A ground breaking system to scale local food and restore our commonwealth

Health Creation and Food Commons
July 29th, 2017
London, UK
Health

- Ecological
- Fair
- Justice
- Local
- Nutritious
Issues With the Current Food System

**Scale**
The global industrial food system is too big to see and manage "externalities" and govern effectively at a human and community scale.

**Ownership**
Local food enterprises are too small and fragmented to achieve scale efficiencies in operations, human and financial capital.

**Results and Accountability**
Food and agriculture are largely "extractive" industries, owned and governed by corporate interests and driven by market signals that are distant from the communities they serve.

The current food system is primarily measured by and held accountable for short-term profit and gross productivity, not human, community or environmental health, wealth and well-being.
Our Questions

• How to finance so that it couldn’t be bought and sold?
• How to attract capital including philanthropy?
• How to maintain values and principles?
• How to keep appropriate community scale?
• How to keep the land/assets in community ownership/the commons?
• How to include employees and community in the ownership?
The Food Commons is structured around three core elements to steward and deploy assets at the community level while accessing network benefits inter-regionally and nationally.

**Food Commons Community Fund**

*Financial institution* that facilitates community investment in and ownership of local food enterprises.

**Food Commons Trust**

*Non-profit community-based land trust* to acquire and steward foodshed assets.

**Food Commons Community Corporation**

*For-profit, vertically integrated, community-owned regional food system enterprise* including processing, distribution, and retail.
The Food Commons Offers an Alternative That Meets the Increasing Demand for Local Food and Community-based Economies Centered in Wellness for All

How Food Commons Addresses Issues in the Current System

**Scale**

Enterprises sized for locally-attuned resource management and community stewardship

Vertical integration at the regional level and networking and cooperation inter-regionally and nationally to capture scale economies

**Results and Accountability**

Goals, metrics and governance system grounded in and defined by fundamental values of democracy, fairness, health and wellness

**Extractive Ownership**

Food production assets and enterprises owned and stewarded by the communities they serve, for the long-term benefit of community members
Fresno
Resources

• The Food Commons
  www.thefoodcommons.org
  Vision document
  www.thefoodcommons.org/images/FoodCommons_2-0.pdf

• Commons Health
  www.commonshealth.org

• Twitter
  @thefoodcommons

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