

THE FOOD COMMONS

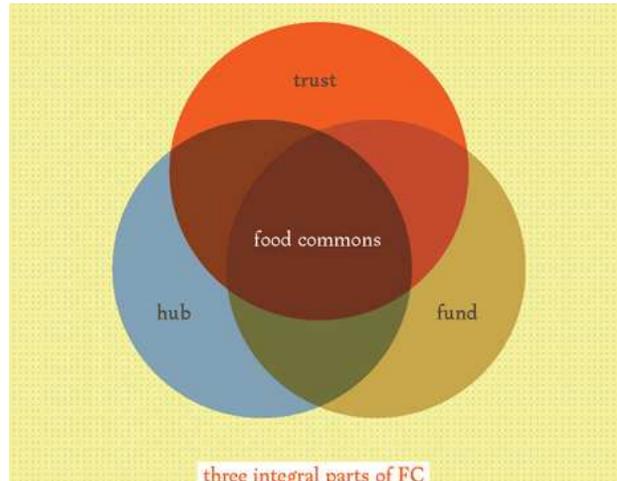
A new economic paradigm and whole system approach for regional food.

The Food Commons Model

The Food Commons has developed an alternative path by re-envisioning a re-creation of the local and regional food systems that preceded the current global industrial food systems, updated to reflect 21st-century advances in information systems, communications, community-based organizational and economic models, the science and practice of sustainable agriculture and the changes in culture and demand.

Three integral parts of the Food Commons

- **Trust**—a non-profit, quasi-public entity to acquire and steward critical foodshed assets
- **Financing Arm**—a community-owned financial institution that provides capital and financial services to foodshed enterprises
- **Hub**—a locally-owned, cooperatively integrated business enterprise that builds and manages foodshed-based physical infrastructure and complex logistics of distribution.



- “You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete.”
- —Buckminster Fuller



Atwood Garden in SW Atlanta

Food Commons Atlanta

- Accepted as a prototype site by the national Food Commons Coordinating Committee in November 2012
- 10 county area as defined by the Atlanta Regional Commission. Totaling 2,977 mi² and a population of 4.1 million people

Current Projects (Atlanta)

- Coordinating with Atlanta Local Food Initiative to get an Urban Agriculture ordinance successfully adopted
- Participating in the Beltline Health Advisory Panel

Future Projects (Atlanta)

- Do a region-wide farmer/retailer/supplier survey
- Write a business plan
- Create templates for turnkey businesses related to food and farm
- Design a Food Commons overlay for the Atlanta Beltline
- Do a region-wide local food economy feasibility study for 10 county area

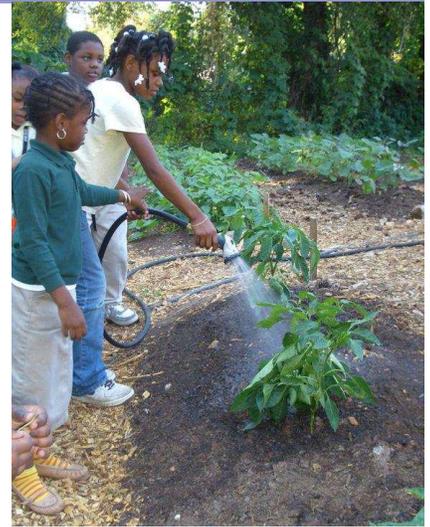
Atlanta Partners:

- Annie E. Casey Foundation
- City of Refuge
- Beltline Partnership
- GSU Dept of Geosciences / Atlanta Community Mapping & Research Center
- Historic Westside Gardens

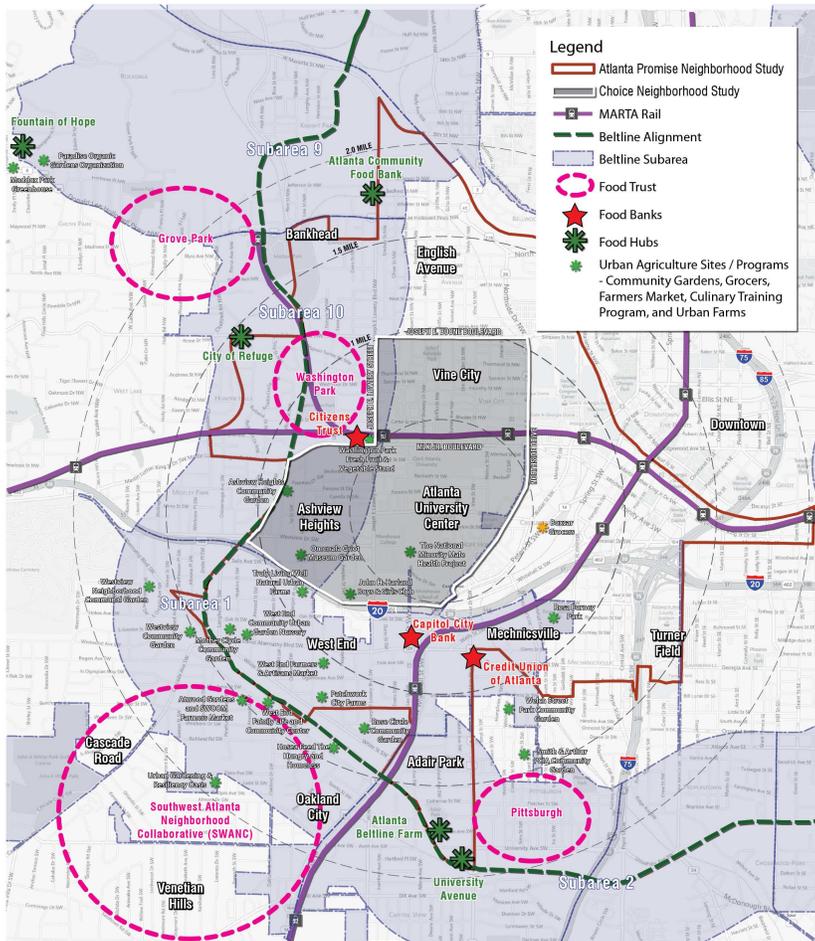
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Fertile Crescent

- Neighborhood scaled adaptation of Food Commons Atlanta larger regional foodshed
- 6000 acres in South-West Atlanta, approx. 55,000 residents
- Grafted on the development planning areas 1,2,9, &10 of the Atlanta Belt-line, which focused community revitalization by utilizing the old railroad tracks lines that encircle the city



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Completed Projects

- Completed a community food system assessment for Choice Neighborhoods Atlanta
- Secured legal representation through the Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta and Katoovich & Kassan Law Group to establish non-profit Food Commons Atlanta Trust entity
- Negotiated commitment from the City of Refuge to serve as first virtually integrated community food hub of the Fertile Crescent

Current Projects

- Designing Community Food Hub development plan for City of Refuge
- Creating a “Health & Wellness Pavilion” for the Historic Westside Village Festival
- Designing an urban agriculture feature for community use at the 32 acre University Ave property owned by the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Future Projects

- Create a business plan for target Food Commons Trust properties within the Choice Neighborhoods Atlanta area
- Do a feasibility study for Fertile Crescent food economy development area
- Draft a Fertile Crescent community engagement plan
- Attain 90+ properties from Atlanta/Fulton County Land Bank Authority
- Create an Urban Agriculture Overlay of Choice Neighborhoods Atlanta as a special agricultural zone

“Our goal for the Fertile Crescent is not to bring these neighborhoods up to speed with other neighborhoods, but instead to create a new vision of a neighborhood.”

