



Podcast, Policy Work and a Path Forward

Greetings!

Here's the latest from Roots of Change.

Episode 2 of Flipping the Table Out Today

In <u>this episode</u>, Michael converses with <u>Naomi Starkman</u>, founder and editor-in-chief of Civil Eats, ROC's "go-to" online news source dedicated to food and farming. Based on 10 years of frontline observations, Naomi's insights about the food movement's progress in food justice and sustainable farming are incisive and engaging.

Check out <u>Civil Eats</u> to get a flavor of her team's good work and subscribe. America needs this dedicated source of well curated and edited reports providing us with a wide range of stories that display the breadth and depth of the huge changes underway in the food system. (Photo credit: Naomi Fiss)





Update on ROC policy work in 2019: It will be a busy year!

We are seeking to introduce two legislative initiatives. The first is to reintroduce our <u>Small Poultry Producer Protection Act</u>, killed in 2018, to ensure small farmers have a fair shake at accessing the market. So far, we are having a hard time finding an author willing to fight for the small farms. We'll keep you posted.

We are also working with <u>Community</u> <u>Alliance with Family Farmers</u> to provide funding for the Farm to School program so our kids eat better school meals while supporting local farms and ranches. Finally, our struggle continues to get a sugary beverage tax passed in California to permanently fund our state's nutrition incentive program, which we created with the legislative leadership of <u>Assemblymember Phil Ting</u> (San Francisco), and to provide grants for food projects implemented by community-based organizations. We expect a statewide measure on the 2020 ballot. We'll keep you posted on ways you can help us in these efforts. (*Photo credit: Doris Meier*)

Important New Report Calls for Transformation of the Food System The EAT Lancet Commission has just issued an incredible report that begins with these words, "Food is the single strongest lever to optimize human health and environmental sustainability on Earth.... A radical transformation of the global food system is urgently needed."

Here is the link to the <u>Summary Report</u>. We urge any eater, advocate, business leader, policy maker, philanthropist or



food producer who cares about the future to read it. Send the <u>link</u> to your local, state and national elected representatives as well as friends and relatives and ask them to read it. It makes a compelling case for change and it provides a clear path forward. (Photo credit: Doris Meier)

Thank you!

Doris Meier

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