

Food Security Task Force
Food Security Coordination Subcommittee

Recommendation
Revised 6/15/06

Background:

150,000 San Francisco residents, in every neighborhood, live with the threat of hunger-that is one in five adults and one in four children. In spite of the seriousness of this situation, underutilization of the federal nutrition programs in San Francisco resulted in a loss of over \$70 million [Feb. 24, 2005 Finance and Audits Committee Meeting]. While the Board of Supervisors creation of the Food Security Task Force is an important step in addressing hunger through the development of a strategic plan, the task force's mandate will expire on June 30, 2007.

The strategic plan's recommendations can be an invaluable tool for reducing hunger in our community only if there is an ongoing analysis of needs and opportunities, and the development and implementation of strategies to improve food security. This also requires a broad base of support from the Mayor, the Board of Supervisor's and the San Francisco Unified School District. Throughout the United States municipal bodies have been mandated to address food insecurity (e.g. Sacramento Hunger Commission, Hunger Prevention Council of Dane [WI] County, Inc., and City of Hartford [CT] Advisory Commission on Food Policy).

The intent of this recommendation is to ensure that city government and the local school district together make a commitment to improve the food security of San Franciscans and to establish a permanent body to continue the work of the Food Security Task Force after June 30, 2007

Recommendation:

- 1) The **Strategic Plan** developed by the **Food Security Task Force** and presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval, upon approval be submitted to the Mayor and the Board of Education for approval, and be

followed by joint Public Announcement by Mayor, Board of Supervisors and Board of Education committing the City & County to improving food security in San Francisco.

2) **A Food Security Coordination Council** will be established as an on-going body made up of representatives who are knowledgeable about food security issues and with a demonstrated commitment to improving the food security of San Francisco residents. One representative will be appointed from each of the following offices:

- the Mayor's Office
- the Board of Supervisors
- the Board of Education

In addition, one representative from:

- a. Department of Children Youth and Families
- b. Food Bank
- c. Human Services Agency
- d. Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program and
- e. 4 Community Based Organizations- to be appointed by the Board of Supervisors

- f. USDA Representative (non-voting)
- g. San Francisco Food Systems
- h. Chamber of Commerce and
- i. Private Sector-to be appointed by the Board of Supervisors

The Mayor will designate as Chair an individual knowledgeable about local food security issues and with a demonstrated commitment to improving the food security of San Francisco's residents. The Chair will be housed in the Mayor's Office of Public Policy and will be provided with adequate staffing to coordinate the activities of the Food Security Coordination Council.

3) **Food Security Coordination Council** will:

- a. perform ongoing assessments of food security, update the Strategic Plan for approval by the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, and Board of Education, and prepare and disseminate a semi-annual report on implementation of the plan, including funding strategies, and
 - provide general advice and assistance to the Mayor's Office, Board of Supervisors, and Board of Education with regard to funding priorities, local, State, & Federal legislative action, and city policies on addressing hunger and enhancing the food

security of San Francisco residents in addition to any other issues within the **Food Security Coordination Council's** expertise and that of other groups working with food security issues.