# AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 7:00pm
Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC

**M I N U T E S**

**Present:**
J. Caldarella, Community Co-Chair

G. Brar, A. Hamer, O. Smid, A. Smith, and J. Walker

**Guests:**
S. Jones, Executive Director, Langley Animal Protection Society
G. Wilhite, Manager of Animal Control Services, Langley Animal Protection Society

**Staff:**
M. Gunn, Planner
K. Stepto, Recording Secretary

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES**

J. Caldarella acknowledged the Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.

## A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

### 1. Agricultural Advisory Committee – June 26, 2024

Moved by A. Smith,
Seconded by C. Alison,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee approve the agenda and receive the agenda items of the June 26, 2024 meeting.
**CARRIED**

## B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

### 1. Agricultural Advisory Committee – April 24, 2024

Moved by O. Smid,
Seconded by A. Smith,
The Agricultural Advisory Committee adopt the minutes of the April 24, 2024 meeting were received.
**CARRIED**

## B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

### 2. Agricultural Advisory Committee – May 22, 2024

Moved by A. Hamer,
Seconded by A. Smith,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee receive the Notes of the May 22, 2024 meeting.
**CARRIED**

## C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

### 1. Langley Animal Protection Society (LAPS)

S. Jones, Executive Director, and G. Wilhite, Manager of Animal Control Services, provided a presentation regarding dangerous/aggressive dogs and agriculture. The following information was provided:

LAPS provides the following services:

- Social Services Programs
- Animal Control Services
- Animal Welfare
- Vocational Training Program

Animal Control Officers are considered Peace Officers and act as first responders to dangerous animal situations. The Community Charter provides authority for municipalities to create animal control bylaws and assign bylaw officers to enforce these laws.

A “dangerous dog” is one that has killed or seriously injured a person or has killed or seriously injured a domestic animal in a public space or on private property. An animal control officer may seize a dog if the officer believes on reasonable grounds that the dog is dangerous. If the owner keeps the dog, mandatory management controls must be met:

- 6-sided enclosure
- Muzzled, leashed, control of an adult person when off property
- Increased licensing fees
- Liability insurance

Steps farmers can take to protect livestock:

- Proper containment to keep livestock in and predators out
- Reports strays or loose animals
- Neighbourhood watch
- Dog licensing registration
- Have larger animals graze with smaller compatible animals
- Pigs smell can remind animals of wild boar – move pig pens to outside edge of property
- Try to time livestock births to not coincide with farm predators feeding young
- Have a safe and secure predator-proof area for night protection

## C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

### 2. Aldergrove's Food System Project (*Attachment A*)

M. Gunn, Agriculture Planner, provided an update on the final report from the Aldergrove Food System project.

The project arose out of the work of the Let's Talk Food Aldergrove Group which was founded in 2022. It is a working group of non-profits that serve Aldergrove by providing food and resources.

Aldergrove Food Systems Project was aimed at developing an understanding of Aldergrove's Food System and status of food security. The objectives were to:

1. Identify and inventory food assets and resources and develop an interactive map
2. Engage community to understand issues associated with local food security and access
3. Develop recommendations in the form of an action plan outlining short-, medium-, and long-term action items

Four key findings from a series of engagement activities were:

1. Many Aldergrove residents are not accessing adequate food
2. Limited resources impede the capacity of Aldergrove Food Distribution Organizations
3. Food recovery can reduce waste and support food security in Aldergrove
4. Aldergrove residents support local food, but cost is a barrier

Five Goals of the project were:

1. Support food security across the Township of Langley
2. Increase resources and capacity for Aldergrove food distribution organizations
3. Increase procurement of Aldergrove farm products by food distribution organizations
4. Initiate and support food literacy programs across Aldergrove
5. Prioritize food recovery and waste reduction in Aldergrove

Four Pilot Projects:

1. Create additional cold storage for food distribution organizations
2. Create a campaign for local produce donations
3. Develop cooking classes for affordable healthy meals for seniors
4. Create an inventory system to better match donations with needs

## D. REPORTS

### 1. Co-Chair Reports

J. Caldarella reported that he attended the recent Langley Sustainable Agriculture Foundation meeting to attend the guest speaker lecture.

## E. CORRESPONDENCE

## F. WORK PROGRAM

### 1. 2024 Farm Tour Update

M. Gunn provided the following update:

- Two farm locations have been confirmed including a blueberry farm and the John Volken Foundation (Academy Farm), who will also provide lunch.
- Stable Harvest Farm is a possible third location.
- MacLeod Athletic Park is proposed to be the location for the start of the tour and the networking opportunity.
- A guest speaker still needs to be confirmed.

### 2. Development of an agriculture outreach campaign

M. Gunn commented that LSAF has requested that the AAC partner with the joint LSAF-Young Agrarians Land Matching workshop on November 2. The theme of the workshop is "Land and Water: Working Together" and it will take place at the George Preston Recreation Centre. AAC's involvement would include:

- Chair of the AAC open and close the day
- A member of Council could provide a welcome address
- The Township could have an exhibitor table to provide information about the Township and its agricultural services and contacts
- Event promotion materials could include the Township logo
- The AAC would use the opportunity to gather information useful to the Township

**MOTION**
Moved by J. Caldarella,
Seconded by G. Brar,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee endorse partnering with the Langley Sustainable Agriculture Foundation/Young Agrarians workshop, "Land and Water: Working Together", on November 2, 2024.
**CARRIED**

It was further suggested that the AAC provide survey questions regarding farmers' concerns and challenges with farming in the Township. The Outreach Campaign Working Group could help with drafting the survey. J. Caldarella, C. Allison, and A. Hamer volunteered to help.

## G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

## H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

### 1. Langley Farmers' Institute Update

A. Smith provided the following update:

- July 15 – Delegation to Council to provide information
- August 12 – Summer Mingler at Locality Brewing at 7:00pm
- September 16 – All Candidates' meeting at George Preston Recreation Centre

### 2. salishan Place by the River Update

Memo provided for information.

## I. NEXT MEETING

**Date**: Wednesday, September 25, 2024
**Location**: Farm Tour
**Time**: TBD

## J. TERMINATE

Moved by C. Allison,
Seconded by A. Hamer,
That the meeting terminate at 9:03pm.
**CARRIED**

**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

Community Representative Co-Chair

Council Representative Co-Chair



# Aldergrove's Food System Project

June 26, 2024

AAC

# Outline

- Background
- Food System Project
- Public Engagement
- Four Key Findings
- Five Goals
- Recommendations
- Pilot Projects



# Let’s Talk Food Aldergrove

- Founded in late 2022
- Working group of non-profits
  - Langley Meals on Wheels
  - Spoons on Fire program
  - Aldergrove Food Bank
  - Encompass Support Services
  - Langley Environmental Partners Society
  - SD#35
  - Fraser Health
  - Aldergrove Rotary
  - St. Dunstan’s Church
  - Langley Pos-Abilities
  - Aldergrove Veterans and Seniors



# Social Sustainability Strategy

- Endorsed by Council in early 2022
- Six priority areas
- Priority 3: Housing and Food
  - 3E
    - Develop a food strategy that complements the Agricultural Viability Strategy & explores opportunities to increase access to healthy, safe, culturally appropriate, and local food







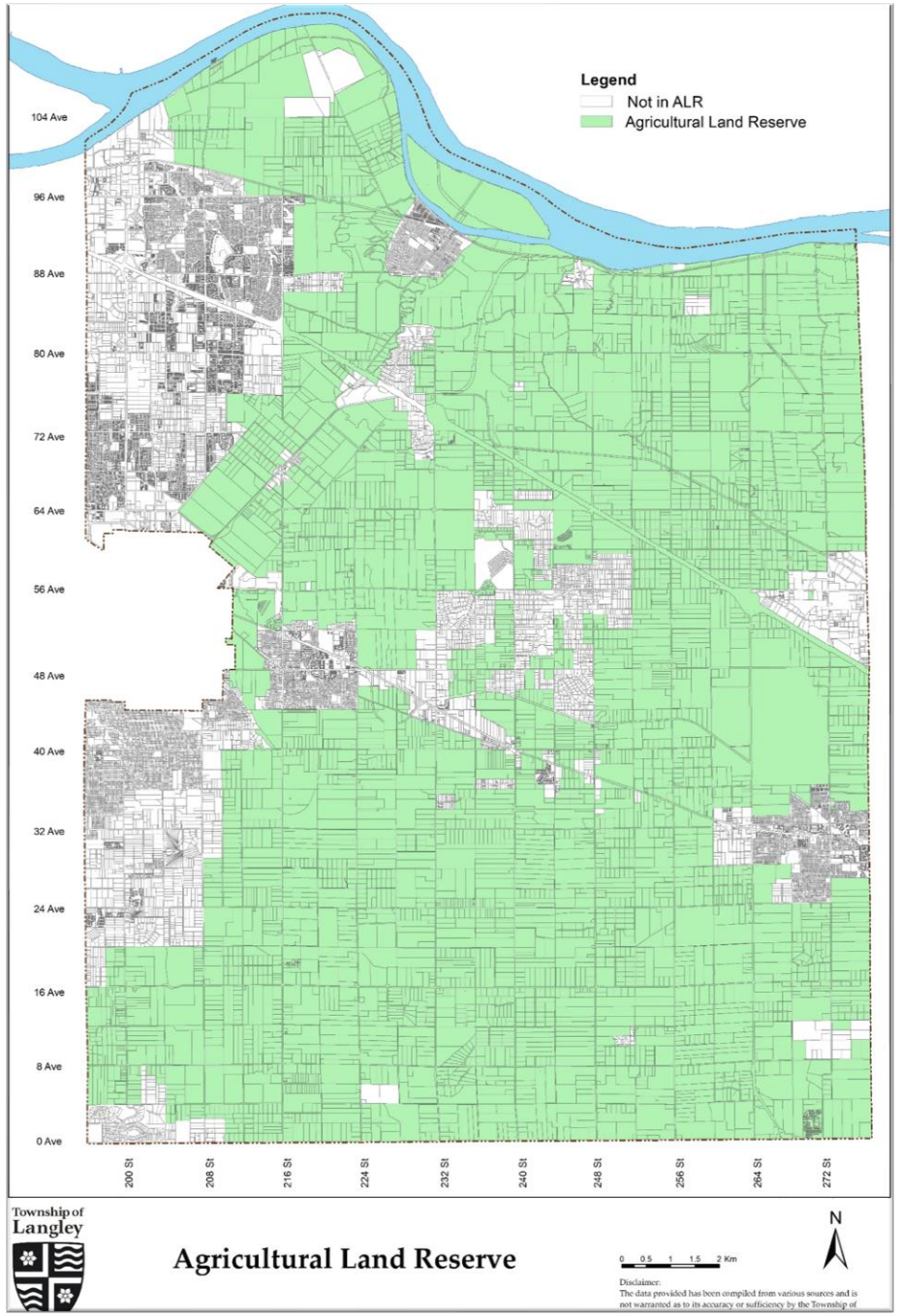
OUR THRIVING COMMUNITY

**Township of Langley**
Social Sustainability Strategy

2021 - 2030

# Agricultural Viability Strategy

- Endorsed by Council in early 2013
- 75% of land base in the ALR
- Identifies actions to support local agriculture
  - Promotes “buy local”
  - BC Land Matching Program



# Aldergrove Food Systems Project

- Aimed at developing an understanding of Aldergrove's food system and status of food security
- Objectives:
    1. Identify and inventory food assets and resources, and develop an interactive map
    2. Engage community to understand issues associated with local food security and access
    3. Develop recommendations in the form of an action plan outlining short-, medium- and long-term action items.



# Aldergrove Food Systems Project

- A series of engagement activities were conducted that were used to identify key challenges and opportunities in the Aldergrove food system.
- Engagement included:
    1. 3 meetings with the Let's Talk Food (LTF) Aldergrove group who acted as the steering committee for the Project
    2. 16 interviews with stakeholders in the Aldergrove food system, including LTF members
    3. Community Survey (363 responses)
    4. Food Security Survey for individuals who access local food services (194 responses)



# Aldergrove Food Systems Project

**Four Key Findings:**

1. Many Aldergrove residents are not accessing adequate food

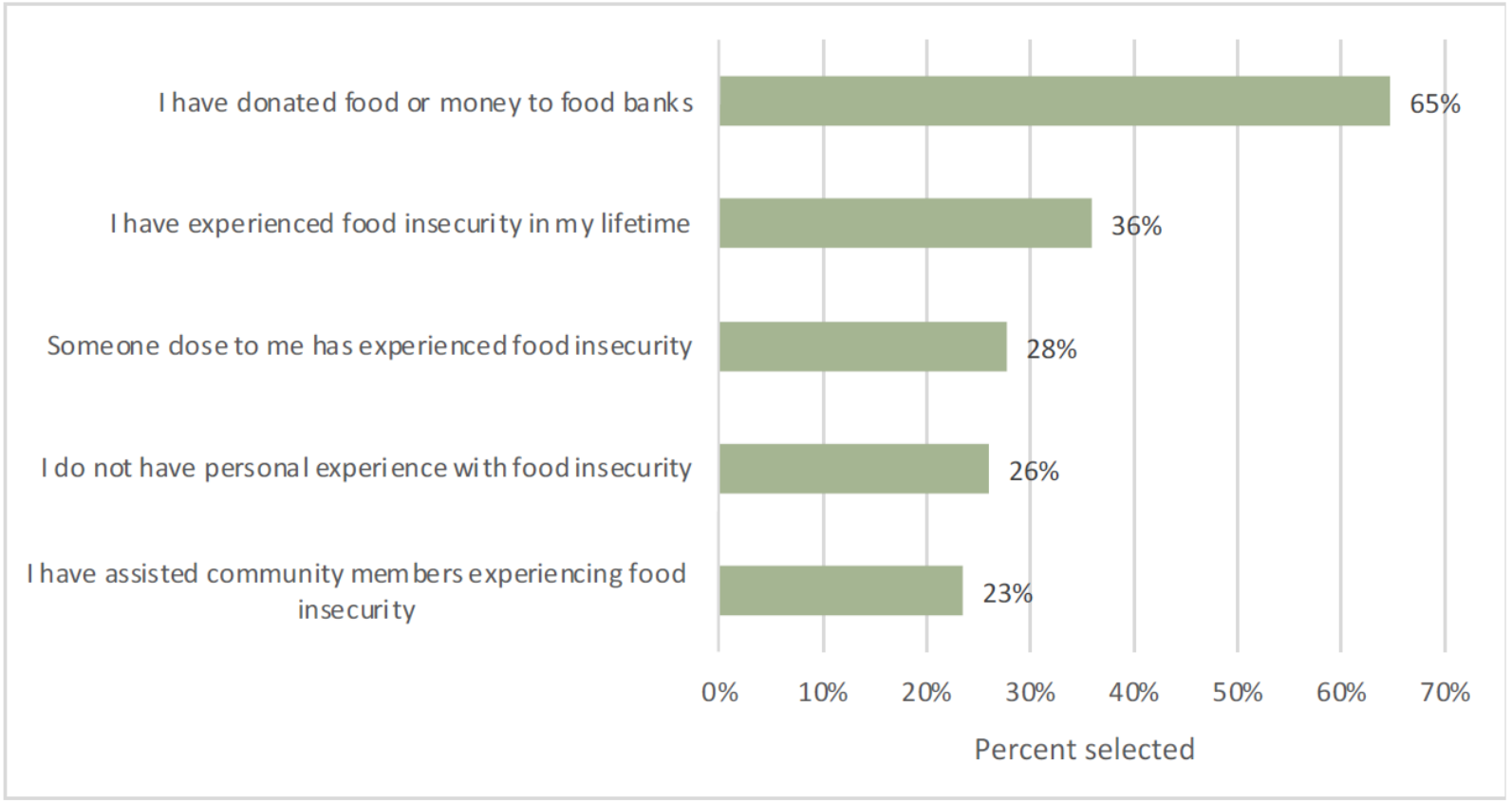



Figure 2. Community Survey results: What experience do you have with food insecurity?

# Aldergrove Food Systems Project

**Four Key Findings:**

2. Limited Resources impede the capacity of Aldergrove Food Distribution Organizations (FDOs)

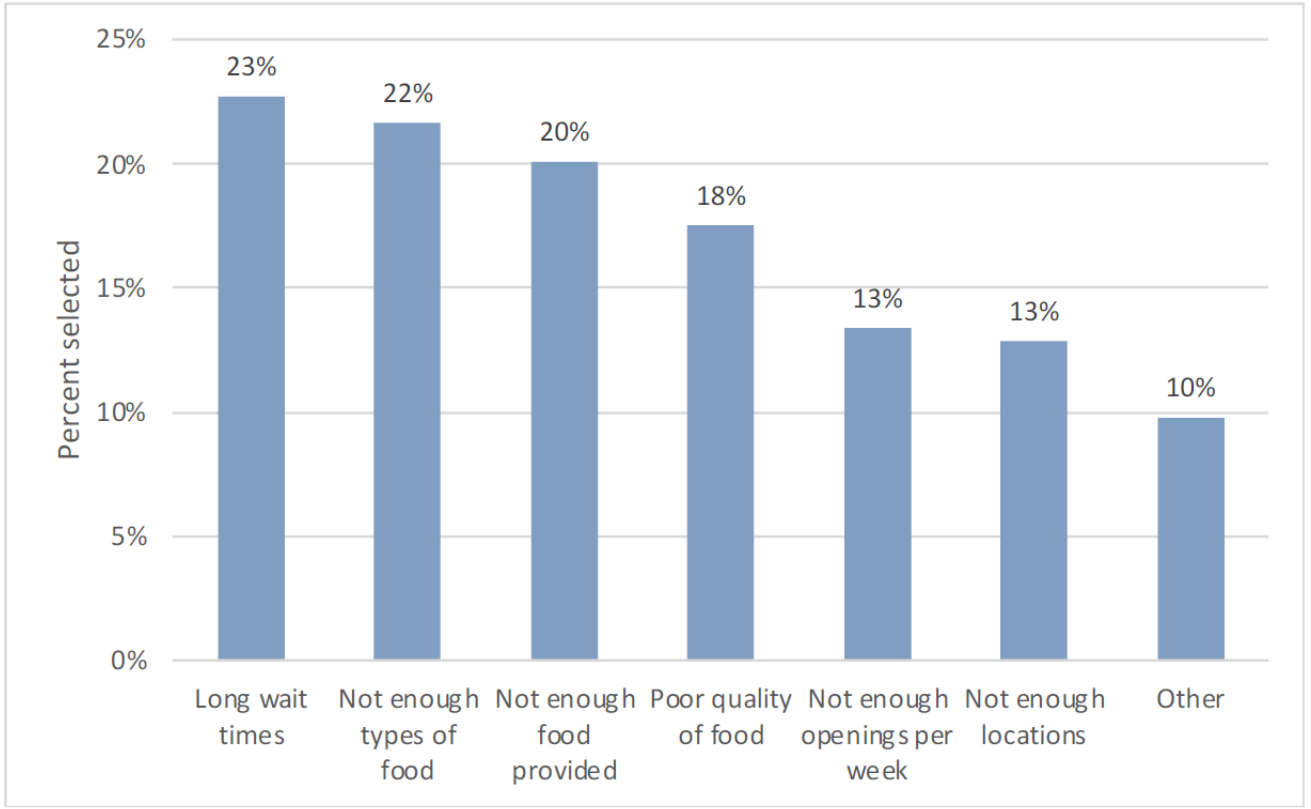



Figure 3. Food Security Survey results: In what ways are food distribution organizations not meeting your needs?

# Aldergrove Food Systems Project

**Four Key Findings:**

3. Food recovery can reduce waste and support food security in Aldergrove
   - Let's Talk Food Aldergrove members are diverting and repurposing good quality food that would otherwise be disposed.
   - More supports required to sustain efforts
4. Aldergrove residents support local food, but cost is a barrier
   - FDOs would like to procure more locally produced food, but affordability and accessibility of these foods is limited
   - 58% of survey respondents would like to buy local foods more often but feel that cost is a barrier, and
   - 32% noted that local foods were difficult to find.

# Aldergrove Food Systems Project

- Five Goals & 17 Recommendations:

1. Support food security across the Township of Langley
2. Increase resources and capacity for Aldergrove food distribution organizations
3. Increase procurement of Aldergrove farm products by food distribution organizations
4. Initiate and support food literacy programs across Aldergrove
5. Prioritize food recovery and waste reduction in Aldergrove

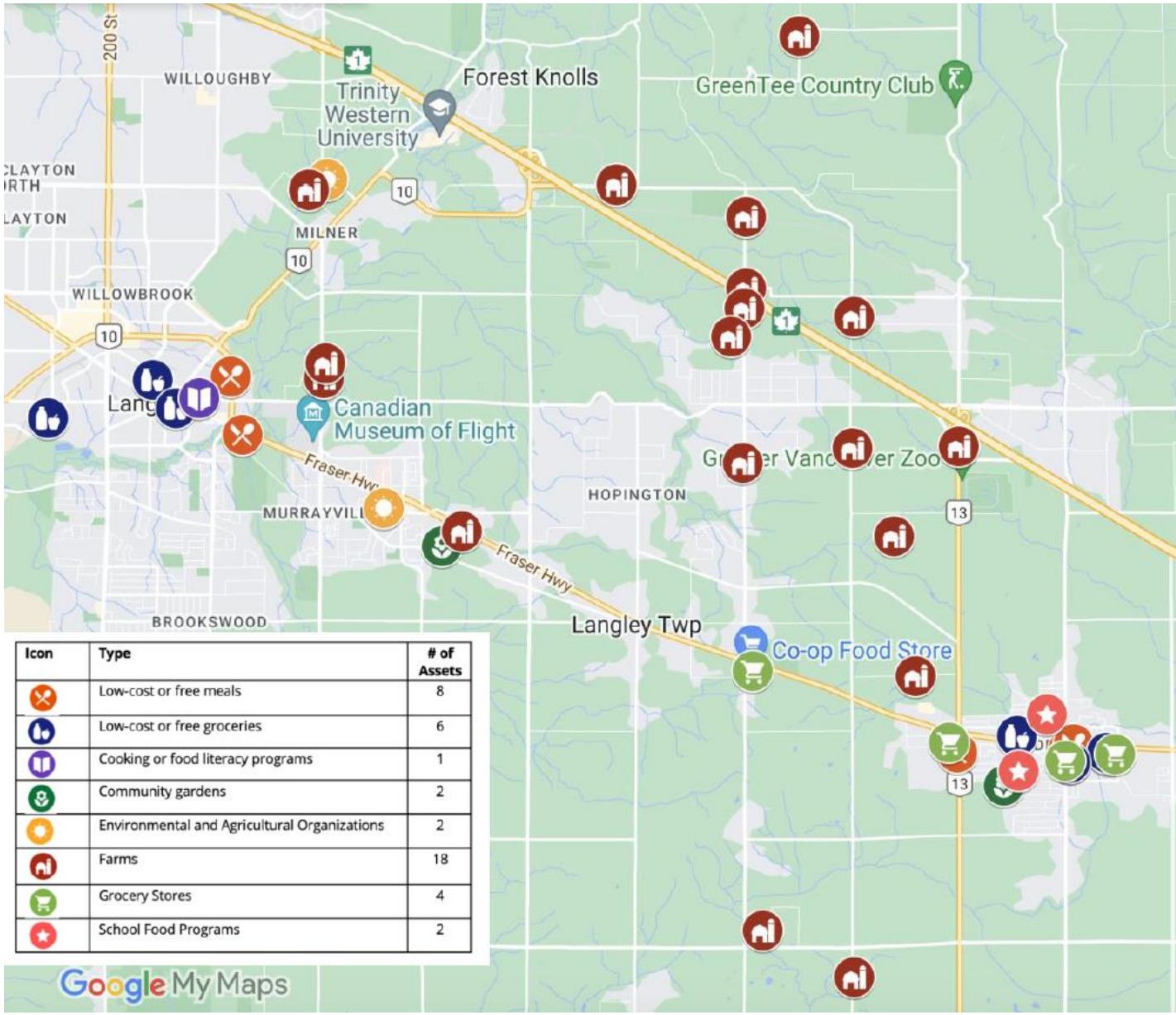
# Aldergrove Food Systems Project

- **Four Pilot Projects**:
    1. Create additional cold storage for food distribution organizations
    2. Create a campaign for local produce donations
    3. Develop cooking classes for affordable healthy meals for seniors
    4. Create an inventory system to better match donations with needs



# Asset Mapping

- Components of the local food system
- Some examples:
    1. Emergency food providers (foodbanks)
    2. Community meal programs
    3. Community gardens
    4. Local food retailers
    5. School food programs




| Icon | Type | # of Assets |
|---|---|---|
| | Low-cost or free meals | 8 |
| | Low-cost or free groceries | 6 |
| | Cooking or food literacy programs | 1 |
| | Community gardens | 2 |
| | Environmental and Agricultural Organizations | 2 |
| | Farms | 18 |
| | Grocery Stores | 4 |
| | School Food Programs | 2 |

# Questions?

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