

**RESOLUTION**  
**CITY OF SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA**

7

Presented by \_\_\_\_\_

*Russ St. Kathy Hart*

1 WHEREAS, the interest in local food has spiked in Saint Paul and nationally as a result of environmental and  
2 economic factors; and  
3  
4 WHEREAS, the City of Saint Paul formed a collaborative environmental planning process in 2005 called the  
5 Environmental Roundtable which included a section of recommendations for Healthy Local Food Systems; and  
6  
7 WHEREAS, establishing a strong local food system is a smart move for the local economy as dollars spent by  
8 consumers on food are only surpassed by dollars spent on housing and transportation (according to the Bureau  
9 of Labor Statistics Consumer Spending Patterns 2006-2007: <http://www.bls.gov/ro5/cexmpls.htm>); and  
10  
11 WHEREAS, there is increasing opportunity to reduce “food deserts” in low-income neighborhoods as the  
12 Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program requirements changed August 1, 2009, allowing  
13 vouchers to be used on fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as requiring WIC-authorized vendors to have  
14 varieties of fresh fruits and vegetables available; and  
15  
16 WHEREAS, City & County staff and local stakeholders have been meeting informally to plan for a vision of  
17 creating an environment in Saint Paul that is supportive and encouraging of increased consumption, production  
18 and distribution of healthy, sustainable and locally grown food; and  
19  
20 WHEREAS, the combined overweight and obesity rate for Ramsey County is 77% (2006  
21 <http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/>) and only 30% of Saint Paul residents eat the recommended number of fruits and  
22 vegetables (2007 <http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/>); and  
23  
24 WHEREAS, one of the stakeholders, Ramsey County Saint Paul Public Health, has received \$50,000 as part of  
25 their SHIP grant to conduct food surveys and data analysis, as well as re-establish the Food Commission; and  
26  
27 WHEREAS, current members of the City working group, Afro-Eco and Community Design Center, (in  
28 partnership with the Minnesota Project and Minnesota Food Association) – received a \$25,000 grant USDA  
29 Food Project Planning Grant for work in Districts 4 & 5 (Dayton’s Bluff and Payne-Phalen neighborhoods) and  
30 Districts 7 & 8 (Thomas-Dale/“Frogtown” and Summit-University neighborhoods). The first project goal is to  
31 understand the food assets and barriers in these two communities, and the particular food needs and perceptions  
32 of the population (differentiated by age and ethnicity); the second project goal is to design a nuanced plan,  
33 based on community research and participation, for improving the long-term food security in the two  
34 communities; and  
35  
36 WHEREAS, both grant-funded initiatives are relevant to each other and want to continue working closely with  
37 the City to coordinate efforts; and  
38  
39 WHEREAS, approximately 15% of the greenhouse gasses related to food production and consumption are  
40 created by transporting the goods (<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/pdfplus/10.1021/es702969f?cookieSet=1>); and  
41  
42  
43

44 WHEREAS, quality of life is improved by a local food system as reduced transportation emissions for moving  
 45 food reduce air pollution and carbon production; and  
 46

47 WHEREAS, a strong local food system benefits the health, environment, economy, and overall livability of the  
 48 City; and  
 49

50 WHEREAS, in order to achieve a strong local food system, Saint Paul must:

- 52 1. Modify city policy to support access for healthy and locally grown food and for urban food  
 53 production and distribution;
- 54
- 55 2. Facilitate a network of resources to support people's access to healthy and locally grown food and  
 56 urban food production and distribution  
 57

58 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Saint Paul City Council directs staff in Planning and  
 59 Economic Development and Parks & Recreation, in coordination with Public Works, the Real Estate division of  
 60 the Office of Financial Services, and the Department of Safety and Inspections, to work together with Ramsey  
 61 County Saint Paul Public Health and related community organizations to explore necessary changes to City  
 62 policy (including possible zoning, licensing/permitting, HRA/easement policies) and facilitate a network of  
 63 resources to support the production, distribution, and consumption of healthy and locally grown food.  
 64  
 65  
 66  
 67  
 68  
 69

	Yeas	Nays	Absent
Bostrom	✓		
Carter	✓		
Harris	✓		
Helgen			✓
Lantry	✓		
Stark	✓		
Thune	✓		
	6	0	1

Requested by Department of:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by the Office of Financial Services

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by City Attorney

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Mayor for Submission to Council

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted by Council: Date 8/19/09

Adoption Certified by Council Secretary

By: Michael Erickson

Approved by Mayor Date 8/28/09

By: D. Mulheisen

09-879

**Green Sheet NO: 3075656**

**Department/Office/Council:**  
CO - Council

**Date Initiated:**  
12-AUG-09

**Contact Person & Phone:**  
Samantha Henningson  
266-8641

**Must Be on Council Agenda by (Date):**  
19-AUG-09

**Doc. Type:** RESOLUTION

**E-Document Required:** Y

**Document Contact:**

**Contact Phone:**

**Assign  
Number  
For  
Routing  
Order**

	<u>Department</u>	<u>Sent To Person</u>	<u>Initial/Date</u>
0			
1	Council		
2	Council		
3			
4			
5			

**Total # of Signature Pages** \_\_\_\_ (Clip All Locations for Signature)

**Action Requested:**  
Approval of resolution requesting that City staff in several departments work together with Ramsey Co., St. Paul Public Health & related community orga. to explore necessary changes to City policy (incl. possible zoning, licensing/permitting, HRA/easement policies) & facilitate a network of resources to support the production, distribution, & consumption of healthy & locally-grown food.

**Recommendations: Approve (A) or Reject (R):**

\_\_\_\_\_ Planning Commission

\_\_\_\_\_ CIB Committee

\_\_\_\_\_ Civil Service Commission

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Service Contracts Must Answer the Following Questions:**

- Has this person/firm ever worked under a contract for this department?  
Yes No
- Has this person/firm ever been a city employee?  
Yes No
- Does this person/firm possess a skill not normally possessed by any current city employee?  
Yes No

**Explain all yes answers on separate sheet and attach to green sheet.**

**Initiating Problem, Issues, Opportunity (Who, What, When, Where, Why):**

**Advantages If Approved:**

**Disadvantages If Approved:**

**Disadvantages If Not Approved:**

**Total Amount of Transaction:**

**Funding Source:**

**Financial Information: (Explain)**

**Cost/Revenue Budgeted:**

**Activity Number:**