

January 8, 2026

Draft agenda

11:00 AM – 1:30 PM

MA Food Policy Council annual meeting

Room 428, State House, Boston

Draft Agenda

Call to order

Acceptance of minutes (vote required)

MA Legislative Food System Caucus

MA Food System Collaborative

Officer and Committee Reports

Chair (annual report)

Letters of Support/Advocacy Committee

Advisory Committee

Program

Infrastructure and Supporting the Middle of the Supply Chain. State and federal grant programs have supported transformative changes to the Massachusetts food system.

State funded Food Security Infrastructure Program (FSIG). Five-year overview, Juli Stelmasyzk, Food Security Director, MDAR.

- Boston Area Gleaners/Boston Food Hub, Acton. Usha Thakrar, Executive Director.
- Boys & Girls Club Metro South, Taunton. Derek W. Heim, President & CEO; and Monica Lombardo, Vice President.

USDA funded Regional Food Security Infrastructure Program (RFSI). Overview, Julia Nelson, Grants Management Specialist, MDAR.

- Maya Bennet, Island Creek Oysters, Duxbury.
- Worcester Food Hub, Mike Kane, Economic Development & Public Policy Associate.

Food Ventures Program. Overview, Rose Arruda, Urban Agriculture, Food Venture Program, and Food Trust Program.

Governor's Anti-Hunger Task Force

Updates

Council member updates

Department of Transitional Assistance

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Announcements

2026 Council meeting dates, 9:30 – 11:30 AM: March 12, May 8, July 10, Sept 10, Nov 11. Annual meeting, Jan 7, 2027, 11AM – 1:30 PM.

Public Comment

Adjournment (vote required)

MA Grown & Fresher reception. Bring your favorite baked goods, snacks, beverages or other items!

This meeting is being held remotely via teams in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025 signed by Governor Healey on March 28, 2025