

City of Tehachapi-SB 1383-Edible Food Recovery Partnership Program

As we continue our compliance efforts with those of Senate Bill 1383, approved by the State of California Legislature in 2018 and implemented in 2022, a series of programs, including an edible food recovery plan for the City of Tehachapi is required.

Our Edible Food Recovery Partnership Program is established to meet the goals of SB 1383 which include reducing food waste and help address food insecurity, SB 1383 requires that by 2025 California will recover 20 percent of edible food that would otherwise be sent to landfills, to feed people in need. The law directs the following:

- Jurisdictions must establish food recovery programs and strengthen their existing food recovery networks.
- Food donors must arrange to recover the maximum amount of their edible food that would otherwise go to landfills.
- Food recovery organizations and services that participate in SB 1383 must maintain records.

These provisions have been adopted as a part of the Tehachapi Municipal Code via Ordinance No. 22-04-769 adopted by the Tehachapi City Council earlier this year.

Existing Partners

The City of Tehachapi has identified our local Salvation Army who has a robust and strong edible food recovery program. The City of Tehachapi intends to partner with both the Salvation Army and any other edible food recovery organizations or food banks to ensure compliance with the provisions of this law. The State of California has classified certain large food producing facilities into the categories of Tier I and Tier II generators and requires that all Tier I generators be in compliance with SB 1383 and donate as much edible food as possible to a program like this.

With the assistance of the County of Kern, local contract hauler WM and the Salvation Army, the City of Tehachapi has identified only five Tier I generators in the City:

- Walmart
- Albertsons
- Save Mart
- Dollar General
- *California Correctional Institution (Confirmed that there is no stream of edible food to be recovered due to the State control over inmate meals, portions and procurement).*

In addition, in 2024 when SB 1383 requires the smaller Tier II generators to comply with the same requirements, we have identified only one Tier II generator: Tehachapi Unified School District and their local campuses with on-site food prep facilities.

As we focus on the current compliance the City sought to identify community organizations and food banks that were already undertaking these efforts and assist them with monitoring requirements as to not create additional City departments for these efforts.

As mentioned, the Tehachapi Salvation Army currently has food donation agreements in place with all the previously mentioned Tier I generators in the City of Tehachapi and on a weekly basis receives edible food donations from these businesses. These items are distributed locally to residents both in Tehachapi and East Kern in conjunction with the efforts of the Community Action Partnership of Kern.

The City of Tehachapi has been in contact with staff at the Salvation Army and are doing the following to strengthen our relationship as it applies to edible food recovery and SB 1383 compliance.

- City receives monthly reports and year-to-date totals of edible food donations from all Tier I generators in the city to the Salvation Army. These numbers are reported by the City on an annual basis to CalRecycle as it relates to diversion from the landfill as a part of our Electronic Annual Report process.
- SB 1383 requires inspection of Tier I generators to ensure they are donating as much edible food as possible before disposing of it in the landfill. The City will collaborate with our community partners should a concern be reported during other food-service or recycling related inspections about the amount of edible food being donated and respond accordingly to under the provisions of Tehachapi Municipal Code 08.05.060.
- The City of Tehachapi will ensure any potential new Tier I or Tier II generators opening for business in the City are educated about the requirements of SB 1383 and involved with edible food recovery in compliance with the Municipal Code via outreach.
- The City will identify as necessary, any additional organizations with agreements in place with edible food generators and request records as necessary and work under the same conditions listed above.

Fiscal Impact:

The City of Tehachapi was awarded a \$21,000 grant from CalRecycle to assist with the implementation of the provisions of SB 1383 and will seek reimbursement for any charges necessary.

Recommendation:

Adopt a resolution approving the City of Tehachapi's Edible Food Rescue Partnership Program and authorize the Mayor to sign.