Agrarian Future Alliance

REVITALIZING PEOPLE AND POWER FOR THE NEXT FOOD SYSTEM

The Farm and Energy Dilemma: Communities in Crisis

- In an era of escalating food scarcity for communities, the average age of a farmer has reached 58 years old.
- Global agricultural corporations dominate the industry leaving behind exhausted land, inaccessible infrastructure, and unobtainable markets, making capital elusive for local food systems.
- The urbanization of farmland and the consolidations of the agricultural industry further perpetuated by the loss of millions of acres of food producing land to solar energy, has grave consequences for the food system in the United States.
- Simultaneously, the demand for clean energy is accelerating - removing 5.7 million acres of agricultural land from food production by 2035, as estimated by the Department of Energy.

Harnessing Local Opportunities for Access to Land, Market, Infrastructure, & Capital

PROTECT FARMLAND

Advocate for regenerative use of land for agriculture

Stewardship Programs address the urbanization of farmland. Collaborating with farmers and landowners the Stewardship Programs recommends agreements between landowners and farmers that take a holistic view of the ecosystem, both ecologically and economically. Securing localized food systems.

EMPOWER FARMERS

Business development to enable farmers to expand.

Mentor Accelerator Program prepares scalable agricultural business models by providing one-on-one and group business, professional, and fundraising coaching. We will network local farming talent with support resources to help their farming business scale.

STRATEGIC CONNECTIONS

Connection to Land through Public & Private Partnerships

Vegetation Management and Agrivoltaic contracts with landowners and energy companies allows local seasoned farmers the potential for production scale through land access opportunities. We recruit & elevate practical farming opportunities and recommend them for scale through land access opportunities.

The Agrivoltaic Dilemma

OPTIMIZING AGRIVOLTAICS

"A detailed vegetation/agrivoltaic report should be provided by the operator as part of each 5-year review to provide monitoring of the agrivoltaics."

"As agrivoltaics is a relatively new field, it isn't possible to establish firm goals to be met within each review period. In order to monitor and develop agrivoltaics, the operator would provide a detailed report of the agrivoltaics that were accomplished within the previous 5-year period, along with a discussion of any challenges or constraints they faced and their proposed goal for the next 5-year period." (PC Staff Report – 4/24/2023 CUP-23-00079 Appendix A-Code Review Page 34)

Years 1-5

- Full establishment of vegetation
- Beginning of grazing program

Subsequent 5-year reviews:

- Additional agrivoltaic activities, with additional area in grazing, research, or speciality crops.

The Agrivoltaic Solution

Douglas County Agrivoltaic Stewardship Committee

Leveraging public/private partnerships to develop practical, replicable, and scalable approaches for optimizing agrivoltaics.

AGRARIANS

Agrarian Future Alliance develops land, infrastructure, market & capital pathways for agrivoltaics:

- Organizes local agrarian voices to develop best practices.
- Mentors practical and scalable farm plans through agrivoltaics.
- Nurtures public/private industry alliances.
- Demonstrates 'real world' land-use logistics.

RESEARCH

Kansas State University conducts agricultural research:

- Informs agrivoltaic optimization based on best practices.
- Unlocks economic opportunities.
- Measures public/private industry impacts.
- Showcases impact of agrivoltaics on statewide-important soils.

Example of research attached SOW

STAKEHOLDER

Solar energy, conservation, and agricultural experts invest in the optimization of agrivoltaics.

- Ensures compliance with Douglas County regulations.
- Eliminates arbitrary barriers for the emerging agrivoltaic industry.
- Incentivizes agrivoltaic economic development.
- Drives cutting-edge agrivoltaic technology.

The Agrivoltaic Impact

Elevating local underserved farmers, AFA generates economic development by contributing knowledge about ‘real-world’ land-use logistics. By nurturing public/private partnerships, AFA develops pathways for underserved farmers to access land, infrastructure, markets, and capital.

SOLAR EXPANSION

Current estimates project 4,000 acres of agricultural land is being considered for solar production in and around Douglas County.

IMPACT BEYOND THE FARM

Investing in local agrarians unlocks barriers of entry for underserved farmers. This catalyzes investments for building vital agricultural infrastructure and opens markets for regional food supply chains.

About Us

Agrarian Future Alliance (AFA) a project of Possibility Labs, Inc, serves beginning, socially disadvantaged, veterans, and limited resource farmers in the United States.

Founded by underserved farmers, AFA advocates for food system change models that assist farmers in accessing land, infrastructure, markets, and capital.

By welcoming creative solutions for complex challenges, this integrated approach leverages public/private partnerships to develop a systems change proof of concept model that is both replicable and scalable.

Thank You

Agrarian Future Alliance

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