



**ECOLOGY  
CENTER**

**Oakland Food Policy Council  
Meeting #4 Report | July 19, 2018**

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Assessment Theme Review & Priority Setting

Prepared by Lindsey J. Scalera, Sustainable Food Program Director

## MEETING OVERVIEW

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### Facilitation Formats Utilized

- Facilitated full group discussion/voting
- Presentation

### Essential Question for this Meeting

What issues should we prioritize what the Oakland County Food Policy Council can do address health equity in the county?

### Meeting Description

This working session engaged the Oakland County Food Policy Council members in an informed voting process to give feedback on the priorities of the council.

### Meeting Agenda

<b>9:00 AM - 9:20 AM   SETTING THE TABLE</b>	Welcome & Housekeeping Dialogue Guides Introductions Activity Agenda Review
<b>9:20 AM - 10:00 AM   APPETIZERS</b>	Introduction to the Criteria, Priority Tiers & Dot Voting
<b>10:00 AM - 10:40 AM   SALAD</b>	Theme Review
<b>10:40 AM - 11:40 AM   ENTREES</b>	Priority Setting
<b>11:40 AM - 12:00 PM   CLEARING THE TABLE</b>	Closing: Celebration, next meeting & next steps!

### Dialogue Guides

For all sessions, we are using the Zingerman's Diversity & Inclusion Dialogue Guidelines. We reviewed these and asked if anyone has had any questions of clarification, or any additional guidelines to propose or change.

In no particular order, the guidelines are:

- Listen actively.
- Suspend judgement.
- Step up and step back.
- Try not to freeze people in time.
- Seek first to understand.
- Except and accept non-closure.
- Use I statements. Speak only for yourself.
- Assume positive intent.
- When furious, get curious.
- Be real. Be honest. Inquire.
- Practice both/and thinking.

# Priority-setting Method Overview

To set the stage for this session’s activities, Lindsey reviewed a few important things and introduced the priority setting criteria and process.

## Framework Review

- **Mission, Vision, Definitions:** These ground us in our values and larger purpose.
- **What today is:** We’re setting priorities for at least the next year that will shape the development of future workgroup(s) and action planning. The structure we designed initiates a coordinating committee whose job it will be to begin to carry out the structure and next steps after
- **What Today is not:** 100% forever! The structure we designed accommodates further action planning based on these priorities and a periodic (perhaps annual) review to measure progress toward goals.

## Materials & Handouts

Both Lindsey and the ECHO Team developed a set of supportive materials and handouts for this session. Lindsey provided an overview of the mission, goal, values of the OCFPC, the criteria, dot-voting instructions and the priority tiers. The OCFPC Core Team provided handouts summarizing the themes from the assessment work group data collection project, a detailed definition of social determinants of health and a demographic breakdown of the survey responses.

## Set of Criteria

Lindsey introduced a set of criteria designed to help the OCFPC assess any given issue or problem they may encounter. For today’s session these were things to keep in mind as the group voted. In the future, these criteria may continue to be amended and help narrow down choices as new issues and ideas arise.

- Does it fit the mission and goal of the OCFPC?
- Does it impact the social determinants of health?
- Is it based on available data?
- Does this issue have a policy implication/solution?
- Does it have measurable indicators of success?

## Assessment work group theme review

The assessment work group summarized their efforts to learn about healthy eating habits in the county and possible barriers. They also presented information gleaned from secondary sources that indicated some of the same issues with food access and transportation. They identified high-level themes from the assessment along with descriptive sub categories that break down each high-level theme into it’s important contributing factors.

For the purposes of the lab, the assessment team created a handout describing the high-level themes and presented it with some of the data they collected related to the theme. In a column next to the themes and data, the ECHO team provided a number of examples of related policies. The themes, data and policy examples helped to illustrate the high-level themes and the way policy could impact each theme.

**ECHO | ENERGIZING CONNECTIONS FOR HEALTHIER OAKLAND**

**OAKLAND COUNTY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL**  
Create a fair and culturally friendly food system in Oakland County that encourages healthy eating.

**Food System Assessment Themes**

Social Determinants of Health	Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Race</b> 32.58% of Black/African American respondents were unsatisfied with food price, compared to 23.81% of all respondents.</li><li>• <b>Location</b> 72.04% of ECHO Focus City respondents were interested in information on food assistance programs, compared to 43.61% of survey respondents.</li><li>• <b>Income</b></li><li>• <b>Education</b></li><li>• <b>Ethnicity</b> At 22.37% Hispanic respondents were twice as likely to travel less than one mile to buy food.</li><li>• <b>Poverty</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Soda tax that funds equity initiatives or programs in vulnerable areas</li><li>• Policies to support urban agriculture or purchase/lease of vacant lots</li><li>• Tax on pension/retirement benefits</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Fruit/Veggie consumption</b> 64.74% of lower income and education survey respondents consumed 0-2 servings of vegetables, compared to 56.6% of all survey respondents.</li><li>• <b>Transportation</b></li><li>• <b>Fruit/Veggie cost</b> 23.94% of respondent with an income less than \$10,000 said cost was a barrier to eating more fruits and vegetables, while 13.91% of all respondents did.</li><li>• <b>Location</b></li><li>• <b>Healthy eating information</b> 92% of survey respondents were interested in learning how to prepare a healthy meal</li><li>• <b>Breast feeding</b></li><li>• <b>Food System Assessment Survey – How interested are you in learning to:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Purchase healthy food on a budget</li><li>○ Purchase healthy food</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Farm Bill- SNAP</li><li>• Double Up Food Bucks</li><li>• SNAP incentives for healthy foods</li></ul>

## Priority tier voting

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After the theme review, Lindsey lead the group through a process of voting on each priority tier.

### Priority Setting Method

Once you feel that an issue meets the criteria we discussed, you will vote on where you think your top three issues fall along four priority tiers.

- **Focus:** Issues that fall in this category are slated for action-planning. They may fit into one or more work groups or task forces.
- **Response:** Issues that fall in this category are identified as important and impactful enough to require a response if something comes up, but are generally something we don't take the lead on, or do further action planning around. Examples include
- **Emerging:** These issue are deemed important, but we feel we need to learn more. We might seek out experts to present to us on these issues or a volunteer might do some further research to share back with the full council.
- **Backburner:** These issues might be important, but we don't have the capacity to work on them right now. We will revisit them in the next priority setting process.

### Dot Voting Instructions

- 4 colors - 3 dots each (see poster/handout for reference)
- Each color corresponds to a priority tier (as laid out on the poster/handout)
- Each of you gets to vote for your top three issues in each priority tier

The group was asked to vote in stages starting with the top priority, selecting their top three in each tier. After voting was complete, the ECHO Team and Lindsey decided it would be important to gather this information from other council members who were not able to attend. The echo team Create an online survey version of the priority tier voting.

## Top Level Votes Breakdown

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This table is the tally for each top-level theme area, including both the in-person and online voting.

	Focus	Response	Emerging	Back Burner
<b>Food Access</b>	16	14	16	9
<b>Healthy Eating/Food Consumption</b>	10	8	7	12
<b>Healthy Food Access/Affordability</b>	8	8	11	8
<b>Food Insecurity</b>	17	11	11	8
<b>Social Determinants of Health</b>	10	4	14	7
<b>Transportation</b>	1	13	2	4

## Full Vote Breakdown

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The full vote breakdown can be viewed here: [Full Vote Breakdown Spreadsheet](#)

## Takeaways & Next Steps

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- This priority setting process helps us to assess what issues are most important to the council members and the community. In a post-lab meeting, Lindsey and the Core OCFPC leadership team reviewed the results and all for the feedback from previous labs to identify next steps to transition to the new structure.
- Following this process, we plan to do a fifth lab, the focus of which is to:
  - Provide some additional training for council members on advocacy and action planning
  - Officially establish two working groups: **Healthy Eating** and **Food Security**
  - Walk through a basic action planning process
  - Solicit nominations for Workgroup chairpersons and issue champions, on the following topics:
    - Transportation (Response Tier - top voted issue)
    - Alternative Food Sources
    - Age/Seniors
    - Breastfeeding
    - Environment/Ecosystem
  - Explore how social determinants of health are woven throughout each topic and integrate working towards health equity into the action planning.
- Following Lab #5, the Coordinating Committee will launch with a transition meeting and begin their own planning process, reviewing the list of activities and issues the blueprint outlines.