



City of Needles, California Request for City Council Action

☒ CITY COUNCIL ☐ NPUA

☒ Regular ☐ Special

Meeting Date: March 25, 2025

Title: Award _____ the 2025 Edible Food Recovery Grant

Background: In September 2016, Governor Brown signed into law SB 1383 which establishes targets to achieve a 75 percent reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste by 2025. Food recovery means collecting edible food that would otherwise go to waste and redistributing it to feed people in need. This is the highest and best use for food that would otherwise go to waste. Feeding hungry people through food recovery is the best use for surplus food and a vital way for California to conserve resources and reduce waste thrown in landfills. SB 1383 requires certain food businesses to donate the maximum amount of edible food they would otherwise dispose of to food recovery organizations. While the City of Needles has an organic disposal program waiver, staff efforts have been on educating and supporting edible food recovery.

The City of Needles has provided funding to a local non-profit edible food recovery organization for the past three years. The funding is from the Mojave Desert and Mountain Recycling Authority. The funds are to be used to support the local non-profits' expenses associated with edible food recovery. To date, the following funds have been provided to each of the non-profits to support food recovery/distribution.

Fire House Ministries

2020	Outdoor Refrigeration Unit	\$	34,850.00
2020	Tilt Trailer – Food Recover	\$	8,465.25
2020	COVID19 Food Distribution	\$	1,913.70
2020	Fire House Forklift	\$	24,590.00
2023	Covid19 Economic Impacts	\$	13,000.00
2024	Edible Food Recovery Funds	\$	1,666.67
		\$	84,485.62

Set Free Church

2021	CV3 Food Recovery Equipment	\$	20,022.39
2024	Edible Food Recovery Funds	\$	1,666.68
		\$	21,689.07

St. Vincent De Paul

2020	Indoor Refrigeration Unit	\$	29,118.00
2020	COVID19 Food Distribution	\$	1,913.70
2022	Edible Food Recovery Funds	\$	5,000.00
2023	Edible Food Recovery Funds	\$	5,000.00
2024	Edible Food Recovery Funds	\$	1,666.67
		\$	42,698.37

Provide staff recommendations on awarding the 2025 Edible Food Recovery Grant of **\$6,000**, an increase of \$1,000 from the prior year. The awarded non-profit(s) will be required to report the annual tonnage of edible food recovered in the community. Staff will utilize the reporting for annual compliance with CalRecycle.



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The city issued the 2025 edible food recovery program proposal application to St. Vincent De Paul, Set Free, and Firehouse Ministries. Each local non-profit submitted the attached proposal.

Fiscal Impact: The \$6,000 edible food recovery funds will be provided by the Mojave Desert and Mountain Recycling Authority and distributed by the City of Needles in April 2025.

Environmental Impact: The program will support edible food recovery and reduce waste being sent to the landfill.

Recommended Action: Award _____ the 2025 Edible Food Recovery Grant

Submitted By: Rainie Torrance, Utility Manager

City Manager Approval: Patrick J. Martinez

Date: 3/19/2025

Other Department Approval (when required): Barbara DiLeo

Date: 03/19/25

Approved: ☐

Not Approved: ☐

Tabled: ☐

Other: ☐