

NEWS

FROM THE OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER
PAUL KORETZ
FIFTH DISTRICT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LA CITY FOOD PURCHASING POLICY RECOGNIZED BY UNITED NATIONS “FUTURE POLICY 2018” AWARD

October 15, 2018 – Los Angeles, CA – The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in conjunction with the World Future Council and IFoam Organics International, has awarded the City of Los Angeles a 2018 Future Policy Award, honorable mention, for its adoption of the Good Food Purchasing Policy and Program (GFPP) in 2012. The policy was adopted on Food Day 2012 through Executive Order of Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa as well as a concurrent motion authored by Councilmember Paul Koretz and seconded by then-Councilmember/now-Mayor Eric Garcetti and Councilmember Jose Huizar. The development of the GFPP itself was accomplished by the LA Food Policy Council (LAFPC), then-headed by its founder, Paula Daniels, a Senior Advisor to Mayor Villaraigosa. Since the adoption of the GFPP by the City, the program has received international attention. It was spun off from the LAFPC to a new entity, the Center for Good Food Purchasing, which owns and manages the program’s expansion throughout the country while LAFPC remains a local partner in managing its implementation in LA City and County.

The Good Food Purchasing Program creates a transparent supply chain and helps institutions to measure and make shifts in their food purchases. It is the first procurement model to support five food systems values in equal measure: local economies, environmental sustainability, valued workforce, animal welfare and nutrition. Within just six years, the policy has achieved an impressive impact. Through the continued leadership of the LA City Council, it is now mandatory for all City departments of Los Angeles. It is also mandatory for the LA Unified School District (LAUSD), which, together with the City, serves about 750,000 meals a day and has an annual budget of \$185 million for food. Due to its adoption of the GFPP, LAUSD has reduced its purchases of all industrially produced meat by 32%, reduced its carbon and water footprint by 20% and 20.5% per meal respectively. The policy has set off a nationwide movement to establish similar policies in municipalities small and large. Through the efforts of the Center for Good Food Purchasing, there are now 27 participating public institutions in 14 U.S. cities, which collectively spend nearly \$895 million on food each year.

“Our Good Food Purchasing Policy is focused on promoting environmental responsibility, sustainable communities, and healthy families,” **said Mayor Eric Garcetti**. “Los Angeles is proud to gain global recognition for our local leadership, because we know that ensuring access to nutritious food and affordable meals is essential to empowering our students and offering our most vulnerable residents a pathway out of poverty and into the middle class.”

“The United Nations is acknowledging what we already knew, that our Good Food Purchasing Policy (GFPP) is world-class,” **said Councilmember Paul Koretz**. “The values the GFPP supports are simple and common sense, particularly in the face of widespread environmental degradation and dangerous amounts of greenhouse gas emissions released due to the operations of the extractive industrial food complex. This has been an ongoing team effort, from Mayor Garcetti to the Council’s current and former chairs of our food committee, Councilmembers David Ryu and Mitch O’Farrell. I’m so proud of our continuing partnership with the LA Food Policy Council and the Center for Good Food Purchasing, which is, quite literally, changing the world.”

- MORE -

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“We are immensely grateful for this international recognition, **said Paula Daniels, Co-founder and Chief of What’s Next for the [Center for Good Food Purchasing](#)**. “In calling out the 2012 adoption of the GFPP by the City of Los Angeles, the award recognizes the boldness and vision of the city leaders in its early adoption of our groundbreaking program. It was truly a watershed moment that has spawned a new organization and a nationwide movement, proving again the worth of the innovative leadership that is the defining Los Angeles spirit.”

“Now more than ever do we need cities to take leadership to invest in regenerative, fair and resilient food systems,” said **Clare Fox, Executive Director, [LA Food Policy Council](#)**. “Los Angeles broke new ground in 2012 with the GFPP. The mandate of climate change is that we keep pushing for good food for all, sourced from sustainable, local farms.”

The 2018 Future Policy Award was awarded in Rome, Italy, on Monday, October 15, 2018. Recognizing that a transition to sustainable food and agriculture systems is crucial to achieve sustainable development and climate resilience, the 2018 Future Policy Award celebrates policies that create enabling environments that advance such a transition.

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