

The Urban Food Policy Council (UFPC) was formed in 2017 by the City of Winston-Salem City Council, for the purpose of initiating and promoting actions that increase food access in the City of Winston-Salem, with a particular emphasis on activities in the urban core. The council shall advocate for policies that build a sustainable, equitable and healthy local food system with a goal of enhancing the health of the citizens of Winston-Salem, strengthening local economies and market opportunities and reducing hunger and food insecurity. The duties of the council shall be as follows:

- 1. Develop strategies to address food access needs in food deserts;
- 2. Solicit external support for food-related initiatives;
- 3. Support and encourage programming related to food, nutrition, cooking, gardening, and other topics;
- 4. Devise strategies to increase retail options in food deserts;
- 5. Work collaboratively with the Forsyth Community Food Consortium on strengthening the local food system;
- 6. Serve as a forum for discussing food issues;
- 7. Make recommendations for enhancing the use/operation of food-focused city facilities including the Dixie Classic Famer's Market and the Liberty Street Vendor's Market;
- 8. Educate members of the community about the importance of healthy, fair, and sustainable local food;
- 9. Explore ways to encourage and promote food-based entrepreneurship; and
- 10. Undertake such duties as may be requested by the mayor and city council.

The following information details the UFPC annual update FY24-25:

• Throughout FY24-25 UFPC met monthly between May 2024-December 2024, and then later shifted to quarterly in 2025, with the first Q1 meeting held in February 2025. UFPC was scheduled for 9 official meetings during this period, with 3 meetings achieving quorum, and 6 meetings without quorum (May, June, July, August, September, October).

- November 2024, meeting achieves quorum. UFPC votes unanimously to transition to meet quarterly and virtually moving forward into 2025. UFPC members also vote unanimously to form an Ad Hoc committee to draft a letter of support for the Food Resilience Strategic Assessment that was conducted in 2024, to include with presentation materials in January 2025 to City Council.
- December 2024, meeting achieves quorum. UFPC members hold a special meeting to vote to approve the letter of support the for the Food Resilience Strategic Assessment.
- February 2025, meeting achieves quorum. UFPC members vote unanimously to form a subcommittee to work on outreach and community partner engagement, as well as a second subcommittee focused on engagement and support of the Department of Sustainability work on Food Resilience.