

Healthy Food Promotion in LA County Food Services Contracts

On September 7, 2010, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors directed the Department of Health Services (DHS) to consult with the Department of Public Health (DPH) prior to the release of their dietary services Request for Proposals (RFP). These efforts will ensure the final RFP promotes healthy nutrition choices at County-operated hospitals and clinics in compliance with previously adopted Board policies. Further, this interdepartmental partnership will promote wellness that will benefit employees, patients, their families and other County residents.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), through its recent Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) Initiative, has provided funding to large cities, counties and school districts to improve the nutritional quality of food and beverage offerings in public programs, particularly those serving children and other vulnerable populations. As a CPPW grantee, one of DPH's key grant objectives is to

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work with its programs and with other County departments to improve the nutritional quality of foods and beverages served in County facilities and programs. In implementing efforts designed to achieve this goal, the County will both be viewed as a model for other jurisdictions and be better positioned to receive future federal funding to support obesity prevention activities in Los Angeles County. In particular, additional federal funding to support an extension of such work is expected to soon be available through the Affordable Care Act's Community Transformation Grants.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Instruct the CEO and County Departments to consult with the Director of the Department of Public Health prior to the release of any Requests for Proposals for County food services contracts that involve the purchase, distribution, and/or sale of food and beverages in County facilities and programs to ensure that dietary requirements within the final contract promote healthy nutrition and comply with previously adopted Board policies. The Director of the Department of Public Health will work directly with affected agencies to incorporate nutrition recommendations to the extent feasible within each contract.

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