



**A
Blueprint
to
Zero Food Waste
in
Southeast Michigan**

EGLE

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

**MAKE FOOD
NOT WASTE**



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Executive Summary

There is a direct relationship between landfilled food and a hotter planet. Because we landfill more than two billion pounds of food every year in Michigan, we unnecessarily pump billions of pounds of methane into the atmosphere that in turn, traps heat and brings extreme weather, wildfires, and polluted air. Michigan has recently been ranked as the sixth state in the nation for the highest landfill methane emissions, much of which is preventable¹.

Eliminating food waste is seen as “pulling the emergency brake” on climate change because it’s something we can all do relatively easily, inexpensively, and quickly. It also has a myriad of benefits, including financial savings for households and businesses, improved water and soil quality, and reduced demand for landfill space. It is for these reasons that Michigan, along with the U.S. government and the United Nations, have set a goal of cutting food waste in half by 2030. Make Food Not Waste (MFNW) believes that by eliminating food waste in the top fifteen most populated cities in Southeast Michigan, this goal could be achieved by 2030. It is a bold strategy that requires a combination of the right engagement, the right infrastructure and support, and the right opportunities. This Blueprint complements the Blueprints created for six individual communities in Southeast Michigan - [Canton Township](#) and the cities of [Dearborn](#), [Farmington Hills](#), [Livonia](#), [Southfield](#), and [Westland](#) that detail what support and resources would be needed to completely eliminate food waste in a city. This Blueprint provides a guide for how these six communities can coordinate efforts and leverage resources among themselves to reach their individual food waste goals. The plans for each of these communities can be found on [Make Food Not Waste’s website](#).

The Natural Resources Defense Council estimates that approximately 207 million pounds of food are wasted among these six communities each year². This document outlines regional communication opportunities, infrastructure needs, and ways these communities can collaborate to responsibly manage every pound of food waste. Creating a culture change where throwing food into a landfill is unacceptable is an underlying principle of the [Every Bit Counts](#) campaign, and the movement of people throughout the region calls for the regional communication strategy described here. Shared infrastructure, whether it be a compost facility, shared kitchen, platform for increasing efficiency in food rescue and the charitable food system, or centralized data collection are all opportunities for collaboration and leveraging of resources within the initiative for greater impact. This Blueprint describes these strategies and provides a timeline and budget for implementation.

This Blueprint suggests a five year implementation timeline, starting no later than 2026 so that all components have been implemented by 2030 to meet the state’s 50% diversion goal. The timeline can be found in [Appendix A](#).

Costs have been identified for implementation of several of the strategies, to the extent possible and are broken down by strategy and year. The details of several of the strategies that would likely be completed by private investment are not known at this time, and are noted as such in the budget. This plan estimates the total cost of implementation of the entire plan over the course of five years to be \$1,597,250

1 Blair, C. (2024, July 31). Michigan leads nation in toxic methane emissions from landfills. Detroit Metro Times.

2 Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). (2025). *Wasted food and rescue potential calculator*.





549,683

POPULATION



61,892

POPULATION IN
POVERTY



207M

POUNDS OF FOOD
WASTE CREATED PER
YEAR

11.3%

OF PEOPLE



\$7.9M

SOCIAL COST
ASSOCIATED WITH THE
REGION'S FOOD WASTE



57,255

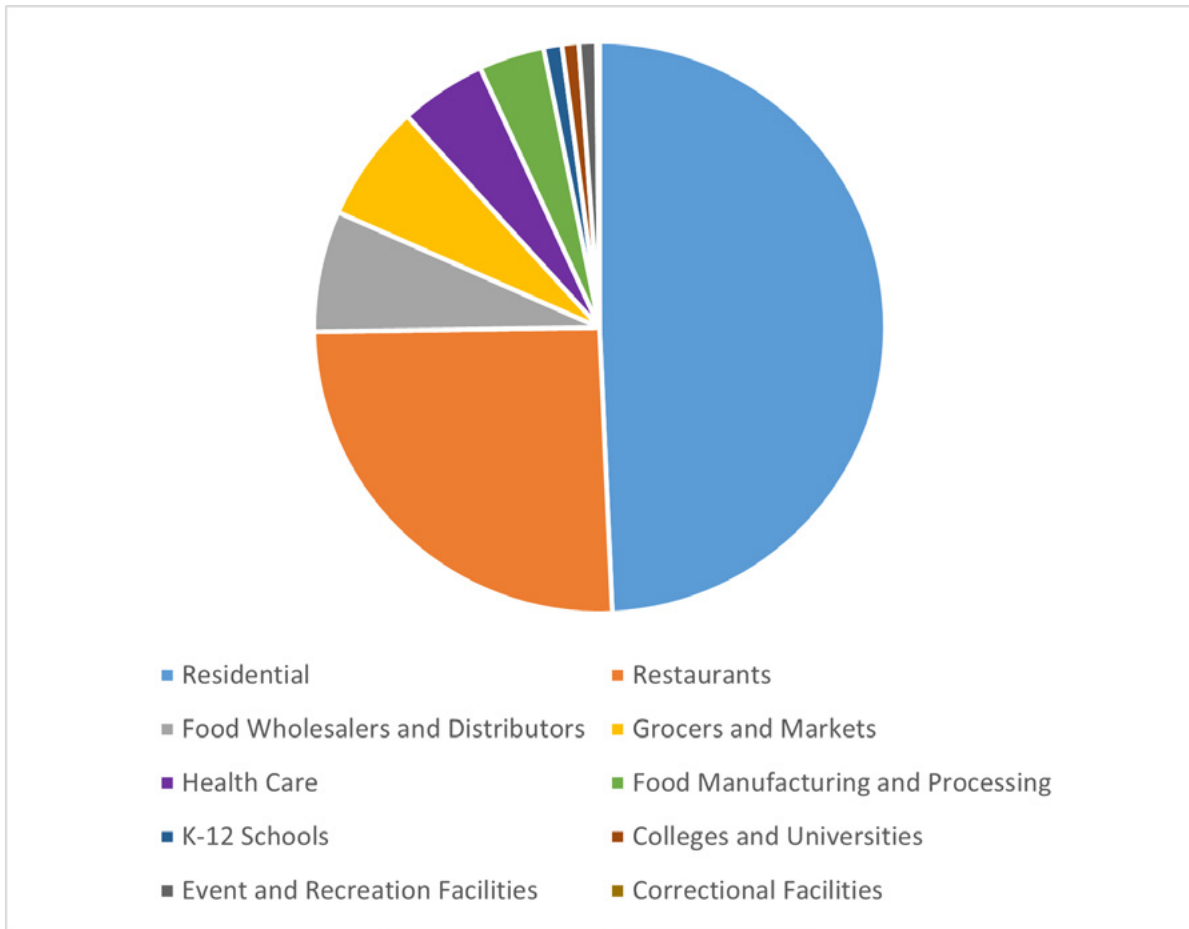
METRIC TONS OF CO2
EQUIVALENT EMITTED
ANNUALLY



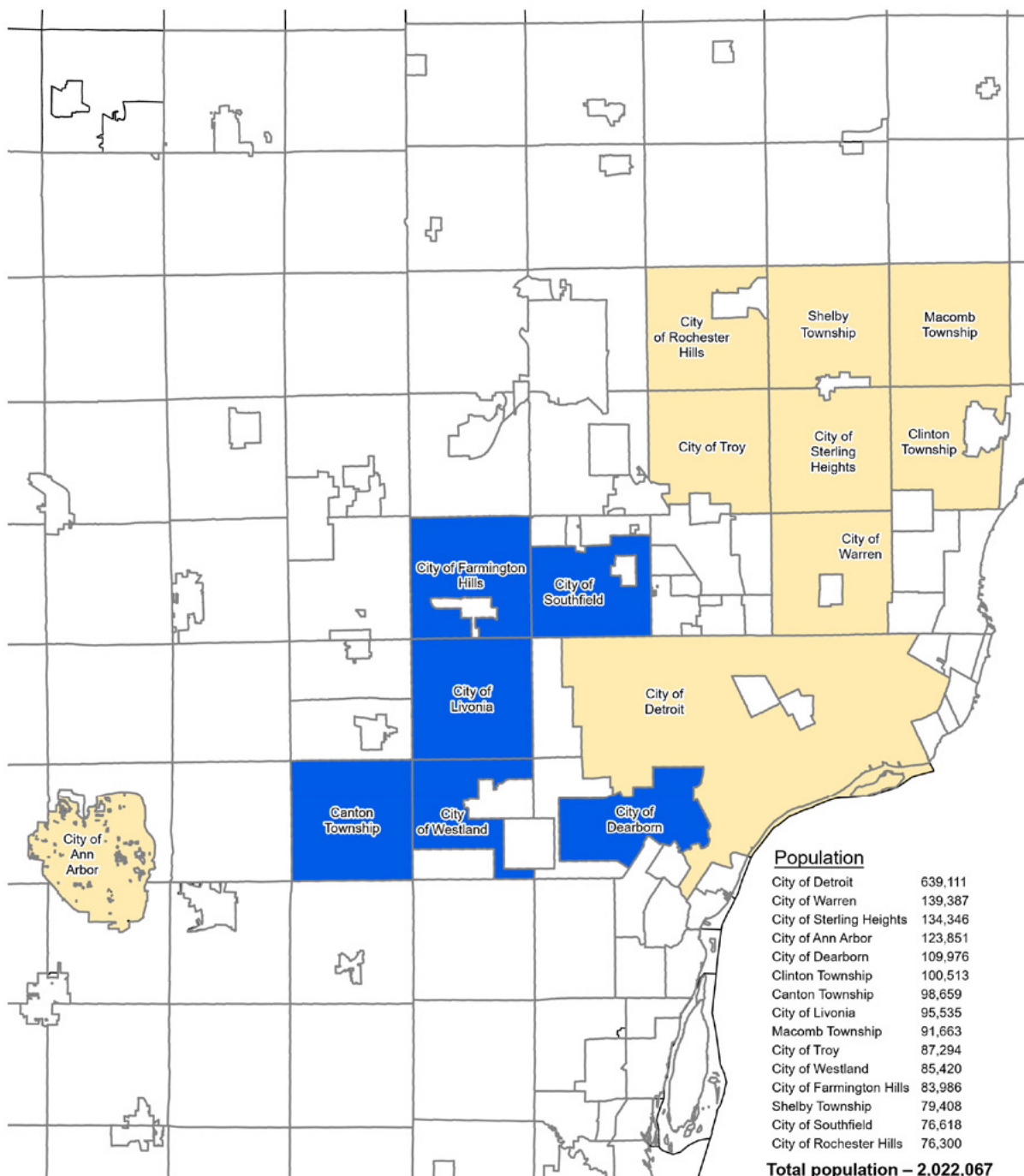
24M

TREES REQUIRED
TO OFFSET GHG
ASSOCIATED WITH
FOOD WASTE EACH
YEAR

FIGURE 1. Regional Food Waste by Sector



MAP 1. Southeast Michigan Food Waste Elimination Project - Participating Cities



Data: Population: ACS 2020. Boundaries: State of Michigan, Roads: SEMCOG. ©2025 Giffels Webster.

0 3 6 12 Miles

Not Yet Planned
 Plan Completed



TABLE 1. Regional Food Waste Elimination Implementation Costs

Year	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5
Cost	\$319,000	\$321,250	\$319,000	\$319,000	\$319,000
Total 5-year cost	\$1,597,250				

The changes outlined in this Blueprint have the potential to significantly and positively impact residents and business owners, the participating and nearby communities, and the region, state, and the country. Eliminating food waste in these six communities is estimated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 126.2 million pounds (57,255 tons) per year, equivalent to planting 2.4 million trees. Implementation of this Blueprint, even in part, is likely to have immediate and impactful returns for residents and business owners.

The Blueprint is written with Make Food Not Waste as the primary audience as the expected implementor; however, the Blueprint can be adapted to other regions and partners as needed. The participating communities and their staff, regional organizations, and other stakeholders are the secondary audience. The following table outlines next steps for key players to take to implement this Blueprint.

TABLE 2. Next Steps for Blueprint Implementation by Key Player

Player	Responsibility
Make Food Not Waste	Lead implementation by collaborating with regional organizations, city leaders and staff, school administrators, and local service providers; Apply for funds; Support evaluation efforts as needed
Participating Communities	Work towards implementation of community-specific plans; Participate in shared events, bulk purchasing opportunities, data reporting and collection, grant applications, and advocacy
Regional network organizations (e.g., SEMCOG, Conference of Western Wayne, etc.)	Support initiative in word and resource allocation, when possible
Local Institutions of Higher Learning (Henry Ford College, Schoolcraft College, University of Michigan-Dearborn)	Support workforce development opportunities
Chambers of Commerce, Michigan Economic Development Corporation	Promote the initiative and connect businesses with resources; Resource allocation, when possible
Food Rescue Organizations	Collaborate and streamline communication for more efficient food rescue and distribution throughout the region

The issue of food waste is significant, but one that is solvable with relatively inexpensive interventions that are likely to provide financial, social, and environmental returns. This Blueprint supports food waste elimination work being done throughout the region and lays the groundwork for changes that will positively impact the communities involved, and the region, state, and beyond.



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Introduction



This Blueprint, funded by the U.S. Climate Alliance, builds on a study conducted in Southfield, MI, which outlines how a city can eliminate food waste. This Regional Blueprint, and the municipal Blueprints created for six communities in eastern Southeast Michigan (Canton Township and the cities of Dearborn, Farmington Hills, Livonia, and Westland) are all part of the [Every Bit Counts](#) initiative driven by Detroit-based nonprofit Make Food Not Waste. This initiative seeks to achieve the MI Healthy Climate Plan's goal of reducing food waste by 50% by 2030.

It is recognized, and an underlying tenant of this initiative, that a regional approach is needed to managing food waste. While the individual cities and townships involved in the [Every Bit Counts](#) campaign have their own plans tailored to their communities, more broad thinking and strategizing about the issue is warranted. The populations of Canton Township, Dearborn, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Southfield and Westland alone add up to over half a million people and an estimated 207,156,000 pounds of food waste annually. Diverting food waste from all of these residents, as well as the businesses, institutions, and other places in the community will require scaling the communications, composting infrastructure, rescue organizations, service providers, and policies to a level that can be better reached with a regional approach so each community does not have to provide all of these things independently.

Further, the county materials management plans (MMPs) are currently being updated and will include goals for food waste management. This plan will complement the MMPs that are currently being drafted.

The regional approach lends itself to economies of scale and helps address issues associated with daily inflow/outflow as residents move between communities for work, school, and leisure as we expect responsible food waste management practices to spill over to adjacent, smaller communities not addressed in this plan. In fact, we are already seeing that occurring, as communities surrounding Canton, Dearborn, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Southfield, and Westland are increasingly expressing interest in how to better educate residents and manage food waste. Ultimately this approach will support the culture shift that is needed to drive this effort forward in all sectors, everywhere, all the time to prevent any food waste from reaching a landfill.

Southeast Michigan Healthy Climate Plan

In 2024 the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) created a Southeast Michigan Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) to prioritize strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance natural areas that can capture and mitigate climate pollution. The priorities identified in the PCAP address the biggest contributors to Southeast Michigan's greenhouse gas emissions and have implementation-ready strategies that can be employed immediately.

The PCAP identifies sources of methane as a high priority to eliminate as quickly as possible, as methane is approximately 25 times more powerful than carbon dioxide in its ability to warm our planet, particularly within the first 20 years after the methane is released. This food waste management plan directly supports three of the four goals in the Managing Waste Materials Sustainably focus area, specifically:

- Divert food and food waste into meals and compost.
- Significantly increase and improve composting collection and compost facility effectiveness, such that less methane escapes from organic decomposition into the atmosphere.
- Reduce volume of waste transported in the region and replace vehicles used for transportation of organic waste with zero emissions models.

Specific strategies for reaching these goals are described in the PCAP. These include city-wide food rescue programs that are estimated to divert 30 million pounds of food waste from landfills each year and the implementation of a large-scale aerobic digester at the Great Lakes Water Authority Water Resource Recovery Facility.

The PCAP was recently approved by the Environmental Protection Agency. It also serves as a stepping stone for a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) which will focus on short- and long-term strategies to reach greenhouse gas emission level goals by 2050.

Introduction

This Regional Blueprint focuses on six of the most populated communities on the eastern side of Southeast Michigan and ways that collaboration across these communities can help reach community, county, and state food waste goals in an efficient and effective manner. It lays out the steps needed to create the conditions, build the infrastructure, and provide the support systems necessary to reach zero food waste sent to landfills across all food system sectors in these communities, and support smaller surrounding communities who also want to work to reduce food waste. This document builds off the detailed, actionable, and turn-key set of strategies developed for each community to support bold action toward meeting the state's goal, providing as much detail as possible in identifying these areas of synergy and their costs.

Why food waste?

According to Project Drawdown¹ addressing food waste is the number one solution to reduce heat-trapping gases responsible for global warming. Food waste is food that is ultimately not consumed by humans and is discarded, including food that is safe to eat and food that is unsafe to eat or inedible. Not only can addressing food waste have a big impact on greenhouse gas emissions, but it is something that everyone can contribute to and benefit from. It has the potential to improve food security, saving each person \$782 a year just by eating the food they already purchased and not throwing it in the trash. For a family of four, that's more than \$3,000 in savings each year. It can improve air and water quality, improve soil health, and build resilient communities. The benefits of reducing food waste are so significant that local and state governments, globally, have begun to implement strategies to address food waste.

The following section describes the current conditions and crossover of people between communities, followed by regional needs and opportunities associated with this effort.

1 <https://drawdown.org/solutions/table-of-solutions>



Regional Profile

This section provides an overview of the demographics of the six communities in Southeast Michigan that have food waste management plans. Each of these plans can be viewed on [Make Food Not Waste's website](#).

TABLE 3. Southeast Michigan Participating Communities Demographics

Community	Canton Twp	Dearborn	Farmington Hills	Livonia	Westland	Southfield
Population	98,659	109,976	83,986	95,535	85,420	76,618
Household Demographics						
Households	35,741	36,276	35,528	37,716	35,643	35,081
Average Household Size	2.74	2.96	2.32	2.46	2.34	2.12
Households with Seniors (65+)	29% (10,169)	31% (11,163)	35% (12,427)	37% (13,812)	31% (10,907)	36% (12,561)
Households with Seniors Living Alone	12% (4,138)	13% (4,864)	15% (5,458)	14% (5,328)	16% (5,556)	19% (6,509)
Population in Poverty						
Individuals	5.5%	24.3%	6.3%	4.7%	13.3%	11.2%
Households	6.4%	20.5%	7.1%	5.7%	12.9%	14%
Education and Earnings						
Without H.S. Diploma	5.5%	16%	4.3%	4.9%	10.3%	5.7%
H.S. Grad or higher	94.5%	84%	95.7%	95.1%	89.7%	94.7%
Median Household Income	\$118,010	\$65,192	\$101,863	\$96,317	\$62,216	\$65,848

Regional Profile

Community	Canton Twp	Dearborn	Farmington Hills	Livonia	Westland	Southfield
Housing						
Housing Units	37,433	39,205	37,615	38,976	38,097	38,014
Single Family	64.1% (33,614)	75.4% (29,551)	55.5% (20,859)	86.2% (33,614)	56.7% (21,586)	47% (17,881)
Multi-Family	31.8% (11,900)	24.0% (9,410)	42.8% (16,082)	13.5% (5,251)	41.2% (15,690)	52.7% (20,036)
Mobile Homes or Other	0.4% (1,520)	0.6% (244)	1.8% (674)	0.3% (111)	2.1% (821)	0.3% (97)
Source: ACS 2023						

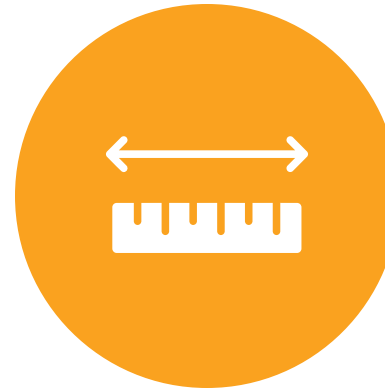
This section summarizes the six communities of Canton Township, Dearborn, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Southfield, and Westland.



549,683

RESIDENTS

(622,431 DAYTIME
POPULATION)



176.8

SQUARE MILES

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates



Households



215,308
HOUSEHOLDS



2.48
AVERAGE
HOUSEHOLD
SIZE



32.8%
HOUSEHOLDS
WITH SENIORS
(65+)
(70,640)



14.7%
HOUSEHOLDS
WITH SENIORS
LIVING ALONE
(31,548)

Housing



228,502
HOUSING UNITS



64.4%
SINGLE-FAMILY
UNITS
(147,212)



34.1%
MULTI-FAMILY
UNITS
(77,808)



1.5%
MOBILE HOMES
OR OTHER
(3,482)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Daily Inflow and Outflow

OntheMap, a product associated with the U.S. Census, provides an analysis of inflow and outflows of labor markets between communities. The following figures show the inflow/outflow patterns in each of the six communities in Southeast Michigan that have food waste plans. The number of workers and residents includes all of those employed, regardless of age, primary or secondary employment, or whether the job is private or public.

As can be seen from the graphics, there is overlap among residents and workers in these communities, illustrating the importance of a regional approach and the ability to support residents and workers in being able to responsibly manage food waste in the places they spend the majority of their time and where food may be consumed on a regular basis.

FIGURE 2. Where Canton Residents Work and Where Workers in Canton Live

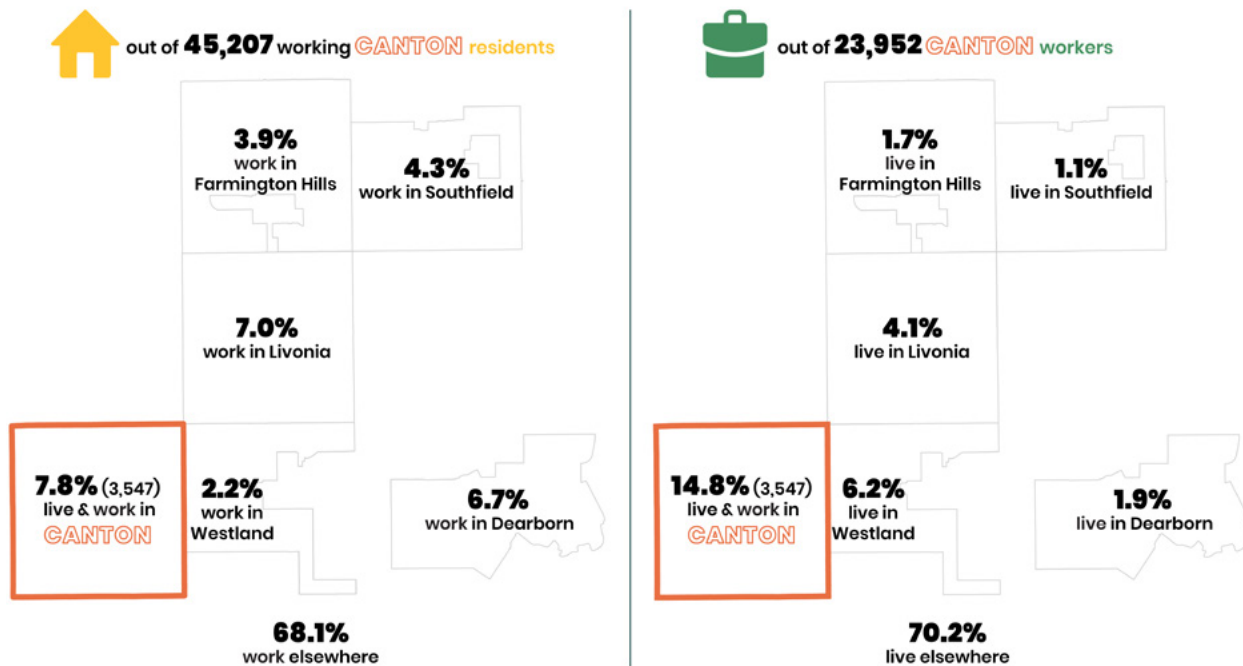


FIGURE 3. Where Dearborn Residents Work and Where Workers in Dearborn Live

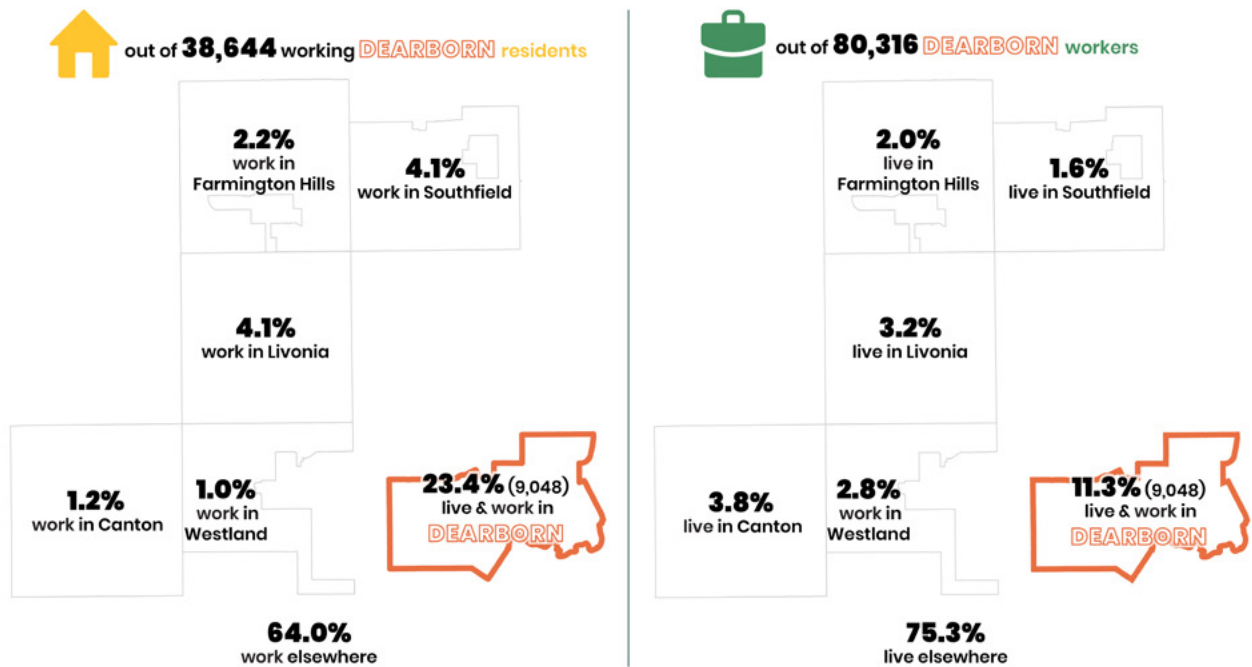
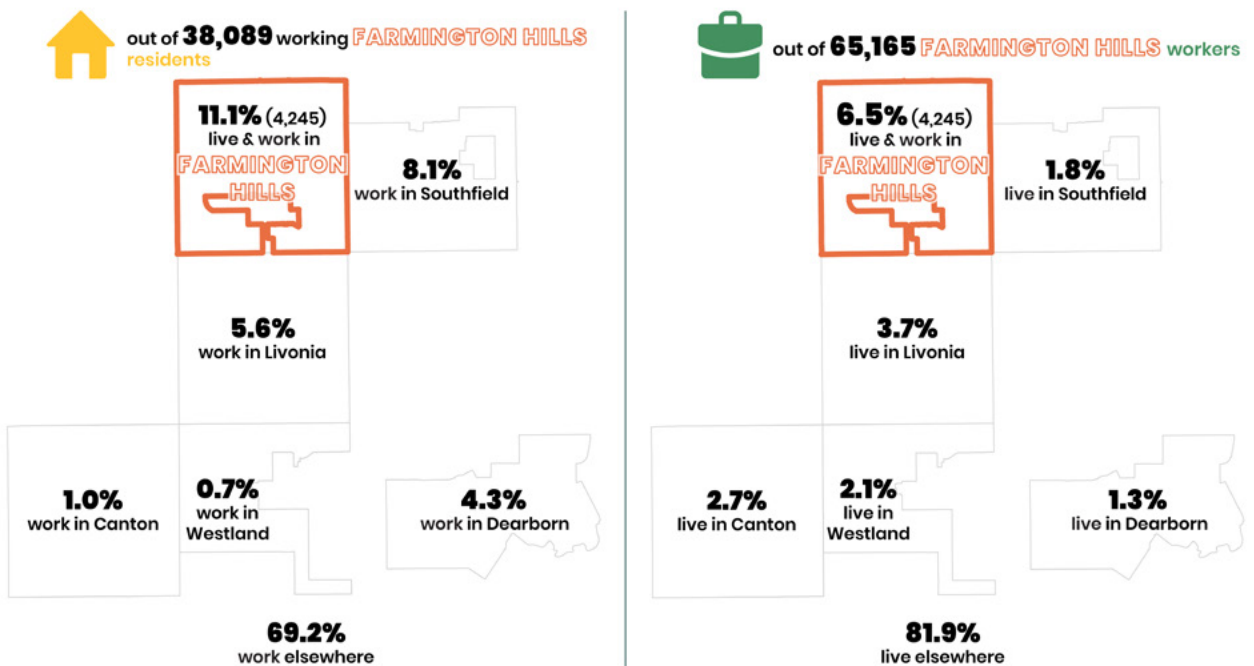


FIGURE 4. Where Farmington Hills Residents Work and Where Workers in Farmington Hills Live



Regional Profile

FIGURE 5. Where Livonia Residents Work and Where Workers in Livonia Live

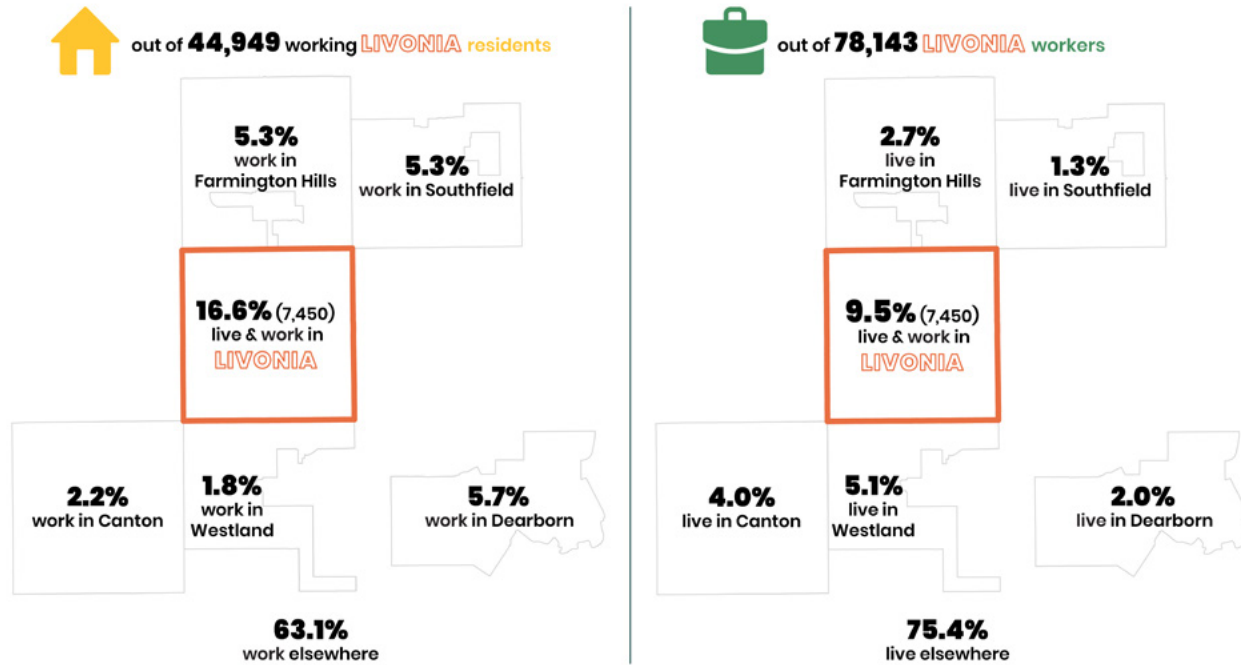


FIGURE 6. Where Southfield Residents Work and Where Workers in Southfield Live

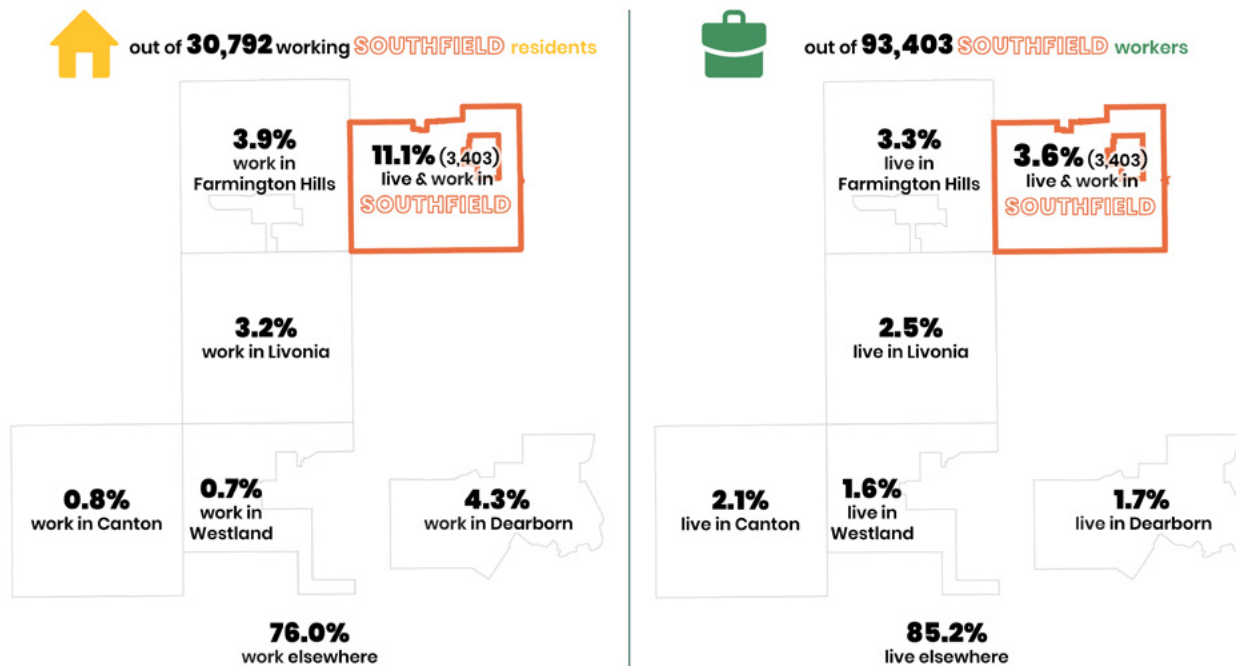
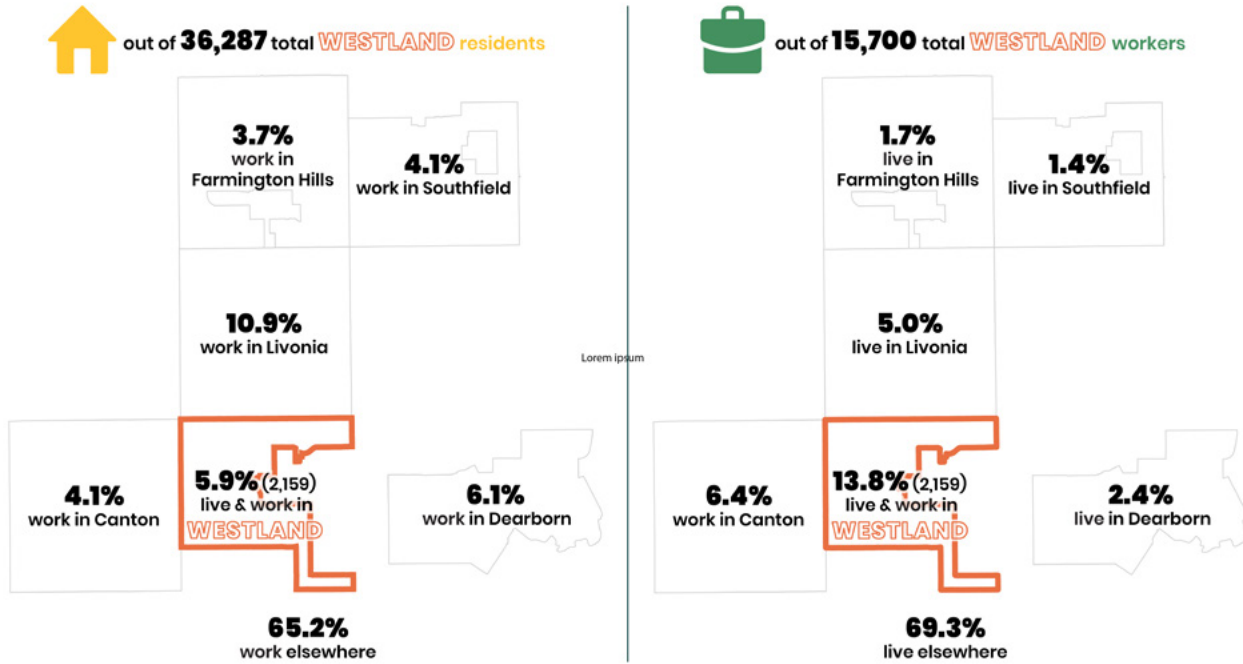


FIGURE 7. Where Westland Residents Work and Where Workers in Westland Live



Community Sustainability Goals and Efforts

All of the six communities already have various sustainability goals and efforts that can be supported by their food waste management plan and likely reached more efficiently and effectively through collaboration with neighboring communities who have similar goals and vision for their future. Some of these are highlighted below for each community:

Canton

Canton Township already has a food scrap drop-off program that can be used as a model for the other communities interested in such a program. The township has also identified several sustainability goals in its newly adopted [Canton's Vision for Tomorrow: A Comprehensive Community Master Plan](#), including the following objectives:

- Work in collaboration with Township staff, officials, regional partners, nonprofit partners, and residents to determine annual community priorities, projects, and resources relative to sustainability issues that improve the environment, save the township money, or reduce the township's carbon footprint.
- Explore opportunities to collaborate with adjacent communities to engage in multi-community sustainability planning and implementation strategies.
- Encourage and facilitate landfill waste diversion in the municipal, business, industrial, and residential sectors.
- Divert organic waste from landfills through composting.
- Reduce runoff into stormwater systems by broadening the implementation of green infrastructure and embracing low-impact design approaches.
- Encourage green infrastructure practices in new and redevelopment projects that would exceed the stormwater management requirements adopted by Wayne County.
- Incorporate green infrastructure elements such as rain gardens, bioswales, and permeable surfaces in parking lots to manage stormwater runoff and promote groundwater recharge.
- Explore opportunities to promote the Canton business community throughout the region through multimedia communications.



Dearborn

Dearborn's first Climate Action Plan was adopted in 2012, and it has been designated a Tree City USA by the Arbor Society for over 30 years. The City continues to strive for sustainable solutions. Below are a few examples of how the activities in this Blueprint can support the goals already identified by the City:

- The [Dearborn 2035 City Strategic Plan](#) lists a “green and healthy Dearborn” as a strategic outcome. One relevant goal within this outcome is to build resilient infrastructure to withstand flooding and other extreme weather events. The use of compost, which can be created through food scrap diversion from landfills to composting facilities, can support this goal.
- Another strategic outcome of the [Dearborn 2035 City Strategic Plan](#) is “economic opportunity and mobility.” Goals related to this outcome include driving responsible development via high paying jobs, clean industry, and prioritizing local ownership as well as creating unique experiences by developing vibrant business districts. The creation of a compost facility in the city could result in new, clean industries that provide high paying jobs, and the support provided to food-based businesses to reduce food costs by throwing away less food can support vibrant business districts.
- The [Dearborn 2030 Master Plan](#) strove to be sustainable, as that was one of the plan's guiding characteristics. This characteristic is explained, stating “Dearborn's plans must preserve, conserve and enhance the environment, economic and societal viability of the City and region. No community can thrive that lives solely on the investments made by past generators or wastes the assets it has at hand. Although plans must consider near-term issues, solutions to immediate problems must consider the consequences of actions on future generations.”
- The [2012 Climate Action Plan](#) called for reducing greenhouse gas emissions 10% by 2015, using 2009 as the baseline.

Farmington Hills

The [Farmington Hills Master Plan](#) highlights sustainability and resiliency as one of its main building blocks and is part of the city's vision for the next 50 years. The Farmington Hills Master Plan has two objectives that coincide closely with this food waste plan. The first one is to “support access to fresh healthy food establishments by residents of all ages and abilities” and the other is to “ensure that resources and access to resources are shared equally across the City's population and neighborhoods.” Both of these objectives are related to the distribution of food across the city and its food access points. This plan wants to bridge that gap and expand channels and the amount of intake for excess food to move through.

Regional Profile

Livonia

[Livonia Vision 21](#), the city's master plan, includes several goals and objectives that can be supported through this food waste management plan. These objectives include:

- 3.2 Conserve and restore open spaces, waterways, tree canopies, and other natural resources to increase resiliency, adaptability, and biological integrity.
- 3.3 Commit to mitigating the City's climate impacts, including reducing energy, land, and water consumption and improving outdoor and indoor air quality.
- 3.4 Think beyond first costs and consider long-term, cumulative impacts when making infrastructure and policy decisions.
- 5.1 Assist the education and business communities in developing a competitive workforce to provide job skills demanded by the regional marketplace and employment opportunities for local graduates.
- 5.2 Focus on retaining existing businesses and industry.
- 7.1 Invest in and implement comprehensive and innovative urban water management, green infrastructure practices, and renewable energy systems.
- 8.3 Enhance landscaping and site design through redevelopment to enhance the sense of place along major strip corridors.

Southfield

The [Sustainable Southfield 2.0 Comprehensive Master Plan \(2023-2028\)](#), as evidenced by the title, emphasizes the need to sustainably move into the future. Their plan includes several goals that are related to food waste planning, such as:

- Improve the learning-to-job pipeline for people at all levels of secondary and post-secondary education
- Ensure sustainability improvements are distributed equitably across the city
- Ensure that contributions of natural resources to human well-being are explicitly recognized and valued and that maintaining their health is a primary objective
- Educate the community about sustainability initiatives and opportunities to lower their impact on the planet
- Foster partnerships with sustainability experts to create a network of knowledge
- Develop and promote educational opportunities and resources that will assist residents in achieving a higher and healthier quality of life
- Improve the City's preparedness, resilience, and adaptability in the face of both natural and human-caused threats

Southfield also has an environmental committee that meets regularly and is working on developing a Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) that will hold the City accountable in reaching its sustainability goals. The SAP is organized into ten categories, including materials management, economy, and environment.

Southfield was the first city to create a comprehensive food waste elimination plan as part of the *Every Bit Counts* initiative and is currently seeking implementation funding.



Westland

The [Westland Master Plan](#) also has multiple goals and objectives related to food waste planning, including:

- Engage in a branding and marketing campaign to help the region become more aware of Westland's assets.
- Collaborate with local civic organizations, schools, and the Chamber of Commerce to promote and expand local events.
- Foster more public/nonprofit partnerships to collectively address local social needs.
- Continue and enhance current recycling initiatives.
- Further the vision of Mission: Green through the support of businesses and residents.

Regional Food Waste

According to NRDC’s Food Waste and Rescue Potential Calculator, a total of 103,578 tons of food waste are produced in the six communities each year. This food waste is estimated to generate 57,255 tons of CO2 emissions per year¹. This would require planting over 2.38 million trees every year to offset the greenhouse gases associated with sending food waste to the landfill². The social cost of the greenhouse gases associated with food waste in these communities is estimated to be over \$7.9 million. This is the additional economic costs (\$190/ton of CO2) associated with the impact of additional greenhouse gas emissions and reflects costs associated with long-term effects on human health, agriculture, and the environment.

Further, edible food worth \$28.9 million could be rescued and help support the 19.5% of Wayne County residents and 10.9% of Oakland County residents facing food insecurity³. Over 6.1 million pounds of food waste was rescued from food-based businesses within these communities in 2024. This was accomplished through Metro Food Rescue’s and Forgotten Harvest’s pickup efforts.

Currently, food waste is collected as part of municipal solid waste, separate from yard waste. The waste is then hauled to landfills. The closest landfill accepting municipal solid waste is Sauk Trail Hill Landfill located in Canton, and it only has approximately five years worth of use if tipping occurs at the current rate. Livonia has a landfill, but it is limited to construction waste and is not for public use. The next closest landfill sites are Woodland Meadows in Van Buren and Auburn Hills Landfill in Northville. See [Map 2](#) for landfill and compost facility locations.

The region currently has two commercial compost facilities that can process food waste; one in Burton (Arbor Hills Landfill) and one in Wixom (Spurt Industries). Both of these require moving the food scraps miles away for processing, adding to the impact food waste has on the environment through fuel combustion and other nuisances associated with trucking. The Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority (SOCRRA) is currently seeking permits to accept food at their compost facility in Rochester Hills and will be open to accepting food at the site once permits are approved.



103,578
TONS OF FOOD WASTE
PER YEAR
(= 207.2M POUNDS)



\$28.9M
VALUE OF FOOD
RESCUE

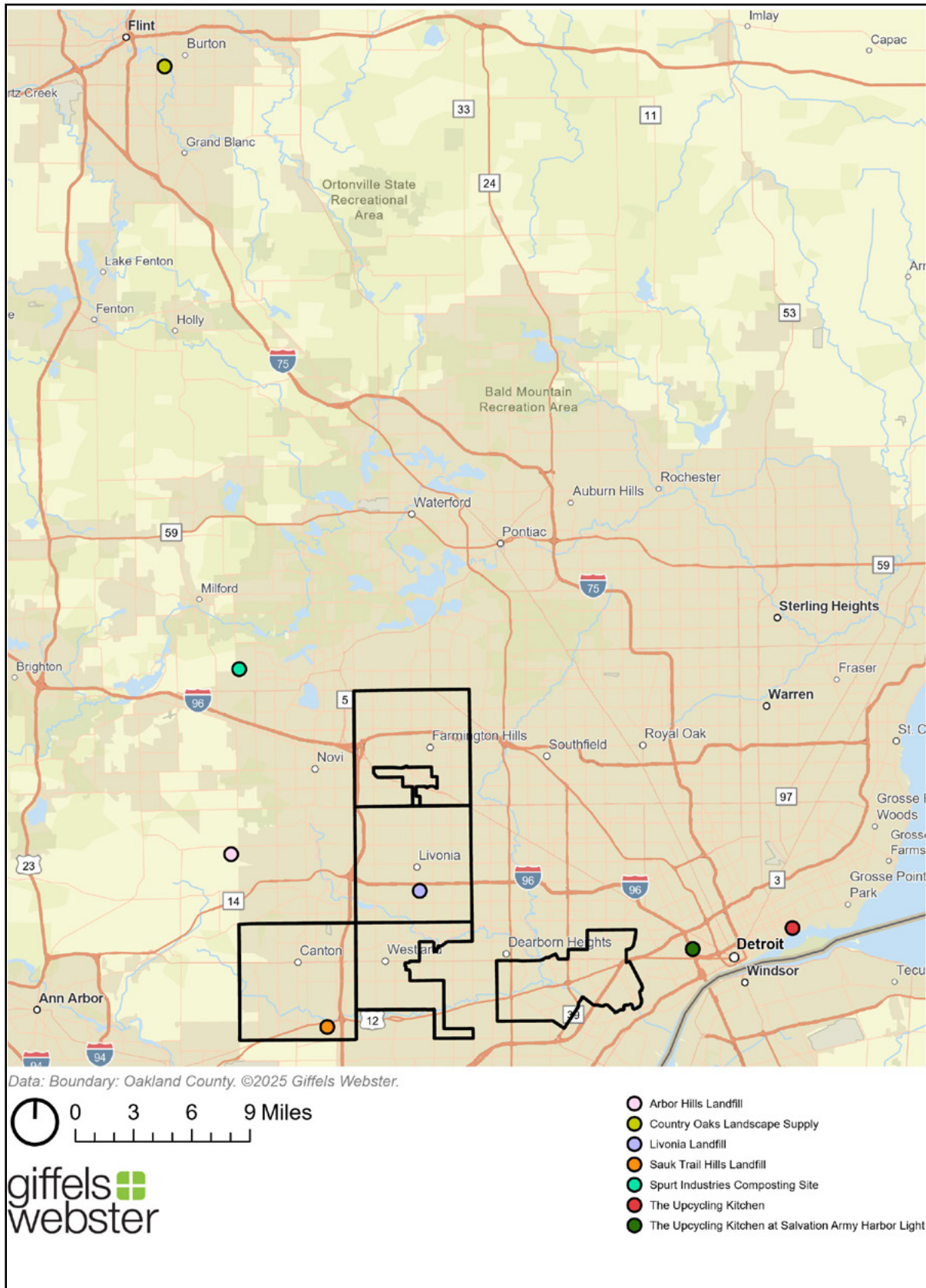
1 EPA’s WARM Tool; based on US tons of food waste.

2 48 pounds of greenhouse emission capture per 1 mature tree.

3 MDHSS 2020. [PCNA Overall Rank 1 - Wayne County Profile](#) and [PCNA Overall Rank 79 - Oakland County Profile](#)



MAP 2. Landfill and Compost Facilities





\$7.9M

SOCIAL COST ASSOCIATED WITH FOOD WASTE IN SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN



6.4M

LBS OF FOOD RESCUED FROM BUSINESSES IN 2024
(6,359,803)



8%

OF GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS COME FROM FOOD WASTE



2.38M

TREES REQUIRED TO OFFSET GHG ASSOCIATED WITH FOOD WASTE EACH YEAR



11.3%

POPULATION IN POVERTY

11%

OF HOUSEHOLDS



Eliminating Food Waste: Benefits for Southeast Michigan

By keeping food waste from being landfilled, the Southeast Michigan can expect the following direct benefits each year:

- For residents: \$430 million in financial savings from prevention ¹
- For restaurants: \$7.4 million in food costs savings²
- For the community: Over 7.1 million meals for residents facing food insecurity, valued at \$28,922,047³
- For the planet: 69,141 tons of CO₂-equivalent emissions prevented ⁴

In addition to the direct benefits, Southeast Michigan can expect the following indirect benefits:

- Advancement of goals outlined in various master plans and comprehensive plans (see [Community Sustainability Goals and Efforts](#) above).
- Reduced need for new or expanded landfills
- Extended life of landfills
- Increased compost supply to meet demand for healthy soil and carbon sequestration
- Volunteer opportunities for residents to support education, outreach, and rescue efforts
- Improved air quality for communities residing near landfills
- Supporting the goals outlined in the Southeast Michigan Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP)
- Helping the State of Michigan accomplish the food waste reduction goals in the MI Healthy Climate Plan

1 This is based on 549,683 residents and a savings of \$782 per person per year according to ReFED.

2 This is based on a mid-sized restaurant's estimated yearly savings of \$7,200 (expected that 4% of average yearly food cost can be prevented through interventions) across 1,030 restaurants.

3 Based on 8,566,000 pounds of food that can be donated and Feeding America's conversion rate of 1 lb of food being equal to 0.83 meals and the average meal costing \$4.00 in Wayne County.

4 Based on the EPA's Carbon Calculator where all food waste is either prevented or diverted from landfill to composting.

MENU

ROAST TURKEY
GLUTEN

VEG STEW - VEGAN
COCONUT MILK

VEGGIE RICE
VEGAN

FRUIT COBBLER
GLUTEN



Our

Chef Ederique
Chef Phil Jones
Chef Jermone
Chef Karen
Chef Chris G
from Sylvan
Chef Le'Gene

The Regional Blueprint

How Your Meal Came Together

Rescued food

Turned delicious

Herb roasted turkey with pan sauce

Curry vegetable stew (Vegan)

Veggie rice pilaf (Vegan)

Fruit cobbler with pierogi dumplings

Chefs

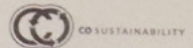
Chef Shay Goudia
 Chef Shanel DeWalt
 Chef Dominique Black
 Chef Shannon Zandee
 Chef JBey Stevenson
 Chef Chris Feala
 Chef Gabriel McNeil

Chef Shanel DeWalt
 Chef Shay Goudia
 Chef Dominique Black
 Chef Shannon Zandee
 Chef JBey Stevenson
 Chef Chris Feala
 Chef Gabriel McNeil

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WORLD CENTRIC
 FOR A BETTER WORLD





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The Blueprint



Driving Economies of Scale Across Eastern Southeast Michigan

Below are several opportunities to leverage proximity and existing relationships between these six communities and those surrounding them to stretch resources, build or strengthen relationships, and address implementation challenges related to the strategies in this plan and those in the plans for each individual community.

01 Southeast Michigan Public Awareness Campaign: Creating a culture of zero food waste in eastern southeast Michigan

While food waste is becoming an increasingly well-known issue among the general population, it likely is not yet a dinner table topic in the majority of households on a regular basis. This strategy includes steps focused on awareness raising to encourage participation in later strategies. The use of this awareness campaign across the region is needed to reach those who come into one of these six communities but live elsewhere, as well as those who live in these target areas. The widespread campaign will support creating a culture where, in Southeast Michigan, it is unacceptable to waste food. It will also provide a consistent, unified message while lowering costs associated with asset development, printing, and distribution.

Completely eliminating food waste in these communities will require everyone, everywhere, all the time, to prevent food waste and divert it from landfills when they are in one of these communities. An overarching communication campaign that raises awareness of the issue and motivates everyone to participate is needed. This campaign will set the stage for the initiative and will be seen throughout the individual communities as well as throughout eastern southeast Michigan. The themes and style of the campaign will be used throughout the region and be tailored to each community focused on eliminating food waste. On the regional scale, campaign materials will be shared via billboards and announcements, and through any other opportunities or platforms that are available. It will also be shared at events that convene these communities, such as those hosted by the Conference of Western Wayne, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), county meetings, and others.

In order to develop a strong communications campaign for this project, the team reviewed other food waste reduction campaigns and interviewed campaign managers from other areas in the U.S. while completing the Blueprint for Southfield. The name of the resulting initiative is “[Every Bit Counts](#).” This title underscores that eliminating food waste requires everyone’s participation as well as all of the solutions from prevention to organics recycling. Information about “[Every Bit Counts](#)” will live on the MFNW website and will include general information about the initiative and the need to prevent and divert food waste.

With this foundation in place, the initiative will have an outreach campaign that will change over time to keep the messaging consistent but fresh and aligned with the phase of implementation that the region is generally at. The initial campaign, created by Modish Creative Co. and designed to raise awareness of the issue, is titled “Dumb Problem. Easy Solution.” The campaign rests on the following concepts:

- Food waste is considered by many to be the “world’s dumbest environmental problem” because landfilled food waste causes significant harm while being relatively easy to avoid.
- People seek entertainment, often tuning out messages that feel moralizing, negative, or overly educational.

The “Dumb Problem. Easy Solution.” campaign takes a humorous approach to draw people into the issue and encourage them to become involved. This campaign theme will be applied to all communication materials. Future campaigns within the [Every Bit Counts](#) initiative will focus on education around prevention and donation strategies, and later landfill diversion strategies.

01.A Promote the campaign via billboards

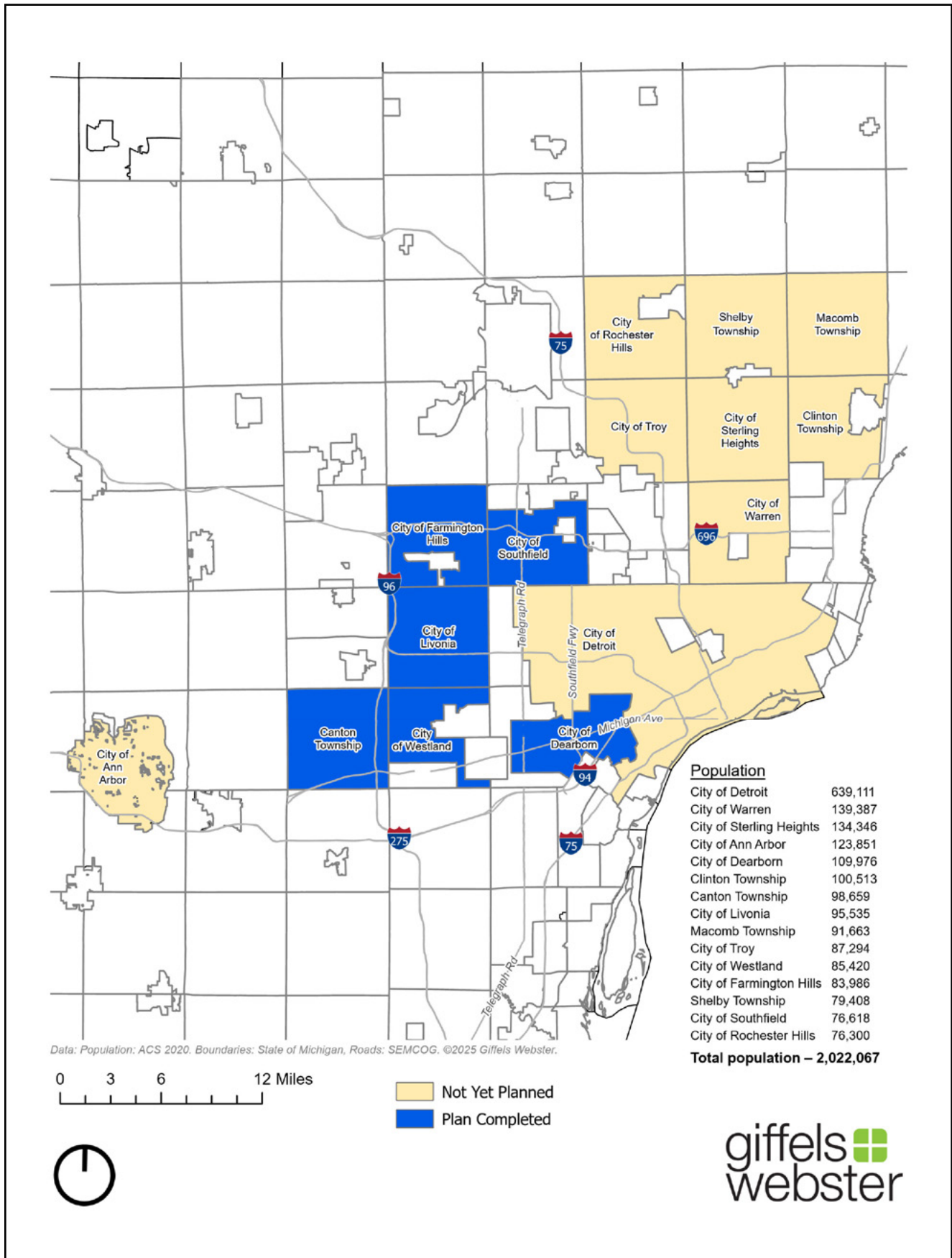
Billboards have been successfully used for public service announcements, sharing of information, and awareness raising for numerous other initiatives and could be used for the [Every Bit Counts](#) initiative as well. The region has two interstate highways that run through the area, I-94 and I-96, as well as major thoroughfares such as Telegraph Road, Southfield Freeway, and Michigan Ave, all of which have billboards (See [Map 3](#)). Use of billboards would help raise awareness not only among residents, but also visitors to the region. This plan recommends using billboards on all of these highways and interstates to promote the campaign, raise awareness, and gain buy-in. These billboards would be refreshed regularly (once or twice a year) to keep the messaging fresh and to align with the phase of implementation occurring in the community it is located in. Billboards in Dearborn may be translated into Arabic. More detail about the marketing campaign, including billboards, can be found in [Appendix D](#).

01.B Promote the campaign via radio ads

Radio ads have also been successfully used for public service announcements and raising awareness for a cause. Radio ads can provide information, resources, and a call to action, and provide a different medium for people to learn about the [Every Bit Counts](#) campaign. These ads would also be updated on a regular basis to keep the messaging fresh and aligned with the implementation efforts in surrounding communities.



MAP 3. Major Roadways with Billboards



Population

City of Detroit	639,111
City of Warren	139,387
City of Sterling Heights	134,346
City of Ann Arbor	123,851
City of Dearborn	109,976
Clinton Township	100,513
Canton Township	98,659
City of Livonia	95,535
Macomb Township	91,663
City of Troy	87,294
City of Westland	85,420
City of Farmington Hills	83,986
Shelby Township	79,408
City of Southfield	76,618
City of Rochester Hills	76,300

Total population – 2,022,067

Data: Population: ACS 2020. Boundaries: State of Michigan, Roads: SEMCOG. ©2025 Giffels Webster.

0 3 6 12 Miles

Not Yet Planned
Plan Completed



01.C Promote the campaign via websites, social media platforms, and regional outreach

While the communities will each be doing their own outreach to the residents and businesses within their jurisdiction, counties, and other entities focused on more than just one municipality can support the campaign by sharing information and raising awareness of the initiative. This can be done through their usual channels of communication, including posting information on their website and social media platforms which could include links to the food waste dashboards for relevant communities and [Make Food Not Waste's website](#). Mailers, newsletters, and other outreach materials could include updates on the initiative, food waste management tips relevant to readers, and related events, workshops, and trainings.

02 Multi-Community Events and Working Groups

There are many opportunities to bring multiple communities together to learn, share, troubleshoot, and celebrate throughout the implementation of the strategies outlined in this plan. These communities are already collaborating and supporting each other in various ways, such as through SEMCOG and county-level planning, a shared chamber of commerce, common school districts, and the Conference of Western Wayne. The kick-off event for this planning effort brought together representatives from these communities, and continuing conversations between them could prove to be useful in navigating challenges that may arise.

02.A Create a support group for communities working to implement plans

Several representatives of communities in this cohort felt that regular gatherings of those working to implement these plans would be helpful. These convenings could be open to anyone in any of the communities working on food waste reduction or limited to just staff and/or elected officials. Topics to discuss at the meetings could include progress updates from individual communities, including where challenges or roadblocks have been identified, successes, troubleshooting, and sharing of resources. Some meetings may be spent working on collaborative tasks such as grant applications or in smaller break out groups to further collective goals. The implementation team will set up the meetings on a schedule agreed upon by the group, likely quarterly or monthly, and support administration tasks associated with the convenings.



Community representatives share their thoughts on regional food waste strategies during the regional workshop in July 2025.

02.B Promote the campaign via events and gatherings for local community leaders

Communities in Southeast Michigan already convene for multiple reasons and are hosted by various groups, including their respective counties, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), and the Conference of Western Wayne. These, and other events and meetings provide opportunities to promote the campaign and share the momentum. Some opportunities to do this include celebrating milestones in individual communities, troubleshooting implementation challenges, providing input on relevant state legislation, and sharing resources.

02.C Provide cross-jurisdictional training

Opportunities to train staff from the same sector across multiple communities at the same time could not only efficiently share the information but also help move communities towards full implementation at similar paces and lead to innovative solutions. In addition to a continued discussion among administrative staff and champions of the initiative, we envision the following opportunities to bring communities together to:

- Train residents on food waste management strategies for the household, including reading date labels, proper storage, meal planning, eating leftovers, eating all parts of the produce, upcycling food, preservation techniques, sorting for food scrap collection, and backyard composting
- Train health inspectors across counties on food donation liability and resources for food rescue and diversion
- Streamline processes and communication between food rescue organizations as well as between them and their donors and recipients
- Train grocery store managers on Flashfood, LeanPath, rescue options, and other opportunities to move surplus food
- Sign restaurant owners up for Too Good To Go; Train staff on LeanPath, Toast, or other food waste management programs as appropriate, how to use aerobic digester (where applicable), and supporting staff and patrons to sort food scraps appropriately
- Train hospitality workers on food waste management best practices
- Train school staff and food service providers at schools and other institutions on best practices and practical ways to manage food waste in cafeterias and classrooms

03 Improve Communication Within and Maximize Donations to the Charitable Food Network

The food rescue organizations in the region work pretty independently of each other, serving their donors and recipients but not necessarily communicating with each other. This has resulted in surplus food still ending up in the landfill when one rescue organization cannot collect all that is available or distribute it to sites who can use it. Additionally, food pantries will often accept larger quantities of food than they can distribute. This is especially frequent during the summer when there is a lot of produce that must be eaten or processed in a short amount of time. Ensuring that the donations are right-sized for the recipient population and any surplus is taken to another site for distribution can help get more food used for its highest purpose of feeding people. Other efficiencies are likely to arise from improving the communication within this sector. This strategy supports the state's goal of doubling the state's capacity to receive and distribute surplus food as outlined in the [Michigan Food Waste Roadmap: A Plan to Reduce Food Loss and Waste in Michigan by 50 Percent](#). The following strategies work to address some of the issues already identified.

03.A Create a “food sourcer” position

Baltimore has a “food sourcer” that coordinates small to mid-scale food rescue in the city, connecting potential donors to nonprofit rescue organizations, all while balancing resources to ensure that supply, demand, and volunteer availability remain aligned. Local food rescue organizations have indicated that having someone in this role would be helpful, as it takes a lot of outreach, education, and relationship building to get a new donor to donate, especially if they were not looking for a food rescue partner. The food sourcer could help identify locations that could be donation sites, educate their staff on how to prepare food for donating and what is accepted, and work to connect them with a rescue organization and receiving organizations, thereby saving much more food than what the food rescue organizations are currently able to do. It makes sense for the food sourcer to be more regionally-focused to allow for the right type and amount of food to be shared at the right time with sites that could distribute or use it which will likely span the boundaries of multiple communities. Rescue organizations and food distribution sites would need to agree to coordinate with the food sourcer to maximize the potential of this strategy.

03.B Create a shared platform for coordinating surplus food and needs

Possibly as an alternative to a food sourcer or as a tool to support the person in that role, a platform for sharing where there is surplus food, how much, what kind, and when it will be ready for pick up, and what food types and amounts are needed in other places and by when could be created. Widespread use of the platform for sites donating or receiving food would be needed to maximize the amount of food that could be rescued through this strategy.



04 Cooperate to gain economies of scale

There are supplies needed for the municipal plans to be implemented, some of which add up quickly when purchasing for every household. This section discusses ways to reduce the financial burden of implementing these strategies.

Organics recycling is the most costly aspect of this plan, and one that will be ongoing for communities as there will always be some food that cannot be used and will need to be diverted from the landfill. The six communities that are the focus of this document all currently have the same waste management provider, Priority Waste. Interest by all of these communities in providing a food scrap collection service alongside the traditional trash pick up could result in economies of scale in pricing. For example, Priority Waste has already stated that they can provide curbside food scrap pick up to households in all six communities for \$2 per household per month. This is significantly less than local independent food scrap collection companies, which charge around \$25 per household per month. Additional opportunities for economies of scale through bulk purchasing are detailed below.

Bulk purchasing could be done for any of the supplies needed for communities to implement their plans - curbside carts (for those using carts), bins for community drop off sites, parks, and municipal facilities, signage, and other items. Bulk purchasing could be arranged by the implementation team. For example, if two communities wanted to purchase curbside carts, the Residential Coordinators for those two communities would organize the bulk purchasing of the carts, including making sure the funds were budgeted for, getting an accurate count of the numbers needed, ordering, and distributing items.

The municipal budget process begins months in advance of the beginning of the fiscal year to create a new budget. Below are the budget timelines for each community. Most of the communities are on a July 1-June 30 fiscal year while Canton and Livonia begin their years in January and December, respectively.

TABLE 4. Budget Process and Fiscal Year by Community

Community	Length of Budget Process	Fiscal Year
Canton	18 months	January 1 - December 31
Dearborn	4 months	July 1 - June 30
Farmington Hills	7 months	July 1 - June 30
Livonia	6 months	December 1 - November 30
Southfield	8 months	July 1 - June 30
Westland	5 months	July 1 - June 30

04.A Curbside carts

Priority Waste has requested that rolling curbside bins be used for curbside pick up to provide the service at a cost of \$2 per household per month. The required bins cost \$52 each; this price may decrease if the carts are purchased in bulk across multiple communities instead of each community purchasing their own carts. This will require coordination on timing, storage, and distribution of the carts.

04.B BigBelly bins

BigBelly bins are proposed in all communities to be used in parks and at municipal facilities. These bins are also proposed at new food scrap drop off sites. Because Canton's food scrap drop off program is already operating using rolling curbside carts, this Blueprint proposes that the new drop off sites in Canton will use carts similar to the existing sites. Discounts are available at various thresholds, including a 2.5% discount when 10 bins are purchased and additional discounts as more bins are purchased. Combining the purchasing of bins among communities, coordinated through the implementation team, can reduce costs. Additional savings may be gained in the one-time mandatory onboarding and training fee and maintenance of the bins, including regular cleaning.

05 Workforce Development

The state and country need workers knowledgeable about food waste management and specifically how to recycle organics on a large scale. Learning to compost safely and effectively takes time and mentoring, creating a bottleneck for opening new sites and a high demand for those with this expertise. More compost site operators may be needed to be able to scale up food waste diversion throughout Southeast Michigan and the state, creating a need for programs to prepare them for this work.

05.A Create a compost facility manager pipeline/workforce training program

Joint training programs partnered with local sites can help create a needed workforce that is employable in Southeast Michigan, and throughout the state and country. Some of the local career and technical schools have experience developing pipeline or training programs to support in-demand job skill creation, and may be able to support a similar pipeline or program for organics recycling with additional resources such as funding and staff. The existing compost sites could potentially be used as training grounds too, as much of the training that operators receive is on the job. The implementation team can support identifying and coordinating partners.



The U.S. Composting Council (USCC) has two opportunities for continuing education and certifications for compost operators. The first is a Certified Compost Operations Manager (CCOM). This is intended for those who work at a compost manufacturing facility and covers all aspects of composting operations, environmental controls, and more generally the topics of organics recycling and waste management. To qualify, applicants must be at least 21 years old and have a high school diploma or equivalent, have participated in an instructor-led course in compost operations that was at least 3 days long, and have at least two years of full-time experience related to organics recycling with at least one year of full-time experience working in a compost facility.

The USCC also offers a certificate to be a Certified Composting Professional (CCP). This requires having completed at least five days of training in compost operations and use, with at least three days of the training being in compost operations that includes experiential learning and/or a field trip. This is intended for people who may have similar knowledge to those with a CCOM, but may have a more varied experience to gain this information than primarily working at a compost manufacturing facility.

More information about both of these certifications can be found on the [U.S. Composting Council's](#) website.

05.B Promote the Compost Operations Training Course (COTC)

The Composting Council's Compost Research and Education Foundation has a five-day, forty-hour course that is highly recommended for those interested in becoming a compost facility operator. The Compost Operations Training Course (COTC) covers the composting process, site design, equipment, environmental protection, compost testing, product quality, marketing, facilities management, troubleshooting, and other topics as well as field trips.

This course should be shared with all high school and technical/vocational schools, distributed through Chamber of Commerce networks, and shared through community groups that may be interested in learning about this course. The implementation team will provide promotional materials for sharing.

This course will be held at Michigan State University's Tollgate Farm October 27-31, 2025. More information about the course can be found on the [U.S. Composting Council's](#) website and the [Michigan Organics Council](#) website.

05.C Promote continuing education for compost operators

The U.S. Composting Council provides ongoing education for compost operators and also has two certificates to help workers explain their level of knowledge and skills. Similar to the COTC above, these programs and certificates could be promoted and shared with high school and technical/vocational schools, the Chamber of Commerce networks, and relevant community groups.

06 Centralized Data Collection and Analysis

Measuring the effectiveness of strategies and progress towards goals is needed to confirm the strategies are working and achieving the results expected. A shared database to collect, analyze, and share this information across all participating communities would be efficient and helpful. The pooling of data could help identify additional ways for communities to work together, improve implementation or adjust strategies, and avoid duplicating efforts as well as support grant applications.

06.A Create a shared database

Researchers from Eastern Michigan University have supported the evaluation components of the plans for individual communities, including creating a list of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the various food waste management strategies as well as surveys for gathering baseline information from residents and food-based businesses. These KPIs and surveys can be used to outline the inputs to include in a shared database related to the *Every Bit Counts* initiative. Other metrics, such as those collected through inventories and audits at schools and institutions and general waste characterization studies can be added to the database as needed. The implementation team, in collaboration with Eastern Michigan University, will manage the database and share it with community partners.

06.B Collect data

Community partners such as local municipalities, schools, institutions, and others will be asked to share data on their food waste management progress. This will be done as simply and efficiently as possible, likely through a survey or shared spreadsheet.

06.C Analyze and share results

The Eastern Michigan University team will review and analyze the data, and provide a summary of results to the implementation team. The implementation team will share the findings with the appropriate audiences, whether that be the individual communities and their residents, SEMCOG, the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), funders, or other stakeholders.

07 Shared Grant Applications

Collaboration between communities could open up opportunities to apply for larger funds or for distribution of work to implement programs and services associated with the award. Make Food Not Waste and the implementation team will continuously look for funding opportunities to support implementation of the strategies outlined in the individual community plans and this regional plan. Opportunities for collaboration among municipalities will be shared and facilitated by the implementation team. Resources from the various communities involved, such as grant writing or other expertise, may be leveraged to support the application.



08 Proof of Concept

As more communities engage in food waste prevention, reduction, and diversion efforts and these efforts are tailored and adapted to meet the needs of each community, there will be more variations of strategies for communities throughout the region and state to consider. This proof of concept will encourage other communities to try these strategies, which can result in better and more infrastructure and service options, lowered costs, and greater support of funders and advocates at the local, regional, and state levels. Sharing the successes and challenges related to implementation of the strategies outlined in the individual community plans will be an important step in diverting more food waste from surrounding communities to help reach the state's goal of cutting food waste in half by 2030.

08.A Share successes via outreach and publicity

As communities reach milestones with implementation and overcome challenges, announcements and celebrations among the communities and outward facing should be had. This could include press releases, sharing via social media, newsletters, and other local publications, signs, radio and television ads, and other forms. Events could also be held to celebrate successes and gain momentum for additional engagement.

08.B Municipality mentorship program

As other communities are interested in learning what they can do to reduce food waste and divert it from landfills, it may be helpful for them to hear what other communities are doing. Setting up a mentorship program where the community champions from each community are introduced and paired to share experiences and help troubleshoot issues may be useful and help gain interest and engagement more widely throughout Southeast Michigan.

09 Advocacy

Advocacy at the state level for policies such as requiring reporting for large food waste generators and banning food waste in landfills can be done more effectively when regional support for these policies is shown. Whether the advocacy is done through a coalition, SEMCOG, or others, the collective of individual communities coming together to advocate for these policies can be powerful. While these policies are likely to be better received, monitored, and enforced at the state level, local communities should advocate for them as they would support local efforts in addressing food waste. Make Food Not Waste will take the lead on sharing opportunities for local municipalities to be involved in state-level advocacy on issues that affect them related to food waste.

10 Implementation Team and Other Support

A coordinated team dedicated to plan implementation is needed to facilitate the roll out of the various interventions throughout the region to reach the food waste elimination goal. Make Food Not Waste is qualified and ready to serve as the organizing body of the implementation of this plan.

This regional plan suggests a range of strategies, some of which will be implemented by private investors, or other nonprofits or partners. Other strategies, such as multi-community events and working groups ([Strategy 02](#)), improving communication within the charitable food network ([Strategy 03](#)), and cooperating to gain economies of scale ([Strategy 04](#)) can be completed by the various coordinators (residential, food-based business, schools and institutions) and/or the project managers of the implementation teams built to implement the Food Waste Elimination Blueprint in each of the six communities. The remaining strategies in this Regional Blueprint include the communications strategy ([Strategy 01](#)), centralized data collection and analysis ([Strategy 06](#)), proof of concept ([Strategy 08](#)), and advocacy ([Strategy 01](#)). These all need people power to implement.

10.A Regional Lead

Despite much of the work of this plan likely being completed by partners as described above, the successful implementation of this Regional Blueprint requires additional people-power and expertise. Specifically, a dedicated Regional Lead is needed to oversee the implementation of the Regional Blueprint. This position will be posted once funding has been identified, and recruitment and screening of candidates will begin immediately. Duties include overseeing the design and implementation of the communication campaign, convening the municipalities, collaborating and assisting te data collection and evaluation team, encouraging workforce development, and coordinating the implementatino staff members from the municipal implementation teams when necessary.

10.B Monitoring and Evaluation

Evaluation of the regional communication campaign is necessary to understand its effectiveness, what components are most effective, and what groups are and are not connecting with its messaging. This will be conducted by a third party communications research firm with expertise in campaigns evaluation.



Strategies Explored, but Not Included at This Time

Strategies Explored, but Not Included at This Time

Of the strategies discussed at the regional level, only one is not included in the plan at this time.

Site a Compost Facility

Given that it is estimated that there is 207 million pounds of food that need to be diverted from landfills to a compost facility, it was expected that a new facility would be needed. However, existing compost facilities in the region indicate that there is capacity at the currently operating sites to accommodate and process all of the additional volume. However, opportunities to site a compost facility were explored in each individual community, as well as collectively. Many of the communities in this cohort are largely, if not completely, built out and do not have the available space needed to host a compost facility. Additionally, after speaking with local compost facility operators, it was noted that food scrap processing is limited by the amount of yard waste that is available. Dry, carbon-rich materials that make up yard waste balance the wet, nitrogen-rich materials that compose food waste. Getting the right ratio is critical for efficient processing of both types of material and preventing nuisances such as odors. The development of a new compost site could result in yard waste being diverted from existing sites, thereby reducing the existing sites' capacity to process food waste.

Given these findings, Make Food Not Waste is working with EGLE and other partners to think about how to increase the number and processing capacity of existing compost facilities to be able to handle an influx of food waste as more communities begin diverting their waste.

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APPENDIX A: **Timeline**

Appendix A: Timeline

Timeline

TABLE 5. Regional Plan Timeline

Strategy	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
01 Southeast Michigan Public Awareness Campaign: Creating a culture of zero food waste in eastern southeast Michigan																				
Develop regional campaign assets (billboards, radio ads, television ads, social media, flyers, etc.)																				
Refresh regional campaign assets to align with the general phase of implementation for each community																				
01.A Promote the campaign via billboards																				
Secure billboard space																				
Post billboards																				
Refresh billboards																				
01.B Promote the campaign via radio ads																				
Secure radio ad space																				
Run radio ads																				
01.C Promote the campaign via websites, social media platforms, and regional outreach																				
Secure local television stations ad space																				
Collaborate with cities and townships to provide content on their local channel																				
Run television ad																				
01.C Promote the campaign via websites, social media platforms, and regional outreach																				



Strategy	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Identify regional partners (counties, SEMCOG, Conference of Western Wayne, etc.) to share information																				
Share information, resources, and updates on the initiative																				
02 Multi-Community Events and Working Groups																				
02.A Create a support group for communities working to implement plans																				
Identify a champion of the group to schedule, secure meeting locations, etc.																				
Host regular convenings																				
02.B Promote the campaign via events and gatherings for local community leaders																				
Identify places where local community leaders are already convening, such as SEMCOG or Conference of Western Wayne meetings																				
Work with conveners of those groups to add space for food waste initiative updates, resource sharing, and troubleshooting to meetings or immediately before/after planned meetings																				
02.C Provide cross-jurisdictional training																				
Host workshop for resident food waste prevention techniques, promoted to residents in all 6 communities																				
Host workshop to train health inspectors from Wayne and Oakland County on food waste options for businesses																				
Host workshop for food rescue organizations and food rescue recipient sites to match sites to rescuers, identify areas to improve efficiency of offerings, and streamline communication																				
Host workshop to train grocery store managers on ways to move surplus food and prepare surplus for pick up by rescue organizations																				

Timeline

Strategy	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Host workshops for food-business staff to provide resources such as Too Good To Go, training on how to properly sort food scraps, and opportunities to think about how to upcycle common surplus items	■				■				■				■				■			
Host workshops to train hospitality workers on food waste management practices and prepare food for pick up by food rescue organizations		■				■				■				■				■		
Host workshops to train school staff and food service providers at schools and other institutions on best practices and practical ideas for managing food waste in cafeterias			■				■				■				■				■	
03 Improve Communication Within and Maximize Donations to the Charitable Food Network	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
03.A Create a “food sourcer” position	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Convene food rescue organizations to discuss how this could work, including cost sharing and reporting structure	Work on this strategy could begin at any time, or may not occur at all, particularly if strategy 03.B below is implemented																			
Identify and obtain funding sources, if needed																				
Post food sourcer job position																				
Interview interested candidates																				
Select and onboard candidate																				
03.B Create a shared platform for coordinating surplus food and needs	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■



Strategy	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Convene food rescue organizations to discuss how this could work, including information needed to be included in the platform, cost sharing, and use agreements	Work on this strategy could begin at any time, or may not occur at all, particularly if strategy 03.A above is implemented																			
Identify developers to create platform																				
Identify and obtain funding sources, if needed																				
Develop platform																				
Train food rescue organizations on how to use the platform																				
Train food donors on how to use the platform																				
Train food recipients on how to use the platform																				
Evaluate the platform and make updates/adjustments as needed																				
04 Cooperate to gain economies of scale																				
04.A Curbside carts																				
Determine how many curbside carts are needed for each community																				
Obtain a quote for the cost of curbside carts for each individual community and for communities aggregated																				
Share the quotes with communities ahead of their budgeting process																				
Set a deadline for communities to participate in the bulk purchasing of carts																				
Purchase curbside carts									This could happen at any time, depending on when communities move forward with purchasing carts.											
Distribute carts to each community																				
04.B BigBelly bins																				
Determine how many BigBelly bins of each size are needed for each community																				



Timeline

Strategy	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Obtain a quote for the cost of bins for each individual community and for communities aggregated																				
Share the quotes with communities ahead of their budgeting process																				
Set a deadline for communities to participate in the bulk purchasing of BigBelly bins																				
Purchase bins					This could happen at any time, depending on when communities move forward with purchasing bins.															
05 Workforce Development																				
05.A Create a compost facility manager pipeline/ workforce training program																				
Connect technical/vocational schools with local organic recyclers to identify training opportunities	This could happen for any length of time, at any time, or not at all.																			
Support schools in developing a training program for organics recycling, as needed	This could happen for any length of time, at any time, or not at all.																			
Promote training programs					This could happen for any length of time, at any time, or not at all.															
05.B Promote the Compost Operations Training Course (COTC)																				
Obtain promotional flyers and information about the COTC																				
Share information about the COTC with high schools, technical/vocational schools, Chamber of Commerce networks, and other community groups																				
05.C Promote continuing education for compost operators																				
Obtain promotional flyers and information about the Certified Compost Operations Manager (CCOM) and Certified Composting Professional (CCP) certifications																				
Share information about the CCOM and CCP with high schools, technical/vocational schools, Chamber of Commerce networks, and other community groups																				



Strategy	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
06 Centralized Data Collection and Analysis																				
06.A Create a shared database																				
Identify key variables to measure and how to measure them																				
Set up a database for collecting measurements																				
06.B Collect data																				
Train responsible parties on how to measure and collect data, if needed	Whenever, as needed																			
Share the database with community partners																				
Send reminders to input data																				
06.C Analyze and share results																				
Review and analyze data																				
Provide summary of results to implementation team																				
Sharing of findings to relevant communities and partners																				
07 Shared Grant Applications																				
Look for funding opportunities																				
Share funding opportunities																				
Convene communities for joint funding applications, as needed																				
08 Proof of Concept																				
08.A Share successes via outreach and publicity																				
Share successes via press release	Whenever the opportunity arises																			
Share successes via usual communication channel for each community, including social media and newsletters	Whenever the opportunity arises																			
Share successes via events	Whenever the opportunity arises																			

Timeline

Strategy	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Share successes via signs	Whenever the opportunity arises																			
Share successes via radio and television ads	Whenever the opportunity arises																			
08.B Municipality mentorship program																				
Pair municipalities new to food waste initiatives with those who have begun implementation	Ongoing, as needed																			
09 Advocacy																				
Identify state and federal policies that municipalities and community groups may be interested in publicly supporting	Ongoing, as relevant																			
Share possible policies with municipalities and interested community groups	Ongoing, as relevant																			
Provide opportunity for municipalities and interested community groups to show their position on the issue	Ongoing, as relevant																			
10 Implementation Team and Other Support																				
10.A Regional Lead																				
Post Regional Lead job position																				
Review candidate applications																				
Select and onboard candidate																				
Regional Blueprint implementation																				
10.B Monitoring and Evaluation																				
Post RFP for evaluation work																				
Review candidate applications																				
Select candidates																				
Evaluation of Regional Blueprint implementation																				



TABLE 6. Municipal Blueprint Implementation Timeline

Phase	Community	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
1. Community-engagement foundation and household prevention campaign: Region-branded outreach campaign, pledge drive, workshops, baseline data and surveying work, prevention toolkits	Community 1	█					
	Community 2		█				
	Community 3			█			
	Community 4				█		
	Community 5					█	
	Community 6						█
2. City as a Leader: City policies adopted to support food waste management; Add budget line item for food scraps	Community 1	█					
	Community 2		█				
	Community 3			█			
	Community 4				█		
	Community 5					█	
	Community 6						█
3. Health inspectors and business innovators: Train health inspectors, prepare supporting materials for inspectors, provide TA for businesses and onboard for donation/rescue, "Zero-Waste Leader" beta certification	Community 1	█					
	Community 2		█				
	Community 3			█			
	Community 4				█		
	Community 5					█	
	Community 6						█
4. Residential diversion campaign - drop off collection: Implement drop off sites, provide diversion outreach/education via mailers, workshops, etc., monitoring for contamination, Support backyard composting through partnerships with local orgs, tool share, demo sites	Community 1		█				
	Community 2			█			
	Community 3				█		
	Community 4					█	
	Community 5						█
	Community 6						█
5. Tackle school, institution, and business food waste: Develop plans for each site; continued TA for businesses	Community 1		█				
	Community 2			█			
	Community 3				█		
	Community 4					█	
	Community 5						█
	Community 6						█



Timeline

6. Food waste is not happening anywhere!: BigBellies in parks, apartments, HOAs, places that cannot be served by curbside; Target non-food-based businesses for participation	Community 1						
	Community 2						
	Community 3						
	Community 4						
	Community 5						
	Community 6						
7. Residential diversion campaign - curbside with drop off as needed: Implement curbside pick up and maintain drop off sites as needed to support places that do not have curbside, including delivering carts and liners, multilingual outreach, resident incentives, monitoring for contamination	Community 1						
	Community 2						
	Community 3						
	Community 4						
	Community 5						
	Community 6						
8. School and institution go-time: Implement school and institution plans; continue TA for businesses	Community 1						
	Community 2						
	Community 3						
	Community 4						
	Community 5						
	Community 6						
9. Optimization and maintenance: Prepare for CVTs, schools, institutions to manage food waste without day-to-day implementation team support	Community 1						
	Community 2						
	Community 3						
	Community 4						
	Community 5						
	Community 6						



APPENDIX B:

Budgets

Appendix B: Budgets

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Summary Budget

Year	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5
Cost	\$319,000	\$321,250	\$319,000	\$319,000	\$319,000
Total 5-year cost	\$1,597,250				

Funding Sources

The plan outlined above will need to be funded in a variety of ways. Make Food Not Waste is committed to looking for grants and other funding to cover the expenses related to the implementation costs. It is anticipated that private developers and local partners in the work, such as food rescue organizations, will provide the funding for the strategies outlined in this plan if they are to be implemented.

Budget Narrative

The regional blueprint spans the five years between when the document was drafted and 2030, the target deadline for achieving a 50% reduction in food waste in the state of Michigan. Many of the strategies in this part of the blueprint are contingent on collaboration between communities and between communities and other partners. Due to this, the timeline for implementation of these strategies, if they are implemented, is very challenging to predict. The following narrative provides an overview of the costs associated with the various strategies, who is responsible for completing the task, and where funding may come from. The following sheets provide an line item by line item analysis of the costs that could be estimated at this time.

01 - Southeast Michigan Public Awareness Campaign

This campaign supports the smaller city and township-wide communications campaigns that are discussed in each of the municipality's individual plans, and also alerts visitors to the area that this is a regional initiative. Campaign assets, including billboards, radio and television ads, and social media and newsletter assets for regional entities, will be developed in Year 1 by a Design Firm and updated annually. This will be funded through grants and donations to the initiative.

02 - Multi-Community Events and Working Groups

This set of strategies focuses on how communities working on this issue can work together and learn from each other. The first strategy leans on community champions to convene themselves and host regular convenings as they see helpful to share resources and move the initiative forward. Time spent by involved staff and community leaders will be covered as part of their regularly assigned duties. The second strategy focuses on leveraging convenings of community leaders that are already happening to share resources; this does not require additional resources, other than time for the Implementation Team to prepare updates and information and share it with the convening leader. The third strategy provides training, hosted by the Implementation Team, for various industries that would be open to all communities engaged in this work. Costs are minimal, and will be supported either through grant funds or pass through by attendees, as in the case of food-based business staff, hospitality worker, and grocery store trainings.

03 - Improve Communication Within and Maximize Donations to the Charitable Food Network

This set of strategies relies on coordination between food rescue organizations to develop tools such as a food sourcer position or a shared platform for coordinating surplus and needs. We include it in here as rescue organizations have a regional scope and advocate for these strategies, but ultimately it will be up to them to fund and implement these strategies.

04 - Organics Recycling

This strategy has two groups of substrategies. The first is bulk purchasing of items needed for food scrap diversion to decrease costs to the municipalities and ultimately residents. The coordination of the bulk purchasing is included in the funding for the Implementation Team, so the only additional costs are the actual items. The cost of the carts and liners can be passed through to residents, while the BigBellies for community drop off sites will need to be funded by the municipality, likely through the General Fund. The second set of strategies is related to siting a compost facility in the region. This will require private development funds, unless the communities decide that a shared site, possibly managed by a third party, would be feasible.

05 - Workforce Development

This strategy focuses on promoting and sharing the need and existing training resources for compost operators. This is included in the funding for the Project Manager and Schools Coordinators.

06 - Centralized Data Collection and Analysis

This strategy focuses on measuring and understanding progress towards the goal of 100% food waste elimination throughout all of the communities. This requires an evaluation team and additional funding for the work that they will do. This funding is likely to come from grants related to the project. Additional support will be provided.

07 Shared Grant Applications

This strategy is focused on finding funds for implementation of municipal plans, possibly through sharing of resources or joint applications. This does not require any additional funding, as it will be covered by municipal staff and/or Implementation Team funding that is already budgeted for.

08 Proof of Concept

This strategy has two substrategies. The first focuses on publicity, using the usual communication channels available through regional organizations and municipalities as well as events that bring the communities together to celebrate successes. This strategy has some costs associated with it, mostly for the celebration, as the creation and use of the usual channels is covered under the Implementation Team funding. Funding for the events is likely to be through grants or other philanthropy. The second substrategy is a mentorship program, which is simply pairing municipalities who are working on food waste initiatives with those who are interested in doing so. This has no additional costs associated with it.



09 Advocacy

This strategy focuses on how municipalities can voice their opinion on state and federal policies that would impact or support food waste reduction initiatives. MFNW will identify opportunities for municipalities to weigh in, and provide them with ways to do so.

10 Implementation Team

This strategy outlines who is needed to implement the regional plan.

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Year 1

TABLE 7. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 1

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
Labor - Develop regional campaign assets (billboards, radio ads, social media, flyers, etc.)	\$21,000	Project manager
Labor - Refresh regional campaign assets to align with the general phase of implementation for each community	Included	Project Manager
01 Southeast Michigan Public Awareness Campaign: Creating a culture of zero food waste in eastern southeast Michigan		
01.A <u>Promote the campaign via billboards</u>		
Labor - Secure billboard space		Project Manager
Billboard space	\$42,000	Project Manager
Labor - Post billboards	Included	Project Manager
01.B <u>Promote the campaign via radio ads</u>		
Run radio ads	\$55,000	Project Manager
01.C <u>Promote the campaign via websites, social media platforms, and regional outreach</u>		
Digital and socail media, geo-targeted ads, content management	\$28,000	Project Manager
Labor - Identify regional partners (counties, SEMCOG, Conference of Western Wayne, etc.) to share information	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information, resources, and updates on the initiative	Included	Project Manager
02 Multi-Community Events and Working Groups		
02.A <u>Create a support group for communities working to implement plans</u>		
Labor - Identify a champion of the group to schedule, secure meeting locations, etc.	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Host regular convenings	Included	Community Champions

TABLE 7. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 1 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
02.B <u>Promote the campaign via events and gatherings for local community leaders</u>		
Labor - Identify places where local community leaders are already convening, such as SEMCOG or Conference of Western Wayne meetings	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Work with conveners of those groups to add space for food waste initiative updates, resource sharing, and troubleshooting to meetings or immediately before/after planned meetings	Included	Project Manager
02.C <u>Provide cross-jurisdictional training</u>		
Labor - Organize workshop for resident food waste prevention techniques	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Promote resident workshop	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Execute resident workshop	Included	Residential Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,000	Residential Coordinators
Materials	\$1,000	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Organize workshop for health inspectors	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote health inspector workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute health inspector workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$0	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$500	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$500	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$500	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$500	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$500	Commercial Coordinators



TABLE 7. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 1 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
Labor - Organize food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,000	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$1,000	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,000	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$1,000	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Labor - Promote school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Labor - Execute school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Space rental fee	0	School Coordinators
Materials	\$1,000	School Coordinators
03 Improve Communication Within and Maximize Donations to the Charitable Food Network		
03.A Create a “food sourcer” position		
Labor - Convene food rescue organizations to discuss the needs and structure for having a regional "food sourcer"	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify and obtain funding sources	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Post food sourcer job position	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Interview interested candidates	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Select and onboard candidates	Included	Food Rescue Organizations

TABLE 7. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 1 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
03.B <u>Create a shared platform for coordinating surplus food and needs</u>		
Labor - Convene food rescue organizations to discuss the needs and structure of a platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify developers to create platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify and obtain funding sources, if needed	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Develop platform	Included	Developer
Labor - Train food rescue organizations on how to use the platform	Included	Developer
Labor - Train food donors on how to use the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Train food recipients on how to use the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Evaluate the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Update/adjustment the platform as needed	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
04 <u>Cooperate to gain economies of scale</u>		
04.A <u>Curbside carts</u>		
Labor - Determine how many carts are needed for each community	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Obtain a quote for the cost of carts for each individual community and for communities aggregated	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Share the quotes with communities ahead of their budgeting process	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Set a deadline for communities to participate in the bulk purchasing of carts	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Purchase carts and coordinate distribution	Included	Residential Coordinators
Purchase carts	TBD	Residential Coordinators



TABLE 7. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 1 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
04.B BigBelly bins		
Labor - Determine how many BigBelly bins of each size are needed for each community	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Obtain a quote for the cost of bins for each individual community and for communities aggregated	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Share the quotes with communities ahead of their budgeting process	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Set a deadline for communities to participate in the bulk purchasing of BigBelly bins	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Purchase bins and coordinate distribution	Included	Residential Coordinators
Purchase bins	TBD	Residential Coordinators
05 Workforce Development		
05.A Create a compost facility manager pipeline/workforce training program		
Labor - Connect technical/vocational schools with local organic recyclers to identify training opportunities	Included	Schools Coordinator, Project Manager
Labor - Support schools in developing a training program for organics recycling, as needed	Included	Schools Coordinator, Project Manager
05.B Promote the Compost Operations Training Course (COTC)		
Labor - Obtain promotional flyers and information about the COTC	Included	Schools Coordinator, Project Manager
Labor - Share information about the COTC	Included	Schools Coordinator, Project Manager
05.C Promote continuing education for compost operators		
Labor - Obtain promotional flyers and information about the Certified Compost Operations Manager (CCOM) and Certified Composting Professional (CCP) certifications	Included	Schools Coordinator, Project Manager
Labor - Share information about the CCOM and CCP	Included	Schools Coordinator, Project Manager

TABLE 7. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 1 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
06 Centralized Data Collection and Analysis		
06.A Create a shared database		
Labor - Identify key variables to measure and how to measure them	Included	Implementation Team, Evaluation Team
Labor - Set up a database for collecting measurements	Included	Evaluation Team
06.B Collect data		
Labor - Train responsible parties on how to measure and collect data, if needed	Included	Implementation Team
07 Shared Grant Applications		
Labor - Look for funding opportunities	Included	Implementation Team, City Champions, Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Share funding opportunities	Included	Implementation Team, City Champions, Food Rescue Organizations
Convene communities for joint funding applications, as needed	Included	Project Manager
08 Proof of Concept		
08.A Share successes via outreach and publicity		
Labor - Share successes via press release	Included	Project Manager, Community Champion
Labor - Create social media content	\$3,000	Design Firm, Implementation Team
Labor - Share successes via social media	Included	City/Twp staff
Labor - Create newsletter content	Included	Project Manager, City/Twp staff
Labor - Share successes via newsletters	Included	City/Twp staff
Labor - Organize celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Labor - Promote celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Event promotional material	\$3,000	Implementation Team
Labor - Host celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Celebratory event costs (space, food, music, etc.)	\$12,000	Implementation Team
Labor - Create signs	\$500	Design Firm, Implementation Team
Signs	\$3,000	Implementation Team
Labor - Distribute signs	Included	Implementation Team



TABLE 7. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 1 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
08.B Municipality mentorship program		
Labor - Introduce municipalities who are working on food waste initiatives to those interested in working to reduce food waste	Included	Implementation Team
09 Advocacy		
Labor - Identify state and federal policies that municipalities and community groups may be interested in publicly supporting	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share possible policies with municipalities and interested community groups	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Provide opportunity for municipalities and interested groups to share their position on the issue	Included	Project Manager
10 Implementation Team and Other Support		
Labor - Regional Lead	\$75,000	Regional Lead
Miscellaneous staff costs (tax, insurance)	\$10,000	Implementation Team
Monitoring and evaluation team	\$35,000	Evaluation Team
Miscellaneous materials	\$22,000	Regional Lead

Year 2

TABLE 8. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 2

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
01 Southeast Michigan Public Awareness Campaign: Creating a culture of zero food waste in eastern southeast Michigan		
Labor - Refresh regional campaign assets to align with the general phase of implementation for each community (billboards, radio ads, social media posts, website content)	\$21,630	Project Manager
01.A Promote the campaign via billboards		
Billboard space	\$43,260	Project Manager
Labor - Refresh billboards	Included	Project Manager
01.B Promote the campaign via radio ads		
Run radio ads	\$56,650	Project Manager
01.C Promote the campaign via websites, social media platforms, and regional outreach		
Digital and socail media, geo-targeted ads, content management	\$28,840	Project Manager
Labor - Identify regional partners (counties, SEMCOG, Conference of Western Wayne, etc.) to share information	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information, resources, and updates on the initiative	Included	Project Manager
02 Multi-Community Events and Working Groups		
02.A Create a support group for communities working to implement plans		
Labor - Identify a champion of the group to schedule, secure meeting locations, etc.	Included	Community Champions
Labor - Host regular convenings	Included	Community Champions



TABLE 8. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 2 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
02.B Promote the campaign via events and gatherings for local community leaders		
Labor - Identify places where local community leaders are already convening, such as SEMCOG or Conference of Western Wayne meetings	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Work with conveners of those groups to add space for food waste initiative updates, resource sharing, and troubleshooting to meetings or immediately before/after planned meetings	Included	Project Manager
02.C Provide cross-jurisdictional training		
Labor - Organize workshop for resident food waste prevention techniques	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Promote resident workshop	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Execute resident workshop	Included	Residential Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,030	Residential Coordinators
Materials	\$1,030	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Organize workshop for health inspectors	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote health inspector workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute health inspector workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$0	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$515	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$515	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$515	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators

TABLE 8. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 2 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
Space rental fee	\$515	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$515	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,030	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$1,030	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,030	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$1,030	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Labor - Promote school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Labor - Execute school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$0	School Coordinators
Materials	\$1,030	School Coordinators
03 Improve Communication Within and Maximize Donations to the Charitable Food Network		
03.A Create a "food sourcer" position		
Labor - Convene food rescue organizations to discuss the needs and structure for having a regional "food sourcer"	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify and obtain funding sources	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Post food sourcer job position	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Interview interested candidates	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Select and onboard candidates	Included	Food Rescue Organizations



TABLE 8. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 2 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
03.B <u>Create a shared platform for coordinating surplus food and needs</u>		
Labor - Convene food rescue organizations to discuss the needs and structure of a platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify developers to create platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify and obtain funding sources, if needed	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Develop platform	Included	Developer
Labor - Train food rescue organizations on how to use the platform	Included	Developer
Labor - Train food donors on how to use the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Train food recipients on how to use the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Evaluate the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Update/adjustment the platform as needed	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
04 <u>Cooperate to gain economies of scale</u>		
04.A <u>Curbside carts</u>		
Labor - Determine how many carts are needed for each community	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Obtain a quote for the cost of carts for each individual community and for communities aggregated	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Share the quotes with communities ahead of their budgeting process	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Set a deadline for communities to participate in the bulk purchasing of carts	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Purchase carts and coordinate distribution	Included	Residential Coordinators
Purchase carts	TBD	Residential Coordinators

TABLE 8. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 2 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
04.B BigBelly bins		
Labor - Determine how many BigBelly bins of each size are needed for each community	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Obtain a quote for the cost of bins for each individual community and for communities aggregated	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Share the quotes with communities ahead of their budgeting process	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Set a deadline for communities to participate in the bulk purchasing of BigBelly bins	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Purchase bins and coordinate distribution	Included	Residential Coordinators
Purchase bins	TBD	Residential Coordinators
05 Workforce Development		
05.A Create a compost facility manager pipeline/workforce training program		
Labor - Connect technical/vocational schools with local organic recyclers to identify training opportunities	Included	
Labor - Support schools in developing a training program for organics recycling, as needed	Included	Project Manager
05.B Promote the Compost Operations Training Course (COTC)		
Labor - Obtain promotional flyers and information about the COTC	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information about the COTC	Included	Project Manager
05.C Promote continuing education for compost operators		
Labor - Obtain promotional flyers and information about the Certified Compost Operations Manager (CCOM) and Certified Composting Professional (CCP) certifications	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information about the CCOM and CCP	Included	Project Manager



TABLE 8. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 2 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
06 Centralized Data Collection and Analysis		
06.B Collect data	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Train responsible parties on how to measure and collect data, if needed	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share the database with community partners	Included	Implementation Team
Labor - Send reminders to input data	Included	Implementation Team
06.C Analyze and share results		
Labor - Review and analyze data	Included	Evaluation Team
07 Shared Grant Applications		
Labor - Look for funding opportunities	Included	Implementation Team, City Champions, Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Share funding opportunities	Included	Implementation Team, City Champions, Food Rescue Organizations
Convene communities for joint funding applications, as needed	Included	Project Manager
08 Proof of Concept		
08.A Share successes via outreach and publicity		
Labor - Share successes via press release	Included	Project Manager, Community Champion
Labor - Create social media content	\$3,090	Design Firm, Implementation Team
Labor - Share successes via social media	Included	City/Twp staff
Labor - Create newsletter content	Included	Project Manager, City/Twp staff
Labor - Share successes via newsletters	Included	City/Twp staff
Labor - Organize celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Labor - Promote celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Event promotional material	\$3,090	Implementation Team
Labor - Host celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team

TABLE 8. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 2 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
Celebratory event costs (space, food, music, etc.)	\$12,360	Implementation Team
Labor - Create signs	\$515	Design Firm, Implementation Team
Signs	\$3,090	Implementation Team
Labor - Distribute signs	Included	Implementation Team
08.B Municipality mentorship program		
Labor - Introduce municipalities who are working on food waste initiatives to those interested in working to reduce food waste	Included	Implementation Team
09 Advocacy		
Labor - Identify state and federal policies that municipalities and community groups may be interested in publicly supporting	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share possible policies with municipalities and interested community groups	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Provide opportunity for municipalities and interested groups to share their position on the issue	Included	Project Manager
10 Implementation Team and Other Support		
Labor - Regional Lead	\$77,250	Campaign Manager
Miscellaneous staff costs (tax, insurance)	\$10,300	Implementation Team
Monitoring and evaluation team	\$36,050	Evaluation Team
Miscellaneous materials	\$22,660	Regional Lead



Year 3

TABLE 9. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 3

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
01 Southeast Michigan Public Awareness Campaign: Creating a culture of zero food waste in eastern southeast Michigan		
Labor - Refresh regional campaign assets to align with the general phase of implementation for each community (billboards, radio ads, social media posts, website content)	\$22,279	Project Manager
01.A Promote the campaign via billboards		
Billboard space	\$44,558	Project Manager
Labor - Refresh billboards	Included	Project Manager
01.B Promote the campaign via radio ads		
Run radio ads	\$57,320	Project Manager
01.C Promote the campaign via websites, social media platforms, and regional outreach		
Digital and social media, geo-targeted ads, content management	\$29,705	Project Manager
Labor - Identify regional partners (counties, SEMCOG, Conference of Western Wayne, etc.) to share information	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information, resources, and updates on the initiative	Included	Project Manager
02 Multi-Community Events and Working Groups		
02.A Create a support group for communities working to implement plans		
Labor - Identify a champion of the group to schedule, secure meeting locations, etc.	Included	Community Champions
Labor - Host regular convenings	Included	Community Champions

TABLE 9. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 3 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
02.B <u>Promote the campaign via events and gatherings for local community leaders</u>		
Labor - Identify places where local community leaders are already convening, such as SEMCOG or Conference of Western Wayne meetings	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Work with conveners of those groups to add space for food waste initiative updates, resource sharing, and troubleshooting to meetings or immediately before/after planned meetings	Included	Project Manager
02.C <u>Provide cross-jurisdictional training</u>		
Labor - Organize workshop for resident food waste prevention techniques	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Promote resident workshop	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Execute resident workshop	Included	Residential Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,060.90	Residential Coordinators
Materials	\$1,060.90	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Organize workshop for health inspectors	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote health inspector workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute health inspector workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$0	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$530.45	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$530.45	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$530.45	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$530.45	Commercial Coordinators



TABLE 9. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 3 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
Materials	\$530.45	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,060.90	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$1,060.90	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,060.90	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$1,060.90	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Labor - Promote school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Labor - Execute school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$0	School Coordinators
Materials	\$1,060.90	School Coordinators
03 Improve Communication Within and Maximize Donations to the Charitable Food Network		
03.A Create a "food sourcer" position		
Labor - Convene food rescue organizations to discuss the needs and structure for having a regional "food sourcer"	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify and obtain funding sources	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Post food sourcer job position	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Interview interested candidates	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Select and onboard candidates	Included	Food Rescue Organizations

TABLE 9. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 3 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
03.B <u>Create a shared platform for coordinating surplus food and needs</u>		
Labor - Convene food rescue organizations to discuss the needs and structure of a platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify developers to create platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify and obtain funding sources, if needed	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Develop platform	Included	Developer
Labor - Train food rescue organizations on how to use the platform	Included	Developer
Labor - Train food donors on how to use the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Train food recipients on how to use the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Evaluate the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Update/adjustment the platform as needed	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
04 <u>Cooperate to gain economies of scale</u>		
04.A <u>Curbside carts</u>		
Labor - Determine how many carts are needed for each community	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Obtain a quote for the cost of carts for each individual community and for communities aggregated	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Share the quotes with communities ahead of their budgeting process	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Set a deadline for communities to participate in the bulk purchasing of carts	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Purchase carts and coordinate distribution	Included	Residential Coordinators
Purchase carts	TBD	Residential Coordinators



TABLE 9. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 3 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
04.B <u>BigBelly bins</u>		
Labor - Determine how many BigBelly bins of each size are needed for each community	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Obtain a quote for the cost of bins for each individual community and for communities aggregated	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Share the quotes with communities ahead of their budgeting process	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Set a deadline for communities to participate in the bulk purchasing of BigBelly bins	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Purchase bins and coordinate distribution	Included	Residential Coordinators
Purchase bins	TBD	Residential Coordinators
05 <u>Workforce Development</u>		
05.A <u>Create a compost facility manager pipeline/workforce training program</u>		
Labor - Connect technical/vocational schools with local organic recyclers to identify training opportunities	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Support schools in developing a training program for organics recycling, as needed	Included	Project Manager
05.B <u>Promote the Compost Operations Training Course (COTC)</u>		
Labor - Obtain promotional flyers and information about the COTC	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information about the COTC	Included	Project Manager
05.C <u>Promote continuing education for compost operators</u>		
Labor - Obtain promotional flyers and information about the Certified Compost Operations Manager (CCOM) and Certified Composting Professional (CCP) certifications	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information about the CCOM and CCP	Included	Project Manager

TABLE 9. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 3 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
06 Centralized Data Collection and Analysis		
06.B Collect data		
Labor - Train responsible parties on how to measure and collect data, if needed	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Send reminders to input data	Included	Implementation Team
06.C Analyze and share results		
Labor - Review and analyze data	Included	Evaluation Team
Labor - Provide summary of results to implementation team	Included	Evaluation Team
Labor - Share findings to relevant communities and partners	Included	Implementation Team
07 Shared Grant Applications		
Labor - Look for funding opportunities	Included	Implementation Team, City Champions, Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Share funding opportunities	Included	Implementation Team, City Champions, Food Rescue Organizations
Convene communities for joint funding applications, as needed	Included	Project Manager
08 Proof of Concept		
08.A Share successes via outreach and publicity		
Labor - Share successes via press release	Included	Project Manager, Community Champion
Labor - Create social media content	\$3,183	Design Firm, Implementation Team
Labor - Share successes via social media	Included	City/Twp staff
Labor - Create newsletter content	Included	Project Manager, City/Twp staff
Labor - Share successes via newsletters	Included	City/Twp staff
Labor - Organize celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Labor - Promote celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team



TABLE 9. Budgets: Supporting Strategies, Year 3 (Continued)

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
Event promotional material	\$3,183	Implementation Team
Labor - Host celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Celebratory event costs (space, food, music, etc.)	\$12,731	Implementation Team
Labor - Create signs	\$530.45	Design Firm, Implementation Team
Signs	\$3,183	Implementation Team
Labor - Distribute signs	Included	Implementation Team
08.B Municipality mentorship program		
Labor - Introduce municipalities who are working on food waste initiatives to those interested in working to reduce food waste	Included	Implementation Team
09 Advocacy		
Labor - Identify state and federal policies that municipalities and community groups may be interested in publicly supporting	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share possible policies with municipalities and interested community groups	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Provide opportunity for municipalities and interested groups to share their position on the issue	Included	Project Manager
10 Implementation Team and Other Support		
Labor - Regional Lead	\$79,567.50	Campaign Manager
Miscellaneous staff costs (tax, insurance)	\$10,609	Implementation Team
Monitoring and evaluation team	\$37,132	Evaluation Team
Miscellaneous materials	\$23,340	Regional Lead

Year 4

TABLE 10. Budgets, Supporting Strategies, Year 4

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
01 Southeast Michigan Public Awareness Campaign: Creating a culture of zero food waste in eastern southeast Michigan		
Labor - Refresh regional campaign assets to align with the general phase of implementation for each community (billboards, radio ads, social media posts, website content)	\$22,947	Project Manager
01.A Promote the campaign via billboards		
Billboard space	\$44,895	Project Manager
Labor - Refresh billboards	Included	Project Manager
01.B Promote the campaign via radio ads		
Run radio ads	\$59,040	Project Manager
01.C Promote the campaign via websites, social media platforms, and regional outreach		
Digital and social media, geo-targeted ads, content management	\$30,596	Project Manager
Labor - Identify regional partners (counties, SEMCOG, Conference of Western Wayne, etc.) to share information	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information, resources, and updates on the initiative	Included	Project Manager
02 Multi-Community Events and Working Groups		
02.A Create a support group for communities working to implement plans		
Labor - Identify a champion of the group to schedule, secure meeting locations, etc.	Included	Community Champions
Labor - Host regular convenings	Included	Community Champions



02.B Promote the campaign via events and gatherings for local community leaders		
Labor - Identify places where local community leaders are already convening, such as SEMCOG or Conference of Western Wayne meetings	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Work with conveners of those groups to add space for food waste initiative updates, resource sharing, and troubleshooting to meetings or immediately before/after planned meetings	Included	Project Manager
02.C Provide cross-jurisdictional training		
Labor - Organize workshop for resident food waste prevention techniques	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Promote resident workshop	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Execute resident workshop	Included	Residential Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,092.73	Residential Coordinators
Materials	\$1,092.73	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Organize workshop for health inspectors	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote health inspector workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute health inspector workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$0	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$546.36	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$546.36	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$546.36	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$546.36	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$546.36	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,092.73	Commercial Coordinators

Materials	\$1,092.73	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,092.73	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$1,092.73	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Labor - Promote school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Labor - Execute school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$0	School Coordinators
Materials	\$1,092.73	School Coordinators
03 Improve Communication Within and Maximize Donations to the Charitable Food Network		
03.A Create a “food sourcer” position		
Labor - Convene food rescue organizations to discuss the needs and structure for having a regional "food sourcer"	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify and obtain funding sources	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Post food sourcer job position	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Interview interested candidates	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Select and onboard candidates	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
03.B Create a shared platform for coordinating surplus food and needs		
Labor - Convene food rescue organizations to discuss the needs and structure of a platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify developers to create platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify and obtain funding sources, if needed	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Develop platform	Included	Developer
Labor - Train food rescue organizations on how to use the platform	Included	Developer
Labor - Train food donors on how to use the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Train food recipients on how to use the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Evaluate the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Update/adjustment the platform as needed	Included	Food Rescue Organizations



04 Cooperate to gain economies of scale		
04.A Curbside carts		
Labor - Determine how many carts are needed for each community	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Obtain a quote for the cost of carts for each individual community and for communities aggregated	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Share the quotes with communities ahead of their budgeting process	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Set a deadline for communities to participate in the bulk purchasing of carts	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Purchase carts and coordinate distribution	Included	Residential Coordinators
Purchase carts	TBD	Residential Coordinators
04.B BigBelly bins		
Labor - Determine how many BigBelly bins of each size are needed for each community	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Obtain a quote for the cost of bins for each individual community and for communities aggregated	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Share the quotes with communities ahead of their budgeting process	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Set a deadline for communities to participate in the bulk purchasing of BigBelly bins	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Purchase bins and coordinate distribution	Included	Residential Coordinators
Purchase bins	TBD	Residential Coordinators
05 Workforce Development		
05.A Create a compost facility manager pipeline/workforce training program		
Labor - Connect technical/vocational schools with local organic recyclers to identify training opportunities	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Support schools in developing a training program for organics recycling, as needed	Included	Project Manager
05.B Promote the Compost Operations Training Course (COTC)		
Labor - Obtain promotional flyers and information about the COTC	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information about the COTC	Included	Project Manager

05.C Promote continuing education for compost operators		
Labor - Obtain promotional flyers and information about the Certified Compost Operations Manager (CCOM) and Certified Composting Professional (CCP) certifications	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information about the CCOM and CCP	Included	Project Manager
06 Centralized Data Collection and Analysis		
06.B Collect data		
Labor - Train responsible parties on how to measure and collect data, if needed	Included	Implementation Team
Labor - Send reminders to input data	Included	Implementation Team
06.C Analyze and share results		
Labor - Review and analyze data	Included	Evaluation Team
Labor - Provide summary of results to implementation team	Included	Evaluation Team
Labor - Share findings to relevant communities and partners	Included	Implementation Team
07 Shared Grant Applications		
Labor - Look for funding opportunities	Included	Implementation Team, City Champions, Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Share funding opportunities	Included	Implementation Team, City Champions, Food Rescue Organizations
Convene communities for joint funding applications, as needed	Included	Project Manager



08 Proof of Concept		
08.A Share successes via outreach and publicity		
Labor - Share successes via press release	Included	Project Manager, Community Champion
Labor - Create social media content	\$3,278	Design Firm, Implementation Team
Labor - Share successes via social media	Included	City/Twp staff
Labor - Create newsletter content	Included	Project Manager, City/Twp staff
Labor - Share successes via newsletters	Included	City/Twp staff
Labor - Organize celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Labor - Promote celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Event promotional material	\$3,278	Implementation Team
Labor - Host celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Celebratory event costs (space, food, music, etc.)	\$13,113	Implementation Team
Labor - Create signs	\$546.36	Design Firm, Implementation Team
Signs	\$3,278	Implementation Team
Labor - Distribute signs	Included	Implementation Team
08.B Municipality mentorship program		
Labor - Introduce municipalities who are working on food waste initiatives to those interested in working to reduce food waste	Included	Implementation Team
09 Advocacy		
Labor - Identify state and federal policies that municipalities and community groups may be interested in publicly supporting	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share possible policies with municipalities and interested community groups	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Provide opportunity for municipalities and interested groups to share their position on the issue	Included	Project Manager
10 Implementation Team and Other Support		
Labor - Regional Lead	\$81,954.53	Campaign Manager
Miscellaneous staff costs (tax, insurance)	\$10,927	Implementation Team
Monitoring and evaluation team	\$38,246	Evaluation Team
Miscellaneous materials	\$24,040	Regional Lead

Year 5

TABLE 11. Budgets, Supporting Strategies, Year 5

Strategy	Cost	Responsible Party
SUPPORTING STRATEGIES		
01 Southeast Michigan Public Awareness Campaign: Creating a culture of zero food waste in eastern southeast Michigan		
Labor - Refresh regional campaign assets to align with the general phase of implementation for each community (billboards, radio ads, social media posts, website content)	\$23,635	Project Manager
01.A Promote the campaign via billboards		
Billboard space	\$47,272	Project Manager
Labor - Refresh billboards	Included	Project Manager
01.B Promote the campaign via radio ads		
Run radio ads	\$60,811	Project Manager
01.C Promote the campaign via websites, social media platforms, and regional outreach		
Digital and social media, geo-targeted ads, content management	\$31,514	Project Manager
Labor - Identify regional partners (counties, SEMCOG, Conference of Western Wayne, etc.) to share information	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information, resources, and updates on the initiative	Included	Project Manager
02 Multi-Community Events and Working Groups		
02.A Create a support group for communities working to implement plans		
Labor - Identify a champion of the group to schedule, secure meeting locations, etc.	Included	Community Champions
Labor - Host regular convenings	Included	Community Champions



02.B Promote the campaign via events and gatherings for local community leaders		
Labor - Identify places where local community leaders are already convening, such as SEMCOG or Conference of Western Wayne meetings	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Work with conveners of those groups to add space for food waste initiative updates, resource sharing, and troubleshooting to meetings or immediately before/after planned meetings	Included	Project Manager
02.C Provide cross-jurisdictional training		
Labor - Organize workshop for resident food waste prevention techniques	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Promote resident workshop	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Execute resident workshop	Included	Residential Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,125.51	Residential Coordinators
Materials	\$1,125.51	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Organize workshop for health inspectors	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote health inspector workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute health inspector workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$0	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$562.75	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute food rescue workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$562.75	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$562.75	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute grocery store workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$562.75	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$562.75	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators



Labor - Promote food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute food-based business workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,125.51	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$1,125.51	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Promote hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Execute hospitality worker workshop	Included	Commercial Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$1,125.51	Commercial Coordinators
Materials	\$1,125.51	Commercial Coordinators
Labor - Organize school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Labor - Promote school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Labor - Execute school staff workshop	Included	School Coordinators
Space rental fee	\$0	School Coordinators
Materials	\$1,125.51	School Coordinators
03 Improve Communication Within and Maximize Donations to the Charitable Food Network		
03.A Create a “food sourcer” position		
Labor - Convene food rescue organizations to discuss the needs and structure for having a regional "food sourcer"	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify and obtain funding sources	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Post food sourcer job position	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Interview interested candidates	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Select and onboard candidates	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
03.B Create a shared platform for coordinating surplus food and needs		
Labor - Convene food rescue organizations to discuss the needs and structure of a platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify developers to create platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Identify and obtain funding sources, if needed	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Develop platform	Included	Developer



Labor - Train food rescue organizations on how to use the platform	Included	Developer
Labor - Train food donors on how to use the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Train food recipients on how to use the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Evaluate the platform	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Update/adjustment the platform as needed	Included	Food Rescue Organizations
04 Cooperate to gain economies of scale		
04.A Curbside carts		
Labor - Determine how many carts are needed for each community	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Obtain a quote for the cost of carts for each individual community and for communities aggregated	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Share the quotes with communities ahead of their budgeting process	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Set a deadline for communities to participate in the bulk purchasing of carts	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Purchase carts and coordinate distribution	Included	Residential Coordinators
Purchase carts	TBD	Residential Coordinators
04.B BigBelly bins		
Labor - Determine how many BigBelly bins of each size are needed for each community	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Obtain a quote for the cost of bins for each individual community and for communities aggregated	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Share the quotes with communities ahead of their budgeting process	Included	Residential Coordinators

Labor - Set a deadline for communities to participate in the bulk purchasing of BigBelly bins	Included	Residential Coordinators
Labor - Purchase bins and coordinate distribution	Included	Residential Coordinators
Purchase bins	TBD	Residential Coordinators
05 Workforce Development		
05.A <u>Create a compost facility manager pipeline/workforce training program</u>		
Labor - Connect technical/vocational schools with local organic recyclers to identify training opportunities	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Support schools in developing a training program for organics recycling, as needed	Included	Project Manager
05.B <u>Promote the Compost Operations Training Course (COTC)</u>		
Labor - Obtain promotional flyers and information about the COTC	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information about the COTC	Included	Project Manager
05.C <u>Promote continuing education for compost operators</u>		
Labor - Obtain promotional flyers and information about the Certified Compost Operations Manager (CCOM) and Certified Composting Professional (CCP) certifications	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share information about the CCOM and CCP	Included	Project Manager
06 Centralized Data Collection and Analysis		
06.B <u>Collect data</u>		
Labor - Train responsible parties on how to measure and collect data, if needed	Included	Implementation Team
Labor - Send reminders to input data	Included	Implementation Team



06.C Analyze and share results		
Labor - Review and analyze data	Included	Evaluation Team
Labor - Provide summary of results to implementation team	Included	Evaluation Team
Labor - Share findings to relevant communities and partners	Included	Implementation Team
07 Shared Grant Applications		
Labor - Look for funding opportunities	Included	Implementation Team, City Champions, Food Rescue Organizations
Labor - Share funding opportunities	Included	Implementation Team, City Champions, Food Rescue Organizations
Convene communities for joint funding applications, as needed	Included	Project Manager
08 Proof of Concept		
08.A Share successes via outreach and publicity		
Labor - Share successes via press release	Included	Project Manager, Community Champion
Labor - Create social media content	\$3,376	Design Firm, Implementation Team
Labor - Share successes via social media	Included	City/Twp staff
Labor - Create newsletter content	Included	Project Manager, City/Twp staff
Labor - Share successes via newsletters	Included	City/Twp staff
Labor - Organize celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Labor - Promote celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Event promotional material	\$3,376	Implementation Team
Labor - Host celebratory event	Included	Implementation Team
Celebratory event costs (space, food, music, etc.)	\$13,506	Implementation Team
Labor - Create signs	\$562.75	Design Firm, Implementation Team
Signs	\$3,376	Implementation Team
Labor - Distribute signs	Included	Implementation Team

08.B Municipality mentorship program		
Labor - Introduce municipalities who are working on food waste initiatives to those interested in working to reduce food waste	Included	Implementation Team
09 Advocacy		
Labor - Identify state and federal policies that municipalities and community groups may be interested in publicly supporting	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Share possible policies with municipalities and interested community groups	Included	Project Manager
Labor - Provide opportunity for municipalities and interested groups to share their position on the issue	Included	Project Manager
10 Implementation Team and Other Support		
Labor - Regional Lead	\$84,413.17	Campaign Manager
Miscellaneous staff costs (tax, insurance)	\$11,255	Implementation Team
Monitoring and evaluation team	\$39,393	Evaluation Team
Miscellaneous materials	\$24,761	Regional Lead



APPENDIX C:

**Key Performance
Indicators**

Appendix C: Key Performance Indicators

Introduction

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are useful in tracking progress towards goals, particularly stretch or long-term goals. NRDC has developed a set of metrics that may also be used in addition or instead of those listed below that were developed specifically for implementation in Southfield. Those can be found at <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/food-matters-metrics-assessing-food-waste-progress.pdf>

Overall Project

TABLE 12. Key Performance Indicators by Task: Overall Project

Task	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
Overall Project: Zero Food Waste	Number of households and businesses reporting food waste prevented, Number of businesses reporting donations, Volume of food rescued by food rescue organizations, Volume of food received by food pantries and other community sites that was distributed, Number of trash bags households use, Change in the number of trash bags households have, Participation in food scrap diversion options, Cost



Regional Food Waste Elimination

TABLE 13. Key Performance Indicators by Task: Overall Project

Task	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
01 Southeast Michigan Public Awareness Campaign: Creating a culture of zero food waste in eastern southeast Michigan	
01.A <u>Promote the campaign via billboards</u>	Number of billboards, Length of time billboard is shown, Number of vehicles passing by billboards, Changes in knowledge, attitudes and practices from seeing billboards, Cost
01.B <u>Promote the campaign via radio ads</u>	Number of radio ads, Length radio ads are run, Number of listeners reached via ads, Changes in knowledge, attitudes and practices from hearing ads, Cost
01.C <u>Promote the campaign via websites, social media platforms, and regional outreach</u>	Number of regional organizations promoting the campaign on their website, Number of times the campaign appears in regional outreach newsletters, Number of times the campaign is mentioned on social media platforms by regional partners, Number of hits on the campaign website, Cost
02 Multi-Community Events and Working Groups	
02.A <u>Create a support group for communities working to implement plans</u>	Creation of a support group, Number of participants, Number of communities represented, Number of meetings per year, Cost
02.B <u>Promote the campaign via events and gatherings for local community leaders</u>	Number of events for local community leaders where the campaign is promoted, Number of gatherings/ meetings for local community leaders where the campaign is promoted, Number of attendees at the events or gatherings, Number of communities represented, Cost
02.C <u>Provide cross-jurisdictional training</u>	Number of trainings held, Number of attendees, Number of communities represented, Number of sectors trained, Cost
03 Improve Communication Within and Maximize Donations to the Charitable Food Network	
03.A <u>Create a “food sourcer” position</u>	Creation of a food sourcer position, Number of food rescue organizations using the food sourcer, Number of distribution sites using the food sourcer, Number of donation sites using the food sourcer, Change in volume of food rescued, Change in number of distribution sites, Change in cost to individual food rescue organizations, Distribution site satisfaction with volume and type of food received, Cost
03.B <u>Create a shared platform for coordinating surplus food and needs</u>	Creation of a shared platform, Number of food rescue organizations using the platform, Number of distribution sites using the platform, Number of food donation sites using the platform, Change in volume of food rescued, Change in number of distribution sites, Change in cost to individual food rescue organizations, Distribution site satisfaction with volume and type of food received, Cost

Key Performance Indicators

04 Cooperate to gain economies of scale	
04.A <u>Curbside carts</u>	Number of communities bulk purchasing curbside carts, Number of carts purchased, Cost per cart, Cost savings per cart, Total cost savings, Cost of bulk purchasing (staff time)
04.B <u>BigBelly bins</u>	Number of communities bulk purchasing BigBelly bins, Number of BigBelly bins purchased, Cost per bin, Cost savings per bin, Total cost savings, Cost of bulk purchasing (staff time)
05 Workforce Development	
05.A <u>Create a compost facility manager pipeline/workforce training program</u>	Creation of a compost facility manager pipeline/workforce training program, Number of people trained, Cost
05.B <u>Promote the Compost Operations Training Course (COTC)</u>	Number of schools and regional organizations promoting the COTC via their usual outreach channels, Number of times the COTC is mentioned on social media platforms by regional partners, Cost
05.C <u>Promote continuing education for compost operators</u>	Number of schools and regional organizations promoting the continuing education for compost operators via their usual outreach channels, Number of times the continuing education for compost operators is mentioned on social media platforms by regional partners, Cost
06 Centralized Data Collection and Analysis	
06.A <u>Create a shared database</u>	Creation of a shared database, Cost
06.B <u>Collect data</u>	Number of communities submitting data, Number of households the data represents, Number of businesses the data represents, Staff time to collect and input data, Number of times data is collected in a year, Cost
06.C <u>Analyze and share results</u>	Data analysis completed, Report explaining findings, Number of articles published with results, Number of community newsletters sharing results, Number of social media posts sharing results, Number of regional organizations sharing results, Number of residents receiving results
07 Shared Grant Applications	Number of applications and proposals submitted for funding, Number of communities included in the proposal, Cost, Amount of funding received
08 Proof of Concept	
08.A <u>Share successes via outreach and publicity</u>	Number of articles highlighting successes, Number of community newsletters highlighting successes, Number of regional organizations sharing successes, Number of social media posts about successes, Number of residents receiving results
08.B <u>Municipality mentorship program</u>	Development of mentorship program, Number of communities agreeing to be mentors, Number of communities being mentored, Cost



<p>09 <u>Advocacy</u></p>	<p>Number of opportunities for regional advocacy, Number of municipalities supporting advocacy initiative, Cost</p>
<p>10 <u>Implementation Team and Other Support</u></p>	
<p>10.A <u>Regional Lead</u></p>	<p>Post job description for campaign manager, Number of applicants, Number of job offers, Hire of a campaign manager, Cost</p>
<p>10.B <u>Monitoring and Evaluation</u></p>	<p>Development of a RFP for a marketing campaign evaluation, Post RFP for a marketing campaign evaluation, Number of applicants, Number of offers, Hire of a marketing campaign evaluation consultant, Cost</p>

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APPENDIX D:

**Supporting
Documents**

Appendix D: Supporting Documents

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Marketing Plan Outline

Target Audience

- Residents aged 25–65, families, renters and homeowners.
- Secondary: Schools, civic groups, faith communities, local influencers.
- Tertiary: Business owners and staff.

Strategies & Tactics

Hyper-local community pride

- Feature stories of local families, community groups, restaurants.
- City-specific messaging
- Dedicated webpage: e.g. SouthfieldCounts.org

Multi-channel marketing approach

A. Digital & Social Media

- Targeted Facebook, Instagram, and Nextdoor ads (geo-targeted by ZIP code).
- Short videos showing local residents and tips.
- Partner content with local city and neighborhood pages.

B. Traditional Media

- Local newspapers: Quarter-page ads in five community papers.
- Two insertions per paper to build repetition.
- 15-30 second ads on local radio (WDET, WWJ, WYCD)
 - » Use 30-second spots, ~20–30 per week per station.
 - » Run for 4 weeks, targeting high-traffic drive times.
 - » Total estimated investment: ~\$32,000.
- Pitch reporters for stories
- Breakdown of \$8,000 newspaper budget (on next page)

TABLE 14. Local Newspaper Ad Fees

Paper	Ad Size	Insertions	Cost per insertion	Total
Southfield Sun	1/4 page	2	~\$750	\$1,500
Dearborn Press & Guide	1/4 page	2	~\$750	\$1,500
Livonia Observer	1/4 page	2	~\$750	\$1,500
Westland Observer	1/4 page	2	~\$750	\$1,500
Farmington Press	1/4 page	2	~\$750	\$1,500
Total				\$7,500
Remaining ~\$500 covers design and placement fees				

C. Outdoor & Transit Advertising

Digital billboards in each community for four weeks

TABLE 15. Digital Billboard Location and Cost

City	Location	Est. 4-week cost
Southfield	I-75 N/O Jarvis Ave	\$7,500
Dearborn	I-75 N/O Westminster St	\$7,500
Farmington Hills	I-275 S/O 10 Mile Rd	\$7,000
Canton	Ford Rd/I-275 (via AdQuick)	\$6,500
Livonia	I-96/Plymouth Rd	\$7,000
Westland	Central City Pkwy (Blip)	\$6,500
Total		\$42,000

- High-frequency 8-second rotations, ~1,200-1,500 plays/day per board.

In-person community engagement

- Pop-up booths at local festivals, farmers markets, and grocery stores.
- “Every Bit Counts” pledge activities and starter kit giveaways.
- Art/poster contests with schools and libraries.

Partnerships

- Cities: newsletters, website banners, water/sewer bill inserts.
- Schools: curriculum toolkits, art contests.
- Faith and civic groups: event collaborations.



TABLE 16. Marketing Budget

Category	Description	Est. Cost
Campaign management		\$75,000
Misc staff costs (tax, insurance)		\$10,000
Creative & production	Added campaign visuals, video, photo, print design	\$21,000
Digital & social media	Geo-targeted ads, content management	\$28,000
Traditional media	Newspapers, local newsletters, radio	\$55,000
Outdoor & transit ads	Digital billboards (6 cities)	\$42,000
Measurement & eval.	Surveys, reporting, storytelling	\$9,000
Contingency (10%)	Unforeseen adjustments	\$22,000
Total		\$288,000

Campaign Timeline (9 months)

TABLE 17. Phase 1: Launch & Awareness (Months 1-3)

Focus: High-visibility push to introduce *Every Bit Counts* and spark initial pledges.

Tactics	Activities
Creative rollout	Finalize visuals, video, radio, print materials.
Digital ads	Launch geo-targeted social ads.
Billboards	Begin 4-week digital billboard runs (could stagger across cities rather than all at once).
Newspapers	Run quarter-page ads (2 insertions per paper) to establish local presence.
Radio	Start radio ads, focusing on commuter times.
Evaluation & reporting	Conduct surveys, finalize data, share report

TABLE 18. Phase 2: Community Engagement & Education (Months 4-6)

Focus: Deepen local connections through in-person and school/community programming.

Tactics	Activities
Pop-ups & events	Farmers markets, city festivals, libraries.
Starter kit distribution	Fridge magnets, storage guides, recipe cards at events.
School art contests	Launch contests and classroom toolkits.
Local storytelling	Begin sharing success stories from early pledge takers and city “champions.”

TABLE 19. Phase 3: Sustain & Activate (Months 7-9)

Focus: Keep the message top-of-mind, reinforce behavior change, and celebrate results.

Tactics	Activities
Digital & social ads	Continue social ads at lower spend to maintain visibility.
Community updates	Publish results, pledges, testimonials (web, social, newsletters).
Evaluation & reporting	Conduct surveys, finalize data, share a community impact report.

Key Metrics

- Number of pledges taken
- Reach and impressions from ads and billboards
- Event attendance and starter kit distribution
- Social media engagement and shares



Template Plans to Support County Materials Management Plans

Managing Food Waste - Materials Management Plans (MMPs)

The template that follows is intended to support cities, villages, and townships (CVTs) in developing a plan to manage food waste as part of the required materials management plans (MMPs) that all Michigan counties must create. Reaching the county's MMP goals will require CVTs to develop and implement food waste reduction strategies, therefore, this template supports implementation of the county's goals.

The template is intended to walk municipalities through the process of creating a food waste management plan. The first section, determining baseline waste and costs, is a critical focus area to complete so that tracking and measuring can be done. The strategies in the remaining focus areas can be picked and chosen from, however, it will likely be very difficult to reach the county's goal for food waste reduction if some sort of diversion program is not in place. CVTs should create their own food waste reduction plans based on the county's MMP and commit to specific actions that will support the county's goals. Which actions to take should be considered using the information in the first (description), second (cost), and last (resources) column as well as the resources available in the community and compatibility between the strategy and community character, values, and experience. Strategies highlighted in green are those that are easiest to implement while also being effective in reducing food waste.

Once strategies have been identified, more specific objectives (targets, goals) for the strategy and who's responsible for implementing the strategy and measuring/reporting on it should be noted in the middle columns.

The [Data Tracker on page 137](#) provides an outline of how a more detailed action plan could be structured.

Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Focus Area: Determine community's baseline of waste and costs								
Identify the baseline of overall food waste, amount of food waste per sector, and food rescue opportunities	\$						NRDC Residential Food Waste Assessment - Survey, Kitchen Diary, and Bin Audits - see pages 139-169 for the survey and diary information and pages 4-6 for bin audit details	New York State Pollution Prevention Institute Food Waste Calculator
Identify large food waste generators-those generating more than 2T of food waste weekly	\$						NRDC Toolkit for Tackling Food Waste in Cities - See Strategy 10, Findacomposter.com	
Calculate GHG reduction opportunities moving food waste from landfills (MTCO2e) to prevention or compost or anaerobic digestion	\$						EPA WARM Model	
Calculate the social cost of carbon from food waste	\$						Formula: MTCO2e from WARM model * \$190 (Biden Administration Social Cost of Carbon)	
Calculate household spending on food that is uneaten	\$						Formula: \$759/resident/year	



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Calculate amount of potential savings for restaurants	\$						Formula: average annual savings potential per restaurant (\$23,000) * # of restaurants	
Focus Area: Understand current food rescue landscape of food rescue organizations, food banks, food pantries, farms, and community gardens, and work to increase capacity among these outlets								
Compile list of local food system players	\$						Contact your nearest Feeding America organization, EPA Excess Food Opportunities Map	
Assess ability to rescue and store more food, and demand to distribute/use more food, and what types (for example, a pantry may be able to take nonperishables that don't need to be refrigerated, but can't take anything that needs refrigeration unless they get additional cool storage space)	\$						NRDC Toolkit for Tackling Food Waste in Cities - See Strategy 8	
Identify needs to be able to rescue and redistribute more food (staff, infrastructure, funding, demand)	\$						NRDC Toolkit for Tackling Food Waste in Cities - See Strategy 8	



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Facilitate connections between organizations and networks to address gaps and increase partnerships and collaboration	\$						NRDC Toolkit for Tackling Food Waste in Cities - See Strategy 8	
Help fund rescue-related infrastructure and needs via grants and other funding sources	\$\$							
Focus Area: List organics recycling resources								
Locate nearby yard waste collection sites that will accept food scraps and/or can be modified easily to accept food scraps	\$						Map of Sites	
If food scrap collection is happening (curbside and drop off) in the community, gather information about where it occurs, how it is run, participation levels, and its capacity	\$							
Calculate number of compost sites needed	\$						Formula: [(Number of pounds of residential food waste) (.5) + (Number of pounds of commercial food waste) (.25)]/4,400,000 (see county)	



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Focus Area: Support existing programming								
Understand community's waste management contract regarding food scrap collection opportunities, including contract dates, ability to change the contract, ability to negotiate for lowered rates if diversion occurs, etc.	\$							
Identify culinary programs, economic development programs, DDAs and other business resources that exist to support organizations in training workers on food waste reduction practices, developing food diversion and rescue programs, etc.	\$\$							



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Focus Area: Outline trackable metrics								
Residential	\$						Recommended: 10% reduction via prevention and a 50% participation in food scrap collection	
Commercial	\$						Recommended: 10% reduction in prevention, a 15% reduction through donation, and a 25% participation in food scrap collection	
Community	\$						Reduce overall food waste by 50% at City/Township properties through prevention, donation, and composting	
Waste Diversion Rate	\$						Percentage of food waste diverted from landfills to recycling, composting, or anaerobic digestion with composting of the remaining digestate	



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Tonnage of Food Waste Collected	\$						Total amount (in tons) of food waste diverted from the waste stream over a specific time period	
Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reductions: Amount of GHG emissions reduced by diverting food waste from landfill	\$						(WARM)	
Cost Savings	\$						Amount of money saved due to reduced landfill waste hauling fees	
Food Recovery Metrics	\$						Amount of food rescued and redistributed to those in need (measured in pounds or meals)	
Composting Outputs	\$						Volume of compost produced from diverted food waste	

Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Focus Area: Lead by example								
Ensure that existing information and direction is clearly available on Community website, and promote the website (i.e. composting guidelines, share tables, food donation guidelines and liability protection, any available financial programs, etc)	\$						Liability protection	
Require use of compost on Community properties for landscaping and with new government facility construction	\$\$						State guidance on share tables	
Require Community-sponsored and hosted public events to be zero waste or adopt waste reduction strategies; include educational signage	\$						Compost Procurement Policy	
Alter Community procurement policies to encourage or require vendor action on food waste, including preventive strategies and food donation	\$\$						Examples: Ferndale Special Events ; Rockefeller Waste Free Events	
Communicate Community's food waste reduction efforts to the public via an online dashboard	\$							



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Collect food scraps at Community-owned properties	\$\$\$							
Facilitate best practice sharing within the region by attending a County-wide summit for municipalities and food waste management entities to gather and share information	\$\$							
Have the City Mayor or Township Supervisor make a public commitment	\$						Guide to making a public commitment	
Update site development standards to include food waste management in plans	\$							
Permit food upcycling facilities, including soup kitchens, in more areas throughout the city to process surplus food	\$							
Advocate for adding capacity or retrofitting anaerobic digesters at wastewater treatment facilities to accept food waste, where applicable	\$\$\$							



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Focus Area: Address food waste in residential settings								
Speak to community groups on food waste reduction strategies for households, including understanding date labels, properly storing food, preservation techniques, etc.	\$							
Provide pop-ups/demos at community partners and community events on ways to reduce food waste at home	\$\$-\$							
Train residents in ways to safely reduce food waste at home	\$\$-\$						Composting Food Scraps in Your Community: A Social Marketing Toolkit US EPA	
Introduce a food waste comparison metric for benchmarking households of various sizes	\$							
Host a food waste reduction competition among households	\$\$							
Create household food waste prevention toolkits that include low tech tools to prevent food waste including reminder magnets/stickers, a refrigerator thermometer, grocery list pad, recipes, and “use up” tape	\$\$						Report on items for food waste reduction in households	



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Provide countertop caddies with signage/educational materials and liners to all households	\$\$							
Implement a food scrap collection program	\$\$\$							
Provide curbside food scrap pick up comingled with yard waste for single family residents	\$\$\$						Composting Council's Curb to Compost Toolkit	
Provide curbside food scrap pick up with carts for all single family residences	\$\$\$						Curbside pick up, particularly that with rolling carts, has been found to have the highest participation rates.	
Provide food scrap collection sites on city property for all residents to drop off food scraps.	\$\$						Food Waste Drop-Off Program Best Practices BioCycle	
Create a recognition program for households who are properly sorting food scraps	\$						Gold Star Program for Residences in Australia	Rewards programs for recycling



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Develop clear guidelines for backyard and community composting	\$						Minnesota Composting Council and Association of Recycling Managers Model Composting Ordinance for backyard and small compost sites , NRDC and the Environmental Law Institute (ELI) Model Municipal Zoning Ordinance on Community Composting with Commentary	
Create a demonstration composting site to educate residents on how to compost	\$\$							
Create a program to bulk purchase home composting supplies	\$							



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Consider moving to a Pay As You Throw (PAYT) model for trash collection fees to incentivize diversion	\$						NRDC Model Ordinance Establishing a Pay-As-You-Throw Program for Residential Municipal Solid Waste.	Northeast Resource Recovery Association Pay As You Throw (PAYT) Toolkit
Unbundle waste collection service fees and reduce fees for those who compost	\$							
Increase frequency of food scrap collection and decrease frequency of landfill collection	\$							
Promote food scrap collection programs	\$\$-\$						Best practices for drop off sites (BioCycle)	



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Focus Area: Address food waste in commercial settings								
Partner with local businesses (e.g., restaurants, grocery stores) to adopt food waste reduction measures by offering technical assistance such as waste audits	\$\$-\$\$\$						How to conduct a food waste audit	
Recognize businesses who adopt food waste reduction practices; consider a competition	\$						Guide to restaurant challenge	
Promote and encourage the use of apps and technologies that connect surplus food to interested people	\$							
Facilitate conversations among business owners in close proximity about shared food scrap collection services or aerobic digesters	\$							
Adopt a community-wide color/shape/signage scheme for all waste management	\$\$-\$\$\$							



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Create a voluntary or compulsory program for large food waste generators to track, report, and divert food scraps	\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$						NRDC Model Ordinance on Mandatory Reporting for Large Food Waste Generators: With and Without Commentaries.	New York State Pollution Prevention Institute Food Waste Calculator
Promote food scrap collection programs	\$						Best practices for drop off sites (BioCycle)	
Provide countertop caddies and liners	\$\$						City of Boston curbside collection program	
Focus Area: Increase capacity of food rescue organizations and food pantries								
Promote food rescue organizations	\$						Forthcoming from Michigan Sustainable Business Forum	
Work with food rescue organizations and pantries to apply for funding for operations and capacity building	\$\$							
Support opportunities and spaces to upcycle food	\$\$-\$\$\$							

Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Focus Area: Decrease food waste in schools								
Encourage schools to commit to reducing food waste	\$							
Encourage schools to incorporate food waste reduction into curriculum	\$						WWF: Offer-v-serve, Share tables, composting	
Encourage schools to offer food scrap collection	\$						Model policies	
Encourage schools to implement share tables	\$						Share Tables for Schools guidance from State of Michigan	
Encourage schools to participate in offer v. serve	\$							
Encourage schools to perform a resource assessment of cooking equipment, kitchen space, staff skills, etc.	\$						Food Service Resource Checklist	
Encourage schools to conduct a food waste audit	\$						Guide to Conducting Food Waste Audits: A Resource for Schools, Food Waste Audit for Schools - Sustainable New Jersey	



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Encourage schools to conduct food preference surveys	\$							
Encourage schools to track food waste in their school wellness portal	\$							
Encourage schools to donate leftover food	\$							
Encourage schools to participate in 10 Cents a Meal	\$						Teaching resources (WWF)	
Encourage schools to do as much scratch cooking as possible	\$							
Encourage schools to adopt county color/shape/signage scheme for waste management	\$							
Encourage schools to have student and/or teacher/parent champions (Green Team)	\$							
Encourage schools to submit action items to Michigan Green Schools certification	\$							
							Additional best practices (USDA)	



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Focus Area: Increase food scrap processing								
Initiate the development of additional composting and A/D sites, if needed	\$\$\$						EGLE; Model policies, NRDC Toolkit for Tackling Food Waste in Cities - See Strategy 10	
Create a workforce development program in circular waste management	\$\$\$							
Focus Area: Engage the community								
Promote the food waste initiative through Community communications such as newsletters, social media, and the press	\$							
Identify, train, and promote local champions	\$							
Create advisory committees provide feedback on how food waste initiatives are going for businesses and residents	\$							
Conduct a public education campaign related to prevention and composting	\$\$-\$\$\$						(Link to MFNW forthcoming)	



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Create ways for people to make a public commitment to address food waste such as yard signs, flags, and door signs, online pledges, etc.	\$\$							
Organize events, workshops, and social media outreach to encourage participation among households, businesses, schools, and community groups	\$\$							
Focus Area: Increase partnerships and regional collaboration								
Provide pass through funding to local businesses, nonprofits and community stakeholders to support efforts	\$\$-\$						Federal Grants Database	
Explore joint compost facility infrastructure with neighboring communities to reduce costs	\$							
Focus Area: Ensure food waste management services are available to all communities within the County								
Provide targeted outreach and financial assistance for residents and food pantries who may face barriers to participation	\$\$\$-\$							



Food Waste Reduction Action Template: Municipalities (Continued)

		To Be Completed by Municipality						
Strategies	Project Cost Range (\$=low, \$\$=med, \$\$\$=high)	Objectives	Timeline	Method of Measurement (See NRDC resource)	Responsibility	Notes	Helpful Resources	
Focus Area: Provide for financial sustainability of food waste management								
Apply for State and federal grants open to government entities on behalf of groups based in the Community	\$-\$\$\$							
Focus Area: Support innovative technologies								
Consider the adoption of or pilots to test technological approaches including: apps and digital marketplaces, composting and aerobic digestion machines, upcycling into value-added food or non-food products, smart bins, and robotic food sorting/transporting systems	\$-\$\$\$						Too Good To Go , Flashfood , HARP aerobic digestion , BigBelly compost bins , Home bins: Reencle , Mill Orange Sparkle Ball , Michigan Materials Marketplace	
Focus Area: Measure results								
Conduct a waste characterization study	\$\$						Guide to Methods (NRDC)	



Data Tracker

Example					
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Strategy - Residential Food Waste Management					
Goal: 10% reduction via prevention and a 50% participation in food scrap collection					
Action Steps	Collect baseline data to understand existing prevention and diversion habits	Implement and promote food scrap collection program	Monitor/evaluate food scrap collection program success; measure participation rate and adjust promotional methods/training/location of bins/etc. to increase participation as need to reach goal	Monitor/evaluate food scrap collection program success; measure participation rate and adjust promotional methods/training/location of bins/etc. to increase participation as need to reach goal	Monitor/evaluate food scrap collection program success; measure participation rate and adjust promotional methods/training/location of bins/etc. to increase participation as need to reach goal
Measurement	Resident survey with questions about current practices for managing food waste	Implementation and promotion of food scrap collection program	Resident survey with questions about current practices for managing food waste	Resident survey with questions about current practices for managing food waste	Resident survey with questions about current practices for managing food waste
Tracking Data	Survey developed and launched; received 503 responses that indicate that....	Whether or not the food scrap collection was implemented, how many households it services, number of people participating, pounds of food scraps collected, etc.	Number of households served with food scrap collection program, number of people participating, pounds of food scraps collected, etc.	Number of households served with food scrap collection program, number of people participating, pounds of food scraps collected, etc.	Number of households served with food scrap collection program, number of people participating, pounds of food scraps collected, etc.
Strategy -					
Goal:					
Action Steps					
Measurement					
Tracking Data					



Data Tracker (Continued)

Example					
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Strategy -					
Goal:					
Action Steps					
Measurement					
Tracking Data					
Strategy -					
Goal:					
Action Steps					
Measurement					
Tracking Data					
Strategy -					
Goal:					
Action Steps					
Measurement					
Tracking Data					



Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act

42 U.S.C.

United States Code, 2022 Edition

§ 1791 - Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act

(a) Short title

This section may be cited as the “Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act”.

(b) Definitions

As used in this section:

(1) Apparently fit grocery product

The term “apparently fit grocery product” means a grocery product that meets all quality and labeling standards imposed by Federal, State, and local laws and regulations even though the product may not be readily marketable due to appearance, age, freshness, grade, size, surplus, or other conditions.

(2) Apparently wholesome food

The term “apparently wholesome food” means food that meets all quality and labeling standards imposed by Federal, State, and local laws and regulations even though the food may not be readily marketable due to appearance, age, freshness, grade, size, surplus, or other conditions.

(3) Donate

The term “donate” means to give without requiring anything of monetary value from the recipient, except that the term shall include giving by a nonprofit organization to another nonprofit organization, notwithstanding that the donor organization has charged a nominal fee to the donee organization, if the ultimate recipient or user is not required to give anything of monetary value or is charged a good Samaritan reduced price.

(4) Food

The term “food” means any raw, cooked, processed, or prepared edible substance, ice, beverage, or ingredient used or intended for use in whole or in part for human consumption.

(5) Gleaner

The term “gleaner” means a person who harvests for free distribution to the needy, or for donation to a nonprofit organization for ultimate distribution to the needy, an agricultural crop that has been donated by the owner.

(6) Good Samaritan reduced price

The term “good Samaritan reduced price” means, with respect to the price of an apparently wholesome food or apparently fit grocery product, a price that is an amount not greater than the cost of handling, administering, harvesting, processing, packaging, transporting, and distributing the apparently wholesome food or apparently fit grocery product.

(7) Grocery product

The term “grocery product” means a nonfood grocery product, including a disposable paper or plastic product, household cleaning product, laundry detergent, cleaning product, or miscellaneous household item.

(8) Gross negligence

The term “gross negligence” means voluntary and conscious conduct (including a failure to act) by a person who, at the time of the conduct, knew that the conduct was likely to be harmful to the health or well-being of another person.

(9) Intentional misconduct

The term “intentional misconduct” means conduct by a person with knowledge (at the time of the conduct) that the conduct is harmful to the health or well-being of another person.

(10) Nonprofit organization

The term “nonprofit organization” means an incorporated or unincorporated entity that—

(A) is operating for religious, charitable, or educational purposes; and

(B) does not provide net earnings to, or operate in any other manner that inures to the benefit of, any officer, employee, or shareholder of the entity.

(11) Person

The term “person” means an individual, corporation, partnership, organization, association, or governmental entity, including a retail grocer, wholesaler, hotel, motel, manufacturer, restaurant, caterer, farmer, and nonprofit food distributor or hospital. In the case of a corporation, partnership, organization, association, or governmental entity, the term includes an officer, director, partner, deacon, trustee, council member, or other elected or appointed individual responsible for the governance of the entity.

(12) Qualified direct donor

The term “qualified direct donor” means a retail grocer, wholesaler, agricultural producer, agricultural processor, agricultural distributor, restaurant, caterer, school food authority, or institution of higher education (as defined in section 1002 of title 20).

(c) Liability for damages from donated food and grocery products

(1) Liability of person or gleaner

A person or gleaner shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability arising from the nature, age, packaging, or condition of apparently wholesome food or an apparently fit grocery product that the person or gleaner donates in good faith to a nonprofit organization for ultimate distribution to needy individuals at zero cost or at a good Samaritan reduced price.



(2) Liability of nonprofit organization

A nonprofit organization shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability arising from the nature, age, packaging, or condition of apparently wholesome food or an apparently fit grocery product that the nonprofit organization received as a donation in good faith from a person or gleaner for ultimate distribution to needy individuals at zero cost or at a good Samaritan reduced price.

(3) Direct donations to needy individuals

A qualified direct donor shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability arising from the nature, age, packaging, or condition of apparently wholesome food or an apparently fit grocery product that the qualified direct donor donates in good faith to a needy individual at zero cost.

(4) Exception

Paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) shall not apply to an injury to or death of an ultimate user or recipient of the food or grocery product that results from an act or omission of the person, gleaner, or nonprofit organization, as applicable, constituting gross negligence or intentional misconduct.

(d) Collection or gleaning of donations

A person who allows the collection or gleaning of donations on property owned or occupied by the person by gleaners, or paid or unpaid representatives of a nonprofit organization, for ultimate distribution to needy individuals shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability that arises due to the injury or death of the gleaner or representative, except that this paragraph shall not apply to an injury or death that results from an act or omission of the person constituting gross negligence or intentional misconduct.

(e) Partial compliance

If some or all of the donated food and grocery products do not meet all quality and labeling standards imposed by Federal, State, and local laws and regulations, the person or gleaner who donates the food and grocery products shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability in accordance with this section if the nonprofit organization that receives the donated food or grocery products—

(1) is informed by the donor of the distressed or defective condition of the donated food or grocery products;

(2) agrees to recondition the donated food or grocery products to comply with all the quality and labeling standards prior to distribution; and

(3) is knowledgeable of the standards to properly recondition the donated food or grocery product.

(f) Construction

This section shall not be construed to create any liability. Nothing in this section shall be construed to supercede State or local health regulations.

(Pub. L. 89–642, §22, formerly Pub. L. 101–610, title IV, §402, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3183; renumbered §22 and amended Pub. L. 104–210, §1(a)(2), (b), Oct. 1, 1996, 110 Stat. 3011, 3012; Pub. L. 117–362, §1, Jan. 5, 2023, 136 Stat. 6295.)

Editorial Notes

Codification

Section was formerly classified to section 12672 of this title prior to renumbering by Pub. L. 104–210.

Amendments

2023—Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 117–362, §1(1)(A), inserted “or is charged a good Samaritan reduced price” before period at end.

Subsec. (b)(6) to (11). Pub. L. 117–362, §1(1)(B), (C), added par. (6) and redesignated former pars. (6) to (10) as (7) to (11), respectively.

Subsec. (b)(12). Pub. L. 117–362, §1(1)(D), added par. (12).

Subsec. (c)(1), (2). Pub. L. 117–362, §1(2)(A), inserted “at zero cost or at a good Samaritan reduced price” after “needy individuals”.

Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 117–362, §1(2)(C), added par. (3). Former par. (3) redesignated (4).

Subsec. (c)(4). Pub. L. 117–362, §1(2)(B), (D), redesignated par. (3) as (4) and substituted “, (2), and (3)” for “and (2)”.

1996—Pub. L. 104–210, §1(a)(2)(A), substituted “Bill Emerson” for “Model” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104–210, §1(a)(2)(B), inserted “Bill Emerson” before “Good”.

Subsec. (b)(7). Pub. L. 104–210, §1(a)(2)(C), reenacted heading without change and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The term ‘gross negligence’ means voluntary and conscious conduct by a person with knowledge (at the time of the conduct) that the conduct is likely to be harmful to the health or well-being of another person.”

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104–210, §1(a)(2)(D), added subsec. (c) and struck out heading and text of former subsec. (c). Text read as follows: “A person or gleaner shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability arising from the nature, age, packaging, or condition of apparently wholesome food or an apparently fit grocery product that the person or gleaner donates in good faith to a nonprofit organization for ultimate distribution to needy individuals, except that this paragraph shall not apply to an injury to or death of an ultimate user or recipient of the food or grocery product that results from an act or omission of the donor constituting gross negligence or intentional misconduct.”

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 104–210, §1(a)(2)(E), inserted at end “Nothing in this section shall be construed to supercede State or local health regulations.”



Food Donation Improvement Act

Public Law 117-362

117th Congress

An Act

To amend the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to improve the program, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. BILL EMERSON GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD DONATION ACT.

The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act (42 U.S.C. 1791) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (3), by inserting “or is charged a good Samaritan reduced price” before the period at the end;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through (10) as paragraphs (7) through (11), respectively;

(C) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

“(6) GOOD SAMARITAN REDUCED PRICE.—The term ‘good Samaritan reduced price’ means, with respect to the price of an apparently wholesome food or apparently fit grocery product, a price that is an amount not greater than the cost of handling, administering, harvesting, processing, packaging, transporting, and distributing the apparently wholesome food or apparently fit grocery product.”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(12) QUALIFIED DIRECT DONOR.—The term ‘qualified direct donor’ means a retail grocer, wholesaler, agricultural producer, agricultural processor, agricultural distributor, restaurant, caterer, school food authority, or institution of higher education (as defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)).”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraphs (1) and (2), by inserting “at zero cost or at a good Samaritan reduced price” after “needy individuals” each place it appears;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4);

(C) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) DIRECT DONATIONS TO NEEDY INDIVIDUALS. — A qualified direct donor shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability arising from the nature, age, packaging, or condition of apparently wholesome food or an apparently fit grocery product that the qualified direct donor donates in good faith to a needy individual at zero cost.”; and

(D) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated), by striking “and (2)” and inserting “, (2), and (3)”.

Approved January 5, 2023.



Guide on Food Donations for Individuals

Why Donate?

Donating food is a safe and legal way to protect our resources, prevent harmful greenhouse gas emissions, and provide support to people who are in need in the local community.

What Can You Donate?

All food donations must be handled and stored properly to maintain safety and quality. Donated foods should be in its original packing or properly sealed containers to ensure it remains safe and uncontaminated. Food past its labeled dates are safe to donate as long as the food has been inspected for spoilage. Donors should follow food safety guidelines to ensure food remains safe for consumption. Types of food you can donate include:

- Canned goods, boxed meals, and dry foods
- Bottled drinks such as water, juice, and milk
- Fruit and vegetables

Leftover food from meals or parties are not able to be donated.

How to Donate?

Contact your local food bank or food pantry to either coordinate a time to bring your donation.

Guide on Food Donations for Businesses, Schools, and Institutions

Why Donate?

Donating food is a safe and legally protected way to support your community and reduce food waste.

Donating food can:

- Strengthen community ties and enhance your business's reputation while providing people in need with food
- Benefit your business by taking advantage of tax deductions from donating food from overproduction or unsold inventory. They can also save money on waste removal associated with throwing away surplus foods.
- Divert food from landfills, reducing methane emission and the overall impacts of food waste. Engaging in food donations showcases a commitment to reducing methane emissions.
- Build a positive culture of giving back and by boosting morale and the work environment. Employees are often proud to work for companies that give back to communities.

What Can You Donate?

All food donations must be handled and stored properly to maintain safety and quality. Donated foods should be in its original packing or properly sealed containers to ensure it remains safe and uncontaminated. Food past its labeled dates are safe to donate as long as the food has been inspected for spoilage. Donors should follow ServSafe food safety guidelines to ensure food remains safe for consumption. Types of food you can donate include:

- Perishable items including fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products, meat, and baked goods.
- Prepared items such as surplus meals from events, catered functions or other food service.
- Canned goods, boxed meals, and dry foods
- Frozen food (without freezer burn)
- Bottled drinks such as water, juice, and milk

How to Donate?

Partner with local food banks and food rescue organizations that work with business and organizations to facilitate donations. Coordinate regular pickups to donate surplus food on a consistent basis. (Source: The Center for EcoTechnology)

Liability Protection:

You are protected when you donate food under the 1996 Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act and the 2023 Food Donation Improvement Act. Businesses and organizations that donate or distribute food or grocery products are protected from liability when donating food in good faith. Good faith is defined as donating food that has been treated the same as food served to guests. As long as you have followed the same food safety protocols, and believe the donated food to be safe for consumption, you will not be held



liable if the food later causes harm. Understanding these protections can give you peace of mind as you contribute to helping those in need.

Michigan law further strengthens these protections. Under the Michigan State Liability Protection Law, not only are food donors protected, but also those who harvest surplus crops for donation are also covered. This law extends liability protection to nonprofit organizations that distribute donated food, ensuring that those who contribute to fighting hunger are fully supported by the legal system. (Sources: Food Law and Policy Clinic - Emerson Act; Food Law and Policy Clinic - Michigan Law)

Federal Tax Incentive:

The federal government offers a tax deduction to businesses donating food in order to support businesses in diverting food to the community. See the following for detail on calculating your tax deduction, or consult an accounting professional: [NRDC - Tax Deduction Food Donation](#); [Food Law and Policy Clinic - Food Donation Tax Guide](#).

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