

#### Regional Food Sector = Community Economic Development

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Goal: By 2020, the region's food and farming systems are more resilient and provide at least 20% of our region's food.

#### **OBJECTIVES: By 2020**

- 1. NW MI farmers supply 20% of region's institution, retail, consumer food purchases.
- 2. NW MI institutions source 20% food product through NW MI growers-processors.
- 3. NW MI generates new agri-food businesses enabling 20% regional food purchased

4. 100% of NW MI residents access ample, high-quality, healthy, and culturally diverse diet, 20% of which comes from the region.

5. NW MI farmland, water and energy resources are available and affordable, building and maintaining long-term, sustainable business environment for diverse local agriculture and food production.



#### Agriculture and Food

#### Trends:

Food and Eating: demand greater than supply Food and Health: greater awareness among consumers of food nutrients

Food and Economic Development: direct markets flourishing

Crisis:

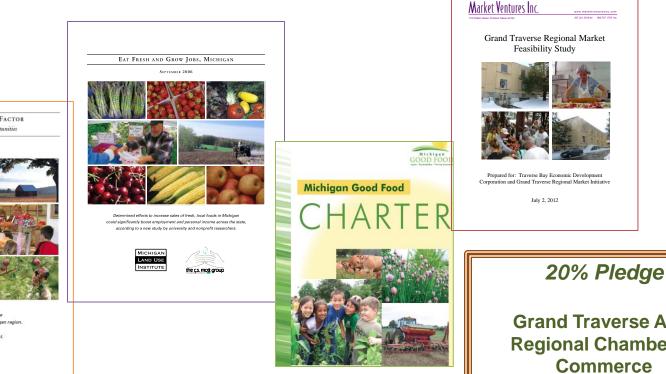
Farmers aging/farms in the middle declining Land converting/disappearing Obesity epidemic







#### From Crisis to Opportunity: Localizing Food



NORTHWEST MICHIGAN'S FARM FACTOR Economic Impacts, Challenges, and Opportunities

FEBRUARY 2009



Agriculture contributes substantially to the economy of the six-county northwest Lower Michigan region Ample opportunities also exist to significantly expand its economic footprint



**Grand Traverse Area Regional Chamber of** 

**Cadillac Area Chamber of** 



#### **Good Food System Benefits**

More farms & food businesses

New jobs in Michigan

> Strong regions, urban to rural

Healthy children & families

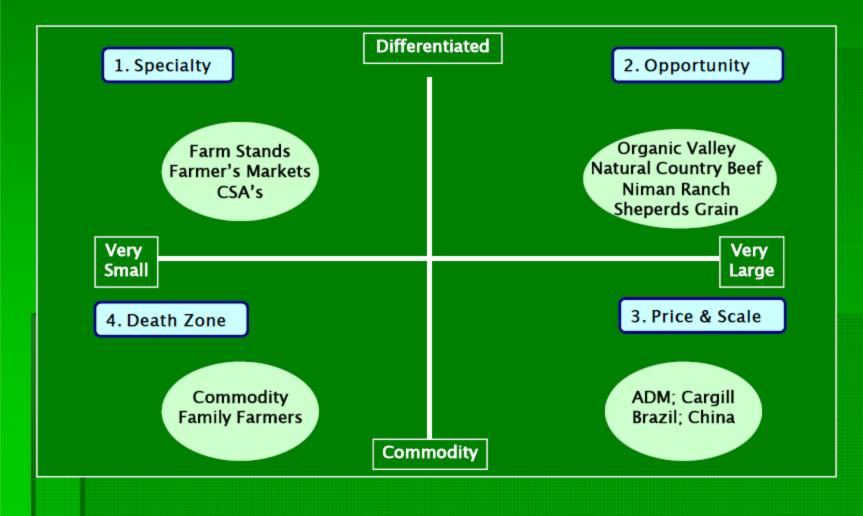
Clean water, open spaces

Security: Food, fuel, climate

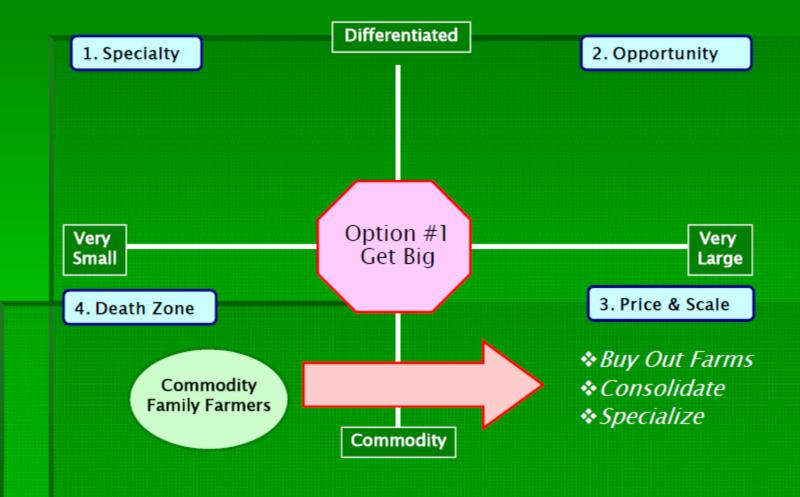
#### Agricultural Quadrants – Value & Scale



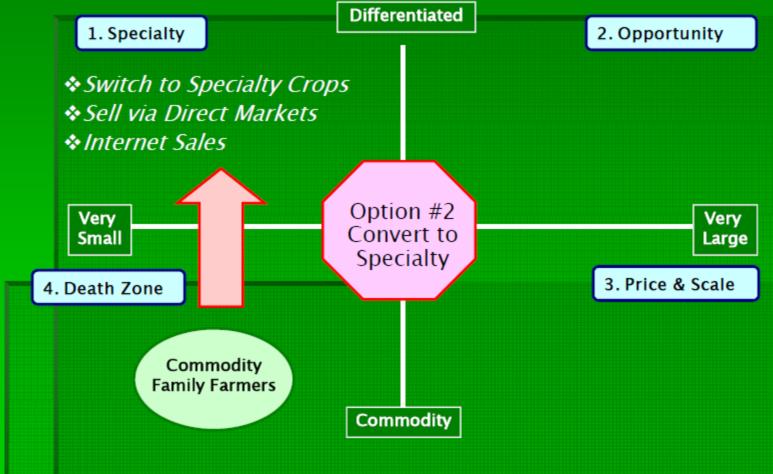
## **Examples of Participants**



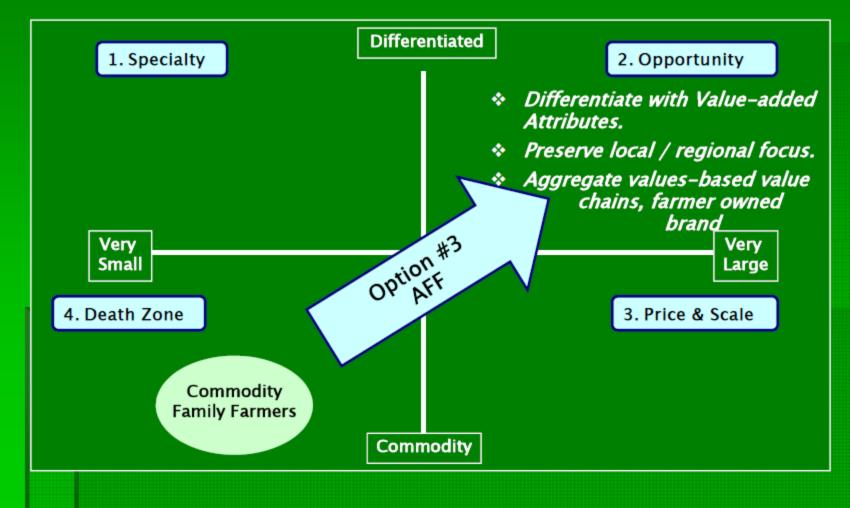
## Option #1 – Get Big



## **Option #2 – Convert to Specialty**



# *Option #3 – Create New Opportunity*





#### Agriculture and Economic Development Grand Traverse Region

In terms of its share of economic activity, agriculture is four times more important to Northwest Michigan than it is to the state as a whole (Northwest Mi Farm Factor, Doug Krieger, MLUI, 2009)





#### Grand Traverse Regional Market (Food Hub)

#### THE VILLAGE AT GRAND TRAVERSE COMMONS

POSITIONING FOR THE FUTURE



BUILDING FIFTY EIGHT

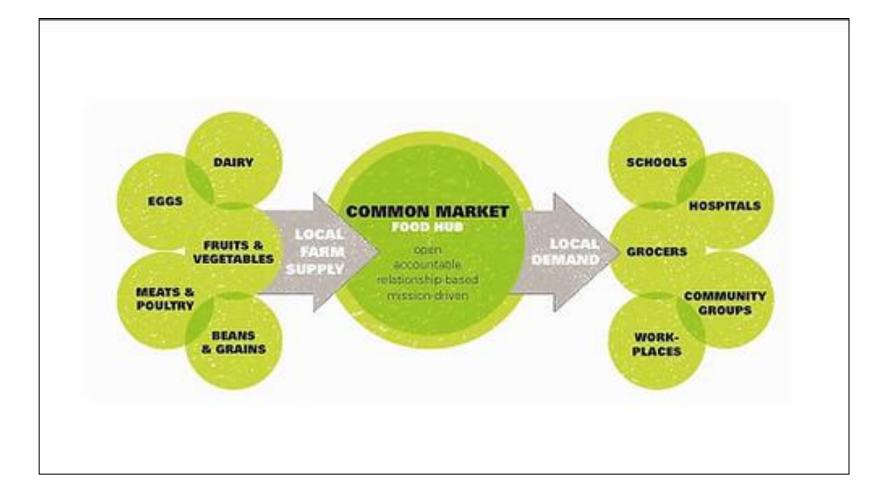


ONE OF THE LARGEST HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND MIXED-USE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE NATION!

TRAVERSE CITY . MICHIGAN



#### **Food Hub Function**



#### The Village at Grand Traverse Commons





#### Grand Traverse Regional Market Goals

- 1. Raise income for the region's farmers and food producers
- 2. Increase availability/access to local foods for area consumers
- 3. Create a social space for the community
- 4. Create jobs
- 5. Encourage education and knowledge sharing



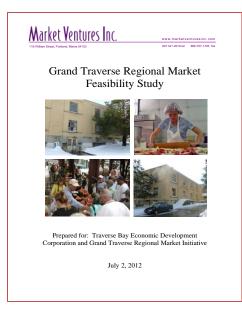




## Feasibility

- Market analysis (quantification of supply and demand)
- Assessment of functions
- Management and operation
- Financial modeling; Economic impact; Presentation and report
- Steering Committee
- Key informant interviews/focus groups;
- Site inspection and tour of regional food offerings;
- Secondary data analysis (Censuses of Ag, Population, Economy)
- Pro forma analysis

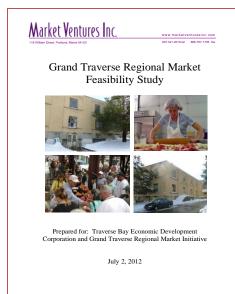




## Study Findings

- Demand and supply for diversified agriculture product
- Need for storage and distribution functions through a centralized market location
- Magnitude of food sales in region helps ensure small market capture to be economically successful
- Region's population growth and heightened interest in local foods provides opportunities
- Building 58 facility: cluster and function





## Recommended steps

Phased Approach:

- 1. Feasibility
- 2. Pre-development
  - Functionality
  - Operations management
  - Recruitment and financing
- 3. Construction/Preopening/Opening
  - Tenants
  - Regional draw
  - Growth

#### **MVI Inc. Recommended Program Elements**

MARKET

Local Food Hub

- Storage/Aggregation/Distribution
- Food Production and Processing
- Farmers Market Shed
- Education and Events
- Office space

TOBER FEST





## **On-Site Possibilities**

- Year-round indoor farmers market
- Nutrition Education
- Cooking demonstrations
- Incubator kitchen
- Value-added processing
- Aggregation
- Retail, restaurants
- Physical fitness-trail system
- Rooftop Greenhouses
- Aquaponics
- Barley malter



## Regional Implications: Food Clustering and/or Food Innovative Districts













#### **Concept and Types of District Activity**

#### **Producer-oriented**

Production, gardening Retail and farmers' markets Post harvest storage, processing Packaging and promotion Loading docks and truck access Business incubation facilities, services

#### **Place-oriented**

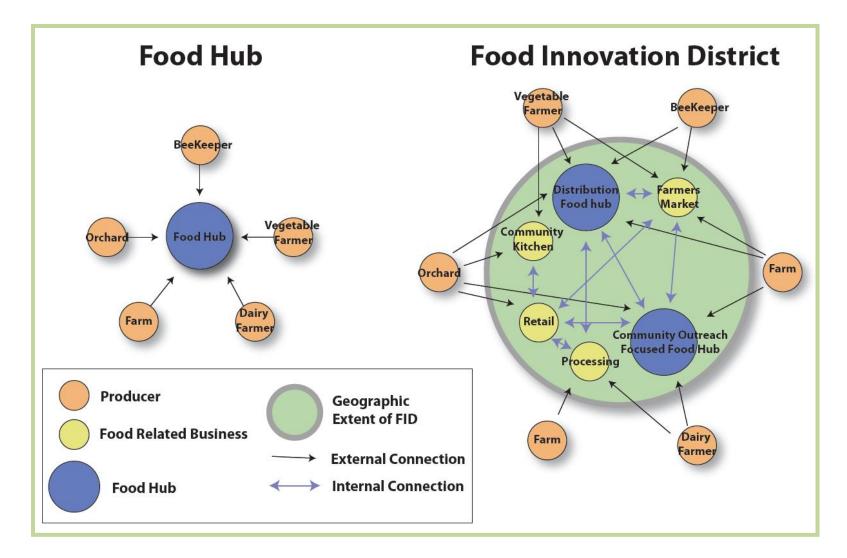
Festivals, fairs and events Sidewalks and bike lanes Benches and bike racks Plazas and public art Pedestrian scale and traffic flow

#### **Community-oriented**

Restaurants and eateries Community ovens, kitchens Education and nutrition outreach Social services Open space, gardens Harvest gleaning, food pantries



#### **Hubs and Districts**



Source: MSU Practicum Team, 2012

#### **Development Program Principles**

- Diverse and flexible need for many different forms of processing, will change over time; meet evolving needs of regional food system
- Phased bring elements on-line as demand warrants and dollars become available; don't develop entire building at once
- Operationally self-sufficient, with income from multiple sources including office rent and classes/events helping to support programs and low-costs for start-ups and farmers
- Entrepreneurial attract entrepreneurs as users, run by entrepreneurs
- Increase access of fresh local food to low-income, underserved regional residents
- 6. Complement and not conflict with other Village uses
- 7. Leverage resources and partnerships

### Contacts

- Grand Traverse Regional Food Hub:
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  - Susan Cocciarelli cocciare@msu.edu
- Food Innovation Districts
  - Sarah Lucas, <u>sarahlucas@nwm.cog.mi.us</u>