



# Economic Development Workshop & Local Foods Mixer

June 29, 2017

1:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

UGA Extension Office  
125 Pine Avenue, Albany



scottjay / iStock photo

Would you like to know how local / regional food systems fit into a comprehensive economic development strategy?

Please join Growing Food Connections and the Dougherty County Steering Committee for an afternoon workshop on “Economic Development.” A Fresh Foods Mixer follows the workshop.

## Workshop Goals

- Foster communication about economic development strategies to benefit all sectors of Dougherty County;
- Explore the economic impacts of investing in food system infrastructure;
- Provide information on successful approaches and diverse tools for incorporating food systems in the economic development strategy for Dougherty County;
- Review the goals of the Albany–Dougherty Comprehensive Plan to evaluate the diverse factors that can strengthen and grow the economy.

## Speakers

**Paul Forgey**, Albany-Dougherty County Planning

**Julia Freedgood**, American Farmland Trust

**Shirley Sherrod**, Southwest Georgia Project

**Justin Strickland**, Albany-Dougherty County  
Economic Development Corporation

**Kent Wolfe**, University of Georgia

**Theresa Zawacki**, City of Louisville, Kentucky

## Fresh Foods Mixer

After the meeting, join us for a taste testing and meet fresh food vendors from around southwest Georgia. The Mixer is sponsored by the Southwest Georgia Project for Community Education, Inc.

There is no cost to attend. For more information and to register, contact James Morgan at [morganjl@uga.edu](mailto:morganjl@uga.edu) or 229.436.7216.



## What is Growing Food Connections?

Growing Food Connections is an integrated USDA-funded research, extension and education initiative to improve community food security and support local farmers. Through trainings, technical assistance and capacity building, this initiative helps local governments and their partners create, implement and ultimately sustain food system plans and policies that simultaneously improve community food security and foster a viable agricultural sector.

Dougherty County was selected as GFC Communities of Opportunity following a competitive national search because of its need, capacity, and readiness to address food system challenges. The Local Food and Economic Development Workshop on June 29 will focus on the following goals and outcomes developed by the Growing Food Connections steering committee in Dougherty County.

### Dougherty County's Growing Food Connections Vision

“Connect community to create viable and sustainable food systems that economically and culturally nourish our community with access to local food and education through partnership with government, producers, and consumers.”



Pecan Grove / University of Georgia Extension photo

#### DOUGHERTY COUNTY STEERING COMMITTEE

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Angie Barber</b><br>Phoebe Putney Network of Trust & School Nurse Program | <b>Michael McCoy</b><br>Dougherty County Board of Commissioners          |
| <b>Pam Barkley</b><br>Landmark Auto Sales                                    | <b>James Morgan</b><br>Dougherty County Extension                        |
| <b>Amber Bell</b><br>Southwest Georgia Project                               | <b>Anne Mu'min</b><br>Muhammad's Farm                                    |
| <b>Rozanne Braswell</b><br>City of Albany                                    | <b>Juby Phillips</b><br>Food Coalition Advocate                          |
| <b>Stephen Brimberry</b><br>Tift Park Community Market                       | <b>Barbara Reddick</b><br>SWGA Regional Commission                       |
| <b>Cindy Drew</b><br>Dougherty County Farm Bureau                            | <b>Daayah Salaam</b><br>Albany Technical College                         |
| <b>Jana Dyke</b><br>Sylvester Farmers Market                                 | <b>Carolyn Segers</b><br>Development Services and Code Enforcement       |
| <b>Paul Forgey</b><br>Development Services and Code Enforcement              | <b>Shirley Sherrod</b><br>Southwest Georgia Project                      |
| <b>Charlie Grace</b><br>Fort Valley State University                         | <b>Justin Strickland</b><br>Albany/Dougherty Economic Development Center |
| <b>Remy Hutchins</b><br>Southwest Georgia Public Health District 8-2         | <b>Doug Wilson</b><br>Georgia Water Planning & Policy Center             |
| <b>Cornelius Key</b><br>Federation of Southern Cooperatives                  |  |

#### GROWING FOOD CONNECTIONS PARTNERSHIP



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Making Great Communities Happen