

- Resident Food Equity Advisors – 14 interviewed residents representing each council district
- ~150,000 residents live in HFPAs – more than .25 miles from supermarket, have a higher % of households without cars, have a high % of low-income residents, little healthy food at the neighborhood level
- Community-Managed Open Space Gardens are a permitted use in all zoning districts
- Community-Managed Open Space Farms and Urban Agriculture are a conditional use in all zoning districts (industrial zones as exceptions)
 - Previously these were all technically prohibited
- Can get permission from the owner to get a use permit – can city give permission for its own properties?
- Urban agriculture is income generating, run as a business
- There are 100 community gardens, 20 urban farms
- YRBSS: *Ns for these surveys can be really small*
- Sale to schools?

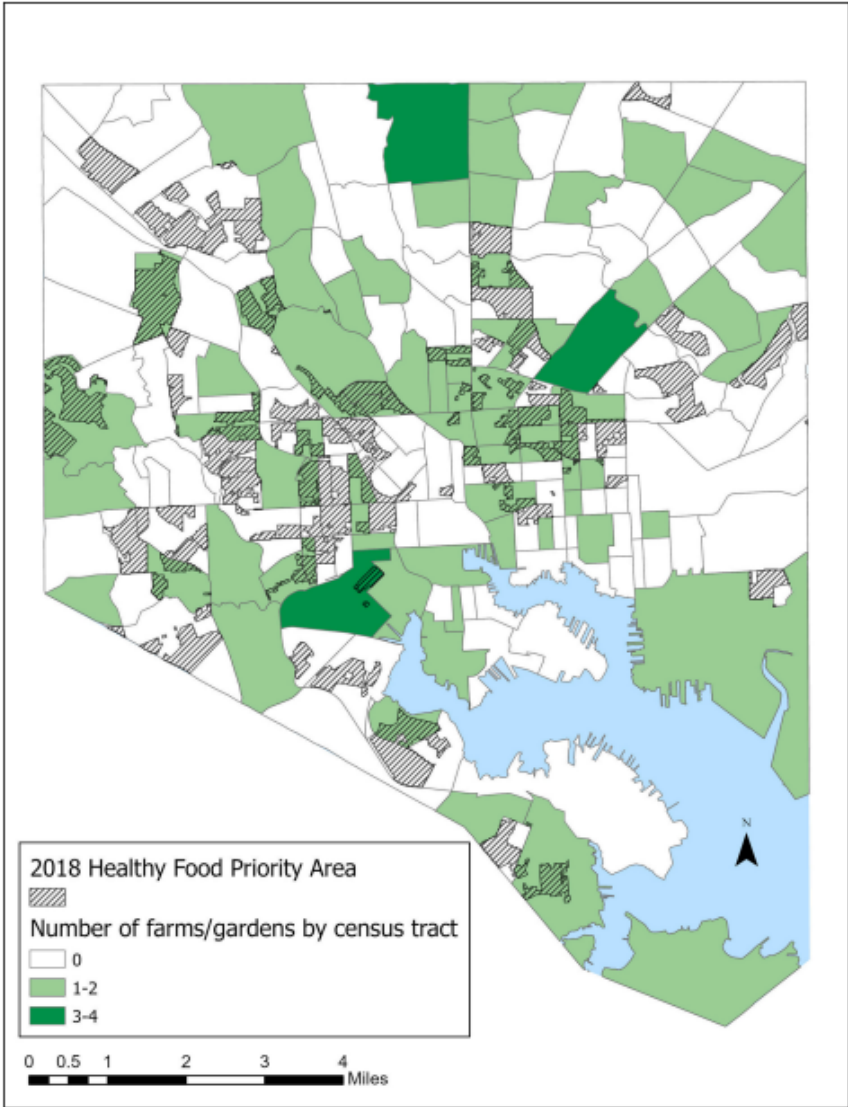
Veggies in last 7 days?	15 or younger	16 or 17	18 or older	Black	Hispanic/Latino
Did not eat	24%	29%	43%	27%	37%
1 to 3 times	39%	34%	28%	37%	37%
4 to 6 times	18%	20%	19%	20%	13%
1 time per day	8%	6%	7%	7%	5%
2 times per day	5%	3%	1%	4%	2%
3 times per day	3%	4%	1%	3%	3%
4 or more times per day	3%	4%	2%	3%	3%

CLF data indicates that just 40% of urban farms are in HFPAs

Urban Farms

Homegrown Baltimore, an initiative of the City of Baltimore to increase production, distribution, sales, and consumption of locally grown food within the city, classifies urban farms as large plots with a primary emphasis on income-generating agricultural activity. There are 24 urban farms throughout Baltimore City with nine located in Healthy Food Priority Areas. The urban farms range in model, size and products grown. Many farms sell produce through on-farm stands and at Baltimore City farmers markets, and some urban farms have mobile sites.

Just 25% of sites are located within an HFWA and 15% of the HFWAs have a farm/garden

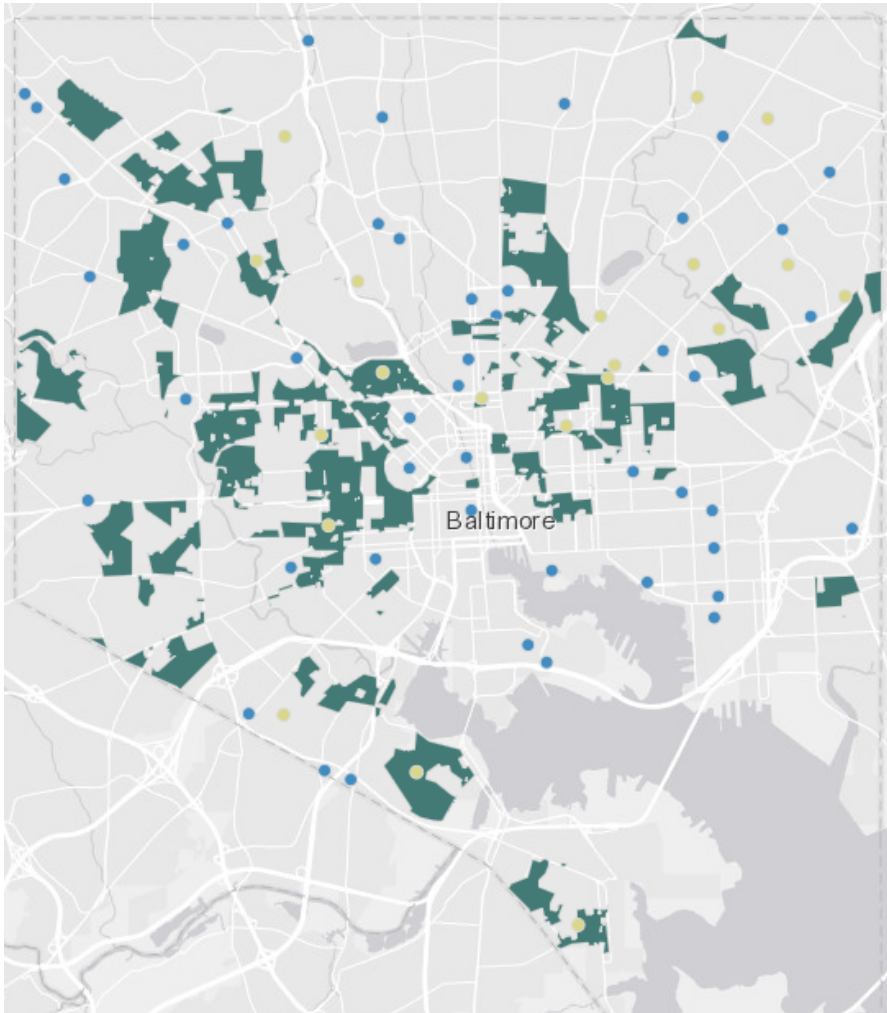


3.5. Comparison of sites located within and outside of Healthy Food Priority Areas

Twenty-five percent of sites were located within an HFWA. There was a slightly higher proportion of farms (21% were farms) among sites located within HFWAs compared to sites located outside of HFWAs (15% were farms)(Table 4). Sites located within HFWAs had a larger percentage of participants that lived within a mile of their site compared to those located outside of HFWAs (median: 90% vs. 83%). Sites within HFWAs reported selling a greater percentage of produce compared to sites outside of HFWAs (mean: 15% compared to 11%), while those outside HFWAs distributed a higher proportion to growers, volunteers, and donations (mean: 76% compared to 73%). Representatives from sites located within HFWAs were more likely to report potential sources of contamination compared to sites located outside of HFWAs (69% compared to 53%).

Another map where blue dots are grocery stores, yellow dots are urban farms, green areas are HFWAs

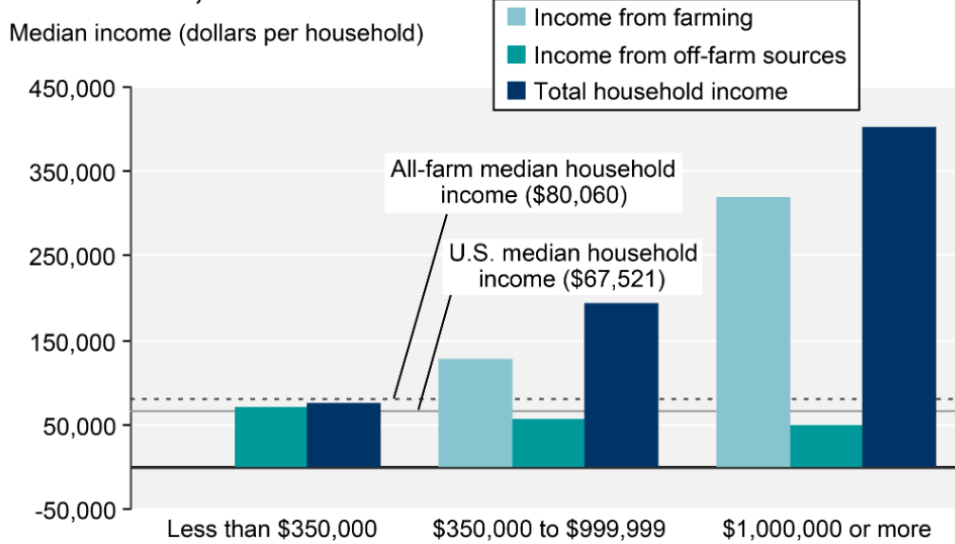
- By definition, grocery stores are not located in HFPAs
- Most farms are not in HFPAs,



Is our goal to have urban farms provide economic opportunities? My hunch is that if we do this we fail.

- CLF indicates that urban farms basically make no money
- Paper echoes previous research saying that profit is not a main motivation
- Community gardens are most popular, engaged 50% of 9,500 individuals reported as regular visitors
- If they make money, who are they selling to?
- How many people in the neighborhood of the farm are supported by the sale?
- In areas of the city that are non-HFPAs, it does not appear as if there are more/many farms that provide revenue and jobs for people
 - o Are we interested in establishing a money-making string of urban farms in various communities or are we interested in increasing food security for communities? Or both?
 - o Vegetables and melons are the [lowest revenue segment](#) in MD outside of fruit and nuts and miscellaneous livestock products (honey, wool, etc.)
 - o Median income from farming for small farms is negative money:

Median income of farm households, by income source and farm size, 2020



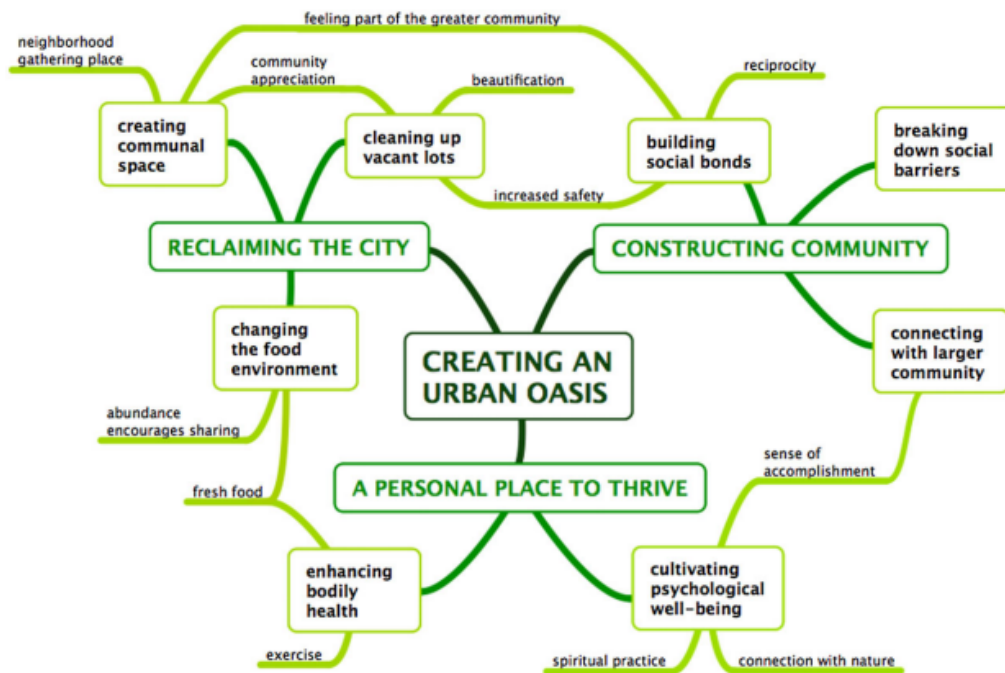
Note: Farm size reflects annual gross cash farm income which includes sales of crops and livestock, Government payments, and other farm-related income (including fees received by operators from production contracts).

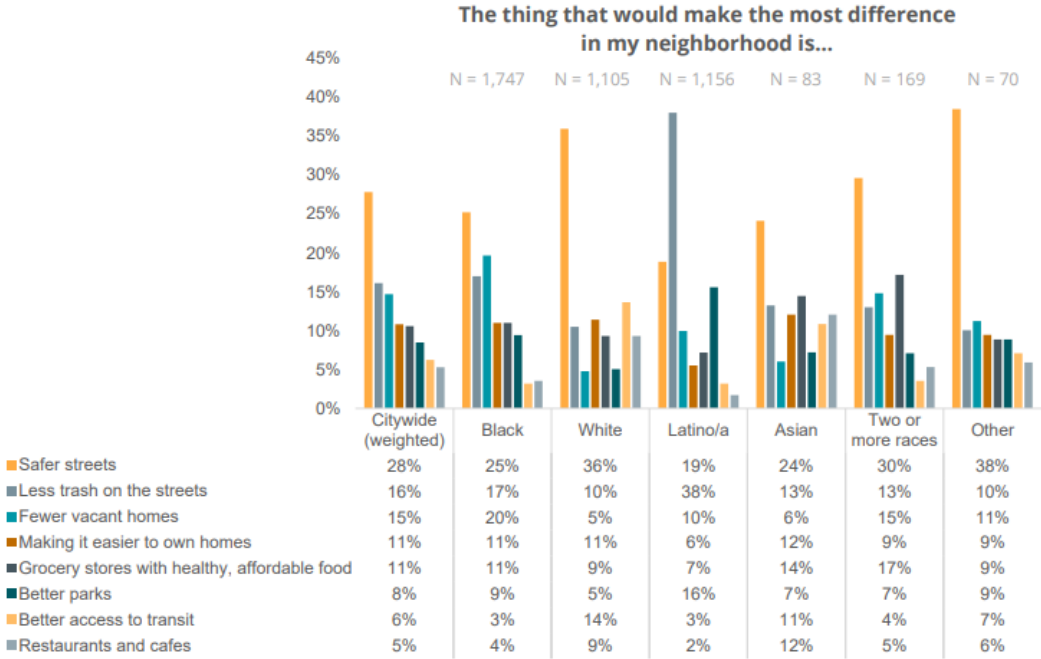
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service and National Agricultural Statistics Service, Agricultural Resource Management Survey and U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports. Data as of December 1, 2021.

Ideas:

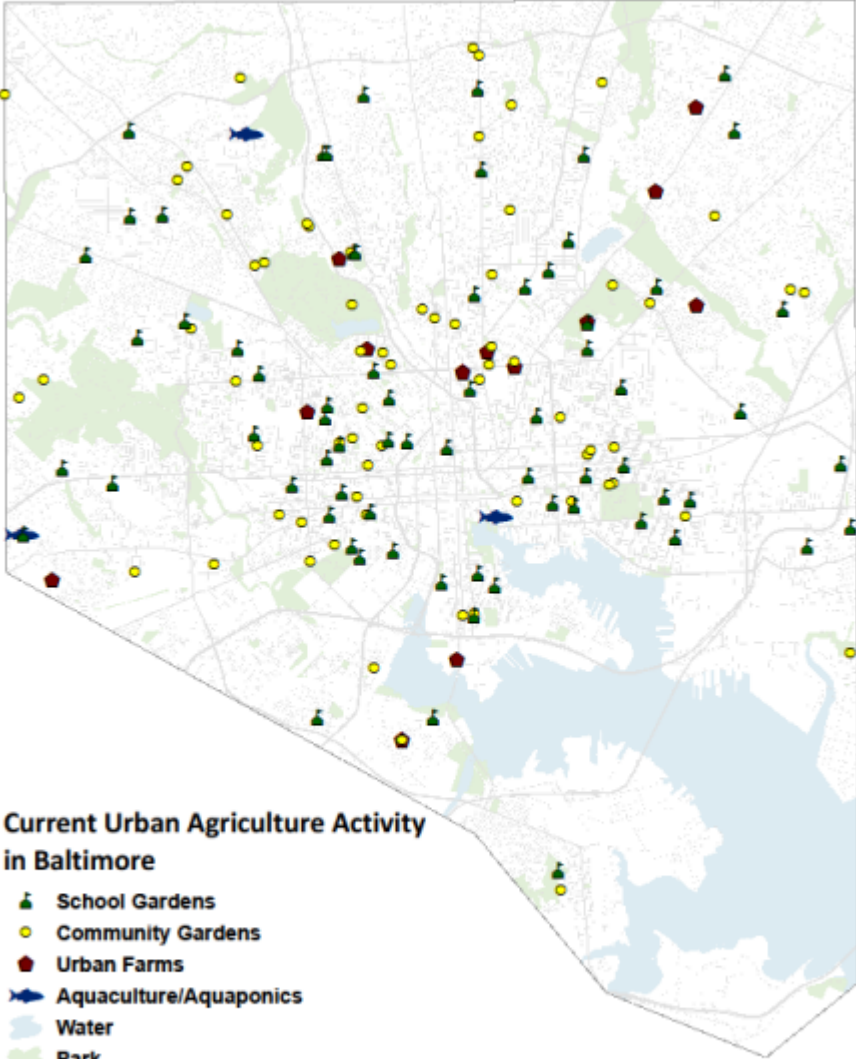
- Farms and community gardens rarely use compost or rain catchment – can we assist with those systems in order to reduce cost and difficulties of running the farm?
- CLF proposes assistance with soil testing because 50% of gardens grow directly in the ground
- Extending the growing season with hoop houses, greenhouses, seed starting spaces, etc.

Figure 1.
Conceptual framework for how community gardens create urban oases.





Current urban agriculture activities, including all current urban farms, food-producing community gardens and school gardens, and aquaculture/aquaponics projects



Current Urban Agriculture Activity in Baltimore

-  School Gardens
-  Community Gardens
-  Urban Farms
-  Aquaculture/Aquaponics
-  Water
-  Park

