



## Homegrown Minneapolis

healthy food. healthy city.

Homegrown Minneapolis is a citywide initiative started in December 2008 by the City of Minneapolis to expand the community's ability to grow, process, distribute, eat and compost more healthy, sustainable, locally grown foods. The initiative brings together key partners from local government, area businesses, community organizations, non-profits and residents to build a healthy local food system.

Hundreds of Minneapolis residents, City staff and policymakers have made recommendations, kicked off projects and improved City processes related to local food including gardens, farmers markets, urban agriculture, small business startups, and many other areas.

In 2014, Minneapolis boasted 29 farmers markets and mini markets; 243 community gardens; more than 70 food trucks, including 10 food trucks that opened &/or operated "brick and mortar" restaurants; 1 mobile grocery store; 3 incubator kitchens; more than 15 urban farms and market gardens; more than 50 beekeepers; more than 275 chicken coops, many restaurants who sourced local produce and more!

For more information about Homegrown Minneapolis please visit:

[www.minneapolismn.gov/homegrown](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/homegrown)

## 2014 Homegrown Minneapolis Highlights

### Increased Access to Healthy Foods

- Partnered with the Health Department to increase the availability of healthy food in all Minneapolis stores that accept federal food assistance (EBT/SNAP) by amending the Staple Foods Ordinance. Stores will be required to provide 30 lbs or 50 items of fresh or frozen produce and a greater quantity of staple foods.
- Increased locations where healthy food is sold by supporting amendments to the Mobile Food Stores ordinance.
- Partnered with and promoted Health Department initiatives that increased local food access, including the Healthy Corner Stores program, community gardens work, land access efforts, and Local Food Resource Hubs.
- Supported expansion of the Karamu Garden in North Minneapolis by helping procure a grant through the United States Conference of Mayors.
- Distributed 500 fruit trees (apple, cherry and serviceberry) to local property owners through the City Trees program.
- Increased local growers' ability to sell and promote their produce by supporting passage of amendments to farmstand regulations, allowing 60 additional days annually for sales, additional signage and additional time for sales.
- Made more than 30 City lots available for lease to community gardens.



### Improved the Environment for Pollinators and Plants

- Removed barriers to beekeeping by supporting an amendment to the beekeeping ordinance.
- Supported state legislation requiring accurate labeling of bee friendly plants and seeds and compensation to beekeepers that lose bees due to pesticide application.
- Provided compost to 71 community gardens, in partnership with Gardening Matters and the Solid Waste & Recycling Department.



### Supported Growth of the Local Food Economy

- Partnered with Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) Department and Health Department to promote their loans and technical assistance to food businesses, including corner stores, new and expanding restaurants and food processors who specialize in local procurement.
- Supported state legislation enabling farmers market vendors to more easily provide food samples and removed other regulatory barriers such as operational day limits.



### Facilitated Community Engagement

- Hosted a community open house in partnership with the Walker Art Center that engaged more than 300 people.
- Distributed a biweekly Homegrown Minneapolis e-newsletter to more than 1600 people and redesigned the Homegrown Minneapolis website to more easily share information.
- Launched the Friends of Homegrown Minneapolis Facebook Page (Please like and share it!).
- Facilitated conversations about healthy food, pollinators, land access and food justice and represented Homegrown Minneapolis at community events, in partnership with numerous community organizations.
- Encouraged Minneapolis residents to play a role in local food policy by participating in public hearings, providing feedback and contacting their policymakers.

### Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council

The Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council includes 15 community representatives and six City representatives. Since 2012, the Food Council has worked to support a vibrant local food system that enhances the health of all residents, protects the earth, increases economic vitality, expands social connectedness and improve food security. The Food Council accomplishes this by fostering City-community partnerships; convening and engaging diverse stakeholders to identify and propose innovative solutions to improve the local food system, providing ongoing guidance to the City on local food issues and serving as a platform for collaborative, coordinated action.

#### 2014 - 15 Members Include

Patty Bowler • Jillia Pessenda Bovino • Omari Chatman • Cam Gordon • Andrew Dahl  
Beth Dooley • Erick Garcia Luna • Pakou Hang • Russ Henry • Zoe Hollomon • Kristine Igo  
Katie Lampi • Bob Lind • DeVon Nolen • Jesus Perez • Gayle Prest • Aaron Reser  
Sammie Ardito Rivera • Alison Rotel • Hashep Seka • Rhys Williams