

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 nine 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 need assessment cycle to inform strategic planning
- 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 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:

- *Legislation includes amendments from the community (FAACTS and FSTF leadership) that strengthen the context and goals for the Office and Report, as well as lift up the role of the community. (See Appendix slide for details.)*
- *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 nutrition security and health equity lens
- Coordinate across departments and community providers
- Convene community stakeholders
- 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.
- Existing group—Citywide Food Access Team—focused on community food needs that:
 - 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 in the City
 - Map available food resources and analysis of system infrastructure to inform budget and policy decision-making
 - 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, using a nutrition security and health equity lens; qualitative research (e.g., community forums, focus groups, etc.); a nutrition security and health equity lens
- 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)

Planning Cycle and Report Cadence

| | FY 24/25 | FY 25/26 | FY 26/27 | FY 27/28 | FY 28/29 | FY 29/30 | FY 30/31 | FY 31/32 | FY 32/33 |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Reporting period | Yellow | | | | | Yellow | | | |
| Conduct assessment | | Blue | | | | | Blue | | |
| Publish report | | | Green | | | | | Green | |
| Implementation period | | | Orange with diagonal lines | Orange | Orange | Orange | | | |

Five year cadence (starting with first report due Oct 2026; early FY 26/27):

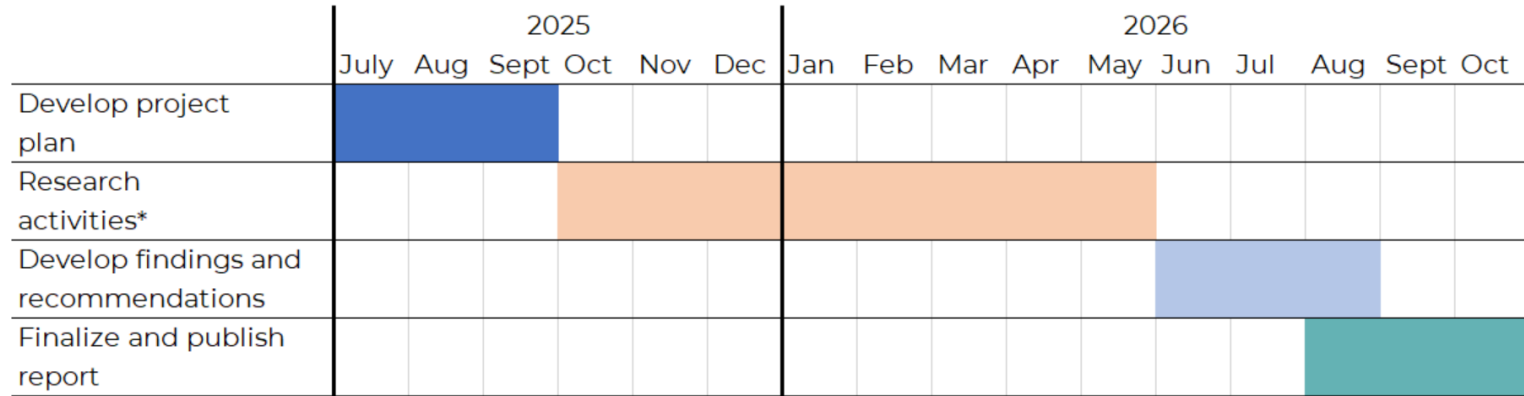
- Provides time for recommendations to be implemented and have impact prior to next assessment
- Reflects the scale of this project, which requires significant investment from City and community
- Will be accompanied by mid-cycle implementation update to the Board of Supervisors

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

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 |

Anticipated project approach



**Community research (e.g., focus groups, forums) and data analysis (program data due by October 1)*

Beginning in July 2025, reporting departments and community stakeholders will have opportunities to review and provide feedback on key project components, including: project plan; analysis of population and program data; community research; and preliminary findings and recommendations prior to report finalization

Future of Food Security Task Force

- FSTF to sunset one year early in June 2025, coinciding with the beginning of the community engagement for next assessment report
- Consistent with principles of good governance and current citywide efforts to streamline government
- Task forces are intended to be time-limited with a focus on a specific question or goal; the Task Force's efforts to amplify this issue are a key contributor to Mayor Breed's decision to establish the OCFC and institutionalize within City government a responsibility that has been carried for so long by volunteer contributors.
- 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

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

Appendix: Amendments from Community Feedback

- Added Findings on:
 - Food as a Basic Human Right (expansion of existing language)
 - Food Justice
 - Role FSTF and FAACTS (expansion of existing language)
 - Relevance of this work in light of shifting federal priorities
 - Bridge toward a larger vision
- Added, updated, or clarified Language on:
 - 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 the 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 CFAT
 - Board of Supervisors may call for a hearing a mid-report implementation update

Questions from the Food Security Task Force Members