

Tulane University Human Research Protection Office Social/Behavioral IRB
Consent Script for Participation in a Research Study
Food Policy Advisory Committee Food System Assessment

What is the research study and why is it being done?

I want to invite you to participate in our study to examine the effects of COVID-19 on the food system of New Orleans. The project is a food system “census” that aims to record the changes in the food system ecosphere during and resulting from the COVID-19 crisis. We will be gathering data from all sectors (production, distribution, consumption and access, waste and recovery) of the food system. You are being asked to participate in this research study because you are an active member of the New Orleans food system. All participants of the New Orleans food system are invited to participate in this study.

What will you do if you participate in the study?

You will be asked to complete a survey that asks about how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted your sector of the food system and your opinions about how the crisis could have been mitigated. In doing this survey, we hope to learn what can be done in the event of another crisis to increase the sustainability of the Louisiana food environment. Items that asked about you and your organization are also included in the survey. Your participation will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

What are the possible risks from being in the study?

There are no foreseeable risks to participants.

What are the possible benefits from being in the study?

We cannot and do not guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this study. Your decision not to participate will not negatively affect you.

If you take part in this study, how will we protect your privacy?

If you have read this form and have decided to participate, please understand your participation is voluntary and you have the right to withdraw your consent or discontinue participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. The alternative is not to participate. You have the right to refuse to answer particular questions. The results of this research study may be presented at scientific or professional meetings or published in scientific journals. Your privacy will be maintained in all published and written data resulting from the study. Your name will not be associated with the answers you provide in the survey and all results will be reported as a group and not individually.

Will you be paid/receive credit to take part in the study?

Each person who completes a survey will receive a \$15 cash reward.

What if you have questions or concerns about the study?

If you have any questions or concerns about the study, whether before or after agreeing to participate, you can e-mail the study co-Principal Investigator, Chris Sylvain, at chris@nolafoodpolicy.org. You can call about any matter pertaining to the study, including complaints or questions about your rights as a study participant. If you want to speak with someone who is not directly involved in the study, you may call the

Food Policy Advisory Committee at (504)-446-0616 or email elisa@nolafoodpolicy.org. Take as much time as you like before you decide to participate in this study.

Consent

If you agree to participate in this research, please complete the survey.

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