Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)
Food Donation Policy

Improving Los Angeles World Airport’s (LAWA) material resources management programs is one of the four primary focus areas of the Sustainability Action Plan (SAP). Per the SAP, LAWA’s goal is to divert food waste from the landfill by 2028 and improve the overall non-construction waste diversion rate to 25% by 2025. The SAP identifies expanding food donation and food waste collection efforts, and improving waste reduction and recycling programs as key actions to achieving these goals.

LAWA is committed to reducing the volume of food waste generated at LAX by establishing the LAX Food Donation Policy (Policy), which will expand food donation efforts at the airport. The Policy supports SAP objectives and directly aligns with the City of Los Angeles’ Green New Deal (Sustainable City pLAN).

I. Food Donation Policy

The LAX Food Donation Policy requires existing concessionaires that sell or distribute grab-and-go food (pre-packaged, ready-to-eat food items often sold at a self-service refrigerator or something similar) at LAX to join a food donation program by December 31, 2020, and airline lounges, sit-down restaurants, and caterers to join a program by December 31, 2021. New concessionaires, airline lounges, sit-down restaurants, and caterers must demonstrate commitment to participating in a food donation program prior to operation. They can participate in the LAX Harvest Food Donation Program or other established food donation programs.

There is no minimum goal that individual concessionaires, airline lounges, sit-down restaurants, or caterers donate a certain type or amount of food. The Policy only requires that businesses that serve or prepare food at LAX be connected with a food donation agency, and, if they do donate food, report the amount of food donated to LAWA on an annual basis.

II. Policy Goals

LAWA’s goal is to reduce edible food waste disposition to landfills and repurpose unsold or unused, high quality food to its highest and best use by:

- Expanding donation of unsold/unused, high quality food to local charities to benefit those in need.
- Gaining 100% compliance with the Policy from LAX concessionaires who sell grab-and-go food by December 31, 2020, and from airline lounges, sit-down restaurants and caterers by December 31, 2021.
III. Reporting Requirements

- Report food donation program participation to LAWA on an annual basis on or before December 31st (program participation will be managed through an electronic tracking system).

- Report annually the amount of food, in number of units and pounds, donated via any food donation program to LAWA no later than January 31st of the following year.

- Food donation-related correspondence shall be made through the following email address: fooddonation@lawa.org.

IV. Enforcement

A. Non-Compliance. The following circumstances shall constitute non-compliance for purposes of this Section IV:

a) Failure to participate in a food donation program by the dates set forth in Section I or if new concessionaire, lounge, or caterer, failure to participate in a food donation program prior to operations.

b) Failure to report annual food donation program participation pursuant to Section III above.

c) Failure to report the annual amount of itemized food donated within the calendar year by January 31st of the following year.

B. Notice of Non-compliance/Notice to Comply. Concessionaires, airline lounges, sit-down restaurants and caterers found not to be in compliance with Policy will be given a Notice to Comply (NTC). Concessionaires, airline lounges, sit-down restaurants and caterers will have 30 days to correct the deficiencies set forth in the NTC. Failure to receive an NTC does not relieve concessionaires', airline lounges', sit-down restaurants' and caterers' obligations to comply with this policy.

C. Default. Non-compliance with requirements as defined in Section III above may be considered a default of the applicable LAX permit, license, contract, lease, Non-Exclusive License Agreement (NELA), concessionaire/lounge agreement, and/or Certified Service Provider (CSP) Program. LAWA's Chief Executive Officer or his/her designee may, pursuant to the applicable terms provided therein, suspend or cancel a permit, license, contract, lease, NELA, concessionaire/lounge agreement or certified provider certification of non-compliant concessionaires/lounges who are not in compliance with this Food Donation Policy. In addition, LAWA may seek to recoup LAWA's administrative costs from non-compliant entities.
V. Periodic Review

This Requirement will be reviewed and updated, as deemed necessary by LAWA.