

**DRAFT La Plata County Comprehensive Community Plan
Draft #2a: April 7, 2011**

Accessed from <http://www.laplatacountyplan.com/>
Link: [Draft LPC Comprehensive Community Plan](#)

**Selected Strategies Relating to Local Food Systems
Jim Dyer, 21 Jan 2013**

(Note: There are additional strategies throughout the plan that relate in some way to food and agriculture (transport, weeds, energy, wildlife, etc.)

EV1a. Expand buy-local programs in partnership with local governments, agencies, and nongovernment organizations and increase the local preference percentage in county procurement policies.

EV1c. Support a business incubator and commercial kitchen in partnership with local governments, agencies, and nongovernment organizations that also serves as a one-stop shop that focuses on business recruitment and retention

EV6a. Provide fee discounts or waivers for activities directly associated with agricultural operations, such as application fees, building fees, plumbing and mechanical fees, planning permit fees, impact fees, and road and bridge inspection fees.

EV6b. Support processing and distribution for locally grown food and remove regulatory barriers to value-added production of agricultural products.

EV6c. Exempt county sales tax on locally grown food.

EV6d. Support the development of agricultural infrastructure which supports and increases the capacity of local agriculture and food supply (e.g., distribution center, commercial kitchens, etc.).

SD1a. Support development of a resource guide that summarizes agricultural organizations and programs available in county.

SD1b. Explore the feasibility of financing tools to support farm and agricultural organizations and land acquisitions projects.

SD2a. Investigate the use of agricultural cooperatives and value added agricultural products and provide the findings to the community for education and information.

SD2b. Promote local food production and agriculture uses during the development review process.

SD2c. Educate the community of the value of agriculture and encourage community gardens.

SD2d. Encourage greenhouses to extend the local growing season.

SD3b. Identify rural centers throughout the county that can provide neighborhood and agricultural - related retail services.

SD5a. Educate the community about practicing efficient water distribution and irrigation techniques without compromising water rights.

SD5b. Advocate for legislation to create agricultural water - banking to protect water rights and promote conservation.

SD5c. Promote the use of water harvesting, gray water systems, and reclaimed water, and increase the use of permeable surfaces.

SD7a. Create an Agricultural Advisory Group to work with the La Plata County Commissioners on local, state, and federal policy reforms that benefit local producers and maintain the 35 acre subdivision exemption.

SD7b. Develop land subdivision, zoning, and conservation incentives for agricultural land owners that maintain the integrity of productive agricultural lands while allowing for other forms of development.

SD7c. Amend the development code to incentivize agricultural production to remain viable by providing clear and simple regulatory processes.

SD7d. Utilize County tax policy to support and enhance agricultural production viability (e.g., agricultural inputs, acquisition fund, etc.)

SD7e. Adopt a Right to Farm/Ranch ordinance including content of Colorado's revised statute 35-3.5-101: Nuisance Liability of Agriculture Operations.

HCH10c. Participate in efforts to provide residents of the County such basic human needs as food, clothing, and shelter.