	Health Care & Nutrition Policy Description(s)	Lead(s) [Agency, individuals, etc.]
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FOOD DISTRIBUTION & FOOD SYSTEM POLICIES

	Policy Description	Y	RANK	Comments/Notes/Group/or Name
A	Increase enrollment, efficiency, and reach of existing federally funded food programs such as CalFresh, WIC, school meal programs (including Summer Meals Program) and SNAP. ChangeLab SNAP PDF			
B	Subsidize or lower the price of fruits and vegetables through SNAP/WIC or through programs carried through via USDA (Healthy Incentive Pilot) or Wholesome Wave organization (dollar-for-dollar matches for SNAP when used to purchase fruits and vegetables).			
C	Establish stronger food stocking standards for SNAP retailers such as restricting purchase of certain unhealthy foods and beverages, and in addition, provide incentives to buy fruits and vegetables . The improved stocking standards in neighborhood convenience stores may benefit the health of non-WIC or non-SNAP participants in the community as well.			
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	Food Distribution & Food System Policy Description(s)	Lead(s) [Agency, individuals, etc.]
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EDUCATION & SCHOOLS POLICIES

	Policy Description	Y	RANK	Comments/Notes/Group/or Name
A	Participate, strengthen, advocate, and implement federal school nutrition programs. Improve child care and school nutrition programs—reduce consumption of packaged snacks and fruit juice, and increase fresh produce offerings.			
B	Enact healthy beverage policies in schools (via local school wellness policy), access to clean and fresh water on campus/before/during/after school hours.			
C	Incorporate behavioral economics strategies such as “choice architecture” (framing or presentation of options for making a choice), Smarter Lunchroom, changing the layout of the items offered in cafeterias, staff room, labeling items with red/yellow/green signs, etc. Behavioral Economics PDF Smarter Lunch Rooms 6 Principles PDF			
D	Implement Farm to School programs such as scratch cooking, fresh foods in schools. PDF Serving School Garden in Cafeteria CLS			
E	Provide free nutrition education programs such as the short-term economic benefits of eating cheaper and unhealthy foods and beverages vs long-term negative effects that lead to diet-related illnesses such as obesity, diabetes and heart disease.			
F	Create and implement policies for healthier competitive foods standards to provide an opportunity to offer healthier competitive foods in schools. PDF			
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	Education & Schools Policy Description(s)	Lead(s) [Agency, individuals, etc.]
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BUSINESS POLICIES (CROSS-CUTTING)

	Policy Description	Y	RANK	Comments/Notes/Group/or Name
A	Pass nutrition standards for food and beverages purchased with government funds to meet.			
B	Provide free delivery for online grocery purchases.			
C	Positively impact the food environment through procurement policy changes . CLS Licensing Ordinance for Healthy Stores			
D	Limit unhealthy food and beverage marketing to children and students, increase healthy food and beverage marketing.			
E	Collaborate with supermarkets to make “Big Data” available (where large-scale data sources are being used for population health, clinical epidemiology, genetics, and surveillance initiatives) for use in policy evaluation and targeted interventions.			
F	Tax unhealthy foods/beverages. ChangeLab SSB Tax ChangeLab Biz License			
G	Join movements to restrict advertising of unhealthy foods , especially towards kids may work together with fiscal policies.			
H	Price unhealthy foods higher than the healthy foods to incentivize the purchase of healthy items.			
I	Change placement of products and create healthy checkouts, move healthy foods and drinks to the end of the aisle (endcaps) and other less healthy items to the middle of the aisle away from eye level, etc.			
J	Stock culturally appropriate foods in convenience stores or supermarkets particularly in the lower-income, communities of color.			
K	Open co-ops in communities of color and lower income areas that also offer nutrition and cooking classes as well as affordable ready-made meals and healthy beverage options. Opening co-ops and grocery stores contributes to the economic development of the community.			
L	Permit street vending and start programs such as Green Carts program (NYC) that brings affordable fresh fruits and vegetables to underserved areas while providing jobs for vendors. (Good-To-Go in San Jose also has a similar program.)			

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	Business Policy Description(s)	Lead(s) [Agency, individuals, etc.]
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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICIES

	Policy Description	Y	RANK	Comments/Notes/Group/or Name
A	Work with Solano County Food Policy Council (through Solano Public Health, Nutrition Bureau, FANNS group) to advocate for healthy food policies.			
B	Work with community groups to deliver healthy eating and living messages.			
C	Create community food systems (“a collaborative network that integrates sustainable food production, processing, distribution, consumption and waste management to enhance environmental, economic and social health of the community/city”).			
D	Advocate for funding and programs that increase the purchase of healthy foods via SNAP/CalFresh (e.g. Double Bucks, Market Match, etc.).			
E	Make improvements to existing stores (e.g. healthy store makeovers provided by community volunteers in exchange for increasing healthy options in the store).			
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	Community Engagement Policy Description(s)	Lead(s) [Agency, individuals, etc.]
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