

ORDINANCE CODIFYING THE OFFICE OF FOOD JUSTICE IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston as follows:

That the City of Boston Code, Ordinances be amended in Chapter VI by adding the following after 6-11:

6-12: The Office of Food Justice

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to formally create the Office of Food Justice, which will work to build an equitable, resilient, sustainable and just food system and to improve accessibility and affordability of nutritious, fresh food in Boston. Every resident in the City should have access to

Section 2. Appointment of Director

The Mayor shall appoint a Director to oversee the Office of Food Justice. nutritious food, and that food should be affordable, easy to find, and reflect the many cultures of the City of Boston. The Office of Food Justice shall support City, state, federal and community led programs and initiatives that build food security and increase access to culturally relevant food that reflects the diversity of Boston residents.

Section 3. Duties of the Office of Food Justice

The Office of Food Justice shall:

1. Implement and administer programs and projects related to its purpose;
2. Monitor and conduct research and analysis on local, state, and federal laws, policies that impact food access for Boston residents and Boston's food system;
3. Advise and assist the Mayor in developing and implementing policies designed to build a resilient, equitable, just and sustainable food system and tackle food insecurity;
4. Make recommendations and provide coordination and support to City departments and agencies that administer food security, nutrition and agriculture programs; and
5. Perform community outreach to accomplish its goals; and shall promulgate all rules necessary to effectuate the purposes of this legislation.

The Office of Food Justice is authorized to enter into agreements necessary to effectuate programs and projects related to its purpose, and, in connection with agreements entered into under this Ordinance, to enter into and execute all such other instruments and to perform any and all acts, including the allocation and expenditure of duly appropriated funds, as shall be necessary or advisable in connection with the implementation of such agreements and any renewals thereto.

Section 4. Severability

The provisions in this ordinance are severable. If any part or provision of this ordinance, or the application of this ordinance to any person or circumstance, is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected by such holding and shall continue to have full force and effect.

Section 5. Effective Date

This ordinance shall be in effect upon passage.