SAN FRANCISCO FOOD SECURITY TASK FORCE: SUBCOMMITTEE ON REIMAGINING FOOD COORDINATION
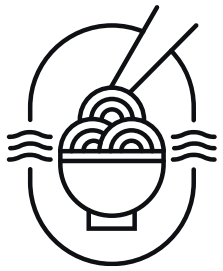
PRELIMINARY CITY SUMMARIES

PRESENTED BY FACENTE CONSULTING

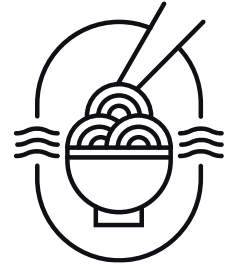# GOAL

Goal: Develop recommendations for a new structure or model for food organizing in San Francisco based on qualitative data from 8-10 U.S. cities

In partnership with:
- San Francisco Public Health Foundation
- San Francisco Department of Public Health, Population Health Division's Office of Anti-Racism & Equity
- Food Security Task Force subcommittee chair

CITY SUMMARIES

1. Chicago Food Policy Action Council

2. New York City Mayor's Office of Food Policy

3. Los Angeles Office of Food Equity

4. Boston Office of Food Justice

5. Detroit Food Policy Council

6. More cities to come!

CHICAGO FOOD POLICY ACTION COUNCIL

Strengths:
- Partnerships with internal city staff with access to decision makers
- Annual summits to identify priorities
- Funding is diverse: 60% philanthropy and 40% government grants

Challenges:
- Applying for funding, especially first wave of grants
- 50 City Supervisors proves difficult to establish a majority vote on food policy issues
- Ensuring city policy continuity through administrative changes

Key Takeaways or Quotes:
- Noted that all cities have the same issues around food insecurity, but managing the local context and political powers very important

Strengths:

- Current mayor prioritizes food policy
- City Council has discretionary grants to provide funding to community-based orgs
- Very large budget (1M - 1.5M)
- Focus on concrete programs such as plant-based nutrition programs in hospitals

Challenges:

- Future mayors may not prioritize food policy
- Relies on community based orgs for input (community members must reach out to specific city agencies with issues)

Key Takeaways or Quotes:

- Noted that political will is important in changing food policy
- Cost implications of codification of a food policy office across cities
- "Government feeds people, and a lot of people, through various agencies"

LOS ANGELES OFFICE OF FOOD EQUITY

Strengths:
- Public-private partnership for close ties to government with some independence
- Roundtable discussions allow for diverse stakeholders and communities to address food security issues

Challenges:
- Strategic plan lacks public commitments and transparency
- Finding grant dollars for Office of Food Equity
- Incorporating for-profit private companies in discussions

Key Takeaways or Quotes:
- Noted the need for a "city champion" to navigate bureaucracy and sponsor motions/resolutions
- Noted that the Office of Food Equity has to be high enough in political hierarchy to access decision makers

BOSTON OFFICE OF FOOD JUSTICE

Strengths:
- Focus on climate change impacts on food
- Community advisory component with residence requirement
- Focus on high-need neighborhoods
- Goal of becoming a carbon-neutral, zero-waste city

Challenges:
- No authority to schedule public hearings
- Systems approach makes it difficult to address more acute food insecurity from community
- Compliance, enforcement, and responsibility issues on food policies

Key Takeaways or Quotes:
- Noted that transforming food systems "requires a level of boldness" with an eye towards equitable policies and choice/cultural relevance/dignity in food pantries

DETROIT FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

Strengths:
- Council has diverse membership, with 1-vote seats allocated to specific stakeholders
- All meetings are open for "transparency, respect, and justice"
- Focus on environmental justice and racial equity
- Coalitions with farmers

Challenges:
- Working towards changing animal ordinances and agricultural laws, such as legalizing chickens in residential properties
- Working towards increasing data capacity and feedback through surveys and sampling inside and outside city

Key Takeaways or Quotes:
- Noted that "work and live in city" requirement for councils not always a guaranteed strategy to ensure diversity
- Provide TA/courses to council members on racial equity
- Decision-making questions:
  - Who does it benefit?
  - Who pays?

THANK YOU

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PROPOSED PROCESS AND TIMELINE

PRESENTED BY FACENTE CONSULTING

GETTING FROM HERE TO THERE

Jan 23:
Finalize criteria

May 1:
Proposed model to present to city leaders

1. Background research (in progress)
2. Develop/finalize criteria (in progress)
3. Identify priorities
4. Develop 3-5 possible models for SF
5. Assess models based on priorities
6. Develop final proposed model

1. BACKGROUND

- **Who:** Jade, in collaboration with Facente Consulting
- **What**: Qualitative interviews with 8-10 cities
- **Contingencies:** Needed for developing models
- **Potential Cities/Orgs:** New York City Office of Food Policy, Los Angeles Office of Food Equity, Chicago Food Equity Council, Michigan Food Policy Council, Detroit Food Policy Council, Michigan Center for Regional Food Systems, Pittsburgh Food Policy Council, Milwaukee Food Council, Boston Office of Food Justice, Somerville Office of Food Access and Healthy Communities, Montgomery County Office of Food Systems Resilience, Indianapolis Division of Community, Nutrition, and Food Policy

2. DEVELOP/FINALIZE CRITERIA

- **Who:** Subcommittee, based on feedback received on draft; full Task Force to approve
- **What:** A comprehensive list of considerations that are potentially important in developing a model for SF
- **Contingencies:** Need criteria to create priorities survey (for clarity, we'll refer to this list as "criteria")

3. IDENTIFY PRIORITIES

- **Who**: Subcommittee, based on feedback received via a survey; full Task Force to approve
- **What**: A subset of the criteria deemed to be the most important priorities for an SF food organizing model
- **Contingencies**: Need analysis of survey results to develop priorities (for clarity, we'll refer to this subset of criteria as "priorities")

4. DEVELOP 3-5 POSSIBLE MODELS FOR SF

- **Who**: Subcommittee, with support from Facente Consulting
- **What**: These are "mock" models that speak to the priorities and are grounded in the background research
- **Contingencies**: Need background research and priorities to develop models

5. ASSESS MODELS BASED ON PRIORITIES

- **Who**: Subcommittee, with support from Facente Consulting; full Task Force, public
- **What**: Process TBD (scoring? discussion?)
- **Contingencies**: Need 3-5 models before we can assess them

6. DEVELOP FINAL PROPOSED MODEL

- **Who**: Subcommittee, with support from Facente Consulting; full Task Force
- **What**: The model that will be presented to City leaders
- **Contingencies**: Need all feedback from assessing the models

THANK YOU