# Civic Agriculture & Community Food System Planning

Building Food-Based Local Economies to Provide Healthy Food Access & End Food Deserts

# about us

### North America Food & Farm PBC Inc

(NAF2) is a social enterprise consulting group providing experienced community food systems planning as well as urban agriculture project development, installation, and management services in the metro-Atlanta area and beyond. We do this by bringing together individuals, organized civic groups, local institutions, governmental bodies and industry experts to create successful local food projects that are integrated within local communities.





## NAFz's Core Value

**Civic Agriculture** is locally based agriculture and food production that is tightly linked to a community's social and economic development.

### → Academic Origins

Coined by the late Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor **Thomas A. Lyson** 

### → Alignment

We are Community Builders at our core.

#### → Mission

Build food based local economies, one neighborhood at a time.



- Professor Lyson argues in his book that because of the interlocked relationship between the food economy and consumers, people have a civic duty to support important agricultural engagements.
- Lyson claims that communities that show an active involvement in civic agriculture aid economic development by supporting their local food production. Thus, in committing to civic agriculture, local communities contribute to an economy growth in the agricultural sector.



# **NPU-T Community Food Project**

**Neighborhood Planning Unit T** (NPU-T) is a citizen advisory council in Southwest Atlanta that makes recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on zoning, land use, and other planning issues.

NPU-T consists of seven Atlanta neighborhoods: Atlanta University Center, Ashview Heights, CollegeTown (formerly Harris Chiles), Just Us Neighbors, The Villages at Castleberry Hill, West End, and Westview.









# **Edible Schoolyard**

- Client: Atlanta Preparatory Academy
- **Funding:** Post Properties Foundation
- Subcontractor: Sustenance Design LLC



# Welch Street Park Community Garden

- **Client:** Pittsburgh Community Improvement Association Inc.
- **Funding:** Annie E. Casey Foundation, Park Pride, National Wildlife Federation
- Subcontractor: Westside Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA)



# THE FCOD COMMONS

IMAGINE, DESIGN, BUILD...

## THE FCOD COMONS SW Fertile Crescent



Occupying 6,000 acres in Southwest Atlanta, the Southwest Atlanta Fertile Crescent is a neighborhood scaled adaptation of the Food Commons model for a regional food system.



### Community Food System Planning Funding Resources

- Atlanta Regional Commission
   Community Foundation
- for Greater Atlanta
- Food Well Alliance
- Georgia & U.S.
  Departments of Agriculture





# CNA Community Food Assessment - 2012

- Client: Atlanta Housing Authority
- Funding: U.S. Dept of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)
- Subcontractors: Urban Collage, Village Habitat Design LLC









## Site Suitability Analysis





### **Food Policy Councils**

A food policy council (FPC) brings together stakeholders from diverse food-related areas to examine how the food system is working and propose ways to improve it.

#### → Community Food System Plans

If food is a basic human need - on par with water, housing, and health services - why don't state and local governments have a Department of Food?

## ALFI envisions a

transformed food system in

which every metro Atlantan

has access to safe, nutritious,

and affordable food

produced by a thriving

network of sustainable farms

and gardens.





## **Benefits of FPCs**

- → Changing city zoning laws to allow food production in urban areas
- → Creating a City Food Security Task Force
- → Expanding bus service to bring transit-dependent, low-income residents directly to affordable food stores
- → Developing guidelines for school nutrition programs
- → Promoting direct marketing opportunities such as institutional purchasing
- → Establishing land use protections for urban agriculture
- → Developing city-wide marketing initiatives to promote locally grown foods



The Georgia Food Policy Council (GFPC) is a group of representatives from various sectors of Georgia's food system tasked with examining state level food and nutrition concerns.

Kwabena "Cubby" Nkromo, Chair

