

# PROSPECTIVE MEMBER GUIDE

## DESCRIPTION

The Madison Food Policy Council (MFPC) was formally created in 2012 to serve in an advisory role to the Mayor and Common Council on food policy-related matters, with duties including but not limited to:

- » Making recommendations to the Mayor and Common Council on ordinances, policies, and budgetary items that have an impact on the food system;
- » Requesting City staff to develop policies related to the food system based on research, input, and advice from the community;
- » Soliciting input from experts and citizens within the food system and having discussion on various topics in order to inform policy recommendations;
- » Creating sub-committees and work groups as necessary to facilitate collaboration among stakeholders and to provide further support on policy recommendations;
- » Working collaboratively, whenever possible, on food policy-related initiatives with the Dane County Food Council.

## ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

The MFPC meets on the first Wednesday of each month. Historically, these meetings have been held at 5:30 p.m. on the 3rd floor of the Madison Public Library - Central Branch (201 W. Mifflin Street).

Members are expected to attend every meeting and provide notification of attendance to administrative staff every month to ensure quorum requirements can be met and meetings can be held on schedule.

The MFPC is a working committee, and it is expected that members will use their experience and expertise to advance policy ideas and recommend action items. In line with this expectation, it is strongly recommended that each member join one of its Work Groups.

Work Groups are formed around areas of interest to MFPC members and the community. They set their own meeting schedules and can dissolve when they have achieved their goals. Work Groups, along with their basic descriptions, are listed.



PHOTO CREDIT:  
BENET

## HOW TO APPLY

Please visit the City of Madison's Legislative Information Center ([www.cityofmadison.com/CityHall/LegislativeInformation/apply.cfm](http://www.cityofmadison.com/CityHall/LegislativeInformation/apply.cfm)), and follow the instructions laid out on the webpage. All prospective members must fill out the Application, email it to [mayorcommitteeapp@cityofmadison.com](mailto:mayorcommitteeapp@cityofmadison.com), and complete a Statement of Interests Form.

- » Application: [www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/documents/CommAppt.doc](http://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/documents/CommAppt.doc)
- » Statement of Interests Form: [www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/committees/statementofinterests](http://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/committees/statementofinterests)

## FURTHER RESOURCES AND READING MATERIALS

- » City of Madison's Food Priorities: [www.cityofmadison.com/food](http://www.cityofmadison.com/food)
- » The Gardens Network (Community Gardens): <https://danegardens.net>

## QUESTIONS?

George Reistad, Food Policy Coordinator  
[www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/priorities/food](http://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/priorities/food)  
[greistad@cityofmadison.com](mailto:greistad@cityofmadison.com)  
(608) 266-4611



## Community Engagement Work Group

This Work Group was formed to build better communication between the Food Policy Council and Madison residents in order to advance equity in the food system. It is not the educational or publicity arm of the Food Policy Council. Rather, the goal is to have a large, diverse group of community members connected to the FPC serving as members, giving input, or participating in programs.

- » Currently working on incorporating equity lens analysis into the projects of all MFPC work groups.

## Comprehensive Plan Work Group

This Work Group was formed to make recommendations to City Planning staff team to ensure inclusion of food systems-related initiatives in the 20-year Comprehensive Plan, which should be completed in 2018.

## Edible Landscapes & Terrace Plantings Work Group

This Work Group was formed to develop and implement policies to address these two issues raised by the community.

- » The Edible Landscapes on City-owned Lands ordinance and permit process ([www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/priorities/food/edible-landscapes](http://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/priorities/food/edible-landscapes)).
- » The Terrace Planting ordinance and policy.

Once a monitoring process for these policies has been established, this Work Group will dissolve.

## Food Waste Task Force

This Task Force was formed to review and provide recommendations on municipal actions relating to food waste in the following five areas:

- » Source reduction
- » Excess delivery
- » Excess transformation
- » Composting
- » Incineration

## Grant Funding Work Group

This Work Group was formed to review and make funding recommendations for the City of Madison's SEED Grants ([www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/priorities/food/seed-grants](http://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/priorities/food/seed-grants)), which provides funding for community organizations launching food access initiatives in the City.



## Healthy Marketing and Procurement Work Group

This Work Group was formed to review food procurement policies from other communities and municipalities where there had been successful efforts to create new policies that included the purchase of fresh, locally sustainable foods with the goal of creating similar food procurement policies for the City of Madison.

## Healthy Retail Access Work Group

This Work Group was formed to increase permanent food retail in underserved areas, and encourage food retailers to market affordable, healthy produce.

Assists in managing the Health Retail Access Program ([www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/priorities/food/healthy-food-retail-underserved-neighborhoods/healthy-retail-access-program](http://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/priorities/food/healthy-food-retail-underserved-neighborhoods/healthy-retail-access-program)), which provides capital and infrastructure improvement funding to food retailers who want to sell healthier product lines in their stores.

## Pollinator Protection Work Group

This Work Group was formed to implement the 2015 Pollinator Protection Task Force Report ([www.cityofmadison.com/sites/default/files/city-of-madison/mayor/documents/Pollinator%20Protection%20Task%20Force%20Report%20FINAL%203-24-16\(1\).pdf](http://www.cityofmadison.com/sites/default/files/city-of-madison/mayor/documents/Pollinator%20Protection%20Task%20Force%20Report%20FINAL%203-24-16(1).pdf)), which recommended a thorough review of current City department practices that affect pollinator habitat and health; the development of recommendations for departments to improve the habitat for pollinators on City-owned land; and providing guidance to departments for a long-term strategy to promote pollinator health.

Proposed the City's participation in the national Bee City USA and Mayor's Monarch Pledge programs and is working to comply with their recommendations and requirements.

## Urban Agriculture Work Group

This Work Group, at the time of this guide's publication, is in the process of forming and is still establishing a focused policy agenda. However, it will focus on urban agriculture issues within the City of Madison.

