

## Food Policy Council Progress Report

October 28, 2002

We are glad to report that the Food Policy Council has made some great progress since the last update. The council has had four meetings where we have had the opportunity to get to know each other and to establish some common ground on the wide range of issues we will be working on. We have invited guest speakers to give presentations on a variety of topics as well as drawing from the wide base of knowledge and information that Food Policy Council members have to offer.

At our last meeting we were able to look forward and establish some next steps including initiating subcommittee work. Subcommittees are meeting in each of the five areas that the Food Policy Council has been charged with exploring. The committees are beginning to meet this month and we encourage you to get involved and join a subcommittee. Please send an email to the contact person if you are interested in attending the meetings.

Local land use policies and rules related to food production and distribution

[msimantel@attbi.com](mailto:msimantel@attbi.com)

Building regional demand for locally produced foods

[brianr@newseasonsmarket.com](mailto:brianr@newseasonsmarket.com)

City and County food purchasing policies and practices

[shannons@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:shannons@pps.k12.or.us)

The availability of healthy, affordable food to all residents

[rbristol@oregonfoodbank.org](mailto:rbristol@oregonfoodbank.org)

The capacity of local communities to promote and engage in healthy food practices

[higgins@europa.com](mailto:higgins@europa.com)

We have completed a Food Policy Inventory on current City and County policies, regulations, programs, and practices that impact the local food system, including production, distribution, consumption, and disposal of food. This will provide an initial documentation of the current food landscape and is intended to help the Food Policy Council identify issues and opportunities to research further. The inventory will soon be available on our web-site.

[http://www.sustainableportland.org/spc\\_food.html#top](http://www.sustainableportland.org/spc_food.html#top)

We are happy to announce that we have three Americorps members that will be working with the Food Policy Council. One joined us in September and will be working full time with the council through July. Two other part-time Americorps members will be joining Community Food Matters and will be working directly with the Land Use Subcommittee and the Purchasing Subcommittee.

Finally, our meetings are held every second Wednesday of the month at 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the Multnomah County Boardroom, 501 SE Hawthorne. You are welcome to attend! Your ongoing input is valued and essential to our process.