



City of San Antonio Sustainability Plan

Food System

Draft

Vision

All San Antonians benefit from a thriving food system that is accessible, secure, nutritious, and affordable.

Outcome

FS1: All food deserts are eliminated from San Antonio

A food desert is defined as an area of the city where residents are more than one mile from a grocery store, supermarket, farmer's market, or other healthy food outlet.

The Food System Focus Area includes the production, processing, distribution, and consumption components of the food cycle. Disposal is covered in Solid Waste Resources.

Strategies

- Create a policy and design a program to allow urban agricultural uses on vacant or underutilized land

This policy will lay the groundwork for more urban agriculture within the city limits.

- Educate Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT), Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program coupon holders about the ability to use these programs at local farmers markets

Many people are not aware that EBT, WIC, and other food assistance programs are accepted at San Antonio's Farmer's Markets.

- Implement a Healthy Corner Store Initiative in targeted neighborhoods to support the selling of healthy, nutritious food in local corner and convenience stores.

This strategy will support corner stores in expanding their fresh and healthy food selections.

- Introduce fresh food circulators and mobile vendors in neighborhoods with poor access to fresh foods

This strategy will help increase access to affordable healthy food in neighborhoods underserved by supermarkets.

- Fund and hire a Food Policy Coordinator

The Food Policy Coordinator will be responsible for implementing the food related strategies in this plan.

- Expand the number and frequency of farmers markets throughout San Antonio

San Antonio currently has 33 active farmers markets. This strategy would increase that number and the frequency of their operation.

- Develop a State of the Food System Report and update annually

The report will look at San Antonio's food system - the city's integrated network that spans from production, processing, distribution, consumption, and waste management of food, and will develop indicators for monitoring the food system.

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