

Changing the Approach to Regulation of Local Food Systems in Minnesota. June 2015-June 2016. Karen Lanthier and Stephanie Van Dyke. Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture; funded by Bush Foundation Community Innovation Grant. <https://mnlocalfoodregs.wordpress.com/>

4. In-Depth Feasibility Modeling Research of Minneapolis 311 System - medium term					
SITUATION: Farmers, food entrepreneurs, food system advocates, and regulators in Minnesota have difficulty navigating complex food safety requirements and in state and local rules and regulations. Moreover, there is a disconnect in understanding around food safety practices and business innovations among these groups at the regional level.					
Summary: Conduct a systematic study of the Minneapolis 311 System and create a feasibility report on how/if a similar statewide structure would occur.					
Ask: Funding is secured and a researcher is recruited to conduct a feasibility study about the implementation of the Minneapolis 311 System on a statewide level. MDA/MDH/Delegated Agencies participate with this research.					
INPUTS		OUTPUTS (Activities)	OUTCOMES		
			Knowledge	Actions	Conditions
Funding (Staff, graduate researcher) Researcher Staff to direct researcher Minneapolis 311 staff/program developers share information and advice Information expertise for designing study IT Expertise Involvement of Materials Management Division (MMD) in the MN State Office of Administration for external “look” at the agencies structure.		Study Design Documentation of existing inefficiencies in the system Conduct Business Flow Analysis Conduct study Quality improvement and performance management Creation of feasibility report Staff bring researcher(s) up to speed on background information for project Staff inform research direction	MDA/MDH/Delegated agencies understand pros/cons/likelihood of success to implement a similar model at state level	Stakeholders equipped to lobby for and implement statewide system	State legislator and governor have data on cost and parameters of implementation
ASSUMPTIONS: An in-depth feasibility study of the Minneapolis 311 system will effectively determine if it can and should be implemented on a statewide level.		EXTERNAL FACTORS: The success of this project will depend on the ability of the researcher to gain access to specific information, the level of involvement of the MMD, and the amount of information shared by the Minneapolis 311 staff and program developers.			