Homegrown Minneapolis is a citywide initiative started in December 2008 by the City of Minneapolis to expand the community’s ability to grow, process, distribute, eat and compost more healthy, sustainable, locally grown foods. The initiative brings together key partners from local government, area businesses, community organizations, non-profits and residents to build a healthy local food system.

2021 Food System Snapshots

- Food trucks: 166
- Mobile grocery stores: 1
- Shared/incubator kitchens: 5
- Backyard chicken coops: 350
- Beekeepers: 115
- Food retail co-ops: 5
- Food shelves: 40

Increased access to fresh, sustainable, healthy food through policy and partnership

- Distributed more than $1 million in food security grants to local community-based organizations providing culturally relevant, healthy food
- Leased 61 vacant City-owned lots for community and market gardens, in partnership with Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) and Public Works Departments
- Supported progress on a passive solar year-round greenhouse pilot in partnership with two community-based organizations (Appetite for Change and Tamales y Bicicletas) and the University of Minnesota Center for Sustainable Building Research
- Partnered with Solid Waste & Recycling for the Community Garden Compost program, distributing 501 cubic yards of complimentary compost to 59 community gardens.
- Co-led and organized 5 wellness walks to farmers markets for City employees in partnership with City of Minneapolis STRIDE (Employee Wellness Committee)
- Hosted a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program for City employees in partnership with two local farms and City of Minneapolis STRIDE (Employee Wellness Committee)
- Supported distribution of weekly emergency community food distribution at Corcoran Park, including fresh and culturally relevant foods in partnership with MPRB, Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations, Second Harvest Heartland, The Food Group, Corcoran Neighborhood Organization, Sanneh Foundation and many community members

Shared information and engaged community around local food systems efforts

- Further advanced proposed Food Action Plan content, including engaging nearly 80 in 6 deep dive discussions to gather community input on Minneapolis Food Action Plan Pathways 1-6, and gathering input through community outreach, surveys and meetings
- Recruited a new cohort of 2022 Food Council members
• Shared information with community about Minneapolis food shelves/distribution resources and needs through the City of Minneapolis website and newsletters
• Submitted Homegrown Food Council recommendations to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board regarding the MPRB Parks for All Plan
• Provided panel presentations for Food Policy Networks “Making Sense of the Chaos: Food Policy Councils Reflections on 2020” national call, National Academy of Public Administration fall conference urban food systems session and Sustainable and Resilient Post-COVID Cities workshop
• Distributed monthly e-newsletter to about 5,400 subscribers

Supported Farmers Markets of Minneapolis operations and data
• Supported operational needs and COVID response of 20 farmers markets, helping distribute more than $50,000 in operational support
• Promoted National Farmers Market Week in Minneapolis, distributing reusable tote bags in coordination with 15 participating farmers markets
• Co-hosted fall Market Metrics Forum and supported market participation in FM360 metrics collection in partnership with Farmers Markets of Minneapolis and FM360 at the University of Minnesota
• Partnered with the Farmers Markets of Minneapolis Collaborative to plan and hold a strategic planning process to evaluate priorities and goals of the collaborative

2021 Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Members:
Kate Seybold (Co-Chair), Tsega Tamene (Co-Chair), Suado Abdi, Melissa Anderson, Beth Dooley, Andrea Eger, Nolan Greene, Rebecca Gross, Kim Havey, Andrea Inouye, Marcus Kar, Kristen Klingler, Amy Maas, Emily Minge, Ibrahim Mohamed, Devon Nolen, Teresa Opheim, Latasha Powell, Aidan Read, Helen Schnoes, Jeremy Schroeder, Tiffany Lashae, Jason Walker, and Mai Yang

2021 Homegrown Minneapolis Staff:
Tamara Downs Schwei, Grace Rude, Tong Thao, Samantha Jensen

Updated March 2022