

From: [Courtney Crenshaw](#)
To: [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Katie Ettman](#)
Subject: Written comment in support of Food Purchasing Standards & Department Goals - (File #200244)
Date: Thursday, July 16, 2020 5:54:57 PM
Attachments: [HCWH support letter SF GFPP Jul2020.pdf](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good evening Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of Health Care Without Harm, I am writing to request your support for the Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals (File #200244). Attached you will find my written comment.

With gratitude,

Courtney Crenshaw, M.A.
Western U.S. Regional Coordinator
Healthy Food in Health Care
pronouns: she, her

Health Care Without Harm, US and Canada
(888) 275-0025 | www.healthyfoodinhealthcare.org
[Coronavirus and the Climate Crisis: A resource library](#)

From: [Nelson Gomez](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Commenting on the Good Food Purchase Program
Date: Thursday, July 16, 2020 8:30:21 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To the SF Rules Committee,

I'm disappointed San Francisco public hospitals have decided to reduce their purchases of animal products, as part of the Good Food Purchasing Program, by only 15 percent, in contrast to the Sheriff's Department which has opted for a 50 percent reduction.

I understand that it's difficult to create change, but the imperative of halting climate change is compelling us all to take meaningful action. The United Nations has been calling for action ever since its 2006 report Livestock's Long Shadow. The most prominent scientists and research institutes believe unless we significantly change our food demands, we have no chance of keeping the heating of the global climate under 2 degrees Celsius.

Please consider setting the public hospital's goals to match the Sheriff's Department's 50 percent by 2024.

All the best,
Nelson Gomez

From: [Sy, Reinhold \(DPH\)](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Good Food Purchasing Program Ordinance
Date: Friday, July 17, 2020 8:41:25 AM

Hi Victor Young,

I hope this email finds you and your family well. My name is Reinhold Sy and I work as a nurse in SF, one of the many front-liner for this Covid-19 crisis. I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee.

I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency. San Francisco needs to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy. We need to work together for a sustainable and healthy future for all!

Thank you and have a great weekend!

Sincerely,
Reinhold Sy, RN BSN

From: [Rohan Prasad](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Please divest from animal agriculture
Date: Friday, July 17, 2020 1:57:04 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Rohan Prasad, and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency.

My own college education at UC Berkeley was disrupted by the COVID-19 epidemic, so I hope that we can take all steps possible to reduce further catastrophes for future generations.

San Francisco needs to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.

Thank you so much,
Rohan

From: [Johanna Nikoletos](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Friday, July 17, 2020 2:22:29 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Johanna Nikoletos, and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee.

I appreciate that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go nearly far enough. We are in a climate emergency and animal agriculture is the second largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and a major driver of deforestation. Not only is animal agriculture a threat to the planet we live on - it's a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird and swine flu, and poses many deadly health risks to humans.

San Francisco needs to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.

Thank you for your service,
Johanna

--

Johanna Nikoletos

From: [Eva Hamer](#)
To: [Eva Hamer](#)
Subject: Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Friday, July 17, 2020 2:53:22 PM
Attachments: [2020.05.18 Pandemics and Food Purchasing Policy Letter \(SF\).docx](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

We are reaching out because animal rights and environmental organizations are organizing in recognition of the fact that, in order to ensure a habitable planet and prevent future pandemics, we urgently need to transition to a kinder, safer food system. San Francisco spends millions per year on purchases of animal products for the city government and public institutions. Instead of funding animal cruelty, climate catastrophe, and pandemic risk, we ask that the city government use its purchasing power to innovate and lead us into the future with a plant-based food purchasing policy. Please see the attached letter that is signed by Direct Action Everywhere, Animal Rebellion, and Extinction Rebellion SF Bay Area.

Making such a change is ambitious, but the level of ambition must match the severity of the climate crisis, pandemic risk, and other great challenges of our time.

--

Until Every Animal Is Free,

Eva Hamer

Legal Coordinator, Direct Action Everywhere

Pronouns: she/her/hers

(707) 832-8784

From: [Wendy Bramble](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Friday, July 17, 2020 3:02:02 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Wendy Bramble, and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but I urge you to call for a stronger, unified commitment from ALL city departments where they replace 50% of animal products with plant-based protein by Jan 1st, 2024.

Regards,
Wendy

From: [Nina Irani](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Letters of Support (for 7/20 Rules Committee Vote)
Date: Friday, July 17, 2020 3:29:50 PM
Attachments: [Rules Committee - Letters Supporting Food Purchasing Program.pdf](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi Victor,

I'm sending letters of support from our commission regarding Supervisor Fewer's proposed Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals ordinance, which is scheduled for Monday's Rules Committee vote. I've already sent these to Supervisors Ronen, Stefani, and Mar.

Thanks so much,

Nina Irani
Chair, Animal Control & Welfare Commission
310-944-0177
nina.irani@gmail.com

From: [Katie Ettman](#)
To: [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Farm Forward Supports the Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals (File #200244).
Date: Friday, July 17, 2020 4:01:46 PM
Attachments: [Farm Forward - letter to SF Rules Committee.pdf](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Rules Committee,

On behalf of Farm Forward, I am submitting written comment in support of the Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals (File #200244). Please see the attached.

Sincerely,
Katie

--

Katie Ettman
Food and Agriculture Policy Associate
SPUR • Ideas + Action for a Better City
415.644.4296
kettman@spur.org

[SPUR](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Join](#) | [Get Newsletters](#)

From: siranipour15@gmail.com
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Friday, July 17, 2020 5:28:54 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

My name is Sahar iranipour and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency. San Francisco needs to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.

Thanks,

Sahar

From: [Christina Brown](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Friday, July 17, 2020 7:34:40 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisor Young,

My name is Christina Brown, and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency. San Francisco needs to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy. This is a step that must be taken in order to build a sustainable future.

Respectfully,

Christina Brown

From: [doug fuller](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Saturday, July 18, 2020 10:53:48 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello, I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and going before the Rules Committee on July 13th. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but I urge you to call for a stronger, unified commitment from ALL city departments where they replace 50% of animal products with plant-based protein by Jan 1st, 2024.

From: [Anastasia Rogers](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Saturday, July 18, 2020 11:55:09 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Anastasia Rogers, and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency. San Francisco needs to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.

Anastasia Rogers
Biology, B.S.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Noah Gresham-Lancaster](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Saturday, July 18, 2020 12:49:03 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

"My name is Noah Gresham-Lancaster, and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency. San Francisco needs to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy."

From: [Christopher St. John](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Saturday, July 18, 2020 3:30:49 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear San Francisco Board of Supervisors Rules Committee,

My name is Christopher St. John and I'm writing to submit a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee.

Using food policy to help address the climate crisis is an excellent idea, so it would be good to take it even further. Animal agriculture is a major creator of zoonotic diseases. We are likely breeding the next pandemic right now in a factory farm: multi-antibiotic resistant bacteria. These new killers could be far worse than what we've already seen from COVID-19.

San Francisco could really have an impact by divesting and defunding animal agriculture right now. It's easy to do.

[Just transition to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.](#)

It would be good for San Francisco: I'm an award-winning advertising creative director and writer, and I've run a small advertising agency in the San Francisco Bay Area for more than ten years.

--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->My work in the marketing industry suggests to me that taking **this kind of bold stance is very much on-brand for San Francisco**, and in sync with other forward-looking actions taken by San Francisco over its history.

--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->San Francisco is synonymous with "thought leader." That's one of things that makes our amazing city such a magnet for the best and

brightest from all over the world. Let's take the lead here.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. [Please support a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.](#)

Regards,

Christopher St. John

Creative Director & Writer

St. John Creative

conference dial-in: (515) 604-9929

participant access code: 488284#



From: [Gayle Paul](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Saturday, July 18, 2020 4:03:05 PM

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Dear San Francisco Board of Supervisors Rules Committee,

My name is Gayle Paul, MFT, and I'm writing to submit a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee.

Using food policy to help address the climate crisis is a great idea, so it would be good to take it even further. Animal agriculture is a major creator of zoonotic diseases. We are likely breeding the next pandemic right now in a factory farm: multi-antibiotic resistant bacteria. We need to address this.

San Francisco could really have an impact by divesting and defunding animal agriculture right now. **Please transition to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.**

Regards,

Gayle Paul, MFT

San Francisco

From: [Suzannah Smith](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 9:06:03 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Suzannah Smith and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency. San Francisco needs to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.

Additionally animal agriculture tortures animals, exploits workers, perpetuates environmental racism, and is one of the largest factors contributing to the climate crisis. We need to stop funding this abuse.

Sincerely,

Suzannah Smith

--

Class of 2021

From: [Debbi Buegeleisen](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 3:00:37 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and going before the Rules Committee on July 13th. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but I urge you to call for a stronger, unified commitment from ALL city departments where they replace 50% of animal products with plant-based protein by Jan 1st, 2024.

Thank you,

Debbi Buegeleisen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Josh Marxen](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Good Food Purchasing Program Must Go Further
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 3:06:18 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Joshua Marxen, and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency. San Francisco needs to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy. This is a chance for you to push history and justice forward.

--

- Josh Marxen

From: [Crystal](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 3:08:55 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello, I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and going before the Rules Committee on July 13th. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but I urge you to call for a stronger, unified commitment from ALL city departments where they replace 50% of animal products with plant-based protein by Jan 1st, 2024.

Thank you!
Dr. Crystal Heath

Sent from my iPhone

From: [APUROOPA gogineni](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 3:16:55 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

Hope you are doing good. My name is Apuroopa Gogineni and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency. San Francisco needs to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.

Best Regards,
Roopa

From: [Michael](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public comment regarding the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 3:25:59 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello, I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and going before the Rules Committee on July 20th.

Last year the Board of Supervisors declared a climate emergency. As I hope you already know, the U.N. has reported that animal agriculture contributes a minimum of 14.5% of greenhouse gas each year — more than the entire transportation sector.

(Animal ag also is the source of most pandemics and potential pandemics, and farms in this country, which in total cram 9 billion animals into dirty sheds each year to raise them before sending them to slaughter, are breeding grounds for superbugs.)

It's great that the Good Food Purchasing Program includes some climate goals but I urge you to call for a stronger, unified commitment from ALL city departments where they replace 50% of animal products with plant-based protein by [Jan 1st, 2024](#).

San Francisco can be a real leader when it comes to reducing greenhouse gas by eliminating the city's financial support of animal agriculture and the city can set an example for its residents.

Thank you for hearing me out.

Sincerely,

Michael Goldberg

From: [Michael](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 3:28:48 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Just to clarify my previous email, I would like the hospitals to match the Sheriff's Dept in eliminating 50% of the animal foods they currently purchase each year.

Thank you,

Michael Goldberg

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dylan Harmon](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment About the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 3:48:23 PM

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Hello,

My name is Dylan Harmon and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics, like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency. San Francisco needs to divert and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.

Thank you,
Dylan Harmon

From: [Brianna Baer Art](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 3:58:21 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Brianna Martelozzo, and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency. San Francisco needs to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.

Thank you for investing in a better future for all.

From: [paula2631](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 4:04:32 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Paula Santurio and I am submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but I urge you to call for a stronger unified commitment from ALL city departments where they replace 50% of animal products with plant-based protein by January 1st, 2024.

Sent from my MetroPCS 4G LTE Android Device

From: [santuriosart](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 4:23:38 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Alex Santurio and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but I urge you to call for a stronger unified commitment from ALL city departments where they replace 50% of animal products with plant-based protein by Jan.1st, 2024.

Thank you for your attention.

Alex Santurio

Sent from my MetroPCS 4G LTE Android Device

From: [nicholas.pearson](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 4:29:38 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Nolan, and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but I urge you to call for a stronger, unified commitment from ALL city departments where they replace 50% of animal products with plant-based protein by Jan 1st, 2024."

--

Nicholas Nolan Pearson

Neuromuscular Therapist
Animal Rights Advocate
Motorcycle Enthusiast

"To each there own, together Empowered"

From: [Maggie Zurowska](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 7:10:40 PM

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Hello,

My name is Maggie Zurowska.

I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and going before the Rules Committee on July 13th. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but I urge you to call for a stronger, unified commitment from ALL city departments where they replace 50% of animal products with plant-based protein by Jan 1st, 2024.

For animals, for people, for health.

As a vegan chef and human being!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lisa McKay](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment for Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 10:02:09 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Lisa McKay, and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules Committee.

I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency.

I hope that San Francisco decides to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.

Thank you for your consideration,
Lisa McKay

From: [Medha Chandra](#)
To: [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Ltr of support: GFPP File ##200244
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2020 11:19:20 PM
Attachments: [Screen Shot 2018-07-26 at 10.26.29 AM.png](#)
[PANNA SF GFPP ltr of support July 2020.pdf](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear members of the Rules Committee,

Please find attached a letter of support from PAN for the Good Food Purchasing Ordinance in San Francisco.

Thank you
Medha Chandra

--

Medha Chandra, PhD
Organizer and Policy Advocate
Pesticide Action Network North America

pronouns: she/ her

2029 University Ave. | Suite 200 | Berkeley, CA 94704

Phone :: 415 728 0177 (Thursdays and Fridays)

Cell: 650 861 2569 (Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays)

Skype: medhaatpanna

Twitter handle: [@ChandraMedha](#)



From: [Victoria Gu](#)
Subject: Compassionate Bay letter about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Monday, July 20, 2020 12:23:26 AM
Attachments: [CB-GFPP-letter.pdf](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors and Staff Members,

Please see the attached letter from Compassionate Bay about the proposed Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that is going before the Rules Committee on Monday.

Thank you,
Victoria

From: [Liam Kirsh](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Monday, July 20, 2020 4:26:06 AM

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Dear Rules Committee,

My name is Liam Kirsh and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and going before the Rules Committee. Animal products are a leading source of greenhouse gas emissions, and consuming less meat has been linked to lower risk of chronic health problems. Furthermore, the harsh and unsanitary conditions in factory farms sharply increase the risk of future zoonotic disease outbreaks like Covid-19. I like the ordinance has climate goals, but I urge you to call for a stronger, unified commitment from ALL city departments where they replace 50% of animal products with plant-based protein by Jan 1st, 2024.

Sincerely,
Liam Kirsh

From: [Rasa Petrauskaite](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Comment on Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Monday, July 20, 2020 7:24:30 AM
Attachments: [Physicians Committee Support -- Good Food Purchasing Ord - SF.pdf](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear members of the Rules Committee,

I have attached here a letter from the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine in support of the Good Food Purchasing Program, in case you have not seen it yet.

In addition, many articles have been in the news recently about how factory farming, which packs tens or hundreds of thousands of animals with little to no genetic variation in filthy conditions, creates breeding grounds for diseases like bird flu and swine flu, which have pandemic potential.

For instance, H5N1, a strain of bird flu, has a 60% mortality rate for humans. So far it hasn't easily transmitted from human to human, but it has jumped to pig populations, so experts worry it could be evolving the ability to spread more easily between mammals. Earlier this month, the CDC reported new strains of H1N1 in pigs that have "the essential hallmarks of being highly adapted to infect humans". The deadly 1918 Spanish Flu was a strain of H1N1 that had adapted to humans.

We need to address the public's consumption of animal products in order to meaningfully address pandemic risk. San Francisco can start most directly with the proposed Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance. In this ordinance, the Sheriff's Department committed to a 50% replacement of animal products with plant-based foods, but the Department of Public Health only committed to 15%. 15% is not enough to meaningfully address pandemic risk and the climate crisis. Please set targets for 50% across all departments.

Dear (<hospital administrator first name, or Mr./Ms. last name>),

Many articles have been in the news recently about how factory farming, which packs tens or hundreds of thousands of animals with little to no genetic variation in filthy conditions, creates breeding grounds for diseases like bird flu and swine flu, which have pandemic potential.

For instance, H5N1, a strain of bird flu, has a 60% mortality rate for humans. So far it hasn't easily transmitted from human to human, but it has jumped to pig populations, so experts worry it could be evolving the ability to spread more easily between mammals. Earlier this

month, the CDC reported new strains of H1N1 in pigs that have “the essential hallmarks of being highly adapted to infect humans”. The deadly 1918 Spanish Flu was a strain of H1N1 that had adapted to humans.

We need to address the public’s consumption of animal products in order to meaningfully address pandemic risk. San Francisco can start most directly with the proposed Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance. In this ordinance, the Sheriff’s Department committed to a 50% replacement of animal products with plant-based foods, but the Department of Public Health only committed to 15%. 15% is not enough to meaningfully address pandemic risk and the climate crisis. Please set at least a 50% target.

Sincerely,
Rasa Petrauskaite

From: [Virginia Fior](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program
Date: Monday, July 20, 2020 8:23:17 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Victor,

My name is Virginia, and I'm submitting a public comment about the Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance that's being proposed by Supervisor Fewer and about to go before the Rules committee. I like that this food policy has climate goals, but it doesn't go far enough. Animal agriculture is a breeding ground for future pandemics like bird flu and swine flu, and it is a major driver of deforestation and our climate emergency. San Francisco needs to divest and defund animal agriculture by transitioning to a 100% plant-based purchasing policy.

--

Virginia Fior
1921 Francisco St #4C
Berkeley CA, 94709
+1 (310) 489-2997



Dear Members of the San Francisco Rules Committee,

First, we want to thank Supervisor Fewer and her staff for their work to align the City's food policy with the City's values by adopting detailed goals for food purchasing improvements. We also thank the Sheriff's department and the Department of Public Health for coming on board and making change happen.

We cannot overstate the urgency of this moment. There is a pandemic wreaking havoc on people's lives, and this month the CDC reported a new strain of swine flu with pandemic potential. And let's not forget the climate crisis and rampant deforestation that threatens to turn the Amazon rainforest into a savanna.

All that is to say, we support the proposed Good Food Purchasing Program ordinance and urge the Department of Public Health to increase their commitment to match the Sheriff's department's 50% replacement of animal products by 2024.

Here is one concrete action they can take in that direction:

Two-thirds to three-quarters of the SF public hospitals' patients come from communities of color (Asian, Latino, or African-American) with high rates of lactose intolerance. A volunteer reported that dairy milk is almost always given on a meal tray whether or not patients ask for it, so a lot of milk is thrown away unopened (if you're a person of color who cannot digest dairy, that means you end up with a nutritionally deficient meal). The hospitals could instead change the default beverage to water or something plant-based and accessible to people of color. This change alone could make bigger commitments possible, since dairy makes up an estimated 35%-45% of the public hospitals' spending on animal products.

Every institution has barriers to change. What we need is for department heads, nonprofits, and legislators to all come together, really look at the bottlenecks, and coordinate on a plan to address them and make systemic change possible. Compassionate Bay talked with the relevant hospital food administrators and brought up the idea of using legislation to address key bottlenecks to members of the Board back in May, but it's still unclear if those are being acted upon.

We're still hopeful, though that with coordinated effort and support from the Board of Supervisors, we can make the goal of 50% replacement of animal products happen in both departments. We have the power right now to say that we're going to rise to meet this challenge, and when we succeed, we're going to serve as a role model for other cities and institutions.

Sincerely,
Compassionate Bay

July 19, 2020

Rules Committee
Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Dear Members of the Rules Committee:

On behalf of Pesticide Action Network I am writing to request your support for the Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals ordinance (File #200244). As a follow-up to board adopted Resolution 191-18¹ this ordinance supports the City and County of San Francisco's goal to align food purchasing with the County's values by adopting detailed and ambitious goals for food purchasing improvement. The City and County spends significant public dollars on food through agencies such as the Department of Public Health (hospitals) and the Sheriff's Department (jails). San Francisco has a responsibility to set a high standard for the community and to ensure that public funds maximize public benefits. This ordinance will help the city and county reach this higher bar.

The Good Food Purchasing Program (GFPP) is a commitment by major public institutions to use their purchasing power to source healthy, high-quality food that supports a strong local economy, fair treatment for food system workers, humane treatment of animals, and environmental sustainability. GFPP has found widespread support among municipal governments and school districts across the country, including San Francisco Unified, Oakland Unified, Los Angeles Unified, and Chicago Public Schools, as well as the cities of Chicago and Boston.

A broad and diverse coalition is behind this effort. PAN strongly supports the adoption of the GFPP in key San Francisco departments. The five core values of the program: a valued workforce, animal welfare, nutrition, environmental sustainability, and local economies are crucial in ensuring a truly safe, sustainable and fair food system. Each of these core values addresses critical issues of community and consumer health, environmental degradation or inequity that is inherent in the current industrial model of

¹ City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Resolution 191-18, June 27, 2018.
<https://sfgov.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3482887&GUID=B2F5E86C-8791-4771-90D4-C2CDD05D91FA&Options=ID%7CText%7C&Search=good+food+purchasing>

agriculture and food production. PAN works closely with farmworkers, farmers, and agricultural communities and San Francisco's adopting of the GFPP will render benefits for these groups. Protecting children's health from agricultural pesticides is a core concern for PAN and we believe that this policy will help address this concern. Adopting the policy in San Francisco institutions will not only benefit the people consuming this food in these settings but have a wider ripple effect on the economy, health and equity in the food system at the regional scale.

By articulating ambitious standards and goals the City and County has an opportunity to build on their nationwide leadership and set a strong example for Good Food Purchasing Program participants across the country.

For these reasons, Pesticide Action Network (PAN) respectfully requests your support for the Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals ordinance so that San Francisco can continue improving its food procurement using this comprehensive framework.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "MedhaChandra". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Medha Chandra, PhD
Policy Advocate and Organizer
PAN



June 30, 2020

Rules Committee
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Dear Members of the Rules Committee,

On behalf of Farm Forward, I write to request your support for the Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals ordinance. This ordinance (which is a follow up to the board adopted Resolution 191-18) supports the City and County of San Francisco's goal to align food purchasing with the County's values by adopting detailed and ambitious goals for food purchasing. The City and County spends millions of dollars on food purchases annually through the Department of Public Health and the Sheriff's Department (the "Departments") and we have a responsibility to use those funds to maximize public benefit. This ordinance will help the Departments model healthy and sustainable food purchasing.

The nationally-recognized Good Food Purchasing Program ("GFPP") is a commitment by public institutions to use their food procurement to encourage the production and consumption of food that is healthy, affordable, fair, more humane and sustainable. I serve as a member of a coalition of local and national organizations that advocate for a more just and equitable food system. In my role as Executive Director of Farm Forward, I helped to write some of the GFPP's national program standards and support more than a dozen cities and school districts as they work to achieve the standards outlined in the program.

Farm Forward supports all five of GFPP's interconnected value areas, particularly the effort to promote sustainable animal agriculture in ways that reduce farmed animal suffering. Today the majority of animals raised for food are raised on factory farms that have significant environmental, social, and animal welfare impacts. Working with the GFPP will put the City at the forefront of a growing movement that is rebuilding animal agriculture in ways that are good for human health and promote higher welfare conditions for farmed animals.

By articulating ambitious standards and goals the City and County has an opportunity to build on their nationwide leadership and set a strong example for Good Food Purchasing Program participants across the country.

For these reasons, Farm Forward respectfully requests your support for the Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals ordinance so that San Francisco can continue improving its food procurement using this comprehensive framework.

Sincerely,

Andrew deCoriolis
Executive Director



Commission of Animal Control & Welfare

Commissioners

Nina Irani

Chairperson

Russell Tenofsky

Vice-Chair

Michael Angelo Torres

Secretary

Brian Van Horn, DVM

Commissioner

Annamarie Fortier

Commissioner

Bunny Rosenberg

Commissioner

Jane Tobin

Commissioner

Department Representatives

Deputy Director John P. Skeel

Animal Care & Control

Officer Joe Majeski

San Francisco Police Department

Lisa Wayne

Recreation and Parks Department

July 17, 2020

Supervisor Catherine Stefani
Board of Supervisors
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: (415) 554-7752
Email: Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org

Dear Supervisor Stefani,

We are reaching out in support of Supervisor Fewer's proposed Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals ordinance, which is scheduled for a Rules Committee vote on Monday, July 20.

We applaud the consideration of animal welfare, and also environmental sustainability and nutrition, as values upon which our city's food system will be based. The resulting changes will be critical, as reducing animal protein consumption and requiring a portion of purchases to be sourced from animal welfare certified vendors will mean fewer animals suffering on factory farms.

The positive impact on climate change will also be significant, as animal agriculture is a leading cause of greenhouse gas emissions and deforestation. By joining other major cities that have adopted Good Food Purchasing standards, San Francisco will be working towards fulfilling our promise to achieve net zero carbon emissions.

However, the case for reaching for higher standards is clear. Countless animals will be impacted by an additional reduction in animal protein in the approximately two million meals served each year by the Department of Public Health ("DPH"). Further, the health risk posed by zoonotic diseases that spread to humans due to animal consumption cannot be overstated. While many of these, like COVID-19, apparently spread to humans due to wildlife consumption, other diseases such as the swine flu (H1N1) and avian flu (H5N1), passed to humans through domestic animals. The risk is especially high for intensively reared animals who lack the genetic diversity that provides disease resilience.

Finally, from an environmental sustainability perspective, we agree, as the United Nations has warned, that "rapid, far-reaching, and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society" are required to maintain climate change at a level at which human life may adapt with less suffering. This means cutting emissions significantly *within this decade*, before achieving net zero in 2050.

For these reasons, ***we urge the Department of Public Health to increase its goal to align with that of the Sheriff's Department by committing to a 50% decrease in animal protein purchases.*** The current goal of a 15% reduction is a meaningful step in the right direction, but more is necessary and achievable.

We understand the challenges presented in contracting with food vendors. We urge our Supervisors to take measures to eliminate unnecessary contracting requirements that are barriers to achieving this critical goal, and encourage DPH to take advantage of the support offered by local non-profits in contracting with plant-based food vendors. Finally, we offer our support in taking any steps within our means to help accomplish this goal.

Respectfully,
San Francisco Animal Control and Welfare Commissioners



Commission of Animal Control & Welfare

Commissioners

Nina Irani

Chairperson

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Vice-Chair

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Brian Van Horn, DVM

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Annamarie Fortier

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Bunny Rosenberg

Commissioner

Jane Tobin

Commissioner

Department Representatives

Deputy Director John P. Skeel

Animal Care & Control

Officer Joe Majeski

San Francisco Police Department

Lisa Wayne

Recreation and Parks Department

July 17, 2020

Supervisor Hillary Ronen
Board of Supervisors
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: (415) 554-5144
Email: ronenstaff@sfgov.org

Dear Supervisor Ronen,

We are reaching out in support of Supervisor Fewer's proposed Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals ordinance, which is scheduled for a Rules Committee vote on Monday, July 20.

We applaud the consideration of animal welfare, and also environmental sustainability and nutrition, as values upon which our city's food system will be based. The resulting changes will be critical, as reducing animal protein consumption and requiring a portion of purchases to be sourced from animal welfare certified vendors will mean fewer animals suffering on factory farms.

The positive impact on climate change will also be significant, as animal agriculture is a leading cause of greenhouse gas emissions and deforestation. By joining other major cities that have adopted Good Food Purchasing standards, San Francisco will be working towards fulfilling our promise to achieve net zero carbon emissions.

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Respectfully,
San Francisco Animal Control and Welfare Commissioners



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Department Representatives

Deputy Director John P. Skeel

Animal Care & Control

Officer Joe Majeski

San Francisco Police Department

Lisa Wayne

Recreation and Parks Department

July 17, 2020

Supervisor Gordon Mar
Board of Supervisors
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: (415) 554-7460
Email: marstaff@sfgov.org

Dear Supervisor Mar,

We are reaching out in support of Supervisor Fewer's proposed Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals ordinance, which is scheduled for a Rules Committee vote on Monday, July 20.

We applaud the consideration of animal welfare, and also environmental sustainability and nutrition, as values upon which our city's food system will be based. The resulting changes will be critical, as reducing animal protein consumption and requiring a portion of purchases to be sourced from animal welfare certified vendors will mean fewer animals suffering on factory farms.

The positive impact on climate change will also be significant, as animal agriculture is a leading cause of greenhouse gas emissions and deforestation. By joining other major cities that have adopted Good Food Purchasing standards, San Francisco will be working towards fulfilling our promise to achieve net zero carbon emissions.

However, the case for reaching for higher standards is clear. Countless animals will be impacted by an additional reduction in animal protein in the approximately two million meals served each year by the Department of Public Health ("DPH"). Further, the health risk posed by zoonotic diseases that spread to humans due to animal consumption cannot be overstated. While many of these, like COVID-19, apparently spread to humans due to wildlife consumption, other diseases such as the swine flu (H1N1) and avian flu (H5N1), passed to humans through domestic animals. The risk is especially high for intensively reared animals who lack the genetic diversity that provides disease resilience.

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For these reasons, ***we urge the Department of Public Health to increase its goal to align with that of the Sheriff's Department by committing to a 50% decrease in animal protein purchases.*** The current goal of a 15% reduction is a meaningful step in the right direction, but more is necessary and achievable.

We understand the challenges presented in contracting with food vendors. We urge our Supervisors to take measures to eliminate unnecessary contracting requirements that are barriers to achieving this critical goal, and encourage DPH to take advantage of the support offered by local non-profits in contracting with plant-based food vendors. Finally, we offer our support in taking any steps within our means to help accomplish this goal.

Respectfully,
San Francisco Animal Control and Welfare Commissioners

San Francisco must lead the transition to a safer, kinder food system, starting with a plant-based food purchasing policy

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused epic and heart-breaking suffering and death in our country. It has upended all our lives; but despite the difficult situation, we have hope. We have seen our Bay Area community come together over the past few months. We have witnessed a willingness and capability to make drastic changes for not only our personal health and that of our families, but also the greater good.

When the dust settles, we must begin to take steps to prevent future pandemics.

As COVID-19 has clearly shown, terrible human tragedy can come from the exploitation of animals. And COVID-19 is only one example. Three out of every four new or emerging infectious diseases in humans come from animals.¹ Deforestation (often caused by animal agriculture)² has catastrophically stressed wild animal populations, which are reservoirs of novel diseases.³ More and more, wild animals are coming into contact with humans and domesticated animals. Direct disease transmission from wildlife to humans is uncommon- domesticated animals help bridge the gap.⁴

Human contact with domesticated animals has resulted in many familiar diseases: Influenza viruses from pigs and birds,⁵ Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) from bats via domesticated camels,⁶ and Salmonella from chickens.⁷ Factory farms are providing the ideal conditions for such diseases to mutate and spread rapidly.

We don't know when the next pandemic will hit, but we can be certain that our current system of mass animal exploitation is creating endless opportunities for diseases to jump from animals to humans. Flu viruses are particularly worrisome because they have the potential to infect billions of people in a short time period. H5N1, a strain of bird flu, has a 60% mortality rate for humans. So far it hasn't easily transmitted from human to human, but experts worry it could be evolving the ability to spread more easily between mammals.⁸

It's clear that to prevent future pandemics, governments and institutions need to lead the transition to a kinder, safer food system. One way to start the change today is to change food policy: use city funds to purchase plant-based protein instead of animal products. San Francisco must lead by example by divesting and defunding animal exploitation and ecosystem destruction.

Signed: Direct Action Everywhere, Animal Rebellion SF Bay Area, and Extinction Rebellion SF Bay Area Resources

¹ U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

² Livestock's Long Shadow: Environmental Issues and Options (2006). Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations.

³ Cunningham AA, Daszak P, Wood JLN. 2017 One Health, emerging infectious diseases and wildlife: two decades of progress? *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B* 372: 20160167.

⁴ UNEP Frontiers 2016 Report: Emerging Issues of Environmental Concern.

⁵ Smith, G., Vijaykrishna, D., Bahl, J. *et al.* Origins and evolutionary genomics of the 2009 swine-origin H1N1 influenza A epidemic. *Nature* 459, 1122–1125 (2009). <https://doi.org/10.1038/nature08182>

⁶ Sharif-Yakan, Ahmad, and Souha S. Kanj. "Emergence of MERS-CoV in the Middle East: origins, transmission, treatment, and perspectives." *PLoS pathogens* 10.12 (2014).

⁷ Callaway, T. R., *et al.* "Gastrointestinal microbial ecology and the safety of our food supply as related to Salmonella." *Journal of Animal Science* 86.suppl_14 (2008): E163-E172.

⁸ Nidom, Chairul A., *et al.* "Influenza A (H5N1) viruses from pigs, Indonesia." *Emerging infectious diseases* 16.10 (2010): 1515.

- [UNEP Frontiers 2016 Report: Emerging Issues of Environmental Concern](#)
 - Encroachment on natural ecosystems through resource exploitation, agricultural activity, and human settlements provides opportunities for pathogens to spillover from wild animals to people, especially when the natural disease resistance that may result from rich biological diversity is lost. Examples of zoonoses emerging when land is cleared for human activity can be found in many regions and on most continents... **Zoonotic transmission from wildlife hosts directly to human hosts is uncommon: domestic animals can bridge the gap.**
 - Increasing demand for milk and meat, driven mainly by fast-growing populations of urban consumers in developing countries, is projected to double by 2050. The Livestock Revolution paradigm is leading to rapid increases in livestock populations in developing countries, which increases the likelihood of disease transmission. Demand for livestock products leads to more intensive production, that is greater populations of high yielding and genetically similar stock kept close together. Thus the animals are not only exposed to more contact opportunities but they also lack the genetic diversity that helps resist the spread of disease, a vulnerability known as the monoculture effect. Intensification of livestock production systems also results in increased fertiliser use (for feed and fodder) and increased production of livestock waste, which can create nutrient rich environments that foster certain pathogens. Changes in human host behaviours are also drivers of emerging zoonotic disease, including travel, conflict, migration, wildlife trade, globalization, urbanization, and changing dietary preferences.
- [Bloomberg News: Preventing Disease May Start With Supply Chains](#)
 - Pandemics haven't always been top of mind for investors focused on environmental, social and governance issues. But a handful have been warning for years that some corporate practices—particularly those in global supply chains—lay the groundwork for them.
 - The novel coronavirus is just the latest infectious disease to originate from human interactions with animals. They are zoonotic—triggered by germs spread between animals and humans. Three out of every four new or emerging infectious diseases in humans come from animals, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
 - Investors who focus on the interplay between environmental and public health issues—ensuring access to medicines, protecting antibiotic effectiveness, fighting deforestation—say their work had only just begun to gain traction. The current pandemic, it seems, may accelerate interest.
 - Finny Kuruvilla, chief investment officer at Eventide Asset Management, says reducing meat consumption, for example, would go a long way toward cutting the likelihood of such viruses cropping up. A graduate of Harvard Medical School, Kuruvilla explained during an investor call this month the long history of human-animal interaction leading to disease and death. Influenza originated with pigs and chickens. Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) from camels. Salmonella from chickens. Mad cow disease from cows. And Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which is similar to the new coronavirus, is thought to stem from bats and possibly civet cats.
 - Usually seen through the lens of global warming, deforestation also carries with it a nasty biological component for humans. “There are all these other unintended consequences of deforestation, like the encroachment on endangered species, and the hunting and killing of wild animals that can release viruses previously contained in their ecosystem,” says Leslie Samuelrich, president of Green Century Capital Management in Boston.
 - Samuelrich says **investors can reduce environmental and pandemic risks (both in their portfolios and out in the world) by dumping companies with factory farm products or engaged in deforestation. They can also push meat companies to cut antibiotic use (reducing the risk of antibiotic-resistant superbugs) or invest in makers of meat alternatives, she says.** “The connections have always been there,” Samuelrich says. “Things that are problematic because they cause environmental damage are also incredibly relevant to investors concerned about public health.”
 - Jeremy Collier, chief investment officer of Collier Capital, agrees. Also the founder of London-based investor network Farm Animal Investment Risk & Return, Collier sees more bad news for big meat companies that are already under fire for environmentally destructive business models.

- “After COVID-19, many investors will shift capital away from those businesses most exposed to the risk of the next zoonotic-based pandemic,” Collier says. “That is, traditional animal protein producers who are failing to act in areas such as climate or alternative proteins.”
- [Op-Ed: COVID-19 shows that what we're doing to animals is killing us, too](#)
 - The emergence in 1998 of the deadly Nipah virus in Malaysia has been [linked](#) to the increase in size and density of pig farms in bat-rich areas. The virus caused fatal encephalitis among pig farmers, nearly took down the country’s pork industry, and led to the culling of about 1 million pigs, many of which were [buried alive](#).
 - And then we have the bio-catastrophes that are modern factory farms. We pack most of the world’s livestock animals, for all or part of their lives, into cramped living conditions that are hotbeds for viral and bacterial pathogens, and then we lace their feed with the world’s most medically important antibiotics, creating perfect conditions for [antibiotic-resistant pathogens](#) to develop. The public pays the price in the form of [drug-resistant UTI](#) and [MRSA infections](#), feces in the [air](#) and [water](#), and [increased risk](#) of deadly viral epidemics like the 2009 H1N1 outbreak that sickened an [estimated 59 million people](#).
 - To prevent future outbreaks like COVID-19 or worse, we have to treat planetary, animal and human health [as inseparable](#). This will require radical changes to business as usual. To date, we’ve operated under the fallacies that medicine and ecology can be understood independently and that the conditions that impact the animal kingdom are separate from those that impact humans.
 - COVID-19 exposes these fallacies. Scientists [estimate](#) that animals carry more than 600,000 unknown viruses with the potential to jump to humans. How often these diseases have the opportunity to make the jump, and how prepared we are for them, is up to us.
- [Scientific American: Deforestation is leading to more infectious diseases in humans](#)
 - As widespread burning continues today in tropical forests in the Amazon, and some parts of Africa and Southeast Asia, experts have expressed concern about the health of people living at the frontiers of deforestation. They’re also afraid that the next serious pandemic could emerge from our world’s forests.
 - “It’s pretty well established that deforestation can be a strong driver of infectious disease transmission,” says Andy MacDonald, a disease ecologist at the Earth Research Institute of the University of California, Santa Barbara. “It’s a numbers game: The more we degrade and clear forest habitats, the more likely it is that we’re going to find ourselves in these situations where epidemics of infectious diseases occur.”
- Open Philanthropy Project’s Newsletter: COVID-19 and Farm Animals
 - There is a powerful case that factory farms are a public health nightmare. Even when zoonoses begin in wildlife, hens and pigs can be intermediate hosts who pass the virus on to humans. Indeed, there are almost always deadly viruses circulating in factory farms: right now there are [multiple avian flu outbreaks](#) in China, India, the Philippines, and the US. And some of these viruses are far deadlier than COVID-19, if also typically less virulent. H5N1, which is [currently circulating](#) in chicken farms, has a human mortality rate of [60%](#).
 - Public health researchers Cynthia Schuck and Wladimir Alonso address these risks in an excellent new [report](#). They explain how factory farms provide a perfect breeding ground for highly pathogenic viruses: a high density of genetically uniform animals, suffering immunosuppression induced by chronic stress, living on top of their own waste without sunlight or fresh air. They also explore how factory farms’ abuse of antibiotics is hastening a post-antibiotic era, where bacteria could be as deadly as viruses.



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WWW.NOHARM.ORG
WWW.PRACTICEGREENHEALTH.ORG

July 16, 2020

Rules Committee
Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Dear Members of the Rules Committee:

On behalf of Health Care Without Harm, I am writing to request your support for the Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals (File #200244).

As a follow-up to board adopted Resolution 191-18¹ this ordinance supports the City and County of San Francisco's goal to align food purchasing with the County's values by adopting detailed and ambitious goals for food purchasing improvement. The City and County spends significant public dollars on food through agencies such as the Department of Public Health (hospitals) and the Sheriff's Department (jails). San Francisco has a responsibility to set a high standard for the community and to ensure that public funds maximize public benefits. This ordinance will help the city and county reach this higher bar.

The Good Food Purchasing Program is a commitment by major public institutions to use their purchasing power to source healthy, high-quality food that supports a strong local economy, fair treatment for food system workers, humane treatment of animals, and environmental sustainability. GFPP has found widespread support among municipal governments and school districts across the country, including San Francisco Unified, Oakland Unified, Los Angeles Unified, and Chicago Public Schools, as well as the cities of Chicago and Boston.

A broad and diverse coalition is behind this effort. The Healthy Food in Health Care program at Health Care Without Harm engages over 1,400 hospitals across the U.S. that are committed to advancing the development of a healthy and sustainable food system. Our CA health care network includes over 170 acute care facilities throughout the state. A healthy food system conserves, protects, and regenerates the human and ecological systems that enable food production to support the needs of all eaters now and in future generations. This vision

¹ City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Resolution 191-18, June 27, 2018.
<https://sfgov.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3482887&GUID=B2F5E86C-8791-4771-90D4-C2CDD05D91FA&Options=ID%7CText%7C&Search=good+food+purchasing>

for a restorative food system ensures equitable access to affordable, health-promoting food, and provides opportunities for farmers, workers, and eaters to participate in decision-making around the way food is produced, processed, distributed, marketed, consumed, and disposed. Hospitals, municipalities, school districts, and universities are all embracing their role as anchor institutions by improving public and environmental health and strengthening the economic vitality and equity in their communities.

By articulating ambitious standards and goals the City and County has an opportunity to build on their nationwide leadership and set a strong example for Good Food Purchasing Program participants across the country.

For these reasons, Health Care Without Harm respectfully requests your support for the Food Purchasing Standards and Departmental Goals (File #200244) so that San Francisco can continue improving its food procurement using this comprehensive framework.

Sincerely,



Courtney Crenshaw
Western U.S. Regional Coordinator
Healthy Food in Health Care
Health Care Without Harm
510.388.8457
ccrenshaw@hcwh.org
www.healthyfoodinhealthcare.org