



This document was created by and for AERO's MT Food Economy Initiative program.  
For more information, please visit: <https://aeromt.org/what-we-do/food-systems/>.

## Community Food System Assessment Snapshot

Butte Silverbow County, Montana

April 2021

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### Introduction

The snap-shot assessment is formatted as an overview of input received from Butte Silverbow County. The snapshot highlights both existing projects and programs that currently exist, as well as interest from new partners for collaboration. After reviewing this document, our goal is to have you help in the decision making for creative food system development projects.

The following sections will include:

- Abstract of each sector: production, transformation, distribution, consumption, and waste
- Abstract for each key impact area: health, equity, education, policy, and community and economic development.
- Snap Shot of each tactic within the sectors
- Votes: include on-line survey and facebook page; bullets include input from surveys and public input session

### Coalition Members

- Courtney Nucito (Farmer's Market DSD)
- Maura Henn (NCAT)
- Abbie Phillip (SNAP)
- Kellie Kahtani (MSU Extension)
- Rick Williams (Sugar Beet Row)
- Tom Heggelund (Heggelunds Meats)
- Dave Hutchins (MT Tech Environ Eng Dept and KBMF Radio w/interest in sustainable systems)
- Joe Gilboy (Aging Services)

### **AERO MFEI Support**

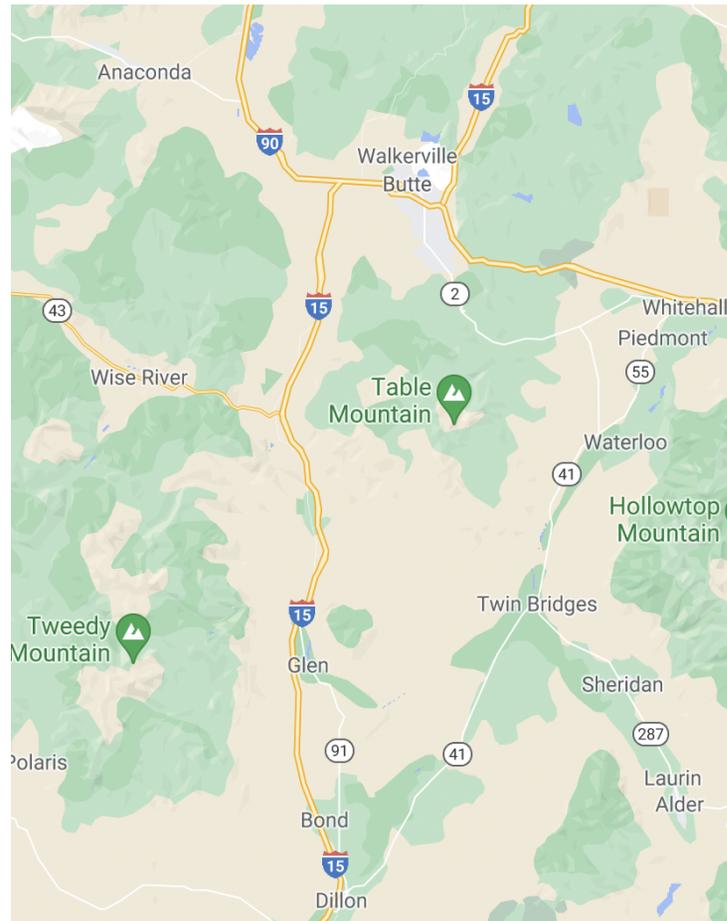
- Todd Two Bear Farm - Advisory Board Mentor
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- Michal DeChellis - AERO MFEI Project Coordinator
  - Lindsay Ganong - AERO Grants Program Manager

## Community Food Systems Snapshot Geography

Butte/Silverbow proper and those who come to Butte to access food

Twin Bridges, Whitehall, Dillon, Silver Star, Sheridan, Deer Lodge town, Anaconda, Boulder (may need to research this - school district, F2S)



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## Visions

### 5 Year Vision

Our vision is to work towards a healthy future by strengthening local and regional food partnerships, promoting neighborhood gardens through education, and fostering a clean environment.

### 20 Year Vision

Butte will serve as a regional food systems leader to create an equitable and resilient community that honors Butte's history and works toward a healthy future for all people.

## Coalition Values:

- Community: Fostering relationships and engagement for practitioners and consumers in the food system to build trust and ownership in Butte/Silverbow County.
- Transparency: Food systems are complicated and affect many different pieces of the community. Through transparent and accurate information, education on the various food system practices will assist in decision-making.
- Health: Food is inherent to health in all issues. We have the creative and innovative power in our communities to make choices that will lead us to a healthier Butte/Silverbow County.
- Inclusion: access to community food system components, regardless of income, race, gender, location; and encouraging under-represented people to be leaders in decision making processes
- Awareness: education and learning opportunities about health, wellness and food systems to embolden all people to advocate and implement priorities
- Innovation and Creativity: creative and dynamic opportunities through innovative strategies that will enhance overall quality of life to live and play

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## **Assessment Process**

The assessment is formatted to give an in-depth analysis of food system tactics that exist, or are needed within the Butte/Silverbow Area.

Each section starts with the sector and then dives into details of the sector tactics.

Where appropriate, maps are developed to give a visual demonstration of the information discussed.

## **Coalition Development and Engagement: June -July 2020**

- 50 unique organizations and businesses were interviewed regarding food systems development and collaboration
- 7 coalition meetings were facilitated through virtual meetings
- 13 unique members of the coalition
- Average attendance of 5 individuals
- 3 versions of an input survey offered
  - 25 survey respondents through paper surveys in the community (bakery, local grocery store, farmers market)
  - 50 online respondents
- 1 Snapshot completed to determine priority projects
- 3 priority projects determined for collective development

# Food System Sectors

## Food System Sectors



**Production:** Science, art, or occupation involving cultivating land, raising crops, feeding, breeding, or raising livestock as well as hunting, fishing, or foraging

may include: gardening/ specialty crop production/ urban farming



**Transformation + Processing:** Transformation of raw ingredients, physically or chemically, transforming into a value-added market

may include: value-added processing/ freezing and canning/ butcher shop



**Distribution + Marketing:** Moving product from farm or processing site to consumer; including distribution and sales

may include: grocery stores/ food hubs/ food boxes / CSA



**Consumption + Access:** Opportunities for an individual to gain access to food in a physically safe, financially viable, and culturally competent way

may include: restaurants/ food pantries/ food trucks/ meal assistance programs



**Resource Management:** Efficient and effective deployment and allocation of community and business resources as it relates to land, water, soil, plants, food and created materials

may include: conservation programs/ food waste recovery/ composting

### Production



The Coalition feels that there is a lack of producers in the Butte area.

### Transformation & Processing



**Opportunities:**

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**Opportunities:**

- SIFT Farm at NCAT could be used for education and production more
- Park Street Community garden could be made more public
- There is currently no farm to school program or school garden coordinator
- Could there be some beginning/farmer and rancher incubators?

**Producers:**

- Heggelund Ranch
- Deer Lodge - ranching & dairy
- Prison in Deer Lodge - butter, ice cream, dairy, cooked meals
- Sugar Beet Row - vegetable producer
- Wagner Family from Whitehall that sells in Butte
- Montana Highland Lamb - Whitehall
- Bausch Potatoes - Whitehall
- Highland Co-Op - Cottage foods - Whitehall
- Microgreens - Wombat? - Butte
- Montana Highland Lamb - Whitehall
- Ruby Roots Farm (Sherudan)
- Gooby Ranch (Twin Bridges)

**Limitations:**

- Lack of vegetable producers
- Growing season
- Elevation
- Meat processing
- Superfund site- Mindset/perception of safety to grow

Western Meat Block - processor, might get meat from Ranchland

Terminal Meats on Park - wild game processor, Ranchland - USDA - kill facility

Montana Craft Malts processing facility - industrial park

Feasibility study for another meat processing plant in Whitehall - multispecies processing

Could Butte use distribution/processing business - great half-way point between Bozeman and Missoula

**Limitations:**

The closest vegetable processors are Root Cellar in Bozeman and Mission Mountain Food Enterprises in Ronan.

Meat processing availability

Lack of local production from a veggie/fruit standpoint

**Public input:**

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food in the land in and around Butte

**Public Input:**

What makes it hard to grow food in Butte?

- Climate
  - Butte is at risk for frost year round
  - Has very little precipitation in the summer months
  - Higher elevation makes growing certain crops more difficult
- Culture
  - Butte is not an agricultural town
  - Access to certain equipment might make be more difficult to source
  - Waste from mining may be a deterrent for folks starting their own garden
  - Start up costs might be a burden for families within Butte since the preferred method of gardening here is through raised beds

## Consumption



### **Opportunities:**

There is only one restaurant, Hummingbird Cafe, who is using a local distributor - Western Montana Growers Coop. Safeway may buy a little produce every once in a while and Butte schools only purchase a couple of times a year.

### **Limitations:**

There seems to be a lack of local buyers or at least one local buyer who has the retail space and the time/energy/interest to showcase Montana and more local Butte products. There could be more education and marketing about the local products that are available in the area.

### **Grocery store survey:**

### **Public input:**

## Distribution



Butte does not seem to have any distributor businesses within the community.

### **Opportunities:**

Butte receives some distribution from Western Montana Growers Co-Op. Schools tend to use national distributors. Restaurants are also not typically using local distributors.

### **Limitations:**

The closest distributors are WMGC in Missoula and Root Cellar Foods, QFD in Bozeman. Butte does not seem to have any distributor businesses within the community.

### **Public Input:**

## Resource Management



### **Opportunities:**

Backyard composting  
SIFT farm doing composting - taking food from the food bank  
Food bank  
Composting out at the landfill  
Montana Tech - methane digester project

### **Limitations:**

Consumer knowledge of how to do this

### **Public Input:**

## Other Notes

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## Community Assets

### Equity

*Offering the same status and equal access to social goods, services, property, freedom of speech; including equal opportunity for access to a healthy and good quality of life.*

There are some great programs and offerings currently, but there is concern that not everyone who could benefit from these services are receiving outreach.

#### **Current programs:**

- Federal: SNAP, WIC, Double Dollars at Farmer's Market, USDA Farmer's Boxes,
- Local: SIFT Farm Senior boxes, Sincerely Paul
- School-associated: Free and reduced lunches (universal currently), Breakfast program, FFV, NKH and Summer meals

#### **Limitations:**

Double dollars only at Farmer's Market

Farmer's Market is seasonal, would like it to be year round  
Seniors not having access to healthy food - they can only use their coupons at FM's

Does the public have access to transportation to get to food? Are there food oases? Are there food deserts/apartheids?

### Education

*promoting experiences and programming related to food systems and health for a deeper understanding and increased opportunities to build skills*

There are some strong resources in the community that could support more education, but are they being fully utilized in terms of outreach to community members and are they providing the education that is needed for the community (i.e soil health and backyard growing)

#### **Current programs:**

- NCAT - SIFT Farm
- Garden Club
- F2S Volunteers
- MSU Extension - Butte/Silverbow - Soil testing
- Library - Seed saving library
- Montana Independent Living Project - food and cooking
- SNAP Education
- Sage Mountain - Permaculture/solar greenhousing
- FAC High School - cooking, HOM?, Aquaculture
- 4H

<p><b>Food Insecurity</b> - 19.5% having run out of food in the past year and/or worried about running out of food.</p>	<p><b>Low food access</b> - 13% meaning that they do not live near a supermarket or large grocery store.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Kellie Kahtani - FCS, diabetes education, food preservation, cooking classes - Butte/Silverbow</li> <li>● Extension in Jefferson/Madison - beginning farmer's program, GAP Training (might need to research what is still there?)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Daily Recommendation of Fruits/Vegetables</b> 22.7% of Butte-Silver Bow adults report eating five or more servings of fruits and/or vegetables per day. <b>BENCHMARK</b> ► Below the US figure. <b>TREND</b> ► Marks a statistically significant decrease since 2014. <b>DISPARITY</b> ► Lowest among adults age 40 to 64.</p>	<p><b>Difficulty Accessing Fresh Produce</b> Most Butte-Silver Bow adults report little or no difficulty buying fresh produce at a price they can afford. <b>17.2%</b> of Butte-Silver Bow adults find it “very” or “somewhat” difficult to access affordable fresh fruits and vegetables. <b>TREND</b> ► Marks a statistically significant decrease since 2014. <b>DISPARITY</b> ► Higher among women and especially low-income residents</p>	<p><b>Limitations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Need to fund more for F2S activities due to loss of FoodCorps</li> <li>● Farm to School programming</li> <li>● MSU Extension - change in programming focus, not as ready access to horticulture resources (Master Gardener)</li> <li>● No generational agriculture education or culture to support/train new producers</li> <li>● Outreach to all parts of Butte related to being able to grow food in the soil.</li> <li>● Could there be nutrition/cultivation in the correctional area</li> <li>● Knowledge of how to physical put together a farm</li> <li>● NCAT - are they fully optimized in terms of outreach to the community?</li> </ul> <p><b>Urban Indian Health Institute</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● History of food being grown here (mostly hunting/gathering)</li> </ul>


Source: Community Health Assessment

**Public Input:**

- Access to Affordable Healthy Food
  - There is a lack of diversity in food options. Generationally, we do not have healthy diets. We do not use broad types of vegetables, fruits, or grains. We rely on animal fats and meats for nutrition. When we try to eat at restaurants there are few options - pizza, sandwiches, steak and potatoes. These foods become engrained choices and intergenerational ways our population makes food choices. We lack opportunities to be exposed to new, healthy foods that could change this. Aside from fairly sports-centric youth activities, physical activities among adults are infrequent. As a result, our population is overweight and unhealthy. – Community Leader
  - Cost of eating well and staying active cost money which our community does not have. – Physician

- Is there knowledge to be passed down and shared through education?
- Any statistical data
- Director is currently VACANT

**Public Input:**

Summarizing results from speaking with community leaders, physicians, public health professionals about top health concerns:

- Education about healthy lifestyles and access to healthy food option
- Lack of education and activities. Finances and access to healthy food. Very long winters.
- Need more fun free programs to promote healthy living

Where does community outreach occur?

*Facebook, Montana Standard*

How are families being connected with?

*School district, Butte 4C, Office Public assistance*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ People seem to think that fast food or convenience foods are cheaper than groceries. Transportation to grocery stores is a significant obstacle for those who do not have vehicles. It is challenging for individuals who cannot afford gym memberships to be physically active during the long winters. – Public Health Representative</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Wellness</b></p> <p><i>health status of a community, and individuals that live in it, as it relates to access to affordable and effective options for quality of life.</i></p> <p>Residents may have desires to be healthier and to eat better but may not be aware of how to do that or have the means to make that happen.</p> <p><b>Current Programs:</b></p> <p>SNAP-Ed, Hospital wellness courses, mental health offerings in the public schools, wellness program at Montana Tech, YMCA snack program, Anaconda</p>	<p><b>Environment (Built and Natural)</b></p> <p><i>Built and natural surrounding conditions that include both natural environment and built space in which a person or animal lives</i></p> <p>Butte has a hard climate in which to grow food outdoors year-round and there is public concern about the soil health and appropriateness of growing food in-ground.</p> <p><b>Current programs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Residential metals abatement program - test soils, will focus on garden area if there is one</li> <li>● Park Street Community garden (more public), Whittier School garden (only for school district, but could be made into a community garden) - 50 foot</li> </ul>

Community Foundation - Farmer's market, community grant activity

Physical accessibility to wellness resources

**Limitations:**

- Attitudes of residents about health and wellness
- Hospital might not have nutrition classes
- Only nutrition classes offered through SNAP-Ed
- Mental Health resources - adults and children
- Lack of systemic support in schools for nutritional/wellness support - schools could be interested, but don't currently have the resources
- Community driven wellness/nutrition groups

**Public Input:**

Community Health Assessment:

- Health Literacy
  - Most surveyed adults in Butte-Silver Bow are found to have a *moderate level of health literacy*.
    - Low health literacy is defined as those respondents who "Seldom/Never" find written or spoken health information easy to understand, and/or who "Always/Nearly Always" need help reading health information, and/or who

hoop house - might need rain catchment to manage the water issues

- Emma street - there are typically unclaimed plots
- Marijuana growers have institutional knowledge of cultivation and have access to some growing parts.

**Public Input**

Environmental Concerns

- Most residents have environment-related concerns for the Butte-Silver Bow community — 22.5% consider environmental concerns to be a "major problem," and another 32.6% consider these a "moderate problem."
- DISPARITY ► The prevalence of "major problem" ratings is significantly higher among men and young adults.

**WATER QUALITY - Bottom Third**

- 88.3% of people are exposed to violations (1.1% US median average)
- Percentage of the population getting water from public water systems with at least one health-based violation during the past year: measured at the county scale, lower values are better

*There is a lot of data on soil contaminants.*

- *Uptown and Walkerville are most heavily impact from historic mining with lead and arsenic being the primary contaminants*

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are “Not At All Confident” in filling out health forms.

- A total of **17.7% are determined to have low health literacy.**

- Health Status

- Most Butte-Silver Bow residents rate their overall health favorably (responding “excellent,” “very good,” or “good”).
  - The initial inquiry of the PRC Community Health Survey asked: “Would you say that in general your health is: Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair, or Poor?”
- However, 12.7% of Butte-Silver Bow adults believe that their overall health is “fair” or “poor.”

Mental Health -

- Mental Health

- Most respondents rate their mental health favorably (“excellent,” “very good,” or “good”).
  - “Now thinking about your mental health, which includes stress, depression, and problems with emotions, would you say that, in general, your mental health is:

- The Residential Metals Abatement Program (RMAP) tracks all of their work and have been promising to provide a public database, but we have yet to see it. There are privacy concerns that have made it difficult.

- *Samples at three depths down 10 18 inches and deeper for identified garden plots*
- Soon, RMAP testing will be available to almost anyone in Silver Bow County, thus far it has only been for residents in BPSOU.
- *Soil testing opportunities:* Private lab through MSU Extension / RMAP

*Potential Community Impact:* There could be more education related to soil health in the area as well as how to get soils tested.

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Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair, or Poor?

- However, 11.4% believe that their overall mental health is “fair” or “poor.”
- A total of **26.3% of Butte-Silver Bow adults have been diagnosed by a physician as having a depressive disorder** (such as depression, major depression, dysthymia, or minor depression).
  - BENCHMARK ► Higher than the US prevalence.
- A total of **31.8% of Butte-Silver Bow adults have had two or more years in their lives when they felt depressed or sad on most days**, although they may have felt okay sometimes (symptoms of chronic depression).
  - DISPARITY ► Highest among women and especially adults in low-income households.
- In Butte-Silver Bow, there were **38.0 suicides per 100,000 population** (2016-2018 annual average age-adjusted rate).
  - BENCHMARK ► Considerably higher than the state rate and nearly three times the US rate.

- TREND ► Marks an overall increasing trend, consistently above state and US rates throughout the past decade
- Among Butte-Silver Bow respondents, **17.6% have ever considered suicide.**
  - DISPARITY ► Higher among adults under 65 and particularly those in low-income households.
- In Butte-Silver Bow in 2019, there were **540.1 mental health providers for every 100,000 population.**
  - BENCHMARK ► Well above the state and US ratios.
- A total of 1.4% of Butte-Silver Bow adults report a time in the past year when they needed mental health services but were not able to get them.
  - BENCHMARK ► Notably lower than the US prevalence.
  - DISPARITY ► Highest among adults age 40 to 64

**Public Input:**

- *Nutrition*
  - Emphasizing nutrition and physical activity is tough when many members of our community struggle to meet their basic needs. We need

<p>to promote wellness (good nutrition and importance of being active) for those who are impoverished. And we need to promote the same for children in our community, who often also live in poverty and are dependent on caretakers that lack education regarding good nutrition and exercise. – Community Leader</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Adequate nutrition and weight management are difficult to find resources for. There are only a couple gyms in the community, and they are usually full and overpriced. Nutrition education is not available unless you're utilizing SNAP, TANF, and WIC as a resource or are willing to pay an unreasonable amount for education. Healthy choices for eating in the community are limited. – Public Health Representative</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Policy</b></p> <p><i>principles or actions that have been adopted by governments, businesses and individuals to guide decisions and achieve rational outcomes.</i></p> <p><b>Opportunities:</b></p> <p>Local:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Wellness policy at the schools</li> </ul>	<p><b>Economy</b></p> <p><i>wealth and resources of a community or region that relate to the development and consumption of goods and services.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Are there many food related or agriculture related jobs?</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pro-business policies that could affect food systems i.e craft malt - tax incentives</li> </ul> <p>State -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Education with the policy makers and legislators - talking outside of the sessions</li> <li>● Grow Montana - thinking about revenue, innovating edge - Butte should be part of this - trying to advance a Farm to School bill this session - working on adapting the language to be a grant program through OPI - competitive grant program</li> <li>● No Kid Hungry</li> <li>● Montana Food Bank Network</li> </ul> <p>National -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● National School Lunch and Breakfast program</li> </ul> <p><b>Limitations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Wellness policy at schools - not all guidelines are followed consistently</li> <li>● Language - how policies are drafted, not actually edited to changed from year to year</li> <li>● Language in all policies related to being required to buy local foods</li> <li>● Education with the policy makers and legislators - talking outside of the sessions</li> <li>● Montana Tech doesn't have a local food procurement requirement</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Input:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What is the income of agricultural products in this area?</li> </ul> <p><b>Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SARTA - Super Fund Authorization ..... They funded the school gardens</li> <li>● Restoration and remediation work - helps with soil health</li> <li>● Growth Through agriculture program</li> <li>● Agriculture Adaptability Grant</li> <li>● Headwaters - Joe Wilhem - BLDC- Butte local development</li> <li>● CFAC - Missoula - two producer grant funds - "Field Tested"</li> <li>● Kiva Funding cycle - pitch contest, can provide VC funding</li> <li>● Stimulus funding from COVID</li> <li>● Cottage Food Production Workshop</li> </ul> <p><b>Limitations:</b></p> <p><b>Public Input:</b></p>
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## Tactics Review

Production	
<p><b>Backyard Gardens</b></p> <p><i>Grow your own, at home: integrate food plants with ornamental plants; promote healthy lifestyle by growing fresh plants or having small livestock in your backyard.</i></p> <p><b>Opportunities:</b></p> <p>There could be much more education to individuals on how to grow their own food in their yards.</p> <p><b>Potential Community Impact:</b></p> <p>Hosting educational programs for gardens for gardening, composting, and nutrition would assist in many different community impacts for improved wellness.</p>	<p><b>School Gardens</b></p> <p><i>Grow, Teach and Share: Students and teachers participate in activities in the environment and engage in growing food. This offers education to multiple disciplines: math, sciences, English, and nutrition.</i></p> <p><b>Opportunities:</b> There isn't currently a community/school garden coordinator. FoodCorps ran the school gardens from 2014-2019.</p> <p><b>Opportunities:</b> <i>Whittier Elementary has Multiple outdoor raised beds and ability to grow more-- just need investment and time!!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The garden has little buy-in from school food services and the school.</li><li>● One person does not have the time to take care of a garden that size unless it is their only responsibility</li></ul> <p>Recommendation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Converting into a School "Community" Garden have folks from outside the school step in and take over</li><li>● West Elementary<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Good sized courtyard garden<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Multiple raised beds</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>

- Seating areas
    - Sprinkler system
  - Investment
    - Garden has a few school champions -- definitely more buy in than Whittier
  - Recommendation
    - Keeping teachers on track
- Kennedy Elementary
  - Small raised bed with covering & 2 tower gardens
  - Investment
    - One year of FoodCorps-- wasn't able to establish a solid champion or network to continue
  - Recommendation
    - Have a meeting with teachers have a few classes who take the garden on as a yearly project
    - Summer maintenance -- Courtney up to hand watering in the summer -- potential to work with CSCT

***Potential Community Impact:***

After participating in School Gardens or Farm to School programs, students are more willing to taste fruits and vegetables; 98% of children enjoy tasting new fruits and vegetables, and 90% have stated they enjoy working in the garden.

<p><b>Community Gardens</b>  <i>Grow your own: designed public space for individuals and families to grow their own food; many different options exist: rentable plots, open to all, giving gardens for donation, etc.</i></p> <p><b>Opportunities:</b>  It sounds like there could be spaces within the city that could be more effectively used as a community garden spot.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Park Street Community garden, Whitter and Emma street all could be made more accessible to the public and often have unclaimed spots.</li> <li>● Community gardens might not have the support they need - current state of this (Can NCAT/SIFT Farm support this?)</li> <li>● Money and activity on land reclamation - potential funding sources?</li> </ul> <p><b>Limitations:</b>  Public may not be comfortable trusting the soil  High elevation/climate - people don't know how to grow here  Super Fund site - fear of soil and water - might contribute to people not growing food</p> <p><b>Public Input:</b></p> <p><b>Potential Community Impact:</b></p>	<p><b>Incubator Farms</b>  <i>Assist new and beginning farmers to establish their own successful farm business. Typically programs include training on successful business tactics and sharing resources. Farms rely on land-based areas for training and include multiple-growers on site. Additionally, trainers and experts can be housed or consulted to teach various technical practices of farming.</i></p> <p><b>Potential Community Impact:</b> New opportunity for beginning farmers: : 50% of US farmers will retire over the next decade Potential to attract new demographics to the area: new farmers are less likely than established farmers to come from a farm background.</p>
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<p>Community gardens have been shown to be a catalyst for neighborhood development and beautification and have opportunities to promote self-reliance, access to more nutritious foods thus creating lower food budget costs. Community gardens also promote additional recreation opportunities and green space improvements that can minimize heat island effects.</p>	
<p><b>Urban Farms</b>  <i>Farm in the city: City land maximized to offer land, buildings and rooftops for growing food. This allows for local food outputs in the city, and new opportunities for farmers and consumers.</i>  <b>Opportunities:</b>  <b>Limitations:</b>  <b>Public Input:</b></p>	<p><b>Rural Farms</b>  <i>Sustainable farms: Farms often operate at a larger scale than urban farms, and care essential to our food system for production and growth; promote environmental, and stewardship practices.</i>  <b>Opportunities:</b>  <b>Limitations:</b>  <b>Public Input:</b></p>
<p><b>Edible Landscapes</b>  <i>Combine form and function to create practical and edible environments in communities. Edible landscapes build up the environment, increase diversity, and improve food security and horticulture therapy through a connection to nature. Edible landscapes are unique because they incorporate various forms of food such as: fruit trees, berries, herbs, and vegetables with ornamentals.</i>  <b>Potential Community Impact:</b> Currently only 37% of households nationwide have gardens, by offering public access to foods it can improve food security and decreased miles traveled for fruits and vegetables; opportunity to connect with park systems and vacant plots for food access Offers healthy food access within public realms of the city.</p>	<p><b>Community Supported Agriculture</b>  <i>A partnership between farmers and community members working together to create a local food system. There is shared risk of production, allowing for producers to concentrate on growing food and caring for the land and for consumers to receive ultra-fresh, and often times, unique produce and recipes for cooking.</i>  <b>Opportunities:</b>  <b>Limitations:</b>  <b>Public Input:</b>  <b>Potential Community Impact:</b> Consumers can save up to %39 by purchasing from CSA vs. supermarkets, and the sale goes to a member in the community, with a high likelihood that those dollars will also stay within the</p>

	community. 2 farms currently marketing through a CSA: may be opportunity to continue to grow direct markets.
<b>Processing</b>	
<b>Shared-use kitchens</b> <b>Opportunities:</b> <b>Limitations:</b> <b>Public Input:</b>	<b>CSA - Community Supported Agriculture</b> <i>A partnership between farmers and community members working together to create a local food system. There is a shared risk of production, allowing for producers to concentrate on growing food and caring for the land and for consumers to receive ultra-fresh, and oftentimes, unique produce and recipes for cooking.</i> <b>Opportunities:</b> <b>Limitations:</b> <b>Public Input:</b>
<b>Brewery</b> <b>Opportunities:</b> <b>Limitations:</b> <b>Public Input:</b>	<b>Bakery</b> <b>Opportunities:</b> <b>Limitations:</b> <b>Public Input:</b>
<b>Food enterprise center</b> <b>Opportunities:</b> <b>Limitations:</b> <b>Public Input:</b>	<b>Processing Facilities + Mobile Processing Units</b> Physically or chemically altering foods to add value. Processing facilities work with everything from produce to dairy to meat and array of activities from mincing to emulsifying to cooking and preserving. This is a way for farmers to add-value to their product, but can be a large investment. Independent processing centers can help establish economic growth and opportunities. Mobile slaughter units (MSUs) go directly to farms and can generate creative, niche markets for both animal and

	produce. Since Mobile Processing Units go directly to farm or specific locations, they offer locally processed, locally raised products. P
<b>Distribution and Marketing</b>	
<p><b>Restaurants</b>  <i>Builds infrastructure for effective local food shed by increasing the availability of local food from producers to consumers. The demand for local food is rising as customers are embracing the need for increased local food options. Customers are demanding locally sourced protein and produce, environmentally sustainable options, healthy meals, and many restaurants even have their own personalized gardens.</i></p> <p><b>Opportunities:</b>          Aside from the Hummingbird cafe, it seems that restaurants are not typically purchasing local food or using distributors who focus on Montana producers</p> <p><b>Limitations:</b></p> <p><b>Public Input:</b></p>	<p><b>Farmer's Market</b>  <i>Existing city space is re-used as a market for all individuals to socialize and purchase fresh and affordable products that reflect regional and community diversity. Farmers Markets bridge social gaps and create access to affordable, healthy food choices in urban and rural communities.</i></p> <p><b>Coalition Discussion:</b>          This market could be extended through November - producers still have product till later, network with more producers outside of direct area - encourage Bozeman producers to come on off weekends from their market</p> <p><b>Opportunities:</b></p> <p><b>Limitations:</b>          Not open year round          Seniors can only use their coupons at the markets          This is the only place to use Double Dollars</p> <p><b>Public Input:</b></p>
<p><b>Food Trucks</b>  <i>Food trucks promote food access through creative ways: restaurants on wheels; they also provide a strong cultural</i></p>	<p><b>Grocery Stores</b></p> <p><b>Coalition Research:</b></p>

*identity for the community. Food trucks offer unique ways of incorporating economic development into the food system through incorporation of mobile food vending for diverse backgrounds and cultural experiences.*

**Opportunities:**

Disability food truck is a wonderful community asset

**Limitations:**

**Public Input:**

**Potential Community Impact:** The average food truck start-up requires between \$55,000-75,000: about \$200,000- 400,000 less than bricks and mortar. • Economic Development Generation: In 2012 \$650 million in revenue was generated from food trucks-approximately 1 percent of the total U.S. restaurant sales. It is expected that by 2017, food trucks will generate 3-4 percent of the revenue, or about \$2.7 billion Food trucks offer a business model with relatively low start-up cost that assists persons with diverse backgrounds and socioeconomic status

Montana items that are sold at 3 grocery stores:

- A Vegetable
- A Fruit
- Grains
  - Bread
  - Pasta or Legume
  - Cereal
- Protein
  - Ground beef
  - Whole Chicken
- Dairy
  - Cheese
  - Eggs
  - Milk

**Opportunities:**

Support the stores through marketing that are carrying local products

- Dancing Rainbow
- Western Meat Block
- Excelsior Meats

**Limitations:**

Not taking double dollars or senior coupons  
Limited selection of local Montana produce

**Public Input:**

**ACCESS TO GROCERY STORES AND FARMERS' MARKETS - Middle Third**

- .7 stores and markets (0.0 US Median Average)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of grocery stores and farmers' markets within a half-mile: measured at the neighborhood scale, higher values are better</li> </ul>
<p><b>Food Boxes</b>  <i>Aggregate products from producers or farmers (meat, vegetables, fruit, etc.) into a box that allows customers to have easy access to local and regional food. Boxes are typically offered on a weekly basis for customer. Allow for community members of in all income levels to enjoy fresh, healthy, regionally-sourced products at a retail rate.</i></p> <p><b>Opportunities:</b>          USDA Farmers Boxes          SIFT Farm - senior boxes - senior center across the street</p> <p><b>Limitations:</b>          Farmers to families probably going to end in June - also the pick-up location didn't always make people feel safe.</p> <p><b>Public Input:</b></p> <p><b>Potential community impact:</b>          Offers free fresh produce to community members. Could potential build new business for any farmers who want to contribute</p>	<p><b>Food Hubs</b>  <i>Food Hubs are a bridge between consumers, buyers, producers and food businesses. They provide a middle ground for the food system. This business or organization manages aggregation, distribution, and marketing of products that are primarily from local or regional producers.</i></p> <p><b>Opportunities:</b></p> <p><b>Limitations:</b></p> <p><b>Public Input:</b></p>
<h2>Consumption and Access</h2>	
<p><b>Awareness campaigns</b>  <i>Marketing campaigns build public support for a particular issue that an organization seeks to resolve or get behind. Typically, the campaign is a comprehensive effort between multiple partners. A campaign should speak to a targeted</i></p>	<p><b>Farm to School</b>  <i>Implementation for farm to school can include procurement from local farmers, education on agriculture, food, health and nutrition, and school gardening where kids have an opportunity to learn through hands-on experiences. The</i></p>

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*audience and seek out a particular action. for social behavior improvements.*

**Opportunities:**

- Soil awareness and testing
- Backyard gardening

**Limitations:**

**Public Input:**

**Potential Community Impact:** Awareness campaigns can affect behaviors of individuals, or build relationships that change lives. Strategic development of campaigns can have lasting positive impacts on building awareness for a particular organization, initiative, or topic.

*goal for farm to school is for children, producers and communities to be vibrant.*

**Opportunities:**

There was strong consistent programming with FoodCorps support until 2019. There is not currently someone within the schools who is running this type of programming.

With significant planning and funding, this could be started again in the Butte schools

**Limitations:**

**Public Input:**

**Potential Community Impact:** *Financial opportunity for producers and processors by opening the door to an institutional market; average 5% increase in income from farm to school sales for individual farmers Provides education on nutrition, high quality local food for children and enhances classroom education through hands-on learning Reduces carbon footprint and enhances environmental quality through school gardens and composting programs*

**Food system policy council**

*Bring together multiple community sectors around common goals for the community food system. Food policy councils support communities in their efforts to rebuild, with existing community assets, local and regional food systems. This collaboration assists partners within various scales of communities to move forward in food system change through coordinated efforts for policy change. Food policy councils defend and articulate the priorities of the*

**Food banks and pantries**

*Offer dry, cooled and freezer storage space for distribution to individuals. Many food banks serve partner agencies (pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters). Food within the food banks are donated from food drives, individual donations, retail donations and other sources. Food banks store and have direct service programs and partner agencies to give out food to individuals in need.*

<p><i>community that inform local and regional policies to continue to enhance the opportunity for implementation of local food systems.</i></p> <p><b>Opportunities:</b> This Coalition could potentially become a food policy council.</p> <p><b>Limitations:</b></p> <p><b>Public Input:</b></p> <p><b>Potential Community Impact:</b> Number of food policy councils nearly doubled from 111 councils in 2010 to 193 councils in 2012: representing and advocating for health, environmental sustainability, economic viability and socially just food systems.</p>	<p><b>Opportunities:</b> Butte Food Bank</p> <p><b>Potential Community Impact:</b> Food banks are community leaders and assist people in need. Food banks are also able to advocate for programs that are at the root causes of poverty. Food banks provide meals by looking into opportunities for wasted food; provide services for disaster release and targeted programs for children and seniors, and lead in the fight against hunger by raising awareness, advocating for food-insecure individuals and conducting research.</p>
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**Resource Management**

<p><b>Food recovery</b> <i>Bridge between food waste and fighting hunger. Food recovery works to offer opportunities for individuals, organizations, and farmers to donate food that is not used rather than throwing it away. This can be done through gleaning programs at farms or supermarkets where non-sold goods are donated to food banks; or can be offered through new programs like phone applications where individuals and businesses can link up with food banks and food pantries for needed donations of food.</i></p> <p><b>Opportunities:</b></p> <p><b>Limitations:</b></p>	<p><b>Community Compost</b> <i>Bridge between food waste and fighting hunger. Food recovery works to offer opportunities for individuals, organizations, and farmers to donate food that is not used rather than throwing it away. This can be done through gleaning programs at farms or supermarkets where non-sold goods are donated to food banks; or can be offered through new programs like phone applications where individuals and businesses can link up with food banks and food pantries for needed donations of food.</i></p> <p><b>Opportunities:</b></p>
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<p><b>Public Input:</b>  <b>Potential Community Impact:</b> Provide additional means for individuals to have access to nutritious foods Allow for additional venues for volunteer programs and organizations to give back to their community</p>	<p>The city has some composting that it is doing</p> <p><b>Limitations:</b>  <b>Public Input:</b>  <b>Potential Community Impact:</b> <i>Allow for additional venues for volunteer programs and organizations to give back to their community Promote sustainability and using food in all of its potential.</i></p>
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For more information: [www.westernsare.org](http://www.westernsare.org) - 406-994-4785



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