

Boston Food Access Council

6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, December 14

Codman Square Branch of the Boston Public Library

MAYOR'S OFFICE OF

**FOOD
ACCESS**

MAYOR MARTIN J. WALSH

CITY of BOSTON

**Welcome, Overview of Agenda,
Introductions**

*Boston Food Access Council Meeting
Thursday, December 14th, 2017*



Overview of Agenda

Welcome, overview of agenda, introductions

Updates from OFA

Presentation from Dr. Atyia Martin on Resilient Boston Report

- Discussion on ties to BFAC work

Review updates to BFAC strategies, discuss work moving forward

- Creating working groups
 - Goals of working groups
 - Process for working groups
 - Leaders
- Strategic planning in 2018/2019

Public comments, questions

Closing

- Next steps
- Dates for future meetings
 - Thursday, March 8th, 2018: 6p - 8p, Location TBD
 - Thursday, June 14th, 2018: 6p - 8p, Location TBD
 - Thursday, September 13th, 2018: 6p - 8p, Location TBD
 - Thursday, December 13th, 2018: 6p - 8p, Location TBD
 - Thursday, March 14th, 2019: 6p - 8p, Location TBD

MEETING GOALS

- Review updates to BFAC strategies document
- Learn more about City of Boston resilience and racial equity work from Dr. Atyia Martin, consider applications to the work of the BFAC
- Discuss next steps for council, process for establishing working groups
- Receive constituent input

Updates from OFA

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Food Resources List and Map

The purpose of the map is to connect Boston residents with free, reduced-price, and emergency food resources in the City of Boston.

- Resources listed
- Collaborated with BPHC for development and printing
- Available in multiple languages

❖ **Dissemination**

- Printed 17,510 maps
- Distributed 13,940 maps
- 73 organizations

❖ **Next Steps**

- Planning for next round
- Getting feedback on the map and additional food resources
- Additional languages

Have suggestion for the next round? Email Stephanie Voltaire at stephanie.voltaire@boston.gov

Expansion of Summer Meals Program

Summer Meals Program gives access to free meals and snacks to low-income children 18 and under *who might otherwise go hungry when school is out*. This program is a partnership between BPS, BPL, PB and OFA.

❖ **Pilot Programs 2017**

- Mattapan Public Library
 - Planned with and administered by Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition
- Lunch on the Lawn
 - Planned with and administered by Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics

❖ **Plan for summer 2018**

- Expanding to 3 other Boston Public Libraries
 - Tentatively Hyde Park, Codman Square, East Boston
 - 5 sites for 2018
- Next Steps
 - Bring summer interns to assist in the coordination of the program
 - Search for community based organizations in neighborhoods to administer program

Boston Bounty Bucks+

Goals:

Meet people where they are: Boston Bounty Bucks Plus (BBB+) in brick and mortar locations could support improvements to physical, economic, and social barriers to food access.

This program will provide subsidize healthy food year around in locally-owned, brick-and-mortar food retailers.

In partnership with

- Office of Food Access
- Fair Food Network (FFN) through the Double Up Food Bucks Program: This program matches the value of SNAP when customers buy fruits and vegetables.
- Mayor's Office of Economic Development
- Local stores
- Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics

Boston Bounty Bucks+

Boston Bounty Bucks +/- Double Up Bucks in Boston

- City of Boston Employees Fundraiser
- FINI Grant: If the project is granted, FFN will put money into BBB+ matching funds.
 - Grant awarded in early March 2018
 - Launch in Boston June/July 2018
- Pilot program will include small number of stores in Roxbury, Dorchester and Mattapan.
- Incentive for SNAP recipients will be \$10 per day.
- The matching will be for fresh fruit and vegetables.

**Presentation from Dr. Atyia Martin:
Resilience and Racial Equity**

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**Review updates to BFAC strategies,
discuss work moving forward**

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Goals of BFAC Working Strategy

The BFAC Working Strategy is a:

- Starting point and roadmap for the BFAC
- Guide and support for the work and mission of OFA
- Set of tactics to unite, strengthen, expand, and create new efforts to tackle food insecurity in Boston, with leadership from the BFAC.

The working strategy aims to:

Eliminate food insecurity in Boston by 2030.

- Improve physical, financial, and cultural access to food
- Emphasis on supporting residents disproportionately impacted by food access issues, including people of color, children, and older adults.

Specific Goals of Working Strategy

- Goal 1: Improve food access in underserved communities through economic development and community wealth building initiatives.
- Goal 2: Foster opportunity for community-owned food initiatives to thrive.
- Goal 3: Strengthen and expand resources that support Bostonians to access the food they need and want

Roles in Working Strategy

OFA and BFAC membership will collaborate on working strategy. Levels of involvement of different players will vary based on nature of the work.

Examples of BFAC membership activities include:

- Plan and implement tactics
- Bring resources to the table to support initiatives (i.e. organizational resources and expertise, research, funding/funding relationships, etc.)
- Offer thought-leadership and advice
- Suggest and explore additional strategies and tactics
- Advocate for policies and funding for programs

Examples of OFA activities include:

- Plan and implement tactics
- Bring resources to the table to support initiatives (i.e. organizational resources and expertise, research, funding/funding relationships, etc.)
- Convene BFAC and Working Groups
- Lead and monitor progress of work
- Advocate for policies

Roles in Working Strategy

CITY-OWNED

City government will both lead and implement the required actions; the BFAC may offer advisory support.

- Ex: 1.1.1.1 Implement a three-year pilot of OFA's Boston Bounty Bucks+ brick-and-mortar SNAP-match program, beginning with 3-4 stores in Roxbury and Mattapan, to provide a year-round SNAP match on fruits and vegetables.

CITY-LED

City government will share ownership and implementation with partners in food access and/or other sectors.

- Ex: 3.2.3 Develop a training program for vendors in Boston that accept SNAP and WIC to ensure easy, stigma-free access for program users (including those accessing HIP, BBB+, and other related incentive programs)

CITY-CATALYZED

City government will endorse ideas and convene stakeholders, but it may be more appropriate for other partners to own and lead implementation because of their mission, strategic priorities, or current programming.

- Ex: 1.1.2.2 Explore external resources including the MA Food Trust.

BFAC Working Groups

Move the working strategy forward

- Fine tune strategies and tactics
- Perform research as needed to best meet need, learn from best practices
- Develop and implement plans
- Collaborate with relevant partners as needed
- Establish metrics and systems of evaluation
- Supported by OFA

One for each major goal:

- Goal 1: Improve food access in underserved communities through economic development and community wealth building initiatives.
- Goal 2: Foster opportunity for community-owned food initiatives to thrive.
- Goal 3: Strengthen and expand resources that support Bostonians to access the food they need and want.

BFAC Working Groups

Working group membership to be determined with OFA based on:

- Skills, expertise of BFAC members
- Capacity of BFAC members
 - Participation in more than one working group may be appropriate
- Expertise to leverage outside of the BFAC
 - Other community partners
 - Engaged community leaders

Questions? Comments?

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Next Steps

- OFA will reach out to members to establish working group membership, leadership, meeting schedules
- By March 8th:
 - Establish working group membership
 - Set regular meeting schedule
 - Select Working Group Leaders

OFA is seeking interns!

Boston Food Access Council Intern

- Research to support work of BFAC, working groups
- Communications and logistical support

Food Resources Intern

- Development of next version of resource map

Visit <https://www.boston.gov/city-boston-internship-application> or email food@boston.gov for more information.

Deadline to apply is **Friday, December 22nd.**

Next Steps

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 8th 6p - 8p Location TBA

(Second Thursdays of the month, on quarterly schedule)

Future Meeting Dates

- Thursday, June 14th, 2018: 6p - 8p, Location TBD
- Thursday, September 13th, 2018: 6p - 8p, Location TBD
- Thursday, December 13th, 2018: 6p - 8p, Location TBD
- Thursday, March 14th, 2019: 6p - 8p, Location TBD

THANK YOU

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City of Boston
Mayor Martin J. Walsh



Innovation & Technology