Sustainable Food System

Better Health and Well Being

Stewardship of Environmental Resources

Economic Growth and Jobs
County Food System Task Force Formation
Waste & Hunger

Up to 40% of all food grown is wasted:
Wasted water, energy, labor, environmental impacts

1 in 6 San Diegans are food insecure.

Increase Food Recovery:
Health, economic & environmental benefits
Food Recovery Hierarchy

www.epa.gov/foodrecoverychallenge

- **Source Reduction**
  Reduce the volume of surplus food generated

- **Feed Hungry People**
  Donate extra food to food banks, soup kitchens and shelters

- **Feed Animals**
  Divert food scraps to animal feed

- **Industrial Uses**
  Provide waste oils for rendering and fuel conversion and food scraps for digestion to recover energy

- **Composting**
  Create a nutrient-rich soil amendment

- **Landfill/Incineration**
  Last resort to disposal
Food Waste
→ Compost
→ Soil Inputs
Wasted Food

Recovery

Food Insecure People

In the United States, 1 in 6 people struggles with hunger
Harvest
- Gleaning - residential properties
  - Donation
  - Diversion (composting) of spoiled or damaged loads
- Food recovery on farms
  - Donation
  - Diversion (composting)
  - Source Reduction

Processing/Packaging
- Packing houses
  - Donation
  - Diversion (composting)

Distribution
- Transportation/delivery companies
  - Donation
  - Diversion (composting)

Food banks
- Diversion (composting) of spoiled or damaged loads

Retail
- Grocery/Farmer’s Markets
  - Donation
  - Diversion (composting)
  - Source Reduction

Food Service:
- restaurants, catering, large venues, grocery/farmers’ markets
  - Prepared food recovery/donation
  - Source reduction
  - Diversion (composting)
Challenges & Opportunities

- Many existing groups & partners: food banks, meal services/pantries, advocacy & policy groups, gleaners/recovery groups, recyclers, government agencies & private institutions
- Effective and timely information exchange between generators/donators and food recovery organizations
- San Diego’s agricultural sector/year round growing season
- Private industry champions
- Ensure safe food handling during recovery
- Building capacity within food recovery groups: increased transportation and cold storage
- Distribution to ‘food insecure’ residents
- Waste diversion laws & incentives to donate
- NRDC and Ad Council campaign in the fall
Thank You!