

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Wednesday, March 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

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Wednesday Evening at the Flower Show: Free Town Hall Addresses Local Food and Farming Policies Affecting Greater Philadelphia

Join Councilwoman Helen Gym and Other Elected Officials, Community Leaders and Advocates for a Discussion on the Green New Deal, the Farm Bill, SNAP, Hemp Farming, Youth Advocacy and More

WHEN: Wednesday, March 6
5:30-7:30 p.m.

[FREE; click here to register](#)

WHERE: Pennsylvania Convention Center
12th & Arch Streets, Room 103
Philadelphia, PA 19107

WHAT: Co-hosted by **The Food Trust**, **Pennsylvania Horticultural Society** and the **Philadelphia Food Policy Advisory Council** as part of the 2019 Philadelphia Flower Show, Wednesday evening's **Philadelphia Food and Farm Policy Town Hall is a free, ticketed event** meant to increase public awareness and engagement around policies affecting our region's health and environment.

With the reauthorization of the Farm Bill in December 2018 and the rise of the proposed Green New Deal, a plethora of local food- and farming-related issues have come to light that deserve our attention — **sustainable agriculture and renewable energy generation, threats to the food stamp program, hemp production and distribution** and more.

The evening will feature the following guest speakers:

- Pennsylvania State Sen. **Timothy P. Kearney** and Policy Director **Samuel Arnold** of Chester and Delaware counties, working to bring the federally proposed Green New Deal to the state level
- **Christina Badaracco**, co-author of *The Farm Bill: A Citizen's Guide*, focusing on awareness-building through "Farm Bill 101"
- **Ebony Staton Weidman**, southeast regional director of the office of U.S. Sen. Bob Casey, discussing opportunities in the recently reauthorized federal Farm Bill
- Philadelphia Congresswoman **Helen Gym**, representatives of the **Sunrise Movement** and high school youth leaders, fighting for young people's voice in policy advocacy



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ENSURING THAT EVERYONE HAS ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, NUTRITIOUS
FOOD AND INFORMATION TO MAKE HEALTHY DECISIONS

- Local farmer **Dimka Braswell**, working to become eligible to manufacture and distribute hemp as a result of the approved Hemp Farming Act of 2018
- **Kathy Fisher**, policy director at the Coalition Against Hunger, concerned about potential new work requirements for ABAWDs (able-bodied adults without dependents) for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) eligibility
- **Laura England**, director of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Market Development, speaking on the Pennsylvania Farm Bill

The evening will conclude with a call to action for attendees to reach out to their local legislators about these important issues. *All attendees will also receive a free raffle ticket to win tickets to this year's Philadelphia Flower Show.*

This event is free and open to the public; [pre-registration](#) is encouraged.

About The Food Trust

The Food Trust, a nonprofit founded in 1992, strives to make healthy food available to all. Working with neighborhoods, schools, grocers, farmers and policymakers, The Food Trust has developed a comprehensive approach that combines nutrition education and greater availability of affordable, healthy food. To learn more about The Food Trust, visit www.thefoodtrust.org.

