

Boston Food Access Council

6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, December 13th, 2018
2nd Floor Conference Room | Tobin Community Center

MAYOR'S OFFICE OF

**FOOD
ACCESS**

MAYOR MARTIN J. WALSH
CITY of BOSTON

Introductions and Welcome

Boston Food Access Council Meeting
Thursday, December 13th, 2018



Working Group Updates

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Working Group 1

Goal 1: Improve food access in underserved communities through economic development and community wealth building initiatives.

- Developing memo to pursue feasibility study for “healthy corner store” initiative in Boston
 - Using NIH feasibility study framework (Acceptability, Demand, Implementation, Practicality, Adaptation, Integration, Expansion, Limited-Efficacy Testing) to explore:
 - Community and store owner interest and impact
 - Financial, programmatic models to support store owners
 - Opportunities for partnership
 - Existing efforts to leverage
 - Resources needed for successful implementation, etc.
- **Next step:** Finish memo, submit for internal approval after strategic planning process complete, incorporate input from strategic planning process as appropriate

Working Group 2

Goal 2: Improve food access in under resourced communities by making more vacant land accessible and usable for cultivation by local residents interested to pursue community gardening and commercial urban agriculture.

- **Next steps:** Clearly outline steps in process for commercial and non-profit farms and community gardens to start up (permitting, regulatory, neighborhood approval, etc), to better understand areas where process could be streamlined or clarified.
 - Connect with involved City departments
 - Newly hired Development Officer/Grassroots Program Manager in City of Boston Department of Neighborhood Development open to exploring this work together in more detail
 - Will explore further in 2019

Working Group 3

Goal 3: Strengthen and expand nutrition assistance resources that support Bostonians to access the food they need and want.

WORK ON HOLD UNTIL AFTER STRATEGIC PLANNING IS COMPLETE

OFA/BFAC Strategic Planning Process

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OFA/BFAC Strategic Planning Process

- Funded by Share Our Strength
- GOAL: Develop more refined strategic plan for OFA and BFAC for work moving forward
- Interviews with primary stakeholders occurring now
- Convening with broader group of stakeholders to occur on January 28, more details sent to participants soon
 - By invitation only
 - Sponsored by Northeastern School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs
 - Will review and fine tune draft of strategic plan
 - Participation from Chief Martinez of City of Boston Health and Human Services cabinet
- Strategic plan to be completed mid- to late-January

**DISCUSSION WITH JUDY NEUFELD,
JUDY P. NEUFELD STRATEGIES**



Public Questions & Comments
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**Announcements & Closing
Comments**

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Closing

Next Steps

Will confirm date for strategic planning convening for BFAC members and stakeholders ASAP

Next BFAC Meeting: Thursday, March 14th, 6p - 8p

Tobin Community Center, 2nd Floor Conference Room

(Second Thursdays of the month, on quarterly schedule)

Future Meeting Dates

- All WG meetings are “cancelled” until further notice, but still on calendars.

Other

- BOSFoodLove meeting - Monday December 17th, 5:30p-7:30p
 - Opportunity for BPS families and students to share insights into school food
 - Umana Academy K-8, 312 Border St, East Boston, MA 02128
 - More info at boston.gov/food, food@boston.gov, or 617-635-0708

THANK YOU

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City of Boston
Mayor Martin J. Walsh



Innovation & Technology