



WOODSTOCK FARMERS MARKET

Chair Gelser and Members of the Committee,

My name is Emily Murnen. I am the Market Manager for the Woodstock Farmers Market in Portland, and I am writing to request your support for SB 440 and 555.

SB 555 and SB 440 support the expansion of Double Up Food Bucks Oregon, a SNAP incentive program with a proven record of success. For every dollar spent on SNAP eligible foods at participating farmers markets, farm share programs, and grocery stores across the state, shoppers will receive a dollar to spend on Oregon grown fruits and vegetables.

Our market first participated in the Double Up Food Bucks program in 2016, and it has been a crucial part of our mission to provide access to fresh produce to everybody. Here are just a couple comments from SNAP shoppers:

“Shopping at this market with SNAP matching funds is vital. Otherwise I could not afford to eat healthfully, which is important as I have medical concerns. The market is a weekly habit now thanks to Double Up Food Bucks.”

“The price of food has gone up and most of us run out of food stamps by mid month. Your SNAP Matching program is a lifeline.”

The number of SNAP shoppers and SNAP sales increased dramatically in 2020. Our SNAP Sales went from \$7,587 in 2019 to \$14,805 in 2020. The amount of Double Up Food Bucks distributed in 2019 was \$6,323, whereas it was \$9,856 in 2020.

We anticipate the need for increased Double Up Food Bucks to continue in 2021. This program is crucial for so many of our shoppers who use SNAP and also for our farms. It helps put the money into the pockets of our dedicated farmers who are growing the food that fuels these shoppers.

Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Emily Murnen
Woodstock Farmers Market
Portland, OR