

Finalizing and Stewarding Washington State's 25-Year Vision for a Healthy, Just and Sustainable Food System

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Context

The **Washington State Food Systems Roundtable (FSRT)** is a coalition of public and private partners representing state agencies, local food policy councils, agriculture, food enterprises, labor, anti-hunger and nutrition, economic development, academia, public health and others. Their mission is to produce a **25-year vision for a healthy, just and sustainable food system for Washington State.**

Since 2012, the FSRT has drafted an initial document, conducted extensive community 'stakeholdering' and created four topical work groups to revise the initial Prospectus based on feedback from the 'stakeholdering' process. The four work groups are: **People, Environment, Economy** and **Stewardship**



Objectives and Methods

My role with the FSRT was to support the four topical work groups with making proposed revisions to the final document. This involved:

- ❖ Scheduling work group meetings
- ❖ Tracking work group recommendations
- ❖ Drafting revisions documents
- ❖ Vetting revisions with the full Roundtable
- ❖ Assisting the **Stewardship** work group with developing a plan for stewardship.

I am grateful to the members of the Washington State Food Systems Roundtable.

A special thanks to Vic Colman, Kara Martin, Marcia Ostrom and Amy Ellings who were the leads for the four topical work groups.

Conclusion

The FSRT met three times over the course of my practicum to review the proposed revisions made by the four topical work groups. Each time, the FSRT either approved, revised or sent back recommendations to be reworked and presented at the next meeting.

At the end of the third meeting, the FSRT had incorporated all of the feedback from the community and the expertise of the work group members and was ready to draft a final version of the Prospectus. Once complete, this document will be approved by vote and the FSRT will dissolve.

Stewarding the Prospectus

The purpose of the *Stewardship* work group was to develop a plan to ensure the work of the Prospectus was carried forward after the FSRT was disbanded. They concluded that there were **three roles** that needed to be filled:

- 1) *Convener of local and regional food policy groups*
- 2) *Big picture/think tank*
- 3) *Advocacy*

For each role, the work group made recommendations for **responsibilities, staffing, resources, and budget.**