

**Schroader, Kathy**

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**From:** Orjiako, Oliver  
**Sent:** Monday, June 13, 2016 10:34 AM  
**To:** Albrecht, Gary, Alvarez, Jose, Anderson, Colete, Euler, Gordon, Hermen, Matt, Kamp, Jacqueline, Lebowsky, Laurie, Lumbantobing, Sharon, Orjiako, Oliver, Schroader, Kathy, Wisner, Sonja  
**Cc:** Wisner, Sonja, Tilton, Rebecca  
**Subject:** FW: Letter to County Councilors from Clark County Food System Council  
**Attachments:** Final\_June 12 docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

FYI Am sorry for not including the attachment Thanks

Oliver

**From:** Ann Foster [<mailto:annfoster5093@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 13, 2016 9:29 AM  
**To:** Orjiako, Oliver; Euler, Gordon  
**Subject:** Letter to County Councilors from Clark County Food System Council

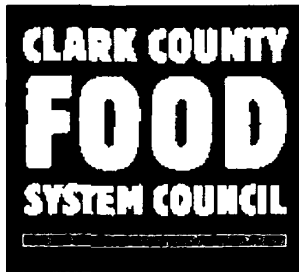
Dear Oliver and Gordy,  
The attached letter will be delivered to Councilor Stewart this morning and I'm hoping to hand deliver it to any of the other Councilors who may be available as well. Can you please facilitate this being submitted to the public record?

I was hoping to be able to read it on June 21 at public testimony, however, next Tuesday is the first day of the farmers market at Legacy Hospital. I am hoping that another member of the Food System Council will be available to present.

Thank you!

Best,  
Ann





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Dear Council Chair Boldt, Councilors Olson, Stewart, Madore and Mielke,  
County Manager McCauley and Community Planning Director Orijacko,

We request that this letter be placed in the Public Record

The Clark County Food System Council is a citizen-based group representing food-related interests in Clark County. Each of us is motivated to promote a local food system, food connections that ensure all citizens have access to healthy food, that productive ag land and resource lands are preserved and that all citizens have access to educational and informational programs that promote better health at any age. Each of us is, in turn, a member of like-minded organizations, businesses and activities that are similarly aligned and motivated.

Collectively, the Clark County Food System Council strongly supports the recognition, acknowledgement and inclusion of the 2012 Growing Healthier Report in the 2016 Comprehensive Growth Plan Update, as was originally intended by the authors of this document. We wish to reinforce the importance of an environment where healthy local food is available in our community, where food is grown locally, farm businesses flourish, an environment which continually promotes local sustainable food production, and a county whose policies and strategies on sustainability are forefront in community planning.

A complete GMA plan update, now in 2016, MUST include policy recommendations regarding the accessibility of food, its production, its distribution, waste reduction and composting. Conserving the resources that fill the basic human need of food is critical to any society, any community.

In the Clark County Comprehensive Plan 2016 Update, Summary, Issue Paper 8, Chapter 4 (Environmental Element) includes an inclusion of a "Sustainability Policy adopted in 2007 and the Growing Healthier Report adopted in 2012". The CCFSC wishes to endorse that reference.

In addition, the CCFSC would like to be a part going forward of Clark County's conversations in strategically meeting the goals identified in Chapter 4. These conversations will require the development of creative and innovative programs to meet the needs of the future in ensuring the health of every citizen.

Similarly, Issue Paper 8, Chapter 11, reinforces the importance of “integrated land use and street patterns” that promote “improved public health”, especially those land-use decisions that enable easy access to healthy food

Of equal importance, the Clark County Food System Council strongly REJECTS those recommendations to the Plan Update in 2016 which remove from existence productive agricultural land in Clark County. It has been pointed out and proven repeatedly that policies such as parcel reduction, clustering, rezoning of ag-zoned land ultimately lead to development – development which irreversibly tax aquifers, waterways, natural space for wildlife, in addition to the County’s capital facilities plan and the taxpayers ourselves.

It is time we, as a County, have leadership who consider not only the profit/tax revenues and their impact on its citizens, but a leadership that considers the health impact of policies first.

We hope that consideration is given to the interests in Clark County of those who are genuinely working for the health and well-being of themselves, their families, their neighbors and their County. Please include the 2012 Growing Healthier Report in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update as a foundation for a safe and secure food system policy going forward.

Best regards,

Garrett Hoyt, Chair

Shawn Morrill, Co-Chair

Josef Aalbue

Amber Baker

Rebecca Brown

James Fitzgerald

Ann Foster, Secretary

Kim Harless

Greg Noelck

Karen Puyleart

Larry Scherer