



## **Council Member Application Information and Instructions**

The Washoe County District Board of Health established the Washoe County Food Policy Council in October 2011 as a volunteer public/private partnership to bring together representation from all sectors of the Food System for networking, collaboration, and promotion of access to healthy foods. The mission of the Washoe County Food Policy Council is to support a vibrant, healthy and equitable local food system for Washoe County, Nevada. The Washoe County Food Policy Council is charged with implementing the goals of the Washoe County Food Plan ([http://www.gethealthywashoe.com/fb\\_files/Wc%20Healthy%20food%20plan\\_v3.pdf](http://www.gethealthywashoe.com/fb_files/Wc%20Healthy%20food%20plan_v3.pdf)) and to working towards reducing barriers so that all residents have access to healthy food.

### **Council Member Qualifications**

Membership is entirely voluntary and comes without compensation or per diems. There are currently no term limits for Washoe County Food Policy Council members, but the Council reserves the right to create term limits in the future if it deems this decision advisable.

All applicants are required to attend at least one regular monthly meeting prior to consideration for a seat on the council, and if seated, are required to attend meetings regularly, agree to serve in the interest of the public, and to serve as an unpaid volunteer. The Council meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month (with some exceptions) from noon to 2PM in the Washoe County Health District Building on 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

In addition, applicants shall be engaged in conversation about the commitments of membership with one or more existing council members prior to consideration, in order for the applicant to have a complete understanding of expectations and commitment to fulfilling them.

The Council is comprised of 10-12 volunteer members representing as many of the following areas of the food system as possible:

- Community Food Planning
- Consumers
- Food and Nutrition Data Systems Surveillance and Monitoring
- Food Distribution
- Food Preparation
- Food Production
- Public Food Programs

The Council is also interested in members with expertise in the following areas:

- Senior services
- Nutrition
- Public health
- Waste management
- Urban agriculture
- Emergency food provision/system
- Economic development
- Planning or transportation
- Public policy/advocacy



The criteria used for selecting members may include:

- Ability to commit to a one- or two-year (or longer) term, requiring regular attendance and participation in monthly council meetings, as well as out-of-meeting work, including such tasks as research, building relationships, and working with policy makers;
- Active membership on at least one project- or topic-based subcommittee of the Council that will generate and execute a work plan with specific goals;
- Ability to identify significant issues and generate policy and action items for the Council to pursue;
- Capacity to build collaborative relationships and bring resources to the effort; and
- Passion for improving the food system in Washoe County.
- Consideration and decisions regarding new members shall be made by consensus of seated council members. The membership selection process shall strive to consider racial, socioeconomic, gender, ethnic and geographic diversity.

### **Application Submission Process**

Applications may be completed electronically and be emailed [chair@wcfpc.org](mailto:chair@wcfpc.org). They can also be mailed to Kelli Seals, Washoe County Health District, 1001 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, B-170 Reno, NV 89512

For more information about the Food Policy Council please contact Kelli Seals at (775) 328-6160 or [kseals@washoecounty.us](mailto:kseals@washoecounty.us)

## Membership Application

All information provided will be treated with respect and kept confidential.

Name	
E-Mail	
Telephone	
Address	

Please describe your work or volunteer experience(s) that you've had in any of the aspects of the food systems or areas of expertise indicated on page 1 above. (Helpful information includes when and for how long you worked or volunteered, what organization(s) you worked with, and what your responsibilities were/are.)

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**There are some important aspects of the council's work and functions that we want to be sure all applicants understand ahead of time. Please read each of the following and check YES to indicate that you understand how the council works and that you will be able to work within those guidelines if you are seated on the council.**

Membership on the Council will require attendance at all meetings of the full Council (*plan on 12 times per year*) AND participation in at least one working group (and possibly more) that may meet more frequently AND out-of-meeting work, including email correspondence, community meetings, research, etc.

Yes, I will be able to make this time commitment.

Council members are selected based on their skills, experience, and commitment to transforming the food system, and are asked to serve in the public interest, rather than to directly represent any organization with which they have affiliation. If seated on the Council, will you

Yes, I will be able to serve in the public interest, and recuse myself from discussion topics if there is a conflict of interest.

At this time, financial and staffing resources for the Food Policy Council are limited. **The Council is a 100% volunteer organization.** The Council will be responsible for all administrative tasks, determining meeting structure, communication methods, goals and objectives, and workgroups. The Washoe County Health District will provide support such as meeting space and technical assistance as requested. If seated on the Council, will you be able to serve with the proposed structure?

Yes, I will be able to serve within this structure.

Please answer the following questions. Attach additional sheets of paper, if needed.

Why would you like to be a member of the Food Policy Council?

What is your vision for the Washoe County food system?

What do you see as challenges and opportunities for the Washoe County Food Plan and Washoe County Food Policy Council?

Describe the contribution you could make to the Food Policy Council.

Is there anything else that the Selection Committee would find helpful to know about you?

Optional: Please tell us a brief story about you and food.

Optional: In addition to completing this application, you may also submit your resume. If you wish to do this, please email it along with your application to [chair@wcfpc.org](mailto:chair@wcfpc.org) or mail both your application and resume to Kelli Seals, Washoe County Health District, 1001 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, B-170 Reno, NV 89512