



For Immediate Release
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Southeast Nebraska Food Hub Meeting Dec. 16

More cities are beginning to take eating local food to the next level: from seasonal farmer's markets and occasional nods to local foods in restaurants and grocery stores to a truly substantive economic generator. The Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities (JISC) has been exploring the possibilities of establishing a regional food hub in Lincoln with a number of stakeholders. The planning process is ongoing.

JISC has scheduled the next food hub planning meeting—or charrette, the third in this series, on the proposed Southeast Nebraska Food Hub, especially to include the Lincoln and Omaha markets, 10 am to 2 pm on Tuesday, December 16 at Mahoney State Park (Exit 426, Interstate 80, between Omaha and Lincoln). The meeting will be held in the Abel Nebraska Room of the Peter Kiewit Lodge.

The primary goal of this meeting will be to expand the group of current stakeholders into more regional group of stakeholders from the production, marketing and distribution sectors, of our regional food system, with plans for supportive public markets and administrative organizations.

The agenda will include:

- Design and use concepts for the Pershing Auditorium structure in Lincoln; update on plans for a public market in Omaha;
- Preliminary cost estimates for retrofit of the Lincoln structure;
- Organizational and management concepts of the food hub, including maintenance and operations of the public markets;
- Urban design and sustainable development influences on Lincoln and Omaha;
- Economic development influences on Southeast Nebraska, with recommendations for long-term financing;
- Other interests/recommendations, and or information that the City of Lincoln would like to see in a final report, following the December 16 meeting.