



QUEEN ANNE FARMERS MARKET

Friday, April 8, 2011

Friends and neighbors,

It is with great sadness that I resign today as Director of the Queen Anne Farmers Market.

The market has been my passion for four years, and I've had the privilege of working with many good people toward a common goal: assisting small farms, preserving farmland, and building community. We have succeeded beyond all expectations and can be very proud of the results. I am persuaded, however, that my resignation is necessary to prevent a stalemate with Queen Anne Neighbors for Responsible Growth that would stall the season and risk our farmers' and vendors' livelihoods.

The fiscal agent responsible for accounting and oversight, QANRG (Kemp Hiatt, Michael Lapin, Scott Smith and George Counts) will now assume general management of the market.

I have been assured that former staff will not lose their jobs and that a new management team selected by QANRG is both talented and dedicated to the market's mission.

I am also assured by the city's Office of Economic Development that a new QAFM Advisory Committee will conduct the longterm business planning the market needs, funded by the matching grant I secured for that purpose last year.

I urge everyone to support the new management team, QANRG, and the QAFM Advisory Committee. I'll do my best to ensure a smooth transition and transfer of assets.

Finally, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our farmers and vendors, and to everyone who has donated time, talent and dollars to make our dream of a community-managed, all-food farmers market come true. I look forward to shopping with you on Crockett Street this summer.

To a long, healthy life for our market!

Julie