



**Executive Directive 09-03**

**Healthy and Sustainable Food for San Francisco**

July 9, 2009

By virtue of the power and authority vested in me by Section 3.100 of the San Francisco Charter to provide administration and oversight of all departments and governmental units in the executive branch of the City and County of San Francisco, I do hereby issue this Executive Directive to become effective immediately:

**1. The City declares its commitment to increasing the amount of healthy and sustainable food.**

Access to safe, nutritious, and culturally acceptable food is a basic human right and is essential to both human health and ecological sustainability. The City and County of San Francisco recognizes that hunger, food insecurity, and poor nutrition are pressing health issues that require immediate action. Further we recognize that sustainable agricultural ecosystems serve long-term economic prosperity and ability of future generations to be food self-sufficient. In our vision, sustainable food systems ensure nutritious food for all people, shorten the distance between food consumers and producers, protect workers health and welfare, minimize environment impacts, and strengthen connections between urban and rural communities. The long-term provision of sufficient nutritious, affordable, culturally appropriate, and delicious food for all San Franciscans requires the City to consider the food production, distribution, consumption and recycling system holistically and to take actions to preserve and promote the health of the food system. This includes setting a high standard for food quality and ensuring city funds are spent in a manner consistent with our social, environmental and economic values.

**2. The following principles guide this Directive on Healthy and Sustainable Food:**

- a. To ensure quality of life, as well as environmental and economic health in San Francisco, the food system must promote public health, environmental sustainability and social responsibility.
- b. Eliminating hunger and ensuring access to healthy and nutritious food for all residents, regardless of economic means, is a concern of all city departments. Investments should be allocated to ensure no San Franciscan goes hungry.
- c. San Francisco's neighborhood food environments must allow residents the opportunity to make healthy food choices and reduce environmental causes of diet related illnesses.
- d. To reduce the environmental impacts associated with food production, distribution, consumption, and disposal, whenever possible, city resources will be used to purchase and promote regionally produced and sustainably certified food.

- e. Food production and horticulture education will be encouraged within the City and, to the extent feasible, on City owned land, through urban agriculture including community, backyard, rooftop, and school gardens; edible landscaping, and agricultural incubator projects.
- f. The City and County shall promote economic opportunities in the food sector that create green jobs and local food businesses.
- g. The ability of the City and County to reduce the environmental impacts of the food system depends on the region's fertile farmland. The City and County shall support policies that conserve the region's prime agricultural land.
- h. The City and County shall promote regional agriculture through increasing marketing opportunities for regionally grown agricultural products in San Francisco.
- i. The City and County shall recycle all organic residuals, eliminate chemical use in agriculture and landscaping and use sustainable practices that enhance natural biological systems throughout the City.
- j. The City and County shall promote innovative programs that educate food system stakeholders and the general public on the value of healthy food, and an equitable and sustainable food system.
- k. The City and County shall advocate for federal and state policies that support the principles of this Food Policy.

**3. The Healthy and Sustainable Food Directive will be monitored and advanced by a newly created Food Policy Council consisting of both public and private members.**

- a. The following departments will participate in the Food Policy Council:
  - Mayor's Office
  - DPH Office of Food Systems
  - Shape Up Program representative
  - Department of Recreation and Parks Director or designee
  - San Francisco Redevelopment Agency Director or designee
  - Human Service Agency Director or designee
  - Director of Department of Aging and Adult Services
  - Director of Department of Children Youth and Their Families or designee
- b. A representative from the following stakeholder groups will be invited to participate in the Food Policy Council:
  - Urban Agriculture
  - Nutrition expert
  - Food Retail
  - Restaurants
  - Distributor
  - Food Security Task Force
  - Southeast Food Access Working Group
  - Tenderloin Hunger Task Force

- San Francisco Unified School District, Student Nutrition Services
- c. The Food Policy Council will begin meeting immediately and will meet bi-monthly.
- The immediate goal of the Food Policy Council will be to integrate the principles of this Directive on Healthy and Sustainable Food as well as existing recommendations and plans for food policy into the municipal code, General Plan, and other relevant planning and policy documents.
  - The Food Policy Council will also monitor progress of this Executive Directive on Healthy and Sustainable Food and provide an annual report on departmental efforts to implement this directive. This report will include at minimum:
    1. Evaluation of current activities prescribed by this directive; and
    2. Review of any food system related recommendations from other task forces, and a prioritized list of recommendations for future research, policies and initiatives that advance the Directive.

**4. Departments shall advance the Healthy and Sustainable Food Directive by taking the following actions:**


- a. All departments having jurisdiction over property will conduct an audit of their land suitable for or actively used for food producing gardens or other agricultural purposes and prepare a report with the findings to my office and a copy to the Office of Food Systems within 180 days of the signing of this directive.
- b. All departments having jurisdiction over nutrition assistance programs including federally funded programs will ensure adequate staffing to maximize the City's use of federal funding.
- c. The Human Service Agency shall maximize food stamp enrollment by launching a public-facing internet application for online eligibility screening and enrollment of Food Stamps, Medi-Cal benefits; seek to add additional programs including WIC, National School Lunch Program, Working Families Credit and other benefits. HSA shall also contract with ten community-based partners to become Food Stamp Remote Sites.
- d. City departments entering into lease agreements or permitting mobile food vendors shall either issue requirements for the sale of healthy and sustainably produced foods or give preferences to businesses who sell such food. City departments shall provide documentation of requirements and preferences to the Food Policy Council and must begin to institute these requirements or preferences within 6 months after the issuance of this Directive. Staff from the Department of the Environment and Department of Public Health will provide guidance and technical support.
- e. Mayor's Office of Economic and Workforce Development and the Real Estate Division shall work with the San Francisco Wholesale Produce Market to finalize plans for new and expanded facilities that provide long-term stability for the market past its current 2013 lease expiration so that it may continue to play an

essential role in the distribution of quality food from its source to San Francisco restaurants, groceries and dining tables.

- f. City funding for food purchases or food programs shall meet nutritional guidelines developed by the City of San Francisco. DPH, DAAS and DCYF will develop nutritional criteria for any food purchased or any food program funded using city funds, and will deliver these criteria to my office within 120 days of the signing of this directive. Within 150 days, these guidelines shall be distributed to all city departments and shall be incorporated into all city contracts for programs which serve food.
- g. Beginning immediately, all city departments and agencies purchasing food for events or meetings using city funds will utilize guidelines for “healthy meetings” and purchase healthy, locally produced and/or sustainably certified foods to the maximum extent possible. (See [www.sffood.org](http://www.sffood.org): Healthy Meeting Guidelines and Guidelines To Increase The Use Of Local Foods At Meetings/Conferences.)
- h. Coordinators of the Shape Up At Work program will develop nutrition standards for all vending machines on city property within 60 days of the signing of this directive and prepare recommendations for implementing these nutrition standards in all vending machines on city property.
- i. San Francisco Planning Department, with support from the Department of Public Health and the Department of the Environment shall, to the greatest extent feasible, integrate policies and implementing actions to support San Francisco’s food policy goals into elements of the City and County of San Francisco’s General Plan, whenever such elements are updated.
- j. The Department of Public Health will work with local food retailers to create a Sustainable Food Business Recognition Program to encourage and support locally owned food businesses that incorporate more healthy and sustainable food and business practices.
- k. San Francisco Redevelopment Agency will develop a Food Business Action Plan to identify strategies, such as enterprise zones, permit expediting, tax incentives, regulatory streamlining or other policies to recruit and incubate new food businesses, and ensure existing food businesses are fully utilizing economic incentives and technical support to advance the goals of this Directive. This Plan will be delivered to my office and the DPH Office of Food Systems within 180 days of the signing of this Directive.
- l. The Department of Recreation and Parks with support from the Department of the Environment will coordinate urban agriculture including facilitating access to gardening materials and tools, with emphasis on composts, mulches, and other materials produced as byproducts of other city programs; organizing community events and outreach efforts related to urban agriculture; connecting volunteer and educational programs to urban agriculture programs; seek funding to support urban agriculture; and generally serve as an advocate to increase the production of food within the City of San Francisco

- m. The Department of the Environment will draft a local and sustainable food procurement ordinance aimed at City government food purchases and prepare recommendations within 60 days of the signing of this Directive.
- n. The San Francisco Agricultural Commissioner will develop rules and regulations for local farmers markets that support healthy neighborhoods, regional farmers, and ensure equitable access to local food. These rules will be due to my office within 180 days of the signing of this Directive.
- o. The Department of Children, Youth and their Families and the Department of Public Health will collaborate with the Food Policy Council and the Food Security Task Force to host a hearing to explore ways to increase funding to the school meals program and prepare a report on alternative mechanisms to increase funding to the program.
- p. All departments will designate a contact for advancing the food policy principles of this Directive and submit the contact information to my office and the DPH Office of Food Systems within 30 days. All departments are responsible for developing preliminary plans to execute this directive. These plans are due to the DPH Office of Food Systems and my office within 60 days of the signing of this directive.

For questions concerning this Executive Directive and its implementation, please contact: Paula Jones, Director of Food Systems, Department of Public Health (paula.jones@sfdph.org, 415-252-3853.)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Newsom', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gavin Newsom  
MAYOR