

City of Kamloops | September 2015



Food and Urban Agriculture Plan

Harvesting Our Potential

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department
Development and Engineering Services Department

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Acknowledgements

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- H. Hothi, food distribution, processing, and retail sector;
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- A. Grube, Kamloops Regional Farmers' Market Society;
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Special thanks to D. Wycherley and F. Blom for participating as the committee's Chair and alternate Chair, respectively.

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Funders

- City of Kamloops; and
- Plan H - Healthy Communities Capacity Building Fund.



Stakeholders

The following list of organizations, agencies and departments have been consulted and will play a leading or supporting role in the implementation of certain action items within this plan:

- Breastfeeding Matters in Kamloops;
- Chamber of Commerce;
- Community Futures Thompson Country;
- Conservation Officer Service;
- Farm2Chefs;
- Farm to School;
- Interior Community Services;
- Interior Health;
- Kamloops Central Business Improvement Association;
- Kamloops Communities in Bloom Committee;
- Kamloops Food Bank;
- Kamloops Food Policy Council;
- Kamloops Innovation;
- Kamloops Organics Food Buying Club;
- Kamloops Regional Farmers' Market Society;
- Ministry of Agriculture;
- North Shore Business Improvement Association;
- School District No. 73;



- Tourism Kamloops;
- Thompson Nicola Regional District;
- Thompson Shuswap Master Gardeners;
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- Thompson Rivers University;
- Visions Farmers' Market;
- Venture Kamloops;
- Various food retail-related businesses, including grocery stores, restaurants, and food trucks;
- Various non-profit organizations not listed above; and
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Community

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Executive Summary

The City has been working to support a sustainable food system in Kamloops for many years. City involvement in local food and urban agriculture has taken many forms - community gardens, public produce projects, ecological integrated pest management education, Social Planning Grants to non-profit urban agriculture projects, edible landscaping, subsidized composters, Activity Guide programs, support to the Kamloops Regional Farmers' Market, and participation on the Kamloops Food Policy Council. The Food and Urban Agriculture Plan: Harvesting Our Potential (FUAP) encapsulates all of the ongoing work that the City does to promote food security in our community and provides policy direction moving forward. As established by the plan's 18-member advisory committee, the vision for the FUAP is for Kamloops to become a leader in urban agriculture and sustainable food systems.

A number of previous municipal planning documents have called for the development of the FUAP. Food security was a priority area within the Kamloops Social Plan (2009) and one of 16 key component areas within the Sustainable Kamloops Plan (SKP) (2010). The plan was recommended in the SKP and in subsidiary plans, including the Airshed Management Plan (2013) and the Agriculture Area Plan (2013).

The FUAP planning process was initiated by Council in early 2014. The advisory committee featured a diverse group of food system stakeholders, community partners, a Council representative, and City staff.

Between June 2014 and June 2015, extensive stakeholder and public engagement phases were completed. This plan was developed and based, in part, on input provided through this process, combined with research into best practices and promising approaches in other municipalities.

The FUAP utilizes a systems approach, with goals, strategies, and actions placed within an interconnected food systems framework model. There are six key component areas for the plan, each with corresponding goals, overarching strategies, and action items that provide policy direction for the City moving forward. The component areas, goals, and strategies are shown in the table below:

Area 1: Food Production and Land Availability	
Goal: Increase sustainable urban and local food production.	Strategy 1.1 - Utilize existing land and infrastructure for sustainable food production.
	Strategy 1.2 - Review zoning and other regulations to support urban and local agriculture.
	Strategy 1.3 - Support increased accessibility of local food production.
Area 2: Food Processing and Preparing	
Goal: Increase opportunities for processing and preparation of locally sourced foods.	Strategy 2.1 - Support commercial and community-based food processing facilities.



Area 3: Food Distribution, Retail, and Access	
Goal: Increase access to healthy and local foods for all sectors of the population.	Strategy 3.1 - Review regulations and policies to support local purchasing.
	Strategy 3.2 - Expand networks to support the economic sustainability of the food system.
	Strategy 3.3 - Promote farmers' markets and business models that provide fresh foods and support local producers.
	Strategy 3.4 - Utilize social media and online resources.
	Strategy 3.5 - Increase access to healthy local food for food-insecure populations.
Area 4: Cooking, Eating and Celebrating Food	
Goal: Celebrate and build upon our agricultural heritage and present day food system successes.	Strategy 4.1 - Celebrate our agriculture heritage.
	Strategy 4.2 - Build on food system success stories and existing resources.
	Strategy 4.3 - Promote the local food system through place-making efforts.
Area 5: Food Waste and Resource Management	
Goal: Support environmentally conscious approaches to managing water, food waste, and soil resources.	Strategy 5.1 - Pursue innovations in water usage.
	Strategy 5.2 - Reduce and recycle food waste and build healthy soils.
Area 6: Education, Governance, and Capacity Building	
Goal: Increase public awareness and community capacity to advance food systems sustainability.	Strategy 6.1 - Promote and facilitate knowledge transfer and skill development.
	Strategy 6.2 - Utilize existing resources for food system education.
	Strategy 6.3 - Utilize partnerships to build capacity for food system health and sustainability.
	Strategy 6.4 - Promote food system education for specific population groups.
	Strategy 6.5 - Encourage food systems research.



Report Structure

Following an introduction, the FUAP provides vision and mission statements developed in partnership with the project's 18-member advisory committee and a backgrounder on food systems planning, urban agriculture, the framework used, current community capacity, and the municipal policy context in which this plan has emerged. The plan development process, including the stakeholder and public input gathering phases, is described. The core of this document - the goals, strategies, and action items to guide current and future work - are accompanied by brief descriptions, lists of lead and supporting partners, and recommended timelines for implementation. A brief section on implementation and reporting concludes the main document. Three appendices are included - a glossary of key terms, a bibliography, and several maps of food system assets and resources. These maps are also available on the City's Food Security web page in an interactive, user-friendly format.





1. Introduction

The food system encompasses the social, economic, and environmental pillars of sustainability. Urban agriculture and food systems planning has become increasingly prevalent in the sustainability and community planning fields, with Vancouver, New York City, Seattle, and Edmonton each adopting local food plans in recent years.

Following this global trend, the FUAP was initiated, following recommendations from previous municipal planning documents, including the Sustainable Kamloops Plan 2010 (SKP). The FUAP provides policy direction on urban agriculture and a broad range of issues related to food systems sustainability.

This plan was developed by City staff with the support of the Food and Urban Agriculture Plan Advisory Committee (FUAP-AC), a Council committee of local food system stakeholders, municipal staff, a Council representative, and members of the general public. The planning process has involved extensive research on best practices in food systems planning; a review of the local food system that looked at current internal and external capacities, resources, partnerships, and issues; and an extensive stakeholder and public consultation process.

Activities and events have included a stakeholder forum with over 100 participants, a mobile tour showcasing different examples of the local food system, a public survey completed by 647 community members, four open houses in local malls and other public spaces that were attended by hundreds of people, an extensive media campaign, and several meetings with stakeholder groups and community associations. Stakeholder and public input, combined with the research and review mentioned above, has led to the development of the FUAP.

The FUAP is intended to support Kamloops to become a leader in urban agriculture and food systems sustainability by providing goals, strategies, and action items to be implemented by the City and a diversity of community partners.





2. Vision and Mission

As part of the FUAP planning process, City staff and the advisory committee developed Vision and Mission Statements to guide the plan's goals and strategies. These are as follows:

Vision Statement:

Kamloops is a leader in sustainable food and urban agriculture systems.

Mission Statement:

The FUAP supports a sustainable local food and urban agriculture system based on the following principles:

- Healthy social and ecological relationships - where the City; local First Nations and urban Aboriginal peoples; education, health, and other institutions; businesses; community organizations; consumers; and producers work co-operatively to produce and celebrate food and to care for urban lands in an efficient, productive, and ecologically sound manner that is resilient to climate change impacts.
- A vibrant and equitable economic system - where people in Kamloops have the capacity to produce, prepare, preserve, process, sell, exchange, and purchase or otherwise obtain nutritious and locally or regionally produced food in ways that value producers, minimize waste, and diversify and strengthen our local economy.
- Support for education and skills training - where all people have the opportunity to learn about best practices in urban agriculture and the interrelationships between food, health, economic, ecological, energy, and other systems, and where food related knowledge and traditions are exchanged freely between generations, cultural groups, individuals, and institutions.



3. Background

3.1 Food Systems Planning

The FUAP takes a comprehensive approach to food policy making. This approach is called food systems planning and it is increasingly being used by local governments. By viewing the food system as a whole rather than as a series of separate sectors, food systems planning supports opportunities for increased sustainability and efficiency in a number of areas outside of traditional urban planning. Such opportunities include:

- Diverting organic food waste from municipal landfills and improving the productivity of local soils through composting at the household and community levels;
- Increasing community self-sufficiency in food production and strengthening the local economy through support for local agriculture, food processing, and the food retail sector;
- Reducing carbon emissions generated by transportation of imported food through institutional procurement policies, buy local campaigns, and urban agriculture;
- Improving environmental sustainability by promoting horticultural practices that support diverse and healthy ecosystems and reduce reliance on fossil fuel-based inputs;
- Supporting food security and reducing the potential for health issues associated with poor diets by improving access to fresh, healthy foods for all sectors of the population;
- Supporting community food security by promoting educational workshops and capacity-building initiatives, including community kitchens and social enterprises; and
- Fostering increased democratic participation by both producers and consumers to create a more resilient and culturally appropriate food system (i.e., to promote food sovereignty).

In addition to supporting opportunities for increased sustainability, food systems planning assists local governments in meeting broader objectives outlined in municipal sustainability plans, such as the SKP.



3.2 Urban Agriculture

While the FUAP looks at all aspects of the local food system, special emphasis is placed on urban agriculture. Broadly speaking, urban agriculture includes all types of food-producing activities that take place in the urban environment, including suburban areas and areas on the urban fringe. In addition to traditional home gardening for personal and family use, urban agriculture can take many forms, including the following:

- Urban farming - growing food in the City for the purpose of generating revenue or profit.
- SPIN farming (small plot intensive farming) - a method of urban farming that typically uses residential yard space to produce high-value, commercial grade food crops.
- Community gardens - parcels of land that are cultivated by multiple persons, either on individual small garden plots or collectively on a larger piece of land. Community gardens are often managed by non-profit societies and/or volunteer groups and may include greenhouses and public education components.
- Edible landscaping - the use of food-producing plants in landscaped areas instead of strictly ornamental plants. Edible landscaping can include the planting of berry bushes, vegetables, herbs, edible flowers, and other edible ornamentals into aesthetically pleasing designs.
- Rooftop gardening - producing food on top of buildings, either in containers or on a green roof, a building roof that is covered with vegetation and a growing medium, planted over a waterproofing membrane.

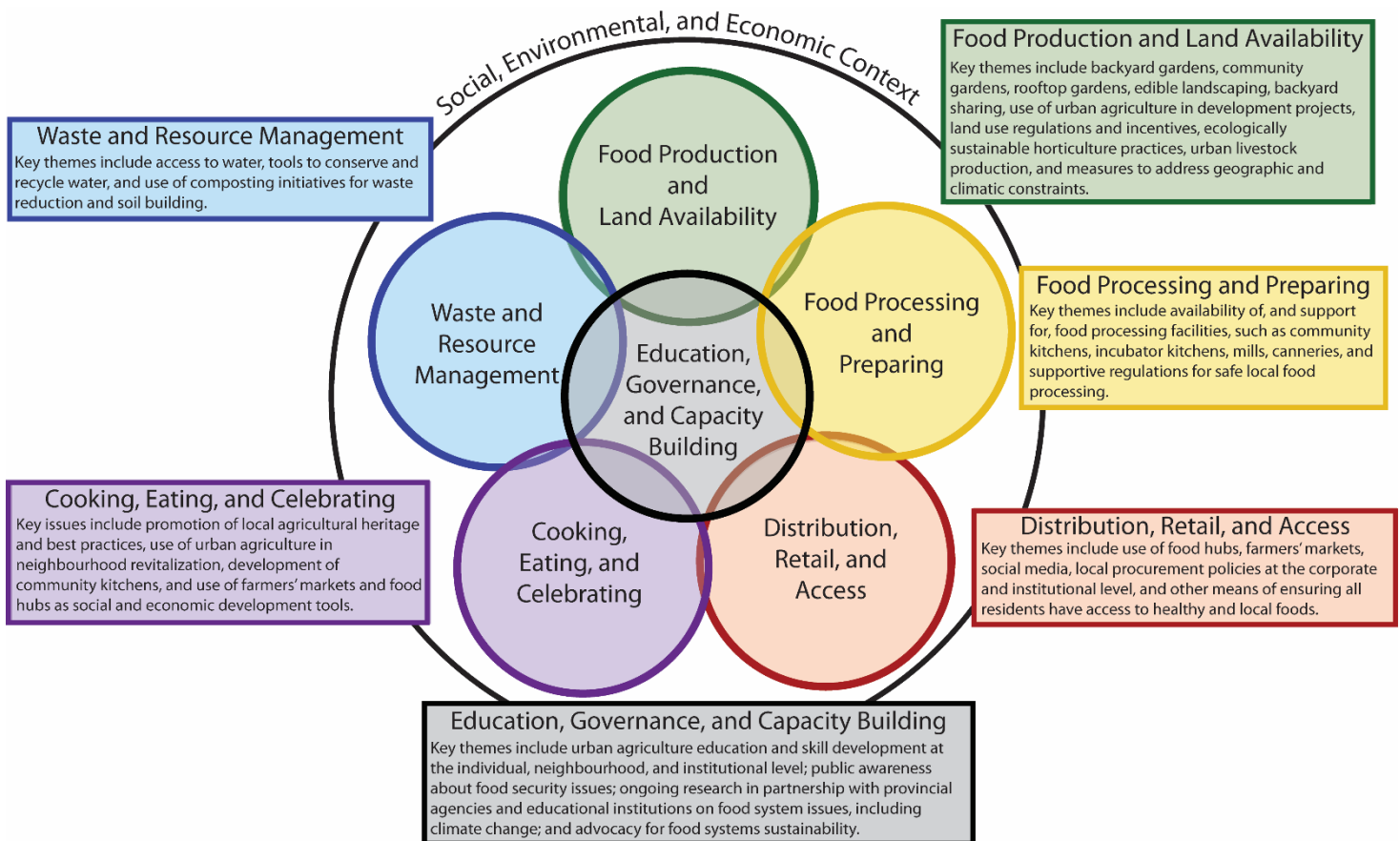
The benefits of urban agriculture are wide-ranging and include:

- Improving access to fresh, affordable, healthy food;
- Promoting physical exercise, mental health, social interaction, and improved quality of life through activities like community gardening;
- Promoting community education about diverse aspects of the local food system and ecology; and
- Promoting development of small businesses and stimulating the local economy.

3.3 Local Food System Framework

The FUAP utilizes a systems approach, where the various components of the food system are seen as interconnected and forming a continuous cycle. The component areas are framed within the broader social, environmental, and economic context in which we all live, and the component areas are connected through community-wide activities related to education, governance, and capacity building. Taken together, these components help support a more sustainable and equitable food system.

The following graphic provides an illustration of this framework and lists some key themes within each food system component area.





3.4 Food and Urban Agriculture in Kamloops: A Snapshot

As the previous diagram illustrates, local food systems are complex. In Kamloops, the food system plays an important part of the local economy, not to mention the City's social and ecological fabric. This section of the plan provides a brief overview of some of the key stakeholders and activities of the Kamloops food economy. The food asset maps featured in Appendix C provide a visual profile of the Kamloops food system.

Food Production and Land Availability



In 2011, there were 1,177 farms in the Kamloops region. Within city limits, agriculture operates on a wide range of scales, from large produce and dairy farms to smaller hobby gardens and market gardens.

At the urban level, food production occurs in 22 public and private community gardens, in the yards of many Kamloops residents, and on fruit trees throughout the city.

In addition to the work of individual farmers and residents, non-profit organizations, schools, developers, and landscape companies all play a role in promoting food production in the urban environment.

Food Processing and Preparing

Processing of food products occurs at various levels in Kamloops:

- Commercial enterprises are involved in processing activities such as bottling milk, salsa production, and baking breads and pastries;
- Individuals throughout the city are canning and preserving fruits and vegetables from private and community gardens; and
- Non-profit agencies, such as Interior Community Services, offer workshops and other activities to empower community members to can and preserve their own foods.





Food Distribution, Retail, and Access



The city's food distribution and retail sector includes three farmers' markets, 22 grocery stores, and 45 convenience and other stores offering food. For those wishing to eat outside the home, the city's 145 restaurants, 21 pubs, and six food trucks provide ample opportunities for local residents. Business organizations, such as the Chamber of Commerce, support food retail, while government agencies ensure that food is distributed safely. The local food economy in

Kamloops is estimated to be worth more than \$248 million per year, according to 2011 Statistics Canada census data.

In some cases, there are financial, geographic, or other barriers to accessing healthy food. In 2012, 12.7% of British Columbians experienced some level of household food insecurity, while in Kamloops, 3,855 individuals from 2,071 households accessed the Kamloops Food Bank between January and April 2014 alone. To increase local food security, community agencies provide emergency groceries and meals while empowering community members with the knowledge and skills needed to grow and prepare their own food.



Cooking, Eating, and Celebrating Food

Celebration of local food is happening across the city, in the gardens and on the tables of residents; in cooking programs organized by non-profit agencies; through the diverse range of cuisine of the city's restaurants; and through the commitment of restaurants, food trucks, and retailers to promoting local, regional, and BC-produced foods.

Special events, such as the Farm2Chefs grazing fundraiser, Canada Day celebration in Riverside Park, and Overlanders Day in McDonald Park, also celebrate local food culture.





Food Waste and Resource Management



In addition to the composting efforts of residents across Kamloops, the City's Cinnamon Ridge facility provides a large-scale means of composting domestic yard waste, Thompson Rivers University (TRU) utilizes an industrial mechanical composter to process food waste, and the City is spreading its Zero Waste Program from the Tournament Capital Centre to other civic facilities.

To avoid food waste, the Kamloops Food Bank repurposes edible fresh food for consumption by persons in need and delivers wasted produce to farmers for animal feed. Initiatives such as the Gleaning Abundance Program also seek to reduce food waste by distributing surplus produce from local trees and gardens to agencies that serve people in need.

Education, Governance, and Capacity Building

Improving the sustainability and security of the Kamloops food system cannot occur without education, governance, and capacity building at the community and institutional level. The City, local schools, and TRU, along with agencies like Interior Community Services, the Thompson Shuswap Master Gardeners, and the BC Honey Producers Association, are all engaged in food system education, awareness, and skill development.



At the governance level, the Kamloops Food Policy Council and Interior Health have historically advocated for food systems change, while the City has taken on an increased leadership role in food systems capacity building by supporting the development of community gardens, public produce projects, and food policy documents, such as the Agriculture Area Plan, and now, the FUAP.



3.5 Kamloops: the Local Policy Context

As noted above, food systems planning provides a means of advancing broader sustainability objectives outlined in other policy documents. The FUAP builds upon food and agriculture policy in the following local planning documents:

- **KAMPLAN:** The Official Community Plan 2004 (KAMPLAN) provides policy direction on a number of food-related issues, including encouragement of food production on public lands and development parcels, encouragement of initiatives aimed at food self-reliance, and promotion of businesses that improve access to locally produced affordable and nutritious food (KAMPLAN, Section 4, Quality of Life, and Section 5, Social Planning, Action Items 5.2.6-8, 5.2.10, 5.2.11, 5.2.14, 5.2.17, 5.2.19-20).
- The Kamloops Food Action Plan (2006), developed with provincial Community Food Action Initiative (CFAI) funding through a partnership between Interior Health (IH), the Kamloops Food Policy Council (KFPC), and the City, provides goals and actions relevant to four key areas of the "food action continuum": short-term relief actions, capacity-building strategies, food policy development and redesign, and economic development.
- **Best Practices in Urban Agriculture (2007)**, developed by TRUE Consulting for the KFPC through grants from ActNow BC and the CFAI, highlights best practices from various jurisdictions and provides the City with recommendations to support urban agriculture in the areas of community gardens, edible landscapes, policy, and strategic partnerships.
- The Kamloops Social Plan (2009) (KSP) recommends continued support for the objectives and food policy development strategies of the KFPC, in partnership with IH. The plan recommends support for a range of urban agriculture initiatives, partnerships to improve community food security, and awareness efforts to promote healthy food and eating (KSP, Section 2.5.3, Food Security - Emergency Food and Food Production Capacity).
- The Sustainable Kamloops Plan (2010) (SKP) recognizes food security as a key component of sustainability. The plan supports increasing the area contained in community gardens by 100% by 2020, with the goal of achieving four to five garden plots per 1,000 residents. The SKP supports the development of both an agriculture plan and a local food strategy (SKP, Section 4, Key Sustainability Components - Climate Change Adaptation, Land, Solid Waste, and Food Security sections).

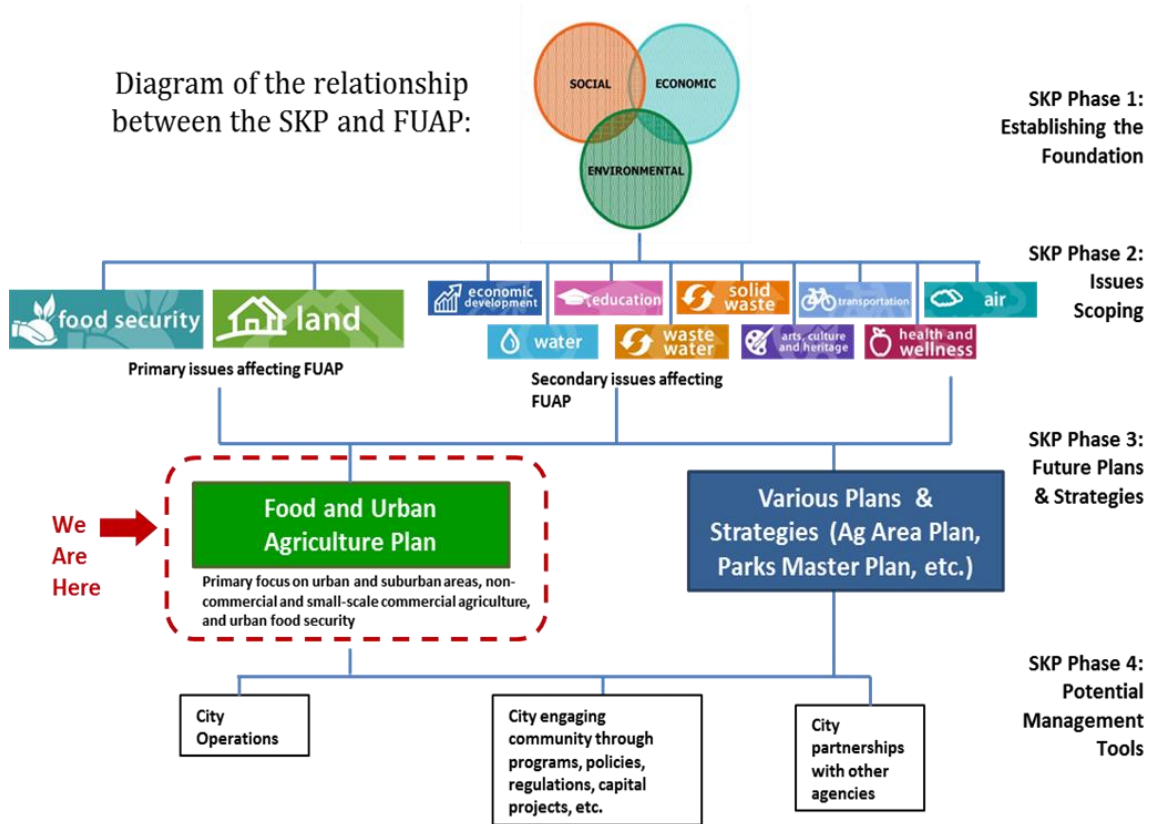


- The Airshed Management Plan (2013) (AMP) recommends a community-wide food strategy for the city and supports educational programming and marketing campaigns to encourage locally and regionally grown and processed products (AMP, Strategy 1, Actions 1 and 2).
- The Parks Master Plan (2013) (PMP) discusses the benefits of urban agriculture, the City's progress in developing community gardens, and existing urban agriculture strengths. The plan recommends the development of at least two permanent edible public produce demonstration gardens in the city, identification of a community garden location for the City Centre, and working with the KFPC on installation of edible plants in City and community parks for education purposes (PMP, Section 5.9, Urban Agriculture).
- The Agriculture Area Plan (2013) (AAP) identifies the development of an urban agriculture plan/community-wide food strategy as an immediate priority. The AAP states that the strategy could address issues such as urban hens, beekeeping, spin farming, public produce, support for urban gardening on underutilized City lots, and street trees that produce edible fruit. A number of FUAP action items link to actions within the AAP (AAP, action items 3, 10, 14, 17, 48, 52, and 55).



While the FUAP builds on all of the above noted planning documents, it is a subsidiary plan of the SKP. The relationship between the SKP as foundational with the FUAP, AAP, PMP, and AMP as subsidiary plans is illustrated by the following diagram:

SKP/FUAP Integration Matrix

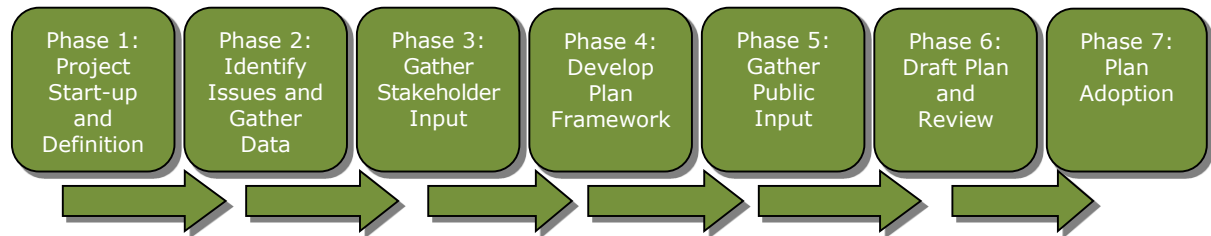


Note: While all of the above noted plans include recommendations related to food security and/or urban agriculture, the Action Items in Section 5 only make reference to the AAP, given the AAP's direct relevance to the FUAP.



4. Plan Development Process

The FUAP planning process involved a mix of research and various levels of consultation, as summarized by the following flow chart and described below:



Phase 1 - Project Start-up and Definition

The FUAP Advisory Committee (FUAP-AC) met for the first time in March 2014, following Council's appointment of two citizen at large members and representatives from both the food processing/distribution/retail sector and a local or regional farmers' market society. Voting members consisted of these individuals in addition to representatives from the KFPC, Thompson Shuswap Master Gardeners, the Kamloops Food Bank, and the First Nations Agricultural Association, all of whom were appointed by their own organizations. IH, School District No. 73 (SD73), Interior Community Services, and TRU each placed representatives on the FUAP-AC in non-voting advisor roles.

Initial work for the committee included participating in a visioning session to identify the project's vision and mission statements, drafting a Project Terms of Reference, and clarifying the scope and timelines of work to follow.

Phase 2 - Identify Issues and Gather Data

City staff then conducted a research and data collection phase to identify best practices and promising approaches in food systems planning (see Appendix B for a list of resources). City staff also developed several local food system asset maps. These maps (Appendix C) identify locations of edible trees and plants on public lands, community gardens and public produce sites, emergency food programs and resources, vacant lots with potential for urban agriculture, and food retailers. This phase also included a review of the local food system that looked at currently existing internal and external capacity, resources, partnerships, as well as key issues.



Phases 3 and 4 - Gather Stakeholder Input and Develop Plan Framework

Following this, City staff began meeting with food system stakeholders. The key event of the stakeholder consultation phase was a Stakeholder Forum held in June 2014 at the Interior Savings (now Sandman) Centre. Over 100 participants at the forum gathered to discuss food systems roles, resources, challenges, barriers, strengths opportunities, and key issues.

The forum included representation from local restaurants, mobile food trucks, institutional food services, grocery stores, farmers' markets, business improvement associations, non-profit agencies, educational institutions, health authorities, and community associations. A number of land developers, realtors, landscape designers, urban planners, area ranchers, urban farmers, beekeepers, master gardeners, sustainability advocates, and community gardeners also attended and participated in the event.



Input from the Stakeholder Forum was gathered via flip charts and graphic recordings and summarized in the Urban Agriculture and Food Systems Strategy Stakeholder Forum Summary Report, which can be found on the City's Food Security web page. This report identifies key themes and issues that were shared by the broad range of stakeholders at the forum. The report also includes some initial recommendations from those in attendance. Input gathered during the Stakeholder Forum was combined with previous research to develop the overarching framework for the plan found in Section 3.3. The graphic recording below, which was drawn during the event, illustrates the similarities between what was shared and discussed at the forum and the framework for the FUAP.



Graphic recording from Stakeholder Forum, June 25, 2014, T. Gadsby, Drawing Out Ideas.



A mobile tour highlighting leading local examples of urban agriculture and the food system was held in October 2014. The tour included stops at TRU to view its JORA composter, McDonald Park to discuss the public produce garden, the Kamloops Food Bank to learn about food redistribution, Tranquille Farm for a beekeeping demonstration, RiverBend Seniors Community for an example of gardens integrated into a housing development, Gardengate Training Centre to see a project aimed at promoting healthy eating for people with mental health issues, and Mount Paul United Church for an inspiring lunch gathered, gleaned, cooked and prepared by a collective of non-profit and voluntary groups.

As part of the stakeholder engagement process, City staff offered presentations to or met with the Kamloops Food Policy Council, Farm2Chefs, community associations (via the November 2014 Community Association Forum), and TRU's Friends of the Garden. City staff also participated in meetings with or directly consulted a wide range of stakeholders. For a full list of stakeholders engaged in the development of this plan, please see the Acknowledgements section of this document.

Phase 5 - Gather Public Input

The public input gathering phase of the FUAP planning process took place between January and March 2015. A public survey was released online, made available at public events, and shared through the distribution lists of several organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce. Two open houses took place in Northhills and Aberdeen Malls on consecutive Saturdays, meetings were held in local neighbourhoods with community associations, and staff provided information gathering opportunities at other public and stakeholder events. An extensive media campaign was also conducted, and the City's Food Security web page was overhauled and updated frequently throughout the public consultation phase.

Efforts to engage the public were highly successful. 647 surveys were completed, hundreds of people attended the open house events, and community association meetings led to in-depth discussions with neighbourhood residents.



Presentation on TRU's Jora composter, Urban Agriculture and Food Systems Showcase and Mobile tour, October 1, 2014.

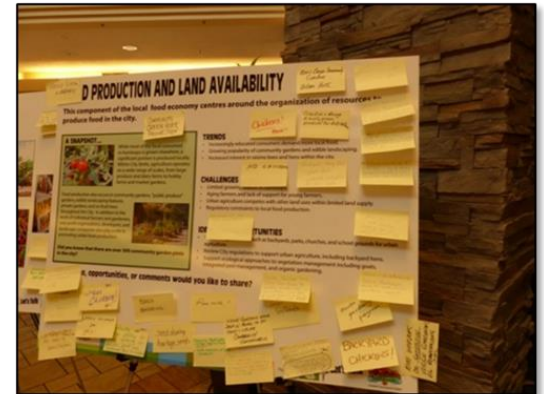


Public input activity from Aberdeen Mall open house, February 7, 2015.



The open houses at Northhills and Aberdeen Malls were held in highly visible areas to maximize mall traffic and generate the most public input possible. Engaging activities and interactive food demonstrations helped to draw passersby to glance over informative displays and provide input through sticky notes, chatting with City staff, or by completing the public input survey, which was available electronically via two laptop stations and in hard copy form.

Survey questions asked for public opinion on a number of issues identified during the stakeholder engagement phase, including community gardens, urban hens, year-round farmers' markets, home-based urban agriculture businesses, food hubs, composting, community food centres, community kitchens, and more.



Informative display at Aberdeen Mall open house, February 7, 2015.

Some key findings from the FUAP public input survey:

- 85.3% support to allow urban hens on residential properties;
- 77.6% of respondents choose to buy local "whenever possible";
- By a more than 2:1 ratio, Aberdeen and City Centre respondents believe there is a need for a new community garden in their respective neighbourhoods;
- 93% support to allow the public to come onto private residential properties to purchase home-grown goods, including produce and honey;
- 88% support to allow goats on a greater range of properties for weed control; and
- "Increased availability of local food" and "increased access to healthy food for those in need" ranked highest in importance on a list of local food system goals and activities.

Phases 6 and 7 - Draft Plan, Review, and Plan Adoption

The initial public input phase concluded in March 2015. An initial draft of the FUAP was posted on the City's Food Security web page in April 2015. This draft was reviewed by the FUAP-AC and internally by staff and Senior Management prior to Council review at a workshop. Two more public input opportunities were provided in late May 2015, with open houses held at Northhills Shopping Centre and outside the Interior Savings (now Sandman) Centre. For more information on the stakeholder and public input process, please visit the City's Food Security web page to view the FUAP Stakeholder and Public Input Report.



5. Goals, Strategies, and Actions

This portion of the FUAP outlines the various goals, strategies, and action items recommended in order to foster a more sustainable food and urban agriculture system in Kamloops. These recommendations are the product of extensive technical review, survey of best practices in food systems planning, and consultation with food system stakeholders and the general public. These items are organized in terms of the six food system component areas outlined in Section 3.3:

- Food Production and Land Availability;
- Food Processing and Preparing;
- Food Distribution, Retail, and Access;
- Cooking, Eating, and Celebrating Food;
- Food Waste and Resource Management; and
- Education, Governance, and Capacity Building.

Each action item indicates the agencies, organizations, and departments that will need to be engaged to implement a particular action. Lead and support roles are also identified. As acronyms are used for the sake of brevity, please refer to the list below for reference.

Municipal Departments

BCS - Business and Client Services Division
CSCS - Corporate Services and Community Safety Department
DES - Development and Engineering Services Department
FIN - Finance Department
PRCS - Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department
PWU - Public Works and Utilities Department

External Agencies

AGRI - Ministry of Agriculture
BMIK - Breastfeeding Matters in Kamloops
CCOM - Chamber of Commerce
CFTC - Community Futures Thompson Country
CNAs - Community and Neighbourhood Associations
COS - Conservation Officer Service
F2C - Farm2Chefs
FTS - Farm to School
ICS - Interior Community Services
IH - Interior Health
KCBIA - Kamloops Central Business Improvement Association
KCIB - Kamloops Communities in Bloom Committee
KFB - Kamloops Food Bank
KFPC - Kamloops Food Policy Council
KOFBC - Kamloops Organics Food Buying Club
KRFMS - Kamloops Regional Farmers' Market Society
NSBIA - North Shore Business Improvement Association
SD73 - School District No. 73
TK - Tourism Kamloops
TNRD - Thompson-Nicola Regional District



TSMG - Thompson Shuswap Master Gardeners
TteS - Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc
TRU - Thompson Rivers University
VFM - Visions Farmers' Market
VK - Venture Kamloops
WBC - WildSafeBC

Additionally, each action item is prioritized as being a short-term, a medium-term, a long-term, or an ongoing priority, with the understanding that this is a ten-year plan, and will need to be updated by or before 2026.

S - Short-term priority (capacity, resources, and/or partnerships needed are currently present or achievable and implementation is possible within one to three years).

M - Medium-term priority (capacity, resources, and/or partnerships needed are not currently present, but with continued effort and progress, implementation is possible within four to seven years).

L - Long-term priority (capacity, resources, and/or partnerships needed are not currently present or achievable, will require innovation and new approaches, and implementation is possible within eight to ten years).

O - Ongoing priority (capacity, resources, and/or partnerships needed are currently present, and implementation is in progress or part of current work and will continue to be).

Some terms used to describe City involvement in the action items of this plan can be interpreted in different ways. The definitions below are intended to clarify the usage of certain specific terms in the context of this document:

Support: Direct some form of resource allocation (staff hours, capital, grants, exemptions, etc.) towards a project or initiative; or, in terms of municipal or other policy, concur with said policy, and/or encourage application of a certain approach.

Partner: Promote, network, and/or encourage collaboration amongst different groups; share research into promising models; and/or participate with a planning committee for a particular initiative or project.

Note: The use of partner and partnership in this plan does not indicate an intent to provide capital investment, grants, subsidies, exemptions, or other means of financial support.

Consider: Review existing regulations, bylaws, planning documents, or opportunities for possibility of change from current status, whether by bylaw amendment, plan update, or participation in initiative.

Explore or Investigate: Conduct initial analysis of a potential opportunity - more preliminary and often less resource-intensive than "consider".



Food Production and Land Availability

Goal: Increase sustainable urban and local food production

Strategy 1.1 - Utilize existing land and infrastructure for sustainable urban food production

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
1.1.1 COMMUNITY GARDENS (public property)	Continue to develop new community gardens on public property with priority given to neighbourhoods without existing community gardens (e.g., Batchelor Heights, Juniper Ridge, Pineview, and Valleyview) and to areas with higher concentrations of multiple-family dwellings, smaller lot sizes, and seniors' populations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • ICS 	○
1.1.2 COMMUNITY GARDENS and EDIBLE LANDSCAPES (private property)	Continue to support and encourage the incorporation of urban agriculture practices, such as community gardens and edible landscaping on private property, including commercial and multiple-family developments, as a means of creating unique and healthy urban environments, provided such practices do not adversely impact adjacent properties and neighbourhoods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DES • PRCS 	○
1.1.3 EDIBLE LANDSCAPES (public property)	Continue to expand the use of edible landscaping in City parks and around civic facilities, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • ICS • KFPC 	○



Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
1.1.4 ECOLOGICAL INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (public property and urban areas)	Continue to support horticultural practices that promote healthy and diverse ecological systems and enhance natural habitat for pollinators and beneficial insects when cultivating edible landscapes and community gardens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRCS 	O

Strategy 1.2 - Review zoning and other regulations to support urban and local agriculture

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
1.2.1 GUIDELINES and ZONING for urban agriculture in multi-family developments	Review and update the City's Multiple-family Development Permit Area Guidelines and zoning regulations for landscaping, screening, and fencing, and update the City's landscape guidelines to support the use of community gardens and edible landscaping as amenity space in multiple-family residential developments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DES 	S
1.2.2 GUIDELINES and ZONING for urban agriculture - general	Consider a review and update of OCP and zoning regulations and Development Permit Guidelines to allow different types of urban agriculture in certain zones, subject to appropriate regulations addressing issues of community impact, such as noise, parking, traffic, emissions, light pollution, odour, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DES 	M



Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
1.2.3 URBAN HENS*	Consider developing regulations within the City's Animal Control Bylaw to allow raising limited numbers of hens on single- and two-family residential lots, subject to regulations and/or policies to address issues such as setbacks, requirements for coops, hot and cold weather, noise, odour, vermin, roosters, procedures for disposal of waste and deceased animals, wildlife predator concerns (particularly in high-risk areas), number of hens permitted, animal welfare, permitting and/or registration processes and enforcement, and minimum lot sizes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSCS • DES • PRCS 	S
1.2.4 GOATS on large lots*	Investigate the possibility of developing regulations within the City's Animal Control Bylaw to allow use of female goats (nannies) on lots less than 0.4 ha/1 ac. (e.g., one to four goats on 0.1 to 0.2 ha lots, subject to review), subject to appropriate regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSCS • DES 	M
NOTE: Action items 1.2.3 and 1.2.4 will each require a site-specific rezoning Public Hearing process to provide an opportunity for public input.			



Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
1.2.5 ROOFTOP GARDENS and GREENHOUSES	Review zoning regulations for building height and lot coverage to ensure that regulations adequately balance the desirability of greenhouses and garden sheds (both on rooftops and at grade) for food production, with the desirability of sensitive integration of such infrastructure into neighbourhoods. Consider zoning amendments or variances to building height and lot coverage regulations to support food production where appropriate to the neighbourhood context.	• DES	S
1.2.6 HOME-BASED BUSINESS REGULATIONS for suburban farming	Consider reviewing and updating home-based business regulations to allow clients to enter a residence to obtain goods or services related to small-scale, home-based, urban agriculture businesses on large lots (minimum lot size 1,400 m ²) designated Suburban or Rural in the OCP, subject to regulations addressing issues such as noise, number of employees, parking, traffic, light pollution, minimum lot size, odour, and emissions.	• DES	M
NOTE: Regulations for agricultural-related home-based businesses are also addressed in AAP Action No. 17.			



Strategy 1.3 - Support increased accessibility of local food production

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
1.3.1 EARTH ANGELS (urban agriculture home support for seniors and persons with disabilities)	Consult with community partners around the potential for a voluntary community "earth angels" program to provide assistance in preparing garden beds so that seniors and/or persons with disabilities can engage in urban food production more easily.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PRCS• Non-profit agencies (various)	S
1.3.2 BACKYARD SHARING	Partner with the KFPC to explore existing online registries and models that support the development of a "yard share" program, where interested Kamloops residents can make their backyards available to gardeners for the purposes of food production. Examples of existing registries include: www.sharingbackyards.com www.urbangardenshare.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• KFPC• PRCS• ICS	S



Food Processing and Preparing

Goal: Increase opportunities for processing and preparation of locally-sourced foods

Strategy 2.1 - Support commercial and community-based food processing facilities

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priorities
2.1.1 COMMUNITY KITCHENS	Support partnerships to identify existing certified commercial kitchens of appropriate capacity for use as community kitchens - spaces to incubate new food-based social enterprises, teach skills around cooking and preserving healthy food on a budget, and build social capital among participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICS • KFPC • PRCS • CFTC 	M
2.1.2 AVAILABILITY OF FOOD PROCESSING FACILITIES	Investigate the possibility of updating the City's Zoning Bylaw to ensure an adequate supply of commercial and industrial locations to accommodate modest-scale food processing facilities appropriate to the City's ethnically diverse population, provided solid and liquid waste can be disposed of in a safe and appropriate manner that does not adversely impact municipal infrastructure and that issues of neighbourhood impact are adequately addressed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DES • PWU 	M



Food Distribution, Retail, and Access

Goal: Increase access to healthy and local foods for all sectors of the population

Strategy 3.1 - Review regulations and policies to support local purchasing

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
3.1.1 LOCAL FOOD IN CITY FACILITIES	Explore opportunities to encourage the purchase and sale of locally and regionally produced foods in City facilities. Opportunities for local food vending could include concession stands and food trucks operating in parks or arenas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • FIN • DES • IH • KOFBC 	M
NOTE: See AAP Action No. 10 for more information.			

Strategy 3.2 - Expand networks to support the economic sustainability of the food system

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
3.2.1 INCREASE VOLUME OF LOCAL and REGIONAL FOOD	Explore partnership opportunities with F2C, CFTC, and other food systems stakeholders to increase the volume of locally and regionally sourced foods sold in the Kamloops region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • F2C • CFTC • KRFMS • VK • KFPC • IH • FTS • KOFBC • various others 	S



Strategy 3.3 - Promote farmers' markets and business models that provide fresh foods and support local producers

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
3.3.1 YEAR-ROUND FARMERS' MARKET	Partner with community agencies to explore the feasibility of a year-round farmers' market, considering factors such as access for farm vehicles, potential for cold storage, adequate parking and accessibility for the public, and prospective vendors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFTC • KRFMS • DES • VFM • KFPC • PRCS • AGRI • various others 	S
3.3.2 RETAIL FOOD ACCESS (avoid food deserts)	Consider reviewing and updating zoning regulations to increase opportunities for small-scale retail food businesses that offer fresh produce in areas that are in close proximity to neighbourhood centres. Consider development of regulations and/or permitting processes for mobile produce stands, subject to expression of interest in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DES 	S





Strategy 3.4 - Utilize social media and online resources

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
3.4.1 BUY LOCAL (online resources)	Work with community partners to encourage increased use of existing online and social media resources that improve consumer awareness of and access to local and regional foods. Existing online resources include: www.eatkamloops.org bcmeats.ca/phone-app www.soilmate.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KFPC • PRCS • VK • CFTC • KOFBC • various others 	S

Strategy 3.5 - Increase access to healthy, local food for food-insecure populations

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
3.5.1 HEALTHY FOOD FOR ALL	Partner with community agencies to coordinate, support and promote initiatives that provide access to healthy, local foods for food-insecure populations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KFPC • KFB • ICS • IH • FTS • PRCS • various others 	O
3.5.2 HEALTHY FOOD BANK DONATIONS	Partner with community agencies in awareness campaigns that help increase donations of healthy, local food to the Kamloops Food Bank (e.g., from backyard and community gardens).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KFB • IH • KFPC • PRCS • BCS • various others 	S
3.5.3 FOOD SHARE PROGRAM	Consider opportunities to support the Kamloops Food Bank's Food Share Program, which diverts underutilized food from the City's landfill and provides food access for people in need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • KFB • IH • various others 	S



Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
3.5.4 COMMUNITY AND EMERGENCY MEALS	Continue to partner with non-profit agencies to ensure sufficient community and emergency meals are available for the homeless, at-risk and low-income population. Where possible, encourage and support healthy food choices for these programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-profit agencies (various) • PRCS • KFPC • IH 	O
3.5.5 PEER-LED FOOD ACCESS INITIATIVES	Partner with community agencies to promote and support peer-led initiatives that facilitate and promote food production and the development of life skills around growing, preparing, and preserving food for low-income and/or marginalized individuals and families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KFPC • PRCS • IH • various others 	S





Cooking, Eating, and Celebrating Food

Goal: Celebrate and build upon our agricultural heritage and present-day food system successes

Strategy 4.1 - Celebrate our agricultural heritage

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
4.1.1 FOOD FESTIVALS	Partner with community agencies and businesses to further develop local food events and festivals in Kamloops. Such events could be based on past or existing events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • TK • BCS • CFTC • DES • KCBIA • NSBIA • TRU • various others 	S
Note: See AAP Action No. 52 for more information.			
4.1.2 COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM	Continue to include and promote urban agriculture (edible landscapes, ecological food production, community gardens, backyard gardens, etc.) in the Communities in Bloom beautification efforts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KCIB • PRCS • KFPC • ICS 	O
4.1.3 LOCAL AGRICULTURE HISTORY (tourism opportunities)	Explore opportunities to partner with Tourism Kamloops, the Kamloops Regional Farmers' Market Society, and local business organizations to promote the City's agriculture heritage and current successes as a tourism strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • TK • KRFMS • BCS • VK 	M
4.1.4 LOCAL AGRICULTURE HISTORY (museum exhibit)	Explore partnership opportunities between the Kamloops Museum & Archives and the Secwépemc Museum to showcase and build awareness of the city's traditional food harvesting and agriculture histories.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • TteS • DES 	M
Note: AAP Action No. 48 speaks to building on the Agricultural History Timeline celebrating the community's agriculture history. The current timeline is available at www.kamloops.ca/environment/pdfs/15-01-HistoryOfAgriculture.pdf .			



Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
4.1.5 SEED LIBRARY	<p>Partner with the Seedy Saturday initiative and community agencies to facilitate the development of a seed library in order to protect agricultural diversity and heritage seed varieties that flourish in the Kamloops region.</p> <p>Note: Caution should be given to weeds or plants that are designated as noxious weeds under the <i>BC Weed Control Act</i>, as amended from time to time, or designated from time to time as an invasive weed or plant by the Southern Interior Weed Management Committee.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KFPC • PRCS • IH • TRU • Non-profit agencies (various) 	M





Strategy 4.2 - Build on food system success stories and existing resources

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
4.2.1 BEST PRACTICES GUIDE	Support the development of a new Best Practices in Urban Agriculture Guide in partnership with the KFPC that highlights socially and financially successful business models and development projects that incorporate urban agriculture. Such a guide could be used to encourage the general public and the private sector to invest in urban agriculture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KFPC • PRCS • CFTC • TSMG 	M
4.2.2 CITY ACTIVITY GUIDE FEATURE	Prepare a feature celebrating and bringing awareness to current urban agriculture programs and initiatives for the City's Activity Guide on an annual basis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • KFPC • ICS 	S

Strategy 4.3 - Promote the local food system through place-making efforts

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
4.3.1 URBAN AGRICULTURE ON VACANT LOTS and BROWNFIELD SITES	Encourage community agencies and business improvement associations to implement urban agriculture projects as part of a strategy to animate urban spaces, such as parking lots and vacant commercial properties, including the potential use of raised beds and/or bio-remediation practices on brownfield sites, subject to zoning, business licensing, and other applicable regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KFPC • NSBIA • KCBIA • PRCS • DES 	S



Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
4.3.2 KAMLOOPS REGIONAL FARMERS' MARKET	Continue to endorse the Kamloops Regional Farmers' Market as a signature component of the downtown Kamloops experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DES • PRCS • KRFMS • TK 	O
4.3.3 EDIBLE LANDSCAPES in key public spaces	Utilize urban agriculture as a tool for education and place-making by planting edible landscapes in prominent public spaces such as in front of City Hall, in Council planters, around civic facilities, and in other highly visible areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS 	S





Food Waste and Resource Management

Goal: Support environmentally conscious approaches to managing water, food waste, and soil resources

Strategy 5.1 - Pursue innovations in water usage

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
5.1.1 CONSERVE and REUSE WATER (new developments)	Support the use of rain barrels, cisterns, and other catchment systems for stormwater management and food production through development approval processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DES 	O
5.1.2 CONSERVE and REUSE WATER (residential)	Build awareness and support the use of residential rain barrels through distribution of barrels at affordable rates or through a coupon program, similar to the City's Tree Coupon Program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PWU • PRCS • DES • various others 	M
5.1.3 CONSERVE and REUSE WATER (education)	Support public education and awareness around horticultural technologies that conserve and reuse water, including rain barrels and gardening techniques such as permaculture and xeriscaping.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • DES • PWU • TSMG • ICS • FTS • various others 	O
Note: See AAP Action No. 55 for more information regarding Action Items 5.1.2 and 5.1.3.			
5.1.4 CONSERVE and REUSE WATER (research)	Support educational institutions, such as TRU, in conducting research on low water and drought tolerant crops, greywater systems, and strategies for water conservation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TRU • PWU • PRCS 	O

Strategy 5.2 - Reduce and recycle food waste and build healthy soils

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
5.2.1 COMPOSTING (Corporate policy)	<p>Option A: Develop a municipal curb-side compost pick-up program to divert food waste from the City landfill and support the development of high quality soil amendments.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Option B: Continue to allow organic waste in the City's residential garbage collection service. This option could assist the City in utilizing the methane capture system at the City's landfill (installed as per legislative requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions) to generate electricity through the breakdown of organics.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PWU 	S
Note: These options are subject to a City evaluation that is currently underway.			
5.2.2 COMPOSTING (current residential options)	Continue to support residential composting of food waste through contributions to the subsidized compost bin program in place in partnership with the TNRD.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • TNRD • PWU 	O
5.2.3 COMPOSTING (additional residential options)	Partner with community agencies to explore additional opportunities to support residential composting, such as education regarding diverse methods of composting and neighbourhood composting models wherein a composter is shared by a group of neighbours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • KFPC • ICS • various others 	S



Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
5.2.4 COMPOSTING (commercial/ restaurants)	Partner with the business improvement associations and urban farmers to explore composting opportunities for the city's business districts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KCBIA • NSBIA • CCOM • PRCS • DES • various others 	M
5.2.5 GLEANING and food redistribution programs	Explore opportunities to support the work of non-profit initiatives, such as the Gleaning Abundance Program and the FoodShare Program that reduce food waste by collecting, distributing, and processing edible food surpluses and composting non-edible food waste.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KFPC • PRCS • KFB • various others 	S
5.2.6 CINNAMON RIDGE	Develop signage and provide information on the City's website detailing the content of soil amendments at the City's Cinnamon Ridge Composting Facility, including potential herbicide content.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PWU 	S



Education, Governance, and Capacity-Building

Goal: Increase public awareness and community capacity to advance food systems sustainability

Strategy 6.1 - Promote and facilitate knowledge transfer and skill development

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
6.1.1 ECOLOGICAL INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT AND HEALTHY GARDENING	Continue to raise public awareness about the impact of pesticides on urban agriculture and how the use of ecological integrated pest management can encourage healthy and sustainable food production.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • TSMG • KFPC 	O
6.1.2 CITY ACTIVITY GUIDE PROGRAMS	Expand education and skill development opportunities in the City's Activity Guide by offering a greater range of food and urban agriculture programming in the following relevant areas: seed saving; ecological integrated pest management; planting flowers that support pollinators; gardening to attract beneficial insects; beekeeping; responsible urban animal husbandry; composting; safe urban agriculture practices in areas near wildlife habitat; improving soil quality and fertility; rainwater harvesting; food preparation and cooking; and processing, preserving, and storing locally produced foods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • KFPC • TSMG • ICS 	S



Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
6.1.3 INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES	Develop and maintain a web page that compiles short videos and written materials that provide step-by-step instructions on effective urban agriculture practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • BCS • TSMG 	S
6.1.4 MENTORSHIP	Explore partnerships to facilitate mentorship opportunities for local residents interested in acquiring a more in-depth level of knowledge and skill in urban agriculture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • DES • CFTC • KFPC • TSMG • ICS 	S

Strategy 6.2 - Utilize existing resources for food system education

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
6.2.1 COMMUNITY KITCHENS in neighbourhood schools	Partner with SD73 to explore the feasibility of school kitchens being made available to neighbourhood residents for use as community kitchen space, when appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SD73 • ICS • PRCS • FTS 	M
6.2.2 COMMUNITY GARDENS AND PUBLIC PRODUCE as educational sites	<p>Continue to partner with ICS to provide educational workshops and informational signage at community gardens and public produce sites.</p> <p>Consider the use of the outdoor kitchen and harvest tables at Riverside Park for educational workshops related to preparing and preserving food.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICS • PRCS • TSMG 	O

Strategy 6.3 - Utilize partnerships to build capacity for food system health and sustainability

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
6.3.1 PUBLIC AWARENESS - educational opportunities and events	Enhance public awareness about food system sustainability by promoting educational opportunities and events provided by a range of community and government agencies and institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KFPC • TRU • TSMG • ICS • PRCS • various others 	O
6.3.2 NEIGHBOURHOOD CAPACITY BUILDING	Continue to foster educational opportunities and healthy dialogue at the neighbourhood level between the City, community and neighbourhood associations, food systems and sustainability advocates, and the non-profit sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • KFPC • FTS • SD73 • CNAs • various others 	O
6.3.3 FORMAL PARTNERSHIP between the City, IH, and KFPC	Establish a formal partnership between IH and the City, similar to the Strategic Health Alliance, but with a focus on healthy eating and promoting urban food security at the individual, neighbourhood, and community levels, and with a third partner involved - the KFPC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • IH • KFPC 	S





Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
6.3.4 KFPC (City role)	Continue to provide ongoing City staff representation on the KFPC to advance urban agriculture and food systems sustainability in the city.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRCS • KFPC 	O
6.3.5 BREASTFEEDING-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY	Partner with IH and community agencies such as Breastfeeding Matters in Kamloops to promote Kamloops as a breastfeeding-friendly community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IH • BMIK • PRCS 	S
6.3.6 COMMUNITY FOOD ACTION CENTRE	Partner with community agencies to explore the feasibility of a community food action centre, a space dedicated to providing access to affordable, healthy food in a dignified manner; building gardening and cooking skills for participants; and advancing research and public awareness around healthy sustainable food systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICS • KFPC • PRCS • DES 	L
6.3.7 BEAR and WILDLIFE SAFETY	Partner with WBC and the COS to map high risk areas and educate the public about urban agricultural practices that reduce the potential for human-wildlife conflicts in these areas (e.g. appropriate fencing for livestock, secure storage for livestock feed, prompt removal of windfall fruit, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PWU • WBC • COS • PRCS • CNAs 	S



Strategy 6.4 - Promote food system education for specific population groups

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
6.4.1 PUBLIC SCHOOL GARDENS	Partner with SD73 and community agencies to explore the potential for development of educational produce gardens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SD73 • PRCS • FTS • TSMG 	M
6.4.2 LIFE SKILLS for individuals and families in transition from streets to homes.	Collaborate with non-profit agencies providing emergency meals to homeless, at-risk, and low-income individuals and families to ensure life skill opportunities related to affordable and healthy food choices are available to program participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-profit agencies (various) • PRCS • KFPC 	O

Strategy 6.5 - Encourage food systems research

Action Item		Implementation (Lead/Support)	Priority
6.5.1 ACADEMIC RESEARCH	<p>Consider partnership opportunities with educational institutions such as TRU in researching issues related to food system sustainability. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies for adapting local food production to climate change, including agricultural techniques and crops that conserve water usage; • Social, environmental, economic, and health impacts of genetically engineered foods ; • Development of seed varieties suitable to local conditions; and • Evaluation of urban food security initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TRU • PRCS • KFPC 	O



6. Implementation and Reporting

As noted in Section 5, the FUAP is considered a ten-year plan and will need to be updated by or before 2026. A review is recommended at the five-year point to ensure that the goals, strategies, and action items within the plan are still relevant. The review will also provide an opportunity to note which action items have been achieved and are now concluded, which are still ongoing, and which, if any, are not likely to be achieved prior to the ten-year review and update. Action items have been given short-, medium-, or long-term prioritization based on the level of capacity, resources, and partnerships currently available to make implementation viable. If necessary, the priority level of certain action items may need to be adjusted or modified, or the action item may need to be removed from consideration. This five-year review should take place in 2021.

Annual reporting on plan implementation should be incorporated within the annual reporting of the SKP. Other reports will be provided to Council and the community as and when required.

Though many departments and staff will be involved in the implementation of different action items within the plan, the FUAP is primarily the responsibility of the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department. The FUAP-AC recommended that a resource be dedicated to carrying the work of this plan forward in order to:

- Provide a central point of accountability;
- Coordinate both departmental and community action;
- Continue to build community capacity with respect to urban agriculture and food security; and
- Ensure continued progress toward implementation of the action items within this plan.





Appendix A: Glossary of Terms

Beneficial insects - predatory and parasitic insects that naturally help control garden pests. Predatory beneficial insects include lady beetles, centipedes, aphid midges, hover flies, ground beetles and lacewings, while parasitic beneficial insects include aphid parasitic wasps. Gardens may attract beneficial insects by providing pollen- and nectar-rich flowers for the adults, a source of food such as aphids for the larvae, and safe access to water.

Bioremediation - a waste management technique that involves the use of naturally occurring organisms to remove or neutralize pollutants from a contaminated site.

Brownfield - land previously used for industrial purposes or some commercial uses. The land may be contaminated by low concentrations of pollutants and has the potential to be reused once it is cleaned up.

Community food action centre - a space dedicated to providing access to affordable healthy food in a dignified manner, building gardening and cooking skills for participants, and advancing research and public awareness around healthy sustainable food systems.

Community food security - a situation where all citizens obtain safe, personally acceptable, nutritious diet through a sustainable food system that maximizes healthy choices, community self-reliance, and equal access for everyone (Hamm and Belows, 2003).

Community gardens - parcels of land that may be publicly or privately owned and are cultivated by multiple persons, either on individual small garden plots or on a single, large piece of land gardened collectively by a group of people. Community gardens are often managed and controlled by a group of unpaid individuals or volunteers and may include educational components, greenhouses, or other features.

Community kitchen - a public space where groups of people cook on a regular basis, offering the opportunity for participants to share skills, socialize, and reduce meal costs by cooking collectively.

Ecological integrated pest management - a broad-based horticultural approach that integrates a range of practices for control of pests and diseases. Ecological integrated pest management includes preventative cultural controls, physical and mechanical actions, biological controls, and, as a last resort, least toxic pesticides (Public Produce: Growing Food in Public Spaces, A Start Up Guide).

Edible landscaping - also known as "foodscaping", edible landscaping refers to the use of food producing plants in landscaping (whether residential, commercial, or in public areas, such as parks) instead of strictly ornamental plants. It can include fruit and nut trees, berry bushes, vegetables, herbs, edible flowers, and other ornamental plants into aesthetically pleasing designs.

Food hub - a facility that manages the aggregation, storage, processing, distribution, or marketing of locally and regionally produced food and may also include producer training and consumer education, optional storage, and light processing.



Food security - according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO, 1996), food security "exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life".

Food sovereignty - according to Food Secure Canada, food sovereignty is "the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems".

Gleaning - historically, gleaning is the act of collecting leftover crops from farmers' fields after they have been commercially harvested or on fields where it is not economically profitable to harvest. In a modern urban setting, it may also include collecting surplus fruits from residential fruit trees and gardens (typically with permission from the property owner).

Governance - as distinguished from government, governance refers to "all processes of governing, whether undertaken by a government, market or network, whether over a family, tribe, formal or informal organization or territory".

Green roof - also known as a living roof, a green roof is the roof of a building that is partially or completely covered with vegetation and a growing medium, planted over a waterproofing membrane. It may also include additional layers, such as a root barrier and drainage and irrigation systems.

Household food insecurity - inadequate access to food due to financial constraints.

Local food - for the purpose of the AAP, "local" was defined as product grown/raised within city political boundaries, as distinguished from regional agriculture. For consistency, this definition of local is also used within the FUAP.

Organic agriculture - an ecological production management system that promotes and enhances biodiversity, biological cycles, and soil biological activity. It is based on minimal use of off-farm inputs and on management practices that restore, maintain, and enhance ecological harmony.

Organic gardening - the science and art of growing fruits, vegetables, flowers, or ornamental plants by following the essential principles of organic agriculture in soil building and conservation, pest management, and heirloom variety preservation.

Permaculture - the conscious design and maintenance of agriculturally productive systems that have the diversity, stability, and resilience of natural ecosystems. It is the harmonious integration of the landscape, with people providing their food, energy, shelter, and other material and non-material needs in a sustainable way.

Regional agriculture - for the purpose of this plan, regional agriculture is defined as food production that occurs outside the city's limits, but inside the Southern Interior region, including areas such as the North and South Thompson Valleys, the Shuswap, and the Okanagan Valley.



Seed bank - an institution that stores seeds to preserve agricultural diversity (including historical seed varieties that are becoming rare) or to guard against catastrophic events such as natural disasters. Different from a seed library, seed banks are typically not open to the public.

Seed library - an institution that lends or shares seeds with the intention to disseminate them to the public to preserve the shared plant varieties through propagation and further sharing of seed. Seed libraries often seek to preserve agricultural biodiversity by focusing on rare, local, and heirloom (or heritage) seed varieties.

Social capital - the networks of relationships among people who live and work in a particular society, enabling that society to function effectively.

Social enterprise - a businesses owned by a non-profit organization that is directly involved in the production and/or sale of goods and services for the blended purpose of generating income and achieving social, cultural, and/or environmental aims.

SPIN farming (Small plot intensive farming) - a method of urban farming that typically uses residential yard space and low capital investment to produce relatively large quantities of high-value, commercial-grade food crops.

Sustainable development - as defined in the 1987 document Our Common Future, sustainable development is "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Urban agriculture - all types of not-for-profit and small-scale agricultural activities in the broader urban and suburban environments, including urban farming, SPIN farming, community gardens, edible landscaping, rooftop gardening, food production in greenhouses, and raising small livestock. Permitted uses may vary per zone and may be subject to certain criteria, which will be identified through the OCP and/or zoning regulations. For the purpose of this plan, urban agriculture is limited to food production activities that are not noxious or offensive to adjacent properties or the general public. Activities that produce odour, dust, smoke, noise, effluent, light pollution, glare, or other emissions are excluded.

Urban farming - much more specific than urban agriculture, urban farming refers to growing food in the city for the purpose of generating revenue or profit. In the case of residential properties, at a minimum, urban farming will be subject to home-based business regulations that limit the scale and scope of the business to mitigate potential neighbourhood impacts such as noise, odour, traffic, and parking demand.



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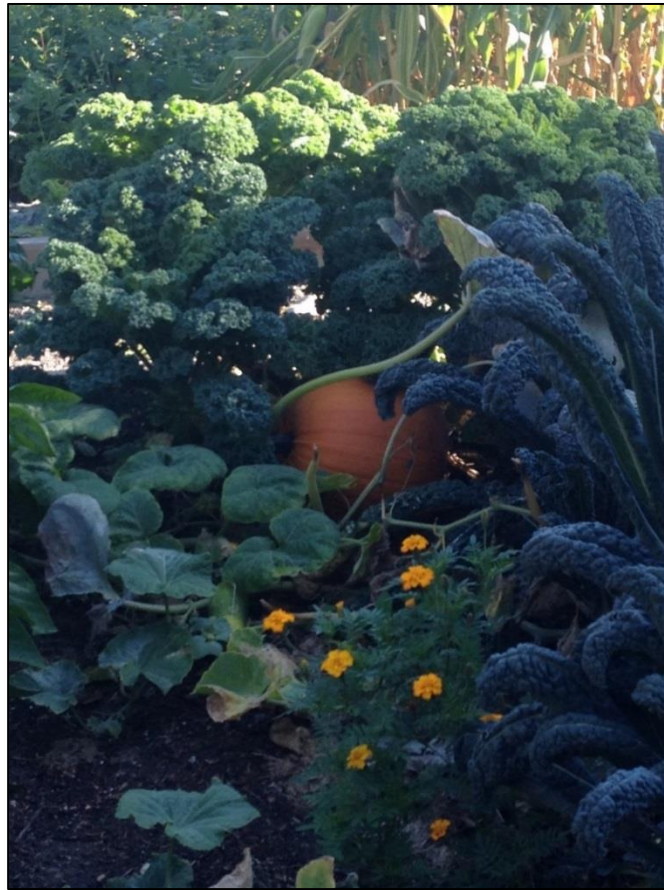
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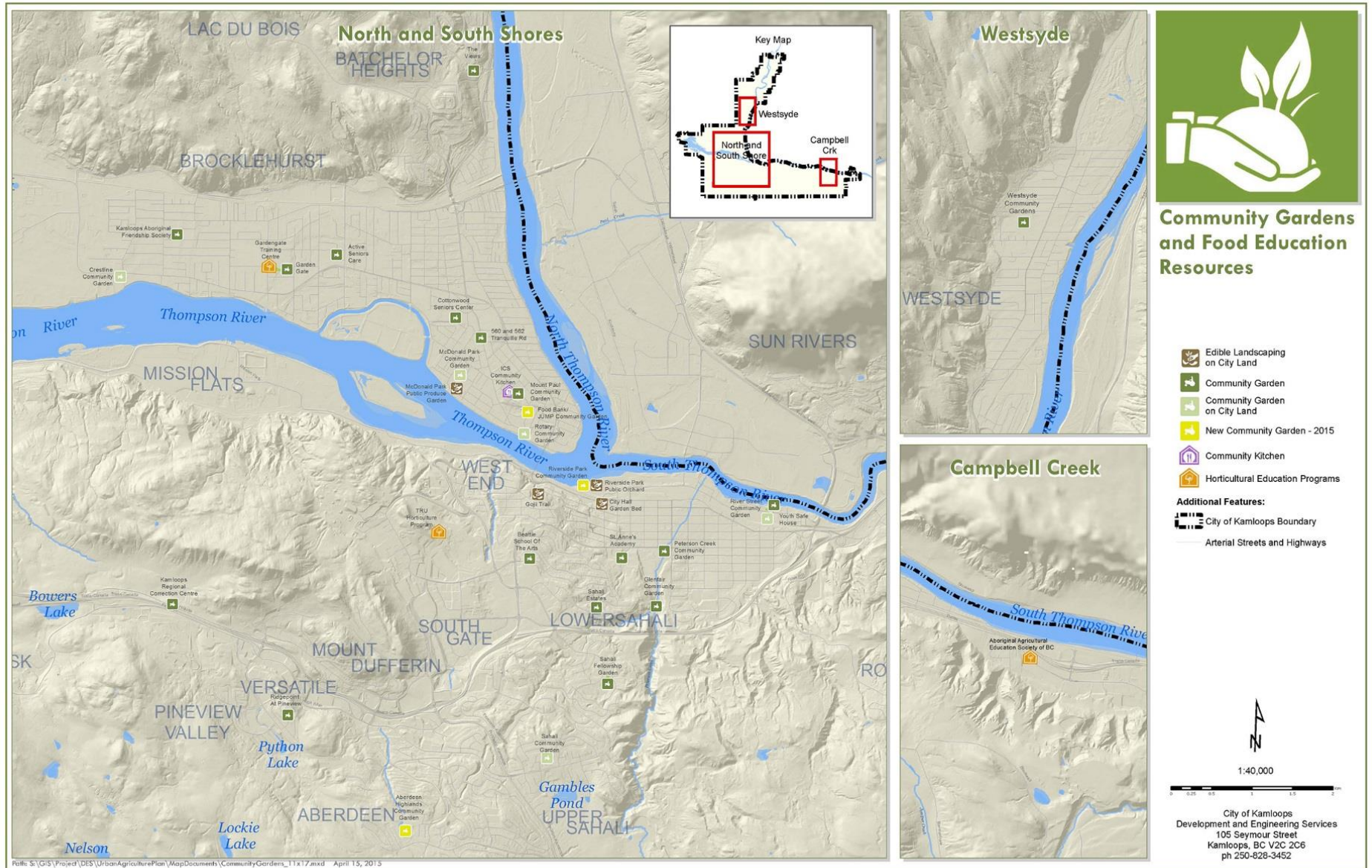
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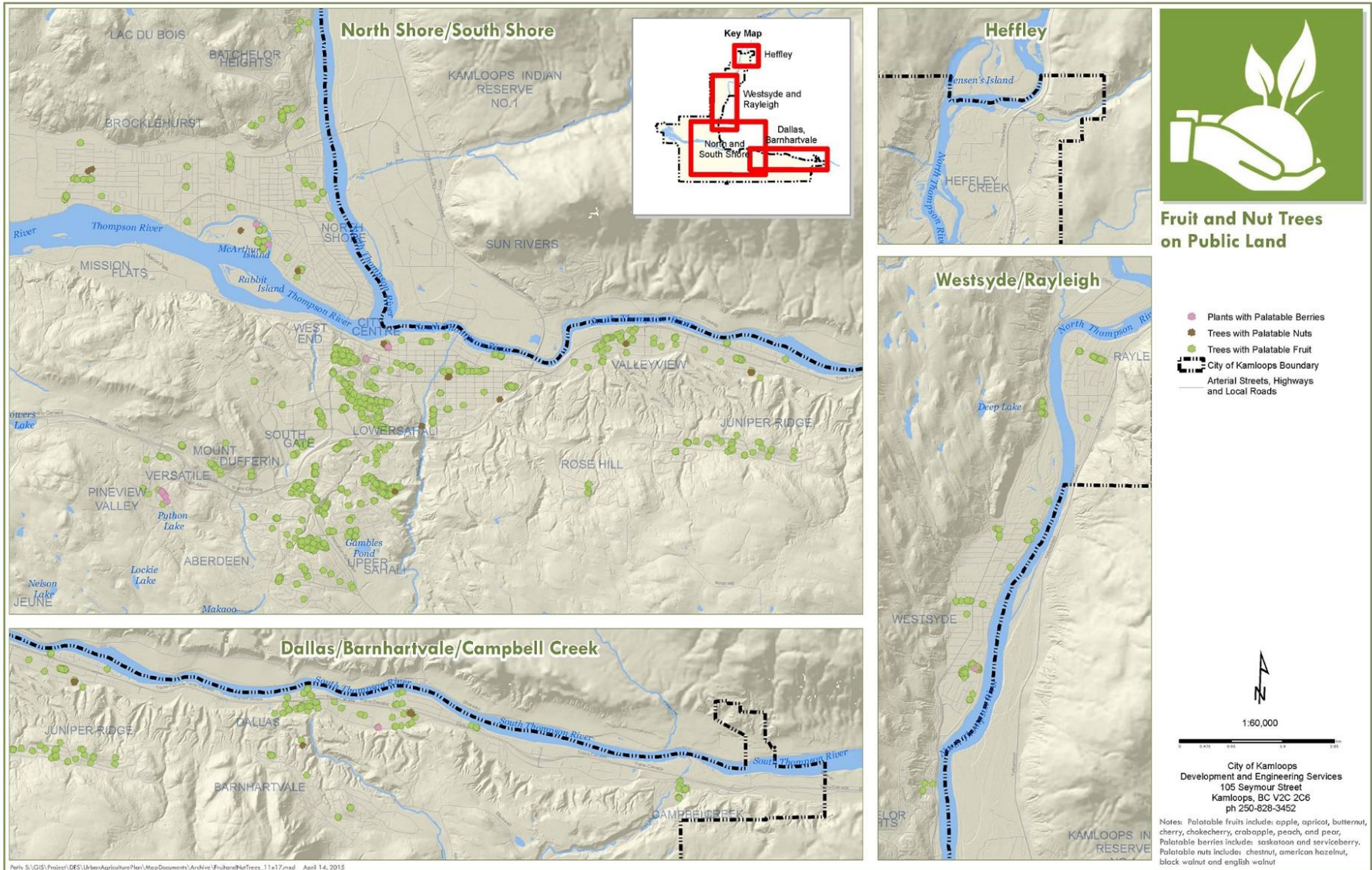


Appendix C: Food Asset Maps

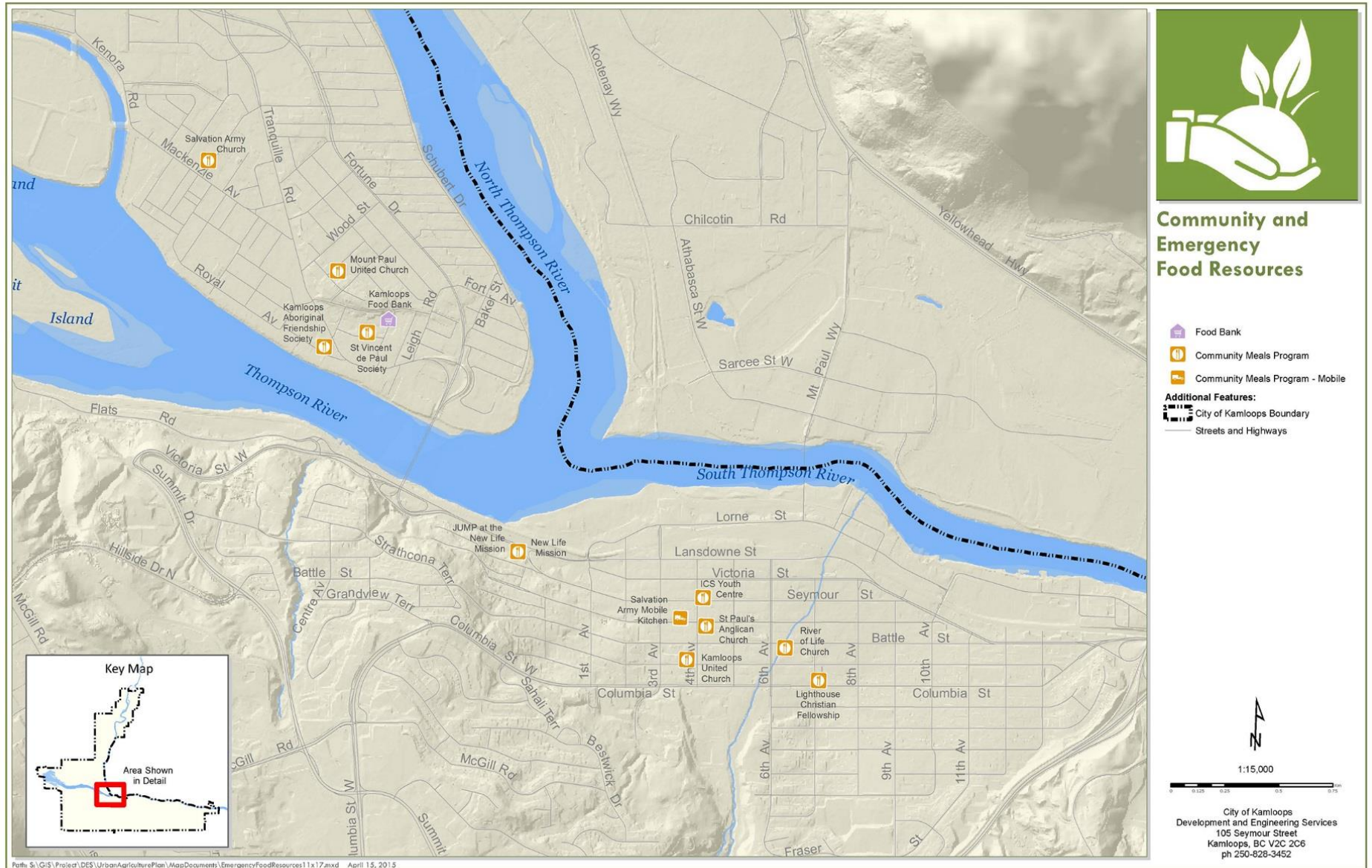
Map 1 - Community Gardens



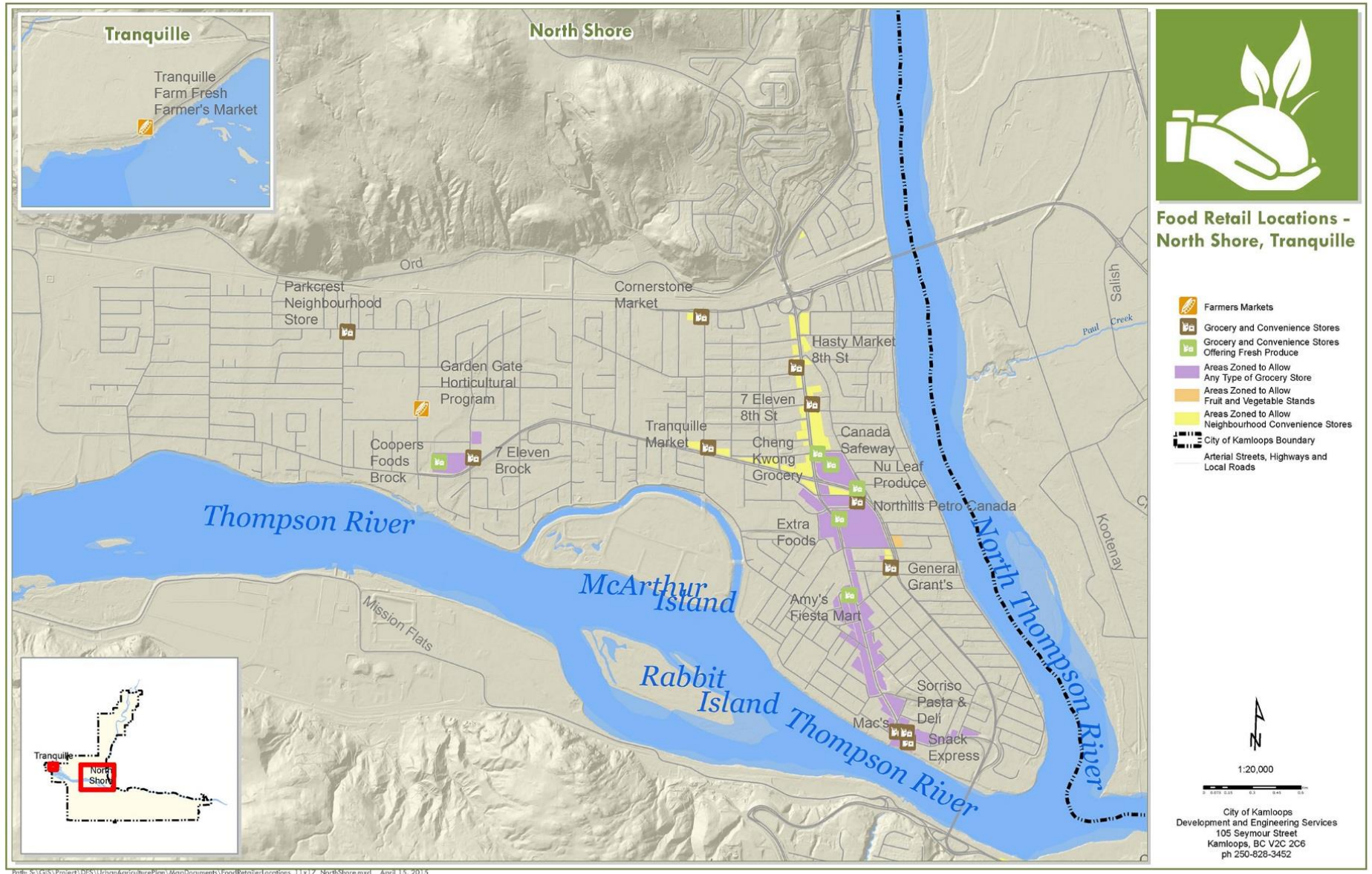
Map 2 - Fruit and Nut Trees



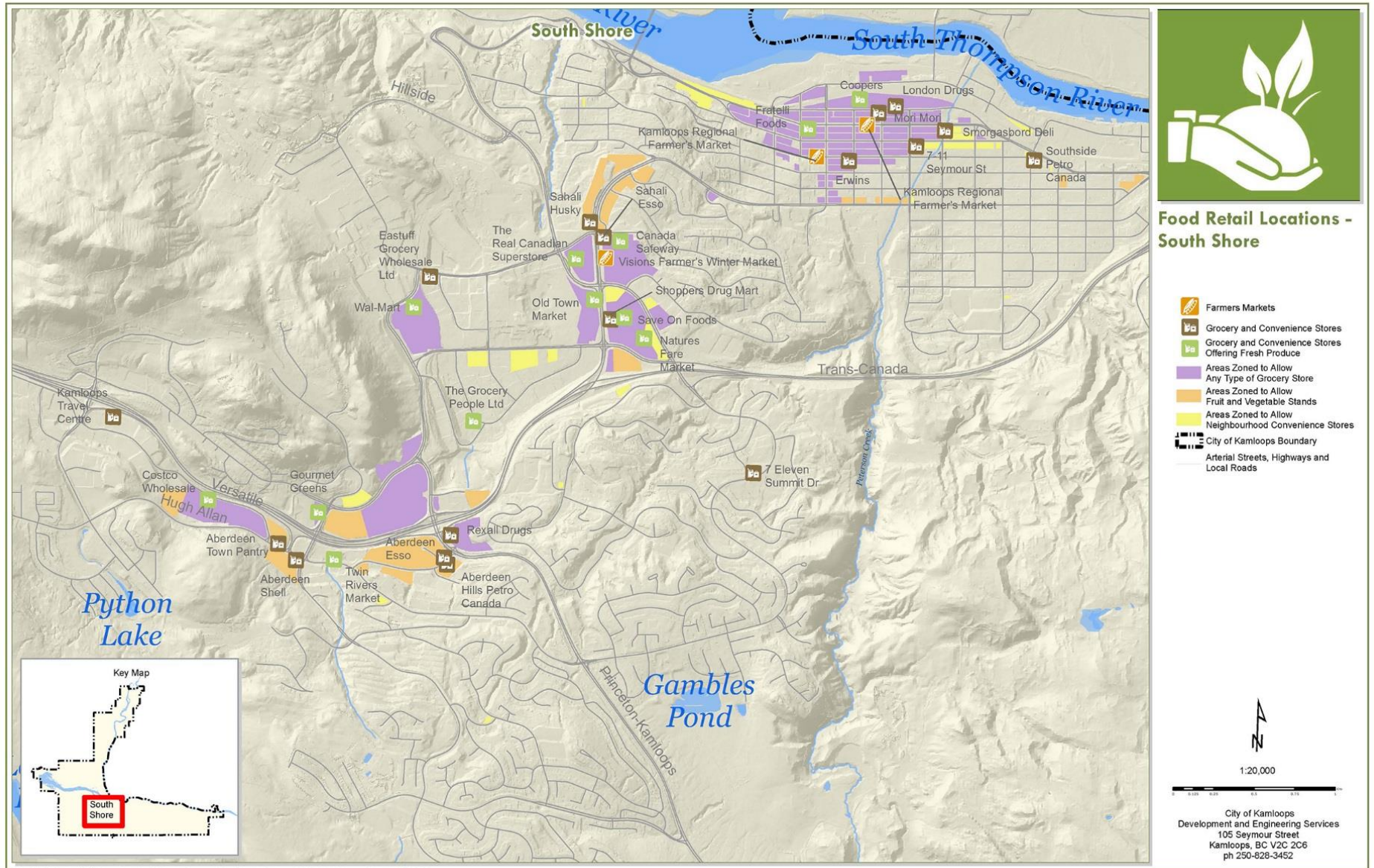
Map 3 - Emergency Food Resources



Map 4 - Food Retail Locations - North Shore

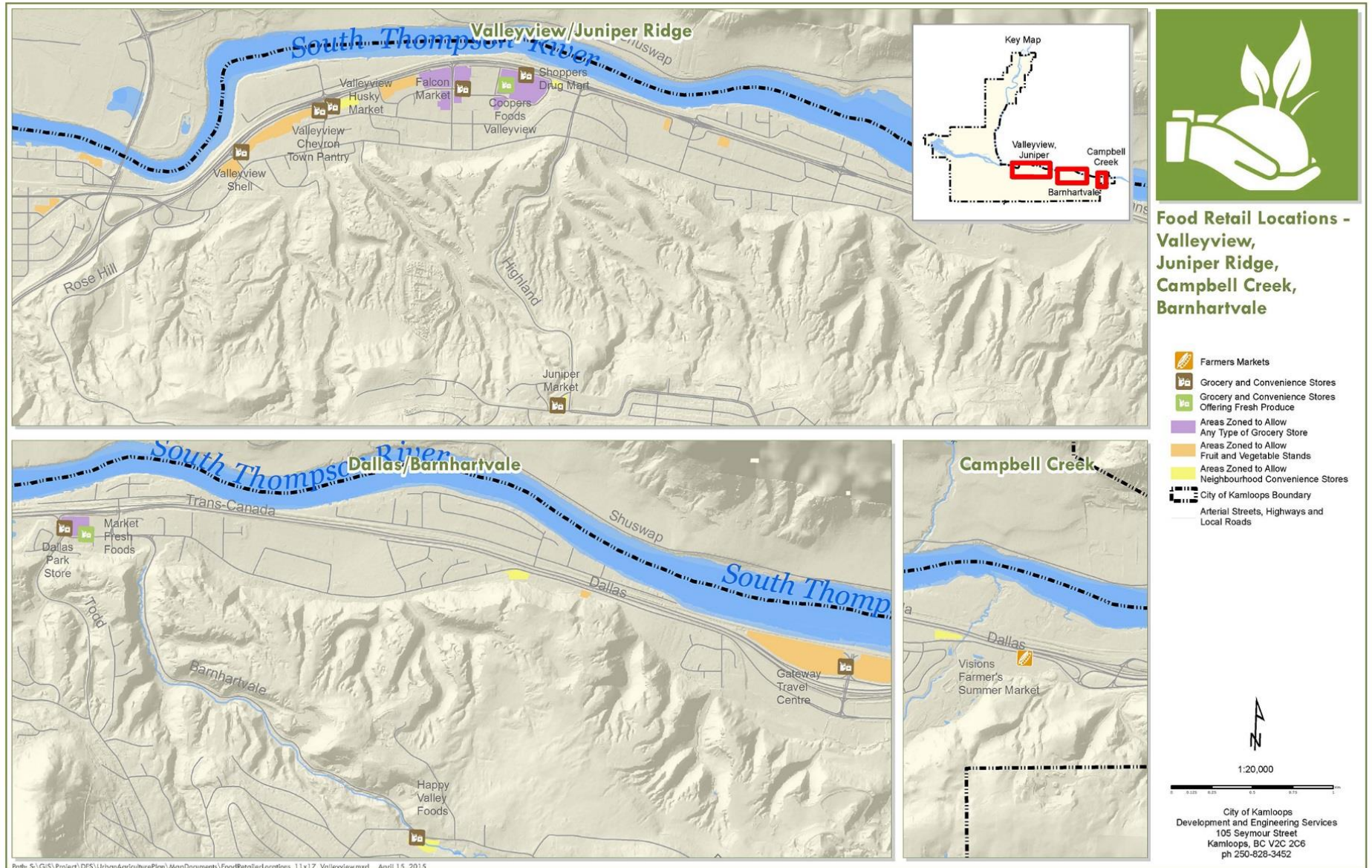


Map 5 - Food Retail Locations - South Shore



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Map 6 - Food Retail Locations - Valleyview, Juniper, Campbell Creek, and Barnhartvale



Map 7 - Food Retail Locations - Westsyde, Rayleigh, and Heffley Creek

