

SB 1383 Edible Food Recovery Working Group Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday, November 18th, 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

- Annika Andersen, HF&H Consultants
- Anthony Martinez, Abound Food Care
- Brooke Yaptangco Flinn, County of San Diego DPW
- Caitlin Barboza, HF&H Consultants
- Dana Laosiri, Republic Services
- Dave Didonato, City of Chula Vista
- Diana Jamaledine, City of Solana Beach
- Elizabeth Prado, Life Acts
- Emily Schuetz, CalRecycle
- Fernando Moreno, City of Escondido
- Gio Cortes, City of Escondido
- Itzel Gonzalez Mesinas, City of Carlsbad
- Jacy Triboulet, Feeding San Diego
- Jennafer Steffen, City of Poway
- Jessica Schultz, Feeding San Diego
- Joshua Keyton, County of San Diego DPW
- Kailey Wilkens, San Diego Food Bank
- Karen Clay, I Love to Glean
- Katy James, Blue Strike Environmental
- Kayla Thomson, San Diego Food Bank
- Kiyonna Navarro, ProduceGood
- Lauren Short, City of San Diego
- Leia Berube, Solana Center for Environmental Innovation
- Michael Catalano, San Diego Food Bank
- Mike Learakos, Abound Food Care
- Monica Martinez, City of El Cajon
- Nicole Grucky, City of Solana Beach
- Ofelia Andrade, City of Coronado
- Oscar Gittemeier, City of San Diego Public Library
- Paul Maechler, City of Encinitas
- Trent Beals, San Diego Food Bank
- Tyla Soylu, Zero Waste San Diego
- Valery ODerio, San Diego Food Bank
- Vittoria Grandis, Abound Food Care
- Wbaldo Arellano, City of Imperial Beach

2. Public Comments & Communications

- a. Open Comments
 - i. County of San Diego DPW – [County of San Diego Edible Food Recovery Working Group Participant Feedback Form](#)
 - a) 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. Abound Food Care Presentation – Anthony Martinez, Logistics Coordinator
- i. Solar Powered Refrigeration and Food Recovery Efforts
 - a) Presentation to be included with minutes.
 - b) Q&A

- a) City of Chula Vista – How is it determined where units are placed? How long does installation take (including permitting, etc.)? What are the costs associated with these units?
 - i Abound Food Care – Placement dependent on greatest need in the event of a disaster (focused on areas where people could be cut off from evacuation sites in each district). Host is typically either a school district, city site, or nonprofit. Hosts are either responsible for or heavily involved in food distribution operations. Security is crucial, units must be placed in a gated area with regular surveillance (depending on function and components). Cost varies heavily, can be between \$65,000-\$175,000. Units are manufactured in China and assembled with digital controls in the States (takes approximately 30-90 days to install). Currently working on a build-on-site model.
- b) City of Chula Vista – Was there a cost associated with placing/storing units at certain sites?
 - i Abound Food Care – No cost for placement/storage, host are making space available since it is for emergency use and community assistance.
- c) City of Chula Vista – How are the units loaned out to food recovery organizations?
 - i Abound Food Care – Units were previously used for food distribution during covid. Relationships were developed with various organizations at that time, while also allowing for the capacity to receive and distribute food to be better understood. Community hub models were utilized, and hosts are given a say on where food goes.
- d) I Love to Glean – Do you have data or reporting comparing your services and solar containers to other types of cold storage?
 - i Abound Food Care – Units run just as well as any other kind of walk-in cooler or storage unit so long as it's provided regular maintenance.

3. SB 1383 – Implementation, Discussion, Q&A

- a. Enforcement Plans/Process
 - i. City of Chula Vista – When jurisdictions are looking for food recovery agreements during inspections, how successful are you with obtaining those agreements. Are there any resources that other jurisdictions are using that have helped?
 - a) County of San Diego DPW – The County has a template food recovery agreement form that some generators have used for existing, non-food bank partnerships. However, majority of the generators that we've

worked with gravitated towards either major food bank's agreements instead.

- b) Solana Center for Environmental Innovation – Solana Center staff also provide a template agreement to generators and FROs but inform them of both food bank's agreements as well. Most of the businesses work with either major food bank (about 90% use the food bank agreement template).
 - c) Life Acts – Business that work with food recovery services through digital feeding apps will also utilize the autogenerated agreements through those platforms.
 - ii. City of Chula Vista – What are all the components that jurisdictions are looking for in those agreements?
 - a) County of San Diego DPW – Donation records, pickup schedule, and partnership agreements.
 - b) San Diego Food Bank – The San Diego Food Bank's provides the letter of agreement, donation pickup schedules, and contact information. Feel free to reach out to the food banks if a generator is missing any information or is unable to produce documentation.
 - c) Solana Center for Environmental Innovation – To streamline the process, jurisdictions could also provide generators with a binder to house all required edible food recovery documents to assist with assessments.
- b. Site Visits/Inspections – DEHQ Myths and Challenges
- c. Food Recovery Organization Site Visits
 - i. City of Chula Vista – Food recovery reporting reminder emails to be sent out November 2025, reports are due March 1st.
 - ii. County of San Diego DPW – County will be sending out its initial reminder notices this week to its FROs. Annual FRO reporting FAQ document was also recently updated and will be included in the reminder email.
 - iii. City of Encinitas – Reminder notices will also be sent to FROs in November 2025. City of Encinitas is planning on using data from their food recovery reports to contribute towards 10% of its recovered organic waste product procurement target per AB 2346.
 - iv. Chula Vista – Would the County be able to share the FAQ document with the group?
 - a) County of San Diego DPW – The document will be included with the minutes.
 - b) City of Coronado – [FAQs | Edible Food Recovery Program | Project Coronado](#)
 - v. Solana Center for Environmental Innovation – Email reminders are typically sent out 4 weeks before FRO reporting deadline. Solana Center staff also schedule visits right before the reporting deadline and assist upon request.
- d. Recordkeeping & Reporting (FRO's and Generators)
- e. Other roadblocks, concerns for discussion

4. 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 – No updates.
 - ii. San Diego Food Bank – No updates.
- c. City of San Diego Public Library – The San Diego Public Library and USD Copley Library are thrilled to present Natalie Baszile for this year's Black History Month Author spotlight. If anyone is interested in tabling the event, please reach out to Oscar Gittemeier at sdlb_adult_programming@saniego.gov
 - i. <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/event/copy-black-history-month-author-talk-471678>.

5. Grants & funding

National

- a. **USDA's FY 2026 Patrick Leahy [Farm to School Grant program](#)**
 - i. Supports projects that: Incorporate more unprocessed, locally sourced foods into meals served at school, summer sites, and/or by child care providers; Provide producers training on procurement requirements and food safety standards to protect child health; Integrate agricultural education into career and technical programs to support the longevity of America's agricultural legacy; Encourage increased consumption of fresh, whole fruits and vegetables; and more.
 - ii. Detailed information about eligibility and application requirements can be found in the [request for applications](#). Applications close on Dec. 5, 2025

State

- a. **California Department of Education's [2025 KIT Grant & Retention & Recruitment Grant](#)**
 - i. The 2025 Kitchen Infrastructure and Training (KIT) Grant competitively awards funding to eligible school food authorities (SFA) to support initiatives for improving the quality of meals served through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP), which may include procurement of California-grown, whole or minimally processed food, food service staff training and salaries, and kitchen infrastructure upgrades. The Retention and Recruitment (R&R) Grant

competitively awards funding to support the retention and recruitment of school food service workers.

- a. Applications are due by 4 p.m. on Friday, January 30, 2026.

Local

b. **Efficient Refrigeration Program (Farms Eligible!)**

- ii. 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**.

a. **ReFED Catalytic Grant Fund**, new cycle coming soon

- i. **ReFED** is planning the fourth open call under their Catalytic Grant Fund: *Minimizing Methane Through Food Waste Solutions*. This open call will focus on advanced food recycling (e.g., enhancing sorting, decontamination, processing, and access to create more effective and efficient systems) and reducing methane in the beef and dairy sectors. ReFED is expecting to begin accepting applications in December 2025. Visit [here](#) for the announcement, and [here](#) for more information on the Catalytic Grant Fund.

https://refed.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XkbPj_OpRx2TV7wHiTgLUg#/registration

b. **San Diego Unity Fund**, rolling deadline

- i. United for San Diego is an unprecedented partnership among three of San Diego's largest foundations: Prebys Foundation, Price Philanthropies and San Diego Foundation. Formed in response to deep federal funding cuts, the partners are aligning their grantmaking to protect access to food, housing and healthcare for families in need.
- ii. SDF created the San Diego Unity Fund to give everyone the opportunity to contribute directly to this vital community effort. Organizations can apply for a Unity Fund grant through this [Letter of Intent \(LOI\)](#).

6. Legislation

7. News & Events

a. CalRecycle info sessions:

- i. Email Distribution: <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/emailupdates/>
- ii. [SB1383 Chat w CalRecycle Past Recordings](#)
 - a) 1-3PM

b. [Edible Food Recovery Technical Council \(CRR\)](#), 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. [North County Food Policy Council Meeting](#) 3rd Wednesday of the month 9:00AM – 11:00AM. Please contact Craig Jones or visit their [website](#) to sign up for more info.
- d. 4th Wednesday of every month, 9:00 AM -10:00 AM (Virtual) - [Live Well San Diego South Region Food Insecurity Working Group](#). Contact Karen Clay at info@ilovetoglean.org for more information.
- e. Emergency Operations Plan Survey is now open through November 21st
 - i. Link: [Emergency Operations Plan | Engage San Diego County](#)
 - ii. **Survey Link:** [Emergency Operations Plan Engagement Survey | Engage San Diego County](#)
 - a) Each local jurisdiction in the Operational Area has an individual Emergency Operations Plan. The County's Emergency Operations Plan supports or supplements individual Emergency Operations Plans for each local jurisdiction. County OES will ensure the County's Emergency Operations Plan updates align with individual Emergency Operations Plans for each local jurisdiction.
 - b) Questions or comments may also be submitted via email to: Nicholas.Zubel@sdcounty.ca.gov
- f. 5/19/26 – 5/21/26: 2026 ReFED Food Waste Solutions Summit – Charlotte, NC
- g. Join us for a virtual community food system meeting - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2025 | 2:00-3:30 PM
 - i. Learn about the progress of San Diego County's Food Justice Community Action Plan and share your ideas and experiences to help improve food access and food security across the region. Your input will help guide future County action. All welcome, advanced registration is appreciated: bit.ly/OSEJfjcap
 - ii. Can't make the meeting? You can also participate online anytime.

8. Round Table

- a. Edible Food Recovery Working Group Lead Announcement
 - i. Brooke Yaptangco Flinn has taken on a new position within the County of San Diego's Solid Waste Planning and Recycling section and will be transitioning the lead of the Edible Food Recovery program to Joshua Keyton.
 - ii. Joshua Keyton will be chairing the Edible Food Recovery (EFR) Working Group meetings starting January 2026 and all EFR-related questions about this group should now be directed towards Joshua at Joshua.Keyton@sdcounty.ca.gov.
 - iii. The current meeting invite will be canceled and replaced with another invite sent by the County of San Diego's general recycling email at Recycle@sdcounty.ca.gov.

- b. Future Topics? Troubleshooting restaurants? Discussion on how to collaborate across jurisdictions and with FRO's – how to streamline processes (reporting, capacity planning), lessons learned.
 - i. City of Chula Vista - CRRA is set to be hosted in San Diego next year, Manuel Medrano is on the board, jurisdictions can reach out to him with ideas or questions at mmedrano@chulavistaca.gov.
 - ii. I Love to Glean – [San Diego Unity Fund | San Diego Foundation](#)
 - a) San Diego Foundation (SDF) today announced it has raised \$32.3 million for the San Diego Unity Fund, and awarded more than \$960,000, including this week's awards of \$710,000 in Unity Fund emergency housing grants to five local nonprofits working to keep seniors and families housed. The rapid-response funding comes as federal cuts and rising costs put more residents at risk of losing their homes.
 - iii. I Love to Glean – The Senior Gleaners and the Association of Gleaning Organizations are putting together symposium for April 30th to May 1st at Marina Village. Calls for proposals are already coming out, more details to come.
 - iv. County of San Diego DPW – Reminder that December's meeting will be canceled, Happy Holidays everyone!

9. Adjournment

Next meeting Tues, January 20th 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tier 1 and Tier 2 clarifications• List of Edible Food Recovery Organizations• Local Ordinances• California Retail Food Code (DEHQ)• Contacts (jurisdictions, DEHQ, corporations)	Crowdsourced