

# LOCAL-MOTIVE TOUR

## 4 STEPS TOWARD A MORE RESILIENT LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM

### WHY IS A RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEM IMPORTANT FOR A STRONG TOWN?

A strong town is able to sustain itself, with local resources providing the foundation for local prosperity. A resilient food system that provides for residents' basic needs ensures that your city or town will be able to withstand volatile shifts in global food and transportation prices.

### HERE ARE FOUR STEPS TO HELP BUILD THAT RESILIENT SYSTEM

1

#### LET PEOPLE GROW FOOD WHERE IT MAKES SENSE.

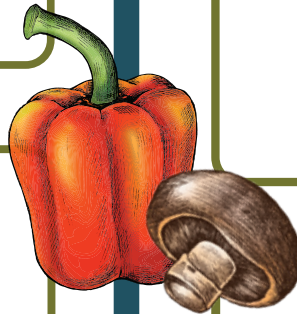
Allow front lawns, vacant lots and underutilized public spaces to be turned into productive gardens that your residents can use to grow food.

2

#### LET PEOPLE PROCESS, PRODUCE, AND SELL FOOD.

Where possible without endangering basic food safety, remove or reduce excessive and expensive certification processes for canning, baking, dairy and meat processing, and other methods of turning produce into products for sale.

As an elected official or city staffer, you can lead the way in implementing policies that advance these four steps. As a business owner or concerned citizen, you can work with local leaders to support these policies, and you can take the initiative to grow and purchase local food.



3

#### SUPPORT THE CREATION OF SMALL-SCALE FOOD BUSINESSES.

Small spaces lower the barrier to entry for local food entrepreneurs. These may include:

Corner stores ■ Food trucks  
Accessory Commercial Units  
Street carts ■ Pop-up shops  
Farmers markets

4

#### MAKE RURAL THE BEST RURAL IT CAN BE. MAKE URBAN THE BEST URBAN IT CAN BE.

Take the development pressure off of rural areas by focusing on building up productive urban spaces. Let farmland be farmland and neighborhoods be neighborhoods, rather than allowing suburban areas to encroach farther and farther onto arable land.