



**Food System Collaborative  
Governance Workgroup Meeting  
March 23, 2011  
Valley Vision**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**Participants: (see below)**

**Outcomes:** The first meeting of the Governance Workgroup had four sections: setting the **context for the Governance Workgroup**, an overview of the **flow of the six meetings**, what will be covered in the **first meeting of the governing body**, and the **development of the mission, vision, and values of the Food System Collaborative**.

Context for the Governance Workgroup:

- The Food System Collaborative (FSC) was developed with the expectation that it would eventually be self-governing
- FSC committee leaders gathered to discuss how to develop a governing body for the FSC, and developed a structure that includes six meetings over six months to establish a governance structure
- The conclusion of those meetings would be the formation of the governing body
- Expectation of membership of Governance Workgroup
  - To maintain consistency in decision-making throughout this process, participants of this workgroup are expected to attend a minimum of four of the six monthly meetings
  - Attendance at four of the six meetings is one of the requirements for consideration as part of the first governing body
  - At the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will discuss developing a structure to allow for different roles for those who cannot commit the time but should be involved or have some voice in the governing body

The next six meetings will cover:

- March 23<sup>rd</sup>: Mission/vision/values statement
- April 27<sup>th</sup>: Representation in the governing body – sector and geography
- May 25<sup>th</sup>: Membership expectations and responsibilities, appointments and nomination process, nominations and voting for *first* body, terms, removal from, executive structure
- June 25<sup>th</sup>: Governing body activities (meeting structure, communication models, general powers, duties)
- July 27<sup>th</sup>: Decision-making, conflict resolution & amendment process
- August 24<sup>th</sup>: Final wrap-up, accept nominations for governing body members

The first meeting of the seated governing body will cover:

- Transition plan – how will to move power from Valley Vision to the governing body
- Relationship with Valley Vision over the next year
- Membership in the FSC
- Coalition activities (meeting structure, communication models, workgroup activities)

Brainstorming Session: the mission, vision, and values of the Food System Collaborative:

- Vision of the FSC:
  - Revisited the workgroup goals established in the areas of Food Access, Ag Sustainability, and Education
  - Initial vision statements:
    - Our vision is a regional food system that is secure, economically viable, and environmentally sustainable that provides access to healthy food for all residents
    - We envision a regional food system that is secure, economically viable, environmentally sustainable, and socially equitable
  - Need to address access and equitability across the entire food system (e.g. farm workers, farmers, consumer, distributor)
  - Reflect the uniqueness of the Sacramento Valley: possesses the capacity to produce a lot of food and with this the opportunity exists to influence a cultural shift towards a more regional food system
  - Culture: the region is culturally diverse and the FSC is also trying to create a new culture around food
- A draft vision statement was developed, which will be presented at the April 5<sup>th</sup> convening:
  - **We envision a regional food system that embraces our diverse cultural heritage and unique agricultural assets to provide healthful food for all in a secure, economically viable, environmentally sound, and socially equitable manner.**
- Mission statement
  - Identified key words and phrases from the workgroup goals: distribution infrastructure, diverse access points, fresh & local, farm to institution, increase local sales, training, policy advocacy
  - Presented some initial mission statements:
    - The mission of the FSC is to promote access to distribution & access points, promote education, and promote farmers
    - Protect farmland/water resources, provide those in need with greater access to fresh food, implement food related projects, recommend policy, and convene meetings
    - FSC will act as a regional clearinghouse and hub to facilitate or organize activities to increase access, facilitate education, and promote agricultural sustainability
    - Provide a regional forum to convene and engage stakeholders to increase access, facilitate education, and promote agricultural sustainability in the six-county region
  - Value-add of the FSC is:
    - Create unique partnership opportunities
    - Build consensus
    - Leverage resources and build capacity

- Creating connections
- Leveraging efforts to create a greater impact
- To make the system we have more connected and transparent for those who are involved or affected by it
- The mission statement is less developed at this point, but will also be presented at the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting:
  - **The Food System Collaborative is a forum that gives a voice to the diverse efforts working on food access, education, and ag sustainability in the six-county region. We are a regional clearinghouse and hub facilitating network opportunities by convening, advocating, building consensus, and leveraging efforts to promote and advance an inclusive regional food system.**

Next meeting is scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup> 9:30-11:30AM at Valley Vision. The remaining meetings are: May 25<sup>th</sup>, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, July 27<sup>th</sup>, and August 24<sup>th</sup>. Individual invitations will be sent out for each meeting.

**Participants:**

John Berchielli – Community Member  
Shawn Harrison – Soil Born Farms  
Trish Kelly – Applied Development Economics  
Lisa Kresge – California Institute for Rural Studies  
Robyn Krock – Valley Vision  
Adriane Lepage – Valley Vision  
Paul Philley – SMAQMD