



LEVERAGE POINTS

FLINT

Economic Investment

Desirable Future: Drawing on the many assets within our community, future economic investment results in Flint-based ownership within the food system. Economic development fosters cultural growth, is culturally appropriate and improves quality of life for all residents.

Example leverage points defined by community members are listed below. Join the conversation--detailed lists of more leverage points can be found at: www.canr.msu.edu/FlintFood

Upstream

Create stronger policies for gardening and urban agriculture that avoid racial inequities and empower grassroots community leaders to engage the community in participating in production or sourcing local produce

Midstream

Increase the number of local food businesses through mechanisms like grants, lowering cost barriers, or support programs to help people start businesses, get licenses, scale up, etc.

Downstream

- Expand resources for local growers to hire and train others to become producers
- Devote resources and better promote current resources available to help local producers scale up and meet standards to sell to groups like the food hub

Currently: Economic investment heavily focuses on emergency food distribution rather than preventing need. Jobs are low-paying and ownership of the food system lies with people outside of Flint.

Definitions:

Upstream: Policies, laws, or regulations that improve community conditions, creating system-wide changes

Midstream: Barriers that need to be addressed in order for the system to evolve; and/or supports individual social needs

Downstream: Addresses individual needs and crisis management

Learn more at: www.canr.msu.edu/FlintFood