

**Flip Chart Notes -- Strategic Planning Forum #2 @ Murray
CFSB Center
Task Force of the Future of Kentucky Agriculture and Rural Communities
Kentucky Agricultural Council
8/27/12**

How to / need to reach regulators – e.g. water boards, et al. . . as part of Policy-maker Education?

Educate PARENTS about aptitude tests kids will be taking from 6th grade on, as opportunity to identify interest in agriculture

Constituents [e.g. farmers] who we want to influence policy-makers . . . need training in how to talk to policy makers – we need to help them

Hard to get farmers to speak out . . . to express opinions to policy-makers

KY Soybean Board surveys of farmers and consumers (recently conducted at State Fair, Nelson County Fair)

Need to include “enforcers [of regulations]” as one of the policy-influencers audiences – example of Forest Service

Promote greater awareness of FSA programs . . . focus of FSA dollars

Lending institutions know about these programs.

Non-farmers concerns about irrigation: perception that irrigating is competing for water resources against consumer needs.

Question about PACE program

- Not used much in Western part of state
- Concern its benefits may not be fairly applied?
- Concerns about how PACE is financed -- opposition to using tax dollars to support

Regional projects

Model / example of West Kentucky Ag Bioworks

Federal agencies want to support, encourage multi-county / multi-state regional initiatives

“Regional” needs to be defined as crossing state boundaries

Example of selling produce outside of Kentucky

Kentucky Proud means nothing in Tennessee

Need to reach out to home owners / realty groups, about urban expansion and its impact on Agriculture

U.S. Dept. of Transportation regulations pose challenges for Agriculture and rural communities

Concern with H2A regulations

Reinforce support for large animal vets programs – the program has not “taken off” . . . concerns about the reasons for this.

Need to be pro-active so that we aren’t regulated to death . . . example of regulations related to spray drift.

Support for goals related to “Water resources and drought management”.

It would help farmers to have “coordination of regulators” . . . USDA and others have layered regulations related to “shipping & packing”, inspections, “private audits” required for shipping to major retailers.

Public education is needed on cost of regulatory measures on Agricultural products

Linkage between agricultural sectors is not widely understood and appreciated . . . If cattle herds in Kentucky decline, it reduces demand for Kentucky corn.

Concerns of media coverage, slant of media

Concern about potential implementation of “Chesapeake Bay” environmental regs

Banking community / industry needs to be involved, helped to better understand agriculture, from standpoint of Risk Management

Tax incentives – there goal as currently stated has incentives for a retiring farmer but maybe these should be focused on the “new person coming in” rather than on “people going out”.

Multiple agencies involved in Agriculture . . . Left and Right Hands don’t know what’s going on

Perception that there is a backlash from the national home mortgage crisis, that is affecting agricultural banking

Soybean markets – Kentucky is not being allowed into opportunities to grow new traits – Illinois, Indiana, Ohio get these . . . Kentucky is losing market share as a result.

