



Feeding Communities in the Face of Adversity: Municipal Emergency Planning & Policy Options for Healthy Food Access

Wednesday May 27, 2020

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www.healthyfoodpolicyproject.org

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Webinar Overview

- What is the Healthy Food Policy Project?
- Preparing for food access disruptions with comprehensive plans and other local planning tools
- Legislative and administrative policy actions to provide access to healthy food during emergencies; additional resources for planners, food policy councils, and policymakers
- Looking forward
- Q&A

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Identify and elevate **local laws** that seek to promote **access** to **healthy food**, and also contribute to **strong local economies**, an **improved environment**, and **health equity**, with a focus on **socially disadvantaged and marginalized groups**.

Key Definitions

HEALTHY FOOD

Food that is minimally processed; fresh, frozen, or canned produce that has little, if any, added sugar, salt, or fat; food that is culturally relevant; food that meets evidence-based nutrition standards; food that is both nutritious and safe to eat.

Key Definitions

ACCESS

Food is accessible when it is affordable, and community members can readily grow or raise it; find it; obtain it; transport it; prepare it; and eat it.

Key Definitions

HEALTH EQUITY

The absence of disadvantage in chronic disease-related health outcomes regardless of one's race or ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic status, gender, age, or mental health; cognitive, sensory, or physical disability; sexual orientation or gender identity; and/or geographic location.

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CODED LAWS

Policy Database

A curated, searchable database of healthy food policies at the local level around the United States, analyzed by HFPP.

[Learn More](#)

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COMPONENTS

Food System Crosswalk

A resource showing how food policy laws intersect with components of the food system, which HFPP defines as Grow, Process, Distribute, Get, Make, and Surplus/Waste Management.

[Learn More](#)

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REAL STORIES

Case Studies

In-depth case studies that showcase healthy food policy initiatives, and the people and communities that developed them.

[Learn More](#)

MUNICIPAL COVID-19 FOOD ACCESS POLICIES



COVID-19 Local Food Access Policy Index (sorted by "Policy Type" then by "State" and "Jurisdiction") ☆ 🔄

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| Dedicated Business Hours for Priority Populations | | | | | | |
|---|---|------------|--------------|--|---|--|
| | A | B | C | D | E | F |
| 1 | Policy Type | State | Jurisdiction | Policy | Link to Policy Document | Description |
| 2 | Dedicated Business Hours for Priority Populations | Alabama | Mobile | Mobile, Alabama, Order of the Mayor: Guidelines for Retail and Grocery Stores (Apr. 1, 2020) | https://www.cityofmobile.org/uploads/200401024020RetailandGrocerOrder040220.pdf | This order directs retail and grocery stores in the City of Mobile to institute certain guidelines, including reserving "exclusive hours for those in high-risk populations, including seniors, where stores will limit their capacity to 40% of fire capacity at any time," along with other social distancing and sanitation measures. |
| 3 | Dedicated Business Hours for Priority Populations | California | Los Angeles | Los Angeles, California, Ordinance No. 186587 (Mar. 31, 2020) | http://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2020/20-0147-S51_ORD_186587_04-06-2020.pdf | This ordinance adds Article 2-72TT to Chapter XX of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to require retail food stores to dedicate the first hour, or in the case of a store that is open 24-hours, at least one hour in the morning, exclusively to customers who are elderly or disabled (and operators of congregate living homes that serve the elderly and disabled). This text language notes that this requirement will allow the elderly and disabled "to shop for their daily necessities without waiting in long lines and before the general public |



The Role of Planners in the Development of Resilient Food Systems

Luis Nieves-Ruiz, AICP

Economic Development Manager

East Central Florida Regional Planning Council

PLANNER'S ROLE IN FOOD SYSTEMS



- Specific Use Siting/Standards
- Land Use Policies
- Community Convening
- Technical Assistance



LAND USE REGULATORY BARRIERS



FOOD SYSTEMS PLANNING CHALLENGES



- Rapid Urbanization
- Euclidean Zoning Codes
- Centralization of Food Production
- State Preemption Laws

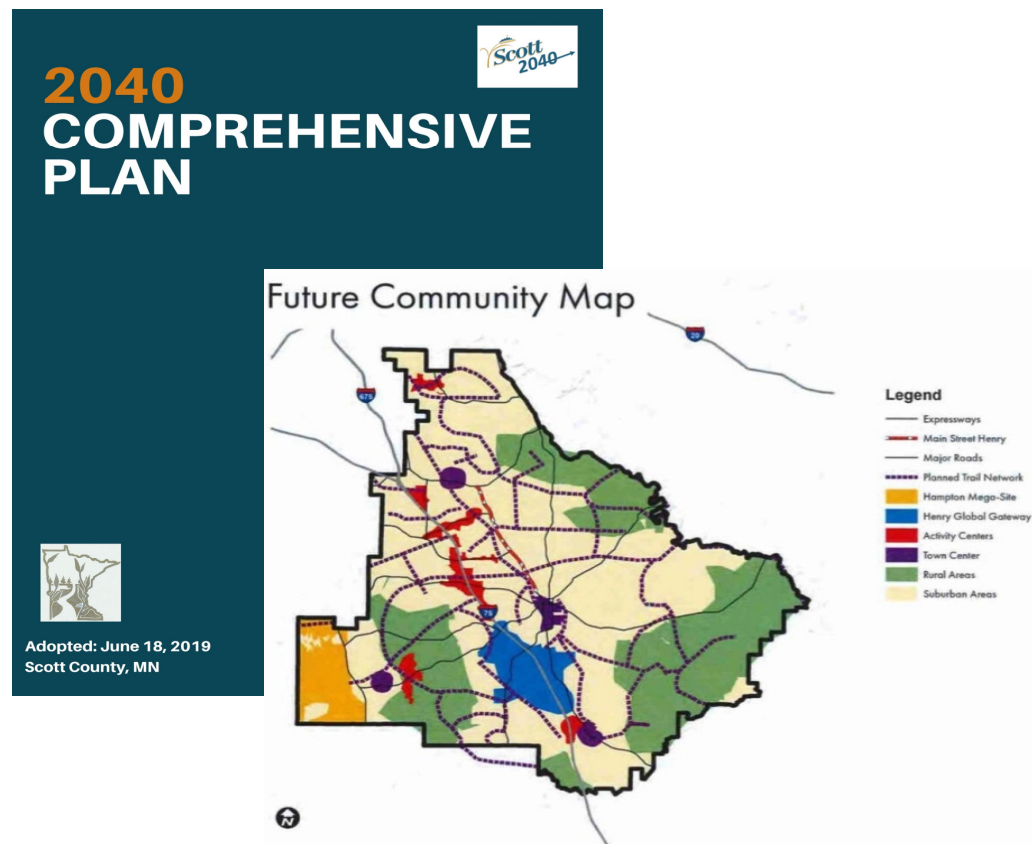


Kiichiro Sato, AP

LONG RANGE PLANNING TOOLS



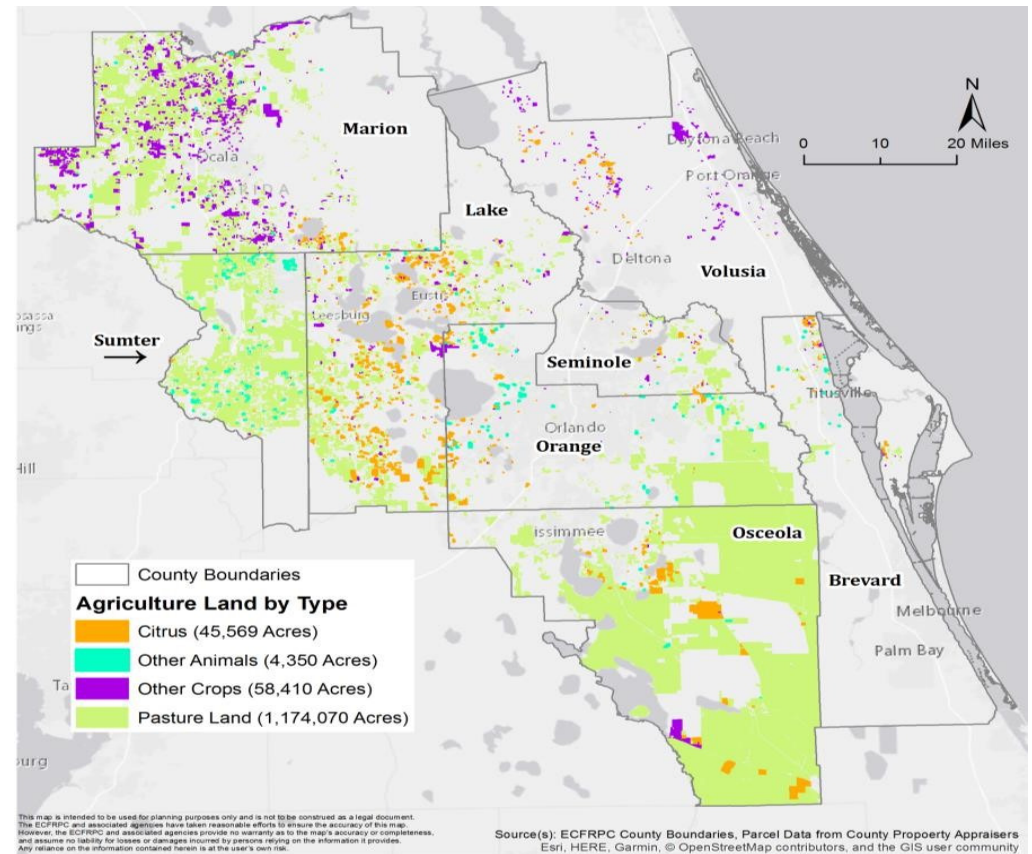
- Asset Mapping
- Urban Growth Boundary
- Transfer of Development Rights
- Special Districts



LAND USE ASSESSMENTS



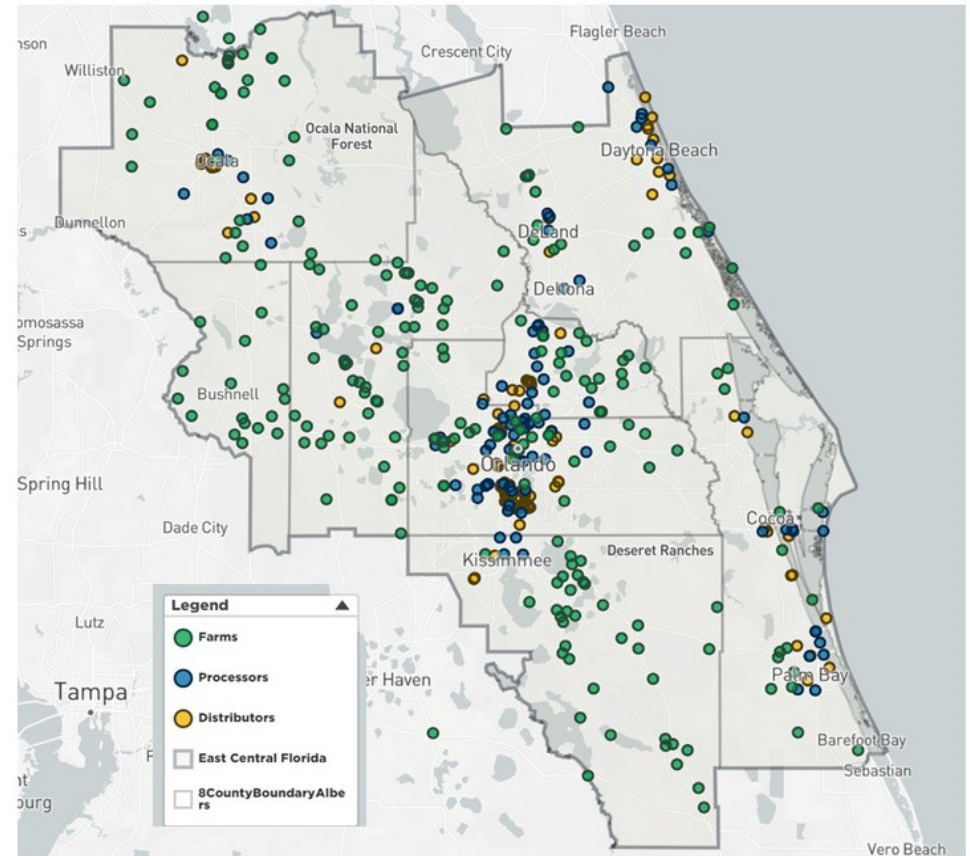
- Identify jurisdiction's land uses for Comprehensive Plan update
- Use GIS software to map distribution of agricultural properties



FOOD ASSETS INVENTORY

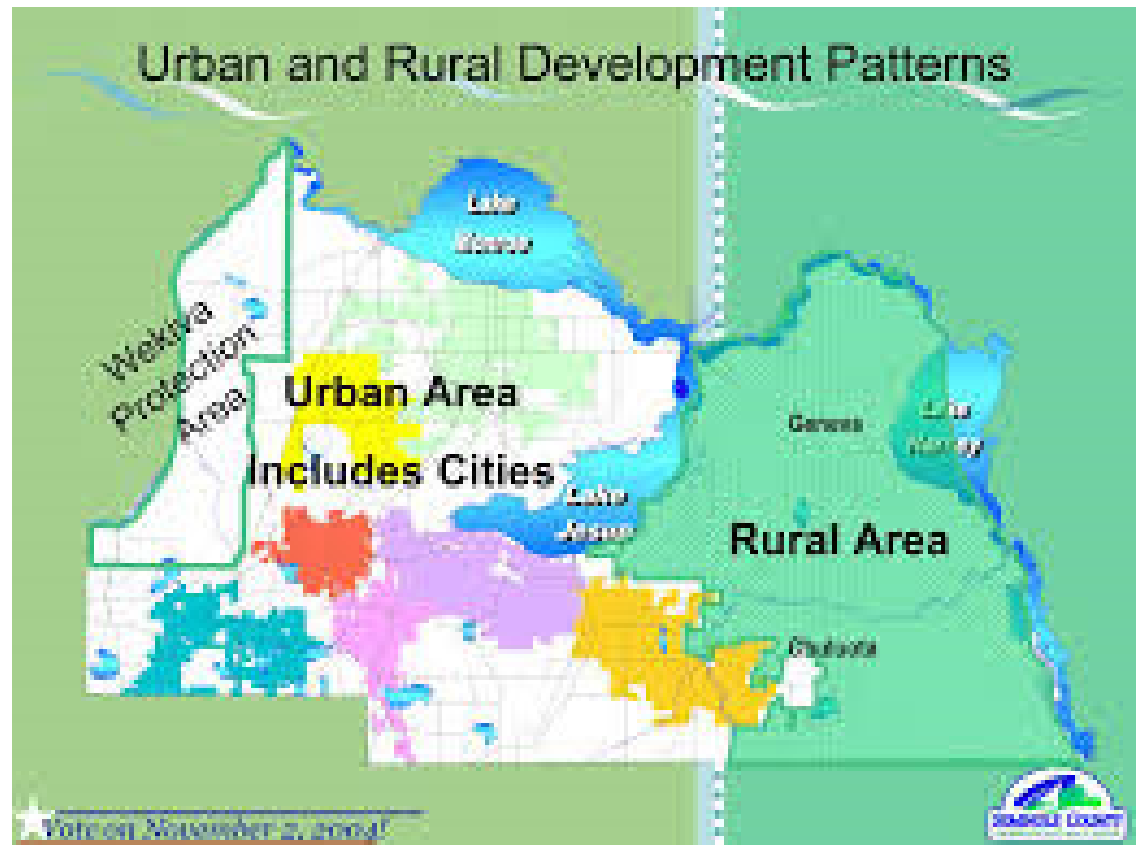


- Develop food assets database
- Use GIS to map the location of these uses
- Help public visualize expanse of food systems



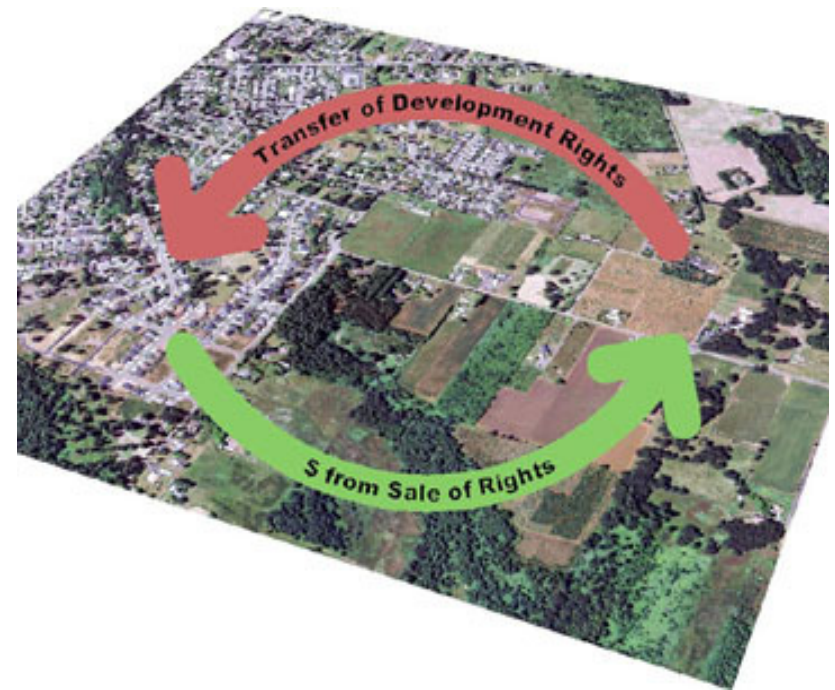
URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARIES

- Set to control urban sprawl
- Urban development inside boundary
- Preservation/farmland outside boundary



TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

- Purchase property's development rights within "sending district"
- Transfer rights to "receiving district" to increase development density



FOOD INNOVATION DISTRICTS

- Concentration of complementary food-related businesses and activities
- Promote economic growth and increase access to healthy locally-grown foods



CURRENT PLANNING TOOLS

- Zoning Codes
- Other Municipal Regulations
- Subdivision Development



FOOD SYSTEMS ZONING USES

- Agriculture
 - Community Gardens
 - Urban Agriculture
- Processing
 - Artisanal Foods
 - Other Processing
- Retail and Distribution
 - Farmers' Markets
 - Farm Stands



OTHER MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS



Backyard Chicken Ordinance



Home Landscape Ordinance

DEVELOPMENT TYPES: AGRIHOODS

- Residential development that integrates agriculture as a community amenity
- Facilitate food production while providing recreation for residents



PLANNING FOR FOOD RESILIENCY

- Identify gaps and opportunities
- Integrate food uses into zoning codes
- Eliminate regulatory barriers
- Provide technical assistance to food stakeholders



MUNICIPAL COVID-19 FOOD ACCESS POLICIES

[Return](#)
[SORTABLE COVID-19 FOOD ACCESS MUNICIPAL POLICY INDEX](#)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT POLICIES TO SUPPORT FOOD ACCESS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC – AN INDEX

This index includes formal municipal policies* that accelerate, prioritize or facilitate food access during the COVID-19 pandemic and other emergency periods through measures that:

- a) exceed ordinary non-emergency-time policies; and/or
- b) specifically prioritize health and/or equity considerations.

School district policies and other special board policies are not included. Policies that merely define food establishments, such as restaurants and grocery stores, as essential businesses or otherwise allow them to operate with or without modifications amid other business closures are also excluded unless they emphasize services for priority populations or access to fresh foods.

*Written laws, regulations, executive orders and organizational policies that have been formally adopted or passed by a government entity (including ordinances, resolutions, codified laws, and administrative policies).

To access a sortable version of the index, please click the [green](#) sortable index button below, or on the top right corner of this page.

If you know of a policy that we don't have yet, please click the [blue](#) suggest a policy button below.

| Policy Type | State | Jurisdiction | Policy | Link to Policy Document | Description |
|--|------------|--------------|--|---|--|
| Closure and Restricted Operation Exemptions for Food Service Establishments Serving Priority Populations | Arizona | Tolleson | Proclamation of the Mayor of the City of Tolleson Declaring a Local Emergency to Address Covid-19, § 4 (Mar. 17, 2020) | https://www.tollesonaz.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?ARC=250 | This section exempts food banks and food pantries from mandatory closures and operating restrictions imposed by the proclamation. |
| Closure and Restricted Operation Exemptions for Food Service Establishments Serving Priority Populations | California | Berkeley | Order of City Health Officer, §§ 10(f)(1), (iv), (xii) (Mar. 16, 2020) | https://www.cityofberkeley.info/uploads/documents/Human_Services.pdf + https://www.cityofberkeley.info/uploads/documents/Health-Order-Order-to-Shelter-in-place.pdf | These provisions carve out exemptions to the City's cessation of business order for certain "essential businesses" including e.g., food banks; businesses that offer food and "other necessities of life" for "economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals;" and schools that typically offer food service (provided they do so a pick-up and take-away basis only). |
| Closure and Restricted Operation Exemptions for Food Service Establishments Serving Priority Populations | California | Los Angeles | Los Angeles, Cal., Public Order Under City of Los Angeles Emergency Authority (Mar. 15, 2020) | https://www.lamayor.org/files/2020/03/15/20200315-Mayors-Order-2020-03-15-Emergency-Authority-2020-03-15-Memo-20191114-2020-03-15.pdf | Item 4 of the order exempts specific establishment types including cafeterias, commissaries, and restaurants located within hospitals, nursing homes, or similar facilities; and food banks from general order prohibiting restaurants and retail food facilities from serving food for |

What's Not Included in the Index?

- School district policies and other special board policies
- Policies that merely let food establishments operate
- Efforts that are not created by formal municipal legislative, executive or administrative policy instrument

Types of Laws We've Identified

- Food supply chain & procurement laws
- Food support policies
- Laws that prioritize fresh food, food cultivation, hunting or fishing
- Priority population food procurement protections
- Special exemptions & allowances for food establishments

Types of Laws We've Identified (cont.)

- Supply Chain & Procurement Laws
 - Examples:
 - Champaign, Illinois, Declaration of Emergency § 12-39 (7) (Jan. 30, 2020)
 - Grants authority to the Mayor to control, restrict and regulate food and other “necessities of life” by various means including rationing, issuing quotas, fixing or freezing prices, or allocating use, sale or distribution.
 - Atlantic County, New Jersey, Executive Order No. 2020-01, § 11(b) (Mar. 16, 2020)
 - Provides that the County is permitted to enter into new contracts to procure necessary goods or services, including but not limited to food supplies, without complying with New Jersey Public Contracts Law.

Types of Laws We've Identified (cont.)

- Food Support Laws

- Examples:

- Atlanta, Georgia, Executive Order 2020-06 (Mar. 15, 2020)
 - Directs the Chief Financial Officer to allocate up to \$7 million in uncommitted general funds to be used for emergency assistance for "those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic," including \$1 million for child food programs and \$1 million for senior food programs.
 - Seattle, Washington, Ordinance 126063 (Apr. 1, 2020).
 - Amends the City's 2020 Budget by allocating \$5 million in Sweetened Beverage Tax (SBT) funds to create a new \$5 million grocery voucher program.



Types of Laws We've Identified (cont.)

- Laws that Prioritize Fresh Food, Food Cultivation, Hunting or Fishing
 - Examples:
 - Anchorage, Alaska, Municipality Proclamation of Emergency "Hunker Down" Order EO-03 § 5(f) (Mar. 20, 2020)
 - Designates food cultivation, including fishing, hunting, farming, and livestock as "critical business" that are exempt from ordered business closures and are encouraged to remain open.
 - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Resolution No. 2020-0298 (May 5, 2020)
 - Recognizes that urban farming will help "Pittsburgh neighborhoods to recover from the global COVID-19 pandemic and insulate communities against the impacts of future crises" and authorizes and directs the Directors of the Departments of Finance and City Planning to establish incentives that encourage and empower residents to create and maintain urban agriculture sites.



Types of Laws We've Identified (cont.)

- Priority Population Food Procurement Protections
 - Example:
 - Los Angeles, California, Ordinance No. 186587 (Mar. 31, 2020)
 - Adds a provision to the City's municipal code to require retail food stores to dedicate certain shopping hours exclusively to customers who are elderly or disabled (and operators of congregate living homes that serve the elderly and disabled).

Types of Laws We've Identified (cont.)

- Special Exemptions & Allowances for Food Establishments
 - Examples:
 - Johnson County, Kansas, Emergency Order of Local Health Officer §§ 1(e)(ii); (v); (xiv); (Mar. 22, 2020)
 - Defines “essential businesses” that may continue during the County's stay at home order to include e.g., food banks; businesses that offer food and "other necessities of life" for "economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals"; and schools and other entities that typically offer food free food services to students and members of the public (provided they do so on a pick-up and take-away basis only).
 - Moorpark, California, Executive Order No. 2020-03, § 1 (Mar. 24, 2020)
 - Suspends various noise restrictions for food establishments engaged in receiving, preparing, processing, selling, or delivering food, produce, and other groceries, including restrictions related to loading and unloading of boxes, containers and materials between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

Other Areas of Municipal Policy Opportunity to Support Food Access During Emergency Periods

- Labor force protections for food supply chain
- Community-wide internet access
- Facilitation of community-wide mobile market and mobile pantry service
- Supports for local and regional food production
- “Safer” re-openings

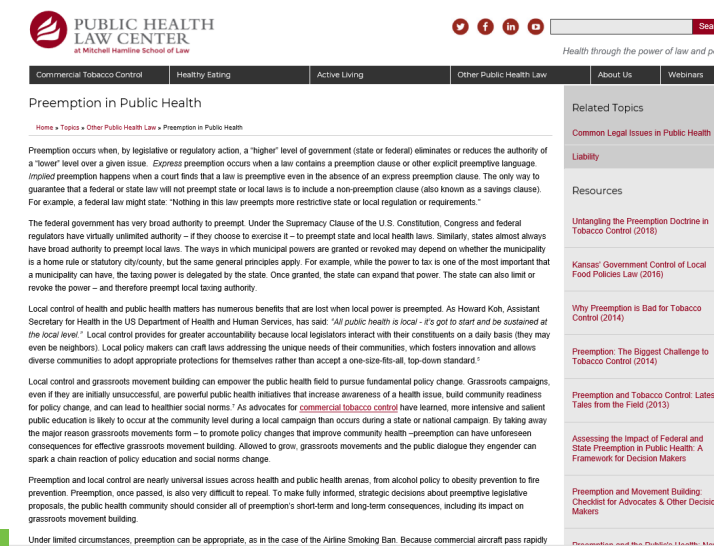


A Few Other Resources

- National League of Cities Local Action Tracker
 - <https://covid19.nlc.org/>
- Resnick Center/UCLA School of Law Hugh and Hazel Darling Law Library Covid-19 and Food Law Resource Guide
 - <https://libguides.law.ucla.edu/Covid-19andFoodLaw>
- Change Lab Solutions Coronavirus Law & Policy Resources Page
 - <https://www.changelabsolutions.org/blog/covid-19-resources>

Preemption Resources

- The Public Health Law Center maintains a webpage with resources about preemption:
 - <https://www.publichealthlawcenter.org/topics/other-public-health-law/preemption-public-health>



Looking Forward...

- How might today's food systems policies fit into a new reality of...
 - Open space
 - Office buildings
 - Brick and mortar retail
 - Transportation networks
 - Changing commuting patterns
 - Preserving where we cultivate our food
 - Growing concern with density
 - Coordinated countywide efforts

Opinion

Will You Want to Go Straight Back Into the Crowd?

Planners once dreamed of cities with vast empty plazas and quiet streets. Post-pandemic, might they do so again?

By Richard J. Williams

Dr. Williams is a professor of contemporary visual cultures.

May 5, 2020

nytimes.com

Thank you for joining!

Visit www.healthyfoodpolicyproject.org

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