

# Los Angeles Food Policy Tracker 2016

The Resnick Program for Food Law and Policy and the Los Angeles Food Policy Council actively follow Los Angeles food policy actions. In this 2016 Los Angeles Food Policy Tracker, substantial policy actions undertaken at both the City and County level are identified. Specifically, the tracker documents policies that were adopted, administratively closed, or are currently pending during the time period from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016. The tracker is divided into three sections: City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, and Los Angeles Unified School District. For each policy action, the acting body, the policy status, a food system classification, and a brief description are provided.

The tracker is updated and re-released on an annual basis in order to monitor food policy developments in Los Angeles. This is the second Los Angeles Food Policy Tracker. The inaugural Los Angeles Food Policy Tracker documented food policy actions undertaken in Los Angeles from October 24th, 2012, when the City of Los Angeles made a significant food policy commitment in the form of adopting the Good Food Purchasing Pledge, to December 31, 2015.

## Non-Commercial Feeding / Public Rights of Way / Safety and Health Concerns

**ACTOR** | CITY COUNCIL  
**FILE NO.** | 13-1238  
**CATEGORY** | FOOD ACCESS & SECURITY  
**STATUS** | EXPIRED

On September 17, 2013, Councilmember Tom LaBonge moved to request a report on measures that address providing meal services to individuals in public rights of way and provide legislative options and draft legislation on non-commercial feeding in public rights of way. The motion cited safety and sanitary concerns of food line operations to feed the homeless. The motion was Referred to the Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee. On July 26, 2016, the file was administratively closed.

## Expanding Schedule F Water Rate Provision/ Include Food Production Gardens

**ACTOR** | CITY COUNCIL  
**FILE NO.** | 13-1431  
**CATEGORY** | URBAN AG  
**STATUS** | EXPIRED

On October 23, 2013, Councilmember Felipe Fuentes moved to request a report on the pricing structure of water used for urban farming from the Department of Water and Power, in particular requesting an assessment of whether the reduced water rate in DWP's Schedule F for community gardens on public lands can also be extended to food production gardens on public housing developments, schools, and nonprofit sites not currently included. The motion was referred to the Energy and Environment Committee. On July 14, 2016, the file was administratively closed.

## Zero Waste LA Franchises / Facilitating Organics Recycling in Compliance with AB 1826

**ACTOR** | CITY COUNCIL  
**FILE NO.** | 14-1432  
**CATEGORY** | ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY  
**STATUS** | ADOPTED

On September 17, 2013, Councilmember Tom LaBonge moved to request a report on measures that address providing meal services to individuals in public rights of way and provide legislative options and draft legislation on non-commercial feeding in public rights of way. The motion cited safety and sanitary concerns of food line operations to feed the homeless. The motion was Referred to the Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee. On July 26, 2016, the file was administratively closed.

## Sale of Energy Drinks / Warning Signage / Effects of Energy Drinks Consumption

**ACTOR** | CITY COUNCIL  
**FILE NO.** | 13-0281  
**CATEGORY** | FOOD ACCESS & SECURITY  
**STATUS** | EXPIRED

Noting the potential risks of energy drinks, Councilmember Bernard Parks moved on March 6, 2013, for the Police Department to "be instructed to report with options and recommendations relative to requiring special store shelf storage and/or warning signage for the retail sale of energy drinks, as well as restricting or limiting the consumption of energy drinks by city personnel while on duty." The motion was referred to the Arts, Parks, Health, and Aging Committee and the Health, Mental Health, and Education Committee. The file was administratively closed on July 15, 2016.

## Prohibit the Growth of Genetically Modified Crops Within City Limits

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**ACTOR** | CITY COUNCIL  
**FILE NO.** | 13-1374  
**CATEGORY** | ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY  
**STATUS** | PENDING

On October 18, 2013, Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Mitch O'Farrell moved to request the City Attorney to draft an ordinance that would prohibit the growth of genetically modified crops within city limits. The City Attorney submitted a draft ordinance to City Council on November 11, 2014. The motion is currently pending in the Health, Mental Health, and Education Committee.

## Establishment of Minimum Wage in Los Angeles / Ordinance

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**ACTOR** | MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
**FILE NO.** | 14-1371  
**CATEGORY** | FOOD ACCESS & SECURITY  
**STATUS** | ADOPTED

On October 7, 2014, Councilmembers Mike Bonin, Gilbert A. Cedillo, Nury Martinez, and Curren D. Price moved for the City Attorney to draft an ordinance establishing a minimum wage. The City Council adopted on June 1, 2016, and the Mayor approved on June 2, 2016, Ordinance Number 183612, which raises the minimum wage to \$15 per hour in Los Angeles by 2020. The ordinance became effective June 6, 2016.

## Depts. of Airport, Harbor, and Water & Power / Good Food Purchasing Guidelines / Mayoral Executive Directive 24

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**ACTOR** | CITY COUNCIL  
**FILE NO.** | 11-1678-SI  
**CATEGORY** | GOOD FOOD ECONOMY  
**STATUS** | PENDING

On October 14, 2015 Councilmember Paul Koretz moved for the Airport, Harbor and Water and Power departments to "be requested to comply with the City's Good Food Purchasing Guidelines by incorporating in all future amended, re-stated, and new concession agreements involving food and beverage services the goal of compliance with the Good Food Purchasing Guidelines," in order to have these departments step up the pace of their efforts with regard to the good food procurement goals. On December 2, 2015, the motion was referred to the Energy and Environment Committee and the Innovation, Grants, Technology, Commerce and Trade Committee. The matter remains pending in committee.

## Comprehensive Job Creation Plan

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**ACTOR** | CITY COUNCIL  
**FILE NO.** | 15-0850  
**CATEGORY** | GOOD FOOD ECONOMY  
**STATUS** | ADOPTED

On July 1, 2015, Councilmember Herb Wesson introduced a motion for the City to create a comprehensive job creation plan. The motion recommends, among other things, investigating how to "maintain and grow niche industries important to the City of Los Angeles," including urban agriculture. The motion was adopted on October 26, 2016.

## Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone Ordinance for L.A. City

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**ACTOR** | CITY COUNCIL  
**FILE NO.** | 14-1378  
**CATEGORY** | URBAN AG, LAND USE  
**STATUS** | ADOPTED

On October 8, 2014, City Councilmembers Felipe Fuentes and Curren Price introduced a motion for City Council to instruct the Department of City Planning and the Department of Building and Safety, in consultation with the City Attorney, to prepare and present an ordinance establishing Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones in accordance with AB 551. The motion was referred to the Planning and Land Use Committee which approved the recommendation in the motion on May 6, 2015. On December 7, 2016, the Los Angeles City Planning Commission submitted a report with a proposed ordinance amending the Los Angeles Municipal Code to add a definition for Urban Agricultural Incentive Zone and establish an Urban Agricultural Incentive Zone Program. On December 23, 2016, the report was referred to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee.

## Los Angeles Emergency Water Conservation Plan Ordinance

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**ACTOR** | CITY COUNCIL  
**FILE NO.** | 15-0540  
**CATEGORY** | ENVIRON. & SUSTAINABILITY, URBAN AG  
**STATUS** | ADOPTED

On April 19, 2016, the City Council passed an ordinance restricting when and how Los Angeles Department of Water and Power customers can use water. The City made an exception to its rules limiting when customers can water gardens, lawns, and landscapes for food gardens.

## Farmers Markets / Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Cards

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**ACTOR** | CITY COUNCIL  
**FILE NO.** | 15-1511  
**CATEGORY** | FOOD ACCESS & SECURITY  
**STATUS** | PENDING

On December 16, 2015, Councilmember Jose Huizar moved for the Department of Public Works to report on the City's authority to require EBT (CalFresh) access at farmers markets and develop a policy for monitoring and enforcing an EBT access requirement at farmers markets and requiring proof of EBT card acceptance when applying for a special events permit to operate a farmers market on City property. The Council adopted the motion on May 13, 2016. The City Attorney submitted a draft ordinance including an amendment to the municipal code requiring EBT card acceptance at farmers markets on City property or on City streets. The Department of Building and Safety also submitted a report which documented the procedure for issuing special event permits to farmers markets on private property to require markets to accept EBT cards as well. The Entertainment and Facilities Committee approved the ordinance with these amendments on December 13, 2016.

## Street Vending / Special Sidewalk Vending District Program

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**ACTOR** | CITY COUNCIL  
**FILE NO.** | 13-1493  
**CATEGORY** | GOOD FOOD ECONOMY, LAND USE  
**STATUS** | PENDING

On November 6, 2013, Councilmembers Jose Huizar and Curren D. Price moved for the City to adopt an ordinance that would permit food vending on sidewalks in Los Angeles. The motion resulted in the production of several reports by the Chief Legislative Analyst and the submission of various public communications and community impact statements. The Economic Development Committee held three hearings, and solicited feedback and then transmitted the council file to the Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee in October 2015. Councilmembers Joe Buscaino and Curren D. Price, as Chairs of the Economic Development Committee and Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee respectively, used the collected stakeholder input and jointly submitted for Council's consideration a sidewalk vending framework with recommendations. The Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee held a public hearing for the proposed framework on December 12, 2016 at which time they approved the framework proposed with recommendations for Council with amendments to establish an amnesty provision for existing sidewalk and vendor misdemeanors, and to direct the Chief Legislative Analyst and City Administrative Officer to research sidewalk vending policies and report relative to how other cities take into consideration nearby businesses when issuing sidewalk vending permits.

## Proclaim March 2016 National Nutrition Month

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**ACTOR** | BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
**FILE NO.** | 16-1258  
**CATEGORY** | FOOD ACCESS & SECURITY  
**STATUS** | ADOPTED

On March 8, 2016, Supervisor Hilda Solis introduced a motion to proclaim March 2016 as National Nutrition Month in L.A. County and to encourage residents to observe the month with activities intended to reduce hunger and improve food choices. The motion was adopted the same day.

## Child and Adult Care Food Program

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**ACTOR** | BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
**FILE NO.** | 16-0823  
**CATEGORY** | FOOD ACCESS & SECURITY  
**STATUS** | ADOPTED

Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas and Hilda Solis moved to have the county's Department of Parks and Recreation contract with the California Department of Education's Child and Adult Care Food Program to provide snacks for youth in after school programs in county parks. The contract would serve to enable the county to continue providing snacks in parks after cuts in federal funding. The motion was introduced and approved February 9, 2016.

## Urban Agriculture Incentives Zone Program for L.A. County

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**ACTOR** | BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
**ORD NO.** | 2016-0023  
**CATEGORY** | URBAN AG, LAND USE  
**STATUS** | ADOPTED

On April 12, 2016, the L.A. County Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance amending Title 22 Planning and Zoning of the Los Angeles County Code to implement the Urban Agriculture Incentives Zone Act (California Government Code 51040 et seq.). The ordinance establishes an Urban Agriculture Incentives Zone Program for the unincorporated territory of L.A. County and enables incorporated cities to follow suit. The ordinance incentivizes owners of vacant or unimproved lots to utilize these properties for small-scale urban agriculture.

## Liquor License - Healthy Food Component

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**ACTOR** | BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
**FILE NO.** | UNKNOWN  
**CATEGORY** | FOOD ACCESS & SECURITY, LAND USE  
**STATUS** | ADOPTED

On May 24, 2016, the Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas moved for the Director of Planning to prepare an ordinance amending County Code, Title 22 – Planning and Zoning to, among other things, require and incentivize the sale of healthy food at retail stores that sell alcohol. The motion permitted the Director or Planning to separate the healthy food component of the ordinance. The motion also directed the Department of Public Health to report on efforts to support healthy food retail, additional resources needed to expand efforts, best practices, and a strategy to receive input from the community and stakeholders. The County Board of Supervisors approved the motion on May 31, 2016.

## Promoting Healthy Habits and Reducing Food Waste Through Analysis and Advocacy

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**ACTOR** | BOARD OF EDUCATION  
**FILE NO.** | RES. 024-16/17  
**CATEGORY** | ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY  
**STATUS** | ADOPTED

On September 20, 2016, Monica Ratliff moved for the Governing Board of the L.A. Unified School District to direct the Superintendent to implement no more than 21 pilot programs to study options to increase dairy consumption and reduce food waste. The pilot programs would permit the reintroduction of flavored milk, including chocolate milk, on school menus. The resolution also resolved that the Superintendent direct the Office of Government Relations to draft a report on the possibility of advocating to eliminate milk from U.S.D.A. reimbursement rules within 45 days and report back to the Board with the District-wide cost neutral solutions within 160 days. The resolution was adopted on October 18, 2016.

# About **this tracker**

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## Methodology

To collect data for this tracker, the Resnick Program monitored relevant policy issues and conducted systemic term searches in the following data sources: [LACityClerk Connect](#), [Los Angeles Times](#), and [LACity.org](#) search engines, and evaluated the results for their relevance. The following search terms were used: “food,” “agriculture,” “gardening,” “vending,” “soda,” “meals,” “farm,” “grocery,” “hunger,” “nutrition,” “fruit,” “vegetable,” “seed,” and “food policy.” Searches were also conducted on the [County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors](#), [Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education](#), [Los Angeles County Department of Public Health](#), and [Los Angeles Mayor’s Office](#) websites.

Based on the categories used in the [LA Food System Snapshot](#), a data report drafted by the Los Angeles Food Policy Council, these policies were sorted into the five following categories: food economy, urban agriculture, environment and sustainability, land use, and food security and access. These terms are explained in the following table. Policies in this tracker account for substantial policy announcements, proposals, or changes by governmental bodies that fall under at least one of the five categories listed above. Policies regarding drug or alcohol regulation, ceremonial renaming, commendatory resolutions, permit or grant approvals, or statements of support for federal or state food policy issues, legislation, or proposals are not included in this tracker. Given the volume of activity on matters related to food policy, this tracker may be under-inclusive. Suggestions for additions to tracker, or other feedback, can be sent to [resnickprogram@law.ucla.edu](mailto:resnickprogram@law.ucla.edu).

FOOD ECONOMY	Policies that impact food business development, social enterprise, and demand for food through procurement.
URBAN AG	Policies that consider urban agriculture like zoning amendments, water use policy, health and safety regulations, business licenses, and other considerations.
LAND USE	Policies that amend zoning or change regulations that deal with how space may be used in a way that allows or hinders greater access to food.
FOOD ACCESS & SECURITY	Policies that increase or decrease access to fresh, healthy, and affordable food and address the physical, economic, or other barriers that prevent food access.
ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY	Policies that impact the environment, food waste, use and stewardship of land, and conservation.

## Production

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# About the **Resnick Program for Food Law & Policy**

The Resnick Program for Food Law and Policy studies and advances breakthrough solutions for improving the modern food system. Based at UCLA Law, the Resnick Program is a think tank focused on developing key legal and policy strategies, timely research, and practical tools to foster a food system that benefits both consumers and the environment. Covering a wide range of local, national, and global food policy topics and issues, the program promotes its values of equity, transparency, and good governance for all through:

- Law and Policy Research and Education
- Leadership Development & Student Training
- Creating Practical Solutions for Food System Challenges

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# About the **Los Angeles Food Policy Council**

The Los Angeles Food Policy Council (LAFPC) is a collective impact initiative, working to make Southern California a Good Food region for everyone—where food is healthy, affordable, fair and sustainable.

Through policy creation and cooperative relationships, our goals are to reduce hunger, improve public health, increase equity in our communities, create good jobs, stimulate local economic activity, and foster environmental stewardship. In particular, the LAFPC aims to connect environmental sustainability and local agriculture with efforts to expand access to healthy food in historically disenfranchised communities.

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