

Jefferson County Local Food System Council Statement of Interest

Thank you for giving consideration to serve on the Jefferson County Local Food System Council. **The mission statement of the Food Council is to create, expand, and strengthen a local food system that is accessible, healthy, sustainable, and economically vibrant.**

The Food Council is a collaboration of representatives from a broad spectrum of our local food system, potentially including, but not limited to the arenas of: health, nutrition, education, food security, resources, conservation, agriculture, manufacturing of value added products, distribution, food retail sales, restaurant or institutional food preparation, elected or government agency officials, food or resource waste management, and/or engaged community members.

Jefferson County has tremendous potential for strengthening a more secure, accessible, and locally-sourced food system. Our Food Council has been inspired by other Local Food Councils thriving around the United States. While our Food Council does enjoy strong rapport with local government bodies (the City, the County, the Port, the Health Dept) it does function as an independent body in terms of decision making and local food system recommendations. There is a strong emphasis, however, on positive collaboration.

This group of 15 - 20 individuals meets monthly to identify gaps and weaknesses in our local food system and find and/or develop resources to address them. Food Council meetings take place on the 4th Thursday of most months, from 5:30 - 7:30 PM. Adjustments to the meeting schedule are made to avoid holiday conflicts in November and December. Regular attendance at this active board is required if you are interested in serving.

The Food Council does form committees as needed. Committee membership is strongly encouraged, but voluntary.

To express your interest in serving on the Food Council, fill out the form below. Please feel free to attach a resume if you wish.

Deadline for Submission: November 30, 2017.

Email this, filled out, to: jclocalfoodsystemcouncil@gmail.com

Name _____ Phone # _____

Email _____

Postal Address _____

Best way to reach me: (circle one) Phone Email Text

I represent the following sectors of our local food system. (Circle all that apply and feel free to add others not on this list, if appropriate.)

Seed Grower Farming Aquaculture Value Added/Manufacture

Wholesale / Retail Food Security Institutional Food Service

Distribution Health Nutrition Education Conservation

Grange Concerned Citizen Elected Official Government Agency

Resource/Waste Management Other: _____

(Use the back of page for any responses where more space is needed).

Please briefly state why YOU would like to serve on the Jefferson County Local Food System Council.

Please briefly state why you think Jefferson County benefits from having a Local Food System Council.

Members of the Food Council will be expected to solicit input from, and regularly inform, others from their particular sector(s), re: projects and efforts regarding the work of the Food Council. Who do you currently collaborate with in the Jefferson County Food System?

Members of the Food Council are expected to set their own personal and business agendas aside in favor of representing their sector of the food system and in serving the needs of the food system as a whole. Please describe your collaborative, discussion-driven decision making, cooperative (etc.) skills.

Please list other committees, boards, or groups where you have been a member, and, if applicable, the role you played.

I am willing to make regular monthly meeting attendance a priority in my schedule.
(We do ask for quite regular attendance and suggest that people accept a two-year term.)

_____ Yes _____ No

If your engagement with the Local Food System makes regular meeting attendance questionable (e.g., if you farm, and summer attendance might be difficult or hard to predict), please indicate when and why this would be the case, and why you still want to be considered as a member. Is there any associate within your business or agency that could attend in your stead on those occasions, or someone with whom you would share a Council seat?

We invite you to add any additional comments you feel are pertinent to your serving on the Food Council. Attach a resume if you like. Thanks for your interest!