



GOOD FOOD PURCHASING PROGRAM: Building a Local and Sustainable Food Economy for LA

WHAT IS THE GOOD FOOD PURCHASING PLEDGE?

The Good Food Purchasing Pledge (GFPP) is a commitment from food service institutions to improving our region's food system through the adoption and implementation of the Good Food Purchasing Guidelines, which emphasize five key values: (1) Local Economies, (2) Environmental Sustainability, (3) Valued Workforce, (4) Animal Welfare, and (5) Nutrition. This program targets food service institutions with food budgets over one million dollars.

The GFPP features:

- *Tiered, points-based scoring system:* Scaled similarly to LEED green building certification, scoring allows participants to choose which level of commitment in each value category best suits the Good Food goals of their organization.
- *Baseline commitment:* To become a Good Food Purchaser, the baseline for each value must be met. An institution can receive additional points by increasing its level of commitment in each value category. Participants are awarded one to five stars based on the points achieved.
- *Increased commitment over time:* To maintain their star rating over time, participating institutions are expected to increase the amount of Good Food they purchase each year.

The GFPP is the most comprehensive and metric-based food purchasing policy in the nation. It is a product of extensive collaboration by the Los Angeles Food Policy Council with the Office of Mayor Villaraigosa, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, farmers, food distributors, chefs, school food procurement experts, labor, environmental, public health and animal welfare organizations. It is also the first municipal food procurement policy in the country to address labor, in addition to nutrition, local sourcing, animal welfare and sustainability.

The Good Food Purchasing Pledge is a “visionary model that is holistic, pioneering, and transformative.”

WHY GOOD FOOD PURCHASING?

The Good Food Purchasing Pledge harnesses the purchasing power of major institutions to encourage greater production of sustainably produced food, healthy eating, respect for workers' rights, humane treatment of animals and support for the local business economy by providing new opportunities for small and mid-sized farmers and job creation along the supply chain.

With 10 million residents (26% of California's population), L.A. County accounts for a significant portion of food consumed in the state. The size of the L.A. market means that leveraging the purchasing power of large institutions to serve healthy, local and sustainable food can offer enormous benefit to our region's natural resources, food producers, and health of schoolchildren, urban residents, institutional employees and farm and food workers.

GFPP helps provide a clear standard toward which institutions can aspire, empowering institutions to procure better products and provide better meals to consumers.

LOCAL
SUSTAINABLE
FAIR
HUMANE
HEALTHY

GOOD FOOD
PLEDGE
LOS ANGELES



Photo by Scott Robertson

WHAT RESOURCES DOES THE GOOD FOOD PURCHASING PROGRAM PROVIDE TO INSTITUTIONAL PURCHASERS?

The Los Angeles Food Policy Council (LAFPC), with the Office of the Mayor of Los Angeles, oversees implementation of the Good Food Purchasing Program. The Good Food Purchasing Program consists of several components, including:

- Technical Assistance
- Monitoring & Tracking
- Evaluation
- Recognition & Promotion

LAFPC works closely with institutions to assess baseline food purchasing practices, develop multi-year implementation plans, and monitor implementation. Technical assistance includes toolkits, online tools, networking opportunities with stakeholders along the value chain, and a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to provide expertise and guidance in sourcing, monitoring progress, and measuring and recognizing success. Good Food Purchasing Institutions are publicly recognized annually for their progress at LA City Hall, in conjunction with National Food Day, October 24th.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION: GOODFOODLA.ORG

WHAT IMPACT HAS THE GOOD FOOD PURCHASING PROGRAM HAD ON OUR REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM?

Recent adoption of GFPP by the City of L.A. and L.A. Unified School District (LAUSD) marks a major accomplishment in the strengthening of a sustainable regional food system. The program aims to increase the consumption of Good Food and improve the quality of the 750,000 meals served daily by LAUSD and City of L.A. Staff will continue to work closely with organizations that have food procurement budgets over one million dollars to encourage adoption of the Pledge.



Photo by Haan-Fawn Chau

ABOUT THE LOS ANGELES FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

The Los Angeles Food Policy Council (LAFPC), fiscally sponsored by Community Partners, is a collective impact initiative. LAFPC coordinates the expertise and leadership of public, private, nonprofit and academic partners to strengthen connections across the food system. The 40-member Food Policy Council and its staff serve as the “backbone” organization for the initiative.

As a hybrid organization, LAFPC leverages its unique structure and placement as an independent multi-stakeholder initiative located within the Mayor’s Office to advance innovative food policies and initiatives to shift our regional food system, promote local mid-sized growers, sustainable agriculture and fair working conditions for all food workers, and ensure access to healthy, affordable food in underserved neighborhoods.