



SF Environment

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A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

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Mayor

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ZERO WASTE GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GRANT AWARDS (2021-2023)

San Francisco Department of the Environment's Zero Waste program issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on March 5, 2021. The RFP articulated the zero waste and educational 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, the City and County of San Francisco and promoted by other city departments including Rec and Park, SF Public Utilities Commission and the Department of Children, Youth and Families. It was forwarded by other grantmaking organizations, as well as posted by local, regional, and statewide trade and industry associations.

The Department received twenty-three zero waste proposals and four youth education proposals requesting a total of \$2,677,042. An evaluation panel, composed of three members with zero waste and non-profit experience, reviewed and scored the proposals. After evaluation and scoring, staff recommends the Commission on the Environment approve awards to fourteen organizations, for a combined total grant amount of \$1,037,000 to be disbursed over two years covering FY 2021-2023. Five of the grantees are new to Zero Waste funding.

In keeping with the Department's equity goals and its commitment to the City's COVID-19 recovery efforts these projects provide a range of community benefits, in addition to their zero waste focus.

Asian Pacific American Community Center (APACC)

APACC strengthens Asian Pacific American families living in Visitation Valley by providing linguistically and culturally appropriate programs and services for low- and moderate- income immigrant families with limited or no English proficiency. The Zero Waste grant will provide zero waste outreach and education to residents living in Sunnydale Housing Development and surrounding communities. Recommended award amount **\$70,000**.

Bike Hut Foundation

The Bike Hut offers rentals, repairs, and youth training using salvaged parts for bike creation and repairs. Located on Pier 40 in South Beach, this project will greatly expand Bike Hut's capacity to collect, repair, and distribute recycled bikes and parts from the general waste stream. Unusable material will be sorted and recycled rather than going to landfill. Youth job training in bike mechanics, science, and math are integrated in all aspects of the project. Recommended award amount **\$65,000**.

California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC)

CPSC is a collaboration of local governments, non-profits, businesses, and individuals supporting policies and projects where producers share in the responsibility for managing products at their end of life. CPSC and SF Goodwill will pilot a repair system for damaged garments and identify repair partners. Goodwill staff will be trained on recovering eligible products for their repair partners and ultimately sold at one of Goodwill's

established retail channels or events. Information, lessons learned, and recommendations from the pilot will inform future programs. Recommended award amount **\$120,000**

Charity Cultural Services Center (CCSC)

CCSC is a community development, educational, and employment support organization located in Chinatown with the goal of creating a healthy, vibrant Chinese-American community. Its Youth Environmental Awareness will advance the City's Zero Waste initiative by equipping high school students with zero waste know-how, and an environmental justice ethos. These emerging leaders will then impart their knowledge to children and their families in an intergenerational effort to promote the City's zero waste goals, and foster global awareness and sustainability. Recommended award amount **\$50,000**.

Center for Urban Education about Sustainable Agriculture (CUESA)

CUESA is a non-profit educational organization that cultivates a healthy local food system. Its Foodwise Teens program is a year-round workforce development program that empowers and educates underserved youth in school gardens, at farmers markets throughout the city, and in job placements. Through this project teens from 3 SFUSD schools will gain work experience, job skills, and confidence while deepening their relationship to nature and their commitment to reducing waste and caring for the environment. Youth participants will become agents of change in their own schools and communities. Recommended award amount **\$20,000**

Farming Hope

Farming Hope is a garden-to-table job training program that offers paid, empowering transitional employment in their gardens and kitchen for formerly incarcerated or unhoused San Franciscans. In 2020, they launched the Refettorio, their "soup kitchen with dignity", partnering with Food for Soul to feed residents in need in San Francisco. This project will recover 41,000 pounds of edible food—primarily produce—destined to landfill, and provide healthy meals to those in need. Recommended award amount **\$60,000**.

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 recover organic material from landfill through backyard composting and use of the curbside composting system, by providing free backyard composting and vermicomposting workshops. It will also conduct the Gardening Composting Educator Training, an depth course that trains educators on how to promote healthy communities and ecosystems, grow sustainable climate change resilient landscapes, and teach environmental stewardship in their neighborhoods. Recommended award amount **\$60,000**.

Literacy for Environmental Justice (LEJ)

LEJ provides eco-literacy, community development, and land stewardship throughout San Francisco's Southeastern neighborhoods. Its Eco-Adventure program connects local youth with natural areas in their own community and enhances well-being via exposure to gardens, parks, and open spaces. Through community events, kayaking trips, and outdoor lessons in their native plant nursery at Candlestick Point Park, LEJ provides youth, staff, and the surrounding community Zero Waste training that teaches about the interconnectedness of environmental justice, Zero Waste, and park stewardship. Recommended award amount **\$20,000**.

Race to Zero Waste (R20W)

R20W is educates individuals on zero waste principles and promotes reuse, source reduction, and avoidance of single-use plastics. It will provide Zero Waste Station pop-ups in publicly accessible spaces in San Francisco such as parks, beaches, and school grounds. These pop-ups will be a collection point for gently used surplus items

as well as traditional recycling and composting. R20Z will expand the impact of the pop-ups by including a comprehensive digital media educational campaign promoting zero waste to San Franciscans. Recommended award amount **\$60,000**.

San Francisco Market Corporation

The SF Market's Food Recovery program reduces the amount of food entering the waste stream by redistributing food to nonprofits serving under-resourced San Francisco communities. The grant ensures healthy produce is distributed to those in need. Recommended award amount **\$112,000**.

San Francisco Community Recyclers (SFCR)

SFCR operates Building Resources, a reused buildings materials yard located at 701 Amador Street. This project will keep building materials from landfill. Building Resources is San Francisco's only building supply reuse center. Materials come from the City's deconstruction and demolition projects—including lumber, windows, doors, bricks, cabinetry, lighting, and hardware. Materials are then sold at a low cost for reuse to local contractors, small businesses, and the general community. Recommended award amount **\$160,000**.

SF New Deal

SF New Deal was launched at the beginning of the pandemic to address food needs in San Francisco. It operates four community feeding programs that pay restaurants to make meals for food insecure San Franciscans, which have served 1.9 million meals. This project will expand its existing pilot to help restaurants and meal recipients at City-run and community-led feeding sites transition to reusable containers for their meal services. It will remove single use containers from the waste stream, composting the food scraps and leftovers. Recommended award amount **\$79,000**.

University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)-Sustainability Program

UCSF will dramatically reduce waste by transitioning from disposable surgical gowns and operating room towels, using reusables alternatives for foam products, and reducing surgical supply waste. In addition, this project will provide a cost and life cycle analysis to inform future purchasing decisions. Recommended award amount **\$100,000**.

YMCA of San Francisco

YMCA of SF will create a Re-Use Center to educate the public on zero waste and engage community members in activities that reduce waste. The Re-Use Center will be a physical site for waste materials and resources that will be captured for art and educational projects for YMCA participants and neighboring communities. Recommended award amount **\$55,000**.