

Center for Buildings Infrastructure and Public Space Food Commentary of 11 February 2021_as of 2/10/21

Slide 1: Zero Hunger

“After decades of steady decline, the number of people who suffer from hunger began to slowly increase again in 2015. The world is not on track to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030. If recent global trends continue, the number of people affected by hunger would surpass 840 million by 2030”

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/hunger/>

accessed 2.9.2021

Slide 2: UN Food and Agriculture Organization

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization Director-General QU Dongyu noted that “the COVID-19 pandemic may push some 100 million people into extreme poverty and many more into chronic hunger and malnutrition. He also stressed that unsustainable agri-food systems continue to put pressure on natural resources, biodiversity, the environment, and climate.”

<https://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1373376/icode/>

accessed 2.0.2021 (remarks by FAO Director General QU Dongyu on 2/8/21)

Slide 3: Food Insecurity in the US

According to Feeding America, a US-based umbrella organization of community food banks: “Millions of children and families living in America face hunger and food insecurity every day. Due to the effects of the coronavirus pandemic, more than 50 million people may experience food insecurity, including a potential 17 million children.”

<https://www.feedingamerica.org/research/coronavirus-hunger-research>

accessed 2.9.2021 (latest data from October, 2020)

Slide 4: Food Insecurity in NYC

“The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on food access for New Yorkers. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, 1.4 million New Yorkers relied on food pantries and soup kitchens and 1.2 million were food insecure. Communities of Black and Latino/a New Yorkers... are disproportionately affected by food insecurity and health conditions.”

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/covid/covid-19-food-insecurity.pdf>

accessed 2.9.2021 (posted 7.24.2020)

Slide 5: Food Supply to NYC

Produce handlers and delivery drivers at the Hunts Point Market in the Bronx were on strike last month demanding a \$1.60 hourly pay increase given the health and safety risks many workers have endured during the coronavirus pandemic. The union president said “Our workers can’t be protected by staying home.”

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/hunts-point-produce-market-workers-on-strike-11611240356>

accessed 2.9.2021 (posted/updated 1.21.2021)

Slide 6: Green Roofs

According to The Nature Conservancy, “New York City is home to about 730 buildings with green roofs. It’s a great start but represents just 60 acres of the 40,000 acres of rooftop space

available (or less than 0.1% of NYC's 1 million buildings. So there's room to grow, quite literally."

<https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/new-york/stories-in-new-york/>
accessed 2.9.2021 (based on 10.23.20 report done with the Green Roof Researchers Alliance)

Slide 7: Sedum Roofs

The Green Roof Researchers Alliance report stated "green roofs vary dramatically in size and form – from the Javits Center's 6.5-acre green roof to urban farms like the Brooklyn Grange, to smaller plots atop schools and apartment buildings." Many of the sedum rooftops could potentially provide additional acreage for urban farms.

<https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/new-york/stories-in-new-york/>
accessed 2.9.2021 (based on 10.23.20 report done with the Green Roof Researchers Alliance, see also <https://senodo.org/record/1469674#>)

Slide 8: Brooklyn Grange

"Brooklyn Grange is the leading rooftop farming and intensive green roofing business in the US. Brooklyn Grange operates the world's largest rooftop soil farms, located on three roofs in New York City, and grows over 100,000 lbs. of organically-cultivated produce per year and provides urban farming and green roof consulting."

<https://www.brooklyngrangefarm.com/about-brooklyn-grange-1>
accessed 2.9.2021

Slide 9: Via Verde

Located in the South Bronx the 300,000 square foot affordable housing project has 222 residential units and over 40,000 square feet of green roofs. The green roof system is hot rubberized asphalt 2x2 Glacier white concrete pavers with extruded polystyrene insulation board. It uses sophisticated irrigation systems and photovoltaic panels.

<https://www.greenroofs.com/projects/via-verde-the-green-way/>
accessed 2.9.2021

Slide 10: Arbor House

Arbor House, also in the South Bronx, has a 10,000 square foot enclosed hydroponic farm on its roof. Arbor House residents can purchase healthy fruits and vegetables produced by the farm year round. About 40% of the produce goes to the local community through outreach to schools, hospitals, and markets.

<https://centerforactivedesign.org/arbor-house>
accessed 2.9.2021

Slide 11: Battery Urban Farm

The Battery Urban Farm, in Battery Park, is an educational farm where sustainable farming and environmental stewardship skills are developed. The farm was created in 2011 by The Battery Park Conservancy with eight students from Millennium High School. It now engages 5,000 students from over 100 schools and community volunteers.

<http://live-thebattery.pantheonsite.io/destinations/urban-farm/>
accessed 2.9.2021

Slide 12: USDA Statistics 2019

According to the US Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service: "The foodservice industry is nearly equal in size to food retailing. The food marketing system, including food service and food retailing, supplied about \$1.77 trillion worth of food in 2019. Of this total, \$969.4 billion was supplied by foodservice facilities."

<https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-markets-prices/food-service-industry/market-segments/>
accessed 2.9.2021 (chart statistics up to 2016)

Slide 13: USDA Statistics Interpolated to 2030 by CBIPS

According to the National Restaurant Association, "restaurants are the nation's second-largest private-sector employer, providing jobs for one in ten Americans." By 2030, some of the restaurants that closed because of COVID-19 may have reopened, but the overall number of meals not prepared at home may only be starting to recover.

<https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-markets-prices/food-service-industry/market-segments/>
accessed 2.9.2021 (chart statistics interpolated to 2030 by CBIPS)

Slide 14: Whole Foods

Whole Foods stores may become distribution centers. The Whole Food website reads "Skip the lines, skip the hassle and get your Whole Foods Market favorites carefully packed and ready to go or delivered for free – all on your schedule." A footnote adds "Exclusively for Prime members in select ZIP codes."

<https://www.wholefoodmarket.com/grocery-delivery-and-pickup>
accessed 2.9.2021

Slide 15: Restaurant Long Term Trends

Five possible long-term effects of the coronavirus on the restaurant and food service industry are:

- Shift from on-premise to off-premise dining
- Fast-casual big chains will survive, many small, family-owned restaurants will not
- Menus will be rethought and re-engineered
- Seating will be reorganized
- Technology that minimizes human interaction will be integrated

<https://thewisemarketer.com/customer-experience/5-long-term-effects-of-covid-19-on-the-restaurant-industry/>

accessed 2.9.2021 (posted 10.8.2020)

Slide 16: Nirvana-Inde

The City of Paris Tourist Office website describes the restaurant, Nirvana-Inde, at 6 Rue de Moscou in the 8th arrondissement of Paris glowingly. Restaurants in Paris, like New York, are suffering from severe restrictions because of the pandemic. The Restaurant Nirvana-Inde, a place of perfect peace and happiness, will survive.

<https://en.parisinfo.com/paris-restaurant/70920/Nirvana-Inde>
accessed 2.9.2021

Slide 17: Walmart

The Institute for Local Self-Reliance, advocating for local businesses, wrote: “In 43 metropolitan areas and 160 smaller markets, Walmart captures 50 percent or more of grocery sales. In 38 of these regions, Walmart’s share of the grocery market is 70 percent or more. That’s one in every ten metropolitan areas.”

https://ilsr.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Walmart_Grocery_Monopoly_Report-final-for-site.pdf

accessed 2.9.2021 (posted June 2019)

Slide 18: Pushcarts

In 1938, Mayor LaGuardia said “Peddling on the streets of this city is a thing of the past.” According to the Bureau of Markets in 1948: “Pushcart vendors have been a part of New York City since at least 1840.” Over the next ten years their number will likely increase.

<https://www.pages.drexel.edu/~dgp48/eport/documents/foodcartpaper.pdf>

accessed 2.9.2021 (written in 1948)

Slide 19: Food Trucks

The website of a Florida company, M&R, that produces and markets food trucks nationally reads: “Good news! Renewable energy has become increasingly affordable and practical over the past half decade. This means mobile food owners that want to utilize more environmentally friendly power have more options now than ever before!”

<https://www.mr-trailers.com/solar-wind-powered/>

accessed 2.9.2021

Slide 20: Black Rabbit Bar

The website of the Black Rabbit Bar in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, reads: “OPEN! Heated outdoor seating, covered & protected from the winter weather, on the street & in our back garden! Limited food, but loads of safely spaced seats!” At the end of the day, resilience, care, and beer win out.

<https://www.blackrabbitbar.com>

accessed 2.9.2021