1. Create and Retain Ag & Food Firms

Cooperative efforts and fuller utilization of infrastructure and assets.

On-going example in Delta and Montrose Counties with IQF feasibility study for sweet corn and peaches.
1. Create and Retain Ag & Food Firms

Cooperative efforts and fuller utilization of infrastructure and assets.
1. Create and Retain Ag & Food Firms

Customize business programs and technical assistance in recognition that different places face different barriers to success.
2. Develop Workforce & Youth to Support the Food and Ag Sectors

Support 4H and FFA programming that prepares youth for careers in ag technology.

- Breeding programs
- High-quality certified seeds
- Harvest and storage techniques
- Precision irrigation
2. Develop Workforce & Youth to Support the Food and Ag Sectors

Support innovative training, outreach and continuing educational approaches to transitioning workers into agriculture in all life stages.
3. Promote the Colorado Brand

Promote CO food and ag businesses through developing market opportunities.
3. Promote the Colorado Brand

Promote regional food festivals and investment in targeted agritourism.
3. Promote the Colorado Brand

Support and enhance buyer-grower roundtables, as well as food and agricultural trade shows across the state.
3. Promote the Colorado Brand

Continue support for joint marketing and promotion programs within and across commodity groups, including CO Proud as a flagship brand.
4. Support a Business and Consumer Friendly Regulatory Environment

Invest in a statewide center for beginning farmer and rancher development and a one-stop shop for Federal and State resources geared towards the next generation of producers.
4. Support a Business and Consumer Friendly Regulatory Environment

Improve awareness of federal grant, loan and technical assistance programs that could manage risk, share costs and bolster support for the state’s food and agricultural sector, including rural infrastructure.
5. Address How Scale Impacts Market Performance, Access and Opportunities

Provide market research, outreach, and mentoring programs to improve the viability of farms and food businesses by scale, commodity, and market channel.
7. Improve access to resources and capital for agricultural and food firms

Facilitate relationships between YBS and veteran farmers and lending institutions with YBS programs and/or nontraditional fundraising.

New YBS Loan Volume, reported by the Farm Credit Administration 2001-2016
8. Integrating Ag and Vibrant Communities

Identify where open space and other conservation efforts are innovating ways to retain and manage shared access to sufficient water for some working lands production.
8. Integrating Ag and Vibrant Communities

Coordinate food bank purchases from local sources and tax incentives for those who donate.

Tax Credit for Colorado Farmers and Ranchers Helping the Hungry

Colorado HB14-1119 helps Colorado farmers, ranchers and the hungry. Thanks to all who helped make this tax credit a reality. It’s expensive to harvest food farmers don’t plan to sell. This credit will help farmers and ranchers get food to food banks rather than letting it go to waste.
8. Integrating Ag and Vibrant Communities

Support and expand programs that highlight the faces of Colorado agriculture to the general public, including Colorado Proud, CSU Ag day, programming at the National Western Centers, and programs that integrate healthy food with Colorado grown products such as Farm to School, Double Up Food Bucks, and Cooking Matters.
Want more information? Want to get involved?

Look for publications, updates, and get involved at: FoodSystems.colostate.edu

Share on Twitter #COFoodBlueprint

We want to support your efforts! Please let us know how we can help your org integrate action items into plan of work.
The Blueprint documents key assets, emerging issues, and shared priorities for future investments in food and agriculture around the state.

CSU is leading a statewide discussion throughout 2017 including other key food systems partners to highlight key activities, investments and planning that our stakeholders feel should be priorities as we look to the future. For CSU, we hope to frame the long-term mission and Keystone activities of the Food and Ag arm of CSU’s Food systems activities, including the Food and Ag arm of the new Regional Economic Development Institute.

Click to Endorse

Watch the Blueprint Draft Release Here

The 2017 Colorado Blueprint of Food and Agriculture

Key assets, emerging issues, and shared priorities for future investments in food and agriculture around the state

FoodSystems.colostate.edu
Next Steps @ CSU

Food System Policies

Many Denver residents, especially children, have limited access to healthy, affordable foods and beverages. Limited access to nutritious food can result in poor health.

Creating healthy communities is not just about changing individual behaviors, it is also about changing the environments in which people live, work, learn and play.

Denver and its partners are working to create a common agenda and a unified food system vision. By implementing broad, coordinated and evidence-based strategies across the food system, Denver has an opportunity to achieve the City’s health, economic and environmental sustainability goals. We have an opportunity to change the community’s food environments so all Denver residents can attain the health and wellbeing they deserve.
Next Steps @ CSU

- 59% increase in the size of the Denver food economy from $6.9 to $11B per year;
- $100M of new capital to Denver food businesses;
- 25% of food purchased by public institutions come from Colorado.
Next Steps @ CSU
Next Steps @ CSU

- Can Denver/urban food policies support San Luis Valley potato growers, the San Luis Valley economy and community?

- For example:
  - What potential market opportunities exist (schools, institutions, NWC)?
  - Is additional infrastructure needed to meet some of the market opportunities? If yes, what type of state (or other) support is needed?
Thank You to Our Sponsors and Partners