



EASTERN MARKET 2025 STRATEGIC PLANNING STUDY
PUBLIC WORKSHOP #2 KEY TAKEAWAYS
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015

*Cross-reference the Workshop Presentation PDF.

PUBLIC MARKET

- **Consider the impact on DEPSA.** The surrounding land should be an asset to the school and students, should not be an eyesore, should strengthen a relationship to the market. Shield the negative impacts of industry.
- **All plans are feasible with phasing and public/private/nonprofit partnerships.**
- **Eastern Market must support micro-businesses and small-scale food producers in this city.**
- **Need to extend land use planning beyond current demand.**
- New facilities can include incubation and collaborative space and teaching facilities as launching pad for small food entrepreneurs.
- Eastern Market should continue to be a hub in a city of neighborhoods.
- Mixed uses will allow for social relations and exchange between big and small businesses.
- Food production (growing) needs to happen in every part of the city.
- Concern about real estate flexibility and allowing organic growth.
- During the week: use sheds for pop-up shops, business incubators, allow one-year lease in small business incubator spaces. These businesses should be food-oriented.
- Alternatives should place greater emphasis on distribution – needs more space with more job potential.
- **The public market is always at the core.**

DAILY BUSINESS

- **Place parking near the edges of the market.** Make parking more accessible by being easier to find via signage, etc.
- **Is there a better use for the parking garage?**
- Discussion about the timeline and future of the Gratiot-375 connector. Great idea but further study needed. Would be a hug MDOT-driven project.
- Regardless, bridging across Gratiot to encourage cross-pollination is needed.
- **Alternative 3 would allow all market stakeholders to grow and maintain authenticity by making room for small food businesses.**
- New construction is less expensive than retrofitting so Alternative 3 is not necessarily more expensive. New infrastructure can be built with economics of scale.
- **What can we do to encourage food businesses to stay in the district?**
- Costs include public and private investors.
- Risk of gentrification is real, maintain identity as working market, support local businesses so they do not sell and move out.
- EMC should help business owners find adequate space or structures for what they need.
- **Eastern Market should expand and allow room for all food sectors to grow.**



FOOD INDUSTRY

- **The strength of the market is that there is room to grow, space for both food processing and farm to table movement to be nurtured.**
- Pedestrian access is a concern, especially in terms of safety and inviting people in on different days of the week, etc.
- **Important to accommodate both trucks getting in and out and small businesses to retain the retail fabric. Both important to business.**
- Food industry excited about proximity to DEPSA and opportunities for education and training. Are there more opportunities for Eastern Market to engage with educational programs? [currently underway]
- Authenticity is the result of a good mix in the market.
- Truck traffic routes are essential – out by 8am and nowhere near the school during drop off times. Balance truck logistics with the personality of the place. Keep trucks on the perimeter.
- **Eastern Market can set a precedent, shared thought leadership is important, as is marketing.**
- Eastern Market is an ecosystem, needs to be a healthy mix that promotes healthy living as well as food industry.
- Interest in Alternative 3 (bold is good) – **what does it mean for industry to be more integrated into a neighborhood?**
- The alternatives seem like phases in a larger plan.
- Retail on the outside of industrial spaces makes it more palatable.