

**Hamilton Food Strategy**  
**Healthy, Sustainable, and Just Food for All**  
**City of Hamilton**  
**Implementation Plan**  
**December 2017**

## **Introduction & Background**

In August 2016, the Board of Health endorsed the Hamilton Food Strategy: Healthy, Sustainable, and Just Food for All. The Food Strategy is a 10-year plan to help guide the food related work of City departments. The Food Strategy also supports collaboration and innovation within the City and with community partners from all sectors of the food system. It takes a holistic approach that looks at all the parts of a food system to optimize the allocation of resources for food actions. The Food Strategy is the result of extensive community engagement, in addition to being informed by evidence, best practices, and local existing work and expertise.

The Food Strategy provides the following vision for our community, “A city with a sustainable food system where all people at all times have economic and physical access to enough safe, nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences.” Core principles, based on Hamilton’s Food Charter, underpin the Strategy and the four overarching Goals, while 14 Recommendations and 46 Actions are based on a food system framework identify initiatives to achieve the four goals. In 2016, five priority actions from the 46 Actions were identified to focus on first and have either been completed or are underway. A Food Strategy Implementation Plan has now been developed to guide the undertaking of the majority of the 46 Food Strategy’s Actions over the next several years. Implementation activities for a few actions are still being finalized at this time or remain undetermined. Going forward, there is a strong commitment to explore opportunities within the City and the community to ensure all 46 Actions are achieved.

As with the development of the Food Strategy, the successful implementation of the Strategy is dependent on the efforts and collaboration of many people. The Food Strategy is grounded in the local context and a firm commitment to action. To guide this undertaking, the implementation activities within this Plan were identified based on where there is existing momentum, opportunities for partnerships, and potential to add capacity.

Like any strategy or plan, the Food Strategy is considered a living document that is open to review and consideration of new opportunities with strong potential to ensure Hamilton has a healthy, sustainable, and just food system. In turn, the Food Strategy Implementation Plan is also a living document that is expected to evolve with changing needs and opportunities in the community. It will be regularly reviewed by the Interdepartmental Food Strategy Steering Team, in collaboration with the Food Advisory Committee and other community partners. We acknowledge that the Food Strategy vision can only be met with the ongoing participation of everyone who has contributed to date and in the future.

To download a copy of the Food Strategy or learn more, please visit [www.hamilton.ca/foodstrategy](http://www.hamilton.ca/foodstrategy)

## Food Strategy Goals

1. Support food friendly neighbourhoods to improve access to healthy food for all residents
2. Increase food literacy to promote healthy eating and empower all residents
3. Support local food and help grow the agri-food sector
4. Advocate for a healthy, sustainable, and just food system with partners and at all levels of government

### Legend

Food Strategy Actions	Set the direction and the focus of the Initiatives
Implementation Activities	Tangibles that are implemented to achieve the FS Actions
Lead	Internal/External Department or Organization leading the Initiative
Partners	Internal/external partners that are integral to achieving the Initiative
Timeline	Estimated start date and length of time to achieve the Initiative Short-term: 1-3 years Mid-term: 3-6 years Long-term: 6-10 years Ongoing, as needed

### Funding, Policy, and Staffing

Identified implementation activities within the Food Strategy Implementation Plan are currently being carried out within existing allocated funding and staffing, and existing policies. Any future actions that have policy, financial, or staffing implications will be required to report back to an appropriate Standing Committee for approval prior to implementation.

## Abbreviations

Interdepartmental Food Strategy Steering Team	FSST
Public Health Services	PHS
Healthy Food Systems	HFS
Planning and Economic Development	PED
Community and Emergency Services	CES
Children and Home Management Services	CHMS
Emergency Medical Services	EMS
Ontario Works	OW
CityHousing Hamilton	CHH
Information Technology	IT
Public Works	PW
Food Advisory Committee	FAC
Healthy Kids Community Challenge	HKCC
Hamilton Wentworth District School Board	HWDSB
Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board	HWCDSB
Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming	GHFF
Hamilton Community Garden Network	HCGN
Human Resources (Corporate Services)	HR
Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) Program	CATCH
Environment Hamilton	EH
Hamilton Naturalist Club	HNC
Neighbour to Neighbour	N2N
Recreation Division – CES Dept	REC
City Housing Hamilton	CHH

## System-Wide Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 2, 3, 4				
System-Wide Recommendation				
1. Strengthen advocacy to eliminate poverty to improve individual and household food security.				
Actions	Implementation Activities	Internal Lead(s)	Partners	Timeline
1.1 Work with local stakeholders and partners to advocate at all levels of government for adequate incomes	Advocacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor the cost of healthy eating in Hamilton</li> <li>• Support to Hamilton Basic Income</li> <li>• Basic Income Ontario Pilot – Provincial consultation</li> <li>• Participate in provincial activities regarding income responses to food insecurity</li> <li>• Support Hamilton Poverty Strategy</li> </ul>	PHS		Ongoing
1.2 Facilitate movement along the food security and economic spectrum with a focus on food skills, job creation, and fair wages.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with early years organizations to ensure staff is paid a living wage</li> <li>• Develop a plan to embed living wage expectations into child care and Early Years' service agreements</li> <li>• To Be Determined</li> </ul>	CES - CHMS		Ongoing

## System-Wide Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 2, 3, 4					
System-Wide Recommendation					
2. Strengthen funding criteria for community food initiatives.					
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline	
2.1 Create a formal, transparent process for requests for municipal funding for community food initiatives/programs as they arise at any City of Hamilton subcommittee meetings, Council via Council motions, delegations, or staff direction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food Strategy Steering Team developed the process and will be exploring the best approach for monitoring and evaluation methods BoH for endorsement</li> </ul>	FSST	FAC	Short term	
2.2 Establish criteria to ensure that community food initiatives/programs that receive municipal support (funding, staffing, etc.) align with the Food Strategy goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food Strategy Steering Team developed the criteria and process to respond to food action funding requests that the City receives outside of the established granting structure (e.g., City Enrichment Funds)</li> </ul> <p><b>Action Completed: Presented and received at June 2017 Board of Health meeting</b></p>	FSST	FAC	Short term	
2.3 Create a process by which municipal funding recommended for community food initiatives, such as programs, events, and activities comply with healthy eating guidelines.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The City's corporate Healthy Food &amp; Beverage Policy has been reviewed; next steps to be determined</li> </ul>	PHS HR		Ongoing	

## System-Wide Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 2, 3, 4					
System-Wide Recommendation					
3. Ensure that food system enabling policies, tools, and other approaches are in place.					
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline	
3.1 Create a toolkit to assist landowners to incorporate food system elements into developments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial stage of the toolkit development is completed; next steps to be determined</li> </ul>	PED		Short – Mid term	
3.2 Continue to participate and support the Golden Horseshoe Agriculture & Agri-Food Strategy – Food & Farming: An Action Plan 2021.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representation on GHFF Alliance</li> </ul>	PED	PHS	Ongoing	
3.3 The local food system is considered during consulting, planning, and implementing community initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PHS representation on the GHFF Alliance               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate connections and collaborating local health units/clusters</li> <li>Convene regional meetings with regional Public Health representatives involved in local food Initiatives</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	PED	PHS	Ongoing	
3.4 Improve coordination among funders, stakeholders, and all levels of government to ensure reliable and sustainable financial support of neighbourhood based food initiatives, particularly those delivered by local food networks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PHS Registered Dietitians respond to municipal, provincial, and federal food system consultations</li> <li>To Be Determined</li> </ul>	PHS		Ongoing	

## Food Production Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 3				
Food Production Recommendation				
4. Build stronger City-Farm relationships to enhance the growth and development of local food.				
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline
4.1 Strengthen access and opportunities to farm as a living, particularly for new farmers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OW community placement with McQuesten Urban farm; develop skills on volunteer basis then seek opportunities for OW participants to be employed in the farming industry</li> </ul>	CES-OW Community Placement		Short to Med term
4.2 Encourage local farms to increase their production of food to meet the nutritional needs and cultural preferences of Hamiltonians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To Be Determined</li> </ul>			

## Food Production Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 2				
Food Production Recommendation				
5. Improve children and youth's eating habits, food skills, and knowledge of food systems through food literacy.				
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline
5.1 Incorporate food-system education in schools and in other learning programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Child &amp; Family Centres to ensure that food education is embedded into programs, workshops, etc.</li> </ul>	CES - CHMS	PHS	Short term
5.2 Expand school-to-farm learning opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launch of McQuesten Urban Farm school tour program; tied to curriculum, 30 school trips in fall 2017 funded by HKCC and then available in 2018 throughout the year</li> </ul>	CES	N2N HWDSB HWCDSB	Short term

## Food Production Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 2, 3, 4				
Food Production Recommendation				
6. Support and create diverse ways for people to grow food in the urban landscape and participation in urban agriculture activities.				
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline
6.1 Strengthen the City's commitment to Hamilton's Rural Official Plan and Zoning By-law to support and protect agriculture through protection of land and allowing for innovative agricultural uses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To Be Determined</li> </ul>			
6.2 Ensure planning policies and regulations are supportive of residents who want to grow food.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Polices and regulations have been reviewed; next steps to be determined</li> <li>Lodges promote Resident gardening activities including assistance with the Victory Gardens</li> </ul>	PED - Planning		Ongoing
6.3 Expand community garden programs to promote community development opportunities with local schools and other local organizations as part of their education programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paramedic Community Garden at Limeridge Base established, now in 5<sup>th</sup> year of operation; partnership with seniors complex adjacent to station</li> <li>Macassa Lodge has 2 large Victory Gardens on-site and tended by volunteers-grown for use in the Local community</li> </ul>	CES - Lodges		Ongoing
6.4 Promote the use of food-bearing plants and trees as part of landscaping for residential, commercial, and institutional uses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop plan to promote <i>Landscaping Toolkit</i> to landowners and implement plan</li> </ul>	CES - EMS		Ongoing
		CES - Lodges	Victory Gardens	Ongoing
		PED FSST		Mid term

<b>Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 2, 3, 4</b>					
<b>Food Production Recommendation</b>					
<b>6. Support and create diverse ways for people to grow food in the urban landscape and participation in urban agriculture activities.</b>					
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Implementation Activities</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	
<p>6.5 Encourage the development of gardens to grow food at all local schools, city facilities, and new developments.</p> <p>6.6 Promote the use of environmental best practices to ensure healthy soil, air, and water are available for community gardens and urban and rural farms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with other Child &amp; Family Centres to ensure that vegetable gardens are made available; Red Hill Family Centre has a very small vegetable garden in our playground; Children and teachers plant the seeds and vegetable plants purchased, water, record the growth; End of the season the vegetables are incorporated into the daily menu</li> </ul>	<p>CES - CHMS</p>		<p>Short term</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore the feasibility to develop community gardens at recreation centres</li> </ul>	<p>CES - REC PW - Facilities/ Parks</p>	<p>PHS</p>		<p>Mid term</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue and expand current initiatives at Community Housing sites (e.g., Purnell)</li> </ul>	<p>CHH</p>			<p>Ongoing</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paramedic Community Garden Limeridge Base</li> </ul>	<p>CES - EMS</p>			<p>Ongoing</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active promotion and resident education of organic gardening techniques and tools within CityHousing Hamilton properties.</li> </ul>	<p>CHH</p>	<p>N2N EH HNC</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paramedic Community Garden Limeridge Base gardening practices include hand weeding, no chemicals, all natural</li> </ul>	<p>CES - EMS</p>			<p>Ongoing</p>	

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 2, 3, 4				
Food Production Recommendation				
6. Support and create diverse ways for people to grow food in the urban landscape and participation in urban agriculture activities.				
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline
6.7 Strengthen access to community gardens, particularly for those who live in neighbourhoods that lack spaces to grow food or are food insecure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing support and coordination of Community Gardens Project within CityHousing Hamilton Portfolio</li> <li>Community Garden Program in place since 2010 for creating gardens on City-owned land; CityHousing runs independent garden program for their properties; Supports for all existing and new gardens provided by Hamilton Community Garden Network; New gardens started in 3 Neighbourhood Action Strategy neighbourhoods in 2017</li> </ul>	CHH	N2N EH HNC	Ongoing

## Food Processing & Distribution Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 2, 3				
Food Processing & Distribution Recommendation				
7. Foster Hamilton's food innovation and entrepreneurial spirit.				
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline
7.1 Create innovative ways to connect and support food initiatives and food organizations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To Be Determined</li> </ul>			
7.2 Support businesses and social enterprises involved in processing and distribution of local, healthy, and sustainable food.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued support through the Small Business Enterprise Centre including funding programs (Starter Company and Starter Company Plus)</li> </ul>	PED	Province	Ongoing
7.3 Determine feasibility of a food business incubator to provide the space, training, resources, and distribution network for entrepreneurs to access wholesale or retail markets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter of Support and Participation at the table of the Incubation, Acceleration and Commercialization Agri-Food Collaborative (IAC) being led by the Agri-Food Management Institute and Greenbelt Fund</li> </ul>	PED		Ongoing
7.4 Establish or strengthen programs to help entrepreneurs start a food related business.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of Guidebooks as part of the Open for Business Initiative "Opening a Restaurant in Hamilton" and "Opening a Food Business in Hamilton" (Restaurant Guide is completed)</li> <li>Development of The Food Forum by Innovation Factory – A peer group of entrepreneurs in the Food Products and Production industries will get together to talk about common challenges in the food industry and to learn best practices</li> </ul>	PED	Innovation Factory	Short term and ongoing

<b>Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 2, 3</b>				
<b>Food Processing &amp; Distribution Recommendation</b>				
<b>7. Foster Hamilton's food innovation and entrepreneurial spirit.</b>				
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Implementation Activities</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
7.5 Address gaps in the infrastructure needed to support local and sustainable food processing and distribution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update to The Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance Agri-Food Asset Mapping project to help identify gaps in infrastructure and supply chain of the agri-food industry</li> </ul>	PED	GHFFA	Short term
7.6. Determine feasibility to establish a food terminal or hub for local food producers to distribute their products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To Be Determined</li> </ul>			

## Food Processing & Distribution Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 3				
Food Processing & Distribution Recommendation				
8. Enhance the promotion and marketing of Hamilton's local food industries.				
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline
8.1 Expand marketing efforts to focus on Hamilton's local food and farming sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance the Hamilton Eat Local Farm Map &amp; Directory and Hamilton Eat Local brand via Story Maps software program</li> </ul>	PED PHS IT	Mohawk College – Sustainability Office	Short term
8.2 Enhance culinary tourism to promote local food businesses and events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build/expand an online portal to incorporate local food, events, programs, etc.</li> <li>Continued support of NOSH Hamilton, which occurs annually during Small business Week in October</li> </ul>	PED PHS IT		Mid term

## Food Access & Consumption Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 3, 4				
Food Access & Consumption Recommendation				
9. Increase the amount of healthy, local food in publicly owned facilities to make the healthy choice the easy choice.				
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline
9.1 Reduce access to unhealthy foods in public facilities, particularly where vulnerable groups visit (e.g., children).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the feasibility of creating healthy choice guidelines in recreation facilities that (1) aim to reduce sugary drinks and increase healthy options within vending machines and over-the-counter food service locations; (2) Address food and drink advertising, promotion, and display with a focus on healthy options</li> </ul>	<p>CES – REC  PHS</p>		<p>Short - Mid term</p>
9.2 Conduct an environmental scan to measure the percentage of healthy, local food that is procured by the City.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To Be Determined</li> </ul>			
9.3 Review policies and explore opportunities for City facilities to increase the percentage of healthy, local food purchased by their facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review practices for Snack vending and events</li> <li>Identify preferred produce vendors (RFP process)</li> </ul>	<p>CES – REC</p>	PHS	<p>Short – Mid term</p>
9.4 Policies and programs are in place to increase healthy food options in publicly-owned, neighbourhood, and community facilities (e.g., recreation centres, workplaces, schools, etc.).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arena Concessions – adding vegetables and fruit as part of HKCC Theme 3</li> <li>Drinking water infrastructure</li> <li>Investigate the feasibility of creating healthy choice guidelines in recreation facilities that (1) aim to reduce sugary drinks and increase healthy options within vending machines and over-the-counter food service locations; (2) Address food and</li> </ul>	<p>CES – REC</p>	PHS	Ongoing

<b>Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 3, 4</b>				
<b>Food Access &amp; Consumption Recommendation</b>				
<b>9. Increase the amount of healthy, local food in publicly owned facilities to make the healthy choice the easy choice.</b>				
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Implementation Activities</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
	<p>drink advertising, promotion, and display with a focus on healthy options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase healthy eating principles in Recreation cooking programs</li> <li>• City-run Events – SEAT: Explore the feasibility of having healthier options at large-scale events</li> <li>• After-school programs: Ministry healthy eating guidelines are followed</li> <li>• Parks: increase drinking water infrastructure</li> <li>• Breastfeeding support: REC currently supports breastfeeding; opportunity to partner with PHS for promotion of Baby-Friendly messaging</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that access to food is available at Child &amp; Family Centres within the context of specific neighbourhood needs</li> </ul>	CES		Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food Cupboard at Quigley Road for participating parents and children; Food bank and the staff cook healthy meals and provide snacks through Taste Buds</li> </ul>	CATCH CES - HM		Ongoing

## Food Access & Consumption Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 3, 4					
Food Access & Consumption Recommendation					
10. Promote physical access to healthy food, local food in all neighbourhoods.					
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline	
10.1 Explore the feasibility of innovative ways to increase healthy food retail in neighbourhoods where it is limited (e.g., farmers markets, mobile produce truck, healthy corner stores, etc.).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct review of best practices and provide knowledge exchange with community partners</li> </ul>	PHS	Indwell	Ongoing	
10.2 Pilot and evaluate promising/evidence informed programs in partnership with community stakeholders that improve physical access to healthy food in neighbourhoods with limited healthy food retail options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan, implement, and evaluate a Healthy Corner Stores program within the McQuesten neighbourhood</li> </ul>	Indwell	PHS	Short – Mid term	
10.3 Tailor physical food access to the context of each neighbourhood/community (e.g., food delivery programs, bulk buying clubs, etc.).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OW initiated a 'Food for Thought' program that provides healthy snacks to clients visiting OW offices who may be experiencing hunger</li> <li>OW Addiction Services Initiatives (ASI) supports their clients with opportunities to participate in a collective kitchen and to annually plant a roof top garden; This assists to increase food security while providing therapeutic activities</li> </ul>	CES - OW		Ongoing	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that access to food is available at Child &amp; Family Centres within the context of specific neighbourhood needs</li> </ul>	CES - CHMS		Short term	

<b>Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 3, 4</b>				
<b>Food Access &amp; Consumption Recommendation</b>				
<b>10. Promote physical access to healthy food, local food in all neighbourhoods.</b>				
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Implementation Activities</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wentworth Lodge provides daily Meals on Wheels program</li> <li>Macassa Lodge Adult Day Program participates in Food Drives to support the community</li> </ul>	CES - Lodges		Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good Food Market at Hamilton Community Food Centre provides increased access to healthy food, increased community engagement and leadership</li> </ul>	N2N	PHS	Ongoing

## Food Access & Consumption Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 2, 3, 4				
Food Access & Consumption Recommendation				
11. Integrate food literacy and food systems training and education where residents live, learn, work, and play.				
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline
11.1 Advocate for mandatory food literacy curriculum in schools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To Be Determined</li> </ul>			
11.2 Facilitate comprehensive approaches to incorporate food skills, community kitchens, and other capacity-building programs in community settings, in addition to providing food.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and pilot a “Garden to Kitchen and Back” Food Literacy Toolkit, focusing on experiential learning; evaluate outcomes at different sites with various levels of infrastructure supportive of food literacy</li> </ul>	PHS		Short term
11.3 Offer a food skills and employability program, particularly for vulnerable groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adapt and implement Toronto’s Good Food Works Program, which includes food safety, nutrition/healthy living, and job seeking components</li> </ul>	PHS	CES FAC	Short term
11.4 Provide and support food skills and nutrition education programs that are accessible to all Hamiltonians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop nutrition education and food skills resources (focused on vegetables and fruit) for Recreation Cooking Programs; pilot and evaluate; train REC Centre staff coordinators (supervise program leaders)</li> <li>Food handler certification course available online</li> <li>Education/marketing of healthy choices at recreation facilities</li> </ul>	PHS	CES – REC	Short term
		CES - REC		Short – Mid term

## Food Access & Consumption Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 2, 3, 4				
Food Access & Consumption Recommendation				
12. Support the physical and social infrastructure needed to empower citizens to take action.				
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline
12.1 Build, retro-fit, or re-purpose community and neighbour infrastructure to support food initiatives, such as community kitchens, food markets, community gardens, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current infrastructure for Community Gardens and Community Kitchens is in place across several properties within the CityHousing Hamilton Portfolio</li> </ul>	<p>CES - CHH</p>		Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the gaps and act on the opportunities to ensure infrastructure exists for food actions</li> </ul>	<p>PHS FSST</p>		Ongoing
12.2 Facilitate the creation of food networks to assist in capacity building, information sharing, and ability to access community-based food programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support an engaged, active Hamilton Food Literacy Network (HFLN)</li> <li>Establish and support the implementation of an annual Food Literacy Month</li> </ul>	<p>PHS</p>	<p>FAC HFLN</p>	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete a Kitchen Scan to determine availability and accessibility of community kitchen infrastructure</li> </ul>	<p>PHS</p>	<p>FAC Ryerson University</p>	Short term
12.3 Assess the availability of community spaces with kitchens where people can learn and cook for themselves.				

## Food Waste Management Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 1, 2				
Food Waste Management Recommendation				
13. Foster innovation to reduce food waste through diversion and composting.				
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline
13.1 Expand programs to increase the use of composting in all settings (e.g., apartments, workplaces, schools, etc.).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste reduction/composting pilot project at City facilities to identify reduction and diversion opportunities during banquet type events</li> <li>Create a new multi-residential strategy to improve recycling and composting in apartments and condos</li> </ul>	PW	PHS	Short term
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage the use of rain barrels and compost bins at all Community Gardens across CityHousing Hamilton Portfolio</li> </ul>	CES - CHH		Ongoing
13.2 Explore the feasibility of food recovery programs to divert edible food from being wasted or in landfill.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate partnerships with local educational institutions through the CityLab program to identify potential food recovery, reduction and diversion improvements</li> </ul>	PW	PHS CityLab	Short term
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lodges to explore this opportunity</li> </ul>	CES - Lodges	PW	Mid term
13.3 Investigate the feasibility of innovative ways to deal with food waste to ensure our environment is sustainable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertaken a Request for Information investigating opportunities for long term management of the Organics Management Program, including source separated organics and leaf and yard waste by exploring innovative technologies</li> </ul>	PW		Mid term
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lodges to explore this opportunity</li> </ul>	CES - Lodges		Mid term

## Food Waste Management Actions

Food Strategy Goal Alignment: 2				
Food Waste Management Recommendation				
14. Promote a culture that values healthy, local food to reduce food waste through food literacy.				
Actions	Implementation Activities	Lead	Partners	Timeline
14.1 Enhance marketing and education programs to reduce food waste at home, work, school, and other public facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste management communications such as the “Green Your Routine Campaign” will be expanded to include food waste reduction messaging in 2018</li> <li>The 2018-2019 Garbage and Recycling Guide will incorporate food waste reduction messaging.</li> </ul>	PW	PHS	Short term

## Food Strategy Indicators

The availability of data impacts establishing baseline measures and indicators. Measurement tools change over time and the resources required to gather and update local data is not always available. Nonetheless, keeping these factors in mind, attention has been given to creating potential indicators to help inform the monitoring and evaluation of the Food Strategy.

As work progresses throughout the implementation of the Food Strategy, modifications of the indicators may be required to ensure relevance to the current context. Potential indicators to track progress and evaluate effectiveness are outlined below.

Food System Components	Indicators
<b>System-Wide</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amount of City budget allocated toward food initiatives/actions</li> <li>• Percent City resources allocated toward food initiatives in alignment with Food Strategy goals</li> <li>• Number of policies that consider community food security</li> <li>• Number of advocacy efforts undertaken to address food insecurity</li> <li>• Number of partners and stakeholders involved in community food security advocacy</li> </ul>
<b>Food Production</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number and size of farms</li> <li>• Number of new farmers</li> <li>• Number of acres in production</li> <li>• Percent of agricultural land</li> <li>• Number of community gardens and edible landscaping projects</li> <li>• Number of urban farms</li> </ul>
<b>Processing &amp; Distribution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of infrastructure initiatives that support the agri-food sector</li> <li>• Number of food processors and by type, size</li> <li>• Number of jobs related to agriculture and agri-food sector</li> <li>• Number of farmers' markets</li> <li>• Percent of local food procurement within the broader public sector</li> <li>• Number of community kitchen programs</li> </ul>
<b>Access &amp; Consumption</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of city Infrastructure food-related projects started or implemented</li> <li>• Number of residents participating in food literacy projects/programs</li> <li>• Number of residents consuming vegetables and fruit at least five times per day</li> <li>• Number/percent of residents relying on charitable food programs</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Percent/number of households experiencing food insecurity</li><li>• Cost of a nutritious food basket</li><li>• Number of food banks</li></ul>
<b>Food Waste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Number of residents participating in the Green Bin program</li><li>• Number of residents participating in backyard composting</li><li>• Number of residents reporting less food waste within the home</li><li>• Number of City facilities participating in composting programs</li><li>• Percent of food waste within City facilities</li></ul>