

Sustainable Solano

Please note that this is a living document, a work in progress. If you chose to use any of this material in your work, we kindly ask you to credit Sustainable Solano.

Solano Local Food System Alliance **Emerging Vision**

- Mission: Create economically and environmentally sustainable and socially just local food system in Solano county
- Vision: To diversify, expand and safeguard a local healthy food economy that will preserve farmland, its integrity and biodiversity in Solano county, and ensure food access to local communities
- Strategy: Bring together various stakeholders in the local food system (farmers, ranchers, nonprofits, agencies, restaurants, food stores and other food businesses, family and individuals)
- Map our existing local food system and outline the food system we'd like to see
- Learn about each other and amplify positive examples of local food economic activity
- Initiate and support efforts to strengthen local agriculture and encourage communities to increase their consumption of healthy *local* food
- Help growers and consumers to better understand each other and create a viable long-term relationship
- Establish a measurable goal for local food system economic activity (e.g. "5 by 25" - substitute 5% of the county' total estimated \$1 billion annual food spending with local food by 2025, which is \$50M); track economic activity within local food economy

Farmers

- Identify farmers who are willing to be a part of a local food economy
- Strengthen association of farmers to ensure economic viability of our farms (Solano Grown or other forms of association)
- Develop / adopt a framework of sustainable farming to ensure environmental, economic and social stability of our local agriculture (including soil health, animal welfare and social justice)
- Expend and strengthen *Solano Grown* brand
- Identify, engage and support minority farmers

Consumers

- Establish and support a network of institutional customers in the county (esp. schools and hospitals)
- Promote awareness of local agriculture through special events (e.g. "Bounty of the County", first event planned for October 21, 2018 at Solano Fairgrounds) and ongoing promotion and advertising efforts
- Develop and implement all-inclusive school children educational program
- Ensure the capacity for food assistance dollars to be managed and spent within the county

Distributors

Do they exist in the county? What kind of a distribution system do we have to create that can support local food economy?

Value-Added Service

Restaurants, prepared food / catering

Institutional Customer

School districts, private schools, hospitals, etc