

# MA Farmland Action Plan – Drop-In Session for Potential Partners

Notes from online discussion on 12/08/2025

## Context

On Monday, December 8, 2025 at 1pm Katharine Otto hosted a drop-in session for potential partners (people who may help with implementation of the plan). The meeting had no presentation – instead the content was guided by questions and comments from attendees. While still open to general conversation, through the invitations Katharine encouraged discussion about edits to the matrix at the drop in sessions. The drop in sessions are organized as an easy way to connect in, anticipating that recent discussions and new resources may have sparked additional thoughts. The primary audience was potential partners.

Facilitator – Katharine Otto, Farmland Action Plan Coordinator, MDAR. [Katharine.s.otto@mass.gov](mailto:Katharine.s.otto@mass.gov)

*The following is a brief summary of the conversation that occurred during the drop-in session.*

Some notes regarding the comments and questions:

- Some have been edited or combined.
- Comments have been collated by topics, in no particular order
- These comments are from voluntary participants in open discussion. These comments may or may not align with positions of MDAR or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

## Discussion notes

*The following is a brief summary of some of the conversation that occurred in the chat box during the meeting as well as some of the oral comments. It includes links and resources shared with participants.*

### *Update on implementation and getting involved*

- How is implementation proceeding?
- How can partners get involved with projects?
- What is being funded through the Farmland Partnership Program, and where are the gaps?
- How can partners work on tasks if not funded via Farmland Partnership Program?
- Implementation of tasks – to what extent can they focus on small areas of Massachusetts versus need to be addressed statewide?

### *Urban Agriculture*

- Where are the gaps in what is going to happen through Farmland Partnership and other programs?
- What policy needs are there related to urban ag?
- How can work supporting MFAP connect with MDAR Urban Ag program and the upcoming Urban Ag Symposium?