

SARASOTA AGRICULTURE POLICY COUNCIL

PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIFIC AG POLICIES OF SARASOTA CO. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Developed at Meetings on Nov 18, 2008 and Jan 13, 2009*

Proposal Number	Chapter	Primary Policy No	Additional Policy No	Proposal Description
1*	Environment	4.7.8	4.7.9	Alternative energy policy & portfolio, incentives (eg, tax credits) and technical assistance for biofuels and solar energy to act in concert with water conservation incentives in local food system. "Feed in tariff".
2*	Environment	4.7.9		Incentives and assistance to farmers to protect waterways & wate quality on property with riparian buffer zones & planted littoral zones.
3	Environment	4.7.9a1		Provide \$100K funding to expand cost/share programs, e.g., Mini-farms Program, to promote water conservation practices
4*				Integrated alternative water sources (e.g., surface water, reuse water, etc) for production. Cost share program by county to meet education, marketing, distribution & research needs.
5*		4.7.9a1		County incentives for full implementation of BMPs with agrichemical usage and of irrigation technology to protect water resources.
6	Future Land Use	1.3.3		Support programs such as "Red, White, Grew"; Victory Gardens; & Citizen Kitchen. Educate citizens on how to grow food in neighborhood associations, HOA's, churches, & schools. Provide Health Dept demonstration gardens on food/health;
6				Access 19 videos; Extension Service seminars at farmer's markets; speakers bureau.
7*		1.3.3	1,3,1; 1.3.2;	Review land use changes. Protect ag capacity (e.g., Farm Trust)
7*			1.3.3b10	
8*		1.3.3		Provide a county land location to setup a farm to train more farmers like Geraldson CSA Farm.
9	Future Land Use	1.3.3a	1.3.2b	Leverage federal EQIP program funds with county/local cost-share funding. Encourage some pilot projects and grazing as a restoration land management tool on public lands.
10		1.3.3a	1.3.1a; 1.3.2b;	Program for incentives to help famers away from synthetic fertilizers towards organic compost (like San Francisco program
10			1.3.3b4&6; 4.7.8	by CUESA). Restaurants tax themselves to collect food wastes by county and free delivery of compost to farmers.
11*		1.3.3a		Economic incentives for urban farming (e.g., ag classification on property taxes)
12*		1.3.3a		Review need of a separate Agriculture Chapter in Comprehensive Plan that addresses the role of small & large agriculture.
13*		1.3.3a		Implement a "Seeds 4 Success" program.
14	Future Land Use	1.3.3b1	1.3.3b3	County promote, install, & provide water & infrastructure for community gardens. Use of state land rights of way & green spaces.
15				Match property owners with interested gardeners. Create a self-sustaining model to cover overhead costs, e.g., use of produce stands. Parks planning - set aside garden space at outset. Extension presence at farmers markets. County to identify resources
15				to focus these efforts.

16*		1.3.3b1		Inventory available resources for small farmers, e.g., EDC, RC&D, SCTI, etc. and agriculture assets (e.g., manufacturing capability index)
17*				
18	Future Land Use	1.3.3b2		Identify and allocate public land and use of foreclosed/vacant properties for community gardens and for school & church groups.
19				Identify available land w/ access; County to hep w/ water; use of block grants & NEST program
20*	Future Land Use	1.3.3b5		Increase local food processing & distribution facilities for sales of locally-grown foods to Farm to School Program.
21	Future Land Use	1.3.3b6	1.3.1a; 1.3.2b;	Provide locations for community composting operation. Equipment to be financed through a cooperative. Provide basic
22			1.3.3a; 1.3.3b; 4.7.8	composting materials, e.g., manures, food wastes, hay, etc. Use organic certification standards for use by local organic farmers.
23*		1.3.3b6		Produce organic certified compost at county landfill facilities. Provide composting locations & collection initiatives.
24*	Future Land Use	1.3.3b7		Initiate a local food purchase policy.
25	Future Land Use	1.3.3b8		Create a distribution & storage center for local producers and food distributors.
26		1.3.3b8		Create a local label for foods grown within county. Use for county "preferred food venders" list. ("Stepping Stone"). Use same
26				label for organic and convention grown foods.
27*		1.3.3b8		Expand use of a local label to a regional scope.
28*		1.3.3b8		Measure and report annual consumption of locally-grown foods. Distinguish between commercial, export-based production and
28*				local market production. Incentives for diversification for local markets.
29*	Future Land Use	1.3.3b9		Add a goal for agriculture to Future Land Use Chapter. Host a charettee for a community food system assessment.
30*	Future Land Use	1.3.3b10		Initiate foodshed planning on a watershed level for sustainable, rural/urban ag enterprises in the county.
* Proposal numbers with an asterisk indicate the project proposals from the Jan 13, 2009 meeting. All others are from the November 18, 2008 meeting.				
Identical proposal numbers on consecutive lines of text represent the total information about one project proposal.				