

4/9/17 Edible Food Recovery and Diversion Subcommittee Meeting Notes:

Two founders of the Berkeley Food Network founders were in attendance, Sara Webber and Kate Campbell. They gave us an overview of their work, which is focused on streamlining donated and purchased food collection and distribution. With better coordination and shared resources, they hope to capture more edible food and food related items for distribution and thereby reduce waste, and to streamline operations, which would make donating food simpler, enhance purchasing power for sourced food, and reduce volunteer time / green house gas emissions in distribution.

Currently, they are conducting research on the specific capabilities and needs of the 35 food insecurity related non profits in Berkeley. They are working with NorCal Recycling A(agency?) on understanding diversion efforts. See p. 3 of attached sample grant application. Thanks to Toni Stein.

We discussed the means by which the commission can support their efforts.

We then drew a diagram of donated food & related items / food waste paths toward distribution, compost, recycling, and waste and zeroed in, pun intended, on where we can help as a subcommittee and a Commission.

We would like to take the Organizing Questions to the Commission for Comment, Input, and Approval. At our May 22 meeting, we would like to invite the Berkeley Food Network people to present to the Commission.

Organizing Questions (to be discussed and approved by the Zero Waste Commission):

1. How can we support those who distribute donated food in achieving highest and best use for the food and food related resources? Both those resources currently available and potentially available?
2. How can we support efforts to reduce both waste and green house gas emissions in food/ related food items pick up and delivery?
3. How can we effectively liaise with other relevant commissions, such as Community Health, that we can then execute?
4. As a result of this inquiry, what information should we disseminate to staff and council?
5. What policies, reports, or ordinances should we draft and send to Council, if any?