Community Action Plan for Anadarko, Oklahoma

LOCAL FOODS, LOCAL PLACES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

July 2018
For more information about Local Foods, Local Places visit: https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/local-foods-local-places

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COMMUNITY STORY

Anadarko, Oklahoma, the county seat of Caddo County, is a small town of about 6,700 people located 50 miles southwest of the state capitol Oklahoma City.¹ Anadarko has a rich history dating back centuries and is inextricably tied to Native American communities. In 1873, the town first got its name when a small post office was established. The town was originally to be named after the local Nadarko people, but a government clerk erroneously added the letter “A”. In 1878, the nearby Wichita and Fort Sill’s Kiowa-Comanche Indian agencies were consolidated and relocated from across the Washita River to the present Anadarko townsite.² Around the same time, Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist, and Quaker missionaries established schools to teach American Indian children. Through early to mid-1901, lands were allotted for the Apache, Comanche, and Kiowa reservations, and the remaining land was to be auctioned off to white settlers.³ Smaller groups of Indians in the area, such as the Delaware Nation, wouldn’t be federally recognized until well into the 1970s. When the auction took place on August 6th, 1901, Anadarko officially came into being with a population of a little over 1,000.⁴,⁵

Since that day in 1901, agriculture has been a mainstay of Anadarko’s economy. Corn and cotton were the staples for most of the 20th century, but by the 1950s, peanuts, wheat, and alfalfa had become the major crops. Today, wheat dominates agricultural activity in

³ Ibid.
⁴ Ibid.
Caddo County with over 116,000 acres cultivated.\(^6\) Indian affairs provides another driver for the local economy, employing over 500 people in 2000 and providing services like healthcare.\(^7\) Other dominant local industries include mining, quarrying, oil and gas extraction, and utilities.\(^8\) The unemployment rate in Anadarko was 7.2 percent in 2016.\(^9\)

The population of Anadarko reflects the history of the region, with resettlement of several Indian tribes onto allotted tribal lands. The area is home to seven federally recognized tribes: Delaware Nation, Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, Comanche Nation, Apache Tribe of Oklahoma, Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, Fort Sill Apache Tribe, and Caddo Nation.\(^10\) After the Wichita Indiana Agency allotted lands to tribes, surplus lands were opened up via lottery and auctions to non-tribal settlers.\(^11\) As of 2016, the single largest population demographic remains American Indian, at 46 percent.\(^12\) Whites make up 34 percent, the Hispanic or Latino population makes up 13 percent, and African-Americans represent just 5 percent.\(^13\) As of 2016, poverty in Anadarko was 34 percent, compared to 21 percent for Caddo County.\(^14\)

To varying degrees, the different demographic groups in Anadarko face significant economic, social, health, and quality of life issues. Some of these challenges are more acute for many local tribal members, though several tribes are taking a very proactive approach to make improvements. For example, with an obesity rate of 31 percent for Anadarko,\(^15\) Delaware Nation and other tribes have focused on diabetes treatment and prevention by introducing healthier eating options in food distribution programs.

Yet in the face of many challenges, the people of Anadarko have persevered and lent their efforts to improved health and local revitalization. Some businesses have taken the initiative to demolish unsightly abandoned buildings and install beautification projects to increase curb appeal, while at the same time rebuilding bigger and newer stores. Recently, the Delaware Nation renovated the entire exterior and landscape of nine low-income tribal members’ homes as part of an annual beautification project.\(^16\)

In 2017, the Delaware Nation requested assistance through the Local Foods, Local Places program to develop an action plan for promoting the local food system and a healthy, walkable, economically vibrant community in Anadarko. The goals of the Local Foods, Local Places program are to create:


\(^{13}\) Ibid.

\(^{14}\) Ibid.


\(^{16}\) Anadarko Local Foods, Local Places 2016 Application
• Economic opportunities for local farmers and businesses.
• Access to healthy, local food, especially among disadvantaged groups.
• Revitalized downtowns, Main Streets, and existing neighborhoods.

The Local Foods, Local Places program is supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Delta Regional Authority. Anadarko was one of 16 communities across the United States selected to participate in the program in 2018.

A Local Foods, Local Places steering committee was formed in Anadarko to help prepare for this technical assistance award and associated workshop (Figure 3). It was supported by a technical assistance team comprised of multiple federal and state agency partners (Figure 4). The Steering committee’s main focus was to create a community anchor for physical activities and healthy, local food. They hoped the project site would provide a permanent location for their farmers market and include a walking and biking trail and a community garden that would help manage stormwater runoff, improve air and soil quality, and reduce waste through composting.

The remainder of this report and appendices document the engagement process, the workshop activities, and most importantly, the outcome: a community action plan to achieve Anadarko’s goals.

ENGAGEMENT

The technical assistance engagement process for Local Foods, Local Places has three phases, illustrated in Figure 5 below. The plan phase consists of three preparation conference calls with the steering

Steering Committee

- Christina Cooper, Director of Environmental Programs, Delaware Nation
- Ambrea Marshall, Health director, Delaware Nation
- Deborah Dotson, President, Delaware Nation
- Janice Maddox, Tribal Administrator, Delaware Nation
- Diane Butler, Assistant Tribal Administrator, Delaware Nation
- Victoria DeLaRosa, Air Coordinator, Delaware Nation
- Alec Marshall, Water Coordinator, Delaware Nation
- Jenna Craft, Government Relations, Delaware Nation
- Rachel Allen, Director of Vocational Rehabilitation, Delaware Nation
- David Nowlin, Oklahoma State University Extension Service
- James Fields, Health Director, Caddo County Health Department
- Davis Scott, Executive Director, Anadarko Chamber of Commerce
- Kenneth Corn, City Manager, City of Anadarko
- Candice Luttrell, Wichita Tribe

Technical Assistance Team

- John Foster and Melissa Kramer – EPA Office of Community Revitalization
- Danny Gogal and Jasmin Muriel – EPA Office of Environmental Justice
- Suzanna Perea – EPA Region 6 Water Division
- Curtis Hicks, Tressa Tillman, and Randy Gee – EPA R6 Office of Environmental Justice, Tribal, and International Affairs
- Ron Batcher and Samantha Schaffstall – USDA Agriculture Marketing Service
- Lee Denney and Christine Sorenson – USDA Rural Development
- David Anderson, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Pam Walker – U.S. Small Business Administration
- Rachel Francks, Alisha Grayson, and Samuel Hooker – Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality

Figure 3 – Steering Committee Members

Figure 4 – Technical Assistance Team
committee and technical assistance team to clarify goals and arrange workshop logistics. The convene phase includes the effort’s capstone event—a two-day workshop in the community. The act phase includes three follow up conference calls to finalize a community action plan and strategize on how to maintain momentum generated during the workshop. The community workshop was held over a two-day period from July 12-13, and the activities those days are described below. Workshop exercise results are summarized in Appendix A, workshop sign-in sheets are provided in Appendix B, a workshop photo album is provided in Appendix C, a data profile in Appendix D, funding resources in Appendix E, and general references in Appendix F.

COMMUNITY TOUR

The Local Foods, Local Places steering committee organized a community tour of key sites around Anadarko. The purpose of the tour is to provide federal, state, and other out of town partners a tangible sense of what is going on in the community by visiting key sites related to the local food system and to community place-making efforts. Tour participants also have an opportunity to engage directly with various stakeholders such as shop owners, city services staff, and others whom they meet along the tour route. Finally, the tour can help the steering committee see their community with a fresh perspective and think about what the community’s key assets are, what could use some improvement, and how connected or disconnected key locations are.

The Anadarko community tour started downtown at the Delaware Nation Cultural Center on West Broadway Street, where everyone met for an informal lunch. Siting the cultural center downtown serves both the interests of Delaware Nation and broader community efforts to revitalize and activate downtown spaces.
Deborah Dotson, President of the Delaware Nation, welcomed out of town visitors to Anadarko and provided some introductory insights into the community. From the cultural center, the tour group walked down West Broadway Street to see a new downtown “pocket” park. Dedicated to the memory of two prominent local attorneys, Oris Barney and Charles Pain, the park was completed in early 2018, converting what had been a vacant lot into an attractive downtown park space with its manicured garden, water features, benches, and patio table. The Chamber of Commerce sponsors “Food Truck Mondays” at the pocket park to provide a food option on a day when many downtown restaurants are closed.

After visiting the pocket park, the tour group walked to the nearby Anadarko Community Library. The library’s director, Julie Pederson, provided tour participants with an overview of library programs, which include providing children onsite access to healthy foods while participating in activities during the day. She also talked enthusiastically about the library facility’s history and the transformation of the space in the 1980’s from its prior use as a car dealership and maintenance garage. Tour participants saw a vibrant library with many kids present during the summer day. The library has served as a vibrant community asset and anchor for downtown redevelopment.

The downtown tour highlighted several improvements that enhance downtown revitalization efforts. Other highly visible efforts, including cleaning up several blighted and abandoned lots and installing new downtown LED street lighting demonstrate that the city recognizes the importance of making downtown active and visually appealing to prospective business owners and developers.

With a solid overview of the downtown area in hand, the group then boarded a bus to visit the Delaware Nation administrative buildings north of town. There, the group learned about the Delaware Nation’s food distribution program, as well inter-tribal coordination efforts on various public health issues. The group also saw the Delaware Nation’s senior citizen cafeteria facility. On the way back to town, the group drove through the Riverside Indian School campus, which is managed by the U.S. Bureau of Indian Education. The boarding school serves 4th through 12th grade Native American students from across the country. This part of the tour
highlighted how many Anadarko residents share close geographic proximity but vastly different experiences within the community. Often, communities seek to create a common community-wide vision to build the support needed for achieving many community goals and projects, but that is challenging in Anadarko given the multi-jurisdictional, cultural, and demographic differences that exist.

Towards the end of the tour, participants visited an undeveloped lot of land on the south end of town that was the focus of the workshop: the proposed site of the permanent farmers market, walking trails, and community garden. It sits on the south side of Petree Road (Highway 62), between the municipal airport and the Sonic restaurant on land owned by Delaware Nation. Tour participants discussed the site, access to the main road, what other sites had been considered, creative ways to link the site to downtown redevelopment efforts, and potential challenges and opportunities associated with the locating the farmers market on Delaware Nation land. For example, given the site’s proximity to Anadarko High School, it could potentially offer a new opportunity to engage students of all backgrounds in positive healthy activities and educate them about growing and eating healthy food. Including nearby high school students in designing and programming the project site would complement ongoing community efforts to engage youth and address youth mental health concerns.

During the community tour, participants observed many important assets throughout Anadarko, including the extensive park system, very well-maintained streetscapes throughout town, a strong downtown core, many human services facilities, several grocery stores that offer fresh produce, and a plethora of tribal and other museums highlighting a unique and diverse cultural richness. While many of these assets developed independently, thinking about them through a holistic “one community” lens could lead to new strategies and simple changes to improve operational outcomes for each entity and the broader community.
VISION AND VALUES

During the workshop’s first session on the evening of July 12th, Deborah Dotson, President of Delaware Nation, welcomed attendees and spoke about the steering committee’s objective in bringing together tribal members and the larger community for this event. She highlighted that the project site that was the focus of the Local Foods, Local Places workshop is an important opportunity for enhancing local economic and community development for all Anadarko residents. If done right, it could serve as a compliment to the numerous other efforts to improve the community. Anadarko is unique in the nation in terms of the number of tribal jurisdictions co-located alongside the municipal government—a situation that presents unique governance challenges but also opportunities to enhance the economic, cultural, agricultural, and social well-being of the community in a different way than most rural Oklahoma communities.

The first workshop session was designed to create a more collaborative, communicative, and systematic approach to gather community input by engaging community members about their vision for Anadarko in the future. After initial remarks by Ms. Dalton, the technical assistance facilitation team introduced the Local Foods, Local Places program with a short presentation. The team highlighted the elements and benefits of a local food system and shared examples of other communities pursuing similar goals to those in Anadarko.

The facilitation team then led attendees through an exercise designed to bring up core values of the community (Figure 10). Participants completed the statements, “I believe that Anadarko...” and “I believe that Anadarko’s local food system...” The exercise generated a lot of energy among participants in Anadarko. Several key overarching themes emerged,

Figure 10 – During a workshop exercise, participants completed the statements “I believe that Anadarko...” and “I believe that Anadarko’s local food system...” Some of thoughts shared during this exercise are shown above, reflecting positive ideas to help frame the workshop’s action planning sessions on day two.
including recognition of recent positive changes in the community, a sense of optimism about Anadarko’s future, and a desire to work together as a community toward common goals.

The facilitation team also asked workshop participants to write aspirational headlines for 5-10 years into the future, imagining what progress they would like to see in the development of Anadarko’s local food system and revitalization of downtown (Figure 11). The complete set of community responses to each of the workshop exercises is in Appendix C.

**ASSET MAPPING**

The morning of the second workshop day was focused on generating ideas for how Anadarko could achieve its goals. Attendees began by introducing themselves along with a favorite memory of a local food. A word cloud of responses shown in Figure 12 reveals the many happy memories that participants shared to set the tone for the day. After introductions, the workshop facilitators shared case studies from other Local Foods, Local Places projects in Lapwai, Idaho, and Ajo, Arizona, and best practices from across the country for farmers markets and mobile markets.

Attendees then participated in an asset mapping exercise designed to highlight Anadarko’s existing assets and what might be missing that could help advance the community’s goals. Groups formed to “crowd source” workshop participants’ knowledge of the community food system and notable assets. Working in groups around maps of downtown, the town overall, and the region, participants plotted and inventoried favorite places and assets (blue), any areas needing improvement of some kind (red), existing food system elements (orange), and opportunities for new food system elements (green).
The downtown map and its associated legend are included below (Figure 13). All maps are included in Appendix D:

Figure 13 – Workshop participants identified community assets and food system elements on a map of downtown Anadarko.
ACTION PLAN

The public input, group exercises, and group discussions in the Anadarko workshop are designed to facilitate the development of a Local Foods, Local Places action plan to guide the local community participants in implementation of the vision and goals they have established. The action plan is organized around the five goals identified by workshop participants and the Local Foods, Local Places steering committee. The goals and supporting actions are listed below. The tables that follow provide additional detail for each action.

GOAL 1: Ensure the farmers market’s long-term success in a new, permanent location.

- Action 1.1: Survey farmers market vendors and customers.
- Action 1.2: Expand farmers market committee (from vendors and financial supporters) to include Delaware Nation members, Anadarko residents, and others.
• Action 1.3: Set mission and vision for the market and establish market rules and vendor guidelines informed by results of survey (Action 1.1).
• Action 1.4: Hire a farmers market manager.
• Action 1.5: Develop an advertising and outreach plan for the farmers market.
• Action 1.6: Provide training to vendors on business development, social media, marketing, food trucks, and more.

Goal 2: Create a community gathering space that is inviting to all, environmentally friendly, and encourages physical activity.

• Action 2.1: Survey the community about desired amenities and activities at the project site.
• Action 2.2: Research best practices to encourage physical activity at the project site, informed by community survey results.
• Action 2.3: Develop an overall conceptual design and take it to the tribal Executive Council for approval to seek funding for design, engineering, and construction.
• Action 2.4: Identify funding sources for construction and maintenance of the gathering space, broken into phases for different components.
• Action 2.5: Recruit local partners to support the new community gathering space by sponsoring different projects and programs at the site.
• Action 2.6: Create a schedule of activities to introduce the community to the options available at the project site.
• Action 2.7: Create safe walking and biking routes through Anadarko neighborhoods to connect downtown, the site, and other points of interest.

Goal 3: Improve access to healthy, fresh, local food with new community garden.

• Action 3.1: Educate community members and partners about community gardens and their benefits.
• Action 3.2: Provide public transportation to the gardens and farmers market.

Goal 4: Continue to improve coordination and cooperation among tribes, producers, and downtown corner stores, restaurants, and others to expand local food offerings.

• Action 4.1: Establish communications liaisons for contact between tribes, city government, local businesses, residents, and partners.
• Action 4.2: Regularly communicate progress with Local Foods, Local Places steering committee through communication liaisons.
• Action 4.3: Establish a set meeting date, time, and frequency for coordination and cooperation meetings among tribes, city, county, downtown stores, restaurants, and others.
• Action 4.4: Confirm which tribes, restaurants, stores, etc. are interested in participating.
• Action 4.5: Identify the specific actions needed to build capacity for the city of Anadarko, the tribes, etc. to increase local food offerings.
• Action 4.6: Create a community chalk board for community goals, pocket parks, and portable pop-up markets.
GOAL 1: Ensure the farmers market’s long-term success in a new, permanent location.

A priority for Anadarko is to establish a permanent farmers market location to provide a more consistent and stable farmers market that will encourage greater vendor participation and attract more customers. A key first step towards this goal is to find out, or update prior knowledge, using a consumer survey on what producers and their current and potential customers want. Current information on consumer needs and the ability of local farmers to meet those needs will lead to better marketing strategies and the most appropriate business decisions that can sustain long-term success of the farmers market and increase the quantity and variety of healthy food options available to Anadarko residents.

Even though the proposed farmers market site is located on Delaware Nation land, the workshop discussions highlighted that if it is to become a community-wide asset, the existing farmers market committee should seek broad community and stakeholder representation from both those producing and selling farmers market products, as well as organizations and consumers who would benefit. Doing so would improve the ability of the committee to set a more realistic vision and strategy for the farmers market and build buy-in when various community groups feel they have a voice in the committee. Since many diverse voices in a single committee could make it hard to come to consensus on and implement even basic business decisions, hiring a full-time farmers market manager answerable to the committee can provide the executive ability to decide on and manage the day-to-day affairs of the farmers market.

The permanent farmers market location on Delaware Nation land will offer the tribe a better opportunity to experiment with creative strategies for strengthening the market because they can decide on the best ways to use that piece of land. However, those designing the site will need to be mindful of impacts on nearby residential and commercial neighbors whose goodwill is part of the recipe of the site’s success. Furthermore, while the distance from downtown potentially sets the site up to compete with downtown revitalization efforts, the farmers market committee can create mutually beneficial strategies and practices to better connect the two locations. For example, the committee could initiate any number of ideas and actions, such as introducing a pop-up farmers market at the downtown pocket park or at local churches in distressed neighborhoods; improving biking and walking connectivity to the high school and downtown; holding food entrepreneurship classes at the Delaware Cultural Center; and using other creative ways to build a symbiotic relationship between downtown and the farmers market site. The following actions describe the specific steps to help achieve goal 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action 1.1: Survey farmers market vendors and customers.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What this is and why it is important</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Measures of success</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Action 1.1: Survey farmers market vendors and customers.**

| Timeframe          | • Begin ASAP  
|                   | • Complete by the end of September  |
| Lead              | Christina Cooper, Delaware Nation  |
| Supporting cast   | • James Durell, farmer  
|                   | • Delaware Nation  
|                   | • Volunteers  |
| Costs and/or      | • Time to develop, administer, and process surveys  
| resources needed  | • Money for survey materials, e.g., paper and copying  |
| Possible funding  | • Delaware Nation  
| sources           | • EPA GAP funding  |

**Action 1.2: Expand farmers market committee (from vendors and financial supporters) to include Delaware Nation members, Anadarko residents, and others.**

| What this is and why it is important | Expanding the current farmers market committee to include other stakeholders could help ensure broader support for policies and procedures of the market and ensure it meets the needs of the community at large. The committee can bring the necessary partners and people together and spread the weight of planning and operations around to multiple people rather than on just one or two champions. The committee should represent the collective voice of the community and provide a consistent place for community residents and partners to go to with suggestions, ideas, and concerns. |
| Measures of success | • Committee membership has expanded to include Delaware Nation members, Anadarko residents, and other key stakeholders.  
|                     | • 2019 vision and guidelines are set.  
|                     | • Regular meetings and communication occurs among new membership. |
| Timeframe           | By regular meeting normally held late January  |
| Lead               | • Christina Cooper, Delaware Nation  
|                    | • Jenna Craft, Delaware Nation  |
| Supporting cast     | David Nowlin, Oklahoma State University  |
| Costs and/or       | • Time to establish, run, and serve on the board.  
| resources needed    | • Minimal ongoing costs. |
| Possible funding    | N/A  |
| sources            | |

13
### Action 1.3: Set mission and vision for the market and update market rules and vendor guidelines informed by results of survey (Action 1.1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What this is and why it is important</th>
<th>Stating the mission, setting the vision for the farmers market, and establishing vendor guidelines and market rules provides consistency, improves the organization, and increases professionalism that builds trust with both vendors and consumers.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Measures of success                 | • Documents are completed.  
• Vendors, customers, and entire community are informed and updated.                                                                                                                  |
| Timeframe                           | Fall 2018                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Lead                                | • David Nowlin, Oklahoma State University  
• Farmers market board                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Supporting cast                     | Vendors                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Costs and/or resources needed       | Time to develop documents                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Possible funding sources            | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                               |

### Action 1.4: Hire a farmers market manager.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What this is and why it is important</th>
<th>The large number of tasks required of a well-run farmers market warrant a full-time farmers market manager position. The full-time manager would provide consistency in market operations, offer a single point of contact for vendors and customers, keep the farmers market board informed, encourage more training, conduct outreach and promotion, and provide a fresh reboot of the market. A consistent manager at the market could also enable the market to begin accepting SNAP benefits, expanding food access in the community.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Measures of success                 | • Funding is secured.  
• Manager is secured and starts doing the work.                                                                                                                                                |
| Timeframe                           | Fall 2018                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Lead                                | Expanded farmers market committee (Action 1.2)                                                                                                                                                     |
| Supporting cast                     | • Christina Cooper, Delaware Nation  
• Delaware Nation Executive committee and Human Resources Department  
• Whoever is providing the funding                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Costs and/or resources needed       | • Time to secure funding and hire manager  
• Funding for manager position                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Possible funding sources            | • USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program  
• It could be a volunteer summer intern, YouthWorks participant, or college student                                                                                                                                                           |
### Action 1.5: Develop an advertising and outreach plan for the farmers market.

| What this is and why it is important | A strong advertising and outreach plan outlines the best options for developing and sustaining a strong farmers market customer base. The plan will identify new strategies for attracting new customers, finding new vendors, and supporting existing vendors. |
| Measures of success | Number of customers/vendors participating |
| Timeframe | • Plan created: fall 2018  
• Tracking on social media and other plan components will be ongoing! |
| Lead | • Kyle Harris, Delaware Nation (until manager is hired)  
• Farmers market manager (Action 1.4) |
| Supporting cast | • Christina Cooper, Delaware Nation  
• Local Foods, Local Places steering committee |
| Costs and/or resources needed | • Time to develop plan  
• Money for advertising and other marketing materials |
| Possible funding sources | • USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program  
• Local businesses |

### Action 1.6: Provide training to vendors on business development, social media, marketing, food trucks, and more.

| What this is and why it is important | Vendor education can serve those vendors participating in the farmers market and help make their participation more successful. Educational offerings can help to attract additional vendors who might lack skills or confidence to begin selling at the market. It also lends itself to a more consistent and positive experience for customers, encouraging repeat business. |
| Measures of success | • Number of trainings available  
• Number of participants  
• Number of new vendors recruited due to training  
• Results of vendor surveys after completing training |
| Timeframe | First training offered in spring 2019 |
| Lead | Pam Walker, Small Business Administration |
| Supporting cast | Christina Cooper, Delaware Nation |
| Costs and/or resources needed | Local venue to hold training |
| Possible funding sources | • Training: Small Business Administration  
• Venue: Delaware Nation |
Goal 2: Create a community gathering space that is inviting to all, environmentally friendly, and encourages physical activity.

The local efforts to build a new permanent location for the farmers market highlight the important role it potentially serves as a gathering place and community asset. The farmers market site amenities and programs can contribute to a whole host of community revitalization needs, such as increasing access to local healthy food options, encouraging more physical activity, better connecting people with the environment through education and gardening activities, creating a stronger sense of place as an existing commercial town center corridor grows, and engaging youth in a positive way that promotes stronger social cohesion and improved quality of life. A well-designed, visually appealing space where people want to be is critical to ensuring its use by the public. Similar to Goal 1, an important initial step is to survey the community on what community amenities they want to see that promote more physical activity, and what site-specific site design, amenities, and healthy-lifestyle programs and education would draw them to the proposed farmers market site. The survey might include some examples of best practices that the farmers market committee has researched. With knowledge about community wants and best practices, the site design team can develop site designs to present to the Delaware Nation Executive Council for approval and market it to potential funders. The design team should consider how the site connects to Anadarko High School, downtown, and other neighborhoods, implementing onsite projects that visually tie the site to other parts of town, and encouraging off-site projects across the city that make walking and biking safer and more appealing ways to travel to the farmers market site. An example of improving continuity of walking infrastructure for both downtown and the farmers market site, simply by creating coordinated crosswalk patterns was presented by the USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service architect during the workshop (see Appendix A).

### Action 2.1: Survey the community about desired amenities and activities at the project site.

| What this is and why it is important | A community-wide survey about what community members would like to see at the project site and what types of activities they would like to do there will help the steering committee better align various options with community needs and preferences. The community voices are what really matter and are critical to success of the project. The survey should cover the specifics of a possible community garden and options for physical activities (among other ideas) to limit the number of times the community needs to be surveyed. |
| Measures of success | 30-50 completed surveys from each section of Anadarko (e.g., Prairie Village, Apache Housing, Caddo Road) |
| Timeframe | • Start: ASAP  
• Complete: 1-2 months |
| Lead | • Ambrea Marshall, Delaware Nation  
• Christina Cooper, Delaware Nation |
| Supporting cast | • Southern Plains Intertribal Health Board  
• Indian Health Services  
• Local Tribes  
• Bureau of Indian Affairs  
• City of Anadarko |
### Action 2.1: Survey the community about desired amenities and activities at the project site.

| Costs and/or resources needed | • Time  
|                             | • Paper/ink  
|                             | • Incentives to complete survey  
|                             | • Walmart  
|                             | • Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)  
| Possible funding sources | Local Tribes  

### Action 2.2: Research best practices to encourage physical activity at the project site, informed by community survey results.

| What this is and why it is important | Community input will be important for making sure that whatever is ultimately built will be used by residents. However, matching community needs and desires with options for the design of places that encourage physical activity requires up-front research to determine what materials, equipment, and best practices are available or feasibly can be constructed. Given a key underlying goal to combat obesity, decisionmakers should be open minded to various options for addressing the issue and ensuring a safe environment, making sure places and approaches are available and appropriate to everyone.  
| Measures of success | When there is no more to research – not finding any new options  
| Timeframe | • Start: at completion of survey  
|           | • Complete: 1-3 months, depending on how much help we have  
| Lead | Ambrea Marshall, Delaware Nation  
| Supporting cast | • Southern Plains Intertribal Health Board  
|          | • Indian Health Services  
|          | • Local Tribes  
|          | • Bureau of Indian Affairs  
|          | • City of Anadarko  
| Costs and/or resources needed | Volunteer and paid staff time  
| Possible funding sources | N/A  


### Action 2.3: Develop an overall conceptual design and take it to the tribal Executive Council for approval to seek funding for design, engineering, and construction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What this is and why it is important</th>
<th>A new community gathering space could fulfill multiple unmet community needs and desires. Considering upfront the scope of potential uses would ensure a coherent plan since they may have specific influence over architectural and landscape designs that cannot be easily be integrated after construction of one or more components has begun. Logistical aspects of the design relevant to the type of use can also help create a viable overall plan. For example, a farmers market should include adequate loading zones for vendors to bring produce and equipment into the space. Likewise, a community center that offers an amphitheater or auditorium space would need to include adequate parking and street access or transit-oriented design options for managing larger numbers of people attending an event. Identifying the scope of uses onsite also will help determine a suite of other logistical and design considerations such as lighting, water and power sources, recycling needs, composting stations for food waste, and sound barriers (for neighboring residential areas). One high priority for the community is providing public restrooms at the site. Any gathering space and facilities associated with the farmers market and community garden should offer basic public amenities such as restrooms that comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards so that people will be able to spend as much time as they choose to at the site. Any decisions on the conceptual plans and design options for the proposed project site—which is located on Delaware Nation land—will need to be presented to the Delaware Nation Executive Council for approval, funding, and high-level feedback on engineering, design, and construction plans. It will help ensure the backing and support of tribal leaders that is critical to implementation.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Measures of success</td>
<td>Resolution and letter of support from tribal Executive Council</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Timeframe | • Present to Executive Council as soon as research is done  
• ~ 1 month for approval process |
| Lead | • Presentation: Ambrea Marshall and Christina Cooper, Delaware Nation  
• Approval process: Deborah Dotson and other Delaware Nation tribal leaders |
| Supporting cast | • Southern Plains Intertribal Health Board  
• Indian Health Services  
• Local Tribes  
• Bureau of Indian Affairs  
• City of Anadarko |
| Costs and/or resources needed | • Delaware Nation staff time  
• Presentation board  
• Pamphlets/folders  
• Other office supplies |
| Possible funding sources | Delaware Nation |
### Action 2.4: Identify funding sources for construction and maintenance of the gathering space, broken into phases for different components.

| What this is and why it is important | No planning, construction, and maintenance of operations can happen without funding. A key first step in the funding process is to identify what funding sources are available or might potentially become available in the future. A phased construction plan (Action 2.3) will help the community move forward with the pieces of the project that are able to garner funding without needing to have an entire plan funded first. It will also ensure that as pieces are completed, they will support a coherent final vision. If funders and community members are able to see progress and begin to use the site before the entire project can be completed, that will generate additional support. |
| Measures of success | • Amount of funding, grants, and sponsorships  
  • Enough money for first phase secured – something tangible |
| Timeframe | • Garden and walking trail: 1 year  
  • Total project: 2-3 years |
| Lead | • Christina Cooper, Delaware Nation  
  • Ambrea Marshall, Delaware Nation |
| Supporting cast | • Southern Plains Intertribal Health Board  
  • Indian Health Services  
  • Local Tribes  
  • Bureau of Indian Affairs  
  • City of Anadarko |
| Costs and/or resources needed | Staff time to identify funding |
| Possible funding sources | • City of Anadarko  
  • USDA Rural Development  
  • EPA GAP funding  
  • Indian Health Services  
  • Local colleges  
  • Oklahoma Department of Human Services  
  • Local banks  
  • Corporations: Walmart, Nike, etc. |

### Action 2.5: Recruit local partners to support the new community gathering space by sponsoring different projects and programs at the site.

| What this is and why it is important | A strong partner network is critical for creating and maintaining a vibrant community gathering space. A proactive approach to identifying potential partners can accelerate its creation. Partners could support the project by sponsoring activities at the farmers market (e.g., health screenings, information booths, demonstrations, classes), offering programs at the site (e.g., exercise classes), or funding small projects (e.g., tables and benches). |
| Measures of success | • Number of potential partners identified and contacted  
  • Number of activities and programs at the market supported by new partners |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Action 2.6: Create a schedule of activities to introduce the community to the options available at the project site.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What this is and why it is important</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Measures of success** | • Number of events  
• Number of participants  
• Number of returning users |
| **Timeframe** | Within 2 months after construction |
| **Lead** | Ambrea Marshall, Delaware Nation |
| **Supporting cast** | • Southern Plains Intertribal Health Board  
• Indian Health Services  
• Local Tribes  
• Bureau of Indian Affairs  
• City of Anadarko  
• Volunteers looking for community service hours |
| **Costs and/or resources needed** | • Staff time  
• Small equipment for activities  
• Clean up after activities |
| **Possible funding sources** | IHS Grants managed by Delaware Nation |
Action 2.7: Create safe walking and biking routes through Anadarko neighborhoods to connect downtown, the site, and other points of interest.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What this is and why it is important</th>
<th>The project site was chosen because it is owned and controlled by the Delaware Nation, ensuring that whatever is constructed there will be able to remain over the long-term. However, the site is located on the edge of town and is not easily accessible by walking or biking for most Anadarko residents. Creating safe walking and biking routes through the neighborhoods to connect downtown, the site, and other points of interest will provide residents who cannot drive with other options for accessing the site. Safe walking and biking routes also provide an appealing alternative to driving for everyone, encouraging physical fitness and helping to meet the Delaware Nation’s health goals.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Measures of success</td>
<td>• Number of identified routes modified to better accommodate walkers and bikers • Number of people walking or biking to the project site or other destinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeframe</td>
<td>• Begin ASAP • 1-2 years to complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting cast</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs and/or resources needed</td>
<td>• Time to design routes and implement changes • Funding for new signage, bike lanes, crosswalks, or other design alterations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possible funding sources</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Goal 3: Improve access to healthy, fresh, local food with new community gardens.

The proposed Anadarko community garden at the location of the permanent farmers market site can help improve local access to healthy foods, better connect participants with nature and the environment, help build a community of practice around gardening in Anadarko, and potentially reinforce revitalization efforts for both downtown and the broader community by helping to connect food producers and consumers. The community garden and its programs can serve as a community anchor that leads to a more active network of gardens across the community, including school gardens, church gardens, and private gardens. A more active community gardening network can lead to better farmers market participation for both buyers and sellers. If the community garden and the community network of gardens grow sufficiently, they generate enough local produce to ensure a steady supply that local restaurants, school cafeterias, and other institutional kitchens may require.

The workshop participants who developed the actions outlined under this goal recognized that a successful community garden requires a strong education program to encourage prospective growers to become active participants, and then help gardeners with varying levels of experience achieve success by helping them improve their gardening knowledge. The final action listed under this goal will provide transportation options for those residents who have no means to participate in the garden or other farmers market events.
**Action 3.1: Educate community members and partners about community gardens and their benefits.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What this is and why it is important</th>
<th>When people have a better sense of the benefits of a community garden and how to go about creating and maintaining one, they are more likely to participate in keeping the garden going, interact more with other interested residents, add more healthy food options to their diet, and become more active in their community.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Measures of success                 | • Number of types of classes  
• Number of classes held  
• Attendance at classes |
| Timeframe                           | • Begin within 6 weeks (can start with basics – finding teachers and a location to hold classes, determining topics, advertising, etc.)  
• Ongoing activity |
| Lead                               | • Ambrea Marshall, Delaware Nation |
| Supporting cast                     | • James Fields, Caddo County Health Department  
• University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center  
• Oklahoma State University and other universities/students  
• U.S. Department of Agriculture  
• Chickasaw and other Nations (Pawnee, etc.) such as seed projects  
• Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (compost groups)  
• Riverside Indian School and other local schools  
• Community service workers |
| Costs and/or resources needed       | • Time to set up education program  
• Funding for teacher salaries, location rental, etc. |
| Possible funding sources            | • Oklahoma State University  
• U.S. Department of Agriculture  
• Caddo County Health Department  
• WIDA  
• Riverside Indian School and other local schools  
• Shakopee grant  
• Southern Plains Tribal Health Board |

**Action 3.2: Provide public transportation to the gardens and farmers market.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What this is and why it is important</th>
<th>Many people in community may not have access to the farmers market and community garden if they are unable or do not want to walk, bike, or drive. A free transportation option could help improve access for these residents. The Kiowa Tribe public transportation system (FASTrans) might be willing to waive its customary fee for residents going to the farmers market or community garden.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Measures of success                | • The number and cost of public transportation to the project site  
• The number of people using the public transportation option |
### Action 3.2: Provide public transportation to the gardens and farmers market.

| Timeframe              | • Begin outreach immediately  
|                       | • Service established within 3 months of first site amenity opening |
| Lead                  | • Christina Cooper, Delaware Nation  
|                       | • Ambrea Marshall, Delaware Nation |
| Supporting cast       | TBD |
| Costs and/or resources needed | • Time to arrange the program  
|                       | • Funding to cover the subsidy |
| Possible funding sources | FASTrans |

### Goal 4: Continue to improve coordination and cooperation among tribes, producers, and downtown corner stores, restaurants, and others to expand local food offerings.

Anadarko is unique in the country in terms of the number of different tribes that must coordinate among themselves and with the Anadarko city government on many different issues, even on the most basic city services. The presence of so many different jurisdictional entities presents coordination challenges and might explain why many local workshop participants placed such a high value on the importance of coordination and communication as a goal. By making improved coordination and cooperation among tribes, producers, and downtown corner stores a goal, the community will not only help build a more robust local food system, but will be putting into practice concepts of cooperation that build stronger relationships that will benefit many other cross-jurisdictional, cross-cultural, and multi-stakeholder community concerns. An example of cross-jurisdictional cooperation that could benefit from stronger coordination include city-tribal efforts to address abandoned properties around town. A cross-stakeholder example of collaboration that might benefit from improved coordination is a coordinated marketing campaign on behalf of the independent museums in the Anadarko area that collectively could be a significant draw for outside visitors.

The challenges of coordinating across so many jurisdictional boundaries that checkerboard the Anadarko map affect tribes, the city government, school district, county health department, and other stakeholder entities, all whom would share in the positive outcomes of successful coordination. State and federal partners, especially the Bureau of Indian Affairs, could play a significant role in supporting locally driven efforts to improve coordination and collaboration.

### Action 4.1: Establish communications liaisons for contact between tribes, city government, local businesses, residents, and partners.

| What this is and why it is important | By creating communications liaisons for each tribe, the city, residents, and stakeholders, each has a dedicated representative whose job it is to share information and take information back to their appropriate boards or other bodies that make decisions on behalf of the people or entities they represent. |
### Action 4.1: Establish communications liaisons for contact between tribes, city government, local businesses, residents, and partners.

| Measures of success | • Number of community liaisons created  
|                      | • Community liaisons are effectively relating information and sharing information |
| Timeframe            | Initiate communication by August 2\textsuperscript{nd} with:  
|                      | o 4 tribes in the county  
|                      | o City of Anadarko  
|                      | o Caddo County  
|                      | o Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality – Brownfields |
| Lead                 | Jenna Craft, Delaware Nation |
| Supporting cast      | • Ken Corn, City of Anadarko  
|                      | • David Scott, Chamber of Commerce  
|                      | • James Fields, Caddo County Health Department |
| Costs and/or resources needed | • Time  
|                      | • Meeting space |
| Possible funding sources | Meeting space:  
|                      | o Delaware Cultural Center  
|                      | o City Council Chambers  
|                      | o Delaware Nation Tribal conference room  
|                      | o Wichita Office complex |

### Action 4.2: Regularly communicate progress with Local Foods, Local Places steering committee through communication liaisons.

| What this is and why it is important | Regular communication and dissemination of information among various members of a Local Foods, Local Places steering committee or similar coordination body serves to strengthen existing partner connections and foster new ones. These connections help build the coalition that brings together all the people and institutions needed to reach the Local Foods, Local Places goals. They also help strengthen the local food system’s ability to contribute to local economic development, place making, and revitalization efforts. |
| Measures of success | Bi-weekly written updates on status of engagement and coordination with tribes, city, county, state, etc. to steering committee |
| Timeframe | • Initial biweekly due August 16\textsuperscript{th}  
|          | • Continues until the farmers market begins |
| Lead     | Jenna Craft, Delaware Nation |
| Supporting cast | • Kyle Harris, Delaware Nation  
|                      | • Delaware Nation Public Relations |
| Costs and/or resources needed | Time |
| Possible funding sources | N/A |
**Action 4.3: Establish a set meeting date, time, and frequency for coordination and cooperation meetings among tribes, city, county, downtown stores, restaurants, and others.**

| What this is and why it is important | Setting a regular meeting day and time is a key step towards more effective and ongoing coordination that encourages more routine interaction among tribes, the city government, county offices such as the county health department, and other partners. |
| Measures of success | Date, time, and frequency determined and agreed upon by key stakeholders |
| Timeframe | By August 2 |
| Lead | TBD |
| Supporting cast | • Jenna Craft, Delaware Nation  
• Kenneth Corn, City of Anadarko  
• James Fields, Caddo County Health Department |
| Costs and/or resources needed | Time |
| Possible funding sources | N/A |

**Action 4.4: Confirm which tribes, restaurants, stores, etc. are interested in participating.**

| What this is and why it is important | Many different potential partners can contribute to the success of local foods and revitalization efforts. Knowing which people and organizations are willing to step up to help is crucial to creating early momentum and sustaining efforts when inevitable roadblocks slow down progress towards achieving goals. |
| Measures of success | Development of list of tribes, stores, restaurants, that are interested in participating |
| Timeframe | By August 2 |
| Lead | James, Fields, Caddo County Health Department |
| Supporting cast | Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust personnel (also of County Health Department) |
| Costs and/or resources needed | Time |
| Possible funding sources | N/A |
### Action 4.5: Identify the specific actions needed to build capacity for the city of Anadarko, the tribes, etc. to increase local food offerings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What this is and why it is important</th>
<th>Assessment of food-related capacity-building needs and specific actions for addressing those needs enable the city, tribes, and stakeholders to more effectively plan a path forward and pursue resources that overcome barriers and enhance local food offerings.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Measures of success</td>
<td>City, tribes, and county complete assessment and develop effective plan for improving local food offerings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Timeframe                           | • Once the initial list of confirmed participants/partners is established  
• Project to be achieved by Oct 15                                                                                                           |
| Lead                                | • Christina Cooper, Delaware Nation  
• Ambrea Marshall, Delaware Nation                                                                                                                |
| Supporting cast                     | • James Fields, Caddo County Health Department  
• Danny Gogal, EPA                                                                                                                                   |
| Costs and/or resources needed       | • Time  
• Funds to conduct food system assessment                                                                                                                                                     |
| Possible funding sources            | • U.S. Department of Agriculture                                                                                                                                                    |

### Action 4.6: Create a community chalk board for community goals, pocket parks, and portable pop-up markets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What this is and why it is important</th>
<th>A physically located community “chalkboard” is an ideal way to share information community-wide that also encourages people to come to the farmers market site in person to check the single location where it is located. A “chalkboard manager” may need to help keep the chalkboard clean and updated with current and appropriate content. The manager can ensure that information relevant to different demographic groups and that can help connect generations gets posted. The community can create electronic or other “chalkboards” that complement the physical chalkboard by encouraging folks to come in person to the gathering space to find additional information, offers, discounts, etc. on the physical chalkboard. These other “chalkboards” may include the local newspaper, Facebook, flyers, emails, etc.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Measures of success                 | • Participation in events  
• Social media analytics (e.g., number of views, shares, and likes)                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Timeframe                           | Immediately upon completion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Lead                                | Local Foods, Local Places steering committee member TBD                                                                                                                          |
| Supporting cast                     | • City of Anadarko  
• Chamber of Commerce  
• All tribes  
• Schools  
• Church bulletins                                                                                                                                         |
IMPLEMENTATION AND NEXT STEPS

Following the Anadarko Workshop several activities have taken place.

- Press covered the Local Foods, Local Places workshop. Website links to specific news stories are listed under the “Press Coverage” section of References in Appendix F.

- Three steering committee post-workshop calls were held in August and September 2018 for discussing workshop outcomes and completing a workshop report and action plan.

- The historical treaty signed in 1778 between the Lenape ancestors of the Delaware Nation members and the U.S. Continental Congress continues to be on display at the Smithsonian Institute’s National Museum of American Indians through October 2018 in Washington, D.C. It was the first treaty signed between the Continental Congress and a Native American tribe. The Delaware Nation participated in the opening of the exhibit in June.

- EPA’s Office of Environmental Justice located in Washington, D.C. partnered with the Office of Community Revitalization to facilitate continued engagement and support to the Anadarko community after the conclusion of the Local Foods, Local Places technical assistance. Two Office of Environmental Justice staff members—Danny Gogal and Jacob Burney—have reached out and make themselves available to community leaders and stakeholders to support the community’s efforts to build on the groundwork laid during the workshop and follow-up calls. This support marks an enhanced effort by the Office of Environmental Justice to provide prolonged and adaptable on-the-ground support, technical assistance, expertise, and guidance to underserved and overburdened communities in order to address a variety of disproportionate environmental and public health impacts that they are facing.

APPENDICES

- Appendix A – Workshop Exercise Results
- Appendix B – Workshop Sign-in Sheets
- Appendix C – Workshop Photo Album
- Appendix D – Community Data Profile
- Appendix E – Funding Resources
- Appendix F – Reference