

# Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Management Future Outreach and Education, Regional Countywide, and County Unincorporated Communities Subcommittee Meeting

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Los Angeles County Department of Public Works  
900 S. Fremont Ave, Alhambra CA 91803  
Conference Room B

Thursday, August 9, 2018  
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

## MEETING SUMMARY

### Welcome and Introductions

Kimberly Lyman, Public Works

- Attendees were welcomed, and participants introduced themselves.

### LA County Food DROP Outreach Event

Jennifer King, Public Works (Presentation begins on slide [#3](#))

- Background of the Food Donation and Recovery Outreach Program (DROP).
  - 1 in 7 adults, and 1 in 5 children, are food insecure in LA County. There are about 10 million residents in LA County which means approximately 1.5 million individuals are struggling with food.
  - The County Unincorporated Communities toss about 128,000 tons of food, or about 230 million meals, into the trash each year.
  - The County is partnering with local charities to offer businesses a food donation option, Food Donation and Recovery Outreach Program (Food DROP).
- Goals of the program are to raise awareness of food insecurity, encourage businesses to participate in Food DROP by donating surplus edible food, reduce food waste, and comply with SB 1383 (at least 20% of edible food that is currently disposed of is recovered for human consumption by 2025).
- 229 non-profits were surveyed, 39 non-profits agreed to partner with the County for Food DROP.
  - Food DROP non-profits/charities will accept many types of food, some including meat, produce, and prepared meals, and others will only accept canned and/or dry food. Currently, 10 out of the 39 non-profits do not have transportation to provide a pick-up service.
- [www.FoodDROPLA.com](http://www.FoodDROPLA.com) was launched in January 2018.
- The Board of Supervisors proclaimed March 5-9, 2018, as “Food Waste Prevention Week” to encourage businesses in the County of Los Angeles to participate in Food DROP, and urged all residents, public officials and County employees, as well as community groups, clubs, and organizations to join in activities and take action to reduce food waste.

- Next steps: Visit and reach out to 150 large food generators, most are considered to fall under SB 1383 Tier I; survey businesses on their interest in food donation; develop a grant program to support non-profits and the food recovery infrastructure; and launch the food recovery campaign, “A Day Without Hunger”.

**Discussion**

Attendees provided the following comments and feedback:

- Food Service Distributors include government entities with cafeterias that distribute food to employees. They will be required to donate excess edible food per SB 1383.
- What is the program offering to the businesses for participating in Food DROP?
  - Developing a decal to show that businesses are participants.
  - Considering promotional material, such as, check trays, pens, etc.
  - Collateral support materials that businesses can use (containers, blankets to control temperatures, labels, etc.).
  - Businesses that have signed up with the program will be featured during the “A Day Without Hunger” campaign in addition to receiving a decal/window cling and being recognized on the Food DROP website.
- A suggestion was made to include an educational component where kids can learn about Food DROP in schools, how to handle food and get their parents involved as well.
- The Food DROP team is a partnership with local governments, non-profit organizations, and schools.
- A suggestion was made to research parts of the County where people are already paying or frequenting businesses that donate food.
  - Develop a strategic plan to encourage participation in areas that are not experiencing a higher volume of participants.
- The program should have more community engagement. The more people buy in, the more they will pressure businesses to participate. The program needs liaisons to handle community involvement.
- What kind of tax write-offs are available?
  - No definite monetary value, businesses are advised to consult with their accountant/financial advisor.

**Meeting Participants**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Ken Pellman	ACWM
Iris Regn	Arts Commission
Rita Kampalath	CEO
Candy Rodarte	Internal Services
Lois Giron	Internal Services
Inna Sarac	Medical Examiner - Coroner
Alex Mena	Parks & Recreation

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Bernadet Garcia-Silva	Public Health
Jose Galindo	Public Health
Andrew Lee	Public Works - EPD
Arlene Morales	Public Works - EPD
Armando C. Aguilar	Public Works - EPD
Bella Hernandez	Public Works - EPD
Diana Lee	Public Works - EPD
Kawsar Vazifdar	Public Works - EPD
Kelli Evans	Public Works - EPD
Kimberly Lyman	Public Works - EPD
La Salle Duong	Public Works - EPD
Nilda Gemeniano	Public Works - EPD
Patrick Holland	Public Works - EPD
Sharon Kong	Public Works - EPD
Suk Chong	Public Works - EPD
Theresa Hernandez	Public Works - EPD
Veronica Murray	Public Works - EPD
Vigen Abramyan	Public Works - EPD
Willa Zheng	Public Works - EPD
Anna Petrosyan	Registrar Recorder/County Clerk