

Newsletter



What's the FPAB?

The Missoula City-County Food Policy Advisory Board (FPAB) was established in 2020 by a Joint City-County Resolution and is specifically charged with advising elected City and County officials to support of the following:

- healthy food access and nutrition
- sustainability of human and natural resources necessary for agriculture
- economic development of small and mid-sized food and farming businesses
- strong and vibrant local food systems

The Board is comprised of nine appointed volunteer members who represent a variety of key interests within the food system, including members with expertise in food access, health and nutrition, local food production, farm to school education, food system governance and analysis, and land use. Four of the members are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, three by the Missoula City Council, one by the Missoula Mayor, and one by Community Food and Agriculture Coalition (CFAC). Additionally, a current member of the Missoula City Council and of the Board of County Commissioners sit on the Board as non-voting members.



2023 Areas of Focus

- Local food processing
- Local food marketing and promotion
- Food waste reduction and composting

Email us.

Have a policy idea of your own? We'd love to hear about it. Email us at foodpolicy@missoulacounty.us

FPAB in the news:

Missoulian: [Montana producers confront meat processing backlog](#)

KPAX: [Missoula food policy board explores meat processing, ag-land conservation](#)

Missoula Current: [Missoula Food Policy Board Could Advise County on a Wide Range of Issues](#)



Accomplishments so far....

- Hosted a multi-stakeholder roundtable discussion about local meat processing opportunities in Missoula County in March 2023.
- Conducted "Rapid Community Food Assessment" survey of Missoula County residents in 2021, 2022 to understand what community members see as the strengths and weaknesses of the local food system.
- Submitted a letter of recommendation to Missoula City Council in support of the Ten Spoon Winery conservation easement.
- Submitted a letter of recommendation to Missoula Board of County Commissioners in support of the County developing a conservation tool to protect small parcel agricultural lands
- Submitted recommendations to Missoula City and County elected officials to dedicate American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to strengthen local food access, support farmers and increase, and invest in local food processing infrastructure.
- Submitted agency comments regarding preserving agricultural interests and uses in the Mullan Area (now Sx*tpqyen) Master Plan.

What is a food system?

A food system is the interdependent ecologies, people, and processes that bring food to a community; this includes a cycle of producing, storing, processing, transporting, marketing, retailing, preparing, and eating food. Supporting a local food system benefits the environment, economy and health of a community.

LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM

