### **Challenges and Barriers**

- What Do We Eat?
  - Diets Evolve
- Where Do We Eat? – At Home or Away
- Where Do We Shop?
  - Corner Store or Supermarket?
  - Where we buy food, when we buy food
- Is the System Fair?
  - Neighborhood Disinvestment
  - Disparities in the Food System



#### Percent of daily calories, U.S. population 2 years and older

We eat less at home, more fast food regardless of income

http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/record/24 5663/files/http\_\_\_ers\_usda\_gov\_amberwaves\_2016-june\_linking-federal-foodintake-surveys-provides-a-moreaccurate-look-at-eating-outtrends\_aspx\_\_V\_JJ7ygx8Ce\_pdfmy.pdf



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from the USDA Nationwide Food Consumption Survey 1977-78; USDA Continuing Survey of Food Intakes by Individuals 1989-91 and 1994-98; and the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey 2003-04, 2005-06, 2007-08, 2009-10, 2011-12.

#### Food Resource Environment: Food Retail Outlets In South LA

Full-service grocery stores make up only 6 percent of the fresh foods found in South LA, compared with 18 percent of food retail outlets in West LA.



## Excerpts from The Public Health Effects of Food Deserts

Paula Tarnapol Whitacre, Peggy Tsai, and Janet Mulligan, Rapporteurs

Food and Nutrition Board

Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources

Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

### Workshop Definition: Food Desert

#### BOX 1-2 What Is a Food Desert?

In the 2008 Farm Bill, Section 7527 defines a food desert as "an area in the United States with limited access to affordable and nutritious food, particularly such an area composed of predominantly lower-income neighborhoods and communities."

In developing the framework and selected topics for this workshop, the planning committee believed it was important to specify geography and quality as factors describing a food desert and defined it more accurately as the following:

Food desert: a geographic area, particularly lower-income neighborhoods and communities, where access to affordable, quality, and nutritious foods is limited.

### Differences that Make A Difference: Race



FIGURE 2-2 Relative distance to grocers and fast food in Chicago. SOURCE: M. Gallagher, 2009.

#### Improving Food Choices for Underserved Populations

Education (General) Massive/Social Marketing Campaign

#### Education (Specific and Targeted) Educate Consumers About Source of Choice Restaurant Menu Counts

**Environmental and Public Policy** 

Improve System or Create Alternative System Industrial System: Attract Supermarkets to Poor Areas Alternative System: Community Gardens, Farmers' Markets, Food Cooperatives Regulate Availability of Product

Fast Food Moratorium

Revise Plans to Integrate Healthy Rules

Add Health Element to General Plan



### How Do We Change The System?

Policy and Environmental Change

Support Development of New Supermarkets FRESH WORKS in California

Market Makeovers (Corner Store Conversions) Cultural Change, Peer Pressure and Education Policy as Motivator, Knowledge as Catalyst Smoking

## Policy and Environmental Change

### What is policy change?

OAny change in the formal and/or informal rules or regulations that govern our collective daily life (may be organizational, local, state, regional, national or international)

### • What is environmental change?

OAny change in the physical or built environments that influence our behavioral choices and/or health directly

## **AABLH Change Model**



Family and Community Health 2011, 34(S1):S92-101

## Applying the Change Model

Initial market and restaurant assessment results were shared with community members, public agencies and elected officials via multiple methods:

– Letters

- -One on one (and community) meetings
- -Hearing participation
- Media packages
- -Journal articles

## **CHC Model for Social Change**



Community Health Councils Model for Social Change



# **Change Efforts**

- Community Partners and the Neighborhood Food Watch Campaign
  - The Participant Survey
  - The Neighborhood Food Watch Checklist
- Policy Change Champions Los Angeles Council Members Jan Perry and Bernard Parks
  - Incentives for Food Retailers
  - South Los Angeles Interim Control Ordinance

## Policy Change: The Carrot

- Market Opportunities: Incentives for Food Retailers
  - Plots of land large enough for significant development are small need to be protected
  - Incentives for developers, vendors to build markets and healthy restaurants in South Los Angeles
  - Repackage existing benefits, consolidate, and expedite the planning and development process

# Policy Change: The Stick

- South Los Angles Interim Control Ordinance
  - Prevents new stand alone fast-food establishments in South LA for 2 years (approved July, 2008; went into effect, September, 2010); City Council members Jan Perry and Bernard Parks
  - Los Angeles City Planning Office voted October 14, 2010 and City Council voted on December 8, 2010 to amend South Los Angeles Community Plans, effectively extending the ordinance indefinitely

### Other Policy Change Interventions







Design Trust for Public Space: http://i1.wp.com/thisbigcity.net/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/5BF\_UA\_poster.jpg





#### Access to Healthy Food

**Planting Organic Food for a Healthier Tomorrow** 



### Pop-up markets

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)



#### **National Count of Farmers Market Directory Listings**

10,000 9,000 8.669 8,476 8,000 8,268 8,144 7,864 7,000 7,175 6,000 6,132 2.3% Increase 5,000 5.274 4,685 4,385 4,000 3,706 3,000 3,137 2.863 2.746 2,410 2,000 1.755 1,000 0 1994 1996 1998 2000 2002 2004 2006 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016

Source: USDA-AMS-Local Food Research & Development Division

Farmers market information is voluntary and self-reported to USDA-AMS-Local Food Research & Development Division

Farmers' Markets Expansion (1970: 345 in the entire US)

https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default /files/media/National%20Count%20of% 20Operating%20Farmers%20Markets%2 01994-2016.jpg

#### Food Co-ops

a New Community Economy + Community Ownership of Food

https://twitter.com/solafoodcoop



### Where Are We?

- No "multi-modal" frame like physical activity movement
- Each food planning approach needs further research
  - What are the negative impacts of the industrial system on neighborhoods?
- Each alternative approach has value, limits
  - Farmers Markets: Do they diminish disparities?
  - Urban Agriculture: Is local food too expensive, and not responsive to LIR (Low Income Residents)?
  - Community Gardening: Do they reach enough people + do they sustainably change eating habits?
  - Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) pop-up markets: Limited access, need to develop trust, create markets, could reach only self-selected population
- What is the "right" mix?
- How do we "plan" a better, financially successful, sustainable system?