



Food Access & Health Equity

Residents living near supermarkets have healthier diets & are 17% less likely to be obese.

White & higher income residents are more likely to eat 5+ fruits & vegetables per day compared to lower income residents & people of color.

Corner stores are a frequent source of food for urban residents, youth, & families, but often do not carry healthy foods.

94% of Minneapolis corner store customers surveyed would buy fruits & vegetables at their neighborhood store if available.

Shouldn't everyone expect to find healthy food in their neighborhood?

Good nutrition is critical for individual and community health. Knowing what to eat is important, but having access to healthy food options matters too. While it's easy to find healthy foods at a supermarket, residents in some communities must shop at corner stores, gas stations, dollar stores, and pharmacies where soda, chips, and candy are abundant but wholesome choices are limited. Strengthening the city's current staple foods ordinance will help ensure that everyone has access to healthy food choices no matter where they shop.

Proposed changes to the Minneapolis Staple Foods Ordinance will:

- **Ensure that stores offer an appropriate variety and amount** of staple foods like fresh fruits and vegetables & whole grains.
- **Provide store owners with flexibility** to meet requirements using culturally appropriate foods.
- **Clarify exemption criteria** for business owners across all types of retail food outlets.

Share Your Opinion

- ⇒ Attend a public hearing: Mon. Oct 20, 2014, 1:30pm, City Hall Rm 317
- ⇒ Connect with your council member
- ⇒ Talk to your friends, neighbors, and networks



Proposed requirements include:

- Fruits & vegetables
- Whole grains
- Meat, poultry, fish, or vegetable proteins
- Milk or milk alternatives
- Cheese
- Eggs
- 100% juice

Support for Stores

The Minneapolis Health Department will provide free support & resources to interested store owners to help them successfully meet the staple foods requirements.

- Healthy food merchandising & marketing trainings
- In-store promotional supplies
- Written reference materials
- Connections to model stores/mentors
- Consultations with grocery & marketing experts
- Recommendations for healthy food procurement options
- Citywide outreach to increase the demand for healthy foods

The City of Minneapolis currently requires licensed grocery stores to stock a minimum amount of basic food items including fruits & vegetables, bread, dairy, & meat products. Proposed changes to the ordinance will increase healthy food choices for all residents regardless of where they shop for groceries. Amendments are based on the standards adopted by the Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) program, but have been modified to reflect feedback from business owners and to allow for greater flexibility in stocking culturally appropriate foods.

Proposed Timeline:

Ongoing starting January 2015: Store owner education, training, & technical assistance

April 2015: Ordinance changes implemented

May 2015 – March 2016: Compliance monitoring, ongoing education; no enforcement

Ongoing after April 2016: Compliance monitoring, ongoing education; enforcement

Amending the ordinance is part of broader City and community efforts to increase access to healthy foods.

Complementary approaches include:

- Healthy foods policies in local government, parks, schools, worksites, childcare, & institutions
- EBT at Farmers Markets
- Healthy Corner Store Program
- Community Garden Program
- Local Food Resource Hubs Network
- Healthy Food Shelf Network
- Healthy Meals Coalition
- Healthy Restaurant Program
- Farm to School/Salad Bars to School
- Urban Agriculture Policy Plan

For more information, please contact:

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