

Food Policy Forum Meeting Summary

WASHINGTON STATE
FOOD POLICY FORUM

Thursday, August 7, 2025 • 1:00–4:00 PM

Key Takeaways

- The Forum is in the midst of a multi-part work planning process. This meeting focused on presenting and discussing priority topics that warrant Forum action.
- Topics and opportunities for action presented by small teams are preliminary and have not yet been endorsed or activated by the full Forum.
- Topics and opportunities for action will be refined by small teams and brought to the full Forum at the October 2 Forum meeting to inform the final stage of work planning and prepare the October legislative report.

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Chris Elder, Whatcom County Public Works (WCPW), the newly appointed Forum Administrative Chair, opened the meeting by welcoming Forum members and expressing appreciation for Addie Candib's, American Farmland Trust (AFT), leadership over the past year. Chris reflected on the value and depth of the dialogue during the recent topical small team discussions, emphasizing the importance of maintaining collaborative momentum.

Petra Vallila-Buchman, Ross Strategic facilitator, reviewed the agenda and framed the meeting's focus on small team report-outs and upcoming work planning milestones.

Forum Leadership Update: Administrative and Vice Chair Transition

Laura Raymond, WA State Department of Agriculture (WSDA), expressed deep gratitude to Addie Candib, AFT, for her leadership as the Forum's first Administrative Chair, recognizing her shaping a role that had no prior blueprint. Laura also welcomed Chris Elder, WCPW, and John DeVaney, WA State Tree Fruit Commission (WSTFA), into their new leadership roles. Hilary Aten, WA State Conservation Commission Office of Farmland Preservation (SCC-OFP) echoed Laura's sentiment.

Addie Candib, AFT, expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve as the first Administrative Chair, thanking the Forum for their trust in allowing her to help shape a previously undefined role. She reflected on the privilege of working closely with the convening agencies and the Ross team, gaining insight into the care and intention of the Forum's leadership. Addie shared her optimism for the future of the role and voiced strong confidence in Chris and Jon's leadership moving forward.

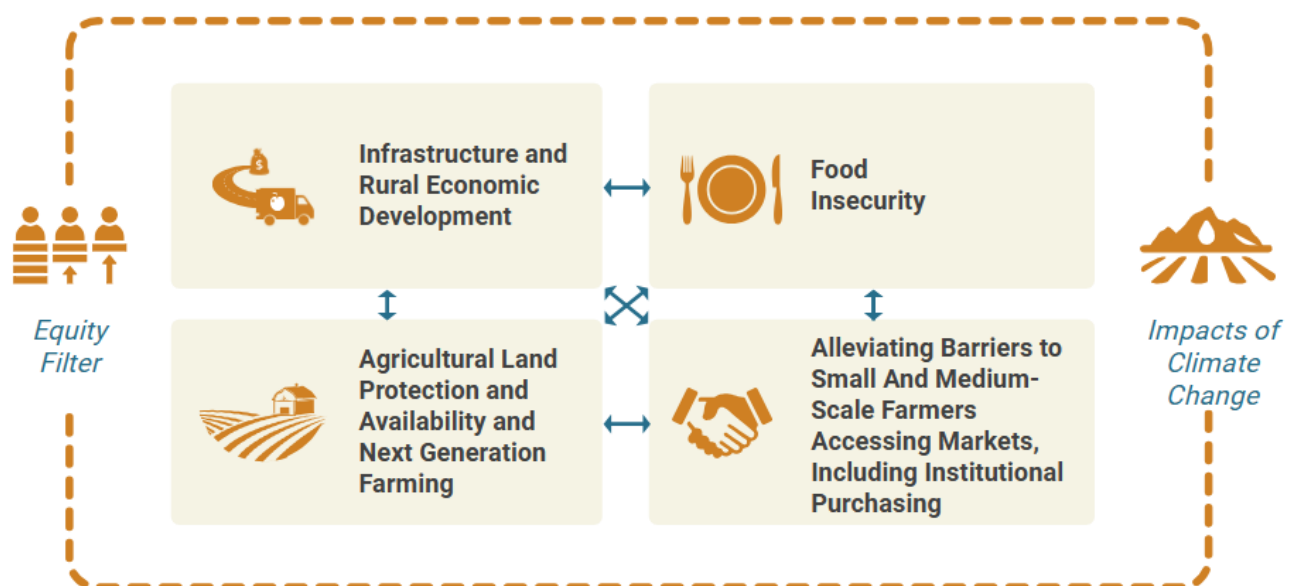
Two-Year Work Planning Process Review

Petra reviewed the Forum’s multi-step work planning process which began in April with a member survey and four topical opt-in calls that surfaced key topics that warrant the Forum’s attention. These inputs shaped the May 8 Forum meeting, which focused on identifying topical priorities. Then, the June 23 Forum meeting featured five “State of the State” presentations each one led by a Forum member and state agency representative and focused on a component of the Forum’s Food System Lens to assess the food system landscape and existing consensus recommendations. Small team discussions took place in July and August to further develop and refine proposed priorities. As a reminder of how the Forum orients itself, Petra shared the Forum’s current Typology (pictured below) and reiterated that work planning is organized around five food system components (pictured below) which are rooted in the Forum’s 2019 framework.

Forum Typology

Food System Component
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 5 components that make up the Forum’s food system lens (e.g., food insecurity, infrastructure).
Topics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These are the topics the Forum prioritizes every two years and around which small teams form to pursue action.
Existing recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior reports include a mix of general and specific recommendations—some broadly outline solutions, while others clearly identify who should implement them.
Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevate existing, specific recommendations (e.g., the State Brand Team). • Bring greater specificity and focus to broad existing recommendations. • Deepen shared understanding of new ideas without existing recommendations. • Develop new recommendations. <p><i>Actions such as letters of support or recommendation reports require a consensus vote.</i></p>

Forum’s Food System Lens



Topical Small Team Report-Outs

Following the June 23 Forum meeting, members joined small teams aligned with their expertise, with some participating in multiple groups (see Appendix A for the list of participants in each small team). Five topical teams met in late July and early August to discuss:

- Agricultural land protection and next generation farming
- Hunger and food insecurity
- Impacts of climate change
- Alleviating barriers to small and mid-scale farm viability and market access
- Regional food infrastructure and institutional procurement for economic development

Building on the April-June prioritization work, each team was asked to identify topics that are **both urgent and opportune**, with attention to long-term impact and the current fiscal landscape.

While topical teams naturally began brainstorming potential actions, the Forum's structure requires that action-oriented work be organized around clearly defined topics. Any formal action, such as letters of support or policy recommendations, requires full Forum consensus.

Each team's discussion is summarized in these [topical team report-out Google slides](#), which include background, existing recommendations, and early ideas for opportunities for action to help guide discussion. These ideas are for Forum consideration and do not represent finalized or activated actions. Final priority topics will be refined and discussed again at the full Forum in October.

The slides represent synthesized content from months of discussion and are intended as a starting point for engagement. Forum members were encouraged to use them to ask questions, suggest edits, and help shape priorities ahead of the October 2 meeting. Below is a summary of each team's report-out and the subsequent Forum-wide discussion.

Agricultural Land Protection and Next Generation Farming Small Team

Hilary Aten, SCC-OFP, provided an overview of the small team's rationale for determining their proposed topics and actions for the Forum to consider for full consensus by providing background context of the discussion prior to the Forum meeting. The small team acknowledged meaningful progress in farmland preservation and support for next-generation farmers, notably through initiatives like the nonprofit farm-linking programs and conservation easement funding via the Farmland Protection and Land Access program. However, persistent challenges remain, especially around under-resourced succession planning and unfunded land linking programs, which continue to be in high demand statewide. Voluntary conservation strategies are preferred, though regulatory tools like GMA and local land use planning were discussed as necessary complements. Concerns were raised about accelerating farmland fragmentation, inconsistent agricultural zoning, and the impact of industrial energy projects on land use priorities. Overall, the group emphasized that while some recommendations have advanced, funding limitations and policy inconsistencies hinder broader progress, making this a timely moment to revisit and reinforce strategic priorities particularly around the following four priority topics and associated opportunities:

Topic 1: Land linking, succession planning, and land affordability

Opportunities for action:

- Elevate the existing recommendations on funding for land access/transition programs, funding for voluntary conservation easements, and developing incentives for transition

- Explore and identify revenue-generating options for land transition support, drawing on incentive models from other states and localities.

Topic 2: Renewable energy siting impacts on agriculture

Opportunity for action:

- Develop new rules for renewable energy siting that require developers to pay mitigation fees when agricultural land is converted to solar or other energy uses.

Discussion

One Forum member noted the growing interest and concern around battery energy storage systems (BESS), especially as utilities seek to expand grid capacity in response to Washington's energy needs which are increasingly generating conflict over their potential impacts on agricultural land. While this topic is primarily focused on solar siting, the team could consider including BESS in this topic and in future discussions due to its similar land use implications.

Topic 3: Agricultural zoning and farmland conservation goals

Opportunities for action:

- Bring agricultural zoning boundaries and requirements into alignment with stricter agricultural and climate criteria to ensure maximum protection of working lands, consistent with the goals of the Growth Management Act.
- Evaluate agricultural zoning boundaries and requirements in relation to climate resilience and land conservation goals under the Growth Management Act.

Discussion

A Forum participant on the small team raised concerns about referencing the GMA too broadly, suggesting that the phrase "consistent with the goals of the GMA" may be too vague or politically charged for public or legislative audiences. Another Forum small team participant emphasized the GMA's critical role in guiding local governments on agricultural zoning and land protection. Others cautioned against framing farmland preservation as solely a GMA issue, given its divisive history and the existence of relevant efforts outside the GMA framework. Ultimately, there was agreement on the need for more specific and clear language such as referencing the resource lands and climate elements of the GMA to better align with planning practices and avoid misinterpretation. Members also noted the difference between fully planning GMA counties and partially planning ones, emphasizing that the nuances in zoning and land use policy require tailored approaches rather than one-size-fits-all solutions. Regarding a recommendation that addresses the GMA, one member highlighted the importance of ensuring it resonates with both local governments and the Legislature.

Topic 4: Voluntary land conservation

Opportunities for action:

- Increase opportunity for voluntary land conservation by:
 - Piloting a TDR pool to streamline voluntary, market-based compensation for landowners affected by zoning restrictions, while ensuring developers who benefit from increased density contribute to the cost of land conservation.

- Expanding regional TDR programs to provide voluntary, market-based compensation for landowners affected by zoning restrictions by allowing the sale of development rights for use in designated receiving areas.
- De-silo riparian (species) conservation from ag land conservation.

Hunger and Food Insecurity Small Team

Claire Lane, Anti-Hunger & Nutrition Coalition, shared background information from the small team's discussion prior to the Forum meeting that motivated their proposed topics and actions for the Forum to consider. Since 2019, there have been notable successes in food security efforts, but many were temporary, driven by pandemic-era waivers and federal funding that have since been rescinded. The rollback of programs like Local Food for Schools has significantly impacted the ability to support low-income communities, even as hunger rates continue to rise. The coordinated response led by WSDA during the pandemic demonstrated the value of cross-agency collaboration, and recent data from the WA Food Survey underscores the urgency of addressing food insecurity ahead of upcoming federal changes to SNAP.

Aaron Czyzewski highlighted the extraordinary strain on Washington's charitable hunger relief system during a time of political upheaval and rising food insecurity, with food banks now rationing services amid record demand. He emphasized that while SNAP provides the vast majority of meals to food-insecure individuals, the charitable system still handles hundreds of millions of pounds of food annually through over 600 agencies. Despite these challenges, he sees a critical opportunity for the Food Policy Forum to align existing capacity, pursue innovation, and build a more resilient food system supported by promising initiatives like WSDA's produce donation pilot and proposed legislation for a statewide food security strategy. Based on this background information, the small team identified the two topics and associated opportunities below:

Topic 1: Rapid response and coordination for hunger

Opportunities for action:

- Create a fast-moving action network to convene weekly or bi-weekly like during COVID on specified topics.
- Develop a mechanism to better understand who is hungry and whereby creating a dashboard.
- Illuminate the hunger safety net: Make various roles played by each state agency and program across the hunger safety net more visible to understand where to maximize time and energy.

Discussion

A guest contributor emphasized that a key difference between the current moment and past efforts is the shift away from a rapid-response environment today amidst the increased demand and instability, as opposed to the abundant emergency resources during COVID which addressed increased demand and instability in the hunger safety. More collaboration is needed among state agencies, nonprofits, and businesses to advance coordinated, long-term strategies for hunger relief.

One Forum member reflected on the unique opportunity Washington State had during the pandemic to test innovative food system models, thanks to the urgency and flexibility of emergency response efforts. There was concern that without intentional documentation and preservation, those successful approaches risk being lost as funding and momentum shift. To support long-term resilience, the Forum could consider recommending a strategy to capture and retain these innovations for future use, especially in building

strong local food access loops. Some members are not as concerned about losing track of what happened and what's working and feel the need should be more focused on building the hunger safety net tighter and working smarter to coordinate around the emergency food system.

A guest contributor shared the need and opportunity to link producers with surplus to organizations such as Feeding Washington and Northwest Harvest to prevent food waste and maximize the distribution of food to hungry people. Some Forum members noted that this work is already being accomplished by food banks while others pointed to the need for network infrastructure for coordination to acknowledge the level of effort involved in coordination.

Topic 2: Eligibility for SNAP

Opportunities for action:

- Identify funding to utilize tech solutions to more accurately identify SNAP errors and understand the type of SNAP errors happening.

Impacts of Climate Change Small Team

Chad Kruger, Washington State University Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources (WSU-CSANR), presented the small team's discussion summary emphasizing that addressing agricultural water supply is the most urgent priority due to current drought conditions and long-term risks. There is a need for strategic planning and progress to begin now to ensure water availability 20-30 years from now. The small team reviewed past recommendations and the WSDA Climate Resilience Plan, noting its strength but lack of funding. Agriculture receives less than 0.5% of Climate Commitment Act funds despite its vulnerability and readiness for adaptation. Farmers are already investing in climate-smart and adaptive practices but face barriers due to limited funding and technical support. The small team also discussed emerging challenges such as workforce disruptions, pest pressures, and heat stress. They emphasized the need to reframe climate from a production issue to a food system issue to better communicate its broad impacts on food security, public health, and economic stability. Below are the topics that emerged from the small team discussion:

Topic 1: Water supply for agriculture

Opportunities for action:

- Propose and prepare a policy work session focused on agricultural water supply.
 - Focus on framing water as a food system issue to broaden support and emphasize consequences of inaction (e.g., food insecurity, economic loss).
 - Engage the Joint Legislative Task Force on Drought and other relevant stakeholders to support the session.

Discussion

A Forum participant from the small team reiterated the complexity and controversy of water supply issues, noting the potential heavy lift for the Forum. They emphasized the group's acknowledgment to balance larger, long-term efforts like agricultural water supply with shorter-term, low-cost, high-impact actions. One member highlighted opportunities to align water infrastructure funding with federal programs and suggested inviting the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Washington state conservationist, Roylene Comes at Night, to speak to the Forum.

Topic 2: Climate-smart agriculture

Opportunities for action:

- Build agency and partner capacity to implement climate-smart agriculture.
 - Align with WSDA's Climate Resilience Plan.
 - Support needs for staffing, technical assistance, and implementation.
 - Use SCC and WSDA reports to identify region-specific practices.

Discussion

A Forum member shared insights from national discussions on agriculture's carbon footprint, emphasizing the need for better metrics that reflect climate resilience, such as soil health improvements from practices like direct seeding, and better recognition of existing climate-smart practices. Noting that the question of prior action has been a long-standing concern, Chad Kruger, WSU-CSANR, referenced a 2023 paper co-authored by himself and Dani Gelardi, WSDA, titled [*Grounding United States policies and programs in soil carbon science: strengths, limitations, and opportunities*](#), that describes ten different existing policy mechanisms that have been used to support investment in soil carbon. Another member added that some early adopters of climate-smart practices are often excluded from incentive programs because they are not considered "new" adopters. There is a need to support producers who have already taken the risk to implement these practices and help them continue. To clarify the action on funding for climate-smart agriculture, a Forum member proposed an approach through both matching funding to commodity commissions to invest in climate resilience research, as recommended in WSDA's Climate Resilience Plan, and expand on-farm implementation through programs available to all farmers and ranchers, such as SCC's Sustainable Farms and Fields Program.

Topic 3: Climate resilience funds for agriculture

Opportunities for action:

- Revisit a previous proposal for climate resilience funds distributed through commodity commissions, allowing flexibility across cropping systems and regions.
 - This can help distribute climate adaptation funds more equitably, but needs broader applicability and buy-in.
 - Re-engage agency partners to help structure and administer funding.
- Revisit 2022 work regarding distribution of CCA funds to agriculture.

Discussion

Forum members cautioned around relying solely on commodity commissions for fund distribution, noting that many farms are not represented by commissions. One member noted that most commissions do manage projects and are investing in climate research, with only a few commissions (beef, dairy, and apple) focus solely on promotion. Forum members discussed the importance of keeping funding language broad in regard to CCA funds for ag-related climate projects to include entities beyond commodity commissions (e.g., SCC, WSU, conservation districts, Commerce, NGOs).

Topic 4: Climate as a food system issue

Opportunities for action:

- Develop messaging to communicate climate as a food system issue for use in a variety settings. Use this framing to build broader support and convey urgency.

Discussion

Forum members emphasized the need for inclusive messaging that reflects the interconnected impacts on food access, health, and economic resilience.

Alleviating Barriers to Small and Mid-Scale Farm Viability and Market Access Small Team

Melissa Spear, Tilth Alliance, presented the summary of discussion on behalf of the small team and started by presenting key statistics from the 2022 Census: Washington has 32,000 farms, 78% of which have sales under \$50,000, and 81% are under 180 acres. Additionally, 41% of farmers are over the age of 65. Melissa emphasized that this was the Forum's first focused conversation on small and mid-scale farm viability and expressed hope to expand and deepen the discussion. Below are the topics that emerged from the small team discussion:

Topic 1: Technical assistance (TA) and capacity building

Opportunities for action:

- Improve coordination among TA providers, possibly through a convening body or shared infrastructure.
- Increase outreach and coordination with the business community.
- Develop TA offerings to meet the needs of mid-scale farmers.
- Analyze newly released and forthcoming publications such as the [Agricultural Competitiveness and Business Viability Study](#) and AFT's [Puget Sound Agricultural Viability Farmer Survey Results](#) to identify gaps in TA.

Discussion

A Forum participant on the small team emphasized the complexity of creating market access for small and mid-scale producers, citing food safety, packaging, and distribution requirements as examples. They suggested considering regional value chain coordinators to help producers navigate these barriers. A guest contributor suggested that value chain coordination, or navigation programs, could intersect with some intermediary "help line" for farms in distress, supporting general health and viability before reaching crisis levels.

Another Forum member raised questions about whether existing infrastructure organizations are adequately supporting small and mid-scale farmers, especially through cooperative models and aggregation, and what the solutions might be. Members noted that while many entities ranging from commodity commissions to USDA and local programs offer support, smaller producers often face structural barriers, such as eligibility constraints and lack of upfront capital for reimbursable grants. The USDA Regional Food Business Center, which aimed to address these challenges and improve coordination, was recently discontinued.

Topic 2: Small and mid-scale farm viability

Opportunities for action:

- Raise the profile of small and mid-scale farm viability in WA, perhaps by contributing to the forthcoming [Agricultural Competitiveness and Business Viability Study](#).
- Make sense of recent data on farm viability for small and mid-scale agriculture.
- Investigate policy tools to support generational and non-family farm transitions. (Connects to Ag Land Preservation & Next Generation Farming).

Discussion

Forum members explored agritourism as a potential area of opportunity, especially with growing interest and momentum at the university level. While some cautioned that agritourism can overshadow food production in some areas, others emphasized its value as a marketing and education tool that helps keep farmland in production. One Forum member noted that 56% of farmers have a primary occupation outside of farming, and while agritourism can provide needed income, not all farmers want to engage in what is essentially a separate business. A guest contributor noted that agritourism is a market channel for small farms, with festivals offering both financial and educational value. A Forum member emphasized the importance of protecting farmland for food and fiber production, alongside the need to support farmers who prefer to focus on agriculture rather than tourism-based enterprises.

The discussion also highlighted the importance of addressing mental health as part of farm viability. One member encouraged the Forum to review recommendations from WSDA's recent report, [Mental Health & Suicide Prevention for Agricultural Producers & Workers](#), published in June 2025. The report stems from a legislative work group focused on supporting the mental health of farmers and farmworkers and includes comprehensive recommendations relevant to the Forum's ongoing discussions.

Topic 3: Public funding for small and mid-scale agriculture

Opportunities for action:

- Increase public procurement opportunities.
- There's concern that existing ag funding may not be reaching small farms proportionately.
- Ideas surfaced around auditing how public dollars are spent and creating "small farm first" procurement policies.
- Ensure public markets (e.g., institutional buyers) are viable for small/mid-scale producers. (Connects to discussion in Regional Food Infrastructure & Institutional Procurement for Economic Development which included discussion on TA to serve institutional markets)

Discussion

There were concerns that existing agricultural funding may not be reaching small farms proportionately. Members discussed the need for more equitable access to public markets and procurement programs, and the importance of tailoring funding structures to meet the needs of smaller producers.

Regional Food Infrastructure and Institutional Procurement for Economic Development Small Team

Aslan Meade, Thurston Economic Development Council, emphasized the invaluable insights gained through the [WSDA infrastructure grant program](#), which has helped identify critical needs among producers, such as minimal processing capacity and wash stations. He also noted the growing importance of workforce development and investment, sharing examples of successful projects in Southwest Washington, like the grain initiative, while noting the unexpected challenges that can arise, such as weather impacts and market shifts. Aslan also highlighted the importance of communication and coordination among producers across regions to avoid duplicating efforts and to share best practices to ensure that infrastructure investments are viable and sustainable. This small team identified the following five topics with associated opportunities for the Forum to pursue:

Topic 1: Institutional procurement readiness

Opportunities for action:

- Provide small and mid-sized farms education and guidance to meet institutional standards for packing, handling, and food safety.

Topic 2: Coordination and strategic planning for infrastructure**Opportunities for action:**

- Clarify the definition of “infrastructure” to guide funding and planning efforts. For example, should the Forum’s definition include workforce?
- Conduct a SWOT analysis of WA food system infrastructure (e.g., Assess what we have, what we’ve lost, and how that affects current projects and investments.
- Provide opportunities, encourage, and facilitate communication among statewide stakeholders.
- Need Regional coordinators.

Discussion

One member noted the need for improved coordination between geographies and jurisdictions that are supporting investments in this sector to ensure resulting facilities and projects are positioned for success and not undue competition.

Topic 3: Workforce development**Opportunities for action:**

- Address ongoing labor shortages and inspire the next generation to pursue careers in agriculture.
- Explore the role of technology (e.g., robotics) in attracting younger workers (including exploring/integrating AI).
- Consider whether workforce development should be recognized as a component of food system infrastructure.
- Engage with the [Career Connect Washington](#) program to sponsor workforce development in areas like food processing.

Discussion

One Forum member shared the sentiment that many young people are eager to engage in food system work but often lack clear pathways, training, and guidance to enter the field. Further, low wages and high living costs present major barriers for young adults entering the field, especially in roles like farming and meat processing. Another member emphasized the growing interest in food systems education, particularly at University of Washington. This suggests the need for a coordinated network among colleges and organizations to develop a food systems workforce assessment and align training with workforce needs to better understand gaps and opportunities in Washington’s food systems workforce. One member emphasized the critical role of undocumented labor in the food system and raised concerns about the impact of current federal immigration policies on agricultural production, urging the Forum to focus on this as a food issue.

Topic 4: Public and private investment in food system infrastructure**Opportunities for action:**

- Position regional food system infrastructure as essential public infrastructure—on par with energy or transportation. These systems may not always be profitable but are critical for resilience, food security, and public well-being. Public investment is justified where private capital is deterred by high risk, similar to investments in emerging technologies or climate solutions.
- Explore state strategies to de-risk private investment, such as covering a portion (e.g., 10%) of potential losses. This model, used in other sectors, could unlock private capital by reducing financial risk.
- Support public-private-nonprofit partnerships to develop infrastructure.

Topic 5: Regional-scale and on-farm processing and distribution capacity

Opportunities for action:

- Cultivate skilled operators for processing facilities.
- Support on-farm infrastructure such as wash/pack stations and minimal processing capabilities (e.g., removing field heat, washing produce) so farms can prepare products for co-packing or further distribution.

Next Steps & Closing

To continue this work, the Forum will reconvene the same small teams in late August and early September to refine and confirm topical priorities for the Forum’s two-year work plan and develop proposed content for inclusion in the October legislative report. The Ross Strategic team will synthesize this discussion and support small teams in drafting narrative content for the October report for review and refinement by the full Forum.

At the October 2 Forum meeting, small teams will present proposed content for both the October legislative report and the two-year work plan. Once priority topics are confirmed, the Forum will organize new small teams around those topics to begin implementation.

Petra Vallila-Buchman invited Jon DeVaney, WA State Tree Fruit Commission, to share closing reflections as the new Forum Vice Chair. Jon thanked members for joining and staying engaged throughout the content-rich meeting. He expressed inspiration from the depth and breadth of the eighteen topics discussed, each with varying levels of detail. Jon urged Forum members to focus on identifying actionable next steps for each topic, emphasizing that none should be dismissed, and encouraged continued engagement before the next meeting.

Appendix A. July and August Topical Small Team Participants

Below is a list of members who participated in the July and August small team discussions. Some members were unable to join due to scheduling conflicts. Some guest contributors were invited based on their expertise and involvement in the June 23 Forum meeting.

Agricultural Land Protection and Next Generation Farming Small Team

- Addie Candib, American Farmland Trust
- Chris Elder, Whatcom County Public Works
- Dan Wood, WA State Dairy Federation
- Hilary Aten, WA State Conservation Commission-Office of Farmland Preservation
- Heather Wendt, WA Association of Conservation Districts
- KayDee Gilkey, WA Association of Wheat Growers
- Rep. Mary Dye, WA State Legislature
- Mary Embleton, King Conservation District
- Nate Lewis, WA Farmland Trust

Hunger and Food Insecurity Small Team

- Aaron Czyzewski, Food Lifeline
- Brice Montgomery, WA Dept. of Social and Health Services
- Brittany Tybo, WA State Dept. of Health (non-member)
- Chris Voigt, WA State Potato Commission
- Claire Lane, Anti-Hunger & Nutrition Coalition
- Diane Dempster, Clark County Food System Council
- Jennifer Otten, UW Food Systems, Nutrition, and Health
- Katie Rains, WA State Dept. of Agriculture (non-member)
- Kyle Unland, WA Dept. of Health
- Leanne Eko, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Impacts of Climate Change Small Team

- Caleb Gwerder, WA Farm Bureau
- Chad Kruger, WSU-CSANR
- Chris Voigt, WA State Potato Commission
- Chris Elder, Whatcom County Public Works
- Dani Gelardi, WA State Dept. of Agriculture (non-member)
- Jon DeVaney, WA State Tree Fruit Commission
- Sen. Judy Warnick, WA State Legislature
- Laura Raymond, WA State Dept. of Agriculture
- Linda Neunzig, Snohomish County
- Melissa Spear, Tilth Alliance
- Richard Conlin, Conlin Columbia Partnership for Cities

Alleviating Barriers to Small and Mid-Scale Farm Viability and Market Access Small Team

- Addie Candib, American Farmland Trust
- Brian Estes, LINC Foods
- Caleb Gwerder, WA Farm Bureau
- Diane Dempster, Clark County Food Systems Council
- Jon DeVaney, WA State Tree Fruit Commission
- Kate Smith, WSU Food Systems Program
- Laura Raymond, WSDA
- Mary Embleton, King Conservation District
- Melissa Spear, Tilth Alliance
- Nate Lewis, WA Farmland Trust

Regional Food Infrastructure and Institutional Procurement for Economic Development Small Team

- Aslan Meade, Thurston Economic Development Council
- Brian Estes, LINC Foods
- Jennifer Otten, UW Food Systems, Nutrition, and Health
- Laura Raymond, WSDA
- Leanne Eko, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Linda Neunzig, Snohomish County
- Marie Spiker, UW Food Systems, Nutrition, and Health
- Mary Embleton, King Conservation District
- PJ Crawley, Charlie's Produce
- Tim Crosby, Thread Fund