

Item #19: Receive Year-Two Update for the Sustainable, Equitable, and Local Food Sourcing Program and Board Policy B-75 and Receive an Update on the Countywide Food Contract (Districts: All)

Allen Hunsberger, Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting

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May 13, 2025



Background – Sustainable, Equitable, and Local Food Sourcing Program & Policy



- American Rescue Plan Act Framework including \$20M for food assistance *(June 2021)*
- Implementation of the Sustainable, Equitable, and Local Food Sourcing Program and directed the development of a Policy *(January 2022)*
- Received the Sustainable, Equitable, and Local Food Sourcing Framework and directed return for consideration and adoption of final policy *(June 2022)*
- Adopted the Sustainable, Equitable, and Local Food Sourcing Policy and directed return for updates on Year-Two implementation with progress and impacts *(December 2023)*



Background – Countywide Food Contract



March 12, 2024 (12) Board of Supervisors Action:

- Authorize a competitive procurement for the Countywide Food Contract incorporating Board Policy B-75.
- Require contracted provider track data and present evidence of successful implementation of Board Policy B-75.
- Report back on the data resulting from contracts before options years.
- Develop an action plan to find, uplift, and cultivate local businesses to serve as providers under the contract in partnership with local stakeholders.



Values-Based Food Sourcing



1. Local Sourcing
2. Equity Informed Sourcing
3. Elevated Labor Standards
4. Organic or Regenerative Certification
5. Low-Carbon Intensity
6. Nutritional Co-Benefit



County Food Service Operations

Fiscal Year 2023-24



Health and Human Services Agency

- Aging & Independence Services
- County Psychiatric Hospital
- Edgemoor Hospital
- A.B. & Jessie Polinsky Children's Center
- Ryan White HIV/AIDS Food Services Program
- San Pasqual Academy

Budget: **\$16,542,764**
Meals Served: **2,314,106**

Public Safety Group

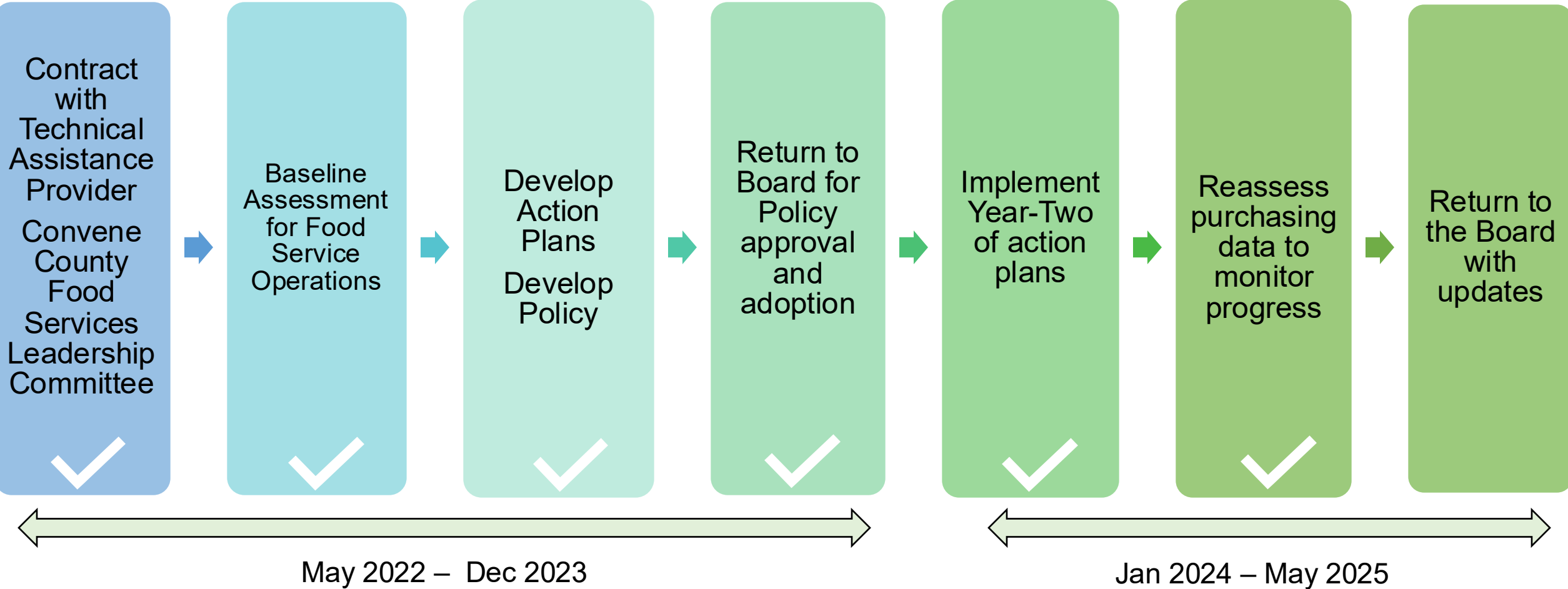
- Probation Department
- Sheriff's Office

Budget: **\$14,045,976**
Meals Served: **5,729,334**

County of San Diego Total

Budget: **\$30,588,740**
Meals Served: **8,043,440**

Program and Policy Timeline

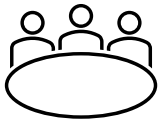


Board Policy B-75 Overview

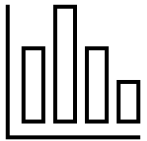
Focuses on Program requirements for County administered food service operations. These include:



Develop, maintain, and progress towards action plans



County of San Diego Food Service Leadership Committee Meetings



Collecting and sharing annually food and beverage purchasing data related to food service operations



Year-Two: Strategic Focus



- Each food service program and operation has their own Action Plan to guide progress in value category purchases
- Collective actions emerged from Action Planning process to support all operations
 - Working with vendors to obtain data on where items were grown, produced, and/or manufactured
 - Leveraging collaborative purchasing opportunities across food service operations
 - Increasing local purchasing
 - Menu options that qualify for the Nutritional Co-Benefit and Low Carbon Intensity value categories
 - Budget neutral approach



Year-Two: Progress and Impacts



County of San Diego Assessment for Food Purchases in FY 21-22 and FY 23-24

Percent of Total Food Spend Qualifying
as Local Sourcing



Data Subset: Countywide Food Contract

(Sysco Foods)

- Local Sourcing: Showed an increase compared to baseline with the top of the range increasing from 0.4% to 7.4%

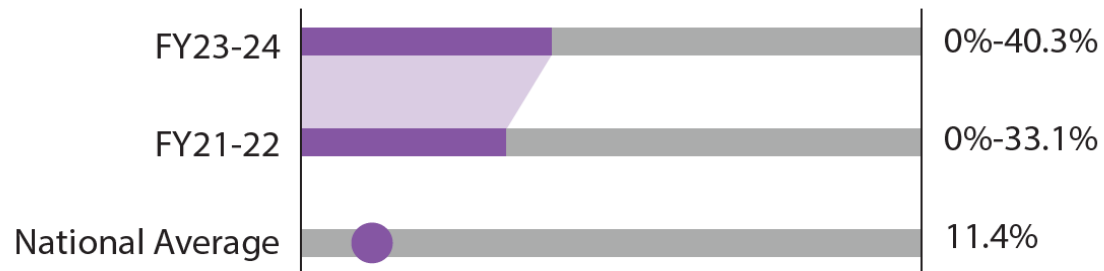


Year-Two: Progress and Impacts



County of San Diego Assessment for Food Purchases in FY 21-22 and FY 23-24

Percent of Total Food Spend Qualifying
as Elevated Labor Standards



Data Subset: Countywide Food Contract (Sysco Foods)

- Showed an increase compared to baseline with the top of the range increasing from 33.1% to 40.3%

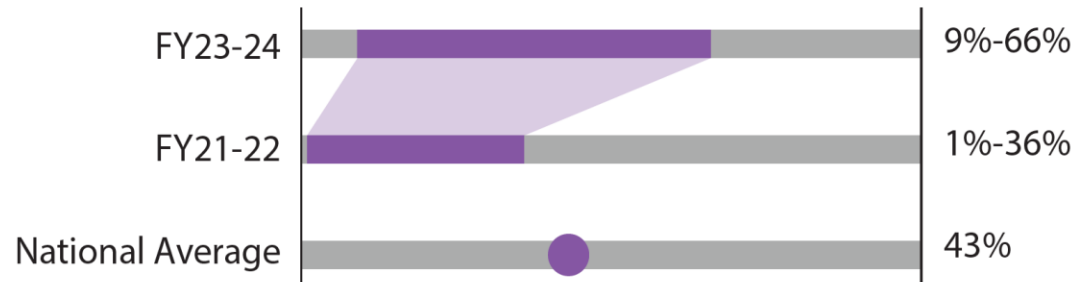


Year-Two: Progress and Impacts



County of San Diego Assessment for Food Purchases in FY 21-22 and FY 23-24

Percent of Total Food Spend with Complete Production Location



Data Subset: Countywide Food Contract (Sysco Foods)

- Showed an increase compared to baseline with the top of the range increasing from 4% to 66%



Year-Two: Progress and Impacts



County of San Diego Assessment for Food Purchases in FY21-22 FY 23-24

Percent of Total Food Spend Qualifying as Equity-Informed Sourcing



Data Subset: Countywide Food Contract (Sysco Foods)

- Top end of the range stayed the same at 1%

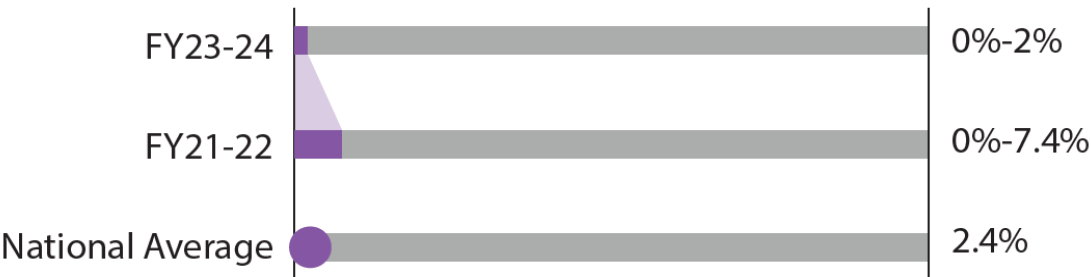


Year-Two: Progress and Impacts



County of San Diego Assessment for Food Purchases in FY21-22 FY 23-24

Percent of Total Food Spend Qualifying as Organic or Regenerative Certification



Data Subset: Countywide Food Contract (Sysco Foods)

- Showed a decrease compared to baseline with the top of the range decreased slightly from 0.4% to 0%

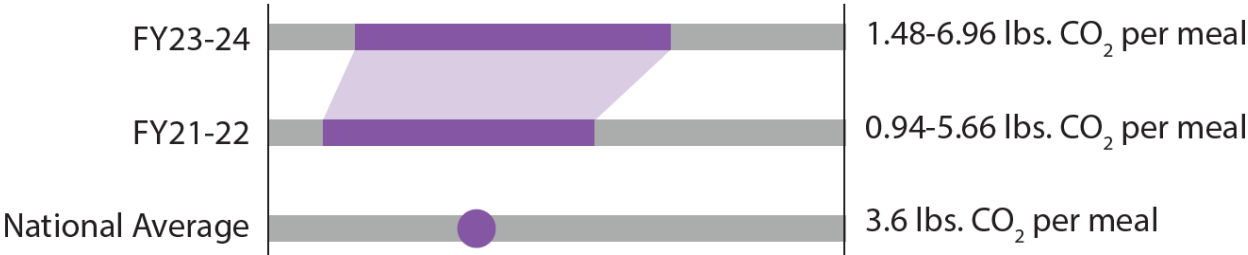


Year-Two: Progress and Impacts



County of San Diego Assessment for Food Purchases in FY 21-22 and FY 23-24

Range of Carbon Emissions Related to Producing Animal Products, Per Meal Basis



Note: Unlike for the other metrics, the goal for this metric is to see a decrease.

Data Subset: Countywide Food Contract (Sysco Foods)

- The top end of the range decreased from 5.66 pounds per CO₂ per meal to 4.77 pounds of CO₂ per meal representing progress

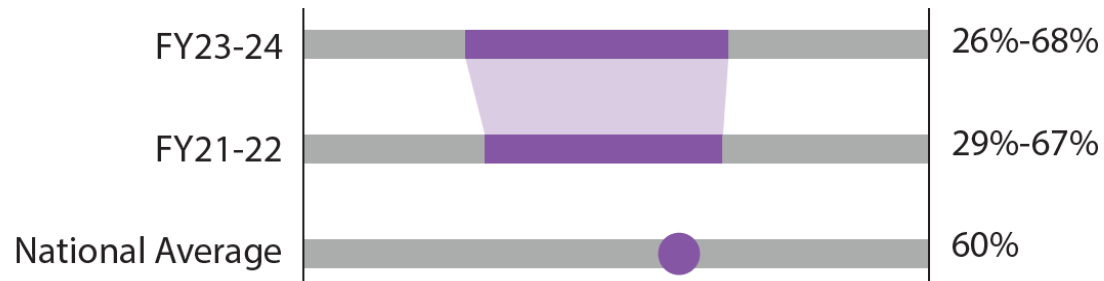


Year-Two: Progress and Impacts



County of San Diego Assessment for Food Purchases in FY 21-22 and FY 23-24

Percent of Total Qualifying Items out of Total Applicable Items, Nutritional Co-Benefit



Data Subset: Countywide Food Contract (Sysco Foods)

- Top of the range decreased slightly, compared to baseline, from 64% to 59%



Countywide Food Contract



Contract awarded in August 2024



County-wide Access



Contract year to date spend of approximately \$7.9 million



Data reporting mechanism established



Stakeholder Engagement Strategy



Harvesting the Local Flavor: the County's Sustainable, Equitable and Local Food Sourcing Policy

The County of San Diego follows a set of guidelines to buy food in a way that is good for the environment, is healthy, and comes from local businesses. We have a contract with Sysco to buy food that we need often and in big amounts. We are looking to buy more food items from local businesses in the San Diego area.



Interest Form

If you are a local farmer, local food supplier, or local food service operator and interested in doing business with the County and Sysco, complete this interest form.



Sysco Contract - 572082

This is also downloadable from our contract search website: <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/purchasing/documentum-contract-search.html>



B-75 Policy

The purpose of this policy is to support a sustainable, equitable, and local food system through County of San Diego food service programs and operations by directing public funds to food and beverage purchases that align with Board of Supervisor identified value categories.



Supplier Interest Form

Launched December 2024 to simplify the vendor entry process and reduce barriers to participation


Stakeholder Meetings

Regular engagement with stakeholder groups to gather input and share information about opportunities

Local Food System Partnership

Collaboration with San Diego-based food hub to increase availability of locally sourced products

Action Plan



Improve vendor data collection & reporting



Develop & launch Supplier Directory



Expand stakeholder engagement & technical assistance



Promote utilization of special order & Harvest of the Month programs



Enhance community engagement and visibility



Ensure compliance with Board Policy B-75 across Countywide Food Contract

Program Implementation Next Steps



Completed Actions



Program established: Baseline assessments complete, Action Plans have been developed, Policy developed and adopted



Action plans implemented and progress monitored through assessments

Ongoing Activities



Food Service
Leadership
Committee
Meetings



Outreach to local
food suppliers



Technical
Support



Request/collect
purchasing
data annually



Recommendations



1. Receive an update on year-two of implementation with progress and impacts for the Sustainable, Equitable, and Local Food Sourcing Program and Board Policy B-75.
2. Receive an update on the Countywide Food Contract.
3. Authorize the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Health and Human Services Agency, or designee, to apply for additional funding opportunity announcements, if available, to support the Sustainable, Equitable, and Local Food Sourcing Program.

Thank You



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SAN DIEGO



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