SB 1383 Edible Food Recovery Working Group Meeting Agenda
Date: Tuesday, August 19th, 2025, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Location: Virtual Meeting **Join the meeting now**

Meeting ID: 253 004 601 447
Passcode: igfHbJ5
Contact: Brooke.Flinn@sdcounty.ca.gov

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions

- Adam Guerra, Ecotone Renewables
- Alma Ramirez, City of Escondido
- Annika Andersen, HF&H Consultants
- Brennen Jensen, Blue Strike Environmental
- Brooke Yaptangco, County of San Diego Public Works
- Christian Olivas, City of Lemon Grove
- Dana Laosiri, Republic Services
- Diana Jamaleddine, City of Solana Beach
- Dylan Lew, Ecotone Renewables
- Elizabeth Prado, Life Acts
- Ellyn Law, County of San Diego Public Works
- Emily Schuetz, CalRecycle
- Fernando Moreno, City of Escondido
- Gio Cortes, City of Escondido
- Heather Heckman, City of Santee
- Itzel Gonzalez Mesinas, City of Carlsbad
- Jennafer Steffen, City of Poway
- Jessica Schultz, Feeding San Diego
- Jim Larson, Food Donation Connection
- Joshua Keyton, County of San Diego Public Works
- Kailey Wilkens, San Diego Food Bank
- Karen Clay, I Love to Glean
- Katherine Crow, County of San Diego Public Health Services
- Katy James, Blue Strike Environmental
- Kim Ridout, County of San Diego Office of Sustainability and Environmental Justice
- Kiyonna Navarro, ProduceGood
- Leslie Webb Blanco, City of Vista
- Lydia Donahue, Food Donation Connection
- Mallika Sen, Solana Center for Environmental Innovation
- Monica Martinez, City of El Cajon
- Myla Barker, County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services
- Nicholas Vallejo, City of San Diego
- Nicholas Zubel, County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services
- Nicole Grucky, City of Solana Beach
- Ofelia Andrade, City of Coronado
- Paul Maechler, City of Encinitas
- Sarah Diaz, Cafeteria Victories
- Valery ODerio, San Diego Food Bank
- Wbaldo Arellano, City of Imperial Beach

2. Public Comments & Communications

a. Open Comments

i. County of San Diego – County of San Diego Edible Food Recovery Working Group Participant Feedback Form

   i Please complete this voluntary form to help keep our contact list up-to-date and to provide ideas on topics you'd like to cover in future meetings.

ii. Presentation: San Diego County Emergency Operations Plan Update by Nick Zubel, Senior Emergency Services Coordinator, and Myla Barker, Emergency Services Coordinator

   i Overview: The County's Office of Emergency Services will provide a presentation on the County's Emergency Operations Plan update. The

Emergency Operations Plan is a comprehensive guide that details how the region will respond to major emergencies and disasters. As part of the update process, the County is committed to engaging food system stakeholders to ensure the plan addresses food insecurity considerations.

Discussion Topics Will Include:
- Overview of the Emergency Operations Plan
- How you can participate and provide feedback
- Open discussion to hear concerns, recommendations, and priorities from members

    ii Presentation to be sent out with minutes.

    iii Q&A
- a) I Love to Glean – Jurisdictions should come to together to discuss and define what it means to have a food emergency. Those areas affected by the 2023 floods are 51% insecure.
- b) HF&H Consultants – Southern regions of the County do not currently have a hub that can take in food (i.e. lack of infrastructure). Will this plan simplify bureaucratic process for feeding agencies?
  - i County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services – Planning for workshops and tabletop exercises (community engagement efforts). Your feedback/expertise informs the plan.
  - ii County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services – Multi-jurisdictional hazardous plan updates: Identifies vulnerabilities and potential hazards with annual and 5-year updates.

iii. Presentation: ProduceGood Operational Update by Kiyonna Navarro, Program Manager

    i Presentation to be sent out with minutes.

    ii Q&A
- a) City of Encinitas – Between volunteers and drivers, is there one that ProduceGood especially needs help with?
  - i ProduceGood – Individuals that are comfortable being the lead for grocery gleaning and picking events. ProduceGood would provide equipment, materials, and contacts.

3. SB 1383 – Implementation, Discussion, Q&A
a. Enforcement Plans/Process
  - i. Solana Center for Environmental Innovation – Wanted to follow up regarding meeting with CalRecycle on jurisdictions providing grace periods to generators regarding enforcement.
    - i CalRecycle – Since the regulations do not mention or define grace

periods, CalRecycle cannot necessarily weigh in on the matter. Grace periods should not be used to indefinitely prolong enforcement timelines.

    ii. Solana Center for Environmental Innovation – If a business reaches the Notice of Violation (NOV) stage of the enforcement timeline but is actively working towards compliance, can a city withhold issuing a NOV?

        i. CalRecycle – Jurisdiction need to follow their enforcement plan regardless of the business' efforts. Regulations do not include a "good faith clause," and would therefore need to continue with enforcement rather than prolong enforcement to allow for generators to get into compliance.

        ii. County of San Diego Public Works – From our team's experience, it's not uncommon for businesses to begin steps towards compliance on the 59th day. With our program, we've tended to continue with the enforcement process regardless of progress being made.

    iii. County of San Diego Public Works – Spoke with CalRecycle regarding a Starbuck's location stating that all Starbucks nationwide received exemption from edible food recovery requirements from CalRecycle.

        i. CalRecycle – Typically, CalRecycle does not issue waivers or exemptions to generators. CalRecycle only is involved with non-local entities. Also, a reminder to jurisdictions that there are no edible food recovery exemptions under SB 1383.

            a) County of San Diego Public Works – For non-local entities that do apply for an exemption, would jurisdictions be notified?

                i. CalRecycle – CalRecycle staff communicating with non-local entities should be involving jurisdictional contacts. Feel free to contact Emily Schuetz at Emily.Schuetz@CalRecycle.ca.gov with any questions.

                ii. CalRecycle – If it helps, CalRecycle staff can run a report, upon request, to provide a list of current entities with CalRecycle waivers on file.

        ii. Feeding San Diego – Jessica Schultz is the new Director of Supply Chain for Feeding San Diego. Happy to chat with jurisdictions regarding this issue in case it involves our FoodShare rescue program with Starbucks.

    iv. Life Acts – Is there a person or place where people can report generators that are actively throwing away food?

        i. County of San Diego Public Works – People can reach out to local jurisdictional contacts, food bank contacts (if a partner agency), file a complaint through CalRecycle's complaint portal ([Recycling Services and Edible Food Collection Complaints - CalRecycle Home Page](#)), etc.

  b. Site Visits/Inspections – DEHQ Myths and Challenges

    i. Solana Center for Environmental Innovation – Encountered a Panera Bread

that met Tier 2 qualifications, spoke with corporate and had a constructive conversation and corporate understands that any other locations over the 5,000 SQFT threshold will move forward with edible food recovery.

    ii. County of San Diego Public Works – The County has collaborated with the Department of Environmental Health & Quality (DEHQ), Watershed Protection Program (WPP), and California Restaurant Association (CRA) to create a guidance document o managing organic waste. Joshua Keyton an Julia Gallaway will be presenting the guide to the public at an upcoming DEHQ meeting on August 21.

    iii. Solana Center for Environmental Innovation – Does the guide cover the topics of rats and other vermin?

        i County of San Diego Public Works – Yes, the DEHQ has provided a lot of guidance on pest and vermin which were incorporated into this guide.

  c. Food Recovery Organization Site Visits

    i. Solana Center for Environmental Innovation – Do jurisdictions have any examples of Food Recovery Organizations (FROs) successfully working with restaurants?

        i County of San Diego Public Works – Some of our FROs works with local restaurants to recover excess edible food (typically breakfast items and fried chicken) through Food Donation Connection. Those food items are sometimes repackaged into meal kits that are provided to local schools.

  d. Recordkeeping & Reporting (FRO's and Generators)

  a. Other roadblocks, concerns for discussion – none

    i. Jurisdictions discussed vetting process for Food Recovery Organizations (FROs).

2. SB 1383 – Public Education Resources

  a. Craig Jones, North County Food Policy Council:

    i. [San Diego Regional Food Systems GIS Map](#) (General link)

    ii. [Additional GIS Map – FRO to Generator travel distance and connection (not for general public yet)](#) – (Available to the EFR working group only.)

  b. Foodbanks

    i. Feeding San Diego – Jessica Schultz is the new Director of Supply Chain for Feeding San Diego.

    ii. San Diego Food Bank – No update.

  c. The Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic's has launched a new Food Loss and Waste Policy Hub website, which brings together a wealth of tools, cutting-edge legal research, and policy innovations to help explore and implement effective strategies. The website highlights four key areas: prevention, recovery, recycling, and comprehensive strategies, as well as highlighted resources.

i. https://foodwastepolicyhub.org/
  d. 8/12: Helping Catalyze Behavior Change In K-12 School Cafeterias Through Student Led Waste Audits, Projects & Experiential Learning (Catalyst Communities Initiative) *(free)*
  e. *9/8 and 9/12 noon- 2pm PST: LiveWell **Trauma-Informed Customer Service Training** (virtual) – see flyer attached*

3. **Grants & funding**
   <u>National</u>
   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 arounds of grant application deadlines ~~12/12/2024, 05/01/2025,~~ **and 10/02/2025.** Loans and technical assistance funding inquiry forms accepted on a rolling basis.

   <u>Local</u>
   a. **Efficient Refrigeration Program (Farms Eligible!)**
      i. San Diego Community Power is offering free energy-efficient refrigerators and freezers to help local corner stores, small businesses, and nonprofits stock California-grown produce, dairy, meat, eggs, and culturally appropriate foods. This initiative supports energy savings and access to fresh, healthy foods in low-income and low-food-access areas. Eligible participants must be SDCP commercial customers and meet basic criteria, including location and food benefit acceptance. Learn more and apply **here**.

      ii. The **San Diego County Childhood Obesity Initiative (COI) 2025 Mini-Grant**
         a. Offering funding to support short-term, community-driven projects that promote: Healthy food, Physical activity, Healthy people in healthy places, Human milk and breastfeeding support
         b. This year's funding includes:
            i. $10,000 total to support small projects (requests up to

$3,000)

    ii. $30,000 total specifically for projects focused on human milk and breastfeeding, thanks to generous support from the Kaiser Hospital Foundation (requests up to $10,000)

  c. Application Deadline: Friday, August 22nd 2025

  d. Eligible applicants must be based in San Diego County

  e. Project period: October 2025 – June 2026

  f. [Apply now](#) and learn more

1. **Legislation –** Summer Recess, No Updates
   a. [AB 337](#) - bill looks at expanding funding opportunities available under SB 1383 but specifically for food recovery efforts.
   b. [AB1046](#) - Short-lived climate pollutants: recovered organic waste product: food processing establishments — As amended March 27th
   c. [SB353](#) - Income tax: credits: food banks.

2. **News & Events**
   a. CalRecycle info sessions:
      i. Email Distribution: *https://calrecycle.ca.gov/emailupdates/*
      ii. [SB1383 Chat w CalRecycle Past Recordings](#)
   b. [Edible Food Recovery Technical Council (CRRA)](#), second Tuesday of each month from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. – no membership needed. Contact Annika Andersen for info on resources or mtgs
   c. 8/14: North County Food Policy Council Meeting 9:00AM – 11:00AM at One Safe Place, 1050 Los Vallecitos Blvd, San Marcos, CA 92069. Please contact Craig Jones or visit their [website](#) to sign up for more info.
   d. 8/27: Live Well San Diego South Region Food Insecurity Working Group. Contact Karen Clay at info@ilovetoglean.org for more information. 9:00AM-10:00AM (In-Person)
   e. 8/16 – San Diego Food System Alliance's 5th Annual Gathering for San Diego County Food Vision 2030 at Morse High School
   f. 10/16 – 10/17: Food Rescue (Hero) Conference (virtual)
   g. 5/19/26 – 5/21/26: 2026 ReFED Food Waste Solutions Summit – Charlotte, NC

3. **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.

4. **Adjournment**
   Next meeting Tues, September 16th from 1-3pm

SB 1383 Food Donation & Recovery Resources

Resource	Provided By
San Diego County Regional SB 1383 Resources Regional SB1383 Organics Collection & Edible Food Recovery Resource page is now live (hosted on DEHQ webpage)	County
Regional Guidance Document • Tier 1 and Tier 2 clarifications • List of Edible Food Recovery Organizations • Local Ordinances • California Retail Food Code (DEHQ) • Contacts (jurisdictions, DEHQ, corporations)	Crowdsourced