



GrowRIVERSIDE Initiative

Community & Economic
Development Department

City Council
May 24, 2016

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Grow Local. Eat Local.

Localizing Riverside's
food system to:

1. Spur economic activities
2. Increase food access and security
3. Strengthen communities for a more resilient and sustainable future



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Farm-to-Fork Dinner at RUSD



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Community Gatherings, Jan. 29 & Feb. 24

- Community outreach events to network, learn, engage, and support localizing the food system



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Growers Forum, March 4

1. Half day workshop for growers, farmers, property owners
2. Presentations on ACP, growing specialty crops, ag land leasing, irrigation resources, and microloans from USDA



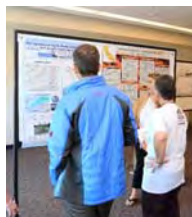
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3rd Annual GrowRIVERSIDE Conference & Citrus Circle Dinner, March 21

1. 380+ attendees, 4 keynote speakers, 14 breakout sessions with 30 speakers, 13 student poster presentations, 75+ sponsors, 25 vendors
2. Hosted a Southern California Regional Food Policy Council meeting



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Farms Tour, March 22

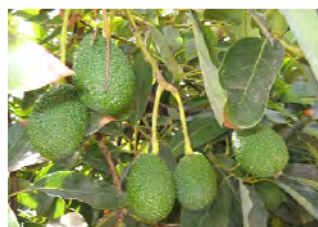
1. Farms in the Greenbelt and across the City
2. Walking tour of Gage Canal
3. Eastside HEAL Zone
4. UCR Agricultural Operations



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Initiative Impacts

1. Capacity building via the Riverside Food Systems Alliance
2. >4,300 volunteer hours, valued at \$115,971
3. Riverside Food Co-op & the Eastside HEAL Zone
4. 45 acres of avocados planted, more acres planned



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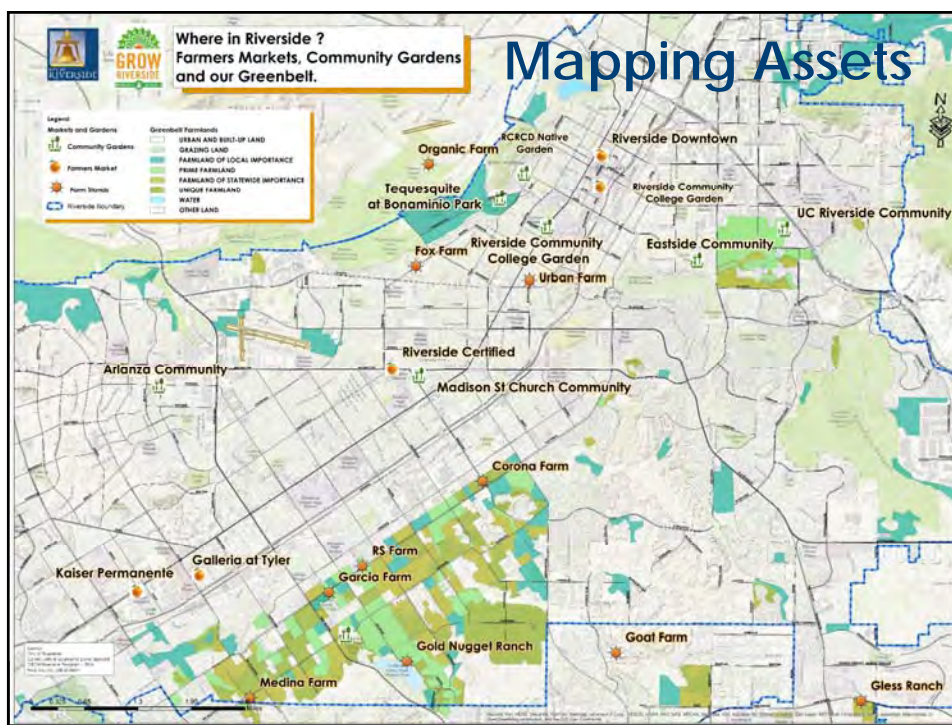
Initiative Impacts

5. Establishment of a micro food hub and Farmers Guild
6. Riverside is a viable region to finance farmers, entrepreneurs, agribusinesses
7. Farm-to-Fork Steakhouse at San Manuel Indian Bingo & Casino
8. Two Trees Bakery
9. Discussions of a local food hub, food coop market, urban ag school



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Next Steps

1. Support momentum through innovative programs, education and collaboration
 - Dinners, Growers Forum, Community Gatherings, and the 4th Annual Conference in 2017
2. Continue to facilitate opportunities to fully realize food and agricultural potential
3. Connect farmers and property owners
4. Address barriers by bringing resources to stakeholders
5. Develop a local brand
6. Recruitment of agribusinesses and farmers
7. Explore opportunities for urban agriculture technology

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Questions

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