

SB 1383 Edible Food Recovery Working Group Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday, October 15th, 2024, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Location: Virtual Meeting [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 253 004 601 447

Passcode: ifHbJ5

Contact: Brooke.Flinn@sdcounty.ca.gov

Agenda

i. Welcome and introductions (please type name and affiliation in chat)

- Alma Ramirez, City of Escondido
- Annika Anderson, HF&H Consultants
- Brooke Yaptangco Flinn, County of San Diego DPW
- Caitlin Barboza, HF&H Consultants
- Dana Laosiri, Republic Services
- Danielle Osborne, CalRecycle
- Ellyn Law, County of San Diego DPW
- Emily Schuetz, CalRecycle
- Evan Ehlers, Sharing Excess
- Gio Cortes, City of Escondido
- Heather Heckman, City of Santee
- Joshua Keyton, County of San Diego DPW
- Jacy Triboulet, Feeding San Diego
- Janin Rodarte, City of Escondido
- Jennafer Steffen, City of Poway
- Karen Clay, I Love to Glean
- Kate Garrett, Feeding San Diego
- Kayla Thomson, San Diego Food Bank
- Kirk Kinder, County of San Diego
- Kiyonna Navarro, ProduceGood
- Leia Berube, Solana Center
- Lydia Donahue, Food Donation Connection
- Mackenzie Bolger, San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
- Malika Sen, Solana Center for Environmental Innovation
- Molly Reeves, City of Carlsbad
- Monica Martinez, City of El Cajon
- Nicole Grucky, City of Solana Beach
- Nita Kurmis Gilson, ProduceGood
- Ofelia Andrade, City of Coronado
- Polina Osipova, City of San Diego
- Sergio Saucedo, City of Vista
- Stephanie Ewalt, EcoTech Consulting

ii. Public Comments & Communications

- a. New meeting link reminder
- b. Open Comments
 - i. Evan Ehlers, Sharing Excess Presentation
 - i. See attachments for presentation
 - ii. Questions and Comments
 - a. ProduceGood – Since San Diego County does not have the typical wholesale market that Sharing Excess has historically worked with, is there still a possibility for connection?
 - i. Sharing Excess – Connection likely through Individual food

- distributors and growers.
 - b. I Love to Glean – Hoping to mirror Sharing Excess’ work on a smaller scale, would like to discuss offline about creating a food hub for south/south-central county.
 - i. Sharing Excess – Would love to collaborate with existing organizations on groundwork, Sharing Excess does not need to lead and could potentially bring funders/partners in to assist.
 - c. I Love to Glean – Your organization’s website is listed as .com instead of .org, is Sharing Excess a nonprofit?
 - i. Sharing Excess – Sharing Excess – Organization is a full 501(c)(3) nonprofit, .com website forwards to .org.
 - d. San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments – Would love to learn more about food forward and partners
 - i. Sharing Excess – For additional information, please email Evan Ehlers at evan@sharingexcess.com.
- ii. Mackenzie Bolger, San Garbiel Valley Food Hub Presentation
 - i. See attachments for presentation
 - ii. Questions and Comments
 - a. City of San Diego – How was this program funded?
 - i. San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments – Combination of CalRecycle local assistance grant funding, jurisdictional contributions, and other smaller grants.
 - b. I Love to Glean – These models typically have a single leading organization or entity that ushers in this kind of concept into the area, was your organization that entity?
 - i. San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments – Yes, however, this model stems from the collaboration of 10-15 participating cities, 3 nonprofit food banks, and many others.
 - c. City of San Diego - How are you quantifying the impacts of the food hubs (before and after)?
 - i. San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments – Metrics primarily based on pounds of foods recovered, which are converted into meals served.
 - d. San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments – As a result of administrative challenges with pooling fundings and finalizing contracts countywide, equipment purchases weren’t finalized until 6-8 month into the grant agreement (March/April 2024). Initial use of funding was on staffing/labor.
 - e. San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments – Now that food bank hubs are fully equipped and operating at a higher capacity, the goal is continuing support and improving metrics collection.
 - f. HF&H Consultants – This model relied heavily on the use of cross

jurisdictional agreements between various cities, would you be able to share redacted versions of these agreements to allow jurisdictions to see how these agreements were set up and run them by their own city/county attorneys?

- i. San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments – Happy to share template agreements, as well as template applications for organizations wanting to become a hub. Agreements were structured as San Gabriel Valley + City A, B, and C + food recovery hub.
- iii. County of San Diego DPW – Draft action items for the Food Justice Climate Action Plan (FJCAP) have been made publicly available.
 - a. [Food Justice Community Action Plan | Engage San Diego County](#)

iii. **SB 1383 – Implementation, Discussion, Q&A**

- a. Enforcement Plans/Process
 - i. No updates
- b. Tier 1 & 2 – Questions & Discussion
 - i. City of San Diego – Penske, a food distributor for Starbucks, has been pushing agreement requirements onto Starbucks. Starbucks has a robust donation program but does not meet restaurant requirements.
 - i. Solana Center – How did Penske get on your radar, were they on the California Department of Public Health’s list.
 - a. City of San Diego – Unsure how Penske got added to their list of food distributors.
 - b. Feeding San Diego – Feeding San Diego has previously worked with Penske since their staff regularly transports food, but unsure if they have their own warehouse. Penske typically does dark drops—staff comes in the early morning to drop off pallets in Feeding San Diego’s warehouse every day.
 - i. Solana Center – All distributors have a warehouse. How does Penske handle excess food that Feeding San Diego rejects? Do they ever have excess food that can’t be dropped off?
 - a. Feeding San Diego – There has only been 1-2 times where Feeding San Diego has rejected Starbucks. Starbucks has recently changed their donation procedures and are now freezing their foods prior to donation (not ideal for salads).
 - b. Feeding San Diego – Will follow up with contact that works with Starbucks and see if there’s a warehouse location or any information that can be shared.
 - c. Feeding San Diego – Note that Penske has been difficult to reach at times.
 - d. County of San Diego – Team has not run into Penske unfortunately.
 - e. City of San Diego – Team has already done an initial visit but will

confirm address before making a final determination.

- ii. Solana Center – Is anyone working with school districts on food donation programs?
 - i. County of San Diego DPW – Team sent out letters notifying school districts of Tier 2 status/requirements and will follow up with site visits in 2025.
 - ii. Solana Center – Visited all their school districts, schools had programs in place to donate date coded food items but were less incentivized to donate prepared food items. Bulk food items are more complicated for schools to donate and typically do not have additional funding to support packaging and labeling of bulk food items.
 - a. City of San Diego – What are examples of bulk food items?
 - i. Solana Center – Prepared foods such as rice, lasagna, spaghetti, etc. Labeling required for smaller portions, differs by food recovery organization.
 - iii. County of San Diego DPW – What is the most prevalent food preparation method for schools (scratch cooking, prepared foods, or other)?
 - a. Solana Center – Elementary schools typically rely on scratch cooking, whereas middle and high schools usually rely prepared foods.
 - iv. City of Carlsbad – Haven’t seen many solutions on the school district side. However, the Army and Navy Academy does a lot of bulk food donations and relies on Chefs to End Hunger to provide packaging services.
 - a. Solana Center – Chefs to End Hunger and Life Acts are the only 2 organizations that Solana Center has seen supply trays and provide packaging services to organizations.
 - b. I Love to Glean – Works with Life Acts on food recovery activities, their organization relies on aluminum trays and reusable containers that can be washed.
 - i. Solana Center – Who pays for your aluminum trays?
 - a. I Love to Glean – The generator/donor (I Love to Glean) does.
 - v. CalRecycle – CalRecycle’s funding pages has a category for school districts. Encourage school districts to subscribe to CalRecycle’s email list and communicate with CalRecycle grant staff.
 - a. [Funding - CalRecycle Home Page](#)
 - vi. Feeding San Diego - Some of our agencies do pick up prepared foods from schools but it has been a challenge over the years (labeling, packaging, logistics, etc.). Most of our agencies rely on the schools for packaging but some agencies are willing to take the larger trays and repackage inhouse if they have the appropriate licensing/permits and capacity to do so.
 - vii. Feeding San Diego – Benefit to working with Restaurant Depot is that some of that packaging is available for organizations. Biggest challenge is having enough agencies with enough capacity.
 - a. Solana Center – If an entity is working with restaurant depot, can

- packaging be reused for donatable foods.
- viii. Solana Center – Is Feeding San Diego willing to be more flexible on packaging that they’re willing to accept? Can foods be donated in food grade polyethylene bags?
 - a. Feeding San Diego – As long as bags are food grade; however, Feeding America’s standards requires first use for packaging.
 - i. Feeding San Diego – Have previously accepted food grade bags in the past, but concerns with dignified presentation/packaging, as well as with bags not being properly closed, resulting in messes. Not a reason not to explore it.
 - b. Feeding San Diego – There is no policy in place that would prohibit foods being stored in bags, comes down to agencies in the area and what they are willing/able to accept.
 - i. County of San Diego DPW – Does the San Diego Food Bank have any policies that would prohibit donated foods being stored in food grade bags?
 - a. San Diego Food Bank – No, San Diego Food Bank has similar requirements for food safe packaging.
 - c. Site Visits/Inspections – DEHQ Myths and Challenges
 - i. DEHQ – Q&A
 - 1. **Ongoing request:** All jurisdictions to add and/or update their resources on [Regional Guidance Document](#) under the tab Jurisdiction & DEH Contacts
 - 2. Solana Center – Received a flyer from City of Long Beach stating that their city’s Department of Environmental Health (DEH) signed off on how to safely donate foods from buffets. Forwarded to Vanessa Mello with the County’s Department of Environmental Health & Quality (DEHQ) for comment.
 - i. Pending resource development from Solana Center
 - d. Food Recovery Organization Site Visits
 - i. Share feedback and response from recent site visits (group)
 - i. County of San Diego DPW – The County’s reports are due January 31st and staff will be sending out reminder emails/calls soon. Annual visits to food recovery organizations are scheduled for December and January.
 - ii. City of San Diego – The City’s reports also due January 31st, and staff will begin sending out reminder emails/calls soon. The City will still accept reports past the January 31st deadline.
 - iii. Solana Center – Prepping visits for the first quarter of 2025, Solana Center’s food recovery organizations have a March/April reporting deadline. Will the County be visiting in person?
 - a. County of San Diego DPW – County staff will be conducting in-

person site visits for most of their food recovery organizations, excluding some organizations located on residential properties.

- e. Recordkeeping & Reporting (FRO's and Generators)
 - f. Other roadblocks, concerns for discussion
- iv. **SB 1383 – Public Education Resources**
- a. [San Diego Regional Food Systems GIS Map](#) (General link)
 - b. [Additional GIS Map – FRO to Generator travel distance and connection \(not for general public yet\)](#)
 - c. Food Bank updates on education efforts to partners
 - i. Feeding San Diego – No official updates but Feeding San Diego will be sending out resources/guides for pulling reports from MealConnect.
 - ii. San Diego Food Bank – No updates but San Diego Food Bank will be supplying nonprofit partners with annual reports again this year.
- v. **Grants & funding**
- a. [HFFI Food Access and Retail Expansion Fund \(HFFI FARE Fund\)](#):
 - i. Eligible applicant entities include for-profit business enterprises (including a corporation, limited liability company, sole proprietor, public benefit corporation); cooperatively owned businesses; tax-exempt nonprofit corporations; institutions of higher education; state and local governments and governmental agencies, authorities, commissions and food policy councils; tribal governments and tribal governmental agencies, authorities, and food policy councils.
 - ii. The HFFI FARE Fund could assist a variety of organizations, business models, and capital needs of ventures that process, distribute, aggregate, market, and sell healthy, fresh, and affordable foods to underserved communities and markets.
 - iii. Multiple rounds of grant application deadlines **12/12/2024, 05/01/2025, and 10/02/2025**. Loans and technical assistance funding inquiry forms accepted on rolling basis.
 - b. Catalyst [Nacy Jamison Fund](#) for Social Justice
 - a. Awards \$50,000 in unrestricted funding to leaders advancing racial equity and social justice in San Diego County
 - b. Nominations for the 2025 cycle open Thursday, September 12, 2024. **Nominations close December 31**, and in-person conversations with finalists will occur in February of 2025, with grant decisions announced in April 2025.

vi. **Legislation**

- a. HF&H Consultants – AB-2346 Organic waste reduction regulations: procurement of recovered organic waste products.
 - a. “A local jurisdiction may count up to 10 percent of its recovered organic waste product procurement target with both of the following recovered organic waste products. Mulch and Edible food recovered in compliance with Section 18991.1 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations generated from a commercial food generator located within the jurisdiction. The conversion factor to be used to convert tonnage in the annual recovered organic waste product procurement target for each jurisdiction to equivalent amounts of recovered organic waste product shall be one ton of edible food for each ton of organic waste in a recovered organic waste product procurement target.”
 - b. https://digitaldemocracy.calmatters.org/bills/ca_202320240ab2346
- b. Solana Center – How will AB-660 (Food and beverage products: labeling: quality dates, safety dates, and sell-by dates.) affect date code guidance from food banks?
 - a. Feeding San Diego – AB-660 does not officially take effect until July 1, 2026. Feeding San Diego has been investigating with their Feeding America food safety expert to see if entire policies will need to change or if they will simply need to update existing language.
 - i. Solana Center – To confirm, if it’s a quality date (best if used by), current Feeding San Diego procedures will remain. If it’s a safety date (use by), Feeding San Diego will stick with that date.
 - 1. Feeding San Diego – Correct, however, subject to change.
 - b. CalRecycle – AB-660 was initially to go into effect in 2025 but later pushed to 2026.
 - c. San Diego Food Bank – AB-660 will more heavily impact perishable products (milk, eggs, cheese, etc.), San Diego Food Bank will continue to reach out to internal nutritional policy committee and manufacturers to ensure that policy aligns with new “Used by” and “Best if used by” labeling standards.

vii. **News & Events**

- a. [SDFSA Annual Gathering: Cooperation](#), Oct 17, 2024 – Escondido Center for the Arts
 - i. Attendees’ takeaways/updates
 - a. I Love to Glean – About 500 participants, good to see everyone and hear about the progress being made.
- b. [Food Rescue Hero Conference](#), October 24 & 25, 2024
 - i. Attendees’ takeaways/updates

- c. Live Well San Diego South Region Food Insecurity Group, December 18th from 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. Contact Karen Clay at info@ilovetoglean.org for more information.
 - d. CalRecycle info sessions:
 - i. <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/emailupdates/>
 - ii. [SB1383 Chat w Calrecycle Past Recordings](#)
 - iii. CalRecycle – Chat w CalRecycle: Procurement of Recovered Organic Waste Products Nov. 19th from 1-3pm
 - e. [Edible Food Recovery Technical Council \(CRR\)](#), second Tuesday of each month from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. – no membership needed.
 - f. North County Food Policy Meeting – No meetings for remainder for CY due to holiday break
- viii. **Round Table**
- a. Future Topics? Troubleshooting restaurants? Discussion on how to collaborate across jurisdictions and with FRO's – how to streamline processes (reporting, capacity planning), lessons learned.
 - a. I Love to Glean – Regarding the San Diego Promise Zone Community, task force surveyed needs of January flood victims (~2,000 families) to understand food needs, current living situations, and status of their current needs.
 - i. I Love to Glean – 1 out of 2 San Diego Promise Zone community members were food insecure before the floods. I Love to Glean is currently speaking with multiple organizations and looking for someone with a box truck to assist with visits to the San Diego Food Bank.
 - 1. San Diego Food Bank – Will connect to brainstorm potential opportunities to assist with transportation and deliveries.
 - b. County of San Diego DPW – December 19, 2024, meeting will be canceled due to the holidays. Next meeting will be hosted on January 21, 2025, from 1-3pm.
- ix. **Adjournment**
- Next meeting Tues, January 21st from 1-3pm*

SB 1383 Food Donation & Recovery Resources

Resource	Provided By
<p data-bbox="207 300 589 331">Regional Guidance Document</p> <ul data-bbox="256 380 867 575" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="256 380 678 411">• Tier 1 and Tier 2 clarifications<li data-bbox="256 422 846 453">• List of Edible Food Recovery Organizations<li data-bbox="256 464 521 495">• Local Ordinances<li data-bbox="256 506 751 537">• California Retail Food Code (DEHQ)<li data-bbox="256 548 867 575">• Contacts (jurisdictions, DEHQ, corporations)	Crowdsourced