



## Portland Multnomah Food Policy Council



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Wednesday April 11, 2012

To: Chair Cogen and Multnomah County Board Commissioners  
From: Portland Multnomah Food Policy Council

The Portland Multnomah Food Policy Council represents a diverse group of stakeholders in Multnomah County, and formed a subcommittee to identify, understand and develop recommendations to address the regulatory and fiscal barriers to community members' access to healthy foods and micro-enterprise opportunity, specifically for low income, minority and immigrant communities.

The subcommittee has taken a leadership role in addressing the myriad issues around food policy regulation and rules and identifying resources and needs to educate and expand opportunities in the County for food-based micro-enterprise.

One such opportunity is the development of a tiered fee structure introduced by Multnomah County Environmental Health. While acknowledging the important role Multnomah County Environmental Health plays in ensuring food safety, a tiered approach also allows opportunities to reduce fiscal barriers and expand the options for emerging food enterprising.

The Portland Multnomah Food Policy Council supports the implementation of the proposed tiered structure as a way to reduce barriers of entry for food-based microenterprise.

A tiered fee structure is an attempt to make the fees for mobile units more commensurate with the actual cost to the program while instituting a more equitable approach to fees. While the tiered structure will not lower fees compared to this year, for Class 1, 2, 3 mobile units there will, for the first time, be a lower overall fee than the Class 4.

As representatives of the community, the Portland Multnomah Food Policy Council wishes to express its support for all of the great efforts of Multnomah County towards development of a food system that supports positive health outcomes and small business development. The Council is enthusiastic about any future opportunities to support this work.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Portland-Multnomah Food Policy Council Co-Chairs  
David McIntyre & Anita Yap

Regulatory Barriers Workgroup Chair  
Shawn DeCarlo