



TO: Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors

THROUGH: Tyrone Jue, Acting Director, San Francisco Department of the Environment

FROM: Soko Made, City Government Zero Waste Senior Coordinator, and Diedre Tanenberg, Public Affairs Assistant Coordinator, San Francisco Department of the Environment

RE: Resource Conservation Ordinance – 2021 Annual Report

DATE: October 7, 2022

Pursuant to the requirements of the Resource Conservation Ordinance (Chapter 5, Environment Code, Sec. 510), the Department of the Environment hereby submits our annual report to the Board of Supervisors. This report also outlines compliance with Chapter 5, section 503 (d), the requirement for each department to submit an annual refuse assessment.

The Resource Conservation Ordinance requires city departments to prevent waste, maximize recovery (recycling and composting), and purchase products with recycled content. It is the goal of the City Government Zero Waste Program to support all city and county agencies in meeting these requirements, to demonstrate leadership in our waste reduction efforts, and exemplify what is possible for the entire community of San Francisco. Below is a summary of the City Government Zero Waste team highlights from 2021.

Refuse Separation Compliance Ordinance

The Refuse Separation Compliance Ordinance (RSO) went into effect July 1st, 2019. The ordinance requires that Large Refuse Generators (LRG) have their refuse audited at least every 3 years to assess compliance with mandatory recycling and composting. If a property fails an audit, the law requires them to engage the services of a Zero Waste Facilitator. Twenty-two (22) city department locations have been identified as LRGs and are subject to audits between the months of July through January.

In 2021, nine (9) city department locations were audited. The table below shows the audit results: SFDPH – Laguna Honda Hospital and Zuckerburg San Francisco General Hospital, SF Public Main Library, and City Administrator – Public Safety Building passed the audits. City Administrator – 1 South Van Ness and City Hall, Human Services Agency, Juvenile Probation Agency and SFPUCC – Headquarters failed the trash portion of the audits.



Good Food Purchasing and Edible Food Recovery & Donation

Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital

Zuckerberg SF General Hospital (SF General) is one of two public hospitals in San Francisco that prepares a large quantity of meals a day for patients and visitors. Because the hospital often has extra meals at the end of a day due to strict production planning, SF General joined the Kitchen Zero SF program to donate through Copia, a food recovery service that donates access through a smartphone app. The app matches each food donation with a hunger relief organization and calls a driver on-demand to transport the food to the nonprofit, ensuring that food is still as fresh as possible when it reaches its destination. The Kitchen Zero SF program has assisted SF General providing food to community and helped the hospital comply with Senate Bill 1383 – Short Lived Climate Pollutants law. Through 2021, SF General has donated 37.8K lbs. which is equivalent to 31.5K meals shared with nonprofit organizations (average of 235 lbs. per pickup) and 169K lbs. of GHG emissions avoided.

Laguna Honda Hospital

Laguna Honda Hospital (LHH) have been working to change the status quo in hospital foodservice and adopted more sustainable/healthy practice. Menus have also been engineered with a healthful twist, incorporating more local and seasonal food products (when climate and season permits), offering more vegetarian meals, increased whole grain options, and buying more organic (when pricing and availability permits), fair trade, and sustainably grown foods/beverages (sustainable/fair-trade coffee and tea) and Antibiotic Free (ABF) beef, pork, chicken, and free eggs (when availability permits). LHH reduced fried foods from all the menus and decreased the price of the salad/parfait bar to encourage consumption of more fruits and vegetables. They have partnered with other hospitals to accelerate the greening of health care by offering a free way for hospitals to introduce sustainable practices into their daily operations, stimulate purchasing power, and reducing overall cost. LHH has also partnered with Health Care Without Harm, Monterey Aquarium Seafood Watch, and Practice Greenhealth to build a guide for LHH to reduce energy use and waste, choose safer and less toxic products, purchase environmentally responsible products, and serve healthier foods.

Both ZSFGH and LHH are working with Good Food Purchasing to improve procurement standards to promote a more sustainable food system. They are also working with Healthcare Without Harm and Next Generation Foods to source local/sustainable beans, rice, and grains. In addition, all disposables used throughout the foodservice programs at the hospitals, such as utensils and plates, are compostable, recyclable, and fluorinated free.



Employee Trainings

The City Government Zero Waste Team dedicates significant time and energy ensuring city employees are properly trained on how and why to reduce, reuse, recycle and compost. In 2021, staff pivoted to virtual presentations and trained 905 city employees, including 116 departmental Zero Waste Coordinators.

Green Purchasing

In 2021, the City Government Zero Waste and the City Government Toxics Reduction staff (the Green Purchasing Team) continued to collaborate with the interdepartmental working group, the Sustainable Purchasing Committee, to work on citywide sustainable purchasing priorities, initiatives, process improvements, and communications by hosting quarterly virtual meetings. The team also collaborated with the Office of Contract Administration to incorporate environmental specifications in citywide term contracts.

Surplus Disposal Program

City Government Zero Waste staff manage the Surplus Disposal Program, which is comprised of the scrap metal recycling and surplus auctions contracts, and the Virtual Warehouse. The Virtual Warehouse is an online materials exchange system for city surplus items. Useable, unwanted items are redistributed to other city agencies, non-profit organizations, and schools via an online database. In 2021, 2,947 items (furniture, equipment, and electronics) were reused and redistributed through the Virtual Warehouse surplus materials exchange program. These items weighed 40 tons and were valued at \$535,000.

Through the scrap metal contract with Circosta Iron and Metal Company, departments can recycle several types of scrap metal, such as broken metal desks, metal filing cabinets, brass fixtures, and copper pipes. In 2021, the city recycled 1,393 tons of scrap metal and received revenue from the sale of the scrap metal totaling \$177,385.

2021 Zero Waste Assessment Surveys

The Resource Conservation Ordinance requires each department to designate at least one person responsible for compliance with this chapter (who we call a "Zero Waste Coordinator") and that designee shall complete an annual zero waste assessment survey. The survey is developed annually by Staff and is simple but intended to summarize disposal reduction efforts, assist the departments in better understanding their current programs, and identify opportunities for improvement. Since many city departments occupy multiple locations and each location is unique, departments were asked to fill out one survey for each location and appoint one Zero Waste Coordinator per location. Below is a table which outlines compliance with the aforementioned Resource Conservation Ordinance requirements.



Department Name	Zero Waste Coordinators assigned at all locations?	Zero Waste Assessment Survey (ZWA) turned in for all locations?	Number of ZWA's completed?
Adult Probation	Yes	Yes	1/1
Airport	Yes	Yes	1/1
Arts Commission	Yes	Yes	1/1
Asian Art Museum	Yes	Yes	1/1
Assessor Recorder	Yes	Yes	2/2
Board of Supervisor	Yes	Yes	1/1
Building Inspection	Yes	Yes	1/1
Child Support Services	Yes	Yes	1/1
Children, Youth & Families	Yes	Yes	1/1
City Administrator's Office	No	No	11/25
City Attorney	Yes	Yes	2/2
Civil Service Commission	Yes	Yes	1/1
Controller's Office	Yes	Yes	2/2
District Attorney	Yes	Yes	1/1
Economic Workforce Development	Yes	Yes	1/1
Elections, Department of	Yes	No	0/1
Emergency Management, Department of	Yes	No	2/3
Employee Retirement	Yes	Yes	1/1
Environment	Yes	Yes	1/1
Ethics Commission	Yes	Yes	1/1
Fine Arts Museum	Yes	Yes	2/2
Film Commission	Yes	Yes	1/1
Fire Department	No	No	44/52
Health Services Systems	No	No	0/1
Human Rights Commission	No	No	0/1
Human Resources, Department of	No	No	0/1
Human Services Agency	Yes	No	3/10
Juvenile Probation	No	No	0/1
Mayor's Office	Yes	Yes	1/1
Mayor's Office of Housing	Yes	Yes	1/1
Municipal Transportation Agency	Yes	Yes	7/7
Planning Department	Yes	Yes	1/1
Police Accountability Department	Yes	Yes	1/1
Police Department	Yes	No	3/12
Port	Yes	Yes	2/2
Public Defender	Yes	Yes	1/1
Public Health, Department of	No	No	10/14
Public Library	Yes	No	11/28
Public Utilities Commission	Yes	No	1/10
Public Works	Yes	No	5/8
Recreation & Park	Yes	No	13/32
Rent Board	Yes	Yes	1/1
Sherriff	Yes	No	0/12
Status on Women, Department of the	Yes	Yes	1/1
Technology, Department of	Yes	No	1/2
Treasurer & Tax Collector	No	No	0/1
War Memorial Complex	Yes	Yes	3/3