



City of Arts & Innovation

News Release

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Grow Riverside Conference Examining Local Agriculture Set For June 11-13

Second annual event looks at the future of local food movement in Riverside

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – The second annual Grow Riverside conference, which unites farmers, restaurateurs, business people and others interested in developing the local food scene in Riverside, is scheduled for June 11-13.

The event, entitled “The Future of Local Food,” will examine the economic and community benefits of local sustainable agriculture in an urban area. The City of Riverside is presenting the event at the Riverside Convention Center with Seedstock, its partner in organizing Grow Riverside.

The conference will review Riverside’s significant accomplishments during the past 12 months as the City has sought to build and strengthen its local food system. It also will explore solutions to help other cities and local governments establish and bolster their own similar initiatives.

“Grow Riverside is a real success story that brings together people from all walks of life who share an interest in urban agriculture and healthy eating,” Riverside Mayor Rusty Bailey said. “I am very encouraged by the success of last year’s inaugural event, and I look forward to taking the next steps.”

Keynote addresses and panel discussions will focus on a variety of topics, including: Marketing Local Agriculture; Growing New Farmers and Entrepreneurs; Growing Opportunities and Ag Innovations in the Greenbelt and Beyond; Water Policy and Usage; and, Local Food Health Impact. Additionally, a series of local symposiums on sustainability, along with community farm-to-table dinners, will be presented throughout the next few months leading up to the conference in June.

“We hope our 2015 conference, and the preliminary events leading up to it, will bring together farmers, entrepreneurs, food service businesses, city planners and all other interested parties into an arena of sharing ideas, establishing partnerships, and developing successful local, sustainable food initiatives,” said Mayor Pro Tem Chris MacArthur, who represents the Arlington Heights Greenbelt.

For additional information and to purchase early bird tickets: <http://www.growriverside.com>