



# Establishing Urban Farms in San Diego County: What Local Governments Can Do

Produced for the County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency

Developed by the International Rescue Committee

July 2016



# **Increasing Land Access for Community Agriculture in San Diego County: What Local Governments Can Do**

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The International Rescue Committee (IRC) responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises and helps people to survive and rebuild their lives. Founded in 1933 at the request of Albert Einstein, the IRC offers lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to refugees forced to flee from war or disaster. At work today in over 40 countries and 22 U.S. cities, we restore safety, dignity and hope to millions who are uprooted and struggling to endure. The IRC leads the way from harm to home.

Cover Photo: Jaime Garza, food and farming resource coordinator, steps around butter lettuce growing on the New Roots Aqua Farm in City Heights. He had just installed a light on top of the growing area. Source: John Gastaldo/Union-Tribune

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## I. Introduction

Across the nation, there is greater awareness of the need for a healthy food system, one that provides access to healthy food but also addresses factors such as where food comes from, how it is grown, and how (and how much of) it is disposed. Increasingly, communities and experts are seeing food sovereignty as a core element of a healthy food system. According to the U.S. Food Sovereignty Alliance, food sovereignty is, “the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems.”<sup>1</sup> Additionally, at the First Global Forum on Food Sovereignty, food sovereignty was identified as, “...put[ting] the aspirations and needs of those who produce, distribute, and consume food at the heart of food systems and policies rather than the demands of markets and corporations.”<sup>2</sup>

Urban farming is defined as growing fruits, herbs, and vegetables, and/or raising animals in cities, a process that is accompanied by many other complementary activities such as processing and distributing food, collecting and reusing food waste and rainwater, and educating, organizing, and employing local residents. There are numerous social, environmental, economic, and health benefits from urban farms, including:

- **Improved health:** increased access to locally grown, healthy foods, which are often hard to access in urban environments; increased fruit and vegetable consumption<sup>3,4</sup>; and increased physical activity
- **Economic impacts:** job creation<sup>5</sup>, business incubation, and job skills development<sup>6,7</sup>; recirculation of local dollars<sup>6</sup>; savings for municipal agencies (e.g., storm water runoff mitigation); and increased home values<sup>8</sup>
- **Reduced negative environmental impacts:** reduced distance produce has to travel; less time produce is held in cold storage; less packaging; and growing based on seasonality (which reduces inputs such as water, fertilizer, and pesticides)
- Increased opportunities for **community building** and social cohesion<sup>9,10</sup>
- Effective **place-making** and reduction of blight
- Increased **public safety**
- Increased **education and awareness** about healthy foods and the food system

Access to suitable urban land is a key component of urban farms. Urban farming supports a healthy, local food system and helps achieve food sovereignty, especially in disadvantaged communities in San Diego County. However, farmers are finding it increasingly difficult to find suitable urban land at an affordable price, with access to water, and land that is available for the length of time needed to produce food. Nevertheless, there are a number of ways that local governments can incorporate language into policies and planning to support of urban farms.

The County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) is working to address these policy opportunities and promote a healthy local food system in collaboration with the region’s local governments, food systems advocates, and communities. Towards that end, HHS’s Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention (NEOP) program contracted with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to implement the Community Agriculture Planning Project (CAPP). As part of the CAPP, IRC developed a series of four white papers that focus on different aspects of creating a healthy food system in the San Diego region. The other three

white paper topics address: community gardens, increasing access to land for community agriculture, and farmers' markets.

The healthy food system white paper series was developed to assist San Diego County's local governments, along with the communities and organizations that work with them, to address these policy opportunities in order to improve the health and wellbeing of residents and address food sovereignty, while also supporting the local economy. This work supports the County's overall *Live Well San Diego* vision for advancing policy, systems, and environmental changes that create healthy, safe, and thriving communities.

This white paper provides context for the San Diego County urban farming landscape, looks at the key challenges urban farmers face trying to start or maintain an urban farm, identifies best practices, and offers recommendations. The best practices are examples from around the nation and were selected because of their potential replicability in San Diego County. The recommendations outline opportunities for local governments to improve upon current policies or create new policies that promote urban farming.

## II. Existing Conditions

Urban farming involves different types of farmers, locations, and economic activities. Individuals who participate in urban farming include: part-time and full-time farmers, farmers at varying income levels, new farmers, and experienced farmers. Urban farming takes place in highly urbanized areas and peri-urban areas (i.e., urban-rural fringe), and occurs in home yards, on privately owned property which may or may not be a vacant parcel (typically leased), on public property (e.g., parks, conservation areas, or along a public right-of-way), and on semi-public land (e.g., school grounds). The economic activities that take place on urban farms are primarily focused on agricultural production, but might also include animal husbandry, beekeeping, composting, seedling production, and other micro-enterprise services such as educational classes and product sales. Many successful urban farms incorporate a variety of economic activities to ensure long-term sustainability.

ChangeLab Solutions recently produced a report, "Healthy Food in Every Neighborhood: A Policy Scan of Local Jurisdictions in San Diego County."<sup>11</sup> This report provides a scan of municipal policies and ordinances from the nineteen jurisdictions in San Diego County related to key elements of the food system to identify gaps and opportunities.

As it relates to urban farming broadly, the policy scan found the following:

- Six cities have language in their general plans that explicitly mention "urban agriculture." One city has goals and policies in its general plan that are broadly inclusive of urban agriculture, but do not explicitly mention "urban agriculture." In this case, the zoning code may be restrictive.
- Eleven cities and the County of San Diego have language supporting community gardens in their municipal code. Three of the eleven cities with community garden language in their municipal code also have agricultural or horticultural language in their zoning code that could impact community gardens, but they are not explicitly identified.

- Eight cities and the County of San Diego do not require a permit or license for community gardens.
- Three cities allow on-site sales at community gardens.
- One city allows retail farms in specific zones.
- Seventeen cities and the County of San Diego allow chickens in some zones, although the report did not specify setback or lot size requirements, therefore some local governments may be more or less restrictive.
- Fifteen cities allow goats in some zones, although the report did not specify setback or lot size requirements, therefore some local governments may be more or less restrictive. Also, one of the fifteen cities that allows goats only allows miniature goats in urban areas, and another one of the fifteen cities only allows goats in agricultural areas; they are explicitly not allowed in residential or mixed-use zones.
- Seven cities and the County of San Diego allow bees in some zones.

## Spotlight: Urban Farming Programs

The IRC operates several urban farms as an interdisciplinary platform to improve the education, economic well-being and health of participants.

- *Youth FarmWorks* is a paid work internship for at-risk youth and young adults. Participants work on an organic, mixed-vegetable farm in the urban core of City Heights, San Diego and sell the produce weekly at local farmers' markets.
- The *Farmer Training Program* supports community members to become successful "market gardeners," or micro-farmers who grow in community gardens and sell at farmers' markets. The program covers production practices as well as business and marketing skills to allow growers to become independent vendors at local markets. Market gardeners earn approximately \$50-\$100 per market day. For many households living on the edge of the poverty line, this additional income is critical to meeting basic household expenses, while also providing significant personal health benefits.

IRC's experience shows that urban farming is not only beneficial to improving the food system, but can be a unique foundation to assist low-income communities to reach better economic, health and educational outcomes for long-term family self-sufficiency.

Many of the findings from the policy scan refer to community gardens. Although urban farms are often distinct from community gardens, they could also potentially function within a community garden space. Therefore, it is important to include policies related to community gardens when discussing policies that pertain to urban farming. Additionally, since activities such as animal husbandry and beekeeping contribute to the success of urban farms it is important to understand what policies in San Diego County exist regarding these activities. It is apparent that few local governments in the San Diego region have policies or language in their general plans that explicitly define and address "urban agriculture" or "urban farming."

### III. Challenges

San Diego County is known for having the highest number of small farms in the nation, but the vast majority of these farms are located in agricultural zones as opposed to urban areas. The lack of urban farms is likely a result of the various barriers such as zoning ordinances and complicated permitting processes. Many local governments in San Diego County have policies that address some aspect of urban farming such as food production and on-site sales. However, current policies may not be specific enough to promote urban farming since they do not provide support for starting a farm, transitioning to a larger operation, or diversifying farming activities. Some of the other key barriers include: access to land, costs associated with irrigation, and significant start-up costs.

#### Access to Land

Although there is not a shortage of land in rural or semi-rural parts of San Diego County, finding a space to grow can be challenging for city dwellers that want to farm. Lack of access to land is often a key reason why urban farmers cannot farm. There are plenty of vacant lots throughout San Diego County but urban farmers often cannot gain access to them. Private vacant lots are often inaccessible because there is little incentive for landowners to make the land available, especially if there is significant pressure to develop. Public vacant lots are often inaccessible as a result of burdensome administrative processes, zoning regulations, and high costs.

Urban farming will have a better chance of thriving long-term if policies are in place that provide more urban land access opportunities, especially opportunities to acquire land that is more suitable for their needs (i.e., large enough to allow for varied production, affordable, close to where they live, nearby access to water, etc.).

#### Water

The high cost of water can make it impossible for many urban farmers to have a financially viable business, especially when farming in urban areas where agricultural water rates are not available. Water meter installation is also pricy, which can be a critical problem when building community gardens on vacant property. As a result, without significant initial funding, the high cost of a new water meter and the high cost of water make urban farming on a never-before-developed vacant lot nearly impossible.

#### Other Barriers to Entry

Additional challenges include a lack of knowledge of urban farming regulations, high start-up costs, and limited access to local markets.

Licensing, permitting, zoning, and certification requirements for urban farms can be hard to locate and difficult to apply for (especially for individuals who are low-income or have limited English-speaking skills). Without an experienced individual to assist them, urban farmers often take longer than anticipated trying to navigate the regulatory landscape. At least one community college in San Diego County, San Diego City College, provides a Sustainable Agriculture program that includes certificate and degree programs in addition to business, marketing, and farming regulation courses. However, one cannot assume that everyone who is interested in urban farming is able to afford tuition or has the time to attend this program.

It takes significant capital to start an urban farm, and therefore anyone interested should develop a farm business plan and an enterprise budget. However, local governments might be increasing these barriers as a result of their existing licensing or permitting fees.

Even for experienced farmers the lack of access to local markets can make the business unsustainable. In some urban environments farmers markets are less common. Similarly, it can be difficult to find restaurants that value local sourcing and are willing to pay a premium. Like restaurants, smaller markets often do not value local sourcing or do not have the space to sell product that requires refrigeration. Larger chain stores often cannot accommodate the smaller volumes and sporadic production offered by urban farmers. Policies and programs that support marketing opportunities for urban farms are a way to combat these realities.

## IV. Best Practices

Creative solutions to the many urban farming challenges are continuing to evolve. Businesses and non-profits are developing models that sidestep traditional farming practices in order to capitalize on available resources and opportunities. For instance, lack of access to larger parcels of contiguous property has led to novel urban farming models. For example, Good Neighbor Gardens in San Diego is buying produce from backyard growers in order to create a community supported agriculture (CSA) box that can be purchased by community members. This model was born out of limited urban farm space that cannot produce the variety of products needed for a CSA box. Another example is urban farmers who rent their neighbor's yard space to have enough land to grow a variety of products. Similarly, urban farmers often rent multiple plots in one or more community gardens to have sufficient land to farm. Or urban farmers might combine one or more of these solutions to solve the issue of lack of access to a larger plot of land. These innovative approaches have obvious logistical barriers associated with them (e.g., managing multiple sites, transporting tools, transportation costs, urban/residential water costs, etc.).

The following are examples, from around the nation, of policies, planning language, and programs that support the development and growth of urban farms. These examples have been selected because of their relevance to San Diego County (i.e., city size, demographic makeup, and vacant lot availability) and/or because they could easily be replicated by local governments.

### Policies

Policies are the most effective way to create systemic change. Local and state governments across the nation are creating and amending policies to support and promote urban farming. While state policy is not the focus of this paper, the state level examples listed here directly affect policies or activities at the local government level. For example, California state bill AB551 authorizes cities and counties to create a tax incentive on vacant parcels to be used for agricultural purposes. The policy solutions below include community garden regulations because in many cases urban farming can happen within community gardens.

**Table 1: Policy Examples**

<b>Policy</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Link</b>
Urban Agriculture Ordinance	San Diego, CA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulations specific to zoning relating to community gardens.</li> <li>Allows for on-site sales at community gardens in accordance with garage sale regulations in residential zones.</li> <li>Allows for community gardens in some industrial zones.</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.sandiego.gov/development-services/industry/pdf/urbansummarytable.pdf">http://www.sandiego.gov/development-services/industry/pdf/urbansummarytable.pdf</a>
Urban Agriculture and Green Space Zoning Ordinance	Cleveland, OH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishes an "Urban Garden District" to "ensure that urban garden areas are appropriately located and protected to meet needs" for the community.</li> <li>City can reserve land for garden use through zoning</li> <li>Allows agriculture as a principal use on all vacant residentially zoned lots</li> <li>Allows sale of produce from farm stands in residential districts as conditional use</li> </ul>	<a href="http://planning.city.cleveland.oh.us/zoning/pdf/AgricultureOpenSpaceSummary.pdf">http://planning.city.cleveland.oh.us/zoning/pdf/AgricultureOpenSpaceSummary.pdf</a>
Commercial and Non-Commercial Community Gardening Zoning Ordinance	Nashville, TN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amends Title 17 of Nashville's zoning ordinance by allowing commercial and non-commercial community gardens as a Permitted use or a Special Exception use.</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.nashville.gov/mc/ordinances/term_2007_2011/bl2009_479.htm">http://www.nashville.gov/mc/ordinances/term_2007_2011/bl2009_479.htm</a>
Urban Agriculture in Boston, Article 89	Boston, MA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zoning code amendment allows for urban agriculture on the ground and rooftops for personal or commercial use.</li> <li>Covers permitting structures, design guidelines, and some farming practice requirements (e.g., soil safety, composting, hydroponics, aquaponics, and beekeeping).</li> <li>On site sales are permitted.</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.bostonredevelopmentauthority.org/getattachment/8405c72c-7520-43ad-a969-0e27dddade7a2">http://www.bostonredevelopmentauthority.org/getattachment/8405c72c-7520-43ad-a969-0e27dddade7a2</a>
Urban Agriculture Zoning, Ordinance No. 2014-22 (14-O-1092)	Atlanta, GA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Officially recognizes urban farms and market gardens within city limits as a permitted use.</li> <li>Designates urban gardens as producers and establishes market gardens as sellers, which in turn allows urban farmers and gardeners to enter into lease agreements and obtain business licenses.</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www2.municod.com/library/ga/atlanta/codes/code_of_ordinances">https://www2.municod.com/library/ga/atlanta/codes/code_of_ordinances</a>
D.C. Urban Farming and Food Security Act of 2014 (Comprehensive Plan)	Washington, DC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Makes vacant lot acquisition a streamlined process, and exempts these properties from property taxation.</li> <li>Independent farms or farm cooperatives leasing land can sell fresh fruits and vegetables on or off site.</li> <li>Establishes a property tax deduction of 50% for unimproved property leased for small-scale urban farming.</li> </ul>	<a href="http://dccode.org/simple/sections/48-402.html">http://dccode.org/simple/sections/48-402.html</a>
Use of public property for urban farming and gardening	State of New Jersey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allows all municipalities to sell and lease unneeded public property for urban farming and gardening purposes.</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2010/Bills/PL11/171_.PDF">http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2010/Bills/PL11/171_.PDF</a>

Urban Agricultural Incentives Zones Act (CA AB551)	State of California	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allows local governments to enter into contracts with landowners who agree to use their land for small-scale commercial or non-commercial agricultural use for a minimum of five years in exchange for a lower property tax valuation.</li> </ul>	<a href="http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140AB551">http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140AB551</a>
Community Food Producers Act (CA AB1990 & AB234)	State of California	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Created the legal term "community food producer" (CFP) which is defined as "a producer of agricultural products on land that is not zoned for agricultural use [...], including, but not limited to, [...] personal gardens, community gardens, school gardens, and culinary gardens." The bill</li> <li>Allows a CFP to sell to a "permitted food facility," which includes restaurants, grocery stores, food trucks, corner stores, farmers' markets, and other venues.</li> </ul>	<p>AB1990: <a href="http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140AB1990">http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140AB1990</a></p> <p>AB234: <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB234">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB234</a></p>

## Programs

Programs help address very specific challenges, such as a lack of access to resources and cost barriers. The examples below provide one or more of these types of services. These program solutions could be developed with funding from a local government, through grant funding, or in conjunction with local non-profits who have access to existing funding or material resources.

**Table 2: Program Examples**

Program	City	Details	Link
Gardening for Greenbacks Program	Cleveland, OH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helps fund entrepreneurial for-profit farmers.</li> <li>Applicants must complete market garden training, have an executed lease on a plot of land, and secure contracts/agreements to sell the produce grown to local venues.</li> <li>Eligible costs include tools and equipment, display tables, booths, hoop houses, irrigation systems, rain barrels, construction materials, signage, fencing and soil.</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.rethinkcleveand.org/Strategic-Advantages/Our-Programs/Gardening-for-Greenbacks.aspx">http://www.rethinkcleveand.org/Strategic-Advantages/Our-Programs/Gardening-for-Greenbacks.aspx</a>
Adopt-a-Lot Program	Baltimore, MD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Program allows for public to adopt a lot for the creation of a garden. They also provide a discounted flat water rate during the growing season.</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.baltimorehousing.org/adopt_a_lot">http://www.baltimorehousing.org/adopt_a_lot</a>
Lots of Hope Program	Providence, RI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transforms unused city property into urban farms for use by limited resource and socially disadvantaged urban farmers.</li> <li>The initiative is in line with the missions of both the City's Office of Sustainability and Healthy Communities Office.</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.providenceri.com/healthy-communities/urban-agriculture/lots-of-hope">https://www.providenceri.com/healthy-communities/urban-agriculture/lots-of-hope</a>

## V. Recommendations

Local governments in San Diego County can support existing urban farming efforts and help promote new urban farming through supportive urban farming policies. These policies should be coupled with outreach and education campaigns, and when possible, programs that provide resources and reduce barriers to entry. For local governments who have not yet addressed urban farming in their municipal codes or general plans, it is important to develop new language and/or change existing language regarding urban farming. Local governments who already have language addressing community agriculture can continue their efforts by supporting more advanced policies or by creating or expanding city-housed programs.

The following recommendations are based on the research of best practices and on the gaps and needs for urban farming solutions in San Diego's local governments:

### Adopt Supportive Policy Language

- **Define urban farming** (which should include retail farms) in the zoning code.
- **Add language about urban farming to the municipal code**, including definitions and operating standards.
- **Add language about urban farming to the general plan.** Since the general plan outlines the planning vision for the local government this document can encourage policymakers to create and amend policies that support urban farming.
- **Adopt policies or practices** that allow for urban farms **on underutilized public property**. See the Baltimore Adopt-a-Lot Program and State of New Jersey examples in Table 1.

### Remove Barriers and Create Opportunities

- **Expand zones where urban farms are permitted** and/or remove requirements for a Conditional Use Permit if one is currently required.
- **Remove unnecessary zoning barriers** to urban farming (such as on-site sales of agricultural products).
- **Remove restrictions regarding the height of vegetation** along property lines for urban farmers growing food at home or in community gardens.
- **Decrease setback or lot size requirements** for animals so people with smaller lots can participate in urban farming activities.
- **Provide a tax incentive.** See the Urban Agricultural Incentives Zones Act (California) example in Table 1. For San Diego specific AB551 resources, visit the San Diego Food System Alliance Urban Ag Working Group website: <http://www.sdfsa.org/urban-agriculture/>. Also see the D.C. Urban Farming and Food Security Act of 2014 in Table 1.
- **Make water accessible and affordable** through water meter tap waivers or grants, and/or allowing an agricultural/garden water rate on urban properties being used for agriculture. Also, provide (or partner to provide) trainings on efficient irrigation practices for urban farmers. San Francisco's water utility provides many of these services <http://sfwater.org/index.aspx?page=469>. Also see the Baltimore Adopt-a-Lot Program example in Table 2.

- **Reduce or eliminate permit fees for urban farms** that might be high because they are historically applied to a developer or larger business. Additionally, there are programs such as the Gardening for Greenbacks program in Cleveland, Ohio (outlined in Table 2) that provide funds for materials for entrepreneurial for-profit farmers.

### Allow for Multiple Activities

- **Allow for on-site sales.** See the first six examples in Table 1.
- **Support and facilitate off-site sales.** See the Community Food Producers Act (California) example in Table 1. Cities can help inform Community Food Producers what their rights are as they relate to off-site sales since this is a new bill.

### Actively Support and Promote

- **Create a one-stop-shop** for urban farming within the local jurisdiction to make it easier for people to access resources, navigate regulations, and apply for permits. This could be as simple as a website, or as much as a permanent staff position dedicated to urban farming and other food system planning efforts. A website with key information and relevant contacts can be very helpful. One example is San Francisco's urban agriculture website: <http://sfenvironment.org/buildings-environments/urban-agriculture>
- **Create outreach and marketing** where policy foundations are already very strong in order build awareness and support of urban farming.

## VI. Conclusion

The social, health, economic, and environmental benefits of urban farming are well known. However, policy and programs do not currently reflect the values of urban farming for communities. Local governments should strive to create an environment that supports the development of urban farms and allows them to thrive long-term, especially in low-income communities where access to healthy foods and microenterprise opportunities are limited. Local governments should create policies that make it easier for individuals to have access to urban farming opportunities. Local governments should also support and promote urban farms as a way to strengthen the local economy, support the city's climate action plans (or similar environmental planning documents), and help create healthy and vibrant communities. Urban farms are one of many avenues through which communities and individuals can define their local food system and what foods are available to them in the pursuit to achieve food sovereignty.

## VII. Resources

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[http://www.changelabsolutions.org/sites/default/files/Urban\\_Ag\\_SeedingTheCity\\_FINAL\\_%28CLS\\_20120530%29\\_20111021\\_0.pdf](http://www.changelabsolutions.org/sites/default/files/Urban_Ag_SeedingTheCity_FINAL_%28CLS_20120530%29_20111021_0.pdf)

ChangeLab Solutions. 2013. *Dig, Eat, and Be Healthy: A Guide to Growing Food on Public Property*. Available at: [http://www.changelabsolutions.org/sites/default/files/Dig\\_Eat\\_and\\_Be\\_Happy\\_FINAL\\_20130610\\_0.pdf](http://www.changelabsolutions.org/sites/default/files/Dig_Eat_and_Be_Happy_FINAL_20130610_0.pdf)

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University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources. *Meeting the Needs of Urban Agriculture in California*. Available at: <http://ucanr.edu/sites/UrbanAg/files/215416.pdf>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://usfoodsovereigntyalliance.org/what-is-food-sovereignty/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://usfoodsovereigntyalliance.org/what-is-food-sovereignty/>

<sup>3</sup> Brown, K.H. and Jameton, A.L. 2000. Public health Implications of urban agriculture. *Journal of Public Health Policy* 21(1):20–39.

<sup>4</sup> Bellows, A., Brown, K., and Smit, J. 2005. Health benefits of urban agriculture. A paper from the members of the Community Food Security Coalition's North American Initiative on Urban Agriculture [Internet] 1–27. Available at: [http://www.co.fresno.ca.us/uploadedfiles/departments/behavioral\\_health/mhsa/health%20benefits%20of%20urban%20agriculture%20\(1-8\).pdf](http://www.co.fresno.ca.us/uploadedfiles/departments/behavioral_health/mhsa/health%20benefits%20of%20urban%20agriculture%20(1-8).pdf).

<sup>5</sup> Farmers Market Coalition. Why Farmers Markets. Available at: [http://farmersmarketcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/WhyMarkets\\_August2013.jpg](http://farmersmarketcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/WhyMarkets_August2013.jpg).

<sup>6</sup> Feenstra, G. 2007. The roles of farmers markets in fueling local economies. *Gastronomic Sciences* 1(7):56–67.

<sup>7</sup> Conner, D.S., Knudson, W.A., Hamm, M.W., and Peterson, H.C. 2008. The food system as an economic driver: Strategies and applications for Michigan. *Journal of Hunger and Environmental Nutrition*. 3(4):371–383.

<sup>8</sup> Voicu, I. and Been, V. 2008. The effect of community gardens on neighboring property values. *Real Estate Economics* 36(2):2414–2263.

<sup>9</sup> Golden, S. 2013. *Urban Agriculture Impacts: Social, Economic, and Health Literature Review*. Compiled for UC Division of Agricultural and Natural Resources. Available at: <http://asi.ucdavis.edu/programs/sarep/publications/food-and-society/ualitreview-2013.pdf>.

<sup>10</sup> Ober Allen, J., Alaimo, K., Elam, D., and Perry, E. 2008. Growing vegetables and values: Benefits of neighborhood based community gardens for youth development and nutrition. *Journal of Hunger and Environmental Nutrition* 3(4):418–439.

<sup>11</sup> ChangeLab Solutions. 2015. *Healthy Food in Every Neighborhood: A Policy Scan of Jurisdictions in San Diego County*.