



Food Policy Overview:

Presentation to Vancouver Food Policy Council

April 2015



Role of Local Government

What local Governments Do:

- Engineering Services (Street, Water, Sewers, Garbage, and Recycling)
- Parks and Recreation
- Police and Fire Services
- Planning and Development Services
- Licenses and Inspections
- Libraries
- Sustainability
- Community Services (Housing, Culture, and Social Policy)

“Food is a tool for re-thinking cities
and the way we live in them”

Carolyn Steel, 2008

Food Systems Examples and Concerns

Global	Climate Change/ Greenhouse Gas Loss of biodiversity in food system World food prices Genetically Modified Organisms
National	Loss of farmland and fisheries Food labeling Food transportation
Provincial	Migrant workers issues Erosion of Agricultural Land Reserve Health and wellness programs
City (Vancouver)	Uneven food accessibility Urban agriculture Waste management

Table modified from Zsuzsi Fodor, 2011

Municipal Planning Framework

- Regional Growth Strategies
- Agricultural Land Protection
- Official Community Plans and Local Area Plans
- Zoning and Land Use Regulations
- Business Licenses

Broad Food Policy Context

- Food Action Plan (2003)
- Vancouver Food Policy Council (2004)
- Food Charter (2007)
- Greenest City Action Plan (2011)
- Vancouver Food Strategy (2013)
- Healthy City Strategy (2014)

Vancouver Food Strategy



What feeds us:
**Vancouver
Food Strategy**

January, 2013

Photo: Thien Phan


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Purpose:

- Integration and alignment of food policy
- Provide goals and specific actions
- Provide road map for action


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Park Board: Local Food Action Plan



THE **LOCAL FOOD ACTION PLAN**
OF THE VANCOUVER PARK BOARD

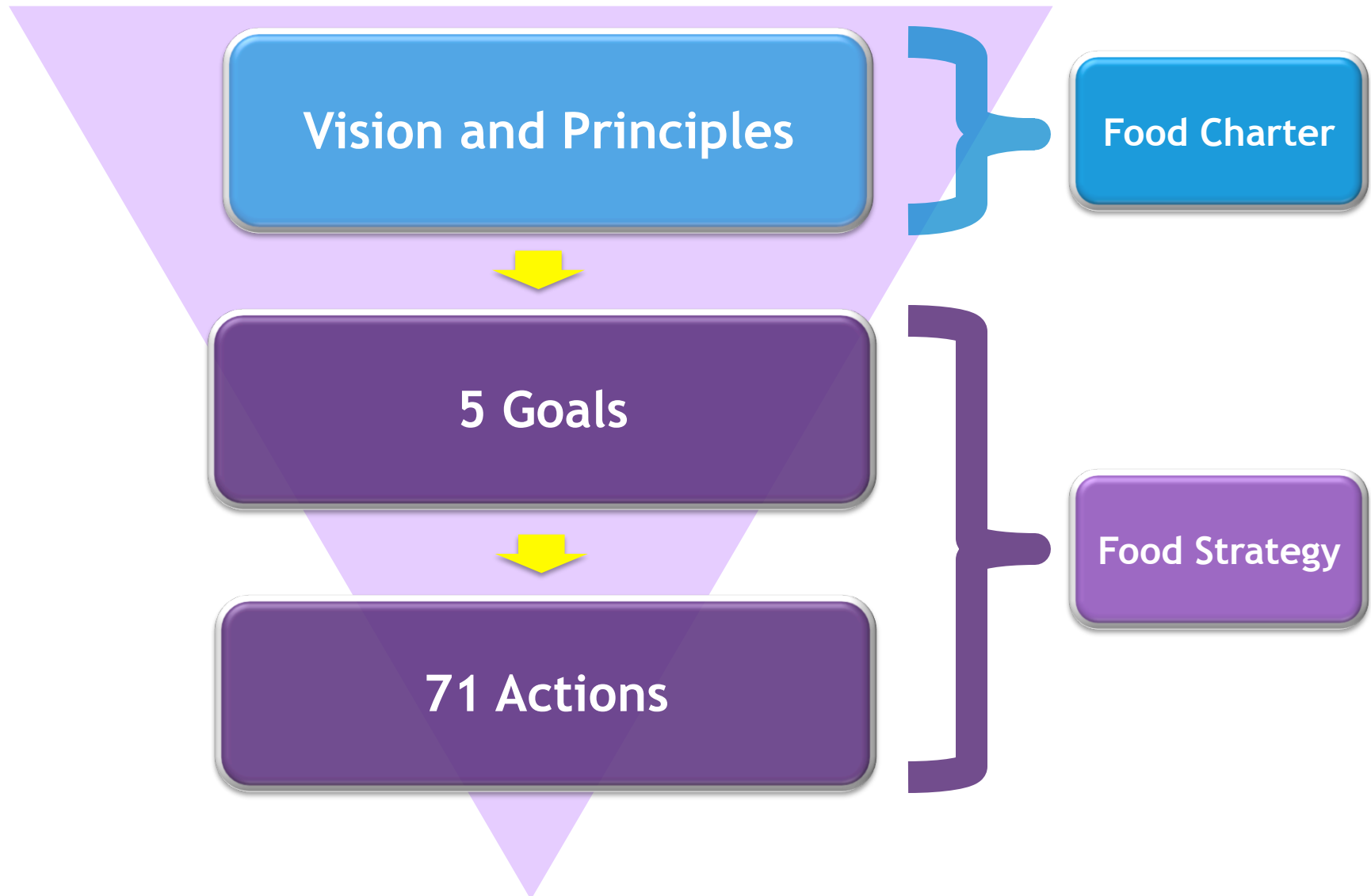


JULY 2013

Foci:

- Land
- Facilities
- Capacity and Programs

Components of Vancouver's Food Strategy



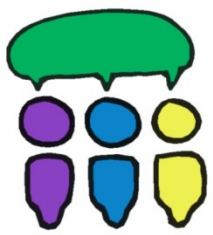


Goal 1: Support food-friendly neighbourhoods

Key focus:

- ✓ Food assets / infrastructure
- ✓ Built environment
- ✓ Scaling up
- ✓ Build on unique context of each neighbourhood



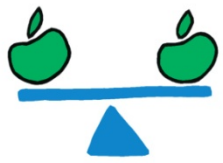


Goal 2: Empower residents to take action in their own neighbourhoods

Key focus:

- ✓ Human capacity
- ✓ Community development
- ✓ Access to resources, skills and knowledge
- ✓ Participation and inclusion



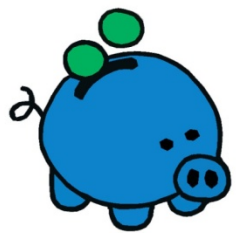


Goal 3: Improve access to healthy, affordable, culturally diverse food for all residents



Key focus:

- ✓ Vulnerable populations
- ✓ Affordability
- ✓ Healthy food options



Goal 4: Make food a centrepiece of Vancouver's green economy

Key focus:

- ✓ Localizing food supply chain
- ✓ Economic multiplier effect of local food
- ✓ Innovative models: e.g. social enterprises, food hub, food business incubator
- ✓ Green food jobs





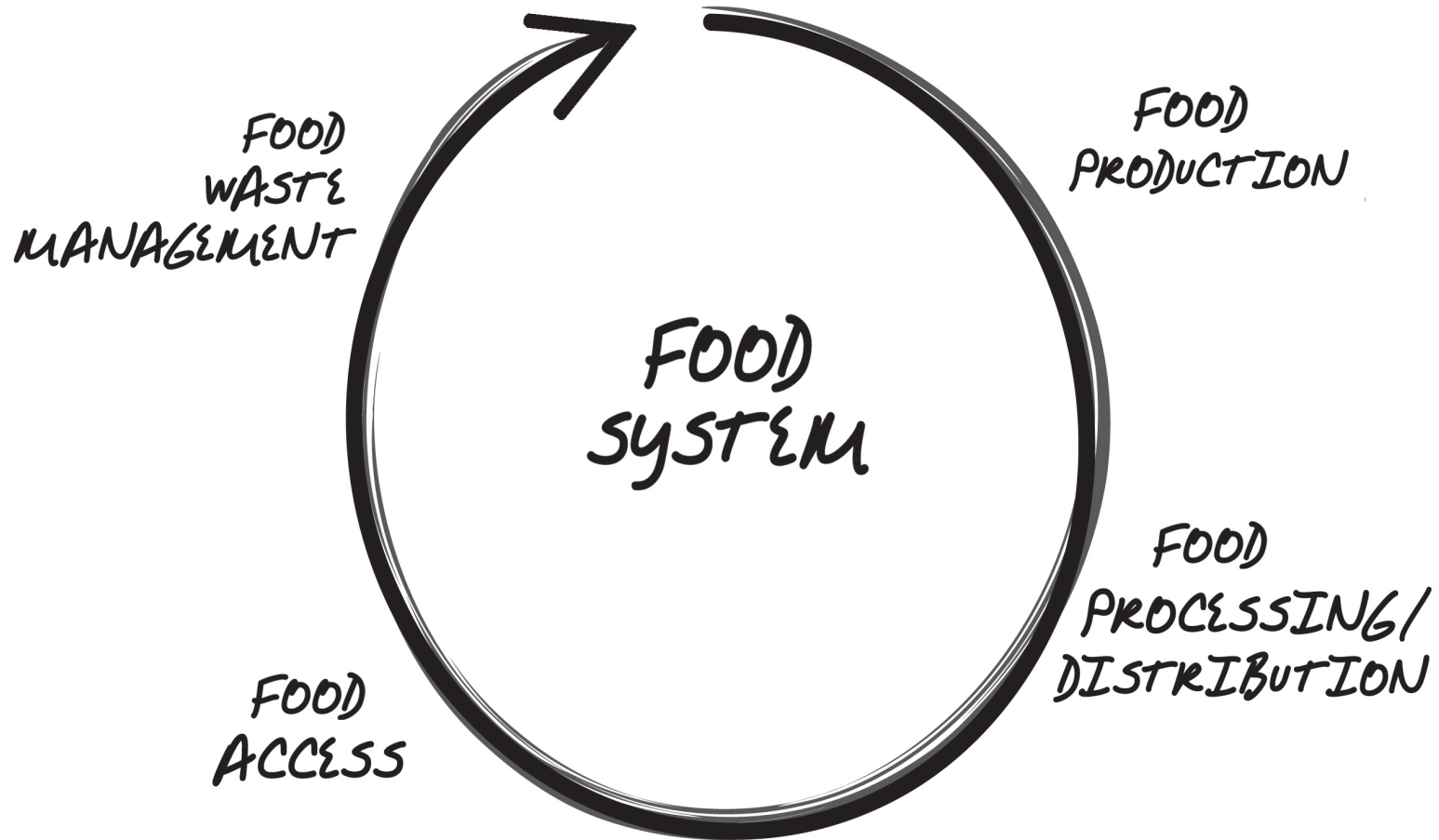
Goal 5: Advocate for a just and sustainable food system with partners and all levels of government



Key focus:

- ✓ Advocacy at all levels of government
- ✓ Partnerships
- ✓ Leverage tools

Actions contribute to all aspects of food systems



Highlights from 2014

Highlight	Result
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community garden plots continue to increase	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 452 plots were built on city and non-city land (total 4166)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revised farmers market policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 new farmers markets (total 11)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fostered community food markets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developed CFM bulletin outlining process• 5 new Curbside Fresh pilot location from Greater Vancouver Food Bank
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Established and secured the Sustainable Food Systems Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual financial support to food related organizations and projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of food business incubator between VCC, Save on Meats ; CoV contributing \$100K	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening of Vancouver Incubator Kitchen (VIK) at Save On Meats
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incorporate food systems assets into community plans and large developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainable Large Development Policy to require food systems plan and assets
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working on urban farming policy to further enable commercial food production	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emerging urban farming policy directions

Priorities for 2015 and beyond

Highlights

- Continue to increase community garden plots, while improving opportunities for capacity building, ethno-cultural representation, and infrastructure upgrades, etc
- Adoption of urban farming policy to further enable commercial food production
- Support local food infrastructure (processing, distribution, kitchens)
- Continue to advance opportunities to increase percentage of local and sustainable food purchased by city
- Continue to support food related organizations and projects through Sustainable Food Systems Grants

