

Planning for Land Access

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CHANGING LANDS, CHANGING HANDS CONFERENCE
JUNE 13, 2017



GROWING FOOD CONNECTIONS

Goal

Enhance community food security while ensuring sustainable and economically viable agriculture and food production

Approach

Increase local government capacity to strengthen community food systems through planning and public policy through



RESEARCH



POLICY & PRACTICE



EDUCATION

Project Team



cultivating
healthy
places



Partners





EDUCATION



RESEARCH



EXTENSION
POLICY AND PRACTICE



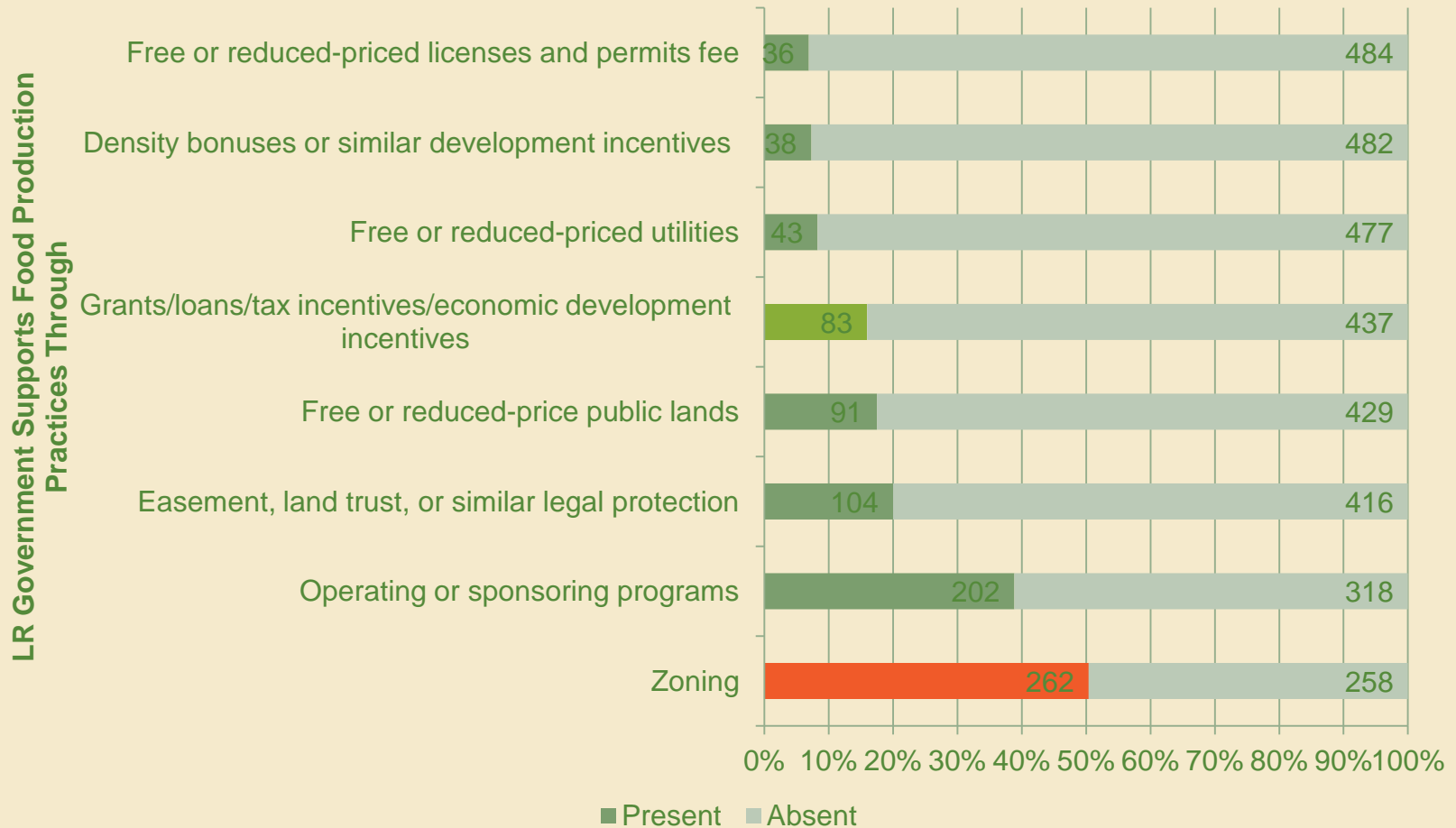
COMMUNITIES *of*
INNOVATION



COMMUNITIES *of*
OPPORTUNITY



Public Policies Supporting Food Production



Key Roles of Local Government in Supporting Land Access

1. Assessing parcels and creating inventories
2. Comprehensive plans
3. Creating a “farm friendly” community
4. Critical Farms programs
5. Land Banks – especially in Rust Belt Cities
6. Leasing (sometimes transforming vacant) land for farming and food production

Comprehensive Plans

- Researched 299 comp plans in GFC's "Communities of Innovation"
 - None said they planned for land to support commercial farmers and food producers
 - Quite a few addressed land banks and access to plots for urban farmers and gardeners
 - ◆ e.g., Cleveland/Cuyahoga, Detroit, Philadelphia

Creating a Farm Friendly Community

- Ag Commissions, New England
 - and Advisory Boards
- Ag Development Staff
 - Polk County, NC
- Ag Ombudsmen



Critical Farms Programs

- Frederick County, MD
- Carroll County, MD



Land Leasing

- Boulder Parks Department, CO
- Common Ground in Lawrence, KS
- County Digs, Multnomah County, OR





Saving the Land that Sustains Us



American Farmland Trust

www.farmland.org

www.farmlandinfo.org