

PUBLIC DINING COURT AT THE MARKET: PHASE ONE

Funded by a grant from
THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER LAFAYETTE

Objective: Build the infrastructure for a permanent dining court at the West Lafayette Farmers Market. Permanent tables, chairs, railings, and lighting will be added in the future as funding becomes available.

Steps to be completed this coming year:

- Site work and a concrete pad will be completed at the north end of the West Lafayette Farmers Market site, providing a base for all that follows.
- A shade sail (see example below) will be purchased to cover and protect the entire dining area and will be installed over the concrete pad.

Benefits:

- A permanent, comfortable café will be a key component contributing to the market's goal of creating a sense of community within our city. Our hope is that this dining court will encourage patrons to interact with each other and with our local farmers and artisans, enjoying the fruits of their labor in a "cozy café."
- The court will provide a much safer, more usable, and more attractive space for such interactions. The temporary tents look (and are) makeshift, can be unstable with Indiana weather, and the space is crowded. Also, being off of the asphalt with a much-better designed shade sail will reduce the heat in the café and increase comfort for patrons.
- The proposed permanent dining court will eliminate the weekly set-up and tear-down of tents, a big labor saver for volunteers.
- Such a space also adds to the market's support of local small businesses, artists, healthy eating, and overall economic development.
- Finally, this court's benefits will extend beyond the market and will be a permanent asset for all users of the Cumberland Park.

