



**PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLNESS
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY**

GREG FISCHER
MAYOR

SARAH S. MOYER, MD, MPH
Director

October 16, 2020

President David James
Louisville Metro Council
601 W. Jefferson Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Dear President James:

Please find enclosed the progress report for the Capital Budget Community Grocery Project through September 30th, 2020.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

T Benicio Gonzales
Director, Center for Health Equity
Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness

Cc: Metro Council Clerk
Metro Council



Report for Louisville Community Grocery Metro Council Appropriation (FY21): To support the development and operation of a grocery in an area underserved by existing operations, to promote job creation and community health. Discussions for this development shall include input from persons in the community and social service and development organizations which serve the community where the grocery is located. A plan for the use of the \$3.5 million appropriation shall be presented to Metro Council for approval.

Project status: On track

Summary: In September 2020, the Center for Health Equity (CHE) sought comment from the public on issues and challenges with Louisville’s food system and a \$3.5 million bond allocation from the Louisville Metro Council for a community grocery. The CHE opened a community-based request for information (RFI) from August 31, 2020 through September 13, 2020.

Community residents and other stakeholders were invited to respond to the following:

1. How should Louisville Metro Government reduce food insecurity for Louisville residents?
2. Given those guidelines, what are important considerations for developing a grocery store? This can include location, ownership and operations model, and more.
3. What suggestions do you have to make sure this grocery store meets the needs of community, including ensuring healthy food is available and affordable for residents?

There were 419 total responses to the open-ended, three question survey. The survey is a convenience sample and cannot be read as statistically representative of attitudes in Louisville or the affected areas. In fact, it is evident that at least one person from outside of the Louisville-Metro area [another part of Kentucky] responded to this survey. This sample was reduced to 385 after eliminating blank and empty responses and overtly racist responses that offered no direction.

Survey responses were analyzed and coded in two-waves by an epidemiologist in the Louisville Metro Public Health’s Center for Health Equity. This report is being finalized and will be made available to the Metro Council, the public, and potential respondents to the forthcoming Request for Proposal for the Community Grocery project.

Next Steps: The Center for Health Equity is currently developing the RFP for the project and aims to release it in late October 2020.