Reimagining Food Security in SF: Exploring approaches from other cities
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Literature Review

A total of 18 documents have been read and reviewed. The documents include food security assessments, assessments on food policy councils, and case study reports.

- Understand the context: food security in San Francisco and background on the SF Food Security Task Force
- Understand food policy councils: purpose, policy priorities, organization structures, best practices
- Understand the potential food policy councils can have on creating a healthy food system
Interviews

9 interviews have been conducted

3 San Francisco Organizations and Agencies
- Human Services Agency
- API Council
- TNDC

1 Research Institution
- Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future

4 Food Policy Councils
- Los Angeles Food Policy Council
- Baltimore Food Policy Action Coalition
- Prince George's County Food Equity Council
- Montgomery County Food Council

1 UC Berkeley Graduate Student
- Samantha Smith, MPP
Interviews

5 additional interviews scheduled

2 San Francisco Organizations and Agencies
- Mission Food Hub
- Booker T. Washington Community Service Center

3 Food Policy Councils
- Philadelphia Food Policy Advisory Council
- San Diego Food System Alliance
- Food Policy Manager, City of Austin
Interview Questions

SAN FRANCISCO-BASED ORGS
- Role of City Government
- Improve City and community relationships
- What does food sovereignty look like
- Input on new structure
- Elaborate on survey responses

FOOD POLICY COUNCILS
- Origin story
- Community engagement or interaction with government
- Membership: structure and compensation
- Policy priorities
- Focus on food sovereignty and equity
Lessons Learned

Political Will
Consistent government support offered by City leadership is crucial to the success of a food policy council or any food-related organization.

Funding
A lack of funding to support staff and membership can result in restricted capacity to pursue policy change or implement programs.

Staff
The number of full-time staff required to run an effective food policy council is unknown, but it is known that having no staff is a challenge.
Best Practices

1. **Information Sharing**
   One of the most valuable functions of an FPC is information sharing, which facilitates collaboration and relationship building.

2. **Cultural and Knowledge Brokers**
   Help provide and interpret data, statistics, and policy.

3. **Use Data and Stories**
   Combine quantitative information and experiential data to support priority areas.

4. **(Re)Define Policy Work**
   What counts as "policy work"? Engage in "upstream", agenda-setting efforts and "downstream" implementation efforts.
What is the best option for San Francisco?

- City Office
- Intercity Agency Working Group
- Coalition outside of City government
- Resident Advisory Board
- Others?

Who should lead the change?
Next Steps

Facilitated meeting in May to allow community members and task force members to provide input on plans for a new food policy council - interest?
thank you!