Saint Paul-Ramsey County Food and Nutrition Commission – 1980s to the present

1980s
- Food and Nutrition Commission established (St. Paul)
- 1987 Municipal Food Policy accepted

1990s
- 1993- Joint Commission with Ramsey County established
- Late 1990’s became inactive

2010
- Joint Commission reconvenes and is named the Saint Paul- Ramsey County Food and Nutrition Commission
- Developed vision statement, guiding principles, and areas of focus
- Guest speaker, Branden Born (assistant professor with Department of Urban Design and Planning) presents on Food Policy Council of Seattle/King County
- Food Access and Stability in Saint Paul (a technical report) completed- influences the focus of the group

2011
- Five Task Forces (Food Access, Food Literacy, Food Infrastructure, Economic Development, and Urban Agriculture) formed to gather community input and research possible solutions to food systems issues
- Participated in panel at the Urban Agricultural Tour by University of Minnesota (MN) Extension
- Community Engagement meeting held at Hallie Q. Brown (May)
- Participated in Living Green Expo and Minnesota State Fair exhibits
- Participated in Food Day event at the University of MN
- Presented at the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP)/CDC conference
- Provided support for Frogtown Farm in St. Paul

2012
- Began the conversation with Anton Jerve (City of St. Paul) on amendments to the Agricultural Use and Farmer’s Market Zoning Codes
- Food System Recommendations Report presented and accepted by City Council and County Board
- First collaborative meeting held with Homegrown Minneapolis
- Participated in State Fair Eco Experience
- Authored and sent letter to MN Congressional delegation to urge passage of the Farm Bill
- Began conversations with Met Council on land use plans and Regional Development Framework to include language prioritizing urban agriculture and food systems

2013
- Provided input for MN Food Charter
- Twin Cities Mobile Market presentation by Leah Driscoll with unanimous support from members
- Facebook page launched with assistance from Green Corps worker
- Saint Paul Zoning Amendements passed regarding urban agriculture and farmer markets land usage

2014
- Developed a letter with West Side Community Organization & other groups to suggest to Met Council to include food production and access in the Thrive MSP 2040 plan. Most suggestions were accepted by Met Council.
- Letter of support for Food and Water Watch of St. Paul
- Attended and gathered input from community members at Gardening Matters Food Hub events
- Presentation of Food System Recommendations to SHIP Community Leadership Team
- Pollinators task force created to raise awareness of issues
- Created a Just Food Voter’s Guide with wide-spread distribution

2015
- Commission member asked to be a part of the Food Sovereignty delegation who visited Cuba
- Nominated community organizations for Ramsey County Public Health Awards—TC Mobile Market selected winner
- Support provided for passing a resolution in support of changes to the seed law to allow seeds to be saved and traded in seed libraries
- Supported legislation proposed by Council on Black Minnesotans or developing urban agriculture zones in cities of population of 60,000 or more
- Staff and 3 members participated in day-long conference to provide input to U of M Food Issue Network made up of faculty from several colleges/departments