

## Workshop Evaluation

### Freight Innovations to Optimize Regional Food Resiliency, January 5, 2016, Chicago, IL

Please respond to following questions by circling one of the following. The **higher** the number, the **more** the agreement

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Averages:
The workshop covered the topic/s I was most interested in discussing	1	2	3	4	5	4.16
The participants reflected a fair representation of each player in the regional food supply chain	1	2	3	4	5	4.19
	Notes: -More retail and medium scale wholesale buyers -Farmers? Only one in room -No farmers!					
The food and the meeting space enhanced the discussion.	1	2	3	4	5	4.56
An appropriate amount of time was allotted for each presentation/discussion.	1	2	3	4	5	4.34
The workshop was well-organized and flowed logically.	1	2	3	4	5	4.41
There were no significant gaps in the information presented.	1	2	3	4	5	4.03
	Notes: -Focused a lot on one solution- truck hub- would have liked to discuss other options					
There was adequate representation of diversity in speakers.	1	2	3	4	5	4.23
	Notes: -Farmer? -Farmers, drivers, and more wholesalers/ aggregators would have been cool to hear from					
The materials and visuals were helpful.	1	2	3	4	5	3.84
The workshop provided good opportunities for networking.	1	2	3	4	5	4.19
	Notes: -could have used more breaks to enhance this					

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Averages:
I found the discussion table sessions useful/productive.	1	2	3	4	5	4.09
	Notes: -Enhanced because of who I sat with -Maybe rotate people to mix it up					
The knowledge I gained from this workshop will be useful to me in the future.	1	2	3	4	5	4.31
I would recommend such a workshop to my friends and co-workers who are involved with local and regional food systems work.	1	2	3	4	5	4.22
I would like to be involved with future projects addressing regional food freight innovation.	1	2	3	4	5	4.31
	Notes: -Not my specialty, but overviews are great and I would love to be involved					
The timing/location of the workshop was convenient.	1	2	3	4	5	3.91
	Notes: Not convenient when coming from Minnesota					

**Additional comments or suggestions. What follow-up or additional activities would you recommend?**

- Great introduction to the relationship btw food and logistics/ transport.
- Didn't hear from consumers. Perhaps this was intentional and they would also not add much to the conversation. Input of drivers mentioned as key yet they were not represented or heard.
- Incorporating more farmers into the discussion.
- I liked the format- very useful. Might have been nice, if possible, to have a Q+A after each presentation- but not necessary.
- Overall the event very well organized. It showed the real problems facing the regional focused role and distribution system. Many ideas for planning purposes.
- I thought this was an excellent session and I learned a lot. However, I would have liked food justice to be more central to the discussion. It would have been nice to have a local retailer speak. A union or labor organizer present would also have been great, as well as an urban ag person, and more racial diversity.
- Listserv or discussion group via email to continue discussion and further a plan of action.
- Access to electronic copies of presentation materials if presenters are willing to share them.
- Need to find the group who can pull together a critical mass to pilot a crossdock/trans hub. Start small; test and learn.
- 4:00 end time in downtown Chicago is not ideal- I left early to get to my son's basketball game. However, I did enjoy the visit to downtown Chicago the night before.
- Very helpful visuals. Allow access online.

-Better intro to group participants at beginning. Frame some of the topics and verbiage for people less familiar with specific industry jargon and acronyms. Otherwise, very informative and an excellent networking opportunity.

-Difficult to get into Chicago without an overnight stay. Would have been a good opportunity for telepresence.

-Great meeting, good consensus on some core ideas, really high quality presentations. Follow up with prototype design process, some folks.

-Reconvene this group with updates.

-The opportunity to connect several key players in the food supply chain was very insightful. Collaborating better amongst all of the organizations could indeed change our global food system by managing it locally.

-Missing participants- logistic technical software, container/ packaging/ branding prod.

-This was a good start. The group was very diversified and some some great information.

-More freight specialists to discuss truck ports. There are private companies doing this, they would be experts and have good inputs on the feasibility and concerns of supplies during transport.

-Prove the demand for this Truck Hub and validate it would be used. Find a way to incentivize demand simultaneously- this conference assumes limitless demand- I don't see this in the market yet!

-I think I, maybe all of us, would have benefitted from a more robust opening. Setting the stage better. Gone through the agenda, purpose, possible even letting us introduce ourselves right away.

**What potential next steps or opportunities do you see for you/your organization or business?**

-Once we receive the comments, it would be good to follow up for more feedback and ideas.

-Putting local food systems and transport into discussions of food access.

-Foster relationships with the people I met.

-Connecting with food hub operators to see how they transitioned from feasibility and planning to implementation.

-larger discussion with distribution partners to gauge interest.

-Lots- keeping conversation alive with CMAP and FARM Illinois.

-Work on supporting aggregation for small farmers in our organization, and participate in activities to support connecting farmers to buyers.

-Increasing production in a food safety friendly way that is more legitimately on point with ISMA and GAPS regulations.

-Collaboration with our buyers potential backhaul opportunities.

-Joint ventures with other interested companies- Alsum Produce, Farm Illinois, Schneider Trucking.