

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Joshua P. Huntsinger, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

DATE: June 19, 2012

SUBJECT: Adopt a Resolution in support of the Sacramento Region Food System Charter.

ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt a resolution in support of the Sacramento Region Food System Charter. The charter supports a regional food system that will increase and maintain access to healthy foods for all residents of the region, supports the economic and environmental viability of agriculture in the region and supports educational opportunities to build a healthful, sustainable local food system.

BACKGROUND

The Sacramento Region Food System Charter is intended to demonstrate the values of supporting a regional food system that will increase and maintain access to healthy foods for all residents of the six-county Sacramento region, support the economic and environmental viability of agriculture, and support educational opportunities to carry these values forward. The Food System Charter was designed by the Sacramento Region Food System Collaborative and expands upon the 2003 Food Charter developed by the Sacramento Hunger Coalition.

The Sacramento Region Food System Collaborative is a diverse coalition of stakeholders working to increase access to healthy foods in underserved communities, increase associated educational opportunities, and encourage agriculture's success at all scales, including small and mid-sized farming operations.

The Placer County Board of Supervisors is being asked to show support for the Sacramento Food System Charter through adoption of a Resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

In the matter of:

Resol. No: _____

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE
SACRAMENTO REGION FOOD SYSTEM
CHARTER

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer
at a regular meeting held on June 19, 2012 by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its
passage.

Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attest:
Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, the Sacramento Region Food System Charter was developed through a collaborative effort by the 40+ community organizations, agencies and businesses that make up the Sacramento Region Food System Collaborative and it expands upon the 2003 Food Charter developed by the Sacramento Hunger Coalition; and

WHEREAS, the Sacramento Region Food System Charter impacts several local and state economic areas and lays the foundation to improve health, create jobs, improve the environment and create sustainable communities; and

WHEREAS, it draws public attention to the fact that access to an adequate, culturally appropriate, nutritious diet, contributes to the health and well-being of residents, reducing their need for medical care, and increases their productivity; and

WHEREAS, agriculture and food production are central to the regional economy, and the commitment to food security can strengthen the food sector's development and allow new growth; and

WHEREAS, locally grown and processed food may require less transportation to get from farm to table, which may reduce greenhouse gas emissions and criteria air pollutants; and

WHEREAS, the Sacramento region has some of the most fertile land in the world and should be protected and cultivated in an economically and environmentally sustainable manner for future generations; and

WHEREAS, agriculture provides valuable open space that enhances the quality of life of residents as well as providing flood protection; and

WHEREAS, providing education about nutrition, conservation, food preparation and origin is a critical element of building a healthful, sustainable and local food system; and

WHEREAS, the Sacramento Region Food System Charter advocates for land use and transportation policies that support secure access to healthful food, including increasing neighborhood access points for locally-grown food; and

WHEREAS, it promotes the preservation of local agricultural lands through supporting urban and rural agriculture, farmer's markets, farm stands and agri-tourism and supports activities that highlight the region's diverse and multicultural food traditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer, on behalf of the citizens of Placer County, supports the Sacramento Region Food System Charter which recognizes the importance of a secure, equitable, accessible, healthful, sustainable and local food system in the six counties of El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba that make up the Sacramento Metropolitan Region.

