

Growing Your Local Food System: Idea and Resource Exchange

September 29, 2015

12:30 – 1:45 pm



WHY and HOW local governments choose to support local food systems.

featuring:

- ICMA-supported research
- Your peers
- You!

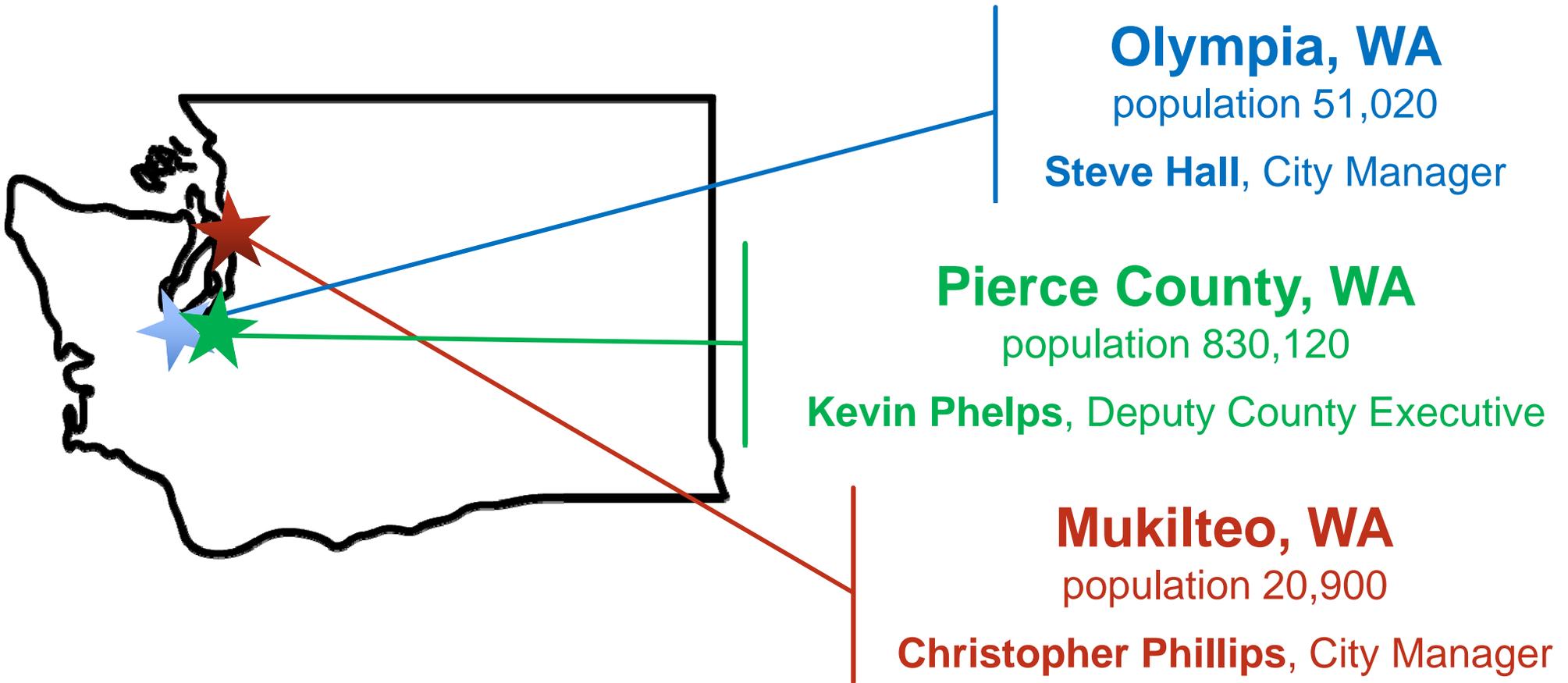


SESSION PANEL

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Framing our discussion: the food system



Local food CAN be...



... but ISN'T ALWAYS.

ICMA-MSU Surveys: 2012, 2015



Preliminary Observations: 2015

Top **MOTIVATIONS**

Public health

Community development

Economic & workforce
development

Agricultural land preservation

Common **DEPARTMENTS**

Planning

Public/Environmental Health

Parks & Recreation

Economic Development

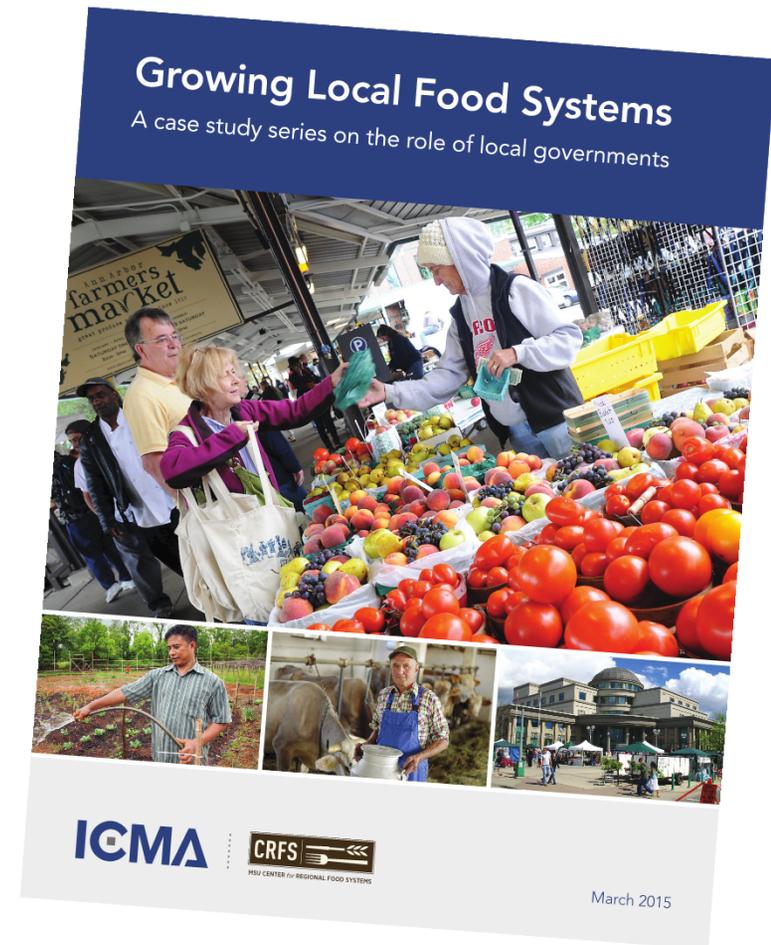
Manager's Office

- Nearly half of respondents providing some type of direct staff support to food systems activities, whether formal or informal

Case Studies

- Catawba County, NC
population 154,810
- Decatur, GA
population 20,086
- Topsham, ME
population 8,750
- Washtenaw County &
Ann Arbor, MI
county population 354,240;
city population 117,025

<http://icma.org/growinglocalfood>



Why are you here?

What food issues are you working on in your community?

What activities are you particularly proud of?

What do you need help with?



Leading practices

- **Convening** stakeholders; leveraging community resources & expertise
- **Raising awareness** of food systems through campaigns, community events, other outreach
- **Integration** of food systems into local governments' **plans and strategies**
- **Being inclusive**; thinking broadly and regionally



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ICMA Knowledge Network: <http://icma.org/food>

MSU Center for Regional Food Systems: <http://foodsystems.msu.edu>