



SAN FRANCISCO  
HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

# Legislation to Improve Food Coordination within San Francisco



# City's Response to Recommendations

**Across advocacy groups and government, there's a shared emphasis on the need for stronger coordination in food programming**

- Food resources spread across 9 City agencies
- Significant growth and evolution of food resources tied to the pandemic, followed by a decline – resulting in momentum to better coordinate food resources
- Shared interest in greater coordination of funding, operations, and information with a goal to:
  - More efficiently distribute resources
  - Decrease operational burden on providers
  - Establish a streamlined needs assessment cycle to inform strategic planning and set priorities
- City priorities
  - Budget context has necessitated funding cuts and underscores need to optimize investments of dollars and time
  - Efforts inside and outside of government to streamline/minimize unnecessary councils and commissions



# Legislation Components

1. Establish an Office of Citywide Food Coordination (OCFC) within SFHSA by enhancing the role of the existing Citywide Food Access Team
2. Replace Biennial Food Report with a more appropriate and impactful five-year assessment and planning cycle, with mid-cycle implementation update, led by SFHSA
3. In alignment with City efforts to streamline councils and commissions, sunset the Food Security Task Force one year early in 2025; integrate City and community input into the Food Security Report and provide semi-annual convenings in interim years

## Notes:

- ✓ *MO, HSA, and DPH worked collaboratively on this ordinance*
- ✓ *Legislation includes (non-substantive) amendments from the community that strengthen the context and goals for the Office and Report, as well as uplift the role of the community.*
- ✓ *Legislation does **not** have any impact on food support funding or providers*



# Vision for an Office of Citywide Food Coordination

- Advocate for state and federal resources for food and nutrition security
- Maintain awareness of community needs and City resources
- Lead collaborative and community-informed citywide planning process, using a health equity lens
- Coordinate across departments and community providers
- Convene community stakeholders and attend community meetings
- Advise City policymakers; and
- Help ensure the City's food support models are culturally-tailored, healthy, and centered on dignity and choice



# Why is the Office in SFHSA?

- Aligns with SFHSA's role within City to address basic safety net needs
- Main funder and provider of food resources: directs almost three-quarters of the City's \$200M in food support funding, including federally- and state-backed food programs, and over 80% of the local dollars.
- Enhanced role of an existing group within SFHSA—Citywide Food Access Team, borne out of the pandemic: no new funding or positions required
  - ✓ Leads with an equity lens in administering culturally specific, healthy, community-driven food
  - ✓ Coordinates and plans for emergency food needs, along with other departments
  - ✓ Fields community inquiries and concerns about citywide food programming via 311
- Equipped with administrative resources and framework to understand, coordinate, and implement food support:
  - ✓ Leads policy analysis and advocacy efforts to strengthen state and federal food programs
  - ✓ Existing analytical team with experience collaboratively leading similar assessments
  - ✓ Able to quickly procure and implement food priorities through an effective and nimble contracting apparatus

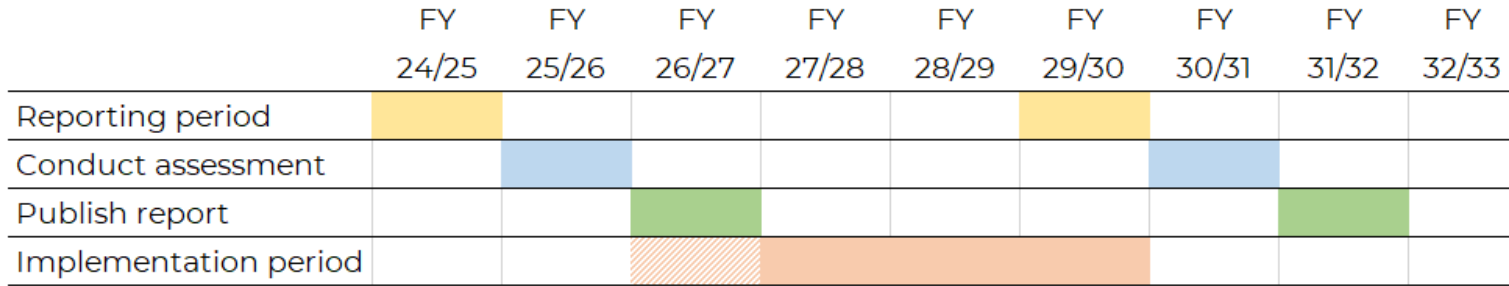


# Proposed Reporting and Planning Cycle

- Consistent with other City assessment and planning efforts, shift from biennial to a five-year report cadence
- Report focus:
  - ✓ Understand current state of food insecurity and inequities in the City
  - ✓ Map available food resources and analysis of system infrastructure
  - ✓ Collaboratively develop actionable recommendations to address food and nutrition insecurity, improve system infrastructure, and support coordination, effectiveness, and efficiency in the development and delivery of City resources
- Methods: Analysis of census/population level data and City food program data; qualitative research (e.g., community forums, focus groups, etc.)
- Collaborative approach: Input from community and City stakeholders to be solicited at a project-level on methods, analysis, and findings, as well as research activities with community members (e.g., focus groups, public forums)
- **Result in an actionable plan to guide food-related priorities over the next five years;** accompanied by mid-cycle implementation update to the Board of Supervisors



# Planning cycle and report cadence



Five year cadence:

- Provides time for recommendations to be implemented and have impact prior to next assessment
- Reflects the scale of this project, which requires significant investment from City and community
- Will be accompanied by mid-cycle implementation update to the Board of Supervisors

During assessment year, reporting departments and community stakeholders will have structured opportunities for input; in interim years, will be convened to maintain coordination and feedback loop



# Future of Food Security Task Force

- Acknowledges nearly two decades of recommendations and learnings from the Task Force
- Task Force's efforts to amplify this issue are a key contributor to the decision to establish this new Office and institutionalize within City government a responsibility that has been carried for so long by volunteer contributors.
- Sunsetting FSTF one year early in June 2025 will coincide with the beginning of the community convenings for next assessment report under SFHSA
- Consistent with principles of good governance and current citywide efforts to streamline government; redundant to continue FSTF with these other changes
- The City remains committed to ensuring robust and meaningful opportunities for input and collaboration with community to support an effective and just food landscape





# Continued Role of Community & Collaboration

- Report
  - ❑ Structured community input on the process, analysis, findings
  - ❑ Community research activities (e.g., public forums, focus groups)
- At least semi-annual convenings
  - ❑ Information sharing, budget updates, implementation update, state and federal landscape, situational awareness
  - ❑ Office of Citywide Food Coordination attendance at community convenings



# Amendments from Community Feedback

- Non-substantive, friendly amendments
- Added Findings on:
  - ✓ Food as a Basic Human Right
  - ✓ Food Justice
  - ✓ Role FSTF and FAACTS
  - ✓ Relevance of this work in light of shifting federal priorities
  - ✓ Bridge toward a larger vision
- Added, updated, or clarified Language
  - ✓ New Office will convene meetings of community stakeholders that are open to the public at least biannually
  - ✓ New Office will solicit feedback from the community on draft report findings
  - ✓ New Office will attend community convenings
  - ✓ New Office will track detrimental state or federal policy change
  - ✓ New Office will support the MO in exploring ways to track Citywide food investments
  - ✓ New Office is an evolution of SFHSA's existing Citywide Food Access Team
- Board of Supervisors may call for a hearing a mid-report implementation update





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# Appendix



# Cycle of Other Assessments

Report	Cadence
DAS Dignity Fund Community Needs Assessment	4 years
DCYF Community Needs Assessment	5 years
HSH Strategic Plan	5 years
Aging and Disability Affordable Housing Needs Assessment	8 years
Housing Element	8 years

