



City of Glendora | City Hall

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February 28, 2023

Senator Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Alex Padilla
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Letter of Support for Regional Food Recovery Program for FY 2024 Federal Appropriations Funding Request

Dear Senators Feinstein and Padilla,

I am writing to express the City of Glendora's support for the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments' (SGVCOG) Regional Food Recovery Program. The SGVCOG started this program in 2021 to help cities in the region, including Glendora, comply with the State's SB1383 food waste and climate pollutant reduction mandate. However, the program also provides a unique regional approach to support recovering millions of pounds of food across Glendora and 14 other cities in Eastern Los Angeles County, which can feed thousands of food-insecure residents annually.

This program envisions a sustainable food recovery system in the San Gabriel Valley that reduces food going to landfills while instead feeding food-insecure populations. Known as one of the largest regional food recovery programs in California, the program to date has included food recovery actions such as assessing commercial edible food waste generators, identifying and fostering partnerships with local food recovery organizations, implementing education and outreach endeavors, and developing and implementing inspection protocols.

The SGVCOG is currently seeking to expand the Regional Food Recovery Program and establish subregional food recovery hubs to increase the region's food recovery capacity. The City of Glendora utilizes general and Cal Recycle funds to participate, but these are limited and may not be wholly sufficient to launch the food recovery infrastructure needed to adequately support the exponential level of food recovery demand in coming years. Appropriation funds would allow the SGVCOG to maximize the development of food recovery hubs, which will in turn allow us to recover more edible food otherwise going to waste, and feed food-insecure community members.

The Regional Food Recovery Program addresses many of California's, and the City of Glendora's environmental sustainability and equity-related goals. As such, I sincerely urge you to favorably consider this funding request. Thank you for your time and please do not hesitate to contact Nicholas Ryu at nryu@sgvcog.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gary Boyer, Mayor