

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN  
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

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**Good Food Purchasing Program Pilot**

Diet-related chronic diseases are a major public health problem in Los Angeles County (County). In 2015, 23.5% of adults were obese and 9.8% of adults had diabetes. In 2017, rates of obesity and overweight for teens in Los Angeles County was 26.5%. According to data from a large health plan, approximately 75% of County of Los Angeles employees are overweight or obese.

To respond to this growing obesity epidemic and risk for diet-related illnesses, the Department of Public Health (DPH) has worked since 2011 to improve the nutritional quality of food offered and sold in seven County of Los Angeles departments, including the Probation Department, Chief Executive Office, Department of Beaches and Harbors, Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Health Services, Department of Public Works, and Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). Through the Healthy Food Promotion in County Food Service Contracts motion adopted in 2011, DPH reviews all new and/or renewing food service request for proposals to ensure dietary requirements

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SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

BARGER \_\_\_\_\_

HAHN \_\_\_\_\_

integrated into the final contracts promote healthy nutrition. DPH has successfully partnered with other County departments to integrate venue-specific nutrition standards (i.e., sodium reduction limits, behavioral economics approaches) in more than 17 food service contracts.

The County of Los Angeles serves approximately 37 million snacks and meals per year with an annual cost for foods totaling approximately \$23 million. These food programs include the Summer Lunch and Snack Program, Senior Meal Program, patient meals served in County hospitals, and individuals served in the County's jails and juvenile detention centers. Given the local burden of obesity and diet-related diseases, exploring innovative ways to leverage institutional food purchasing to procure more nutritious, sustainable, fair and humanely produced foods is needed.

The Good Food Purchasing Program (GFPP) could serve as a framework to shift food purchasing in the County based on "good food" values. These values fall within the following five categories: 1) local economies; 2) environmental sustainability; 3) valued workforce; 4) animal welfare; and 5) nutrition. The Program "provides institutions with the framework and tools to help facilitate values-based purchasing and build a more equitable and sustainable food system." Each value has three levels of implementation standards: Level 1 (baseline standards), Level 2 and Level 3. To understand lessons learned with the implementation of the GFPP including programmatic challenges, successes and potential program modifications, a pilot demonstration is needed to help inform further implementation of this program within the County of Los Angeles.

The pilot project should implement the level 1, baseline standards to as many of the five value categories of the GFPP as may be possible at no additional cost, and should

build upon existing policies and processes already in place within the County – e.g., the 2011 Board motion, Healthy Food Promotion in Los Angeles County Food Service Contracts.

**WE, THEREFORE MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Instruct the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to conduct a one-year pilot project, beginning within 60 days, for the implementation of Level 1, baseline standards for as many of the five value categories of the GFPP as possible, with technical assistance on implementation provided by the Center for Good Food Purchasing (Center) and in coordination with the Department of Public Health (DPH). The one-year pilot will be at no additional cost and in collaboration with the existing Summer Food Service and After School Snack Programs contractor on a voluntary basis;
2. Instruct the Director of the DPH, in consultation with the DPR, to evaluate the pilot project and to report back to the Board in 180 days on the Program’s progress and on the DPR’s readiness to further scale the program beyond the pilot;
3. Should the pilot project prove successful, instruct the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the Director of DPH and the Director of DPR to develop and report back on a funding/financial plan for the GFPP; and
4. Authorize the Director of DPR to negotiate and execute Amendment(s) to the Summer Food Service and After School Snack Programs Contract between the County and Revolution Foods, Inc., as needed to meet the requirements of the GFPP, upon the identification of a funding source by the CEO.

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