



OLD COLONY  
PLANNING COUNCIL

## Plymouth County Food System Action Plan: Community Advisory Board (CAB)

### Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/NaRRxNA9RaueRoFr7NPNvQ>

Dial-in: 1-646-876-9923 (Meeting ID: 889 4338 7171; Passcode 148867)

Open to board members and the public.

### Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions (Rita Higgins, Marion Institute)
2. Discuss **Theme 7: place-based economics that enhance local control, local food system resource ownership, and the ability of local people to participate fully in food system work** (see paper that follows) (Rita and Joanne)
3. Close: Next steps, meeting feedback, and next meeting (Rita)

**Next Meeting:** April 29, 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. (virtual)

### Notices

- For further information about this project, including agenda, recordings, and minutes, please visit <https://oldcolonyplanning.org/foodresiliency/>.
- This public meeting may be recorded and made available on OCPC's website.
- Accessibility accommodations and language services will be provided free of charge, upon request, as available. Please contact Mary Waldron at [mwaldron@ocpcrpa.org](mailto:mwaldron@ocpcrpa.org) or 508-583-1833.
  - Si necesita esta información en otro idioma, comuníquese con Mary Waldron a [mwaldron@ocpcrpa.org](mailto:mwaldron@ocpcrpa.org) o al 508-583-1833.
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  - Si yo bezwen enfòmasyon sa a nan yon lòt lang, tanpri kontakte Mary Waldron nan [mwaldron@ocpcrpa.org](mailto:mwaldron@ocpcrpa.org) oubyen nan 508-583-1833.
- OCPC fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all its programs and activities. Any person who believes that they or any specific class of persons have been subject to discrimination prohibited by Title VI may, by themselves or by a representative, file a written complaint with OCPC within 180 days from the date of the alleged discrimination. Please contact Mary Waldron at [mwaldron@ocpcrpa.org](mailto:mwaldron@ocpcrpa.org) or 508-583-1833.

## Paper 1

We're using the Community and Agriculture Resilience Audit Tool (CARAT) (<https://caratool.org/>) as a collaborative platform to bring together community stakeholders for a self-assessment of our local food system. The results will inform the development of a Plymouth County Food System Action Plan.

The theme of this meeting will be **Place-based Economics**. We will discuss each of the 'indicators' numbered below to assess our region's performance.

If you would like to explore what other places are doing, please see the "Resource Archive" at <https://caratool.org/guide/introduction> (in the left-hand menu).

### Indicators we'll cover at this meeting

#### **THEME 7: PLACE-BASED ECONOMICS THAT ENHANCE LOCAL CONTROL, LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM RESOURCE OWNERSHIP, AND THE ABILITY OF LOCAL PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN FOOD SYSTEM WORK**

##### **A. Promoting and supporting household-level food production and other informal agricultural sector activities that enhance household and community self-sufficiency, entrepreneurship, and food sovereignty**

Indicators	
85. Our local leadership and/or food policy council understands and acknowledges the unique challenges facing the local food system specific to land use, land access, labor, infrastructure, transportation, distribution, education, impacts from climate change, immigration, economic development, and healthcare.	
86. Our local leadership and/or food policy council understands, acknowledges, and has collected data on the social determinants of health in our community and the unique challenges in our area based on demographics, socioeconomics, and location.	88. In our community, planning departments and/or councils of government have staff with expertise in food systems, farmland, gardening, and/or agriculture.
87. In our community, public meetings including council meetings, land use planning meetings, zoning meetings, and school board meetings are easily accessible by the general public, hosted near public transportation, provide virtual access when possible, and include accommodations for those with physical impairments as well as translation for ESL residents.	89. In our community, comprehensive plans include input from food system leaders including farmers, gardeners, local food markets, farmland conservation groups, food distributors, and food access organizations.
	90. In our community, community economic development agencies and/or organizations lead, collaborate, or partner with food system organizations to identify and support farming and food system businesses, local food supply chains, and local food infrastructure.

## **B. Creating local zoning and land use regulations to support local food production**

Indicators
91. We have local zoning, licensing, and/or permitting ordinances that allow backyard poultry.
92. We have local zoning, licensing, and/or permitting ordinances that allow farm stands.
93. We have local zoning, licensing, and/or permitting ordinances that allow household composting.
94. We have local zoning, licensing, and/or permitting ordinances that allow vegetable gardens in lieu of lawns.
95. We have local zoning, licensing, and/or permitting ordinances that allow community gardens.
96. We have community land-bank programs that give residents a formal voice and input in determining neighborhood land uses, often with the help of community advisory boards composed of local residents.

## **C. Developing a skilled and capable labor force that can participate successfully in carrying out functions needed for an effective local agricultural or food sector**

Indicators
97. We have public agencies or nonprofit organizations in the community that invest in workforce training and professional development programs to address labor force needs relevant to the local food system.
98. In our community, professional education credits and/or certificates aligned with the local food system labor, skill, and leadership requirements are available to residents through online or in-person programs, such as those offered by land-grant institutions or community colleges.

**D. Developing relevant infrastructure in support of local food distribution**

Indicators
<p>99. We have policies, practices, or programs that provide financial support and/or resource commitments devoted to developing local/regional food packing and processing infrastructure.</p> <p><i>examples: shared-use kitchens, co-packing operations, or permanent and mobile meat slaughter facilities.</i></p>
<p>100. We have policies, practices, or programs that provide financial support and/or resource commitments to investments in developing local/regional food distribution infrastructure.</p> <p><i>examples: food hubs, food aggregation sites, shared warehouse or cold storage facilities, mobile markets, farmers markets</i></p>
<p>101. We have policies, practices, or programs that provide financial support and/or resource commitments devoted to developing BIPOC-designed and -led local/regional food distribution infrastructure.</p>