



Maryland Food System Resiliency Council

Communication and Coordination Subcommittee

August 8, 2022 1:00am-2:00pm

1. Welcome
2. Group Discussion
 - FSRC Organizational Structure Recommendation Development
 - a) Can the council receive private funding with any of the State structural options?
 - I. No, generally State Agencies do not accept private funding
 - II. DBM is willing to answer questions from the council related to funding options
 - III. There are entities that have an associated 501c3 (i.e. NIMS and the Region 3 Education Council annual conference)
 - IV. Request made for a follow up meeting with DBM and FSRC members for further discussion related to funding (MDEM staff will coordinate a meeting with DBM)
 - V. Existing concerns were expressed regarding competitive space for 501c3 funding. The overall goal is to extend the pot of funding using private funding streams for all councils, not to add to the competitive environment. Also to allow the capability to use this source within the entity the council is embedded.
 - VI. There are other models of State entities with a 501c3 partnership that can be researched.



- b) Recommendation – ranked options from more favorable to less favorable (*motion adopted to present to the full council*)
 - I. Become a formal, established body within MDEM
 - II. Remain an Independent Executive Branch Council
 - III. Transition to Independent Agency or Commission
- c) Considering local food policy council funding, would being a formal established body in MDEM make State funding distribution more difficult? No, MDEM is a coordinating agency which handles “pass through funding” regardless of who is receiving the funding, for example the OOC.
- d) There is noted concern for council vulnerability to changes in the Administration or MDEM staff, however all structural options presented have some level of vulnerability to Administration. Securing strong external advocates can be helpful to ensure council objectives are protected.
- e) MDEM staff will provide read ahead material for the Council workshop, Michael J will present the subcommittee recommendation. FSRC members will vote and the resulting recommendation will be included in the Nov 1st report. The recommendation is permanent until the council determines a change.

→ ~~Polling Activity~~

→ Budget Discussion

- a) A separate stand-alone budget will be submitted to DBM, which requires all normal paperwork be submitted. Detailed specifics are needed for each item with justification. Items include:
 - I. People- administration/operational support, consider what additional support is needed?
 - II. Equipment
 - III. Etc. Are there specific activities wanted?



- b) Requests must be submitted before September 1st for consideration, other recommendation related funding requests not ready for DBM, can also be submitted via the Nov 1st Report for future consideration.
- c) Funding requests must be prioritized for submission to DBM. All requests can be placed in a google form for ranking from FSRC members. Requests unable to render a consensus can be included in the Nov 1st report.
- d) September 2, 2022 is the deadline to submit a budget proposal to DBM.

→ Membership Considerations

- a) Opportunity to consider membership changes is declined until other organizational, and structural items are finalized.

3. Next steps and adjourn

- Members will provide specific funding requests related to operational needs (i.e. staffing, equipment, etc.)
- Once items requested received, MDEM Staff will send a google form to FSRC members to rank item priority