



**SF Environment**  
Our home. Our city. Our planet.  
A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

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## **ZERO WASTE PROGRAM FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GRANT AWARDS (2017-2019)**

San Francisco Department of the Environment's Zero Waste program issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on February 6, 2017. The RFP articulated the goals of the funding and outlined specific evaluation and scoring criteria to be used in the selection process.

It was sent to more than 1500 organizations on the Department's RFP contact lists. Department staff forwarded the RFP to their individual contact lists. It was also posted on websites of the Department of the Environment, CCSF and other city departments. It was forwarded to the contact lists of municipal and other grantmaking organizations, as well as posted by local, regional and statewide trade and industry associations.

Twenty-one proposals were received on March 24, 2017 requesting a total of \$2,565,718. A three-member evaluation panel, composed of two Department staff and one external zero waste professional with non-profit experience, reviewed and scored the proposals. Based on the scores of the written proposals and follow-up oral interviews, staff recommends that the Commission on the Environment approve the following awards to twelve organizations, for a combined total grant amount of \$837,000 to be disbursed over a two-year period covering FY 2017-2019. Four of the grantees are new to Department of the Environment funding.

### **Asian Pacific American Community Center (APACC)**

APACC's mission is to help strengthen Asian Pacific American families living in Visitation Valley. This grant funding, will allow APACC to launch the Educating Communities Ourselves (ECO) Waste Program, which will reduce contamination of materials in all three material streams by educating low-income and Asian Pacific Islander residents in Visitation Valley, South of Market and the Tenderloin on recycling and composting. The ECO Program will use an Educate-Monitor-Educate model and rely on community members and volunteers to monitor resident's refuse bins.

### **Bio-link Depot (Bio-Link)**

Established in 2002, Bio-Link's goal is to redistribute biotech supplies and lab equipment destined to landfill to middle schools, high schools, colleges and universities that need low-cost equipment. This grant will fund the collection of unwanted lab supplies and equipment from UCSF and other San Francisco-based biotech companies and divert them to San Francisco schools and other educational institutions in the Bay Area.

### **Boys & Girls Clubs of San Francisco (BGCSF)**

One of San Francisco's oldest organizations, BGCSF has been active since 1891! It currently services 1,639 youth (ages 6-18) every day at 11 sites, including eight Clubhouses located in San Francisco neighborhoods with the fewest resources. This grant will enable BGCSF to employ their youth leadership model to recover materials currently destined for landfill by increasing composting and recycling at their three clubhouses serving at-potential youth: Don Fisher (Excelsior), Mission (Mission) and KIPP SF College Prep (Hunters Point). With guidance from staff the youth leaders will develop an education campaign to increase recycling and composting and sort trash daily to eliminate contamination.

### **Friends of San Francisco Public Library**

Friends of the San Francisco Library has the mission to strengthen, support and advocate for a superior free public library system in San Francisco. The grant will assist their Community Literacy Program (CLP), to increase the diversion of books from landfill by 75 tons over a two-year grant cycle for higher and better use. The goal of CLP is to promote access to free and low-cost books to San Francisco residents who need them.

### **Garden for the Environment (GFE, fiscal agent-San Francisco Parks Alliance)**

Since 1990, GFE has operated as a local demonstration site for small-scale urban ecological food production, organic gardening, composting and low water-use landscaping. It will help San Francisco residents continue to divert organic material from landfill through backyard composting and use of the curbside composting system, by providing free backyard composting and vermicomposting workshops and conducting the Gardening Composting Educator Training.

### **Literacy for Environmental Justice (LEJ)**

LEJ will reinforce the Department of Environment's in-school recycling and composting curriculum by providing hands-on outdoor activities for grades 6-12. In addition to supporting the City's Zero Waste goals activities will also help youth understand environmental justice issues.

### **Recycle for Change**

Recycle for Change collects and recycles used clothing and shoes to protect the environment and support sustainable development. It will recover textiles, including clothing, shoes and apparel, from landfill by placing new collection boxes in public locations, with a focus on providing boxes for residents in apartment buildings. This will greatly increase accessibility and convenience for San Francisco residents to recycle and reuse their unwanted textiles, particularly for those who rely on mass transit.

### **SCRAP**

SCRAP is the nation's oldest creative reuse depot (35 years). It provides much-needed arts and educational supplies for teachers and youth development organizations at a reasonable cost, as well as supporting local artists. It provides workshops for the community and holds regular materials giveaways for San Francisco teachers. Through this grant, SCRAP will divert wood, metal, glass, fabric, paper, beads, buttons and other material from landfill. Funding will allow SCRAP to increase collection operations, and encourage reuse through various education and outreach activities.

### **San Francisco Conservation Corps (SFCC)**

Founded in 1983, the SFCC offers young people opportunities to develop themselves, their academic abilities and marketable job skills while addressing community needs through service work. SFCC will recover material from landfill over two years by providing greening services for San Francisco events. They will increase recycling and composting practices among attendees, producers and corps members, help events get closer to zero waste and comply with the Mandatory Recycling and Composting Ordinance. Services will include consulting with producers to establish a successful recycling and composting plan, conduct the recycling and composting on the day of the event and track diversion rates for the events. This program diverts a significant amount of event waste from SF's waste stream, while employing and training young adults.

### **San Francisco State University (SFSU)**

This grant will help students from Apparel Design and Merchandizing program establish a collection, sorting, repair and sale of post-consumer textiles at the campus. The goal is to develop a scalable business model for diverting post-consumer textiles from landfill that could be replicated at other satellite sites. This collection/sorting model will be based on a "targeted ask strategy" to focus on specific categories of materials such as denim or athletic apparel, which will allow for the textiles to maintain a higher value.

### **San Francisco Wholesale Produce Market (The Produce Market)**

Located in Bayview Hunters Point, the Produce Market comprises 30 independent merchant businesses united at one distribution center. The grant will fund the expansion of their Food Recovery Project, which will eliminate the majority of its food waste by reducing the amount of food entering the waste stream, provide healthy produce that would otherwise be destined to landfill to vulnerable San Francisco populations and develop a model zero waste system for a multi-tenant facility.

### **University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) -Office of Sustainability**

The UCSF Office of Sustainability provides sustainability programming for the medical centers located at four separate campuses: Parnassus, Mt. Zion, Orthopedic Institute, and Mission Bay. This grant will fund UCSF Health Waste Diversion Project to increase recovery of material from landfill from the perioperative areas; increase plastic, cardboard and glass recycling in the operating rooms; replace disposable isolation gowns with a washable gown pilot; and share best practices with other local, national and global hospitals.

### **University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)-Recycling & Waste Reduction Program**

Housed in the University's Campus Life Services/Facility Services Department, the UCSF Recycling and Waste Reduction Program provides zero waste programs at all UCSF campus locations. This grant will fund reducing landfill tonnage from Student Housing where 1,498 students reside—primarily on the Mission Bay campus. This project will recover a significant amount of material by implementing sorting of trash, in parallel with a direct zero waste advertising campaign and strategic education programs on the UCSF Mission Bay Campus. The goal is to replicate the recent success at diverting a large fraction of the trash stream and reducing contamination in the recycling and composting on the UCSF Parnassus campus, which led to reduced waste expenses and the successful hiring of at-risk youth and the institutionalization of the program.