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Ideas about at Dining Greenville

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For a city to be great, is it essential for it to have great restaurants? That was one of many questions pondered at the Dining Greenville discussion Metromix Managing Producer Melissa Hall and I attended today. Sponsored by [Greenville Forward](#) and attended by Carl Sobocinski, the owner of Table 301 Restaurant Group (which includes [The Lazy Goat](#), [Soby's](#) and [Devereaux's](#)), as well as representatives from [High Cotton](#), [Greenville Organic Foods Organization](#) and other local groups, the event explored how to garner more attention for the Upstate as a dining destination, the advantages of adding more independent restaurants to the landscape and the prospect of restaurant saturation.

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Sobocinski discussed the need for more independent restaurants, bemoaning the fact that lines at chain restaurants like Red Lobster and Olive Garden are "out the door," while Greenville Organic Foods Organization Chairman Ed Wilmot stressed the need for local restaurants to market the area as a whole as a dining destination rather than just focusing on their individual businesses.

It was interesting to hear what some of the movers and shakers had to say, but we're also curious what you think. Does a great city need great restaurants? What can Greenville do to become more of a dining destination? Are restaurants that use local products and produce more appealing to you than ones that don't? When you dine out, is it all about the food, or does the service and atmosphere factor in, too? Let us know what you think.

POSTED BY YVONNE ZUSEL ON THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2010 AT 5:15 PM | [PERMALINK](#) | [RSS](#)

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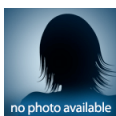
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GreenvilleForward from Downtown - June 22, 2010 at 9:45 AM

Thanks for this article. Greenville Forward's blog post about the event also addressed some of the important issues that were discussed at the seri...

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