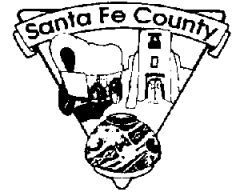




# Agenda



Santa Fe City and County, Advisory Council on Food Policy  
 December 18, 2014, 9AM-11AM  
 Angel Depot Conference Room, 1222 Siler Road, Santa Fe, NM

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA 12-18-14

Prioritization      Agenda Order

5 minutes

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 20, 2014

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

2 minutes/person

F. PRESENTATIONS/TRAINING:

1. Betty Booth, (POSAC-Parks and Open Spaces Advisory Commission):  
 Community Gardens in Santa Fe: Assessment and Next Steps

15 minutes

G. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

1. General update on work.
2. Short presentation on 6 month and 12 month planning.

15 minutes

H. INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS

1 hour

1. Policy Committee
  - a. Food Plan Committee
    - i. Results from City Council meeting Dec. 10 and votes on Resolutions to adopt the Food Plan and to support "New Mexico Grown Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for School meals" legislation.
    - ii. New charge and strategy of next steps.
  - b. Food Production and Land Use Committee
    - i. Meeting update.
  - c. Procurement
  - d. Education and Outreach
    - i. Meeting update.
  - e. City-County GMO Task
    - i. Council membership and process update
  - f. State & National Issues

2. Executive Committee

I. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

1. All Subcommittees to update and re-write of Charge and responsibilities before 2015.      5 minutes

J. ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL

K. ADJOURNMENT

Persons with disabilities in need of accommodation contact the City Clerk's office at 955-6520, five (5) working days prior to meeting day.

**SANTA FE CITY AND COUNTY  
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON FOOD POLICY**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b>	<b>PAGE(S)</b>
A. CALL TO ORDER		
B. ROLL CALL	Quorum	1
C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/Prioritization of Agenda	Approved	1
D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES -November 20, 2014	Approved	1-2
E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR	Discussed	2
F. PRESENTATIONS/TRAINING Betty Booth, (POSAC-Parks and Open Spaces Advisory Commission): Community Gardens in Santa Fe: Assessment and Next Steps	Discussed	2-4
G. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS		
1. General update on work	Discussed	4
2. Presentation on 6 month and 12 month Planning	Discussed	4
H. INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS		
1. Policy Committee		
a. Food Plan		
i. Results from Dec. 10 on Resolutions to adopt the Food Plan/ Support NM Grown for School meals" legislation	Discussed	5-6
ii. New Charge and Strategy of Next Steps	Discussed	7
b. Food Production and Land Use Committee		
i. Meeting Update	Discussed	4-5
c. Procurement	Discussed	5-6
d. Education and Outreach		
i. Meeting Update	Discussed	6
e. City-County GMO Task Force	Discussed	6-7
i. Council Membership and Process Update	Discussed	7
f. State & National Issues	Discussed	7-8
2. Executive Committee	Discussed	8
I. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR		
a. Subcommittees update/re-write Charge and responsibilities by 2015	Discussed	8
J. ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL	Discussed	8
K. ADJOURNMENT	Adjourned at 10:48 a.m.	8

**SANTA FE CITY AND COUNTY  
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON FOOD POLICY  
1222 Siler Road, Santa Fe, Nm 87501**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Santa Fe City and County Advisory Council on Food Policy was called to order by Susan Perry, chair on this date at approximately 9:00 a.m. at the Angel Depot, Conference Room, 1222 Siler Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Roll call indicated a quorum as follows:

**Members Present**

Susan Perry, Chair  
Patricia Boies  
Erin Ortigoza  
Cydney Martin  
Tony McCarty  
Katherine Mortimer  
Pamela Roy  
Lynn Walters

**Members Excused**

Susan Odiseos  
Steve Warshawer  
Mark Winne

**Members Absent**

Emigdio Ballon

**Staff Present**

Ms. Morgan Day, Administrative Assistant

**Others Present**

Bette Booth, chair of Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission (POSAC)  
David Sundberg, chef at Blue Corn Brewery and pending member  
Others as listed under Communications from the Floor  
Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ Prioritization**

Ms. Roy moved to approve the agenda of December 18, 2014 as published. Ms. Mortimer seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- November 20, 2014**

Page 8, Item J: "Ms. Boies said a member of the County Policy and Planning Commission meeting..." - should be corrected to read: "the County Health Policy and Planning Commission (HPPC)..." and in the second paragraph: "She did not think the idea was a good approach" should be reflected as: "The HPPC did not think it a good approach."

**Mr. McCarty moved to approve the minutes of November, 2014 as amended. Ms. Boies seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.**

#### **E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

*Shane Day* said he is the husband of *Morgan Day*.

*Wren (?) Myers* said she is formerly with *Zona Del Sol* and soon will be with *Earth Care*.

*Michael* said he is at the *Food Depot* and also in the *Earth Care Food Cadre Program*.

*Noah Burke* with the *City Land Use Department* said he is working with *Ms. Mortimer*, *John Alejandro* and the *Mayor* on an urban agriculture policy for the city.

*Ben Lauer* said he is with *Earth Care* and *La Familia*.

*Mary Schruben* said she is with the *Rancho Siringo Neighborhood Association*.

*Bette Booth* said she is present as chairperson of the *Parks Open Space Advisory Commission*.

#### **F. PRESENTATIONS/TRAINING**

1. *Betty Booth*, (POSAC-Parks and Open Spaces Advisory Commission): *Community Gardens in Santa Fe: Assessment and Next Steps*

*Ms. Booth* thanked the council for the opportunity. She said the idea of the survey is to make the information useful in the decision making process as the *Food Policy Council*, the *Mayor's Task Force* and *Water, Land Management* and the *Food Committee* initiatives move forward.

*Ms. Booth* provided an overview of the survey. A summary follows:

- The survey had the blessing of the *Mayor* and efforts of the *Sustainable Santa Fe* and the *Water Conversation Committee Working Group IV*.
- There were two goals: 1- Inventory and analyze the current community gardens and parks in relation to the 2009 Resolution that created it. 2- Based on the findings, make recommendations and define the role of parks and open spaces in the urban agriculture policy.
- The intent was for a *mayordomo* to be the person who organized the garden and interfaced with the city. The findings were that no one knows what the *mayordomo* is supposed to do.
- The process for a plot is to fill out an application and pay a \$15 fee. Some of the rules of the garden are on the application, but not all and not all of the rules are clear.
- The survey was completed by 67% of *parciantes* (over 50% from each garden) and shows those served: 90% Anglo; 70% female; 80% over 50 years of age and affluent; one fourth make under \$30 thousand.
- The amount of food grown was difficult to determine. The percentage of produce eaten that was grown in a garden ranged from 1-90% with 28 percent an average.
- The perception of water use was a concern. Originally the fee of \$15 was to cover the water for the summer, but the system was not working. People were not paying for their water use and a new system was implemented.
- Recommendations were made to fix the water payment process before opening a new garden and to have a stronger city presence or connection of a nonprofit, with more structure. Specific recommendations were made to strengthen the existing community garden: 1) to improve communication between city staff and *parciantes* about the garden process, the roles and responsibilities and garden activities etc. 2) The *Garden Council* would formalize/codify the *mayordomo* selection process,

role and responsibilities. 3) Meet with the gardens to discuss the new recommendations and look more broadly at alternatives and offer a menu of options and consult with stake holders about what they want.

The Food Council discussed the information.

Chair Perry offered to send a link for Ramon Navajo to anyone interested. She said he has a great program. She said she is also a gardener and has noticed people asking for information on mulching and composting, etc. She said she is a proponent of including educational guidance in gardens.

Ms. Boies asked if every garden had a compost pile. Ms. Booth replied there is a compost pile, but people do not know how to manage or maintain the compost.

Ms. Ortigoza said she supports scale farming and a goal of growing food to make an impact in an area versus an experiential educational goal. She said there should be different models available such as leasing large plots to beginning or underprivileged farmers or those farming at a disadvantage. She said that would be an asset to the community, bolster farming and support a continuity of skill sets. She said an aging generation of farmers knows how to work the land and to connect those teachers with new farmers is an important social aspect.

Ms. Martin reminded the group not to forget the Agricultural Extension agents for anyone with questions. The service is free and the link could be added to the community garden information. She said she could be called if a teacher is needed on how to cook or can garden produce.

Mr. Burke asked if notification is done in neighborhoods when a garden is implemented; is there outreach showing how to use the gardens. He said education is a big part of the community garden.

Ms. Booth said there is not and it was more word-of-mouth. She said promotion of the gardens will be a recommendation.

Mr. Sundberg suggested the Master Gardeners Programs, etc. He said there are people there who are passionate about passing information along. He added that gardening is more than just to provide food; it is to understand the connection to food. He said people would waste less because they understand how valuable the resource is and gets more people thinking about food other than McDonald's. He said the benefit of gardening is far beyond how much people are able to grow for themselves; it is the higher minded thought about *what is food*.

Ms. Day asked if data collection was done from other than Survey Monkey.

Ms. Booth explained that the staff answered for the gardeners at La Familia and at another garden that did not have electronic communication, the survey was given to the person.

Ms. Mortimer said when the community gardens were first started it was to see if they could work in parks. Now they see it can, but there are problems that need to be fixed. They need to look at bigger challenges of a larger scale; community harvest, community orchards and community farms.

Ms. Roy congratulated Ms. Booth on being honored as one of the 10 people voted to most make a difference in the community. Ms. Booth was given a round of applause.

Ms. Roy said this can be a time to coordinate and explore the opportunities between school gardens and the community gardens. She said a few of the school gardens are in neighborhoods where there could be reach that now currently has none. She said that could be a way to utilize public sites.

She said there could be an opportunity to see how people are gardening in their own yards and if that could help address food access. She invited Ms. Booth to the Land Use Subcommittee to work with Ms. Mortimer on the policy and urban agriculture and the county on issues.

Ms. Walters asked what is the biggest community garden success.

Chair Booth replied that people seemed to be happy particularly in Sunnyslope, Alto Street and Maclovía. She thought partly because they actually produce food. She said gardens with water issues have more struggle.

Ms. Walters said school gardens depend on support from Earth Care and have testing pressures. She said there is a need for a study about the possibilities of school community gardens and there are issues with security and water. She said she would hope if the city is encouraging children and lower income families to learn about gardening, the city would pay for some of the water.

Ms. Booth suggested talking with Earth Care that has been working with the school gardens. She noted that Albuquerque has a successful school garden.

Ms. Roy suggested contacting Terrie Rodriguez, who helps coordinate summer garden programs in schools.

Ms. Boies asked if the two new gardens referred to in the report are on hold. Ms. Booth replied that one is in Rancho Siringo and the garden at Adam Armijo Park was a push from the president of the acequia organization there.

Ms. Myers said she will probably be the Earth Care School Garden Coordinator and her understanding is that the school gardens/grounds are private and not a place the public can utilize. She said that will have to be addressed on a policy or a city/county level.

She said having worked in Arizona with the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) Farm to School Grants; the buy-in of the individual school districts and the lack of parent participation, faculty and volunteers is a case-by-case basis. Some schools are more engaged than others.

Ms. Myers said last is cultural perspective. She works on the south side to bring more food access. She said foremost in her mind is to create a communication matrix for all of the school and community gardens. She thought a meeting once a month of all the gardens would be ideal; they don't know what the others are doing.

Ms. Ortigoza asked if cisterns had been discussed. Ms. Booth replied they have not and Frenchy's is about the only park where there is a structure. Ms. Mary Schruben said Rancho Siringo has a structure that she hopes to look at once the garden is implemented.

Mr. Burke said he wanted to plug Candelero Park as a huge plot of land that is extremely visible to the public and not utilized. He suggested that be looked at as a possible community garden, because it is visible to those sitting in traffic or to school kids on buses. He said that would gain momentum for this movement.

## **G. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

### **1. General Update on Work**

Ms. Day said she has been working to update the websites and get social media ready for content. She completed a draft of an online web presence and a social media strategy guide that will be reviewed with the Education and Outreach Subcommittee. She worked to get remarks from City Council on the Food Plan, which was approved as an official city document and she has met with most of the subcommittees/committees.

### **2. Short Presentation on 6 Month and 12 Month Planning**

Ms. Day said for 2015 she will work on a press kit to prepare FPC to engage with the media more easily. She asked members to submit content for a blog or a link they thought should be shared. She also will gear up for legislation going before the state legislature.

## **H. INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS**

### **1. Policy Committee**

#### **a. Food Plan**

- i. Results from City Council meeting Dec. 10 and votes on Resolutions to adopt the Food Plan and to support "New Mexico Grown Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for School Meals" legislation

Chair Perry said City Council not only supported the Food Plan unanimously, but their comments showed her that they understood what this is about. She said the Mayor has read and understands the Food Plan and has talked about how that coordinates with what is happening at the city and county. She said it was wonderful that City Councilors appreciate why the Food plan is important and there is now a great focus in the city and county.

Chair Perry said the FPC subcommittee's job is now to support implementation of priorities and ensure the important things are not lost in the shuffle. She said so many exciting things are happening and they do not want to lose the threads and it is important to connect with other groups.

Ms. Walters said it will be important that everything is kept in the same place when others do presentations or have information that feeds into the Food Plan.

Ms. Day said she will create a simple tool, but looking at more formalized mechanism of monitoring and evaluation of the Food Plan would be worthwhile.

Chair Perry said the New Mexico Grown Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for Schools Resolution got sidelined. She followed up with Councilor Ives to get that on the next agenda for the City Council meeting. She thought with the momentum and better understanding now, passing the resolution would not be a problem. She said there is a legislative liaison that puts everything together to get an item on the agenda.

Ms. Roy said she submitted a letter to Councilor Ives and will also continue to follow up.

Ms. Boies said the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) passed the county version in support of the Resolution, which will be part of the county legislative package. The county also has a legislative liaison for the upcoming session.

Ms. Roy added that she has contacted the county lobbyist and wants to be sure a link is also made with the city lobbyist.

ii. New charge and strategy of next steps- discussed later in the meeting.

b. Food Production and Land Use Committee

i. Meeting Update

Ms. Roy said the meetings have been monthly. The subcommittee met yesterday to work on 2015 planning and immediate issues. The focus is on anything with land, water and food production with an emphasis on coordination between the city/county initiatives. The subcommittee will continue to focus on the Urban Agriculture Ordinance, the Sustainable Growth Management Plan and the agricultural codes.

She said Commissioner Holian is an active member. Ms. Ortigoza and Ms. Mortimer are coordinating with the Climate Change Task Force and would attend a meeting Friday to ask what role the FPC plays.

Ms. Roy added that the subcommittee offered support to Ms. Mortimer on the Urban Agricultural Ordinance initiative and will report back on that.

Ms. Ortigoza said she hopes to be very involved in the county community participatory processes relating to the code and highlighting the agricultural role. She said also FPC has an opportunity to understand more about COLTPAC (County Open Space and Trails Advisory Committee). She said the subcommittee is working to draft a strategic plan for land management and will have focus groups. She said it would be interesting to have FPC members present to the focus groups.

Ms. Roy said Commissioner Holian has the resolution that FPC worked on last year and will work with Commissioner Henry Roybal who represents the Pojoaque Pueblo. The Commissioner hopes to do a work plan for next year and the work put together by the Food Policy Council will be part of that work.

Ms. Day added that she will draft the subcommittee's charge by the January meeting.

c.. Procurement

Ms. Roy said the subcommittee completed a procurement report on how institutions utilize food, their requirements and how to get local produce into institutions, etc. The report will launch January 28 at New Mexico Food and Farm Day at the legislature and will highlight how food and farming and infrastructure are integrated. The report has priorities embedded such as infrastructure and distribution, coordination.

d. Education and Outreach

i. Meeting Update

Ms. Martin said the subcommittee met. A summary of the subcommittee's work follows:

- A mission statement was developed: "to encourage, engage and educate stakeholders in Santa Fe County to adopt the Santa Fe food policies and initiatives".



- An infomercial was discussed that could run when doing outreach. The content can be cross-promoted on the FPC website.
- Stakeholders and the general population of Santa Fe County will be identified as a scope of work. Outreach will be done through educational venues, media and grass roots efforts and work will be done to brand their image.
- The tri-fold has six panels and includes: *why healthy food is important; where does our food come from; food in the Santa Fe community; food and our health; and identifying food deserts*. The brochure should be simple and to the point.

Ms. Mortimer asked to drop off of the committee since there is now momentum. She said she would e-mail the draft inserts for the tri-folds. She noted that Ms. Ortigoza prepared the tri-fold and has the information on her computer. Ms. Ortigoza said she could give the pertinent files to Ms. Day.

Ms. Roy asked if possible, there be a fast track update before 28 January for the tri-fold. She said or they could update the existing brochure to have that day.

- e. City-County GMO Task Force- now a part of the Food Plan Subcommittee
  - a. Food Plan– (Revised Agenda Order) (Continued)
    - ii. New charge and Strategy of Next Steps- previously overlooked

Chair Perry said she cleared the process now for anyone on the FPC or outside the group, to become a member of a subcommittee or the council. She explained that Mr. Sundberg and Maria DeAndes are in process. Mr. Sundberg will fill the spot that requires a person actively working in food. She expects both positions to be filled by the next meeting and will send an e-mail when she knows more.

- f. State & National Issues (Exhibit 1)

Ms. Day apologized for sending the Policy Brief (Exhibit 1) at the late hour; an update was requested on the child and senior nutrition. She thought it pertinent with the passage of the Fiscal Year 2015 budget to bring up issues around the budget. She asked that comments or questions be sent to her after the meeting.

She said she reported on the domestic food program, which includes child nutrition, WIC, SNAP, commodity assistance and a general administration around nutrition programs. Funding is largely the same from 2014 to 2015: child nutrition has more allocated; WIC fell, but appears to be fully fundable for all eligible participants; SNAP decreased in budget, but there is an increase for spending for education and obesity prevention grant programs, food distribution on Indian reservations and community food projects. She said the key implication is for the FPC to express their support for legislation to the city/county and state.

Ms. Roy said Congress will start to work on the Child Nutrition Reauthorization of the Farm to School Act 2014 (Exhibit 2) in 2015. Three listening sessions were held on the Act this year due to work by the Food Council and the New Mexico Food and Agricultural Policy Council. The information was provided to two national organizations that have lobbyists.

Ms. Roy asked the FPC to support three requests: 1) to increase the Farm to School Grants Program from \$5 million to \$15 million. 2) To increase access among tribal schools to farm fresh foods, especially from tribal producers and 3) to expand the scope of the Farm to School Program to include pre-school summer food service programs and afterschool programs.

She said that aligns the state with the New Mexico Grown Fruits and Vegetables for School Meals and the Farmers Market Double Buck Program. FINI (Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive) was passed in the Farm Bill and will supply additional dollars to the SNAP recipients to shop at farmers markets.

Ms. Roy said the Farmer's Markets Association request for funds (\$400k) will help support the years beyond 2015. She also asked the FPC to support a request for \$25 million for the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

Chair Perry said the item would be on the next agenda.

The council discussed a resolution that could go to the city/county for the Double Buck Program. Ms. Mortimer suggested they work with the Mayor to get the item on the next City Council agenda.

Ms. Ortigoza said she would ask Commissioner Holian to sponsor the resolution.

2. Executive Committee- No new information.

#### **I. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR**

- a. All Subcommittees to Update/Rewrite Charge and Responsibilities: Deadline before 2015

Chair Perry said Mr. McCarty will chair the January meeting in her absence.

#### **I. ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL**

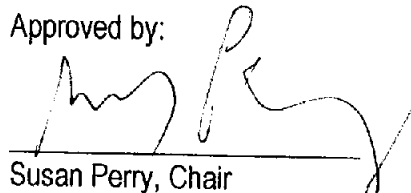
Ms. Ortigoza said she received an e-mail from the Rio Arriba County Extension on another part of the Farm Bill. She is excited about the expanded crop insurance program for farmers. She said the insurance has gone from being very limited to almost 65% of crop loss coverage at 100% cost of retail market. The insurance is now more accessible to new farmers and the fees are waived. She said she will share the details when she learns them.

The council discussed crop insurance in the past. It was noted that the last two Farm Bills pushed the insurance.

#### **K. ADJOURNMENT**

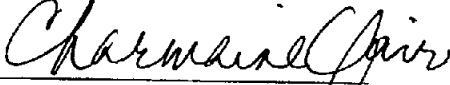
*Having no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.*

Approved by:



Susan Perry, Chair

Submitted by:

  
Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

# Policy Brief: FY 2015 Federal Budget Local-level Impact on Domestic Food Programs

Exhibit 1  
FPC  
December 18, 2014

## INTRODUCTION

On December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014, H.R. 83—the fiscal year (FY) 2015 Federal budget—was signed in to law by President Obama. The omnibus, continuing resolution—dubbed “cromnibus”—contains \$1.1 trillion in spending, including provisions for domestic food programs. Division A, Title IV, the bill covers domestic food programs, including FY 2015 budgets for the following programs: child nutrition programs, WIC, SNAP, commodity assistance program, and nutrition programs administration. Largely, funding has remained steady for all domestic food programs, with budget cuts in WIC and SNAP spending. The current impact of the budget on local- and state-level programs is still uncertain, but the budget findings will drive our future inquiry.

## BACKGROUND

The domestic food programs in questions are funded through the Agriculture Appropriations portion of the omnibus bill. “The legislation contains discretionary funding, as well as mandatory funding required by law, for food and nutrition programs within the Department of Agriculture” (FY 2015 Omnibus Summary—Agriculture Appropriations). Title IV Domestic Food Programs received higher overall funding in FY 2015 than in FY 2014. The breakdown of these funds by program follows.

**Child Nutrition Programs:** FY 2014: \$19,287,957,000      FY 2015: \$21,300,170,000  
This program provides supplemental nutrition to children. Funding priorities remained largely the same between the two years, with an increase in almost every budget line item from FY 2014 to 2015. A line item for “Summer EBT Demonstration has been added in FY 2015, which will give \$16 million in funding for innovative summer meal plan options for children. “This funding will provide an estimated 7.7 billion school breakfasts, lunches, and snacks for 31 million children who qualify for the program” (FY 2015 Omnibus Summary—Agriculture Appropriations).

**WIC Programs:** FY 2014: \$6,715,841,000      FY 2015: \$6,623,000,000  
WIC provides supplemental nutrition to pregnant and nursing mothers, babies, and young children. Although the overall funding decreased from FY 2014 to 2015, “Based upon revised USDA estimates, the agreement fully funds all eligible WIC participants in fiscal year 2015” (Division A...). This funding also “includes \$25 million for states to transfer from paper vouchers to a more efficient EBT system that will help identify waste and abuse within the program” (FY 2015 Omnibus Summary—Agriculture Appropriations). All WIC states must have EBT systems in place by October 1, 2020.

**SNAP Programs:** FY 2014: \$82,169,945,000      FY 2015: \$81,837,570,000  
The SNAP program “provides food assistance to a monthly average of more than 46 million Americans” (FY 2015 Omnibus Summary—Agriculture Appropriations). The FY 2015 budget is \$332 million short of FY 2014, but does increase spending for “Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Grant Program”, “Food Distribution on Indian Reservations”, and “Community Food Projects”.

**Commodity Assistance Program:** FY 2014: \$269,701,000      FY 2015: \$278,501,000  
The Commodity Assistance Program budget item refers to a collection of programs that supply nutritious food. This includes the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) which provides food to low-income elderly persons, and the Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) which is associated with providing WIC recipients with access to fresh produce.

# Policy Brief: FY 2015 Federal Budget Local-level Impact on Domestic Food Programs

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**Nutrition Programs Administration:** FY 2014: \$141,348,000    FY 2015: \$150,824,000  
This budget funds the work of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Sciences.

## LOCAL IMPLICATIONS

**Child Nutrition:** The increased budget for Child Nutrition programs will likely mean more available funding for programs at the state- and local-levels. However, the state will have to match Federal dollars on some of the programs in order to gain access to program-specific spending, so it is essential that the SFFPC work with the legislature and with the NM Food Policy Council to ensure increased or new funding for key programs. The reauthorization for the Child Nutrition Act will come up during FY 2015, which will hopefully include increased funds for programs like Farm to School.

**WIC:** As provision was included in this legislation that “ensure[s] that all fresh vegetable, including **white potatoes**, are eligible for purchase through the WIC programs. The provision also ensures that science-based requirements are used to determine which vegetables will be allowed for purchase in the WIC program” (FY 2015 Omnibus Summary—Agriculture Appropriations). The SFFPC and its partners should pay close attention to what these requirements are, and which vegetables are ultimately allowed for purchase through WIC.

**SNAP:** Although the overall budget shrank from FY 2014 to 2015, budgets increased from FY 2014 to 2015 for state administrative costs, nutrition education and obesity prevention grant program, employment and training, and food distribution program on Indian reservations. These line items will likely have an impact on the capacity of the state and state SNAP partners, and will also allow for increased access in rural areas and on tribal lands.

## Commodity Assistance:

Dollar amount allocation toward Older Americans Act (OAA) nutrition programs through the CSFP were the same from FY 2014 to 2015. Funding for the FMNP remained the same.

## Nutrition Programs Administration:

The advisory committee for the *2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans* should produce their final report this fiscal year—the SFFPC and its partners should look to this document, as it will have broad implications for foods approved for all of the above programs.

## SOURCES

- a. “FY 2015 Omnibus Summary—Agriculture Appropriations”  
[http://appropriations.house.gov/uploadedfiles/ag\\_press\\_summary.pdf](http://appropriations.house.gov/uploadedfiles/ag_press_summary.pdf)
- b. “Division A – Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015 Explanatory Statement”  
<http://rules.house.gov/sites/republishers.rules.house.gov/files/113-1/PDF/113-HR83sa-ES-A.pdf>
- c. “Text of House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 83”  
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CPRT-113HPRT91668/pdf/CPRT-113HPRT91668.pdf>

***New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council***  
**New Mexico Food and Farms Day January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**DRAFT – some times are tentative**

**2015 New Mexico Food and Farms Day,**  
**Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 8am – 1pm**

**Agenda:**

- 8:00am Organizations set up in East wing on Rotunda (11 table total – shared)
- 8:00am Possible hearings on pertinent legislation – 8:00 – 10:00am
- 9:00am Press Conference in the Rotunda
- 10:00am Senate Chambers
- 10:00am House Chambers
- Presentation of NM Food and Farms Day Memorial and introduction of Rostrum special guests for the day
- 11:30am Street Food Institute Cart at Capital – East side outside
- 1:00pm NM Food and Farms Day Group Photo in front of the Capital
- 1:15pm - 2:30pm Team Strategic Leadership Meeting at Santa Fe Community Foundation
- \$15 RSVP required – call Pam at 505-660-8403

**New Mexico School Nutrition Day, Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>**

Information forth coming by the NM School Nutrition Association.

**Please RSVP to 505-660-8403 and [pam@farmtotablenm.org](mailto:pam@farmtotablenm.org) if you plan to participate in the New Mexico Food and Farms Day.** Morning events at the Capital are open to the public.

Keep an eye out for final details, and updates action alerts. Looking forward to seeing you!

Best,

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# Farm to School Act of 2014

*Supporting Healthy Kids, Healthy Farms, and Healthy Communities*

## The Issues

- Over 30 percent of all children in the US are overweight or obese, resulting in more missed school days and poorer academic achievement;
- Obese youth are at greater risk for heart disease, diabetes, and psychological problems; obese children also incur \$19,000 more in lifetime medical costs than children of a normal weight, totaling roughly \$14 billion in additional medical costs for the country;
- Farmers and ranchers receive only 16 cents out of every dollar spent on food, down significantly from the 31 cents they received in 1980; rural poverty and jobless rates are consistently higher than urban poverty rates.

## Congress Responds

In the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, Congress responded to these issues in a variety of ways, including providing first-time mandatory funding of \$5 million annually for a farm to school competitive grant and technical assistance program. The USDA Farm to School Grant Program increases the use of and improves access to local foods in schools – thus boosting farm income and economic opportunities – while also fostering experiential food education for our nation's children.

## What is Needed in 2015?

*As part of the upcoming Child Nutrition Act reauthorization, Congress needs to build on the success of farm to school by strengthening and expanding the program's scope and by providing an additional \$100 million in mandatory funding over the coming decade.*



Adoption of the Farm to School Act will accomplish the following goals:

- Expand the scope of USDA Farm to School Grant program eligible entities to include preschools, summer food service program sites, and after school programs.
- Increase annual mandatory funding for the USDA Farm to School Grant Program from \$5 to \$15 million to better meet the high demand and need for this funding.
- Increase access among tribal schools to farm-fresh and traditional foods, especially from tribal producers.



**NATIONAL  
FARM to SCHOOL  
NETWORK**



**National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition**

*The National Farm to School Network and the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition are partnering on farm to school priorities in the 2015 reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Act.*

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## More Details on the Farm to School Act of 2014

- **Expand the scope of USDA Farm to School Grant program eligible entities to include preschools, summer food service program sites, and after school programs.**

The scope of the grant program must be expanded to include early childcare and education settings. The first years of life are formative for developing healthy eating habits, and farm to preschool starts kids on the right path. The program's scope must also be expanded to include summer food service program sites and afterschool programs. These provide meals to millions of children in low-income areas, ensuring access to nutritious meals after school lets out. Additionally, such programs often include educational and recreational activities that strengthen and reinforce healthy eating practices for participating children.

- **Increase annual mandatory funding from \$5 million to \$15 million.**

To build on the USDA Farm to School Grant Program's success, the next Child Nutrition Reauthorization must increase its funding. Demand for the program is over five times higher than available funding. In the first two years of the program, Fiscal Years 2013-14, USDA received over 700 applications requesting over \$53 million and was able to make only 139 awards from the \$10 million in available funding. Funding the program at \$15 million annually will better support the high demand and expanded scope of this important program.

- **Increase access among tribal schools to farm-fresh and traditional foods, especially from tribal producers.**

Native American communities face disproportionately high rates of overweight, obesity, and type 2 diabetes. Encouraging farm to school partnerships between tribal schools and tribal producers will increase consumption of nutritious traditional foods while also supporting Native farmers and ranchers.

### *With Farm to School...*

## What is Farm to School?

Farm to school is a common sense approach to child nutrition that empowers children and their families to make informed food choices while strengthening the local economy and contributing to vibrant communities. Farm to school implementation differs by location but always includes one or more of the following:

- **Procurement:** Local foods are purchased, promoted, and served in the cafeteria or or classroom as a snack or taste-test.
- **Education:** Students participate in educational activities related to agriculture, food, health or nutrition.
- **School Gardens:** Students engage in hands-on learning through gardening.

## How is Farm to School a Win for All?

Farm to school activities provide a variety of benefits to students, parents, schools, communities, and food producers, including:

- Strengthens knowledge and attitudes toward agriculture, food, nutrition, and the environment
- Increases children's consumption of fruits and vegetables
- Increases market opportunities for farmers, fishers, ranchers, and local food system entrepreneurs
- Supports community and economic development

### *... Kids Win*



### *... Farmers Win*



### *... Communities Win!*



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