

Table 13D: Department level responses to framework questions on recommendations, by Agency in FY 22-23

Q1_department	Please provide your department's recommendations for policies, programs, and budget to address food insecurity, gaps in resources, and system infrastructure, to address health, racial, geographic disparities
Department of Early Childhood	
Department of Public Health	<p>Improve food and nutrition security through: Strengthening WIC in the federal FY24 budget. The Appropriations bills currently being considered in the House and Senate would not provide WIC with the resources necessary to serve all participants, putting the program in danger of reverting to waitlists for the first time in nearly 30 years. Maintain the expanded fruit and vegetable funding. Focusing services for racial/ethnic and sexual and gender minority populations due to existing and long-standing health disparities Maintain the current programs targeted to populations with health disparities like Black Infant Health grocery vouchers. Identify additional funding sources to support food programs. Leveraging opportunities to support health care to offer medically supportive food and nutrition programs through CalAIM. Exploring interventions that target root causes of food insecurity such as initiatives to reduce poverty, promote economic stability, and workforce development.</p>
Environment Department	<p>Continue current outreach, education, and technical assistance to generators and FROs Improve matching between FRS, FROs, and Generators: Communicate about available resources (e.g. map, listings, or existing apps/services), and ideally create a position to carry out this work consistently (e.g. part-time in-house position at SFE) Encourage generators and FROs to partner with FRSs in addition to or besides the San Francisco and Marin Food Bank (SFMFB), such as Food Runners and smaller organizations that accept a wider variety of food Ensure that the SFMFB cannot require generators to have exclusive donation relationships Encourage Food Runners donors to ask for a contract and track their donations to ensure SB1383 compliance Draft local SB1383 ordinance to implement this new regulation, including penalties for non-complying businesses, and solicit stakeholder input Include language in the ordinance allowing Food Recovery Organizations to sell the food they receive, just as Goodwill is allowed to sell donating clothing, to help them cover the cost of recovery. Provide grants to enable FRO to acquire the resources and equipment needed to increase and improve donations (see above). Inventory potential unused resources within the City such as refrigerator and freezer space and refrigerated vehicles from other businesses that could be used as backup storage space (e.g. partnership with Seven Eleven in Orange County). Conduct outreach to help FROs determine how to reduce the amount of food they cannot use Enable FROs to privately report pounds of spoiled food donated to improve quality of donations Encourage Department of Education and Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) to improve the quality of donations in their contracts Do not over emphasize tracking by FROs and focus outreach efforts on encouraging donors to track; provide grants to purchase scales if needed Hold press conference about what SFE is doing to comply with the edible food recovery requirements of SB1383 Offer an electronic platform where organizations can upload and store their donation contracts and/or regular donation quantity tracking reports</p>
Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH)	<p>-Funding to improve the quality and variety of the meals. -More accessible connections to ongoing food resources (e.g. CalFresh) that are targeted within the Homelessness Response System -Affordable and healthy food options located in or adjacent to permanent supportive housing buildings. -Expand access to meals that are healthy, complete, and do not require cooking facilities -Expand access to the CalFresh Restaurant Meal Program (https://www.cdss.ca.gov/rmp) which is particularly helpful for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness who do not have access to prepare or cook meals -Increase the CalFresh minimum benefit or other ways to increase the amount available for food through public benefits.</p>
Housing Authority of the City and County of San Francisco	<p>Given the fact that we don't have much of the information on food insecurity we can't give a proper recommendation.</p>

Table 13D: Department level responses to framework questions on recommendations, by Agency in FY 22-23

Office of Economic and Workforce Development/Community Economic Development	Healthy Retail SF is a comprehensive partnership of several key public, private, and community-based partners working to make a collective impact on healthy-food-access issues in San Francisco. Healthy Retail SF supports and benefits small business owners, corner stores, and community members. The program has engaged 12 stores during the last three years, with nearly half of those stores graduating. Trends in data suggest that participating stores can expect increased revenue, increased produce sales, reduced reliance on tobacco and alcohol sales, and improved relationships with their customers and key San Francisco City and County departments. Participating store owners are more financially stable and secure in their neighborhoods after participating in this program. There are no gaps in resources for the Healthy Food Retailers program.
Office of Racial Equity	The City and County of San Francisco has tremendous power to shape the food system through its budget, programs, and policies. For instance, according to the initial data compiled in this report, departments have allocated almost \$65 million in FY23-24 and \$45 million FY 24-25 across 20 food assistance programs. Over the last five years, 70 to 80 percent of the funding for these food assistance programs has come from local public sources. The Biennial Food Security and Equity Report has the potential to help the City align these public investments around closing its widest and most persistent racial disparities. Recent Census data continues to show that Black, American Indian, and Pacific Islander residents in San Francisco face the most disproportionate levels of poverty. Black and Pacific Islander residents are hospitalized for hypertension, heart failure, and diabetes at the highest rates, and this disparity has worsened in recent years; American Indian residents experience homelessness more than any other community in San Francisco, yet government datasets continue to have inaccurate data about their experiences, or no data at all. In this first Biennial Food Security and Equity Report, it is encouraging to see that departments are using the same instruments for screening for food insecurity, and that many of them are already collecting demographic data about their services. This baseline data can be used to assess how these programs are collectively serving residents, and to identify whether specific communities or neighborhoods may be underserved compared to the level of food insecurity they are facing. In future Biennial Food Security and Equity Reports, the Office of Racial Equity recommends expanding the data framework, analysis, and recommendations to include: Strategies and interventions for City-funded food programs: What specific strategies, supports, or interventions are department programs currently using? Where do they need to be better aligned to increase their collective impact for the communities that face the most persistent hunger? What should each program prioritize for the next two years? People’s experiences with City-funded food programs: What are people’s experiences and desires for healthy, delicious, culturally and religiously affirming foods in these programs? How might this vary across and within racial/ethnic communities in San Francisco? How can City food dollars be better used to support different communities and cultures? Purchasing and sourcing by City-funded food programs: Where are departments and service providers purchasing food from? Who is growing, processing, and transporting this food? How can City food dollars be used to prevent exploitation of food workers and support equity and sustainability for food businesses? Updated race/ethnicity data practices: ORE and DataSF have developed an updated Citywide Race/Ethnicity Data Standard that includes disaggregated race/ethnicity categories and is inclusive of people who identify as multiracial. What support would departments need to collect data using the guidelines in the Citywide Race/Ethnicity Standard, while maintaining privacy for program participants? Broader food system in San Francisco, beyond City-funded food programs: In 2022, the Food Security Task Force recommended that the City consider equity and sustainability in the local food system - from production to distribution to consumption - in order to meet its food goals. A Michigan State University report, Measuring Racial Equity in the Food System, provides example metrics that other jurisdictions have used to assess racial equity in their food systems. How equitable is our food system in San Francisco today? What vision does each of our communities have for food sovereignty? What investments and policies does the City need to enact to support them? Fortunately, much of the data outlined above is already being collected by individual programs and departments on a regular basis. The Biennial Report is an excellent opportunity to streamline data and synthesize learnings across departments for a greater collective impact. ORE looks forward to supporting DPH and departments in whatever way needed.
Planning Department	There are no specific planning department initiatives at this time, but we are happy to support food access initiatives when there is the opportunity and alignment to do so. Planning code policies have been incrementally changed to be more supportive to urban agriculture and healthy food access projects, so hopefully that is not the barrier it once was.
Real Estate Division - GSA	None - we cannot offer something we do not deal with - we deal with purchases/sales, leases and other real property agreements.
SF Department of Children, Youth, and their Families (DCYF)	Encouragement of open sites (youth not enrolled in programs) is encouraged as it allows maximum participation in programs. Flexibility or strategies on how to combat waste, particularly unused food (such as unopen milk or fresh fruit) delivered to entities that may benefit. Increased in infrastructure to support hot foods and funding to support staff and other resources to have more libraries and housing sites to become sites. Having partnering strategies (including feeding adults or providing groceries on weekend) is also a strategy to look into.

Table 13D: Department level responses to framework questions on recommendations, by Agency in FY 22-23

San Francisco Human Services Agency (SFHSA)	<p>The San Francisco Human Services Agency (SFHSA) is the City's anchor social services provider. Whether it be food support, healthcare, social connection, home care, a job, or protective services, we work hard to help San Franciscans through all stages of life. We strive to support people to meet not only their basic needs in a high-cost city, but ultimately to reach their full potential. At the center of our work lies a vision of a San Francisco where all communities have equitable access to the resources they need to thrive.</p> <p>Given our role, we have a deep understanding of the multitude of issues facing low-income San Franciscans, including food insecurity, and have developed strategies to help these households meet their food needs with ease and dignity. As part of these efforts, we also advocate for policy changes at the state level to increase benefit amounts, ease the burden of applying for and maintaining benefits, and expand access to all populations regardless of immigration status. From our vantage point, we see several opportunities to address food insecurity.</p> <p>Federal and state advocacy should be a top priority. Much of our funding and our food program mandates are impacted by state and federal budget and policy. Currently, almost half of our food program funding comes from federal and state sources; we anticipate this will rise to closer to 55%. Resolving food insecurity is beyond the capacity of a local municipality, even one as progressive and well-resourced as San Francisco. Particularly given the City's economic projections, it is even more imperative that we pursue actions like:</p> <p>Keeping CalFresh accessible through the Farm Bill Reauthorization: Advocate to ensure that no additional work requirements are imposed for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (implemented in California as CalFresh)</p> <p>Increasing funds for community-based services via the Older Americans Act and Older Californians Act: Advocate for funding increases to keep pace with the ongoing and rising need among the aging population so that we can adequately support nutrition services, evidence-based wellness programs, medication management, and many more services provided at home and in the community.</p> <p>Expanding access to the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP): Support efforts to expand to all eligible Californians, regardless of immigration status.</p> <p>Improving allocations within State-administered food programs: Advocate for the State to update funding formulas to reflect local cost of living and the actual number of people served by county.</p> <p>In addition to these recommendations, we provide below locally focused strategies, many of which are currently underway and can be bolstered through collaboration with City and community partners.</p> <p>CalFresh is the foundational food security safety net program — we must continue to support eligible San Franciscans to take full advantage of it. While not all are eligible, as a large federal entitlement program it is a significant resource for those who can access it. The program is backed by federal dollars, which our agency should make use of to our maximum capacity. Annually, we draw down about \$40 million to support food insecure residents with CalFresh. We also have a responsibility to promote services that further leverage CalFresh, like the Market Match program, which provides additional funds to individuals who spend CalFresh on produce at participating markets. Last year, CalFresh recipients spent \$5.3 million in CalFresh benefits at SF Farmers' Markets; in fact, the Heart of the City Farmers' Market — held weekly at the Civic Center — is the top market in the nation for food stamp purchases.</p> <p>We also collaborate with local organizations to increase CalFresh access—we must consistently seek opportunities to develop new outreach partnerships to reach those who remain unserved and encourage organizations to reach out to us for collaboration. Currently, we interweave benefits outreach into our other relevant programming and engage in cross-departmental collaborations for benefits outreach, including connecting CalFresh families to WIC and offering CalFresh referrals through schools and the Social Security Administration. We formally partner with community-based organizations to support outreach and engagement. For example, we work with the San Francisco Marin Food Bank, which does application assistance and trains a variety of other providers. Through a recent immigrant outreach pilot, the agency is deepening relationships with community providers and supporting them as they test innovative outreach and messaging strategies with the city's large foreign-born community. We will continue to learn - from community - what messages, tactics, and outreach strategies are most effective and embed those learnings into our larger practices.</p> <p>In addition to CalFresh, we must continue to invest in locally funded food support strategies to fill gaps in the larger social safety net. Supplemental resources are necessary to fill service gaps and provide support to</p>
San Francisco Parks and Recreation	
San Francisco Parks and Recreation	<p>We are holding our Garden Resource Day pop-up events and locating our brick-and-mortar SF GROW Center in the SE sector, within equity zones, to ensure highest accessibility for our neighbors that have the lowest access to fresh produce. This program provides material and education support to reduce barriers for anyone who wants to garden in the city. Program demand has increased by over 600% in the past five years; SFRPD's UA program are now at maximum capacity for these services, running eight pop up events per year, though demand continues to grow. We intend to provide weekly service once the SF GROW Center opens. SFRPD is in the project scoping phase, developing initial design concepts to develop a project cost estimate. SFRPD recommends that the FSTF advocate for the creation of the SF GROW Center. There are approximately 110 community gardens and farms throughout San Francisco. SFRPD oversees 40 of the community garden locations, plus Alemany Farm, (41 sites total). Starting in 2017, RPD began a program overhaul that included increasing staffing resources and skill sets - as a result of our increased service, all sites are producing more fresh produce. Several garden communities that are not managed by RPD have reported to our team that their garden would benefit from more supportive services for ongoing site maintenance and program operations; RPD does provide services to these gardens where possible, through our city-wide resource, technical assistance, and educational programs, but our reach is limited and these gardens need more day-to-day operational support. RPD has also received requests to incorporate garden spaces under our program umbrella, but we lack the staffing resources to provide the full scope of service support that we'd like to provide to the gardens currently within our program. Our program serves 2500 garden members and 20k program participants per year with 3 full-time permanent staff, plus trainees. Increasing program staffing will result in staff ability to further increase educational programs and (critically) tackle under-utilization of sites, which in turn will lead to better overall utilization of the garden sites, increasing the number of residents that are able to access the program to grow more fresh produce for themselves and the amount each participant grows. Our program needs an additional 6 permanent FTE to provide the full scope of services that our current garden members are asking us to provide. Under direction of the Federal government, UCANR is responsible for developing and disseminating agricultural based research to the public. San Francisco is the only county in the State of California that doesn't provide direct support to UCANR's community programs focused on farm and garden research and public education - including the Master Gardeners, Master Food Preservers, and 4-H programs. Our local Master Gardeners, Master Food Preservers, and 4-H leaders currently perform the majority of their volunteer service hours in San Mateo County, which provide staffing, continuing education, and coordination support for San Francisco based program volunteers. SFRPD is working on a contract with UCANR that will provide San Francisco with a part-time staff coordinator to manage volunteer public education programs in the city, improving our residents' access to these programs. The SFPUC has provided SFRPD with funding to support a .5FTE MG and MFP coordinator and .2FTE 4-H coordinator for two years. RPD recommends that the FSTF advocates for dedicated ongoing funding to support UCANR advisor research, a full-time coordinator serving the MG and MFP programs, and a .5FTE coordinator supporting the 4-H program.</p>
Student Nutrition Services, San Francisco Unified School District	
Treasurer & Tax Collector	n/a