



## Policy and Healthy Food Access

The Healthy Food Policy Project defines healthy food access as:

**“Healthy food is accessible when it is affordable, and community members can readily grow or raise it; find it; obtain it; transport it; prepare it; and eat it.”**

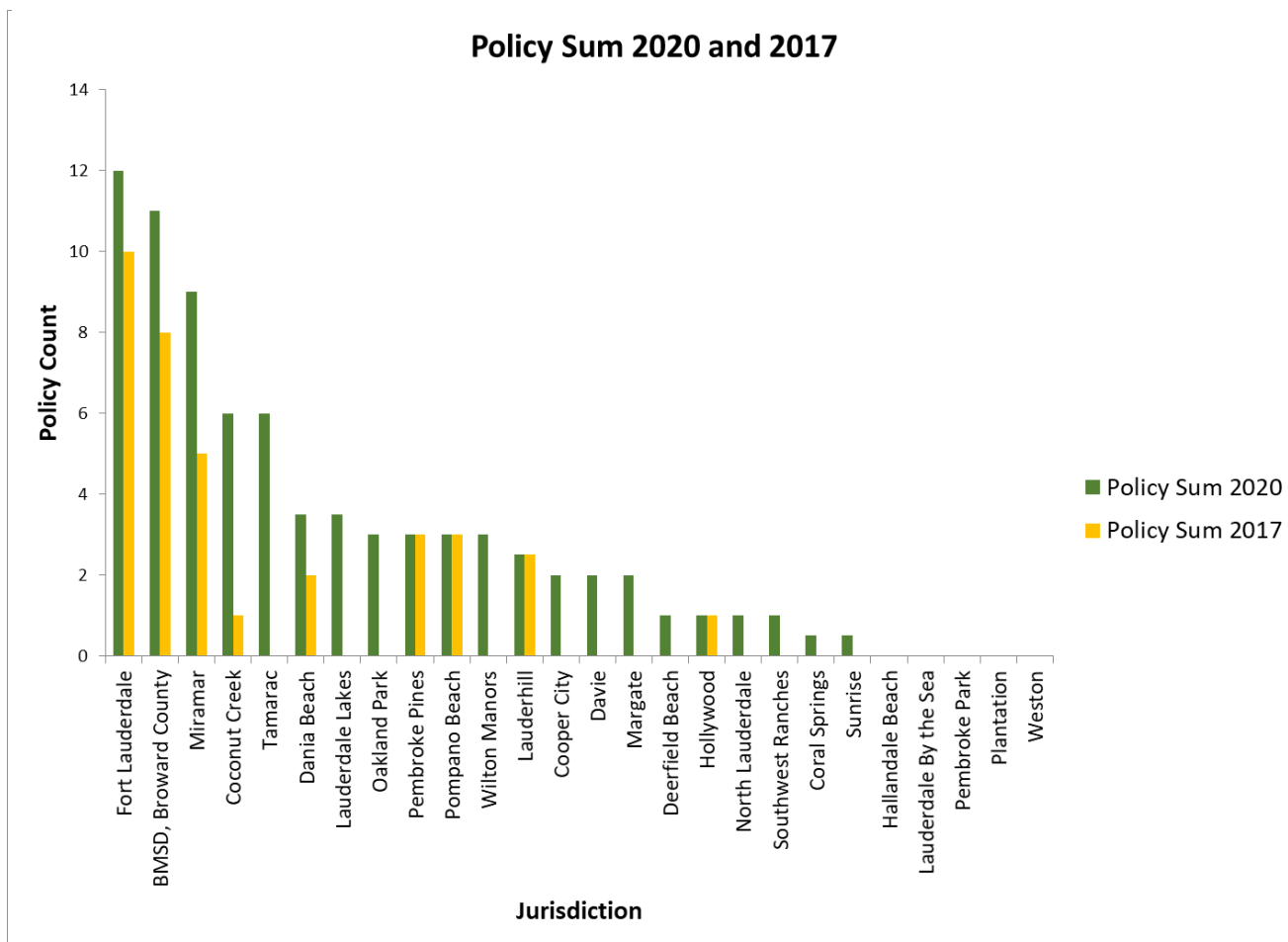
However, healthy food access does not exist without policies that define it. Specifically, land-use policies shape every aspect of this definition. This document is a summary of land-use policies in Broward County that impact food access.

### ***Policy Assessment Overview, 2017***

In 2017, Food For All Broward (FAB) assessed thirteen (13) of the County’s municipal jurisdictions for food access policies. The assessment process involved searching major land-use policy documents (e.g., comprehensive plans, master plans and codes) for food keywords such as: *Food, community garden, farm, urban farm, urban agriculture, food garden, diabetes, health, diet, nutrition, green market, food market, food, farmers market, and agriculture*. Once a food access policy was identified, a point was added to the jurisdiction under the policy document.

In most cases, we did not find any policies directly related to food. BMSD, Fort Lauderdale, Miramar and Lauderhill were some of the jurisdictions that had food-specific land use policies. To find out the potential to adopt food policies, FAB also searched for *“allied policies,”* which could potentially predicate a healthy food access policy. For example, a policy promoting, *“energy efficient land uses”* to reduce the carbon footprint could possibly justify local food growing as a strategy for reducing greenhouse gases. The 2017 scan found approximately thirty-nine (39) policies, the majority of these being these allied policies.

Figure SEQ Figure 1\* ARABIC 1: Food Policy Counts, 2020 and 2017



### Food Policies 2017 and 2020

In 2020, FAB added thirteen more jurisdictions (26 total) to the policy scan, and changed the methodology. This time, we focused more on food-specific policies, eliminating the “allied policies” search. At first, we thought we would not find any increase in food policies. We were wrong. Several jurisdictions adopted robust food-specific policies, which brings the total polices to 76.

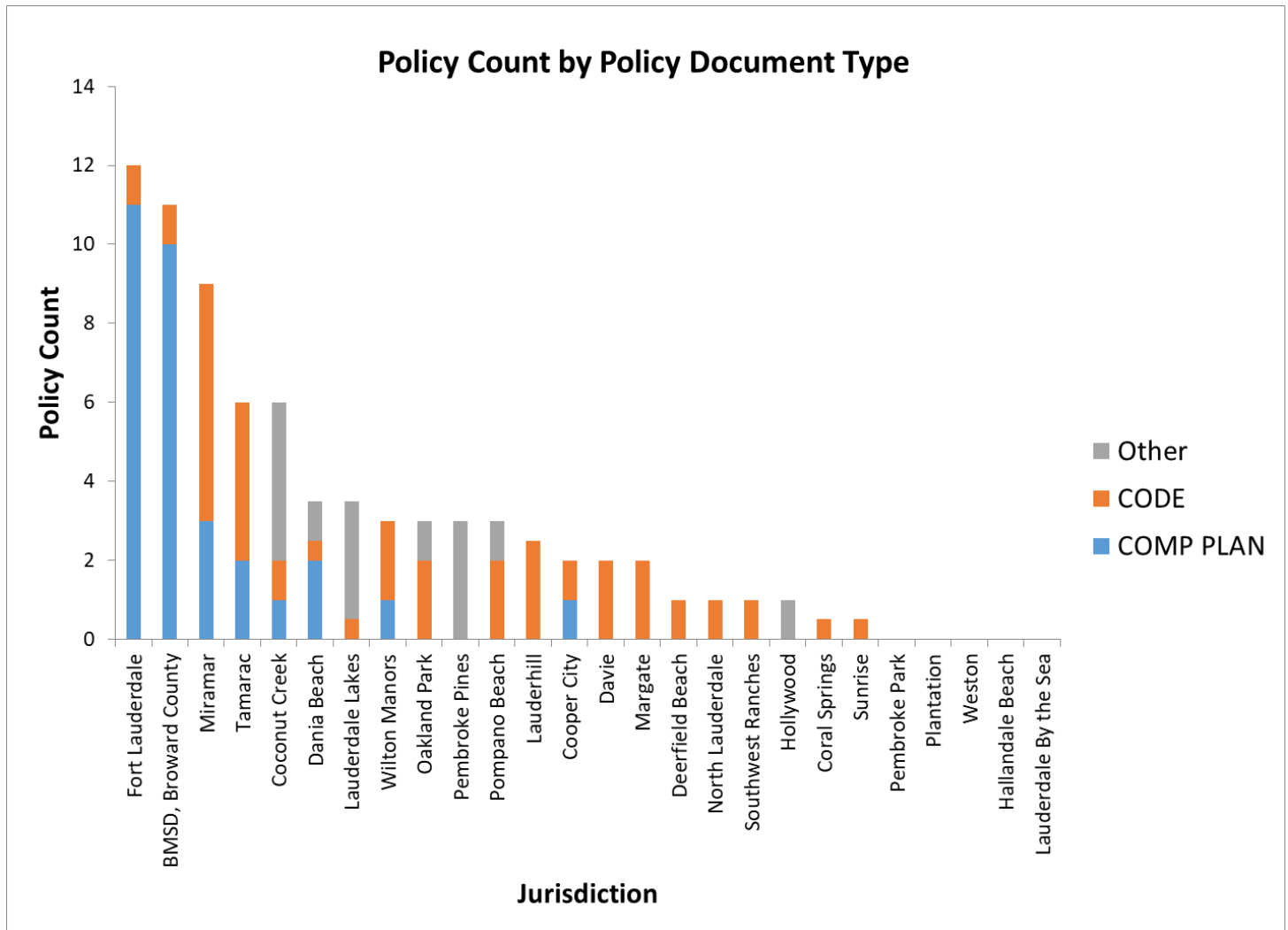
Figure 1 is a chart of the policy counts for 2020 and 2017. Jurisdictions with the most policies in 2017, such as Fort Lauderdale, BMSD, and Miramar continued to add more policies by 2020. However, while the majority of the policies in 2017 were “allied policies”, in 2020 these jurisdictions added more food-specific policies. Fort Lauderdale, which has 16% of all the policies in 2020, adopted eleven-(11) food specific food policies in its Future Land Use Element in 2019. The allied policies were no longer needed for the count. Miramar, which has 12% of the policies in 2020, added three (3) comprehensive plan food policies to complement its extensive land use code food policies. Broward County (BMSD), which has 14% of the policies, added food policies to its transportation and housing elements. In the 2019 update to the BMSD Future Land Use Element, the County added OBJECTIVE BMSD 4.4 Building Healthy and Vibrant Places, which encourages healthy eating through farmers markets, healthy food trucks and community gardens. Coconut Creek added four policies to its Green Plan as part of its Audubon International certification process, and passed a resolution establishing the city’s commitment to promote a healthy food environment with food access and food security for all.

Table 1 at the end of this document provides more details about the specific policies for the new 2020 jurisdictions and updates since the 2017 policy scan.

### Policies by Planning Documents

Figure 2 charts the distribution of food policies across three major policy-planning tools: Comprehensive Plans, Land Use Codes (Code for short), and other planning documents such as master plans and green/sustainability plans. Jurisdictions vary with their approach. Some utilize the Comprehensive plan (Fort Lauderdale and BMSD), or the Land Use Code (Miramar) or master planning documents such as Sustainability Plans (Coconut Creek).

Figure 2: Policy Count by Policy Document Type



The Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan for short) is a local government’s legal visionary document that lays out how a community wants to be in the *long-range* (10+ years) future. It guides community intent and growth over a decade or more. Therefore, policies in the Comp Plan can have long-reaching impacts. For example, a Comp Plan policy could say, “The Community of X shall support healthy food access with encouraging Farmers Markets in high-density area.” Such a policy clearly expresses the community’s intent and technique for healthy food access. However, it does not specify how Farmer’s markets shall operate, or outline their permitting process. By contrast, Land Development Codes (or Code for

short), are policies that specify where, when and how an activity may occur on land. A Farmers Market *code* could say, “Only permitted Farmers Markets are allowed in commercial zones adjacent to high-density residential areas, and may operate only on weekends from sunrise to sundown.” Ideally, Codes should be “in accordance” with the Comprehensive plan. This means that policies in the Comp Plan should have a means to be implemented via the Code. Inherently, Codes should not violate the purpose and intent of Comp Plan policies.

The two jurisdictions with the most food policies have them within their Comp Plans. For example, Fort Lauderdale has eleven (11) Comp Plan policies and only one (1) code. BMSD has ten (10) Comp Plan food policies and one (1) Code. Unfortunately, the Codes in these two jurisdictions are not directly “in accordance” with the Comp Plan. For example, although BMSD has Comp Plan policies promoting community gardens, it does not yet have a Code to allow them to exist on County land. This means that while Community Gardens are promoted in the BMSD Comp Plan, it is still “illegal” to construct one by Code.

Next is Miramar with three (3) Comp Plan food policies. However, these policies are directly tied to codes. In fact, only Miramar appears to have methodically aligned land use codes and comp plan policies. For example, Miramar has comp plan policies to permit Urban Farms and Farmer’s Markets in Industrial and Utilities districts, while specifying the standard operating conditions in the Code. It should be noted that Miramar changed its Code first, and then amended the Comp Plan. By contrast, Fort Lauderdale changed its Comp Plan, and will most likely need to amend its Code to be in accordance with the Comp Plan updates.

### **Policies Shaping Food System Activities**

The food system is the network of activities and infrastructure required to grow, process, distribute, sell, consume and dispose food. Land use regulations play a role in shaping how these activities interact across space. For example, an urban farming regulation may allow food growing in residential areas, but not permit the selling of food on the farm itself. Instead, the urban farm’s produce retailing may be permitted in only commercial districts. Therefore, residents would need to travel outside their neighborhood to buy the food that grows in their neighborhood. Such a policy would affect access, or how people could “get” the food. It would also affect the financial viability of the urban farm, which needs to invest in storage and distribution capital to get the produce to market. Thus, such a policy shapes distribution, storage and marketing. It may also shape waste, since there tends to be more loss the further fresh produce travels from its source.

In Figure 3, we visualize the how the food policies in each jurisdiction impact food system activities. Overall, most of the policies are about growing food (e.g., community gardens and urban farms) and selling/marketing food (e.g., farmers markets and supermarkets). Interestingly, the jurisdictions with the most policies (e.g., Fort Lauderdale, BMSD and Miramar) have policies that affect a fuller spectrum of food system activities. For example, Fort Lauderdale’s policy FLU 2.6.2a (See Table 1) calls for incentives for grocery stores, full-service supermarkets, farmers markets, food carts and other mobile vendors to locate in underserved communities, which affects the equity of “getting food.” In addition, it has policy FLU 2.6.3, which addresses the social determinants of health and “potential impacts to health equity for diet among other conditions that result from land use policy decisions. This later policy intends to shape the nutritional health impacts of food. In its urban farming ordinance, Fort Lauderdale addresses growing and composting food. Its most comprehensive policy, FLU 2.6.2d, recognizes the economic value of the food system in the local economy, and supports the capacity of residents to, “grow, process, distribute, and access local foods.”

Central to healthy food access, should be policies regarding nutritional health. Policies around nutritional health can set the vision for all the other food system policies. For example, unlike Miramar or BMSD, the City of Coconut Creek does not have robust policies about urban farms, farmers markets, or composting. However, in November 2019, it adopted

Resolution 2019-281, which recognizes the need to establish policy that “promotes a health environment with food access and food security for all.” The Resolution’s commits the City to create policy to combat, “environmental-related conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and high blood pressure,” which lead to, “millions of deaths per year and leaving millions more severely ill, disadvantaged, and impaired.” Because of the policy intent in this Resolution, all subsequent food policies in Coconut Creek’s major planning documents will have the explicit public purpose of improving healthy food access.

Figure 3: Policy Impacts on Food System Activities

Jurisdiction	Food System Activity					
	Growing	Processing, Cooking	Storage, Distribution	Getting, Marketing	Nutritional Health	Waste Renewal
Fort Lauderdale	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
BMSD, Broward County	Green	White	White	Green	White	White
Miramar	Green	White	White	Green	White	White
Tamarac	White	Green	White	Green	White	White
Coconut Creek	Green	White	White	Green	Green	White
Dania Beach	Green	White	White	Green	White	White
Lauderdale Lakes	Green	White	White	Green	White	White
Wilton Manors	Green	White	White	Green	White	White
Oakland Park	White	Green	White	White	White	White
Pembroke Pines	White	White	White	Green	White	White
Pompano Beach	Green	White	White	Green	White	White
Lauderhill	Green	White	White	White	Green	Green
Cooper City	White	White	White	White	White	White
Davie	Green	White	White	White	White	White
Margate	Green	White	White	Green	White	Green
Deerfield Beach	White	White	White	Green	White	White
North Lauderdale	Green	White	White	White	White	White
Southwest Ranches	White	White	Green	White	White	White
Hollywood	White	White	White	White	White	White
Coral Springs	White	White	White	White	White	White
Sunrise	Green	White	White	White	White	White
Plantation	White	White	White	White	White	White
Weston	White	White	White	White	White	White
Lauderdale By the Sea	White	White	White	White	White	White
Hallandale Beach	White	White	White	White	White	White
Pembroke Park	White	White	White	White	White	White

While Table 1 can provide the policy details about the existing policies behind the green parts of Figure 3, the blank white spaces, or policy gaps are just as important. These are areas of opportunity. Notably, most of the jurisdictions do not have any policies about ensuring nutritional health. Two other significant gaps are processing, storage & distribution. A policy absence for these activities prevents local food production from expanding. For example, an urban farm may not sell all of its strawberries at the weekly farmers market. In the absence of a cold storage facility, it has the option of donating its surplus or composting it. Alternatively, it could store these in a cold facility to sell them later. On the other hand, it could process the strawberries into strawberry jam, store the jars, and then distribute the jam to retailers.

However, commercial kitchens, cold storage and trucks are expensive capital investments for small urban farms. Policy assistance in this area could be something such as, *“The City of X shall assist local producers with collectively acquiring processing facilities with cold storage in order to incentivize the production of local value-added products, which contribute to the economic vitality of the community.”* A jurisdiction may be able to execute such a policy by making the kitchens and walk-in refrigerators in its public schools available to producers. However, such a policy would only get traction if the jurisdiction made a strong policy statement (e.g., Coconut Creek) about the public purpose of local, healthy foods.

**Conclusion**

Broward County’s jurisdictions have many food policies in its planning and policy documents, which have grown over the years. The majority of these policies are in their comprehensive plans, which sets a vision for a healthier community in the future. To expand these policies and make them actionable, Codes need to be developed with a clear public intent for improving healthy, equitable food access. Implementation policies should consider the interconnectedness of food system activities, and the need for economic incentives. A robust public input process guided by healthy food access equity could be a way to catalyze this policy expansion.

*Table 1: Summary of food-specific policy findings by policy document type, 2020 update*

Municipality	Summary of Findings	Comp Plan	CODE	Other	Policy Sum
Cooper City	<p><b>Comp Plan.</b> Although there are no policies in the comp plan, there is a program. In the Open Space and Recreation element, the Senior Citizen Program addresses the accessibility and nutritional needs of senior citizens. The recreation department provides a bus and driver to transport seniors to food stores and medical appointments. The department also dispenses lunches and nutritional information from the Area Agency on Aging to senior residents.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> Under Section 13-59 (10) Emergency Powers, the city shall further have the power to provide food and shelter at the city's expense for families of city employees. Such food and shelter for city employee families may be provided outside the limits of the city. There are no provisions to ensure that the population at large also has food access in case of an emergency.</p>	1	1		2
Coral Springs	<p><b>Comp Plan:</b> There are no policies or programs related to food or nutritional health.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> Section 18-4.1 prevents food mobile vendors from operating in the city right of way, unless a temporary use permit has been granted by the city for a mobile food vendor at a stationary location.</p>	0	0.5		0.5

Davie	<p><b>Comp Plan:</b> There are no policies or programs related to food or nutritional health.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> Sec. 2-73 outlines the creation of an Agricultural and environmental advisory committee (5 members), to advise the town council with regard to any and all matters affecting the agricultural community or the agricultural lifestyle of the town, as well as environmental protection, resource conservation and energy efficiency; including the development of goals and strategies, educational campaigns, and efforts to promote town accomplishments on these matters.</p> <p>While Davie may not have overt food access policies, this Advisory Board might be receptive for the FFA mission.</p> <p>SEC 13-29-Grower exemptions; dealers in agriculture products: The management of a wholesale farmers' produce market shall have the right to pay a license of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) that will entitle its stall tenants to deal in agricultural and horticultural products without obtaining individual licenses, but individual licenses shall be required of such tenants unless such license is obtained for the market. This policy allows a low cost to run wholesale farmers markets. However, it may not apply to retail farmers markets, which sell to the public. Furthermore, Produce Market is not defined.</p>	0	2		2
Deerfield Beach	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> There are no policies related to food access. The plan is dated 2014, which not too old. It is unlikely if the plan would be updated soon. We can check if they are updating.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> Similar to other municipalities, the code has a policy that allows wholesale farmers markets to pay no more than \$200 in business tax. There is no policies for direct to consumer farmers markets.</p>	0	1		1
Margate	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> The current Comp Plan does not have any policies related to food access. However, the City is currently undergoing a revision of its outdated plan, called Margate 2.0. This new plan was scheduled to be completed in March 2020. However, there are no new comp plan amendments posted on the city's official website. It is very likely that the COVID19 pandemic stalled the new plan rollout. The new comp plan process might be an opportunity to include food access policies such as the County's definition of urban agriculture.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> The code does mention farmers markets and home cottage industries. Farmers Markets are allowed through a temporary use permit, which requires an Administrative approval process. However, farmers markets are not defined and</p>	0	2		2

	fortified with a public purpose, such as improving nutritional health. Cottage Industries are mentioned as a permitted home occupation, which allows the city to execute the state cottage industry law. Again, there is no public purpose given to this land use.				
North Lauderdale	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> No policies related to food access.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> Sec. 780.513 charges the Community sustainability board to facilitate the development and maintenance of a community garden program, the objective of which is to introduce residents of all ages to the fun and satisfaction of gardening while simultaneously creating a fresh supply of fruits and vegetables for the gardeners and their neighbors. The board will guide participants in learning skills to sustain their gardens and outdoor environment while supplementing their diets with nutritious food to sustain their personal well-being. The City does have a community garden near city hall, operating on public land. PATCH Dania Beach provides farmers market services for this city-led food access project. However, there appears to be no other policies that define or promote community gardens or related activities such as farmers markets. FFAB provided an assessment of the CNL's food security need to support the development of a policy response.</p>	0	1		1
Plantation	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> No policies related to food access.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> Some codes related livestock grazing, greenhouses, and coin-operated vending machines in a residential clubhouse facility. The Vending machines are not to be accessible to the public, and may be removed if they "engender a congregation of nonresidents, trespassers, or gang members." None of the codes explicitly addresses increasing the nutritional wellbeing of Plantation residents. Therefore, they could not be rationally related to improving food access.</p>	0	0		0
Southwest Ranches	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> The Town does not have any policies related to food access. Farmers Markets, for example exist in the code, but not in the Comp Plan. However, it does have sustainability policies, which could be a gateway for local food policies.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> Farmers Markets are permitted in Commercial and Multi-Use Districts. However, they are not defined and not given a</p>	0	1		1



	clear permitting process. There is no public health intent defined for them. They are not permitted in residential areas.				
Sunrise	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> No policies related food access.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> No policies related to food access.</p> <p><b>OTHER:</b> The Sunrise Sustainability Action Plan (SAP), aligns with goals in the Climate Change Regional Action Plan, and STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment &amp; Rating System). Broward County is a STARS certified County. In the Sunrise SAP (S-6.4) the city commits to amend the Land Development Code to include community gardening, in order to align the City with STAR objectives. The language is : “ <i>Identify strategies, research policies and limitations and encourage enabling location appropriate urban agriculture and community gardening.</i>” The Sustainability Advisory Board and Community Development are responsible for this action item, S-6.4.</p>	0	.5		.5
Tamarac	<p><b>COM PLAN:</b> In the 2018 update to the Economic Development Element, 1.5: Implement Placemaking Pilot Projects in Targeted Retail Revitalization “Focus Areas”, there is the proposal to, “<i>animating spaces with farmers’ markets, food truck rally facilities and seating for food truck rally areas.</i>” In addition, the City notes an opportunity to, “<i>Leverage opportunity for ethnic/authentic culinary arts/food incubator</i>”. They City identifies that the there is economic leakage (supply less than demand) in the Food and Beverage Stores sector. It seeks to stop this leakage with local food projects and businesses.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> Defines Community Gardens as, “<i>Community Garden. A facility on private or public property for the cultivation of fruits, flowers, vegetables, or ornamental plants by more than one person or family that is open to the public.</i>” Community gardens are allowed in many land uses, included residential, but with restrictions: “<i>If accessory to a residential use, the community garden shall be located in a common area, not in private property for a single residential unit.</i>” The Code also defines and regulates Farmers Markets. Famers Markets are defined as, “<i>A public market held open area, where farmers sell produce and other farm products they have grown, gathered, or raised directly to consumers.</i>” They are not allows in residential areas. However, they are allowed in multiuse areas, which may include apartment complexes.</p>	2	4		6
Weston	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> No policies related to food access.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> No policies related to food access.</p>	0	0		0

Wilton Manors	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> Defines Urban Ag, as per the County.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> Temporary accommodations for individuals or families must include access to areas for food preparation for a period of up to 18 months in the event of an emergency. The city declares a fundamental and inalienable right to a healthful environment. The city declared to use all reasonable means and measures to: foster and promote the general welfare, create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony and fill the social, economic and other requirements of the present and future generation.</p>	1	2		3
Coconut Creek	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> The city aspires to create a complete greenway system in the County. This sustainable-active transit commitment may be a starting point for healthy food access policies for community gardens, mobile markets and other food access projects.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> Part (d) of Sec. 16-20. - Outdoor special events, allows farmer-grown products to be sold on site, as long as the property is zoned agricultural.</p> <p><b>OTHER:</b> <a href="#">Resolution 2019-281</a> establishes the city’s commitment to promote a healthy food environment with food access and food security for all. <a href="#">The green plan</a> was modified for Audubon International certification to (A) Support local farmers and local farmers’ markets (B) Encourage home gardens and community gardens and (C) Promote “wellness programs” and active, healthy lifestyles.</p>	1	1	4	6
Dania Beach	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> The Future Land Use Plan in the Comp Plan does not express any policy or vision that would support the PATCH Market Garden. Instead, the Plan states that farming is no longer viable in the city: “While the City of Dania Beach historically was a farming community, the expansion in development of Broward County and the intrusion of salt water has rendered the property to be unsuitable for future farming activities. Accordingly no agricultural uses have been indicated on the Land Use Plan.”</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> The land use code defines and permits food growing (Sec. 105-230) in any residential zoning district, and farmers markets (Sec. 105-240). The code is consistent with the aspirations in the CRA Plan for the PATCH market garden. However, these activities must be city operated or administered through a management agreement approved by the city or CRA.</p> <p><b>OTHER:</b> CRA Plan 2017-2021 Budget projects \$169,000 for the PATCH Operating Revenues and \$780K for expenditures. The CRA Plan (2015) has a vision to expand "Community Gardens: With the success of “The Patch” in the Sun Garden Isles neighborhood</p>	2	0.5	1	3.5

	there has been a community desire to expand community gardening to the other neighborhoods within the CRA. As the City and CRA continue to look for parks and open space opportunities within College Gardens and Dania Beach Heights, there should also be a component that would include community gardening and expand “The Patch” model to provide to create continued urban farming opportunities within the CRA."				
Fort Lauderdale	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> The updated comp plan has at least eleven new policies in the Future Land Use (FLU) element directly related to food access. Notable policies include (1- FLU 2.6.2b) encouraging urban agriculture opportunities by using land use regulations and amendments, (2- FLU 2.6.3) addressing the social determinants of health and potential impacts to health equity for diet among other conditions that result from land use policy decisions, (3- FLU 2.6.2c) accommodate concentrations of food service providers at strategic locations in relation to the transportation system and concentrations of housing and employment in the City, (4-FLU 2.6.2d) the City will explore, as appropriate, regulations allowing for the development of urban farms, vertical farming, and associated land use regulations to allow for hydroponic and aquaponic uses within the City, and (5- FLU 2.6.2a) The City shall provide incentives for grocery stores, full-service supermarkets, farmers markets, food carts and other mobile vendors to locate in underserved communities.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> In 2011, the city passed an urban agriculture and community gardening ordinance that defines and permits urban food production on residential land (non-profit community gardens) and commercial land (urban farms). Sales of produce are allowed only on urban farms.</p>	11	1	0	12
Hollywood	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> No policies related to food access.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> No policies related to food access.</p> <p><b>OTHER:</b> The city’s Master Plan has a policy to, “Promote the equitable distribution of public improvements that will eliminate disparities between neighborhoods and guarantee the health, safety and welfare of all residents of the City of Hollywood.” While this policy does not mention food access, this policy may serve as a guiding principle, which could be a foundation for food access equity.</p>	0	0	1	1
Lauderdale Lakes	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> There are no policies directly related to food access. However, “Low Income Person” is defined, which may indicate the City is concerned about equity issues. The City also has economic policies to support local businesses that enhance social diversity, which could mean diverse food businesses.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> The landscape standards in Sec 42-7 creates a barrier by prohibiting gardens in the front yard, and requiring a permit for them in other areas.</p>	0	0.5	3	3.5

	<p><b>OTHER:</b> The CRA plan has three policies for food access expressed as a possible future food hub and two community gardens: one for children, and another by City Hall for residents. The plan recognizes that the gardens serve a social, nutritional and economic purpose: <i>“The purpose of the community garden is to build community: by increasing and enhancing community interaction through gardening and greening while providing healthy foods, cleaner air and stress relief from tough economic times.”</i></p>				
Lauderdale By the Sea	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> No policies related to food access. However, there are policies committing the City to Smart Growth, which could encompass local food production.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> No policies related to food access.</p>	0	0		0
Lauderhill	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> The comprehensive plan is not available to online at this time.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> In Section 5.14.1, the city has one of the most robust policies defining Community Gardens: “5.14.1.Purpose and intent. The purpose of this section is to promote sustainable local food production for local consumption with the intent to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Improve health; and</li> <li>•Improve access to fresh, healthy, affordable locally produced food; and</li> <li>•Increase access to culturally appropriate food and help residents rediscover their community's food culture; and</li> <li>•Improve the economic health of the community; and</li> <li>•Transform vacant urban property into appealing places and foster a sense of community; and</li> <li>•Provide an educational platform for students interested in local food production and to allow for collaboration or partnerships with other organizations; and</li> <li>•Divert organic waste from landfills into compost.”</li> </ul> <p>In addition to this public purpose, community gardens are allowed in high density residential areas. The City lays out a clear permitting process.</p> <p>Section Sec. 5.17A defines Farmers Markets.</p> <p>Unfortunately, Section 5.1 of the code dealing with Accessory Uses and Structures says that a Home Garden containing any vegetables or fruit (unless grown in trees) must not be visible from the street adjacent to the property. In addition, produce grown within a home garden shall not be sold from the premises.</p>		0.5+2		2.5
Miramar	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> The updated Comp Plan from January 15, 2020 has three policies that greatly expand food access by allowing local food production and sales in several land use categories. Policy 1.5, Policy 1.11, Policy 1.4 in the Future Land Use Element directs that Industrial, Utility, and Commercial land use categories may allow the following Non-residential agricultural uses compatible with urban land use: tree and plant nurseries, urban gardens, urban farms, and farmer’s markets.</p>	3	6		9

	<p>CODE: The code has numerous regulations that define and permit several land uses related to food access: Urban farms, Community Gardens, Farmers Markets, Mobile Produce Vendors, Commercial Kitchens, and Composting.</p>				
Oakland Park	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> The comprehensive plan, updated in June 2019, does not contain any direct language for food access. However, it does list Community Gardens in Table 11 for the Six-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements, with no allocated funds. The Transportation Policy 2.20.5 may have an indirect benefit for the food security for seniors: “Encourage the identification of persons with special transportation needs for shopping, recreational and hurricane evacuation purposes.”</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> Sec. 24-41., The Master business list permits Urban Farms in Industrial and Community Business Districts. In Sec. 24-265, Green markets are allowed in several downtown districts, including the "North End Urban Residential" area.</p> <p><b>OTHER:</b> The CRA plan defines and funds the Downtown Culinary Arts District as a small town downtown destination and economic driver for the community. If implemented the 2017 - 2022 Strategic Action Plan provides the roadmap for this development. This plan along with the “foundational work” that has begun throughout the CRA will work together to advance redevelopment district wide and achieve the goals originally set for the CRA in 2005.</p>	0	2	1	3
Pembroke Pines	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> The Comprehensive plan does not have any policies related to food access.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> The code does not have any policies related to food access.</p> <p><b>OTHER:</b> The Green Plans states that, “The City is dedicated to healthy communities and residential access to healthy foods and recreation.” To ensure this, the city shall do the following three actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify whether the City has any food deserts or concentration of food related illnesses, such as diabetes using Geographic Information Systems (GIS).</li> <li>• Ensure residential communities are connected to nearby commercial shopping centers.</li> <li>• Encourage the purchase of locally sourced food, especially among Farmers Markets, through education and outreach.</li> </ul>	0	0	3	3

Pompano Beach	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> The Comp Plan does not have any policies directed at food access. However, much like Lauderdale By The Sea, the City does have Smart Growth goals.</p> <p><b>CODE:</b> The City defines Community Garden and Farmers Market.</p> <p><b>OTHER:</b> In the Pompano Beach, NWCRA plan, P. 72/77, the city includes community gardens as a redevelopment strategy: “The CRA may also provide, on a temporary basis, vacant lots leased to the City or to neighborhood associations for use as community gardens, open space, or neighborhood parks.”</p>	0	2	1	3
BMSD, Broward County	<p><b>COMP PLAN:</b> Broward County’s new Comprehensive Plan , Broward NEXT 2.0 has healthy food and food related policies across several elements. In the BMSD Land Use and Community Planning plan, Objective <b>BMSD 4.4</b> Building Healthy and Vibrant Places commits to, “Promoting Healthy Food events, including “healthy food” trucks.” This plan also mentions Food For All Broward as one of several initiatives to increase healthy food access. The Climate Change Element has 3 policies (<b>POLICY CC2.18, POLICY CC4.8, POLICY CC4.9</b>) that support local food production, community garden networks, and the integration of green infrastructure and food access. The transportation element has <b>Policy T2.6.1</b> which says the County, “shall support and maintain involvement in programs focused on connecting transportation, land use, and health issues, such as the Healthy Community Zones Initiative, improved access to healthy foods, and public school programs emphasizing healthy eating, among others. “ Policy <b>T2.6.4</b> integrate transit and food access: “Broward County, through participation in the Broward MPO, should prioritize funding to projects that address food deserts and increase access to healthy and fresh foods.” In the Housing Element, <b>Policy H4.2</b> says the County shall promote housing projects that enable access to healthy foods through Urban Farming and Food Waste Recycling programs (along with energy efficiency, multi-modal transportation, and compact design.) <b>CODE:</b> Although there are several Comp Plan policies that commit the county to healthy food access, there are no companion implementation policies in the land development code. For example, there are no definitions or regulations for urban farms, community gardens or farmers markets. Only one policy, in Sec. 7-7 establishes the minimum standards for nutrition, food preparation, and food service in childcare facilities.</p> <p>The Land Use Plan, the second volume of the Comprehensive Plan, has several food access policies and strategies: <b>Strategy EP-6</b>, commits the County to, “<i>Prioritize and support the food system planning efforts of Broward County and its municipalities.</i>” The <b>Urban Agriculture definition</b> covers every component of the food system: cultivating, processing, and distributing food in or around a village, town, or city.</p>	10	1	0	11

	<b>Policy 3.2.5</b> advises that, “Local governments should consider the identification and elimination of “food deserts” when making land use policy and decisions..”				
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## Contact Us

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