



## City of Glendora | City Hall

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September 6, 2023

President Hillary Schieve  
United States Conference of Mayors  
1620 I St. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear President Schieve,

I am writing to express my support for the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) Regional Food Recovery Program and their application for the 2023 US Conference of Mayors' Environmental Health and Sustainability Awards. This program was started by the SGVCOG in 2021 as a solution to help cities in the region, including the City of Glendora, reduce food waste and recover extra edible food for food-insecure populations. This program provides a unique regional approach to support the recovery of millions of pounds of food across ours and 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 will reduce food going to landfills while instead feeding food-insecure populations. Known as one of the largest regional food recovery programs in California, this program has included food recovery actions such as assessing commercial edible food waste generators, identifying and fostering partnerships with local food recovery organizations, implementing outreach and education endeavors, and developing and implementing inspection protocols.

The SGVCOG has recently expanded the Regional Food Recovery Program and established three subregional food recovery hubs to increase the region's food recovery capacity. The City of Glendora is utilizing City funds to participate in the program, but these are limited and are not wholly sufficient to launch the food recovery infrastructure needed to adequately support the exponential level of food recovery demand in the coming years. An Environmental Health and Sustainability Award would help us maximize the recovery of food otherwise going to waste and feed food-insecure members of our community.

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 provide favorable consideration of this award. Thank you for your time, and please do not hesitate to contact Mackenzie Bolger, [mbolger@sgvcog.org](mailto:mbolger@sgvcog.org), should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

CITY OF GLENDORA

Gary Boyer, Mayor