

# YOLO FOOD HUB

Yolo Food Hub will strengthen local food supply chains, mitigate pandemic-related market disruptions for local consumers, promote resiliency among Yolo County farmers, and increase access to healthy foods.

## CONNECTING THE LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM

### Yolo Food Hub Timeline

**2022**  
Planning  
Fundraising  
Site Acquisition



**2023**  
Construction



**2024**  
Operational

### What is Yolo Food Hub?

Yolo Food Hub is a new facility that will aggregate, process, store, and distribute farm produce grown in Yolo County and surrounding areas. Located in Esparto, Yolo Food Hub will expand food production and distribution channels in Yolo County and the Greater Sacramento Region, while at the same time bolstering local food security, stabilizing food markets, increasing employment, and job training opportunities, and providing pandemic relief for farmers.

Yolo Food Hub will support a regional network of organizations by offering logistical support in aggregation, value-added processing, storage, and distribution services. By offering a combination of value-creating services, food hubs enable farmers to focus their efforts on growing food for targeted markets, strengthening their operations, and scaling.

### 2022 Project Planning Activities

The project received a planning grant from USDA to conduct the following activities:

- 1 Survey local farmers to determine their capacity and operational needs
- 2 Develop Yolo Food Hub's marketing and financial plan to reach institutional buyers
- 3 Provide institutional market engagement training to farmers
- 4 Generate recommendations and a funding strategy to establish and sustain Yolo Food Hub

The project is funded through a Local Food Promotion Program grant from USDA. The cost of developing Yolo Food Hub is estimated at \$10 million, \$2 million of which has been committed by Yolo County for site acquisition.

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### How Yolo Food Hub Will Work

A food hub is a facility that aggregates, processes, and distributes fresh foods on behalf of farmers in the area. Food hubs help connect farmers and food entrepreneurs with regional markets and institutional buyers, such as schools, hospitals, and food banks to access source-identified, locally grown products.

Yolo Food Hub will connect small, economically disadvantaged, Veteran and BIPOC farmers to new markets and improve the resiliency of the regional food system by strengthening local supply chains. Yolo Food Hub will contribute to the region's economic recovery from the challenging impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Yolo Food Hub will make the region's agricultural bounty more accessible and affordable to economically disadvantaged community members. In addition, the facility's increased storage and processing capacities will lengthen the seasonal availability of local foods.

The project builds on the work of the Sacramento Area Council of Governments' Rural-Urban Connections Strategy [Food Hub Feasibility Analysis](#) and the [2021 Sacramento Region Food System Action Plan](#).

### Project Partners

The Yolo Food Hub is a collaborative project between New Season Community Development Corporation (NSCDC), Capay Valley Farm Shop (CVFS), Yolo Food Bank, Durst Organic Growers, Spork Food Hub, Hatamiya Group, Kitchen Table Advisors, and Valley Vision. Valley Vision is the planning project manager.

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Yolo Food Hub facilitates collaborative public and private partnership



Farmers sell directly to Yolo Food Hub



Fresh food goes from Yolo Food Hub to schools, hospitals, and more



Farmers and consumers benefit!



Project Manager



Project Funder

