

CECAP: Access to Healthy, Local Sustainably Grown Food

**Environment &
Sustainability Committee**

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**Office of Environmental
Quality & Sustainability**

March 2, 2020



City of Dallas

Overview

- Background
- Current Food Initiatives
- Community Feedback
- Draft CECAP Food Objectives & Strategies



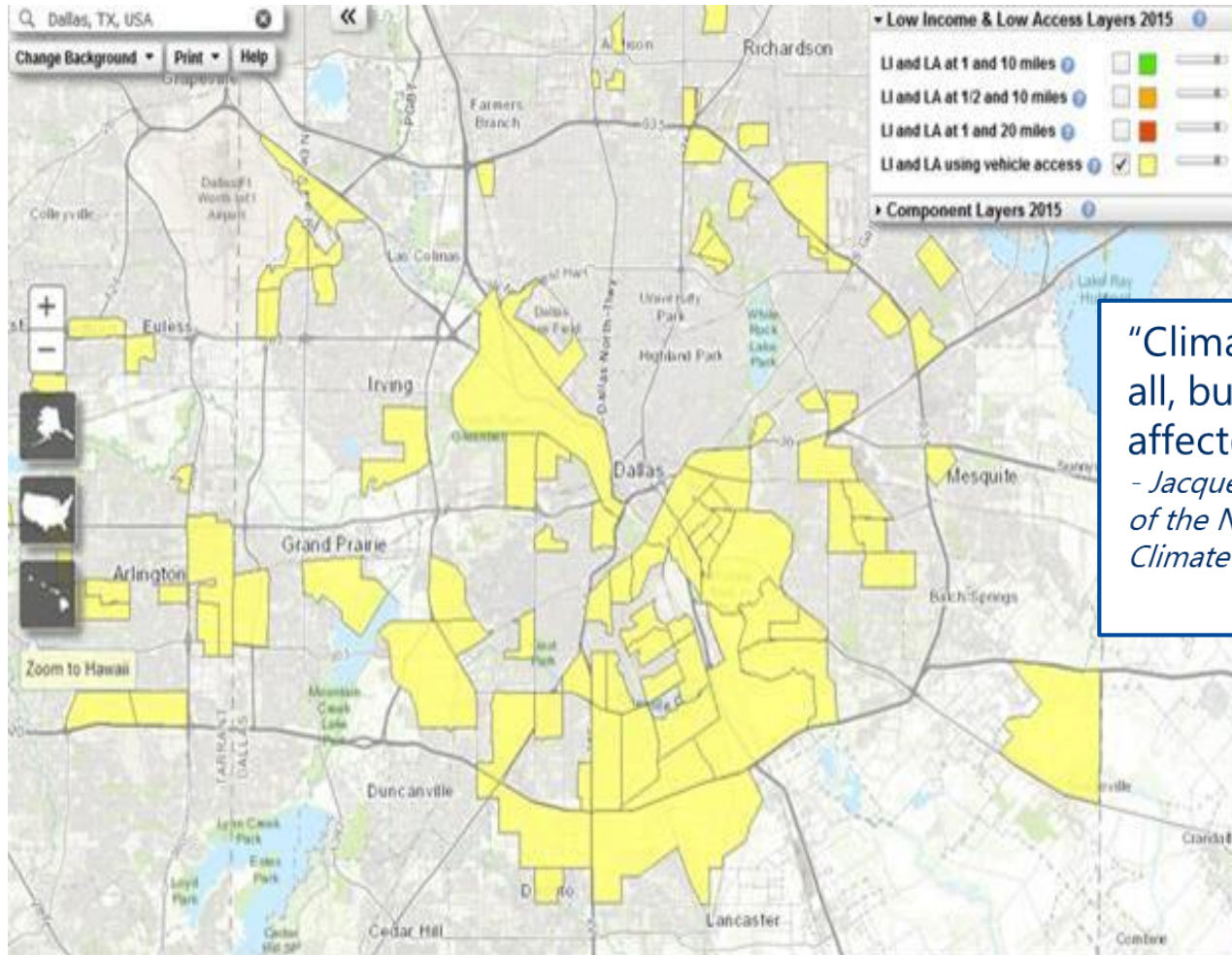
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Background

- Identified food deserts
- Food is generally not locally sourced
- Food supply chain is vulnerable to climate change
- Secure local food supply provides opportunities to strengthen the community



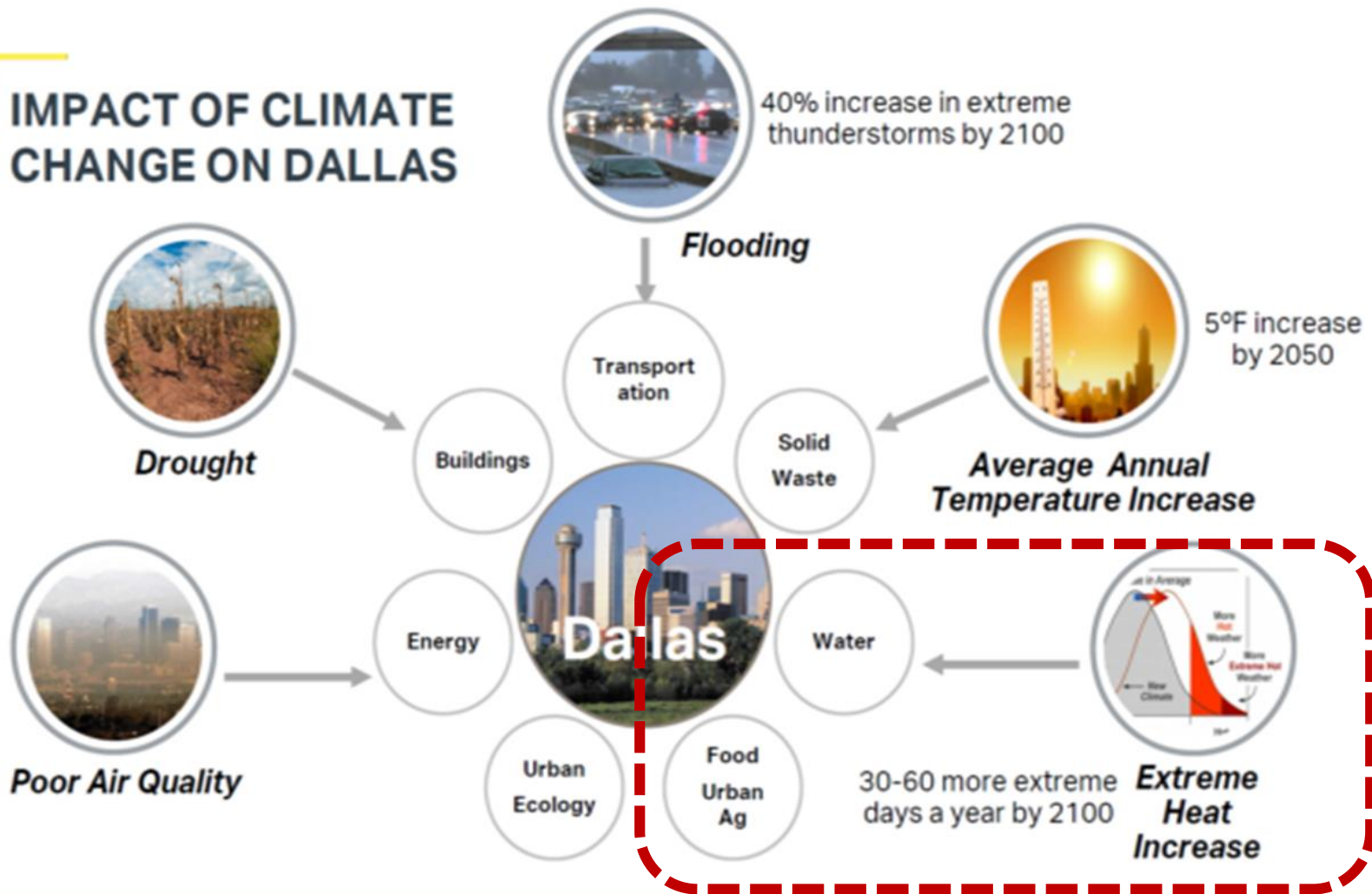
Food Access Under Climate Equity Lens



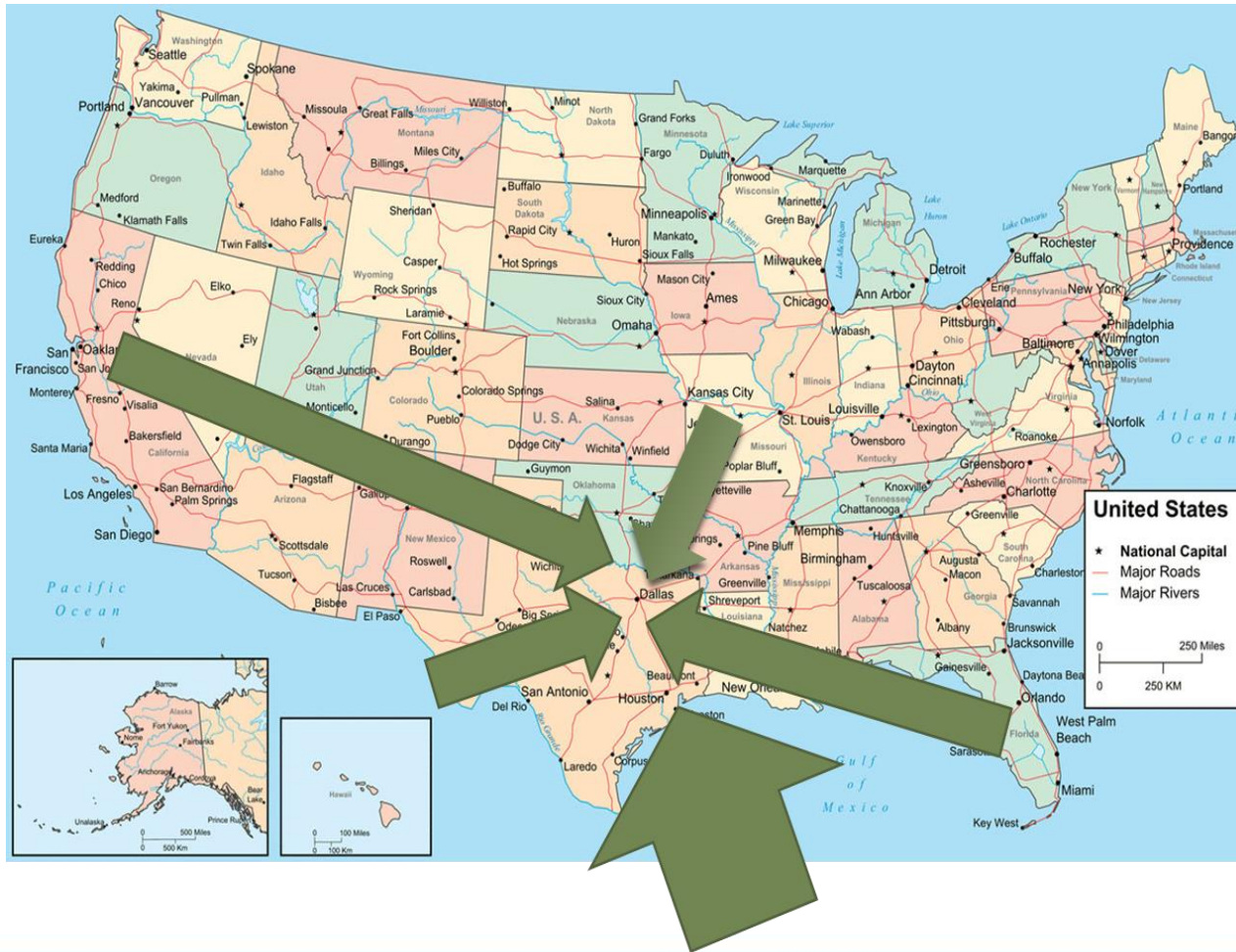
“Climate change affects all, but not all people are affected equally.”

- Jacqueline Patterson, Director of the NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Program

IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON DALLAS



Background: Dallas Foodshed



Dallas Food Innovation Challenge

- Effort led by Office of Innovation with Communities Foundation of Texas
- Food Task Force involves 13+ Departments
- Explores 4 key missions:
 - Better Food Access
 - Healthier Food Choices
 - More Locally Grown Food
 - Less Food Waste



<https://dallasinnovationchallenge.ideascale.com/>

- 1 Convert portions of city parks into food forests.



- 2 Refrigerated pods where you could stop by on your commute to pick up preordered grocery or meals.



- 3 A supply kit to start a garden at a school, removing a hurdle that a school could face for gardens.



- 4 A mobile grocery model to sell surplus food in food desert areas using SNAP benefits.



- 5 A cloud-based inventory system to allow households to access a food pantry inventory online.



- 6 A co-op and set of entrepreneurial toolkits to source, provide, and distribute local food.



- 7 A destination-venue grocery and commercial kitchen as a community anchor.

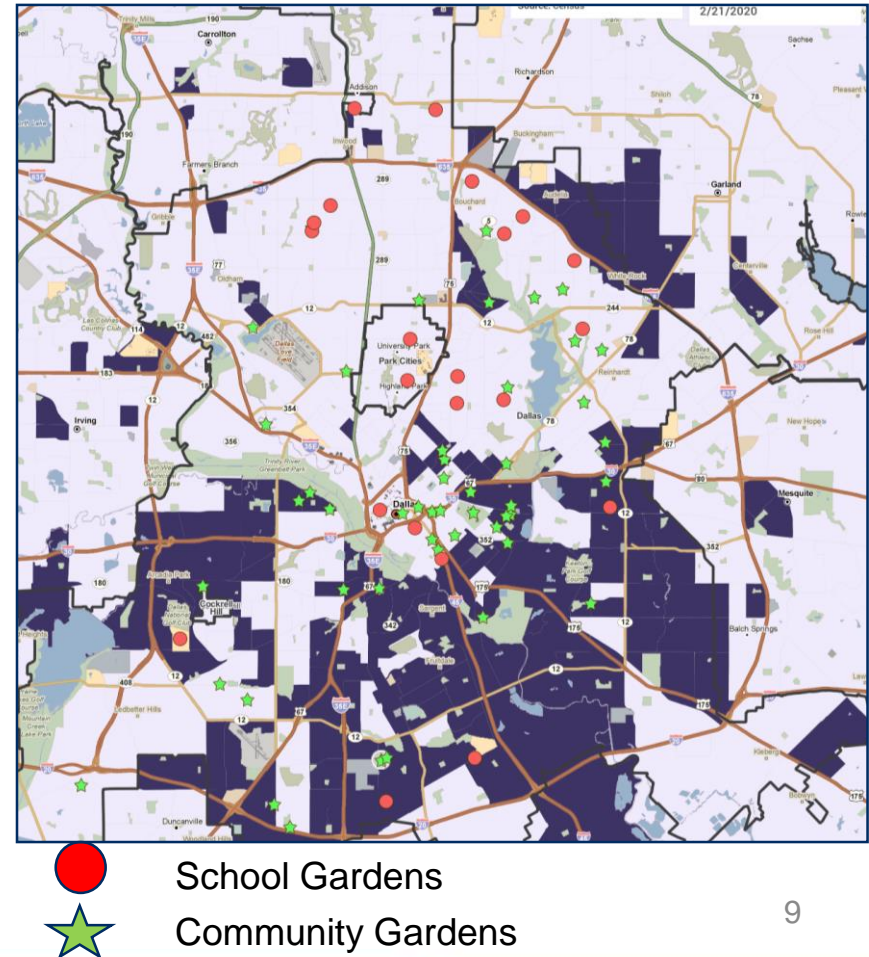


FOOD IDEA
INNOVATION CHALLENGE

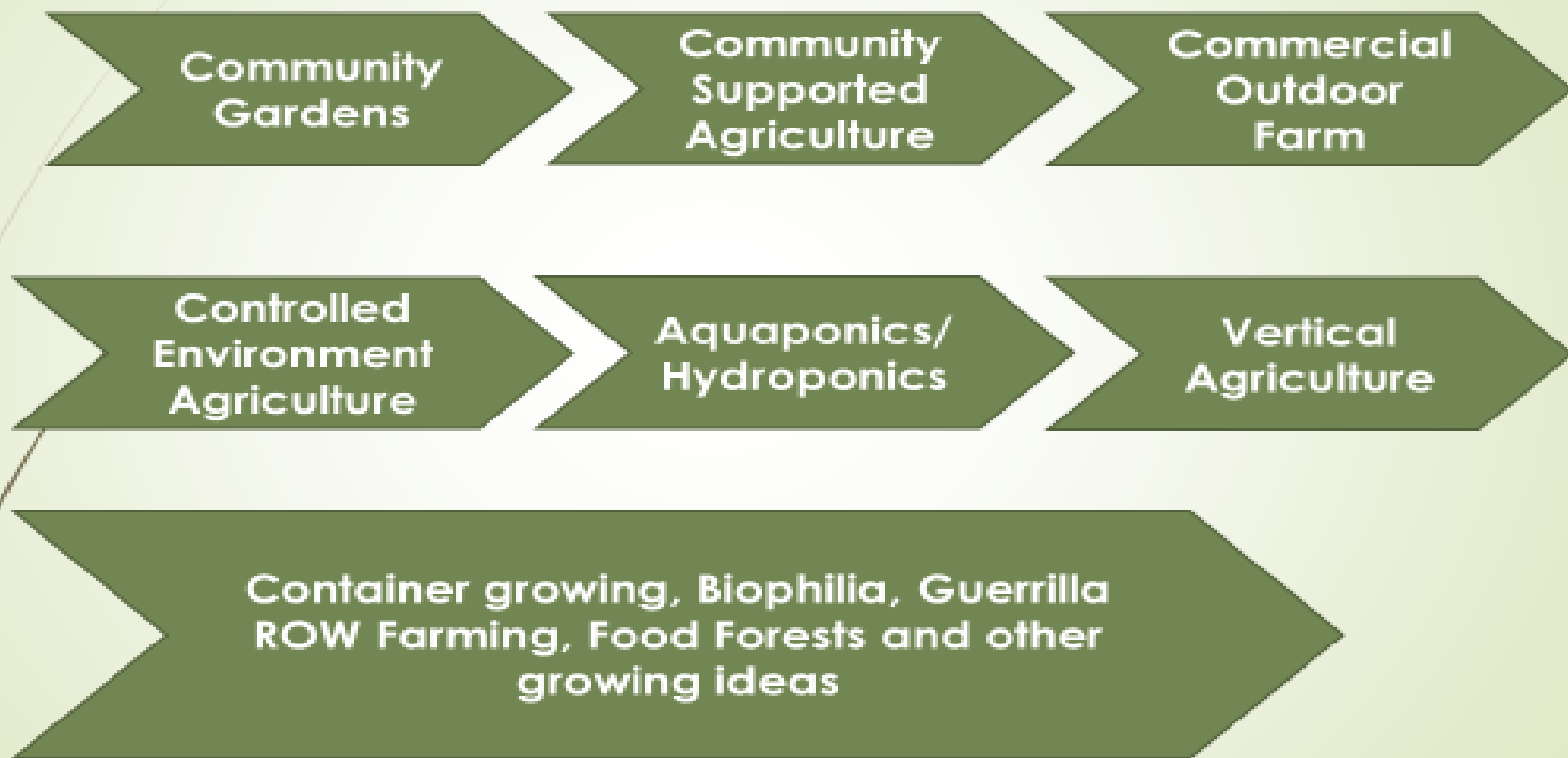
**SEMIFINALIST
IDEAS**

Urban Agriculture Program

- Compiling data on current farms, farmers, food production, food diversion, and community distribution partners
- Working with current Food Innovation Challenge
- Working towards Dallas Urban Agriculture Plan



Urban Agriculture Continuum



Draft Plan Focus & Goals

- Dallas uses renewable, reliable, and affordable energy
- Dallas' buildings are energy efficient and resilient
- Dallas communities have access to energy efficient, affordable **transportation** options
- Dallas is a **Zero-waste** community
- Dallas protects its **water** resources and its communities from flooding & drought
- ***All Dallas communities have access to healthy, local, sustainably grown food***
- All Dallas communities breathe clean **air**
- Dallas protects its **ecosystems** that in turn, protect public health

Ideas from Community Outreach Efforts



Photo source: Dallas Urban Farms

- Increase numbers and locations of Community Gardens
- Provide food-related education and outreach
- Expand & support farmers markets
- Increase access to local produce
- Consider growing incentives

Action Development Process

Plan Review



Public Input



Benchmarking



Objectives/
Strategies

Screening



**DRAFT
PLAN**

CECAP Food Sector Objectives

- **Build capacity** & partnerships around Urban Agriculture network.
- **Improve food access** in food deserts
- **Reduce food miles** by encouraging local food production/consumption
- **Reduce food waste**
- **Increase food system resilience** to extreme weather



Draft Food Objectives + Actions

*Build Organizational capacity * partnerships around urban agriculture network*

- Increase access to **information**
- Create a **Food Policy Council**
- Develop a comprehensive food & **urban agriculture plan**



Photo Source: Dallas AIA

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Draft Food Objectives + Actions

Improve food access in food deserts

- Develop **neighborhood-based growing** initiatives
- **Support non-profits solving food justice** through grants/ creative finance
- Identify creative transportation solutions to **access healthy food retailers**
- **Enable mobile grocery stores** in neighborhoods with low food access



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Draft Food Objectives + Actions

Reduce food miles by encouraging local food production and consumption

- **Support food-related green jobs** in food production, processing, storage, distribution and waste management
- **Establish local food procurement program** at City sponsored events
- Enhance market to provide **incentives** to sell affordable **locally-produced food**



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Draft Food Objectives + Actions

Prepare the food system to be more resilient to extreme weather events

- **Support food system stakeholders** with tools to plan for extreme weather events
- **Identify opportunities for controlled environment agriculture** that is less energy and water intensive.



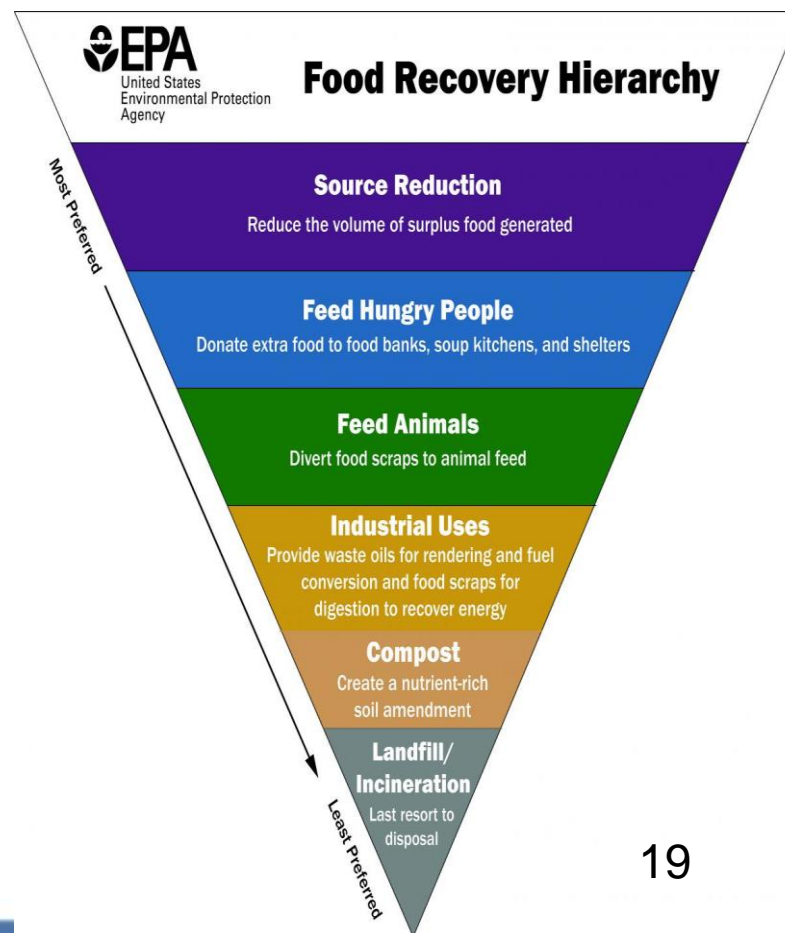
Photo source: Big Tex Farms

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Draft Food Objectives + Actions

Prevent food waste through food donations, recovery, diversion & composting

- Collaborate with non-profits to **divert surplus food** from grocery stores and markets to people in need
- **Encourage local food procurement**, waste recycling and compost bins at special events
- Implement a **city-wide organics management** program



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Next Steps

- Draft Plan Review: February 3 - March 3, 2020
- Finalized plan Text to consulting for formatting: March 6, 2020
- Full Plan review: April 6, 2020
- Plan resolution to Council: April 22, 2020

Questions and Comments

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