



LAKE COUNTY  
Investing in People  
and Our Communities

Food Policy Council  
Overview

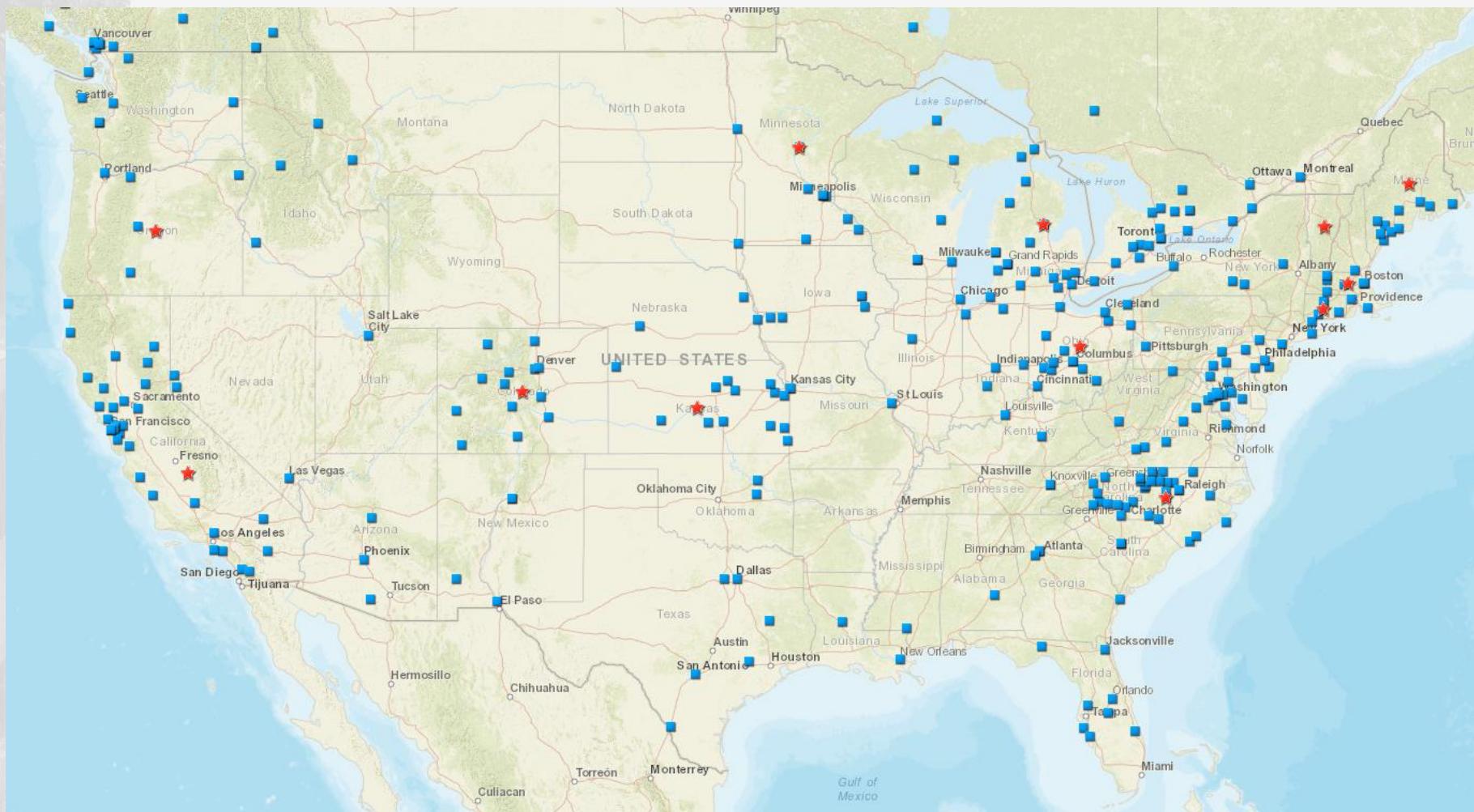
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August 7, 2019

# Food Policy Council

- Center for Disease Control (CDC) Definition:
  - An FPC convenes citizens and government officials to provide a comprehensive examination of a state or local food system.
  - A nonpartisan form of engagement to bring a diverse array of food system stakeholders to develop food and agriculture policy recommendations.
  - May help generate information on a community's food system, offer advice on business development, institutional and emergency food programs, and area comprehensive plans.

# National Food Policy Councils



# Regional Food Policy Councils



# Chicago

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- Name: Chicago Food Policy Action Council
- Structure: 501c3 non-profit
- Staff: 4 full-time staff, 6 board members
- Mission: Advocate for responsible food and agriculture policy; promote systemic policy changes allowing all communities to readily obtain healthy food
- Activities: 5 focus areas: Procurement, Land Access, Urban Agriculture, Licenses & Permits, and Urban Farmland

# Peoria, IL

- Name: Regional Fresh Food Council
- Structure: Stakeholder collaborative, reps from the health, local food, government, economic development, education, and nonprofit sectors
- Staff: None
- Mission: To make healthy food available and accessible with a stronger local food economy
- Activities: Collects information, maintains informational database, creates forum for discussion, advocates for policy

# Northwest Indiana

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- Name: Northwest Indiana (NWI) Food Council
- Structure: 501c3 nonprofit
- Staff: None; led by volunteers from alliance members (nonprofit, planning, education, and religious organizations)
- Mission: To build a just, sustainable, and thriving locally oriented food system
- Activities: 5 key areas: Local Food System, Outreach, Policy, Research, and Food Access

# Madison, WI

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- Name: The Madison Food Policy Council (MFPC)
- Structure: Taskforce appointed by Mayor/Council
- Staff: None; members represent food advocates, healthcare and educational leaders, common council members, and residents
- Mission: Develop and recommend policies to the Mayor and Council to support the food system
- Activities: Working groups include Healthy Retail Access, Micro Grants, Edible Landscapes, Food Waste Reduction

# Dane County, WI

- Name: Dane County Food Council (DCFC)
- Structure: Committee of the Dane County Board
- Staff: None; comprised of citizens and County Board Supervisors
- Mission: Explore issues and develop recommendations to create an economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable local food system
- Activities: 4 Goals: Recommend Policies; Advocacy; Public Education; Stakeholder Collaboration

# Lake County Food Groups

- Lake County Local Food Working Group – Liberty Prairie Foundation
  - Wrapped up efforts with the launch of [www.growlakecounty.org](http://www.growlakecounty.org)
- Land Access Pilot Project – Liberty Prairie Foundation and Openlands
  - Pilot program with the goal of take steps towards systemically increasing sustainable local food farming on public and private lands in northeastern Illinois.
- Eat Well Action Team – Live Well Lake County
  - Main objective is to increase the consumption of fruits and veggies and reduced food insecurity in Lake County by 2021

# Potential Next Steps

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- Continue research of structure of Food Policy Councils nationwide
- Evaluate potential structures in line with County policies and procedures
- Convene small group of food policy stakeholders to discuss organizational structure, goals and objectives

# Discussion