

## **Local Committee Charter**

### **Definition of local**

Within Thurston, Mason, Lewis, Pierce, and Gray's Harbor county that sells directly to the Co-op without the use of a third party wholesaler.

### **Definition of regional**

Within Washington, Oregon or British Columbia that sells directly to the Co-op without the use of a third party wholesaler.

### **Committee Purpose**

1. To help strengthen ties between the Olympia Food Co-op and local/regional food and product producers as per the Co-op's mission statement.
2. To create a communication forum for local/regional farms and food and product producers and the Co-op.
3. To support and promote the viability of local/regional farms, food and product producers by
  - A. envisioning and implementing projects that promote the sale of locally/regionally produced food and products at the Co-op.
  - B. identifying, evaluating and supporting opportunities for increased and sustained local/regional food and product production.
  - C. Encouraging the development of an ecologically and economically healthy local/regional food system.
4. To increase the Co-op membership's awareness about the benefits and availability of locally/regionally produced food and products and to be a conduit for membership support for local production.
5. To serve in an advisory capacity to the board and staff in policy development and implementation.

### **Structure**

- 1-2 Board members
- 3-5 staff members (representing a diversity of departments)
- 2-4 local producers (for a one year term)
- 2-4 Co-op members

### **Process**

The committee will meet regularly and make decisions by consensus. Reports will be given to the managers, staff, and board of directors by a committee representative, and members will be updated regularly through the newsletter and in-store information. Any proposed changes will first go to staff for feedback and then to the board for final consent.