

RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

The Missouri Department of Agriculture has been allocated funds through the USDA Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Program to help strengthen the food supply chain between the farmer and consumer. The purpose of the RFSI is to help U.S. states build resilience in the middle of the supply chain and strengthen local and regional food systems by creating new revenue streams for producers of food (excluding meat and poultry). We are seeking input from interested parties to identify Missouri funding priorities. 2. BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION 3. EMAIL ADDRESS 4. WHICH BEST DESCRIBES YOUR ASSOCIATION TO THE FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN: Distributor ☐ Institution Processor Retailer Producer Other: 5. WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST GAPS OR NEEDS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN IN MISSOURI? 6. ONCE PRODUCTS ARE HARVESTED, WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES OF GETTING THOSE PRODUCTS THROUGH THE SUPPLY CHAIN TO THE FINAL POINT OF SALE? (EXAMPLES: COLD STORAGE, TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION EQUIPMENT, ETC.)? 7. WHAT ARE THE GREATEST INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS THAT, IF IMPLEMENTED, CAN HELP RESOLVE THE CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED IN THE PREVIOUS QUESTION AND STRENGTHEN LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS? 8. PLEASE IDENTIFY THE MARKETS (EXISTING OR NEW MARKETS) THAT REQUIRE THE MOST INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN ORDER TO SUCCESSFULLY MEET THE NEEDS OF THAT MARKET. (EXAMPLES: FOOD HUBS, FARMERS MARKETS, INSTITUTIONS, RETAILERS, WHOLESALERS, ETC.) 9. LIST ANY UNPROCESSED HUMAN FOOD CROPS GROWN OR RAISED IN MISSOURI THAT YOU FEEL ARE READY FOR FURTHER INVESTMENT AND WHY. PLEASE BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE. (EXAMPLES: HONEY, CARROTS, MILK, ETC.)

Please return this form, via e-mail, to grants@mda.mo.gov by Aug. 17.