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Press Release

For immediate release

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Westport Market Brings South Baltimore More Fresh Food Options

Weekly Farmers' Market to Launch June 18 at Waterview Avenue and Annapolis Road

Baltimore, MD — Westport Market, a weekly farmer's market that will bring more fresh food options to people living in South Baltimore, will launch on Thursday, June 18 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the intersection of Waterview Avenue and Annapolis Road.

Westport Market was created by the residents of Westport, an up-and-coming community located on the shores of the Middle Branch in Baltimore City. Westport Market funding is made possible thanks to an Internet crowdfunding campaign and a grant from MECU and the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts.

The market will serve Westport, Brooklyn, Mount Winans, Cherry Hill, and Lakeland.

"Parts of Southeast Baltimore are considered 'food deserts' with fewer fresh food and healthy choices for residents," said Diana Velasquez-Kolnik, founder of Westport Market. "Folks in Westport decided to come together to build a bridge between South Baltimore communities and farmers, some of whom are growing produce less than 5 miles away from Westport. The market gives us an opportunity to connect these two resources to each other."

Farmers and organizations that will participate in Westport Market are:

- Heckel Farm
- The Cherry Hill Urban Garden
- Brooklyn Greenhouse Community

- Farmers from The National Latino Farmers and Ranchers Trade Association
- University of Maryland Extension
- Baltimore City Master Gardeners
- Westport Neighborhood Association
- Clean Water Action

Westport Market will operate each Thursday until October 8 before taking a break for winter and fall and returning Spring 2016.

The market will be a great place to purchase locally grown vegetables and fruits, and enjoy the day with family and friends. To celebrate the opening day on June 18, Westport Market will raffle a gift basket with goodies for market attendees, showcase community organizations, and host fun activities.

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The vision of Westport Market is for Westport and neighboring communities to thrive and be healthy communities where everyone has access to fresh, quality food.

The mission of Westport Market is to increase access to fresh local food and promote healthier options.