

North Carolina Sustainable Local Food Advisory Council

Progress to Date

Business of the Council

- Established three Subcommittees with specific guidelines to ensure the Council carried out “legislative mandates of its enabling legislation”
- Established a GAP working group to develop an All-Farm Good Agricultural Practices pilot program

Establish a liaison position from the Council to the NC Agricultural Task Force to create a higher awareness of the needs of local foods farmers and businesses among agencies dealing with much of the state's water regulatory framework

Established working groups within Subcommittees to deal with specific issues

- Council Members and staff brought news of the creation and the activities of the Council before audiences across the State and the nation in workshops, special presentations, etc

Council presented to the General Assembly, to the Governor, to the Commissioner and to the general public the 2010 Annual Report, including its recommendations and an account of the proceedings of the Council, Subcommittees and work groups.

Outcomes

- The Council quickly established itself as a working organization with specific goals and an agenda to meet its charge as established by the General Assembly. The Council has advanced public recognition of the importance of local foods in improving the nutrition in underserved populations, helped bring increased discussion of the local food agenda to organizations and government agencies not historically connected with food production, and brought a more focused approach to issues facing local farm families and rural enterprises.

Legislative Proposals By Council

- 2010 General Assembly:
- Resolution to appropriate Five Million Dollars to the North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund

- 2011 General Assembly:
- Recommendation to Modify municipal annexation

2011 General Assembly cont.

- Recommendation to Provide additional financial match for the Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund to protect the military presence in North Carolina
- Recommendation to fund two positions and program activities for the NC Farm Transition Network
- Recommendation to provide recurring funding for the Council and provide that staff serve at the pleasure of the Council

2011 General Assembly cont.

- Resolution supporting continuation in the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services of the state's Research Stations and the Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund
- Resolution supporting continuation of state funding of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Meat and Poultry Inspection Division
- Resolution supporting legislation to exempt small-scale processing of agricultural products from wastewater permit requirements

Outcomes for Legislative Proposals

- The Council has met its charge in deliberating and approving the listed recommendations and resolutions to the General Assembly.
- The influence of a particular recommendation on the proceedings of the General Assembly is often difficult to assess.

Administrative Recommendations

- Establish a Liaison Position to the NC Agricultural Task Force
- NCDA&CS and NCSU should develop an All Farm GAPS pilot program
- Continue Support of Farm to School
- Continue to grow the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education
- Plan for the Future of Electronics Benefit Transfer (EBT) and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Programs
- NCDACS Create a Farm-to-School Position

Outcomes of Administrative Recommendations

- In making administrative recommendations, the Council has brought additional emphasis on identified issues controlled by various agencies within Federal, State and local government. The recommendations addressed policy changes, calls for better interagency coordination and other specifics to promote the local food economy in North Carolina.

**Has the NCSLFAC
had a positive impact on the use and
availability of local food in North
Carolina,
improved the economic sustainability for
North Carolina's farmers,
increased entrepreneurial activities in
rural areas, and
supported legislation, policies and
programs that contribute to building a
local food economy in North Carolina?**