**FLPP: Interview Template**

**Q: How would you describe the different connection strengths between retail use and the five retail types?**

**Interviewer** 4:38

So how would you sort of describe you know, in Flint, what would be the strength of the connection between people using retail and local restaurants versus chain restaurants?

**Participant 103** 04:48

I dare say it would be quite a bit more toward chain restaurant. Especially with because our- this is still focused in Flint, Mount Morris and Burton.

**Interviewer** 05:00

Yes, yeah.

**Participant 103** 05:02

So I would think that would be very, very high.

**Interviewer** 05:06

And then lower for local restaurants?

**Participant 103** 05:08

Yes.

**Interviewer** 05:12

And then similarly for different kinds of stores, if there is no one that is dominant multiple are about the same, what sort of connections do you think there are?

**Participant 103** 05:26

I dare say, I would kind of I don't want to say split equally, but between convenience and grocery stores, I think they would be utilized more than farmers market. Like, quite a bit.

**Q:** **Okay, then thinking about the connection strengths between use of the supplemental sector and the different types of stores,** **how do you think about these strengths? Are supplemental nutrition programs used at certain places more often in Flint?**

**Interviewer** 05:48

Great. And then for, you know, the use of supplemental sector, so supplement nutrition programs, do you think in Flint they're used more or about the same at grocery stores, convenience stores or farmers markets?

**Participant 103** 06:03

I would say mostly the, again, grocery store and convenience store would outweigh the farmers market.

**Q4: Which of these other values are important to the Flint food system that you want to include in your map?**

**Participant 103** 10:11

I think it's definitely availability, affordability, and probably the quality of life would be my top three.

**Interviewer** 10:27

I will switch back to the model or software and we will go ahead and add those concepts in.

**Q5a:** **Based on how you see the current food system in Flint, how would you draw connections between these concepts?**

**Participant 103** 11:08

Well, for availability obviously, convenience store would be the highest. And then do you want to kind of teired or?

**Interviewer** 11:24

Yeah, so you can define it?

**Participant 103** 11:26

Yeah, grocery store and farmer's market would be really quite less, especially depending on where you- again, I'm talking about the three locations of Flint, Mt. Morris and Burton. For somebody in Burton the Flint farmers market is quite a ways way and not readily available especially if you don't have a car. You don't have necessarily even a bus route to get there. You may or may not. I would say convenience, I would say grocery store would be more available even in the farmers market.

**Interviewer** 12:12

Other connections?

**Participant 103** 12:14

Well, obviously local restaurant would be- it's hard to say because again, I'm looking at the three geographies it's very different in each of those so I would say they're similar just because of fast food. I mean, you've got dine-in versus you know a sit down serve you restaurant versus fast food obviously that's more chain. And they're everywhere.

**Interviewer** 12:45

Yeah. All right. Yeah, sir. They don't significantly impact availability you can either draw you know sort of moderate connections or just leave them without any connection whatever makes the most sense to you.

**Participant 103** 13:00

When you talk on those two though, with affordability, obviously chain restaurants tend to be more affordable than local restaurant. And I take that more to the you know, dollar menu and options offered through a drive thru or fast food. Also, I would say the grocery store affordability would be higher than the convenience store or the farmers market.

**Interviewer** 13:47

Other connections you see potentially to quality of life for from supplemental sector or emergency sector to use values?

**Participant 103** 14:04

you know, I know I can't recall and it doesn't matter because I know you guys are refining this a bit. Even the use of emergency sector to availability would be very high. As would the obviously affordability is most of the emergency sectors free of any charge so and I would think quality of life would be high with those as well typically with the partners involved in providing emergency food services. More so than maybe your chain restaurant. Right? I mean, just as a comparison, I think the chain restaurant really just about the commercial aspect of selling the food.

**Participant 103** 15:00

But I think even and I don't know, if we do it before, like the connection between retail of the grocery store to the emergency food sector, it's also providing food as, is some local restaurants, local food donations of making food available from excess.

**Interviewer** 15:22

So does this- these two connections I just made, sort of accurately represent that so that grocery stores and local restaurants sort of promote the ability of the emergency sector to provide food.

**Participant 103** 15:33

Yes, yep, I would say that's correct. And then also, though, the use of the supplemental sector sometimes will decrease the use of the emergency sector, depending on the needs of the family or individual.

**Interviewer** 16:13

Other connections, or any thoughts you have that you're not quite sure how to transform into-

**Participant 103** 16:18

Well, I think the supplemental sector has to connect to grocery store, convenience store and farmer's market, to some degree as well. I'm thinking of a Bridge Card and Stamp Benefit. And then, of course, farmers market with Double Up Food Bucks or other programs, as well.

**Interviewer** 16:41

Yeah. Yeah. Do you think that in Flint, those are any more or less prominent at maybe, like one retail location or another? Like, how do you think like-

**Participant 103** 16:59

I think grocery store, it's very, very high. And then I think it would be lower at the other two.

**Interviewer** 17:36

Any other connections? Or do you feel good about sort of the stage of the process?

**Participant 103** 17:46

I think there could be a connection, obviously, from farmers market, also to quality of life, the respect of the needs of the person or the desire. I don't know that there's a strong connection. I go back to the commercial side of a grocery store or convenience store, it's more transaction, I think then thought of as to how, how they might be, I would say there's some with grocery store, though, even with the desire to have, like Michigan grown produce, or different things that customers have requested.

**Participant 103** 18:27

So I don't think that's as, as poorly developed as maybe a convenience store would be where it's just driven by outside corporate or ownership interest as opposed to community interest. I think grocery stores still, especially in departments, like a produce department or a meat department, are tied to the request for culturally specific food even for the neighborhood that they're in.

**Interviewer** 19:01

So I've done sort of a weak positive connection, a bit of a more medium connection for farmers markets, and then sort of like, would you say this would be more like a light negative or a medium negative for convenience stores to quality of life?

**Participant 103** 19:17

I'd make it more a medium negative. Now ability of supplemental sector. Yes, I'm trying to put bring that a bit into context. If there's anything to do there.

**Q6: Are there other things that influence these variables? For example, if we got back to the traffic example, I might add carpooling, as something that decreases the number of cars on the road. Is there anything else you would like to add to your map?**

**Interviewer** 19:48

Yeah, and we can also sort of if there are other sort of influences or concepts that are not currently in the map that you want to bring in, you can also do that. So you know, if you want to bring in like, I don't want to suggest anything, but like last time, you know, if I have a little traffic example, right of like, there's number of cars on the road affects how much traffic there is I'm like, Okay, I think about an impact that affects the number of cars, I could say like, how much people are carpooling or something like that. So there's definitely like, also the opportunity to bring in other concepts, any that you want, sort of explaining to dynamics in the system relationships, you know, what drives certain things, other outcomes that you think are important. So a lot of freedom to it.

**Participant 103** 20:48

I know we had a few things before, but nothing's really coming to mind.

**Interviewer** 20:51

Okay. Yeah, and there's, there's definitely like, an opportunity whenever, whenever that any thoughts occur, you definitely have them in rate, then maybe if there are any other values that we already talked about that you want to include, we definitely can or if you feel you feel good about the map that you've created, we can move on to the next section.

**Participant 103** 21:19

Yeah, we can move on to something else, I'll ask you to go back.

**Q9: So now considering your map of the current Flint food system, how would you make changes to improve it?**

**Interviewer** 21:25

So the next thing we're going to do, is considering the map that you've made of the current, like food system, and just your understanding and experience of it, what would you consider to be some opportunities for leverage points? So you know, what changes would you suggest to improve it? So this could be by adding a new concept, you know, changing a connection, adding a connection, or, you know, just any ideas and thoughts that you have, and we could talk about how maybe we might map that change.

**Participant 103** 22:01

I think last time, too, we got into kind of the economy of the household. So to me, it goes back to again, having jobs or livable wage and employment, that then would allow you to have more in terms of the affordability and what's available to you. You're not left to what's just on your corner. Yeah. And then I think, of course, there's always a concept of bringing more things into neighborhoods, like the grocery store or mobile market.

**Participant 103** 22:40

You know, we do a lot with our emergency sector doing mobile, home deliveries, or you know, children's meals in the parking lots or in parks or basketball courts going to where people are, as opposed to making people come to you. So I think I don't know how to adequately capture that.

**Participant 103** 22:59

But really, there's two aspects there of having that liveable wage and increasing the household for each of the families, and then also then having resources right within your own neighborhood. A lot of barriers of transportation and gaps and being able to get to a location, especially when you're talking about taking home groceries if you're on the bus and it's very cumbersome, especially if you're managing small children.

**Interviewer** 23:28

Yeah, yeah.

**Participant 103** 23:32

And safety. I think of ice and snow, right? Trying to get on and off a bus with two or three bags of groceries and a toddler and an infant. It's near impossible.

**Interviewer** 23:43

Definitely. I can't speak to the kids aspect, but definitely an undergrad biking in the snow with a thing of groceries was an adventure.

**Participant 103** 23:53

Yes, yeah. So everything becomes a lot easier once you can, in theory, afford a car and have that reliable transportation. And then, you know, driving 8, 10 miles to a grocery store doesn't seem, you know, as restrictive as what you're left to with a convenience store or local source of food that's coming into your neighborhood. And even any more convenience stores aren't throughout in every neighborhood either.

**Q12: We’ve talked a lot about different food system sectors and values, and the impact of COVID-19. Is there anything important about this conversation that I forgot to ask you, or something that you want to add?**

**Interviewer** 24:37

Is there anything important, sort of about these different topics in Flint, that, you know, you think that we should definitely carry forward and know about in this research that maybe we haven't talked about, so anything, you maybe you want to add?

**Participant 103** 27:27

I think it's similar to even with the water, I think there's a collaborative spirit among partners, or stakeholders in the community, to reach out and support and do things in different ways to make sure the community is supported and identify gaps. So I think that's actually been a positive again, here in Flint in the local area, I definitely think there's been a stretch and resources overall, nationally, so here locally, you feel that trying to even source food or have the emergency food, and then also to try to increase the amount of federal support or programs that are coming to our state or to our area to support residents.