



**Meeting 7**  
**Environment**  
**Working Group**  
**Top Strategies**

# Goal: Clean Air & Water

- Table 1: Preserve our natural filters
  - Preserve natural places such as forests, floodplains and grasslands to provide the lowest cost way to improve air and water quality.
- Table 2: Grow more efficiently
  - Grow new areas more efficiently and reuse vacant and underutilized land to reduce driving distances and pollution driving produces.

# Strategies: Preserve Filters

- Reduce roadside mowing to encourage minigrassland habitat.
- Encourage rain gardens (especially in sloped areas), pervious paving, cistern/rainwater collection.
- Urban forestry.
- Active multi-use green recreation areas (greenways, hiking trails, hunting, fishing).
- Preserve natural wetlands (regulatory + incentives)

# Strategies: Grow Efficiently

- Inventory brownfields, greyfields and blighted housing and commercial properties
- Change zoning to have as much mixed use as possible
- Increase transit and car shares in more dense areas to create better transportation options
- Place green spaces into conservation easements, around sensitive areas such as sinkholes, floodplains, streams, etc..
- Education (cultural change) on the benefits of the ideas listed here and more.

# Goal: Local Food Production

- Table 1: Increase demand for locally grown food
  - Get commitment from large local food users such as schools, universities and grocery stores to buy what is grown locally.
- Table 2: Invest in local food infrastructure
  - Invest in the systems that process, distribute and sell local food products.

# Increase Demand for Local Food

- Expand farmers' markets (times, locations and seasonal succession).
- Allow agricultural practices in all zones (res, com, industrial).
- Cities make vacant land available for urban farms.
- Incentivize coops to generate higher demand (food hub).
- Connect local production with local institutional demand (schools, jails and hospitals).

# Invest in Local Food Infrastructure

- Education for growing and to support home gardening (nutrition, economic, etc. . ) and benefits of fresh food
- Micro-loans for small producers
- Promotion for businesses, local restaurants that sell local food
- Support programs for producers ex: growers co-ops, distribution, general (respite care) support for producers