



**Maryland**

DEPARTMENT OF  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

**MDEM.MARYLAND.GOV**

**Larry Hogan** | Governor

**Boyd K. Rutherford** | Lt. Governor

**Russell J. Strickland** | Acting Secretary

# Maryland Food System Resiliency Council

Environment & Production Subcommittee

April 14, 2022 1:00pm-2:00pm

- o Welcome
- o Legislation Updates-
  - Vanessa reviewed the legislative quick look document
  - Steve Mac provided other legislative updates
  - Suggestion offered to create State budget 101 training
  - Chloe: Increasing composting program has no funding allocated, there is a possibility to obtain funding from the Federal government.
- o ~~SPRINT~~ Project
- o Parking lot items
  - **Shared Resource List:** Discuss where that document will be housed? Other subcommittees are developing other resources, should all resources developed be housed together, and who will maintain them?
  - **Climate vulnerability assessment:** Nancy will send information to the subcommittee for feedback.
  - **Healthy Soil Project:** Determined important and pertinent to FSRC objectives, the council can provide another lens related to resilience. Volunteers will read the soil health commissions report ([https://mda.maryland.gov/resource\\_conservation/Documents/Final\\_SHACReport.pdf](https://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/Documents/Final_SHACReport.pdf)) to develop questions related to



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the report, then representatives will be invited to speak to the subcommittee. Questions should be sent to Vanessa and Brittany.

- **Better define the terms “local” or “regional” for the purposes of state food policy:** What recommendation is this tied to that we need a definition?
    - o See: Certified MD Farm Enterprise Program legislation (tied to MD nutrient mgmt. program)
      - **Internal mechanism intricacies – geared towards large row crop farms, not small-med scale farms**
      - **Should we add more resources to smaller farmers to establish/write nutrient management plans?**
        - Do these plans look different for different types of farms?
        - What are the nuances in this definition
        - Mechanisms currently in place that present barriers for producers
    - o Representation of urban farms/urban farmers could lead the push to take another look at these programs/definitions
- MD Best survey/advertising work to make platform better
- The USDA is defining local/regional (in its new grant) as 400 miles from delivery site
- o Local food for Schools
  - **Mitigate the carbon footprint of Maryland’s food system:** A sub-subcommittee is recommended to discuss specific recommendations for reducing food waste, improving soil quality, etc
  - **Address climate change impacts on farmers regional and local food systems, and how to plan for adaptation:** A sub-subcommittee is recommended to discuss.
  - **Restart the MD Farmers Market Association:** MARBIDCO is heading an exploratory look at restarting this
    - o Short-term: listening session on what this org would look like, what it would do, etc
    - o [smchenry@marbidco.org](mailto:smchenry@marbidco.org) to schedule
    - o The grant opportunities are listed below and all applications are due by **May 16**.
    - o **Farmers Market Promotion Program – \$13.5M**
    - o Local Food Promotion Program – \$43.5M (Note: the second slide provides a deeper dive on this opportunity)



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- o Regional Food System Partnerships - \$40M

- ~~o Regional food Systems~~

- ~~(1) Food hubs~~

- ~~(2) Ideas (specific policy)~~

- ~~o Climate Vulnerability Assessment~~

- o Next steps and adjourn

1. Read the soil health commission's report, prepare questions, email questions to Brittany and Vanessa in preparation for the next meeting.
2. Contact Chloe Waterman ([cwaterman@foe.org](mailto:cwaterman@foe.org)) and Brittany Cook ([brittany.cook@maryland.gov](mailto:brittany.cook@maryland.gov)) if interested in joining a meeting regarding mitigating the carbon footprint.
3. Niamh Shortt and Nancy Nunn will lead discussion related to item 5- Address climate change impacts on farmers regional and local food systems, and how to plan for adaptation. Email Nancy Nunn ([nnunn@umd.edu](mailto:nnunn@umd.edu)) and Brittany Cook ([brittany.cook@maryland.gov](mailto:brittany.cook@maryland.gov)) if interested in joining the meeting.
4. Steve McHenry will put together a listening session about the farmers market association, save the date!



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