Elgin City Council, March 6, 2018
Presented by: Sue Beckwith, Texas Center for Local Food
• What we’ve accomplished ….. Together

• Community volunteers, local farmers!

• ELF - Elgin Local Food Center

• Why local food and agriculture?

• Where are we now?

• Next steps
What We’ve Accomplished
Leadership in Local Food

• ELF - Elgin Local Food Business Center ready to build; rental commercial kitchen & business incubator

• Elgin ISD Farm-to-School plan completed (USDA $45,000); 1 of 2 in Texas

• Regional Summit on Local Food as Economic Development (2016 support from Elgin EDC)

• Texas Center for Local Food created bringing national attention; selected for USDA initiative 1 of 13 in U.S.; connect rural farmers to urban buyers

• Elgin ISD after school program includes local food & agriculture (State of Texas $22,500/yr, 5 years); 3 farm tours/yr for K-5

• ACC Sustainable Agriculture and Entrepreneurship and Vet Tech building opened 2018
Strengthen Community - Develop Leaders

Farm Tours

Teaching
Strong Elgin Local Food Brand
30+ jobs per year
ELF Community
ELF - Elgin Local Food Center

• What is the ELF?
  • Rental kitchen & business incubator in downtown Elgin
  • Community food education center
  • Create 30+ quality jobs per year
  • Support local agriculture, family farms/ranches

• Why ELF?
  • Quality local jobs
  • Entrepreneurial opportunities
  • Community Input!
  • Position Elgin as a leader in local food
ELF - Elgin Local Food Center
Rental Kitchen and Business Incubator
ELF - Elgin Local Food Center
Need Local Jobs

Household Income Disparities in Central Texas

Legend
Median household income
- $118,750.01 - $208,064.00 (Highest 20%)
- $84,271.01 - $118,750.00
- $60,944.01 - $84,271.00 (Middle 20%)
- $41,317.01 - $60,944.00
- $0.00 - $41,317.00 (Lowest 20%)

By Carol Fraser, PT Regional Planner CAPCOG
February 2018
ELF - Elgin Local Food Center
Create Jobs

Elgin food entrepreneurs
ACC Sustainable Agriculture & Entrepreneurship graduates
Elgin ISD students culinary
Farmers need to process their excess crops
Local food demand by Austin ISD, UT, convention center
Austin kitchens closing
Cooking instructors need teaching kitchen

Expand to Elgin Business Park
Start food business in downtown Elgin

People from Elgin and region
ELF - Elgin Local Food Center
Texans spend $56 Billion/year on food

18 MILLION PEOPLE WITHIN 200 MILES OF ELGIN
Total Cash Investment in Elgin Local Food projects to date $334,600

- USDA $290,100
- State of Texas $22,500
- Elgin EDC $22,000
- City of Elgin + $10,850
Where Are We Now?

• Build new; no existing buildings workable
• Candidate land on Depot next to Police station
• Land survey complete
• EDC has hired architect for conceptual design
• Business plan framework is complete
Elgin, Texas
Leadership in Local Food

THANK YOU!

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