

Urban Agriculture Assessment for Rome, New York

Table of Contents

Introduction	2
I. List of Sources.....	3
II. Urban Agriculture Friendly Assessment for Rome, New York	4
1. Land Access, Land Tenure, and Preservation	4
2. Policies, Plans, and Regulations	6
3. Healthy Food Access	11
4. Community Engagement, Education, and Training	12
5. Municipal Processes.....	14
6. Social Equity.....	14
7. Funding	15
III. Targeted Resources	17

Introduction

This assessment evaluates local urban agriculture strategies for developing and improving the production, processing, distribution, and sale of local foods. The strategies reviewed in the assessment focus on promoting access to affordable land for farmers and minimizing regulatory barriers to entry. The assessment summarizes any existing infrastructure for supporting farm-based education, land conversion policies, and regulations fostering resilient agricultural practices. The assessment strategies and targeted resource guide thus highlight trends emerging in the type of documents available and missing from the urban agriculture discourse. Not all strategies proposed in this tool may apply to municipalities based on differing sociopolitical and geographical contexts. The interventions and targeted resources outlined in this assessment serve as a reference point for local governments seeking to enhance food access, public health, and local economies.

In crafting the Urban Agriculture Friendly Assessment Tool, we set out to compile a checklist of crucial steps municipalities could undertake to promote resilient urban food systems while reducing cumbersome regulatory barriers for farmers. The strategy checklist consists of municipal-led urban agricultural practices derived from guides, toolkits, zoning and policy regulations, zoning studies, articles, reports, assessments, and urban agriculture databases. The design for the Urban Agriculture Friendly Assessment Tool drew directly on the Environmental Protection Agency's Resilience Implementation and Strategic Enhancements (RISE) Local Assessment Tool. Similar to the RISE Assessment Tool, the Urban Agriculture Friendly Assessment Tool is intended to inventory localities current policies, identify gaps, and highlight potential solutions. We categorized the recommended strategies into seven priority areas:

- 1) Land Access and Land Tenure
- 2) Policies, Plans, and Regulations
- 3) Healthy Food Access
- 4) Community Outreach, Education, and Training
- 5) Food Policy Council Processes
- 6) Social Equity
- 7) Funding

The targeted resources section listed beneath the assessment provides examples of the strategies implemented and relevant resources to replicate these interventions.

I. List of Sources

State of New York's Community Gardens Task Force Annual Report (2023)

- <https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/02/communitygardenstaskforcereport.pdf>

American Farmland Trust (

- <https://farmland.org/project/new-york-policy/>

Best Practices for Adopting Conservation Inventories and Plans: A Guide for Communities in the Hudson River Estuary Watershed. (2023)

- https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation_hudson_pdf/nriospadoption.pdf

NYS Department of Health's (DOH) Community and Urban Gardening (2016)

- <https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/outdoors/garden/urban.htm>

Cornell Waste Management Institute and Cornell Cooperative Extension for the Healthy Soils, Healthy Communities (2016)

- <https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/outdoors/garden/research.htm>

Rome City Code (2021)

- Zoning Code (Chapter 80):

https://library.municode.com/ny/rome/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICICO_CH80_ZOCO

From Brown to Green: A Revitalization Strategy for the Downtown Rome Brownfield Opportunity Area (2019)

- [86b242_1f041d109ea4490384acfb25ec848973.pdf \(romerises.com\)](https://www.romerises.com/86b242_1f041d109ea4490384acfb25ec848973.pdf)

NYS Farm Workforce Retention Credit (2017)

- https://www.tax.ny.gov/bus/ct/farm_workforce_ret_credit.htm

NYS Farm Donations to Food Pantries Credit (2018)

- <https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/credits/farm-donations-to-food-pantries-credit.htm#:~:text=How%20much%20is%20the%20credit,exceed%20%245%2C000%20per%20tax%20year.>

NYS Home Processor Exemption (2019)

- <https://agriculture.ny.gov/food-safety/home-processing>

Mohawk Valley Food Action Network

- <https://www.myfoodaction.org/>

Cornell Vegetable Program

- <https://cvp.cce.cornell.edu/organic.php>

Oneida County Public Market

- <http://www.oneidacountymarket.com/vendors/>

II. Urban Agriculture Friendly Assessment for Rome, New York






SOCIAL IMPACT








**ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT**









**FINANCIAL
FEASIBILITY**








	Strategy	Actions taken by your municipality. Please list all relevant interventions implemented.	Currently Have/Use? (Y/N)	Would Like to Have/Improve? (Y/N)
1. Land Access, Land Tenure, and Preservation				
1.1  	Develop and implement a permitting education program that teaches people how to apply for permits and implement edible planting in shared public spaces where disenfranchised groups reside or convene	Rome has no educational programs for edible plant permitting because no such permit system exists. To achieve this strategy, the City should begin discussions about an edible planting permit program for public spaces and explicitly allow this planting practice in designated public spaces.		
1.2 	Preserve undeveloped property through designation of open space districts, including community garden open space subdistricts	Rome's zoning code does not designate open space or community garden subdistricts.		








1.3	Establish a land bank to acquire vacant land for conversion to public agricultural use	No land bank operates in Rome, but the City’s comprehensive plan includes a strategy to inventory and develop a tracking system for active or potential agricultural lands (see the plan’s sustainability appendix). The city inventories vacant lands destined for residential or commercial development, not agricultural development (see Article 2.8 of the Action Plan Matrix). The comprehensive plan’s agricultural policies assume some current farmland will be sold and developed for residential, commercial, or recreational uses, reducing the overall percentage of agricultural acreage (see page 156). The Greater Mohawk Valley Land Bank (GMVLB) operates at the regional level.		
1.4	Increase land access through vacant lot lease program, matching farmers with vacant lots	The City does not have a vacant lot lease program for urban farms. To pursue this strategy, Rome can engage with New York State’s Community Gardens Task Force, which can provide recommendations that “encourage the donation or lease of lands for community gardens” (see page 11 of New York’s Community Gardens Task Force 2023 Report). The program should allow mid- to long-term leasing to account for the time, money, and effort required to establish a productive growing system.		
1.5 	Collaborate with farmland trusts to preserve arable land on the urban fringe and promote peri-urban farming	Rome’s comprehensive plan includes strategies to implement agricultural, open space and natural resource protections in the Outside District and to collaborate with the American Farmland Trust to include an agricultural zone in the City’s new zoning ordinance that protects flat, high-quality soil types suitable for farmland.		
1.6	Provide funding and training to establish a Natural Resource Inventory (database or map) of suitable land available for agricultural use	Rome has not adopted an NRI. The City could develop and adopt an NRI using the NY Department of Conservation’s Best Practices for Adopting Conservation Inventories and Plans: A Guide for Communities in the Hudson River Estuary Watershed .		







<p>1.7</p> 	<p>Provide sufficient testing and soil remediation resources to reduce food contamination. Provide resources that describe the history of land use</p>	<p>The City of Rome does not facilitate soil testing or provide resources on land-use history for urban agriculture purposes.</p> <p>At the state level, NYS Department of Health’s (DOH) Community and Urban Gardening web page provides best practices and additional resources relating to soils, contamination, and outreach. DOH also partners with Cornell Waste Management Institute and Cornell Cooperative Extension for the Healthy Soils, Healthy Communities initiative, which works directly with practitioners and studies healthy gardening practices, with a focus on soil, vegetables, chicken eggs, and lead exposure from garden soils.</p>		
<p>1.8</p> 	<p>Provide the sale and leasing of land at low costs. Prioritize the sale of “non-buildable” land that gardeners and farmers can work on for several years</p>	<p>Rome has no explicit program or policy to provide low-cost land for farmers.</p>		
<p>1.9</p> 	<p>Establish city/town-wide composting services free of charge to residents (22)</p>	<p>Rome offers no composting services.</p>		
<p>2. Policies, Plans, and Regulations</p>				
<p>2.1</p> 	<p>Create or update a comprehensive plan to accommodate the broad range of farm and agricultural activities, including specific ordinances for new forms of urban agriculture (rooftop farms, apiaries, community gardens, farmers’ markets and transformation of vacant lots into urban farms)</p>	<p>Rome’s comprehensive plan encourages farmers’ markets, chicken coops, apiaries, aquaponics and vegetable gardens (see the plan’s sustainability appendix), but the plan is silent with regard to rooftop farms and the transformation of vacant lots into urban farms.</p>		








<p>2.2</p> 	<p>Adopt or update local zoning to accommodate the broad range of farm and agricultural activities, including specific ordinances for new forms of urban agriculture (rooftop farms, apiaries, community gardens, farmers' markets and transformation of vacant lots into urban farms)</p>	<p>Rome has an agricultural (AG) district that is intended to promote and protect agricultural land and protect it “from encroachment of incompatible developments.” (see Sec. 80-5.1). Agriculture is permitted in the AG zone, as well as the rural-residential (R-R), general industrial (I-G) and airport approach (AA) districts (see Sec. 80-12.3). The R-R district is intended to include agricultural uses (see Sec. 80-6.1(a)).</p> <p>Community gardens are permitted uses in the in the open space (OS), residential, local commercial (C-1), institutional campus (I), and airport approach (AA) districts (see Sec. 80-12.3). Community gardens may include greenhouses, high tunnels, hoop-houses, cold-frames and similar structures to extend the growing season, as well as accessory structures like sheds. Community gardens may also include farmstands that sell items grown onsite (see Sec. 80-12.3(h) and Sec. 80-16.8).</p> <p>Farmers markets are allowed as a temporary use on private property and require temporary use permits. The permit requires a management plan for the farmers' market and determines its timeframe of operation (see Sec. 80-12.4(a)).</p> <p>Apiaries, aquaponic facilities and chicken coops are considered part of the principal use on lots in use for agriculture, instead of accessory uses (See Secs. 80-13.2(c), (d) and (f)). The zoning code is unclear as to whether apiaries, aquaponic facilities and chicken coops are allowed outside of the agriculture use.</p>		
<p>2.3</p>  	<p>Ensure zoning code allows for urban agriculture activity in all zones, including residential, commercial, institutional, and parks districts, minimizing the need for conditional use permits wherever possible</p>	<p>The City of Rome’s zoning allows agricultural-related uses in several zones as described above in 2.1. Currently, these uses are not permitted in the natural area (NA) district or in the industrial and geographic districts.</p> <p>Farmers’ markets require temporary use permits as described above in 2.1.</p>		

<p>2.4</p> 	<p>Provide a detailed and accessible guide with specific definitions and terminology of local urban agriculture zoning ordinances, given that terminology may vary between communities. Clearly define urban agriculture terms in zoning codes and comprehensive plans such as community gardens, seasonal markets, farmers markets, residential gardens, animal husbandry, farm and truck gardens, and horticultural nurseries</p>	<p>Agriculture, apiaries, aquaculture/aquaponics, chicken coops, community gardens, farmer’s market, farmstand, green roofs, greenhouses livestock enclosure, are defined in Sections 80-3.2 and 80-12.5. Rome’s zoning code does not define high tunnels, hoop-houses, cold-frames. Additionally, there is no detailed and accessible guide available at the moment.</p>		
<p>2.5</p>  	<p>Offer tax breaks for cleanup and monitoring of brownfields as spaces of potential urban food production</p>	<p>Rome does not have any tax programs incentivizing the transformation of brownfields into potential growing sites.</p> <p>The NYS Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) program provides resources for revitalization efforts in and around brownfields but does not focus on urban food production projects.</p> <p>The City’s Downtown Rome Brownfield Opportunity Area (referred to as “From Brown to Green: A Revitalization Strategy for the Downtown Rome BOA”) is the City’s effort to redevelop its former industrial and manufacturing core “into a sustainable community with high quality neighborhoods, diverse job opportunities, and accessible recreation alternatives.” This strategy includes plans for Copper city square to include a demonstration area and retail space for Underground Greens, an indoor urban farm.</p>		
<p>2.6</p>	<p>Offer tax breaks for properties that engage in urban farming</p>	<p>Rome does not provide property tax incentives for urban farming. NYS offers the Farm Workforce Retention Credit, which provides \$300 for working 500 hours each year, and the</p>		







		Farm Donations to Food Pantries Credit , which provides a farm with 25% market value of donated food up to \$5000.		
2.7 	Eliminate onerous requirements that would increase the start up costs of urban gardens and farms (e.g. ornamental fencing requirements)	Rome’s land-use plans and regulations do not address cost reduction for urban gardens and farms.		
2.8 	Eliminate strict parking requirements for urban agricultural uses	The City’s off-street parking requirements do not require parking spaces for any agricultural uses (see Sec. 80-14.3)		
2.9 	Incorporate zoning for trellises	Rome’s zoning is silent with regard to trellises but as described above in 2.1, does allow other related accessory uses like greenhouses and hoop-houses.		
2.10  	Permit honey bee keeping and remove non-aggressive honey bees from the “venomous insect” list	Rome has no venomous insect list; Apiaries are considered part of the principal use on lots used for agriculture. The zoning code is unclear as to whether apiaries are allowed outside of the agriculture use. Where permitted, aviaries are allowed only in the rear yard and must be located ten feet from any lot line and the principal building. Apiaries do not require a building permit. Access additional requirements for apiaries at Sec. 80-13.2(c) .		
2.11  	Permit plant nurseries, greenhouses, and livestock raising on private property	Greenhouses are permitted as described above in 2.1. Livestock enclosures are permitted as part of the principal use on lots used for agriculture. Retail nursery/greenhouses are permitted as-of-right in the general industrial (I-G) district and as special uses in the local commercial (C-1) and general commercial (C-2) districts (see Sec. 80-12.2).		






<p>2.12</p>  	<p>Allow for hens, but limit roosters to prevent noise complaints.</p>	<p>Chicken coops are permitted as part of the principal use on lots used for agriculture. Chicken coops are permitted only in the rear yard, with a limit of 8 hens, and roosters are prohibited. See Sec. 80-13.2(f). Chicken coops do not appear to be allowed outside of the agriculture use.</p>		
<p>2.13</p> 	<p>Establish land use policies that promote the establishment of gardens and farms on public land</p>	<p>Rome does not currently promote gardens and farms on public land.</p>		
<p>2.14</p> 	<p>Promote abandoned property management programs, brownfield cleanup programs, local procurement policies to improve urban agriculture infrastructure</p>	<p>As described above in 2.4, the City's Downtown Rome Brownfield Opportunity Area presents plans to redevelop Rome's former industrial and manufacturing core, including a demonstration area and retail space for Underground Greens, an indoor urban farm.</p>		
<p>2.15</p>  	<p>Develop policies that protect farmers' rights to land once vacant lots are transformed into farms/gardens</p>	<p>Rome has no policies that protect farmers' rights to City-owned vacant lots.</p>		
<p>2.16</p>	<p>Remove change of use fees</p>	<p>Rome requires no change of use fee.</p>		
<p>2.17</p> 	<p>Eliminate permits required for certain agriculture practices</p>	<p>The City does not require building permits for apiaries, aquaculture/aquaponics facilities or chicken coops, but these uses must adhere to requirements set forth in Sec. 80-13.2. Farmers markets require temporary use permits (see Sec. 80-12.4(a)).</p>		








2.18  	Permit the sale of unprocessed agricultural products	The City’s code is silent with regard to unprocessed agricultural products.		
2.19	Increase access to appropriate water sources, including subsidizing water and creating tax incentives for water collected and conserved on site	Rome’s code and planning documents do not address improving water or utility access for growers or tax incentives; however, the city’s comprehensive plan includes a strategy to allow vegetable gardens in all yards as a way to enhance local food production efforts and conserve water on-site. The plan also recommends stormwater management plans to prevent run-off increases for new development and the use of bio-swales and filter strips to allow infiltration and filtering of run-off to recharge groundwater. The City’s design standards include green infrastructure practices for stormwater management (see Article XI).		
2.20 	Decrease the size limit for permitted community gardens	Community gardens are limited to the "cultivation of herbs, fruits, flowers, or vegetables, including the cultivation and tillage of soil and the production, cultivation, growing, and harvesting of any agricultural, floricultural, or horticultural commodity", but there is no size limit (see Sec. 80-12.3(h)).		
2.21  	Adopt food cottage laws (23)	New York State adopted a Home Processor Exemption that exempts certain home processors from NYS food service regulations and permits, enabling them to sell packaged and labeled homemade goods across New York State.		
3. Healthy Food Access				
3.1 	Develop programs that financially and logistically support the creation of school gardens and city-supported community farms	Rome has no program to support school gardens and community farms.		

<p>3.2</p> 	<p>Strengthen urban food distribution chains through the creation of a regional food hub</p>	<p>The Oneida County Food Coalition includes 26 food pantries, some of which provide locally grown products. The coalition facilitates the distribution of produce through a network of emergency food providers. Mohawk Valley Food Action Network also works to strengthen the regional food system and increase access to healthy, nutritional food.</p>		
<p>3.3</p>  	<p>Provide detailed guidelines to ease the establishment of market and community gardens, CSAs and farmer's markets</p>	<p>Rome provides no guidance for establishing farmers' markets, community gardens or CSAs.</p>		
<p>3.4</p> 	<p>Require the sale of fresh produce at corner stores</p>	<p>Rome does not require the sale of fresh produce.</p>		
<p>3.5</p>  	<p>Permit the consumption of food grown in school gardens for school food services</p>	<p>There does not appear to be any school gardens in Rome.</p>		
<p>3.6</p>	<p>Implement a tax credit for urban agriculture</p>	<p>Rome does not provide tax incentives relating to urban agriculture; however, NYS provides a number of related programs at the State level, including the Farm Workforce Retention Credit, which provides \$300 for working 500 hours each year, and the Farm Donations to Food Pantries Credit, which provides a farm with 25% market value of donated food up to \$5,000.</p>		
<p>3.7</p> 	<p>Increase gardens based at schools and parks to increase spatial access to urban agriculture</p>	<p>There do not appear to be any agricultural gardens at schools or parks in Rome.</p>		



4. Community Engagement, Education, and Training

<p>4.1</p> 	<p>Develop urban farmer training programs to support new and existing farm businesses (entrepreneurial skills, market access, etc)</p>	<p>The Urban Farm Learning Lab, led through Cornell Cooperation Extension Oneida County, is an experiential training facility located in Union Station Rail Road Station. It provides workshops, training events, virtual and in person programming, and hands-on experience for existing and new growers.</p>		
<p>4.2</p>  	<p>Establish extension and education opportunities for new and beginning farmers to promote climate-friendly agriculture practices</p>	<p>Extension and education opportunities are available through a number of non-profits and institutions, such as Utica Greens, the Urban Farm Learning Lab, the Mohawk Valley Food Action Network, and the Cornell Cooperative Extension. Each of these organizations approach urban agriculture as part of a larger food, climate, health system.</p>		
<p>4.3</p>	<p>Provide sufficient funding for farming education programs</p>	<p>Rome does not provide funding opportunities for farming education. See 4.2 above for a list of organizations that provide farming education.</p>		
<p>4.4</p> 	<p>Provide training and support to receive organic certification</p>	<p>The Cornell Vegetable Program works with local farmers to improve and modify certain growing practices and+ align with organic production.</p>		
<p>4.5</p>  	<p>Increase community awareness of local food's origins</p>	<p>Rome has no program or policy in place to help increase awareness of local food origins, but the City's comprehensive plan recommends expansion of access to local food and encourages the creation of farmers markets and other types of original urban agriculture facilities.</p>		
<p>4.6</p>	<p>Promote composting programs for large institutions (universities, prisons, hospitals, etc)</p>	<p>Rome provides no composting program for large institutions.</p>		

4.7	Provide funding to purchase gardening tools	Rome does not provide funding for gardening tools, but could establish a garden tool collection at a public library. For example, The Utica Public Library's Garden Tool Collection provides tools for residents to borrow for up to three days at a time.		
5. Municipal Processes				
5.1 	Establish and empower a Food Policy Council comprised of stakeholders from diverse backgrounds along the food chain (production, consumption, processing, distribution, and waste recycling)	The City has no food policy council.		
5.2 	Develop and implement a Food Action Plan, led by a community-based Food Policy Council	Convened in 2010, the Mohawk Valley Food Action Network developed the Mohawk Valley Food Action Plan , which aims to (1) increase access to healthy foods, (2) advocate for economic development that will increase food system business opportunities, and (3) support a more diverse local food and transportation system.		
5.3 	Engage in non-profit-city partnerships to advance urban agriculture friendly practices	The city is not involved in any partnerships to advance urban agriculture.		
6. Social Equity				
6.1  	Create anti-gentrification policies	Rome has not implemented any anti-gentrification policies.		

<p>6.2</p>  	<p>Employ “Just Green Enough” strategies²⁴</p>	<p>Rome has not implemented “just green enough” policies.</p>		
<p>6.3</p>  	<p>Partner with housing organizations</p>	<p>Rome’s comprehensive plan includes planning actions that encourage the formation of a non-profit housing organization to expand housing development capacity and develop and implement a “Houses to Homes” initiative that will maximize the rate of homeownership. The City has allocated significant short-term funding to that project.</p> <p>Additionally, the City’s Homebuyer Incentive Program provides financial support to Rome inhabitants to help them with down payment and closing costs, and Rome provides a program that informs prospective buyers about issues like home buying, home maintenance financing, and budgeting.</p>		
<p>6.4</p>  	<p>Increase opportunities for historically disenfranchised community members to define the terms of development (ie. size, configuration, commercial space location, leasing process)</p>	<p>Rome currently has no program or initiative that promotes inclusionary development with regard to urban agriculture practices.</p>		
<p>6.5</p> 	<p>Support retail diversity, such as increased farmers markets versus larger food retailers</p>	<p>Rome’s comprehensive plan recommends expanding access to local food through farmers markets and farm stands. To do that, the City organizes events for farmers and allows on-site sales. Additionally, the Oneida County Public Market is open year round and, in addition to traditional vendors, hosts vendors that provide Community Supported Agriculture.</p>		

7. Funding

<p>7.1</p> 	<p>Add a page to a website or build a website that provides clear information about the funding available for urban agriculture. Delineate capacity and scale of organization required for each fund</p>	<p>There is no City-run website that provides information about funding for urban agriculture.</p>		
<p>7.2</p>	<p>Create institutional procurement channels for smaller food producers (Ex. monthly farmers market hosted in public schools)</p>	<p>Featured above in 6.5, the Oneida County Public Market hosts a variety of vendors. It is open year-round and accepts Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program credits.</p>		
<p>7.3</p> 	<p>Establish paid liaison roles that increase awareness of collaboration opportunities on the institutional and producer side</p>	<p>The city government does not include this role, which is primarily filled through non-profits and institutions (e.g., Cornell Cooperative Extension). Rome could create this role within their government to lessen the burden on external organizations and streamline City involvement and support.</p>		

III. Targeted Resources



GUIDEBOOK



EXAMPLE/APPLICATION















TOOL/TOOLKIT












STUDY/REPORT





STRATEGY	TYPE	PLANS, INCENTIVES, EDUCATIONAL TOOLS, REMOVAL OF BARRIERS, PARTNERSHIPS, SUPPORTIVE REGULATIONS, POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
1.1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seattle, WA P-Patch Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This program provides residents with access to garden plots in designated public parks, encouraging urban agriculture and community building. • Seattle, WA: Gardening in the Planting Strip <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This program allows residents to plant and maintain gardens in the planting strip (the area between the sidewalk and the street) in front of their homes, promoting food security and community building. • University of Missouri Extension: Urban Agriculture: Best Practices & Possibilities - file:///Users/dannyhaber/Downloads/Report_UrbanAg_USDN_Oct2012.pdf <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This report provides best practices and case studies for urban agriculture, including strategies for community engagement, site selection, and policy advocacy.
1.2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NYC Hydrant Water Use Information and Permit Application Instructions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The document is a set of instructions for obtaining a hydrant water use permit from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). It explains the requirements for obtaining a permit, including providing proof of liability insurance, paying fees, and obtaining a meter.
1.3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tunnel Vision Hoops: Permits for High Tunnels, Hoop Houses, and Greenhouses Ag Exemptions, Engineer Drawings, Temporary Use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The article discusses permits required for constructing high tunnels, hoop houses, and greenhouses for agricultural purposes in the United States. It explains the various exemptions and regulations that apply to these structures, including the agricultural exemption, temporary use permits, and building permits. • USDA High Tunnel Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The EQIP High Tunnel Initiative is a program offered by the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service





	 	<p>(NRCS) to help farmers and ranchers construct high tunnels for crop production. The program provides financial and technical assistance to eligible producers to plan and implement high tunnels. The initiative is part of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), which is a voluntary conservation program that helps agricultural producers address natural resource concerns on their land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NY Building Codes and Standards Technical Bulletin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The document is a technical bulletin issued by the New York State Department of State regarding the requirements for the construction and use of temporary greenhouses in the state. The bulletin explains that a temporary greenhouse is a structure that is not permanently attached to the ground and is intended to be used for six months or less. It provides guidance on the construction materials and standards for temporary greenhouses, including structural requirements, ventilation, and fire safety. The bulletin also outlines the permit requirements and the need to comply with local zoning regulations. • Cornell Cooperative Extension: Home High Tunnel Construction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The article provides information for farmers and growers interested in using greenhouses and high tunnels for crop production.
1.4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New York City Buildings: Registrant Project Requirements: Solar Work & Site Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The New York City Department of Buildings requires multiple permits for the installation of solar energy systems on buildings. The permits are required to ensure that the installation complies with building and electrical codes, zoning regulations, and fire safety standards. The website provides information on the permit application process and the requirements for solar energy installations, including the submission of electrical and structural plans, equipment specifications, and insurance coverage.
1.5	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeding the City: Land Use Policies to Promote Urban Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This report explores the role of land use policies in promoting urban agriculture, including zoning and land use regulations, public land management, and incentives for private landowners. • Boston, MA: Article 33: Open Space Subdistricts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This zoning policy allows for the creation of open space subdistricts, which can be used for urban agriculture and other community uses.
1.6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeding the City: Land Use Policies to Promote Urban Agriculture









		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This report explores the role of land use policies in promoting urban agriculture, including zoning and land use regulations, public land management, and incentives for private landowners. • Columbus, OH: Land Redevelopment Applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This program provides financial incentives for the redevelopment of vacant or underutilized land for urban agriculture and other community uses, promoting sustainable land use and community building.
1.7		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milwaukee, WI: Office of Sustainability HOME GROWN program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This program provides resources and technical assistance to residents interested in starting or expanding their urban agriculture projects. The program also supports community gardens, farmers’ markets, and other local food initiatives.
1.8	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cornell CALS: Land Access and Tenure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The article discusses land access and tenure for small farmers and provides guidance on how to secure and maintain land for farming. It explains the challenges that small farmers face in accessing land, such as high land prices, limited availability, and competition from large-scale operations. The article offers strategies for overcoming these challenges, including leasing land, entering into land-sharing arrangements with other farmers, and pursuing land conservation programs. • E-Book: Rooftop Urban Agriculture by Francesco Orsini <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “This book guides architects, landscape designers, urban planners, agronomists and society on the implementation of sustainable rooftop farming projects.”
1.9		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center for Agriculture & Food Systems: Higher Ground Rooftop Farm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Higher Ground is a blog run by the Farmland Access Hub, a national organization that provides resources and support for farmers seeking to access and secure land for farming. The blog features articles, case studies, and resources related to land access and tenure, including information on land trusts, lease agreements, and financing options for land purchases.
1.10		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center for Agriculture & Food Systems: Higher Ground Rooftop Farm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Higher Ground is a blog run by the Farmland Access Hub, a national organization that provides resources and support for farmers seeking to access and secure land for farming. The blog features articles, case studies, and resources related to land access and tenure, including information on land trusts, lease agreements, and financing options for land purchases.






1.11		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center for Agriculture & Food Systems: Higher Ground Rooftop Farm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Higher Ground is a blog run by the Farmland Access Hub, a national organization that provides resources and support for farmers seeking to access and secure land for farming. The blog features articles, case studies, and resources related to land access and tenure, including information on land trusts, lease agreements, and financing options for land purchases.
1.12		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluating the Benefits of Peri-Urban Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This study evaluates the benefits of peri-urban agriculture (agriculture on the outskirts of urban areas) including increased food security, improved environmental outcomes, and economic benefits. The study also examines policy and planning strategies to support peri-urban agriculture.
1.13	  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Resources Inventory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The National Resources Inventory is a survey conducted by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) that assesses the condition and trends of natural resources, including land use, soil health, water quality, and wildlife habitat, across the United States. The NRI provides valuable information to policymakers, land managers, and researchers to help inform decisions related to conservation, resource management, and land use planning. The survey is conducted every five years and includes data from over 3 million sample points across the country. • Sustainable Urban Agriculture: Confirming Viable Scenarios for Production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Starting on pages 1-3, this document lists “Types and distribution of sites in NYC that could have potential for production” including vacant land, open space, NYC housing authority property, surface parking, greenstreets, yard space, and rooftops • Mapping the Potential for Urban Agriculture in Worcester: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maps potential parcels for urban agriculture along with both owners of vacant properties and the ground cover for each property ○ Also maps out, using NAIP and google earth imagery, publicly owned vacant parcels, vacant school and park properties, along with the zoning distribution of these properties (pg. 31) ○ Has Land Inventory Database ○ As an example, Minneapolis and Portland both inventoried land available for urban agriculture practices through government and masters student projects.








<p>1.14</p>	   	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources: Soils in Urban Agriculture: Testing, Remediation, and Best Management Practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources publication "Soils in Urban Agriculture: Testing, Remediation, and Best Management Practices" provides guidance and recommendations for testing and managing soils in urban agriculture settings. The publication covers topics such as soil testing methods, soil remediation strategies, and best management practices for maintaining healthy soil in urban agriculture. The guidance is intended to help urban farmers and gardeners grow safe, healthy, and productive crops while minimizing the risk of soil contamination and other environmental hazards. • EPA's REUSING POTENTIALLY CONTAMINATED LANDSCAPES: Growing Gardens in Urban Soils <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EPA Brownfield Locator ○ EPA Brownfield Grant Funding- EPA's Brownfields Program provides direct funding for brownfields assessment, cleanup, revolving loans, environmental job training, technical assistance, training, and research. ○ BROWNFIELDS AND URBAN AGRICULTURE: Interim Guidelines for Safe Gardening Practices - guidance for safe gardening practices in urban areas with a history of industrial use or contamination. The guidelines cover topics such as site selection, soil testing, and soil remediation strategies to minimize the risks of exposure to contaminants such as lead, arsenic, and other heavy metals. The guidelines are intended to help urban farmers and gardeners make informed decisions about site selection and soil management to promote safe and healthy gardening practices. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For example, Cleveland, Ohio collaborates with Ohio State University to conduct soil testing for urban farms. Vermont also assessed the safety of brownfield sites for greenhouse infrastructure. • National Lead Laboratory Accreditation Program (NLLAP) List <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The NLLAP List is a compilation of laboratories accredited by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to analyze lead samples in soil, paint, and other environmental media. The list provides a resource for individuals and organizations seeking reliable and accurate lead testing services. • Historic Aerial Viewer to determine previous land use
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









		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Historic Aerial Viewer is an online tool that provides access to historical aerial photographs of a location to help determine previous land use. The tool can be useful for assessing potential contamination risks and informing decisions about land use and site selection for urban agriculture and other land use activities.
1.15	   	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Cleveland, Ohio Land Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Land Bank is a public agency that acquires and manages vacant, abandoned, and tax-delinquent properties in the city with the goal of returning them to productive use. The Land Bank works with community partners and stakeholders to identify properties that can be repurposed for urban agriculture, affordable housing, and other community development initiatives. • Washington D.C. - Reduced Tax Liability for Urban Farms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Code § 47–868. “...if real property is used as an urban farm, then 90% of the real property tax otherwise levied pursuant to [§ 47-811] on the portion of the real property exclusively in use as an urban farm shall be abated for each real property tax year that such portion of the real property is used as an urban farm” • Washington D.C. - Urban Farming Land Lease Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Code § 48–402.01. “(a) There is established within the Department the Urban Farming Land Lease Program ("Program"), which shall enable a qualified applicant identified pursuant to subsection (c) of this section to enter into a lease agreement with the District to create and maintain an urban farm on vacant land identified pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. • Massachusetts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An Act promoting urban agriculture and horticulture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This is a Massachusetts state law that promotes urban agriculture and horticulture by encouraging local zoning changes to permit and encourage these activities, providing technical assistance and education, and establishing a fund to support urban agriculture projects. The law aims to increase access to fresh, healthy food, promote environmental sustainability, and support economic development in urban areas. ○ An Act advancing food and agricultural equity in the Commonwealth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This is another Massachusetts state law that aims to advance food and agricultural equity in the state by creating a task force to study and make recommendations on strategies to increase access to healthy, affordable food









		<p>in underserved communities, support local and regional food systems, and promote economic opportunities in agriculture. The law also establishes a grant program to support community-based food and agriculture projects and creates a food trust to finance healthy food retail and distribution projects in underserved areas.</p>
1.16	  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Agriculture, Composting and Zoning: A Zoning Code Model for Promoting Composting and Organic Waste Diversion through Sustainable Urban Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A model zoning code that promotes composting and organic waste diversion through sustainable urban agriculture. The model code provides guidelines for zoning practices that encourage composting and the use of compost in urban agriculture settings. It includes provisions for on-site composting, community composting, and the use of compost in urban agriculture. The model code is intended to promote sustainable urban agriculture practices that reduce organic waste, improve soil health, and support local food production. • City of Utica - Sec. 2-22-73 Composting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Material being composted shall be buried or stored in such a manner as to not create a nuisance through odor, attraction of vermin and insects and the like or to endanger the public safety. Following the above conditions, material being composted may be stored for more than 14 days. ○ Oneida County Compost Services (OCCS) • City of Utica - Sec. 2-22-127 Green waste. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (a) Green waste not being used for mulch or composting shall be prepared and set out for public collection in the manner specified by the Commissioner of Public Works. Green waste shall not be set at the curb until the night of collection. Green waste shall not be mixed with recyclable material, rubbish or trash as defined in § 2-22-1.
2.0		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Strategies to Support Local Food Systems: Including Local Food in Comprehensive Plans and Urban Agriculture Ordinance Toolkit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A resource that guides municipalities on how to incorporate local food systems and urban agriculture into comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances. The toolkit includes model language for zoning ordinances, best practices for urban agriculture policy development, and case studies of successful municipal programs. The toolkit aims to promote local food systems and urban agriculture by providing municipalities





		<p>with the necessary tools and resources to incorporate these initiatives into their planning and policy-making processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Madison, Wisconsin: Comprehensive Plan (2022) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Includes “Strategy 8: Ensure access to food that is affordable, nutritious, and culturally specific.” Within Strategy 8 are two plans: (pg. 11) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Identify public and private spaces suitable for community gardens and explore expansion of existing gardens to meet demand.” ▪ “Improve access to fresh foods by encouraging and facilitating the equitable distribution of farmers’ markets and farm stands.”
2.1	      	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kingston, New York: Urban Agriculture Planning and Zoning Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This is a study conducted by the City of Kingston, New York that provides recommendations for integrating urban agriculture into the city's zoning and planning processes. The study includes an analysis of existing zoning regulations and policies, as well as recommendations for new zoning provisions and incentives to support urban agriculture. • Boston, MA: Article 89 Made Easy: Urban Agriculture Zoning for the City of Boston <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Boston has an Urban Agriculture Rezoning Initiative that allows for the creation of urban farms and community gardens on city-owned land. The initiative also includes a provision that requires developers to provide space for urban agriculture in new development projects, which could help ensure long-term access to land for urban farmers. • Oneida County: Agriculture-Friendly Oneida County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This is a program launched by Oneida County in New York to promote and support agriculture in the county. The program provides resources and incentives to farmers and supports the development of local food systems and agribusinesses. • Chicago, IL: Chicago Zoning Ordinance, Title 17 of the Municipal Code of 13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This is the zoning ordinance for the city of Chicago, which includes provisions for urban agriculture. The ordinance regulates the use of land for agriculture and provides standards for the design and operation of urban farms. • Green Pattern Book: Using Vacant Land to Create Greener Neighborhoods in Baltimore <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This is a guide produced by the City of Baltimore that provides strategies for using vacant land to create green spaces and promote urban agriculture. The guide






		<p>includes case studies of successful projects and offers guidance on how to plan, design, and implement green infrastructure projects in urban areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 American Cities that Lead the Way with Urban Agriculture Ordinances • Civil Eats: San Francisco Passes Progressive Urban Agriculture Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The policy includes provisions for urban agriculture on public and private land, supports the development of community gardens and urban farms, and aims to increase access to healthy, fresh food in underserved communities. • Hunter College: The Politics of NYC’s Urban Farming: The City Notices Urban Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The paper discusses the challenges and opportunities associated with urban agriculture in the city and explores the role of government in supporting and regulating urban agriculture initiatives.
2.2	   	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seattle, WA: Ordinance 123378 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A law was passed in 2011 to encourage the use of vacant city-owned land for urban agriculture. It requires city agencies to identify and assess properties suitable for urban agriculture and to prioritize them for a long-term lease or sale to urban farmers. The law also requires the city to provide technical assistance and support for urban agriculture projects and to establish an urban agriculture policy advisory committee to guide the city's efforts in this area. • Fitchburg, WI - Sec. 22-6. - General provisions and exceptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fitchburg authorizes the establishment of community gardens in all of its zoning districts. Such gardens must be headed by either a nonprofit organization or a community-based group that is willing to oversee the operation. Plantings in community gardens are limited to “fruits, vegetables, herbs, plants and flowers.” The site must have an adequate supply of water to sustain all gardening activity • Highland Park, WI - 1229.04 Community Gardens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Highland Park allows community gardens in all zoning districts, as well as “market gardens” and “community-supported agriculture” sites (CSAs) in its R-UV and MU-UV districts. ○ Additionally, Milwaukee established a “permissive agriculture use” category that allows the use of community gardens in residential, commercial, institutional, and parks districts. • Urban Food Systems KSU: Gaining Ground Webinar: Zoning for Urban Agriculture





		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The webinar highlights the challenges of navigating zoning regulations for urban agriculture and guides how to effectively advocate for zoning changes to support urban agriculture initiatives. • WeConservePA: Agricultural Protection Zoning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This toolkit provides guidance and resources for local governments to implement agricultural protection zoning (APZ) policies. APZ policies are designed to protect farmland and other agricultural resources from non-agricultural uses and to promote the economic viability of agriculture.
2.3	     	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeding the City: Land Use Policies to Promote Urban Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This report explores the role of land use policies in promoting urban agriculture, including zoning and land use regulations, public land management, and incentives for private landowners. • Boston, MA: Article 89 Made Easy: Urban Agriculture Zoning for the City of Boston <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Boston has an Urban Agriculture Rezoning Initiative that allows for the creation of urban farms and community gardens on city-owned land. The initiative also includes a provision that requires developers to provide space for urban agriculture in new development projects, which could help ensure long-term access to land for urban farmers. • Mitchell Hamline School of Law Public Health Law Center: Community Gardening Policy Reference Guide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A guide that provides information on how to create and implement policies to support community gardening initiatives. The guide covers a range of topics, including land use regulations, liability and insurance issues, and funding and resource allocation strategies. • Planning for Healthy Places, Establishing Land Use Protections for Community Gardens, Public Health Law & Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A resource that guides how to create land use policies that protect community gardens and support healthy food access in urban areas. The resource includes model policies and zoning language, case studies, and implementation strategies. Cities such as Atlanta, Denver, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, San Francisco, and Seattle have amended their zoning codes to define select urban agriculture terms.






	          	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Jeffery P. LeJava and Michael J. Goonan, <i>Cultivating Urban Agriculture—Addressing Land Use Barriers to Gardening and Farming in Cities</i>, 41 Real Estate L.J. 216, 228 (2012)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This article explores the legal and regulatory barriers to urban agriculture and offers solutions to address these challenges. The article provides a comprehensive overview of the legal issues related to urban agriculture, including zoning and land use regulations, property rights, and liability concerns. • <u>Guide to Urban Farming in New York State</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Resource that provides information on how to start and operate an urban farm in New York State. • <u>Agriculture-Friendly Oneida County: A Municipal Guide to Planning for Agriculture</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A resource that guides local governments on how to develop policies and programs that support agriculture and protect farmland. • Municipal Zoning for Local Foods in Iowa - <u>file:///Users/dannyhaber/Downloads/LF26.pdf</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A report that guides how to create local zoning codes that support urban agriculture and local food production. • <u>Growing Urban Agriculture: Equitable Strategies and Policies for Improving Access to Healthy Food and Revitalizing Communities</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A publication that discusses the importance of equitable urban agriculture policies and strategies in creating healthy food systems and revitalizing communities. • <u>Cleveland’s Zoning for Urban Agriculture & Green Space</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A guide that explains the zoning regulations in Cleveland, Ohio related to urban agriculture and green space. • <u>Healthy Food Project: Zoning for Urban Agriculture</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A guide that provides examples of how zoning regulations can be used to promote urban agriculture and increase access to healthy food. “Additionally, the resource furthers the Healthy Food Policy Project’s goal of identifying local policy options that support access to healthy food.” • <u>Kingston, New York: Urban Agriculture Planning & Zoning Study</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A report that analyzes the existing policies and regulations related to urban agriculture in Kingston, New York and provides recommendations for future planning and zoning.
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	       	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Detroit Urban Agriculture Ordinance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An ordinance that outlines the rules and regulations for urban agriculture in the city of Detroit, including provisions for zoning, permitting, and land use. • San Francisco, CA Urban Agriculture Policy Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An overview of the policies and programs that support urban agriculture in San Francisco, including zoning regulations, land use policies, and funding opportunities. • National Conference of State Legislatures: Urban Agriculture State Legislation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A resource that provides an overview of the state legislation related to urban agriculture in the United States, including zoning, land use, and food safety regulations. • Zoning Out: Urban Agriculture, Sustainability, and Development in Portland, Oregon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discusses the city's efforts to promote urban agriculture through zoning and other policies, and examines the tensions between urban agriculture and other land uses, such as residential and commercial development. • Zoned Out: The Potential for Urban Agriculture Planning to Turn Against its Roots <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ highlights the potential for urban agriculture planning to become too focused on economic development and lose sight of its social and environmental roots. The paper calls for a more holistic approach to urban agriculture planning. • Notre Dame Law Review: Putting Paradise in the Parking Lot: Using Zoning to Promote Urban Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ discusses the potential for zoning laws to promote urban agriculture and provides examples of successful zoning practices in several cities. • Valparaiso University Law Review: A Right to Farm in the City: Providing a Legal Framework for Legitimizing Urban Farming in American Cities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ legal barriers to urban farming and proposes a legal framework to support and legitimize urban agriculture. • Emory Turner Environmental Law Clinic: Urban Agriculture: A Sixteen City Survey of Urban Agriculture Practices Across the Country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ survey of urban agriculture practices in sixteen American cities, including information on zoning regulations, land use policies, and other factors affecting urban agriculture. • Land Stewardship Project: How US Cities are Using Zoning to Support Urban Agriculture
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

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ report that discusses how various cities across the United States are using zoning laws to support and promote urban agriculture. • Ohio State University Fact Sheet: Agricultural Zoning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ overview of agricultural zoning laws and how they relate to urban agriculture. • City of Richmond: Urban Agriculture Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ report that examines the state of urban agriculture in Richmond, Virginia, and provides recommendations for promoting and supporting urban agriculture in the city. • American Planning Association: Urban Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ resource page that provides information on urban agriculture planning and policy, including case studies, best practices, and tools for planners. • Growing Food Connections: Local Government Food Policy Database <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a database of local government food policies and programs, including those related to urban agriculture, from across the United States.
2.4	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brownfields and Urban Agriculture: Interim Guidelines for Safe Gardening Practices Guidance for safe gardening practices in urban areas with a history of industrial use or contamination. The guidelines cover topics such as site selection, soil testing, and soil remediation strategies to minimize the risks of exposure to contaminants such as lead, arsenic, and other heavy metals. The guidelines are intended to help urban farmers and gardeners make informed decisions about site selection and soil management to promote safe and healthy gardening practices. • San Francisco, CA Urban Agriculture Policy Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An overview of the policies and programs that support urban agriculture in San Francisco, including zoning regulations, land use policies, and funding opportunities.
2.5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seattle, WA: Food Action Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Seattle Food Action Plan does not offer tax breaks directly. However, it does include a recommendation to explore the possibility of creating tax incentives for businesses that donate surplus food to food banks or composting facilities. This recommendation is part of the plan's goal to reduce food waste and increase food recovery efforts in the city. The plan suggests that the City of Seattle could work with the state government to create tax incentives or other economic incentives for businesses that engage in these types of food recovery efforts.
2.6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seattle, WA: Food Action Plan






		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Seattle Food Action Plan aims to support urban agriculture and remove barriers to starting and maintaining urban gardens and farms. One way it does this is by advocating for changes to zoning and land use regulations that would make it easier to start urban gardens and farms. This could include reducing or eliminating onerous requirements such as expensive permit fees or costly infrastructure improvements that would increase the start-up costs of urban gardens and farms.
2.7	  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buffalo, NY Green Code: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vehicle Access and Parking - Code 8.3.1 “Off-Street Parking. There are no provisions that establish a minimum number of off-street parking spaces for development. “ (pg.8-5) • Boulder, CO - Administrative Parking Reduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tool that allows developers to reduce or eliminate parking requirements for certain types of developments if they can demonstrate that they will promote alternative transportation modes or reduce the need for automobile travel. This program is intended to support sustainable transportation options, reduce traffic congestion, and encourage infill development in the city. ○ Additionally, Seattle, Washington eliminated parking requirements for urban farms and community gardens in residential areas. • Minneapolis, MN - Eliminated off-street parking minimums <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 541.10. - Purpose. ...The regulations do not mandate a minimum number of automobile parking spaces and recognize that excessive off-street parking for automobiles conflicts with the city's policies related to transportation, land use, urban design, and sustainability.
2.8	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hartford, CT Zoning Regulations: file:///Users/dannyhaber/Downloads/Zoning-Regulations-06052020.pdf <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4.20.5 Accessory Urban Agricultural Structures A. Accessory Farm Structures. Accessory Farm Structures include but are not limited to, sheds (tool and packing), shade pavilions, farm stands, <u>trellises</u>, or other vertical supports for growing crops, and structures used to extend the growing season such as greenhouses... (pg. 189) • Newtown, CT Zoning Regulations:






		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3.7.2 Building Fixtures: Applicants are encouraged to incorporate in their design flower boxes, foundation planters, mailboxes, shutters and trellises, and in a manner that compliments the architecture of the project and its context. (pg. 278) • Arlington, VA Zoning Regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Encroachments allowed into required yards and courts - The following encroachments shall be allowed into required yards and courts (pg. 3-11) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ (a) No building or structure, or addition thereto, other than walls or fences, shall encroach into a required yard or court; except that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trellises of neither more than eight feet in height nor more than a total of eight feet in length may be placed in any required side or rear yard, but not nearer than 18 inches to any property line; provided, however: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ i. Trellises incorporated as fences Subject to the provisions of §3.2.6.A.3(e), trellises of a total height and length not to exceed the dimensions in §3.2.6.A.3(a)(2), may be incorporated as part of fences ○ Similarly, the plan established in Minneapolis recommended that the city allow trellises designed for food production in residential gardens.
2.9	  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model Ordinance for the Keeping of Honey Bees in the State of Pennsylvania: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In joint consultation, the PA State Beekeepers Association, the Penn State Center for Pollinator Research, and the PA Apiary Advisory Board have developed and endorsed this Model Ordinance for Beekeeping in Pennsylvania Municipalities • New York Bee Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in New York permitted beekeeping in the city by designating non-aggressive honey bees as safe insects for residential areas. • Neenah, Wisconsin - Honey Bee Registration Form <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Honey Bee Registration Form collects basic information about the beekeeper and the location of the hives and is intended to help the city track the number of hives within city limits and ensure compliance with state and local beekeeping regulations.







		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in New York permitted beekeeping in the city by designating non-aggressive honey bees as safe insects for residential areas. • Evanston, IL Zoning Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Allow beekeeping activities as a permitted use in certain zoning districts. For example, in residential zoning districts, beekeeping activities are allowed as long as they comply with certain standards, such as requiring a minimum lot size and setting limits on the number of hives per lot.
2.10	    	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant Nurseries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Aspen, CO - Permits nurseries in Rural Residential Zone District, Conservation Zone District, and Park Zone District <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In Aspen, Colorado, it is permitted to have nurseries in certain zones such as the Rural Residential Zone, Conservation Zone, and Park Zone. ○ San Diego, CA Zoning Regulations: (pg. 12) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plant nurseries are permitted with a Conditional Use Permit and are subject to a few regulations. • Greenhouses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minneapolis, MN Zoning Regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Greenhouse or conservatory.</i> Greenhouses and conservatories shall be allowed as an accessory use. ▪ Minneapolis amended a code allowing for honey bees on private property. The code also extended seasonal markets and allowed hoop house and vertical farm construction in 2011. ○ New York City Zoning Regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greenhouses used for the cultivation of plants, on the roofs of buildings other than buildings of Type V construction, shall be constructed of noncombustible framework and shall be glazed with plain or wire glass, or light-transmitting plastic glazing complying with the requirements of Section 2606. The floors of greenhouses shall be constructed to be at least equal to the requirements for roof construction on Table 601 for the construction class of the building on which it is located. ○ Fayetteville, WV Zoning Regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1323.25 NONCOMMERCIAL GREENHOUSES.








	     	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (a) Non-commercial greenhouses shall only be located in the rear yard and shall be located twenty-five (25) feet from the rear lot line. • (b) The noncommercial greenhouse shall not create offensive odors or dust. • (c.) The maximum size of a noncommercial greenhouse is three hundred (300) square feet. (Passed 7-7-22.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New Rochelle, NY Zoning Regulations: (pg. 42) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The City of New Rochelle has created six Downtown Overlay Zones to promote creative place-making and economic development.61 The Table of Uses for these zones allows for urban agriculture in all of them by right (i.e. without a special use permit). Moreover, the code allows greenhouses to exceed otherwise prescribed maximum height limits and gives even more size latitude to greenhouses that are dedicated to growing produce without the need for a zoning variance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Portland, OR Zoning Regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The City of Portland allows residents to keep (4) chickens, ducks, pigeons, and/or other similarly sized domestic fowl along with 4 rabbits, 3 miniature goats, and 2 miniature pigs on any lot. ○ Denver, CO Zoning regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Livestock and fowl are allowed but a permit is required ○ Berkeley, CA Zoning Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Livestock are permitted if kept in an enclosure at least 25 feet away from a dwelling house ○ Madison, WI Permit to keep chickens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To keep chickens on residential property in Madison, Wisconsin, it is necessary to obtain a permit. The permit process likely involves meeting certain requirements, such as a limit on the number of chickens that can be kept and minimum space requirements, and paying a fee. ○ Seattle, WA Zoning Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “The keeping of small animals, farm animals, domestic fowl, and bees is permitted outright in all zones as an accessory use to any principal use permitted outright or to a permitted conditional use”
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
2.11	    	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milwaukee, WI Permitting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Milwaukee established a code permitting hens but limiting roosters. • Seattle, WA Zoning Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “The keeping of small animals, farm animals, domestic fowl, and bees is permitted outright in all zones as an accessory use to any principal use permitted outright or to a permitted conditional use” • Santa Fe, NM Zoning Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The regulations dictate what types of buildings and uses are allowed in different areas of the city, which could include regulations on keeping animals. • Boston Planning & Development Agency “Urban Agriculture”: (pg. 20) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “The maximum number of adult Hens in all Districts and Subdistricts not covered under the Base Code shall be six (6) per Lot.” • Cleveland’s Zoning for Urban Agriculture & Green Space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Allows most residents to keep up to 6 chickens, ducks or rabbits (1 per 800 sq ft) and 2 beehives in a back yard or on small vacant lots”
2.12	   	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seattle, WA P-Patch Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A Community Garden is a use in which land managed by a public or nonprofit organization or group of individuals is used to grow plants and harvest food or ornamental crops for donation or use by those cultivating the land. Examples include P-Patch community gardens administered by the Department of Neighborhoods. All Zones: Allowed as a primary use in all zones, but community gardens are restricted to rooftops and sides of buildings in designated Manufacturing and Industrial Centers (MICs). ○ Community Garden in Zoning Code: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 23.42.053 - Community gardens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In all zones, the total gross floor area of all structures for community garden use may not exceed 1,000 square feet on any lot. • In all zones, structures for community garden use are limited to 12 feet in height, including any pitched roof. • Structures for community garden use are subject to the development standards of the zone as they apply to accessory structures. • San Francisco, CA Green Connections Program




		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The San Francisco Green Connections Program aims to create a network of green connections between the city's parks, open spaces, and natural areas. This includes initiatives to create public gardens or allow for the use of public park land for community gardening. • Baltimore, MD City Farms Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Baltimore City Farms Program supports urban agriculture and community gardening in the city, including on public land. The program provides resources and support to individuals and organizations looking to start community gardens or urban farms. • Boston Planning & Development Agency “Urban Agriculture” Article 89: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Boston has an Urban Agriculture Rezoning Initiative that allows for the creation of urban farms and community gardens on city-owned land. The initiative also includes a provision that requires developers to provide space for urban agriculture in new development projects, which could help ensure long-term access to land for urban farmers.
2.13	  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toronto, Canada - GrowTO: An Urban Agriculture Action Plan for Toronto <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As part of the GrowTO Urban Agriculture Action Plan for Toronto, there are initiatives to increase access to vacant land for community gardening and urban agriculture. The plan aims to make use of underutilized land for urban agriculture purposes, including vacant lots and unused public land. • Ontario, Canada Development Code: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Allowed Activities/Facilities. Commercial Crop Production and Farming is allowed as a primary or ancillary use of land, and as an interim land use on vacant and underdeveloped properties...” (pg. 5.03-113) • Detroit, MI Vacant Property Toolkit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Detroit Vacant Property Toolkit is a guide that provides information and resources for residents, community organizations, and local government to address the issues related to vacant properties in Detroit, Michigan. The toolkit includes information on land acquisition, property maintenance, zoning regulations, and strategies for transforming vacant lots into community assets.
2.14		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NYC Parks- GreenThumb Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provides support and resources to community gardeners and urban farmers in New York City. The program offers technical assistance, access to funding, and









	 	<p>education and training opportunities to help gardeners maintain and improve their community gardens and urban farms. Additionally, GreenThumb works to ensure that gardeners have access to safe and secure garden spaces and that their rights to use and access their gardens are protected. The program also advocates for policies and regulations that support community gardening and urban agriculture and helps to connect gardeners with local government agencies and community organizations to address any issues or concerns related to their garden spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boston, MA: Article 89 Made Easy: Urban Agriculture Zoning for the City of Boston <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Boston has an Urban Agriculture Rezoning Initiative that allows for the creation of urban farms and community gardens on city-owned land. The initiative also includes a provision that requires developers to provide space for urban agriculture in new development projects, which could help ensure long-term access to land for urban farmers. • Seattle, WA P-Patch Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seattle has a P-Patch Community Gardening Program that allows individuals and groups to lease plots of public land to grow vegetables, fruits, and flowers. The program also provides garden groups with grants for community-driven improvement projects and gives access to resources and support.
2.15		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Housing Solutions: Reduced or Waived Fees for Qualifying Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ While this brief is directed toward housing development, it is equally useful for administering agencies that determine change of use fees. This brief addresses the various ways these incurred costs can be reduced or waived by municipalities, including but not limited to waiving fees for certain eligible projects or allowing payment on a deferred basis.
2.16		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Francisco, CA: Neighborhood Urban Agriculture Permit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ While San Francisco has not eliminated permits for certain agricultural practices, the City and County of San Francisco have established a streamlined permitting process for urban agriculture projects, including community gardens, market gardens, and urban farms. The process includes reduced fees and a faster turnaround time for permit applications. ○ San Francisco and Philadelphia residents have both expressed concerns for these requirements as official complaints to local planning/zoning commissions.
2.17		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Los Angeles, CA - Cottage Food Program “Assembly Bill No. 1616”:






	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Los Angeles has permitted the sale of unprocessed agricultural products through its Cottage Food Program, which allows individuals to sell certain homemade foods, including some types of unprocessed fruits and vegetables, from their homes or at farmers’ markets. • Washington State Legislature - Cottage Food Program “RCW 69.22.010”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Washington state has permitted the sale of unprocessed agricultural products through its Cottage Food Program. • Atlanta - Right to Farm Act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Right to Farm Act in Atlanta eliminates permits required for raising food crops, chicken, rabbits, and goats in private residential areas. • Connecticut Cottage Food Law “Public Act No. 18-141” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Connecticut Cottage Food Law, also known as Public Act No. 18-141, allows individuals to prepare and sell certain types of food products from their homes without obtaining a commercial license. • Maine- Food Sovereignty and Cottage Laws
2.18	   	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tucson, AZ - Commercial Rainwater Harvesting Ordinance No. 10527: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requires developers of commercial properties to harvest rainwater for at least 50 percent of their landscaping needs within three years. • Tucson, AZ - Rainwater Harvesting Rebate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tucson has implemented a rainwater harvesting program that provides rebates and tax incentives for residents and businesses that install rainwater harvesting systems. The city also offers free water harvesting workshops to educate residents about the benefits of collecting and using rainwater. • Portland, OR - Stormwater Management Ordinance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Portland has implemented a Stormwater Management Manual that encourages the use of green infrastructure and on-site water management techniques to reduce runoff and increase water conservation. The city also offers financial incentives for residents and businesses that install rain gardens, bioswales, and other types of green infrastructure. • Water Meters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ San Francisco provided \$100,000 for water meter installment in urban agriculture zones. Milwaukee, Madison, Cleveland, Minneapolis, Dallas, and Dubuque also established water conservation, collection, and subsidization practices.






2.19		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chicago, IL Zoning Ordinance: Code 17-9-0103.5-A - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Community gardens shall not be larger than 25,000 square feet, except in POS districts. There is no size limit for <i>community gardens</i> in the POS1 and POS2 districts.”
2.20	  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Los Angeles, CA - Cottage Food Program “Assembly Bill No. 1616”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Los Angeles has permitted the sale of unprocessed agricultural products through its Cottage Food Program, which allows individuals to sell certain homemade foods, including some types of unprocessed fruits and vegetables, from their homes or at farmers’ markets. • Washington State Legislature - Cottage Food Program “RCW 69.22.010”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Washington State has permitted the sale of unprocessed agricultural products through its Cottage Food Program. Cottage food operators must obtain a food handler's permit, have it reviewed by a Food Safety Compliance Specialist, and comply with certain sanitation and record-keeping requirements. • Connecticut Cottage Food Law “Public Act No. 18-141” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enacted in 2018 and allows individuals to prepare certain non-potentially hazardous food items in their home kitchens for sale to consumers. Cottage food operators must obtain a food operator's permit, complete a food safety course, and comply with certain sanitation and record-keeping requirements.
2.21		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets: Food Business Licensing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets regulates food businesses to ensure the safety of the public. The department requires licenses and permits for a wide range of food-related activities, including food processing and manufacturing, retail food establishments, mobile food vendors, and farmers' markets. The website provides information on the various licenses and permits required, as well as the application process, fees, and inspections.
3.1	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seattle, WA P-Patch Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The program can help schools to identify suitable garden sites, design the garden layout, and obtain necessary permits. The P-Patch Program also offers workshops and training on topics such as garden design, soil health, and plant care, as well as providing access to gardening tools and equipment. In addition, the program offers funding opportunities for school gardens through grants and other programs. • Kingston, New York: Urban Agriculture Planning and Zoning Study








		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The study recommends updating the city's zoning regulations to make it easier to establish and maintain school gardens, including provisions for community gardens on public lands and provisions for commercial urban agriculture activities. The study also recommends developing guidelines and resources for school garden programs, such as site selection and garden design, soil health, and plant care.
3.2	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>New York, NY: New York State Regional Food Hub</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The food hub provides a central location for aggregating, storing, and distributing locally grown food, making it easier for small farmers to reach larger markets and for urban consumers to access fresh, healthy, and locally produced food. The food hub offers infrastructure and services, such as cold storage, packing and processing facilities, and distribution and logistics support, that can help farmers expand their businesses and reach new customers. • <u>USDA Regional Food Hub Resource Guide</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The guide provides information on various aspects of regional food hub development, including market research, business planning, legal considerations, funding sources, and operational management. It includes case studies of successful food hubs across the United States and offers tools and templates to help organizations develop their food hub plans. The guide also includes information on best practices for sustainable agriculture and food system development, as well as resources for networking and collaboration among food hub stakeholders. The USDA Regional Food Hub Resource Guide serves as a valuable resource for individuals and organizations looking to support local food systems, strengthen regional food economies, and promote sustainable agriculture.
3.3	  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Portland, OR: Urban Food Zoning Code</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “This report is an in-depth study of current market conditions, including supply and demand. It examines characteristics of successful markets, identifies underserved areas, analyzes the markets’ economic impact, and offers recommendations for an expanded City role in fostering market growth.” • <u>Boston, MA: Article 89 Made Easy: Urban Agriculture Zoning for the City of Boston</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Boston has an Urban Agriculture Rezoning Initiative that allows for the creation of urban farms and community gardens on city-owned land. The initiative also includes a provision that requires developers to provide space for urban agriculture in








		<p>new development projects, which could help ensure long-term access to land for urban farmers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USDA Regional Food Hub Resource Guide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The guide provides information on various aspects of regional food hub development, including market research, business planning, legal considerations, funding sources, and operational management. It includes case studies of successful food hubs across the United States and offers tools and templates to help organizations develop their food hub plans. The guide also includes information on best practices for sustainable agriculture and food system development, as well as resources for networking and collaboration among food hub stakeholders. The USDA Regional Food Hub Resource Guide serves as a valuable resource for individuals and organizations looking to support local food systems, strengthen regional food economies, and promote sustainable agriculture.
3.4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecticut Department of Agriculture: Programs, Services, and Grant Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Connecticut Department of Agriculture administers the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) in Connecticut. The WIC and SFMNP are federal programs that provide low-income pregnant women, new mothers, infants, children, and seniors with coupons to purchase fresh, locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs at farmers' markets and farm stands. The ADaRC provides information about the WIC and SFMNP programs, including how to apply for and use the vouchers, as well as a directory of farmers' markets and farm stands that participate in the programs in Connecticut.
3.5	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New York City Health: Health Bucks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health Bucks is a program run by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene that provides low-income families and individuals with vouchers that can be used to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at participating farmers' markets throughout the city. The website provides information on how to obtain Health Bucks vouchers, as well as a list of participating farmers' markets and the eligibility criteria for the program. • USDA Food & Nutrition Service: Attracting SNAP Customers to Your Farmer's Markets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service guides retailers and farmers' markets on how to attract Supplemental








		<p>Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) customers. The website offers tips on how to increase the visibility and accessibility of SNAP-eligible products in stores and farmers' markets, such as displaying signage and providing information on the nutritional value of fresh fruits and vegetables.</p>
3.6	   	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philadelphia, PA - Healthy Corner Store Initiative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Philadelphia Healthy Corner Store Initiative provides technical assistance and grants to corner store owners to help them stock and sell fresh produce and other healthy foods. • Minneapolis Staple Foods Ordinance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minneapolis established a five-vegetable requirement for grocery stores in 2014 • Los Angeles, CA - Healthy Neighborhood Market Network: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Healthy Neighborhood Market Network is a program that provides incentives and support to small markets and corner stores in low-income areas to encourage the sale of fresh produce and other healthy foods. • Seattle, WA - Fresh Bucks Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In 2010, Seattle passed the "Fresh Bucks Program Ordinance," which established a program to provide vouchers to low-income residents to purchase fresh produce from participating farmers' markets and corner stores.
3.7	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denver, CO - Denver Public Schools Garden to Cafeteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Denver Public Schools Garden to Cafeteria Program allows schools to use produce grown in school gardens in school meals, provided that the produce meets food safety requirements and is properly processed. • New York City Public Schools Food Programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The New York City Department of Education permits the use of school garden produce in school meals and snacks, provided that the produce is properly cleaned and prepared.
3.8	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massachusetts Urban Agriculture Grant Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Massachusetts Urban Agriculture Grant Program provides grants of up to \$50,000 to support the development of urban agriculture projects, including tax incentives for landowners who lease their property to urban farmers. • USDA Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ While the USDA Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grants do not provide any information about tax credits for urban agriculture, these grants are

		<p>designed to support projects that promote urban agriculture and innovative production practices, such as community gardens, rooftop gardens, and indoor farming. They provide funding to organizations, local governments, and other entities to help them develop and implement programs that increase access to fresh, healthy food in urban areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baltimore Urban Agriculture Tax Credit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In 2014, the State of Maryland updated its Tax Code to allow for tax credits for urban agriculture. In 2015, the Baltimore City Council enacted new legislation to implement this tax credit here in Baltimore City. This credit gives farmers 90% off of their property taxes, as long as the parcel is used for urban agriculture for five years, produces a minimum threshold of value, and is not used for any other purpose that would normally subject it to property taxes. ○ In 2010, the “Urban Agriculture Tax Credit” passed in the Maryland State Assembly bill.
3.9		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rowan University: Assessing the Spatial Connection between Urban Agriculture and Equity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This paper recognizes the importance for planners to not only spatially orient urban agriculture projects to address urban socio-economic problems including community food insecurity, economic inequality, and inner-city disinvestment, but to also maximize the longevity and utility of urban agriculture projects by working with food-centric non-profit and grassroots organizations.
4.1	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boston, MA: Article 89 Made Easy: Urban Agriculture Zoning for the City of Boston <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The ordinance includes provisions for the development of urban farmer training programs to support new and existing farm businesses including but not limited to the <i>Urban Agriculture Rezoning Workshop</i> and the <i>Boston Food System</i> • Massachusetts: MDAR Urban Agriculture Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) Urban Agriculture Program offers a variety of resources and training programs to support new and existing urban farm businesses throughout the state. This includes technical assistance, a farm business planning course, and an urban agriculture training program.
4.2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of the District of Columbia: Center for Urban Agriculture & Gardening Education:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “The Center for Urban Agriculture and Gardening Education (CUAGE) seeks to expand academic and public knowledge of sustainable farming techniques that improve food and water security. The center also seeks to improve the health and wellness of people in the local community and around the world through research and education on urban and peri-urban agroecology and gardening techniques.” • Indiana University: Environment Resilience Institute Case Study Database <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Case studies and examples of local, state, regional, and tribal communities that have taken action on mitigating the effects of climate change.
4.3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCONN Green Village Initiative: Urban Farmer Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “7 month course for beginning farmers and gardeners interested in ramping up their vegetable production skills.”
4.4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certified Naturally Grown <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “CNG is a private non-profit organization that’s not affiliated with the USDA’s National Organic Program. CNG’s certification approach is based on the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) model that relies on peer reviews in which inspections are typically carried out by other farmers. The PGS model promotes farmer-to-farmer knowledge sharing about best practices and fosters local networks that strengthen the farming community. This model minimizes paperwork and keeps certification dues affordable.”
4.5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USDA People’s Garden Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is expanding its People’s Garden Initiative to include eligible gardens nationwide. School gardens, community gardens, urban farms, and small-scale agriculture projects in rural, suburban, and urban areas can be recognized as a “People’s Garden” if they register on the USDA website and meet criteria including benefiting the community, working collaboratively, incorporating conservation practices and educating the public. Affiliate People’s Garden locations will be indicated on a map on the USDA website, featured in USDA communications, and provided with a People’s Garden sign.”
4.6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Austin, Texas: Commercial Organics Division Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “The City of Austin requires food-permitted businesses to provide their employees convenient access to diversion options that keep organic material out of the landfill. Organic material can include unused food, food scraps, and food-soiled

		paper. Diversion options can include donating food, feeding animals, composting, and/or having a food waste reduction program.”
4.7	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oklahoma Metro Grows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Metro Grows kicks off this spring thanks to a health literacy grant from the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and the Institute of Museum and Library Studies. The funding brings the first collection to the "Library of Things" with various tools available for check out.” • Parks & People Foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parks & People Foundation in Baltimore provides \$1,000 grants for urban agriculture related tools.
5.1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kingston, New York: Urban Agriculture Planning and Zoning Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One of the key recommendations of the study is to establish a Food Policy Council that is composed of stakeholders along the food chain. The purpose of the council is to provide a forum for community members and organizations to collaborate and coordinate efforts related to food policy and urban agriculture.
5.2	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Austin, TX: Sustainable Urban Agriculture and Community Garden Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The program offers technical assistance, education, and resources to residents, schools, and community organizations interested in starting or expanding urban agriculture projects. • Bridgeport, CT: Cultivating Community: An Urban Agriculture Master Plan for Bridgeport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The plan includes recommendations for increasing access to healthy food, promoting economic development, and improving community well-being through urban agriculture.
5.3	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Missouri: Partnerships and Collaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “The MU Extension Food Systems team connects our communities to specialists, researchers and external partners around the state to grow our state’s food system.” • Just Food <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The City Chickens program is a collaboration between the City of New York and the nonprofit organization, Just Food, to connect community gardens with chickens.

6.1	   	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temple University: Making Urban Agriculture an Intentional, Equitable City Redevelopment Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “We need a more “radical” narrative around urban agriculture and greening and redevelopment in U.S. cities that is guided by the need to develop policies that address racial discrimination, disenfranchisement, loss of community control, and displacement of low-income, often minority residents.” • Golden, CO: Municipal Code section 18.26.010 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Requires farmers’ markets and neighborhood markets to accept SNAP benefits and sell a certain amount of SNAP-eligible foods. This inclusion ensures that locally produced food is available for people who may be unable to pay traditional market prices for local produce, as well as, creating an incentive for producers to work and sell in communities that need additional food suppliers.” • Farming While Black: Soul Fire Farm’s Practical Guide to Liberation on the Land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leah Penniman’s <i>Farming While Black</i>, provides the “first comprehensive manual for African-heritage people ready to reclaim their rightful place of dignified agency in the food system. This one-of-a-kind guide provides readers with a concise “how-to” for all aspects of small-scale farming.” • Healthy Food Project: Zoning for Urban Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Includes a section on “Promoting Equity in the Zoning Code.” Within this section are subsections on “Including Equity Language in the Zoning Code” and “Assistance with Land Access.”
6.2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just Green Enough: Planning Tools for Creating Equitable Green Space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A toolkit that focuses on employing a “Just Green Enough” approach to urban planning - one that involves the provision of environmental amenities without the potentially corresponding gentrification and displacement of residents
6.3	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baltimore City Department of Housing & Community Development: City Releases First Urban Agriculture RFP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Baltimore City Department of Housing & Community Development has partnered with the Department of Planning to issue a request for proposal for urban agriculture on currently vacant lots • Hartford, CT Urban Ecology Wellness Center <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Keney Park Sustainability Project in Hartford, CT, an organization that works with urban farmers and community-based food systems, established a new

		<p>initiative called the Urban Ecology Wellness Center. The Center is “looking at urban agriculture through a health and nutrition lens. With the help of the Hartford Land Bank, KPSP embarked on a program to identify farmers with the proper business models to rehabilitate and reconnect the land to the community.”</p>
6.4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barcelona, Spain: Barcelona Neighborhood Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Barcelona has implemented several programs and policies to give residents a greater say in the development process, particularly in low-income neighborhoods. The city has a program called "Neighborhood Plans" that involves residents in the planning and implementation of development projects in their community, and the city also has a participatory budgeting process that allows residents to decide how public funds are allocated.
6.5	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minnesota’s Hunger Solutions: Market Bucks Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minnesota has a program called Market Bucks, which matches SNAP/EBT benefits at participating farmers’ markets, making fresh produce more affordable for low-income families. • California’s Foodwise: Market Match Program (CalFresh/EBT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Many of California’s farmers’ markets accept CalFresh/EBT benefits, making fresh produce more accessible to low-income families.
7.1	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detroit, Michigan: Detroit Urban Agriculture Resource Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Detroit Urban Agriculture Resource Group (DUARG) has a website that includes a funding resources page. The page lists grants, loans, and other funding opportunities available to urban farmers in Detroit, as well as links to other resources and support organizations. • Boston, Massachusetts: The Boston Department of Neighborhood Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Boston Department of Neighborhood Development has a webpage dedicated to urban agriculture funding opportunities. The page includes information about grants, loans, and tax incentives available to urban farmers, as well as links to other resources and support organizations.
7.2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oregon Farm to School & School Garden Network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The city of Portland has a Farm to Institution program that connects local farmers and food producers with schools, hospitals, and other institutions. The program helps to increase demand for locally-grown food and supports smaller producers.
7.3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seattle’s Food Business Advocate

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The City of Seattle's Office of Economic Development has a Food Business Advocate who works to connect local food producers with institutional buyers, such as restaurants, hospitals, and schools. The liaison also provides technical assistance and support to help producers meet the needs of institutional buyers.
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