



For Immediate Release
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The City Market Farmers' Market Now Accepts the SNAP/EBT Card

Kansas City, MO—The City Market is pleased to announce, starting April 4, the City Market Farmers' Market will accept state issued *Electronic Benefit Transfer Cards* and *Vision Cards* the electronic delivery method for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) also known locally as the Food Stamp Program in Missouri and the Food Assistance Program in Kansas.

SNAP is a federally funded program which delivers monthly benefits to 28 million Americans nationwide. Approximately 56,000 people received benefits in January, 2009 within the four metro Missouri counties of Cass, Clay, Jackson and Platte. Approximately 17,500 people received benefits in the Johnson and Wyandotte counties of Kansas. "This program is huge for area subscribers, our participating farmers and the City Market overall," said Deb Connors, Market Master for the City Market, "increasing access to produce, further encouraging the consumption of healthy foods and increasing nutrition is a win-win for everyone." Stephanie Spatz-Ornburn, Director of Marketing and Events, added, "The City Market is a destination where people of all economic levels are welcome to share in a common interest in food and community. We are very excited to further extend access to those participating in these valuable programs."

Subscribers can swipe their card at the yellow Information Tent for their desired dollar amount and in exchange, receive that amount in *City Market Farmers' Market EBT Tokens*. These tokens will be issued in \$1 increments for use with dozens of participating farmers throughout the farmers' market. The City Market Information Tent will be accessible during Farmers' Market hours on Saturdays from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm, Sunday from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm and the first Wednesday of each month May – October from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm. Subscribers can obtain tokens in the City Market Office on the remaining Wednesdays during each month. With the City Market's participation in the SNAP/EBT/Food Assistance Program, subscribers can increase their access to locally grown and locally produced items. Eligible items include fruits, vegetables, meats, fish, poultry, eggs, dairy products, baked goods, jams and jellies and honey. The purchase of vegetable plants and potted herbs is also acceptable. For information on applying for food stamp benefits, call 1-800-221-5689.

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Where The Locals Go: *The City Market is open seven days a week year-round. The Farmers' Market is open Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday.*



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