

# Food Policy Advisory Board

## MISSION

Foster a healthy and resilient local food system that contributes to economic vitality, healthy food access and environmental sustainability in Colorado Springs and El Paso County.

## OBJECTIVES

**Enhance coordination between sectors in the food system** (production, processing, distribution, consumption, and waste)

*The Milwaukee Food Council is supporting local food entrepreneurs to grow their businesses and developing the economic case for small-scale food enterprises in local markets. This includes exploring the development of a food hub that would support important links among producers, distribution points, processing sites, etc.*

**Evaluate and promote policy**

*The Metro Omaha Food Policy Council has developed an urban agriculture agreement with the City of Omaha in regards to identifying and categorizing vacant land for food production as a tool for promoting health and building community.*

**Launch or support programs and services that address local needs**

*Salt Lake City, in partnership with the Food Policy Task Force, is exploring the feasibility of a kitchen incubator project. An incubator kitchen is designed to give small food businesses a competitive advantage when entering or continuing in the local marketplace by providing an affordable certified kitchen space for food prep.*

**Serve as an information hub and forum for discussing food needs**

*(Might want to change this to the Tulsa example) The Central Oregon Food Policy Council collaborates with a local non-profit to organize the “Buy Fresh Buy Local” campaign that connects producers and consumers through a local food directory and various outreach events.*

## GOALS

**Enhance community economic development.**

*Recommend infrastructure and partnership improvements among the various sectors of the food system to increase the production, distribution and consumption of local food.*

**Support local agriculture that is economically viable, environmentally sustainable, socially responsible and geographically appropriate.**

*Make it easier to grow food and access local produce in Colorado Springs.*

**Increase public “food literacy.”**

*Promote information sharing to empower residents to make food-related choices that positively impact both individuals and the community.*

**Improve food security in Colorado Springs.**

*Ensure that Colorado Springs residents are prepared in the case of food emergencies.*

**Promote improved and equitable access to healthful food.**

*Reduce environmental barriers that prohibit the consumption of fresh, healthy food.*