



# A Food Plan for Austin

Developing the City's *first* Food Plan



*Zero Waste Advisory Commission – August 10th 2022*

# What is a Food System?





# Food for thought

---

- 14.7% food insecurity in Travis County
- 38% zip codes in Travis County don't have a full service grocery store
- 16.8 acres of farmland are lost every day in Travis County
- Less than 1% of food consumed in Travis County is locally produced
- 1.24 million pounds of food is wasted every day in Austin
- Covid-19 pandemic & Winter Storm Uri exposed & exacerbated inequities in our food system



# What is a Food Plan and why do we need one?

---

- A Food Plan will set clear **Goals and Strategies** to move toward a more equitable, sustainable & resilient food system and provide a coordinating structure for all food related initiatives
  - The Food Plan build on several other initiatives made by the City to tackle food system issues.
- On June 2021 Austin City Council ***directed*** the City Manager to initiate a planning process

[Link to full resolution](#)

# What about disasters?

---

Recent and ongoing crises have caused a spike in food insecurity and revealed inadequate preparation for expansive and culturally appropriate food distribution

We are working with HSEM & other departments to develop a **Disaster Food & Drinking Water Appendix**

Will include learnings from Winter Storm Uri, COVID-19, boil water notices, and other recent emergencies





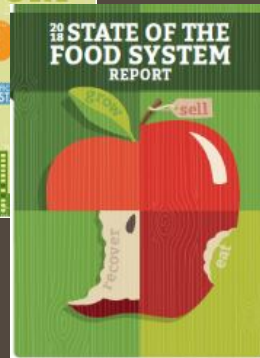
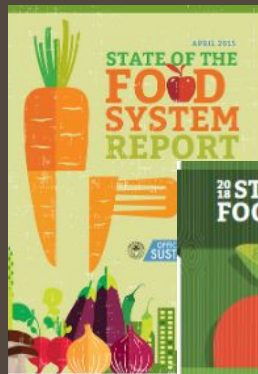
# Developing the Austin Food Plan: Where are we now?



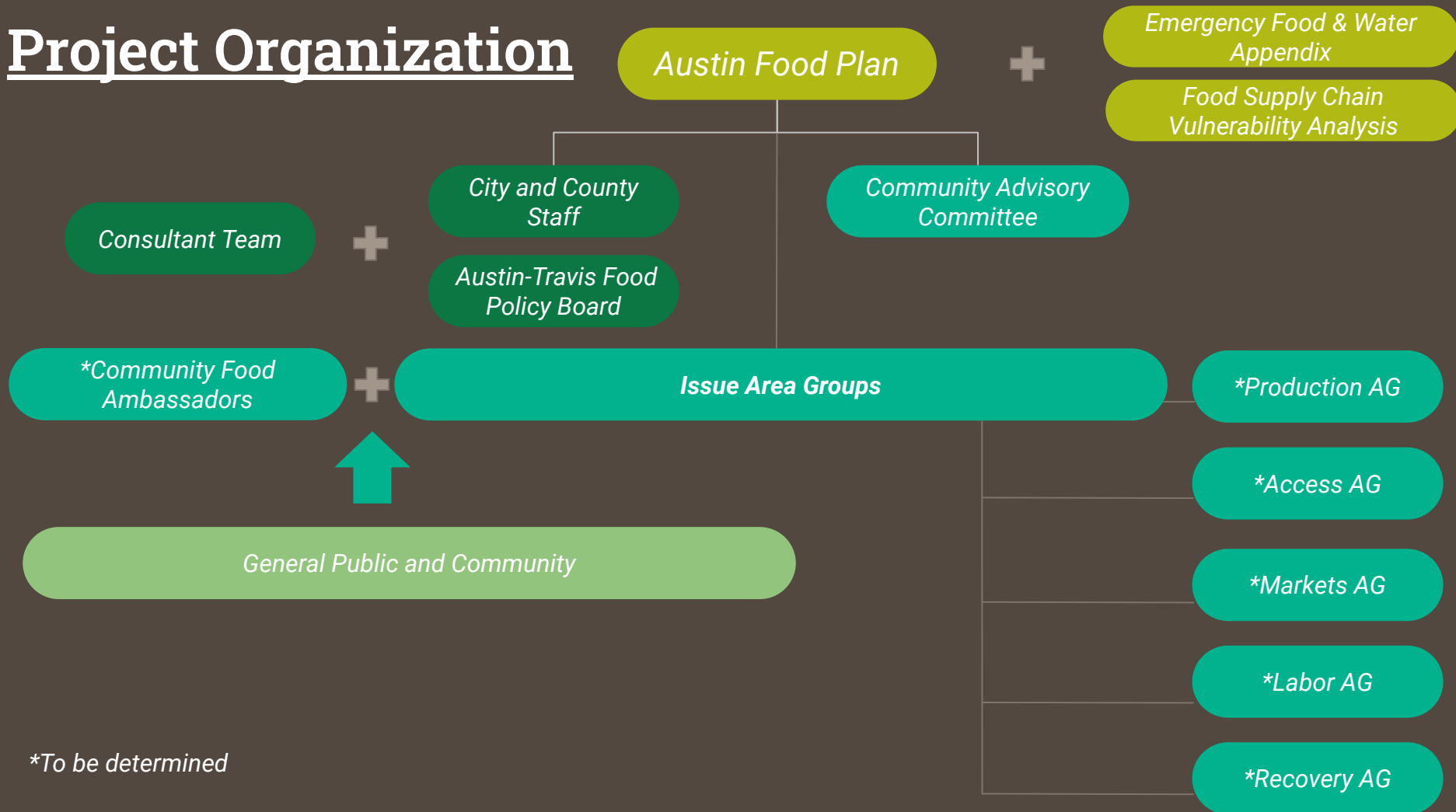
# A Baseline Assessment

We are in the process of releasing *The State of The Food System 2022*. A comprehensive analysis of our food system and an updated version of previous reports from 2015 and 2018.

This will be the foundation for Austin's first-ever Food Plan



# Project Organization







# Finding the Right Project Team and Structure

## Stewards and Advisors of the **Process**

*City and County  
Staff*

*Consultant Team*

*Community  
Advisory Committee*

*Austin-Travis Food  
Policy Board*

## Advisors on the **Content**

*Issue Area Groups*

*General Public and  
Community*

*Community Food  
Ambassadors*



# Centering Equity

---

The Austin Food Plan will center equity and the lived expertise of those most impacted by the current food system

This process be led by a **Community Advisory Committee (CAC)**– The overseeing body of the food planning process, comprised of 50%+ individuals of color, a blend of community members, and other food system stakeholders.

All members of the CAC , Project Team, and Issue Area Groups will participate in an Equity Workshop(s)

# Project Timeline



Project Scoping

Build Community Awareness

State of the Food System Release

Consultant Onboarding & Kickoff

C.A.C Recruitment & Selection

Community Engagement & Visioning

Develop Goals & Strategies with Community

Community Review & Evaluation Tools

Food Plan Delivery & Adoption

*Spring 2022*

*Summer-Fall 2022*

*Winter 2022*

*Spring 2023*

*Summer - Fall 2023*

*Early 2024*



# Stay involved



## Regular Updates

Sign up for our [Food Plan Interest Form](#) to stay in the loop!

## State of the Food System Release

Dive deeper into Austin's Food System. Available this Summer at [austintexas.gov/department/sustainability](https://austintexas.gov/department/sustainability)

## Spread the word

Outreach materials coming later this Summer.

Email: [Sergio.torres-peralta@austintexas.gov](mailto:Sergio.torres-peralta@austintexas.gov) for updates.

**In your community,  
Who needs to be  
involved in the Food  
Planning process?**



# Thank You!

---



[www.austintexas.gov/food](http://www.austintexas.gov/food)



[/austinsustainability](https://www.facebook.com/austinsustainability)



OFFICE OF  
**SUSTAINABILITY**

**CITY OF AUSTIN**