

INTRODUCED: 02/24/2014

REFERRED TO: Committee of the Whole

SPONSOR: Councillor Adamson

DIGEST: supports a local food system that provides everyone access to healthy and nutritious food, enhances ecology, and creates meaningful economic and civic opportunities

SOURCE:

Initiated by: Councillor Adamson

Drafted by: Councillor Adamson

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADOPTION:

Subject to approval or veto by Mayor

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE:

Adoption and approvals

GENERAL COUNSEL APPROVAL: _____ Date: February 20, 2014

CITY-COUNTY SPECIAL RESOLUTION NO. , 2014

A SPECIAL RESOLUTION supporting a local food system that provides everyone access to healthy and nutritious food, enhances ecology, and creates meaningful economic and civic opportunities.

WHEREAS, there is a lack of access and availability of affordable healthy food in the community. This lack of access and availability of healthy food, including fresh fruits and vegetables, is a contributor to negative health outcomes including higher than average rates of cancer, diabetes, obesity and other health concerns. This can result in poor food choices, whereby families opt for less-healthy foods; and

WHEREAS, only 21% of Hoosiers get the recommended five or more cups of fruits and vegetables per day. Children in some communities reside in "food deserts," which contain very little access to healthy food within convenient distance to their homes. These food deserts need to increase access to healthy food options through incentives for new food retailers, farmers' markets and other proactive strategies for making such food available; and

WHEREAS, approximately two-thirds of Marion County adults and 40% of our children are overweight or obese. Obesity is a major contributor to heart disease, stroke, diabetes, cancer, arthritis, and diminished overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Diverse communities in our city struggle with issues of diabetes and obesity at alarming rates; and

WHEREAS, educating families on the cornerstones of nutrition and healthy eating is integral to the maintenance of healthy families. Community institutions must be incentivized to provide nutrition education for families; and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY-COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS AND OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA:

SECTION 1. The City-County Council supports a local food system that provides everyone access to healthy and nutritious food, enhances ecology, and creates meaningful economic and civic opportunities.

SECTION 2. The City-County Council supports the establishment of the Indy Food Council, a coalition of nonprofit, business, government, and citizen leaders whose mission is to connect food system stakeholders, catalyze ideas, and advance initiatives to grow a sustainable food system that improves the health and quality of life for all.

SECTION 3. The City-County Council supports improved access to healthy food for Indianapolis residents.

SECTION 4. The City-County Council supports improving degraded lands and reuse of vacant land in our neighborhoods through urban growing.

SECTION 5. The City-County Council encourages the elimination of waste through food recovery and composting.

SECTION 6. The City-County Council will, through the use of economic development tools, work to eradicate food deserts and increase food security in our city,

SECTION 7. The City-County Council will encourage the full use by Indianapolis residents of national food access programs.

SECTION 8. The City-County Council will, through coordination with the Indianapolis Public School Board, work with schools to source local, healthy food options for meals and snacks wherever possible.

SECTION 9. The City-County Council will spur economic development and create jobs through encouraging the local food economy, supporting farmer's markets, urban farms, and farm-to-school projects.

SECTION 10. The Mayor is invited to join in this resolution by affixing his signature hereto.

SECTION 11. This resolution shall be in full force and effect upon adoption and compliance with IC 36-3-4-14.

The foregoing was passed by the City-County Council this ____ day of _____, 2014, at ____ p.m.

ATTEST:

Maggie A. Lewis
President, City-County Council

NaTrina DeBow
Clerk, City-County Council

Presented by me to the Mayor this ____ day of _____, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.

NaTrina DeBow
Clerk, City-County Council

Approved and signed by me this ____ day of _____, 2014.

Gregory A. Ballard, Mayor