

# A Tale of Two Cities: Is Urban Agriculture The Answer To Food Apartheid?

JR Hines/Yuki Kato

Rooting DC 2023

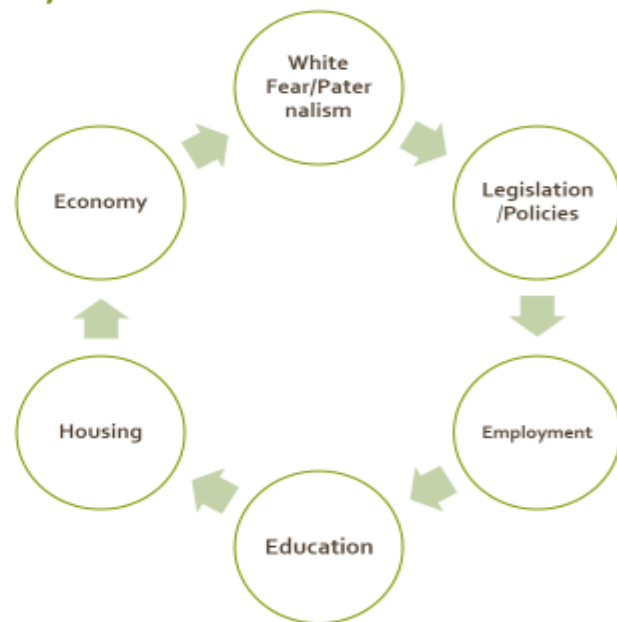
# Agenda

- Introductions
- Food Apartheid in DC (JR)
- Cuba's Special Period (JR)
- Urban Agriculture Resource Access in DC (Yuki)
- Alternative Urban Agricultural Resources
- Food Justice and Land Justice in Historical Contexts (JR/Yuki)
- Discussion

# Food Apartheid in DC

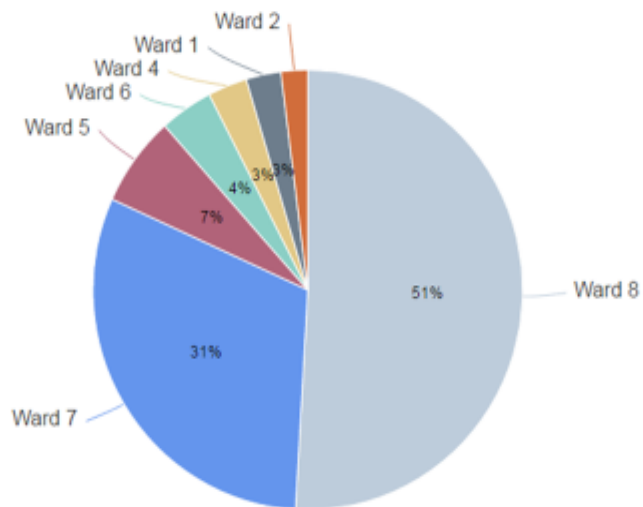
## Food Deserts Are Result Of Systemic Racism

- Systems, Policies, and Institutions That Create Socio-Economic Disadvantages For Black People
- Prevents Wealth Building Tools



### Half of D.C. food deserts are in Ward 8

Areas with limited food access in the District (based on grocery or supermarket proximity, household income, and car access), by ward



Source: D.C. Policy Center  
Updated March 16, 2017

# Major Policies/Events

- Snow Riots of 1835
- The Fight For Black Suffrage
- DC Loses Territorial Government
- Jim Crow
- Race Riots of 1919
- Housing Covenants, Redlining, and Urban Renewal
- Riots of 1968

# Cuba's Special Period

- The Special Period in the Time of Peace
- An economic crisis from 1991-2000
- Organoponics

# Urban Agriculture Resource Access in DC

Data: Interview with 34 current and prospective growers in DC

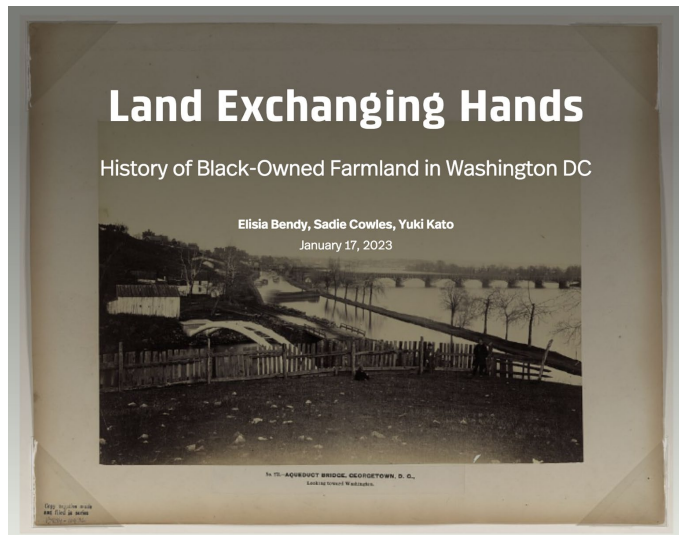
- **Land access** and tenure as the key challenge for the growers
  - Mixed outcome of the current policy
    - ⊘ Urban Farm Land Lease program (No success)
    - 👐 Urban Farm Tax Abatement (Not fully utilized)
- **Bureaucratic** inconsistencies/confusion across DC agencies
  - Needs to recognize diverse “urban agriculture” practices
- **Equitable/Transparent financial resources** access
  - New USDA funding for urban agriculture

# No Land? Then What?

- Alternative Methods
- Adding Value
- Alternative Growing Methods



# Food Justice and Land Justice in Historical Contexts



## Farming in the Nation's Capital

A look into the history of agriculture in Washington, DC

Sadie Cowles, Elsia Bendy, & Yuki Kato  
January 20, 2023

# Discussion

## Contact information

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