

# Los Angeles County's Preparedness for California's Edible Food Recovery Mandate (SB 1383): An Examination of Food Recovery Logistics and Other Challenges

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Appendix

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For more information on this publication, visit [www.rand.org/t/RR1983-1](http://www.rand.org/t/RR1983-1).

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Published by the RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, Calif.

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## About This Appendix

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This appendix serves as an overview of the methodology used to produce the report Alina I. Palimaru, Joslyn Fleming, Jay Balagna, Marcy Agmon, Marc Robbins, and Sarah B. Hunter, *Los Angeles County's Preparedness for California's Edible Food Recovery Mandate (SB 1383): An Examination of Food Recovery Logistics and Other Challenges*, Santa Monica, Calif.: RAND Corporation, RR-A1983-1, 2022. The project, undertaken between October 2021 and June 2022, reviewed Los Angeles County's food recovery landscape in light of the recently implemented California Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Law—commonly referred to by its legislature designator Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383).

### Community Health and Environmental Policy Program

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### Funding

Funding for this research was provided by gifts from RAND supporters and income from operations.



## Appendix. Methodology

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### Introduction and Overview

This appendix serves as an overview of the methodology used to produce the report Alina I. Palimaru, Joslyn Fleming, Jay Balagna, Marcy Agmon, Marc Robbins, and Sarah B. Hunter, *Los Angeles County's Preparedness for California's Edible Food Recovery Mandate (SB 1383): An Examination of Food Recovery Logistics and Other Challenges*, Santa Monica, Calif.: RAND Corporation, RR-A1983-1, 2022. The project, undertaken between October 2021 and June 2022, reviewed Los Angeles (LA) County's food recovery landscape in light of the recently implemented California Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Law—commonly referred to by its legislature designator Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383). For this study, the research team first conducted a review of the literature and SB 1383–related government documents (November 2021 to March 2022), followed by 31 interviews with 38 stakeholders (January–March 2022). The research team, as referred to here, consisted of Alina Palimaru, Joslyn Fleming, and Jay Balagna, with other authors providing substantive, methodological, and other guidance as part of their roles on the study's Technical Advisory Board.

### Literature Review

We reviewed peer-reviewed and gray literature (such as website content and consulting reports) to identify sources that were relevant to the food recovery and distribution scope of SB 1383. We conducted two distinct but related scans: a regulatory scan and a distribution logistics scan. The regulatory scan focused on state (California) and local (LA County only) regulations and policies related to SB 1383 and its food recovery and distribution scope. We paid particular attention to funding, implementation, and oversight distribution across state and local jurisdictions. The distribution logistics scan focused on identifying best practices and challenges across the food recovery and distribution system, including recovery, storage, transportation, and distribution. It also included identifying best practices from other food recovery efforts in the United States and other English-speaking regions.

#### *Eligibility Criteria*

We included (1) English-language peer-reviewed journal articles, gray literature, and other media (news, blogs, podcasts, other websites) published from January 2016 to December 2022; (2) literature published in the United States or other English-speaking regions (European Union, Australia, Canada); (3) literature explicitly relevant to the food recovery and distribution scope of SB 1383; and (4) literature providing best practices and lessons learned from similar endeavors. A full set of search terms is provided in Table A.1. Keywords were derived by the

research team according to prior knowledge of food recovery and logistics, the text of the law, and an informal review of online content relating to the mandate. Considering that the law went into effect in January 2022, we expected that there would be additional media coverage and other content that may be published and relevant between January 2022 and the end of the analysis period (March 2022). Thus, the literature review considered online content that was identified manually by the research team after January 1 and that was deemed to be relevant, including updated government documents (e.g., frequently asked questions sheets) from March 2022.

### *Information Sources and Search Strategy*

We used a broad range of general and specialized search engines. For empirical articles, we searched nine academic databases: Academic Search Complete, Business Source Complete, GreenFILE, PAIS Index, Policy File Index, Publicly Available Content Database, Scopus, Sociological Abs, and Web of Science. For gray literature and media content, we searched two databases: U.S. Newsstream and Nexis Uni. The Nexis Uni search was limited to blogs, web-based publications, weblinks, and “undefined” because there was considerable newspaper article overlap between the two databases. These searches resulted in 233 empirical literature articles (137 from the logistics scan and 96 from the regulatory scan) and 2,307 gray literature and media articles (673 from the logistics scan and 1,634 from the regulatory scan; see Figure A.1). All sources were uploaded to an EndNote database.

### *Data Review Workflow*

Figure A.1 shows the review workflow. Three researchers sorted through the EndNote database to eliminate content that was deemed to be irrelevant for the scope of the review. One researcher (Alina Palimaru [AP]) focused on the regulatory sources while two researchers (Joslyn Fleming [JF] and Jay Balagna [JB]) sorted the logistics sources. First, duplicative articles or articles missing full text were excluded. Second, titles, abstracts, and source documents were reviewed for relevance by keywords of interest, as well as inclusionary and exclusionary criteria. These keywords and criteria can be found in Table A.2. Third, results were further reviewed for relevance to the research focus: explicit relevance to the food recovery and distribution scope of SB 1383 (excluding household-level recycling) or best practices from similar endeavors. This process resulted in a final set of 244 full-text articles and documents for review. The breakdown by article type included

- logistics empirical articles ( $n = 63$ )
- logistics web articles ( $n = 84$ )
- regulatory empirical articles ( $n = 18$ )
- regulatory web articles ( $n = 71$ )
- government documents ( $n = 6$ )
- consultant presentations ( $n = 2$ ).

## Interviews

### *Recruitment*

All study materials, including recruitment and interview protocols, were approved by the RAND Corporation's Human Subjects Protection Committee (2021-N0629). Interviewees were recruited using convenience snowball sampling. Using prior work in this policy area, the team identified key actors in the LA County food recovery landscape. The team also presented the study plan at various collaborative task force events across the county, introducing the study aims and methods and asking stakeholders for help with identifying interviewees. In addition, the interview protocol included a question asking participants to recommend potential participants. At each organization, we targeted professionals in leadership and operations management positions. Researchers made initial contact with potential interviewees through template emails and, when necessary, similarly templated follow-ups. Some interviews included multiple participants in different roles from the same organization. The respondents represented the following stakeholder groups:

- edible food generators ( $n = 2$ )
- food recovery services ( $n = 4$ )
- food recovery organizations, including food banks ( $n = 9$ )
- food recovery advocates ( $n = 4$ )
- government agencies ( $n = 8$ )
- human services agencies ( $n = 3$ )
- waste haulers ( $n = 1$ ).

### *Interview Protocol and Procedure*

Two semistructured interview protocols were developed for this study. One was tailored to edible food generators, food recovery organizations, food recovery services, and human service agencies. The other was tailored to government agencies, advocates, and other industry representatives. Both protocols were adapted from the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR) interview guide, a qualitative approach to collecting program implementation data.<sup>1</sup> Researchers tailored the CFIR interview guide questions to elicit information about

- organizational history and mission
- food recovery and distribution processes
- perspectives on the SB 1383 regulatory framework, goals, and perceived net benefit
- barriers to SB 1383 implementation
- facilitators to SB 1383 implementation
- system logistics
- SB 1383 data collection.

The full protocols are available in Figures A.2 and A.3.

At least one member of the research team conducted each interview, with a second member joining to assist and take notes when possible. One researcher (AP) with prior in-depth experience in the food insecurity policy area led two-thirds of the interviews. Interviews lasted approximately one hour, were conducted virtually, and were audio recorded and transcribed verbatim with participant consent and permission. Original recordings were used to check transcripts for accuracy.

### *Interview Analysis*

All transcripts were uploaded to NVivo to facilitate data management, collaborative analysis, and interpretation.<sup>2</sup> Three researchers (AP, JF, JB) developed the codebook by adapting the CFIR codebook using literature review findings and interview data.<sup>3</sup> Thus, part of the codebook had been developed in advance of the coding process (November 2021 to January 2022) using the literature review and then was refined during the interview coding process (January to March 2022). Next, the team worked simultaneously and iterated on the coding hierarchy, communicating about and refining coding definitions. A framework analysis (i.e., themes were indexed in an Excel spreadsheet by participant characteristics) was used to reconcile the predetermined implementation domains with new insights from stakeholders, thus combining deductive and inductive techniques.<sup>4</sup> This pragmatic combination of post-positivist and interpretivist approaches was used because each of these approaches addresses different aspects of our research questions that neither approach could address alone: what the stakeholder implementation experience is and how dimensions of this experience vary within and across participant types.<sup>5</sup>

All three core members of the research team were trained in qualitative methods. One of them (AP) had significant prior exposure to research in food insecurity, while another (JF) had prior experience with logistics research. Therefore, the analytic process may have occasionally drawn on assumptions and expectations associated with prior work. We followed the American Psychological Association guidelines for qualitative research by coding in multiple rounds.<sup>6</sup> Some rounds included coding from all three coders (eight transcripts), while 13 transcripts were co-coded by two coders (either AP and JB or AP and JF), each reviewing the same content independently. The last ten transcripts were coded by one coder (AP). The coders met weekly from January to March 2022 to reconcile discrepancies and substantive differences in their interpretation of the text. Weekly workflows included two to three transcripts. To ensure that the coding process was explicit, we documented activities, such as decisions to expand or merge existing codes or add new ones, and how such decisions related to the scope of the research questions. Intercoder reliability and percent agreement were computed.<sup>7,8</sup> Initial kappa scores on the eight transcripts that were co-coded by the entire team ranged from 0.60 to 0.68. The final kappa score across the 13 transcripts that were co-coded by two coders was 0.70. After completing thematic coding, the research team used coded excerpts in the drafting of the report,

with each team member focusing on specific sections and using relevant categories of excerpts as necessary to make and support claims in the report.

Table A.1. Search Syntax

**Search 1. Regulatory Scan = Search String ID**

Search Category	Keywords to Include				
<p>This category seeks to capture content about California’s SB 1383 but narrowed down to the food recovery mandate portion. This bill requires the state to reduce organic waste overall, including food waste, green waste, paper products, etc. We are focusing only on the food waste component from edible food generators and not household waste.</p> <p>For this search category, we used the keywords below and the ones in the adjacent columns.</p> <p><b>[SB1383 OR SB 1383 OR Reducing Short-Lived Climate Pollutants in California] AND</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organic waste</li> <li>• Food waste</li> <li>• Excess food</li> <li>• Edible food waste</li> <li>• Edible food generators</li> <li>• Food disposal</li> <li>• Landfill disposal</li> <li>• Edible food disposal</li> <li>• Farm waste</li> <li>• Methane</li> <li>• Greenhouse gas</li> <li>• GHG</li> <li>• Waste reduction</li> <li>• Compost</li> <li>• Climate change</li> <li>• Targets</li> <li>• Capacity planning</li> <li>• Education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach</li> <li>• Procurement</li> <li>• Food recovery program</li> <li>• Organics collection service</li> <li>• Compliance</li> <li>• Enforcement</li> <li>• Monitoring</li> <li>• Implementation</li> <li>• Outcome</li> <li>• Equity</li> <li>• Effectiveness</li> <li>• Efficiency</li> <li>• Sustainability</li> <li>• Feasibility</li> <li>• Local government</li> <li>• Role</li> <li>• Responsibilities</li> <li>• Agency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recycling</li> <li>• Short-lived climate pollutants</li> <li>• Jurisdictions</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Finance</li> <li>• Cost</li> <li>• Support</li> <li>• Legal</li> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Oversight</li> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Coordination</li> <li>• Environmental health</li> <li>• Public transportation</li> <li>• Public parks</li> <li>• Public works</li> <li>• Public sanitation</li> <li>• Public health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchasing</li> <li>• City manager</li> <li>• City council</li> <li>• County</li> <li>• CalRecycle</li> <li>• Food system</li> <li>• Supermarket</li> <li>• Grocery store</li> <li>• Retailer</li> <li>• Restaurant</li> <li>• Food service provider</li> <li>• Food distributor</li> <li>• Wholesale food vendor</li> <li>• Food gleaner</li> <li>• Food bank</li> <li>• Soup kitchen</li> <li>• Vegetative</li> <li>• Produce</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meat</li> <li>• Eggs</li> <li>• Dairy</li> <li>• Dairy alternatives</li> <li>• Cooked</li> <li>• Baked</li> <li>• Perishable</li> <li>• Packaged</li> <li>• Non-perishable</li> <li>• AB 939</li> <li>• AB 341</li> <li>• AB 1826</li> <li>• AB 1594</li> <li>• Good Samaritan Food Donation Act</li> <li>• AB 1219</li> <li>• Liability</li> <li>• Food insecurity</li> </ul>
<p>This category seeks to capture content about the food recovery and distribution system in Los Angeles County.</p> <p>For this search, we used the keywords below and the ones in the adjacent columns.</p> <p><b>[Los Angeles OR Los Angeles County OR LA County OR LA] AND [food recovery OR food waste] AND</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organic waste</li> <li>• Food waste</li> <li>• Excess food</li> <li>• Edible food waste</li> <li>• Edible food generators</li> <li>• Food disposal</li> <li>• Landfill disposal</li> <li>• Edible food disposal</li> <li>• Food recovery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food rescue</li> <li>• Food distribution</li> <li>• Food gleaning</li> <li>• Food donor</li> <li>• Food hub</li> <li>• Food systems recovery</li> <li>• Food systems redistribution</li> <li>• Recycling system</li> <li>• Food access</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food supply</li> <li>• Food assistance</li> <li>• SNAP</li> <li>• Food waste</li> <li>• Food insecurity</li> <li>• Food safety</li> <li>• Hunger</li> <li>• Capacity</li> <li>• Food coalition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food collaborative</li> <li>• Food bank</li> <li>• Soup kitchen</li> <li>• Homeless shelter</li> <li>• Supermarket</li> <li>• Grocery store</li> <li>• Retailer</li> <li>• Restaurant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food service provider</li> <li>• Food distributor</li> <li>• Wholesale food vendor</li> <li>• Food infrastructure</li> <li>• SB1383</li> <li>• Liability</li> <li>• Food apps</li> </ul>

Search Category	Keywords to Include				
<p>This category seeks to capture content about the food recovery and distribution system in the United States, including similar promising programs or initiatives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targets</li> <li>• Capacity planning</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Outreach</li> <li>• Procurement</li> <li>• Program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compliance</li> <li>• Enforcement</li> <li>• Monitoring</li> <li>• Local government</li> <li>• Role</li> <li>• Responsibilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agency</li> <li>• Recycling</li> <li>• Jurisdictions</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Finance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost</li> <li>• Support</li> <li>• Legal</li> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Implementation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oversight</li> <li>• Outcome</li> <li>• Effectiveness</li> <li>• Good Samaritan Food Donation Act</li> <li>• Food apps</li> </ul>
<p>For this search, we used the keywords below and the ones in the adjacent columns.</p>					
<p><b>[State level OR state-level OR U.S. OR United States OR America] AND [food recovery] AND</b></p>					
<p>This category seeks to capture content about similar promising programs or initiatives in other English-speaking regions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targets</li> <li>• Capacity planning</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Outreach</li> <li>• Procurement</li> <li>• Program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compliance</li> <li>• Enforcement</li> <li>• Monitoring</li> <li>• Local government</li> <li>• Role</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsibilities</li> <li>• Agency</li> <li>• Recycling</li> <li>• Jurisdictions</li> <li>• Funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance</li> <li>• Cost</li> <li>• Support</li> <li>• Legal</li> <li>• Safety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation</li> <li>• Oversight</li> <li>• Outcome</li> <li>• Effectiveness</li> </ul>
<p>For this search, we used the keywords below and the ones in the adjacent columns.</p>					
<p><b>[European Union OR E.U. OR Australia OR Canada] AND [food recovery] AND</b></p>					

**Search 2. Food Distribution Logistics Scan (Logistics CA = Search String ID)**

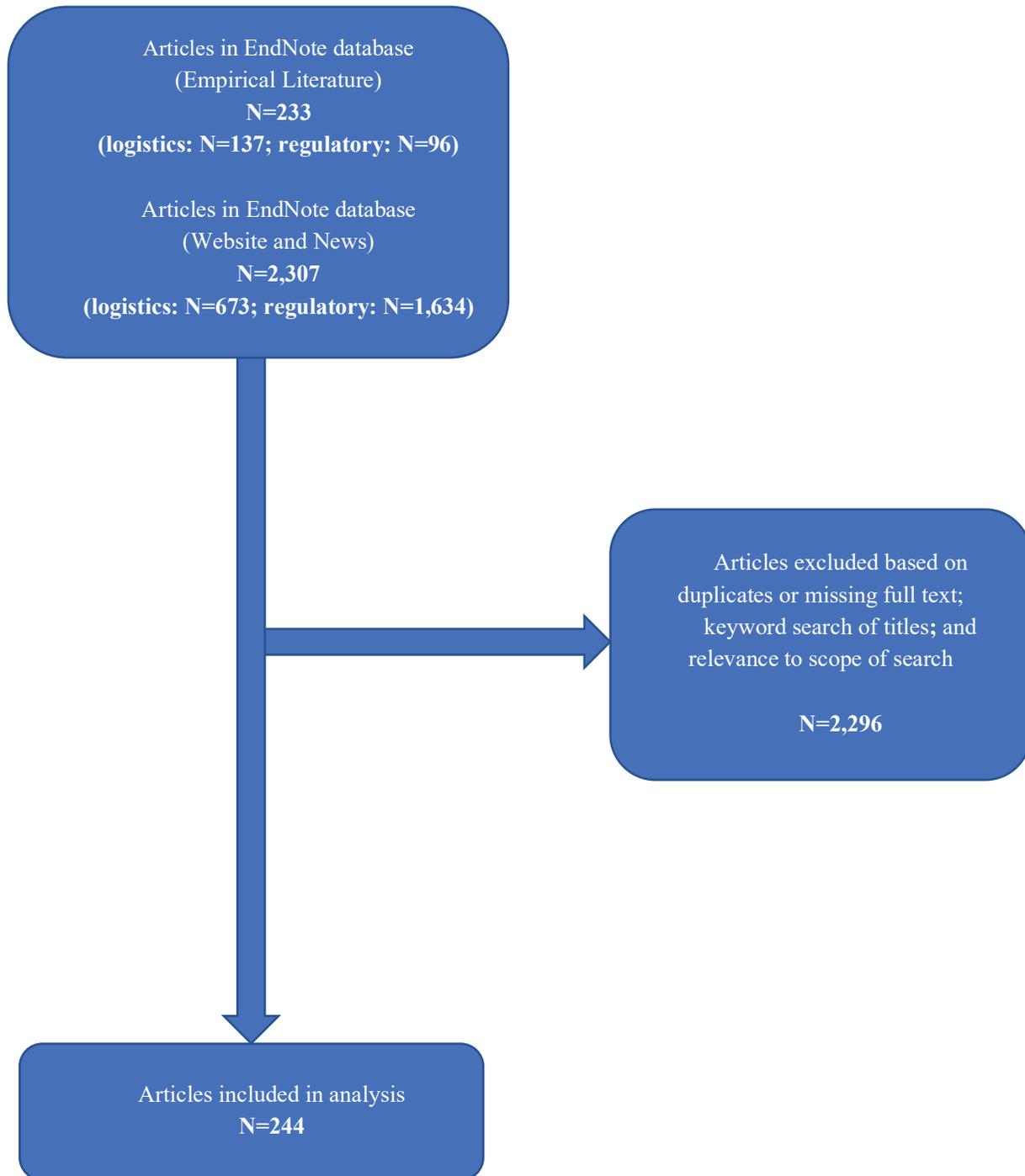
Search Category	Keywords to Include				
<p>This category seeks to capture content about the logistics, characteristics, and goals of SB 1383 relative to the performance of existing logistics systems to achieve the bill's objectives.</p> <p>For this search, we used the keywords below and the ones in the adjacent columns.</p> <p><b>[SB1383 OR SB 1383 OR Reducing Short-Lived Climate Pollutants in California] AND [food recovery] AND</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure capacity</li> <li>• Requirements</li> <li>• Food demand</li> <li>• Food supply</li> <li>• Acquisition</li> <li>• Sourcing</li> <li>• Resources</li> <li>• Resource allocation</li> <li>• Forecasting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procurement</li> <li>• Processing</li> <li>• Warehousing</li> <li>• Storage</li> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• Distribution</li> <li>• Trucks</li> <li>• Delivery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refrigeration</li> <li>• Refrigerated storage</li> <li>• Refrigerated transportation</li> <li>• Fork lift trucks</li> <li>• Disposal</li> <li>• Communication</li> <li>• Information systems</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Software</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tracking</li> <li>• Supply chain</li> <li>• Schedule</li> <li>• Workforce</li> <li>• Organization</li> <li>• Staffing</li> <li>• Labor</li> <li>• Safety</li> <li>• Shelf life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self hauler</li> <li>• Tipping fees</li> <li>• Tipping rates</li> <li>• Drivers</li> <li>• Handlers</li> <li>• Clearinghouse</li> <li>• Performance metrics</li> </ul>
<p>This category seeks to capture content about logistics systems related to similar food recovery and distribution efforts in the United States, including similar promising programs or initiatives.</p> <p>For this search, we used the keywords below and the ones in the adjacent columns.</p> <p><b>[State level OR state-level OR U.S. OR United States OR America] AND [food recovery] AND</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Logistics</li> <li>• Supply chain</li> <li>• Forecasting</li> <li>• Sourcing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procurement</li> <li>• Processing</li> <li>• Warehousing</li> <li>• Storage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• Distribution</li> <li>• Delivery</li> <li>• Disposal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure</li> <li>• Equipment</li> <li>• Performance metrics</li> <li>• Effectiveness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best practices</li> </ul>

Search Category	Keywords to Include				
<p>This category seeks to capture content about logistics systems related to similar food recovery and distribution efforts in other similar organizations worldwide.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Logistics</li> <li>• Supply chain</li> <li>• Forecasting</li> <li>• Sourcing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procurement</li> <li>• Processing</li> <li>• Warehousing</li> <li>• Storage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• Distribution</li> <li>• Delivery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disposal</li> <li>• Infrastructure</li> <li>• Equipment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance metrics</li> <li>• Effectiveness</li> <li>• Best practices</li> </ul>
<p>For this search, we used the keywords below and the ones in the adjacent columns.</p>					
<p><b>[International aid organizations OR humanitarian assistance OR World Food Program OR NGO] AND [food recovery] AND [logistics] AND</b></p>					

**Table A.2. Inclusionary and Exclusionary Criteria**

<b>Regulatory Scan</b>	
<b>Include</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entries titled “EPA Recognizes Food Recovery in CA”: they mention important stakeholders.</li> <li>• Entries that mention relevant stakeholders that we know are important, such as LA Regional Food Bank or waste recycling departments in LA County. These stories may or may not be related to SB 1383 but are important background for us regardless.</li> </ul>
<b>Exclude</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content about SB 1383 that focuses on livestock and dairy, biogas digesters, renewable gas provisions, black carbon emissions, and any other provisions not related to food. Note: Sometimes food is not mentioned explicitly, as it falls under organic waste, so in skimming articles look for mentions of “food,” “landfills,” or “organic waste.”</li> <li>• Some exceptions (judgment calls): include articles about dairy digesters and financing mechanisms.</li> <li>• Content about a different SB 1383 (Jackson) in California: “SB 1383 significantly expands the California Family Rights Act (CFRA) beginning January 1, 2021. Notably, this bill expands employer coverage to include all employers with five or more employees, which is much fewer than the previous 50 or more employees requirement. This is a major development. Small businesses will need to quickly get up to speed on CFRA’s requirements in order to be ready by January 1.”<sup>9</sup></li> <li>• Press releases announcing irrelevant contracts, such as “consulting and design services for new commercial waste building.”</li> <li>• Entries titled “Briefing.com” are irrelevant; these are market updates.</li> <li>• Entries about food waste programs at individual organizations, especially those not in response to SB 1383, e.g., campus-based food recovery and distribution, food waste composting programs not resulting in food redistribution.</li> <li>• Entries about food waste recycling to produce fuel.</li> <li>• Articles about farm-to-phone apps. Not relevant, there is no recovery aspect.</li> </ul>
<b>Logistics Scan</b>	
<b>Include</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Articles related to programs that cover the whole process, not just a certain part.</li> <li>• Articles related to smaller organizations that discuss the process of food recovery and distribution.</li> <li>• Articles that include descriptions of challenges or solutions.</li> </ul>
<b>Exclude</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Articles that only identify a program (such as X program, which does Y, was awarded Z dollars) without additional program information.</li> <li>• Content about household food waste.</li> <li>• Content about individual (household-level) policies related to food recycling.</li> <li>• Press releases about companies that do work in this area.</li> <li>• Content about upcycling, i.e., using leftover food to create and sell new products.</li> </ul>

**Figure A.1. Literature Review Workflow**



**Figure A.2. Food Recovery and Redistribution Stakeholder Interview Guide (Food Generators, Food Distributors, and Food Service Providers)**

**Organizational Background Questions**

I would like to begin with an overview of your organization, so that I understand where you fit in the food recovery and redistribution system in Los Angeles County.

1. What is your role within your organization?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: How long have you served in that capacity?
  - b. FOLLOW UP: Did you have a background in food provision before taking up this role? If yes, what was it?
2. What is your organization's purpose and mission?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: What demographics do you typically serve?
  - b. FOLLOW UP: How many people do you typically serve per day or per week?
  - c. FOLLOW UP: What are the principal challenges your organization faces in carrying out your mission?
3. How many staff do you have at your organization? How many of them work specifically on food recovery and/or re-distribution?
4. What is the scale of your organization, e.g., geographic area served, number of sites?
5. What resources does your organization have to provide these services?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: Please describe the facilities and infrastructure available to you, such as transportation, storage, refrigeration, funding.

**Food Recovery or Re-distribution Process**

The next set of questions focuses on the food recovery and/or re-distribution process on a typical day at your organization.

6. What total volume of food do you handle or process daily? Weekly?
  - a. FOLLOW UP [SUPERMARKETS, LARGE GROCERY STORES, RESTAURANTS ONLY]: What proportion of this volume is eligible and/or required to be recovered per SB 1383?
  - b. FOLLOW UP [SUPERMARKETS, LARGE GROCERY STORES, RESTAURANTS ONLY]: Where do you typically send/donate this food?
  - c. FOLLOW UP [SUPERMARKETS, LARGE GROCERY STORES, RESTAURANTS ONLY]: How is donated food transported to the recipient?
7. [FOOD GLEANERS, FOOD BANKS ONLY] Where do the food supplies/donations typically come from?
8. Typically, what percentage of the food you handle is fresh fruits and vegetables?
9. Typically, what percentage of the food you handle are cooked meals?
10. What is the typical safe and viable shelf life of the food you handle?
11. [FOOD GLEANERS, FOOD BANKS ONLY] How is food usually delivered to your site(s)?
12. How is food typically stored at organizations such as yours?

13. Based on your experience, how is food typically sorted and/or re-packaged for donation/re-distribution at organizations like yours?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: What kind of quality control and safety protocols are normally in place?

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14. What is your organization's impression about the mandate?
15. When did your organization begin to prepare for the mandate?
16. What government supports are available to help you prepare for and implement changes for the mandate?
17. Will SB 1383 add or facilitate the addition of resources and systems that will help you carry out your organization's mission more efficiently?
18. Will it help solve problems or remove obstacles that you have faced in carrying out your mission?
19. To what extent were the needs and perspectives of organizations such as yours considered in the lead up to the start of SB 1383 on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022?
20. What are the key influential organizations to get on board with this mandate?
21. Are you aware of any studies that have been conducted, inside or outside of government, in preparation for implementation of SB 1383? If yes, tell me more.

### **SB 1383 Barriers**

22. What have been some of the challenges that your organization has been facing in preparation for the start of SB 1383 on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022? (e.g., transportation, storage, refrigeration, staffing, managing supply/demand, coordination with other participating organizations, etc.)
  - a. FOLLOW UP: What challenges have you experienced at a system level with county or state agencies that oversee the mandate?
  - b. FOLLOW UP: How have you tried to address these challenges?
  - c. FOLLOW UP: What success have you had in addressing these challenges?
  - d. FOLLOW UP: What challenges have you observed at a system level among other organizations?
23. To your knowledge, does SB 1383 have effective, realistic enforcement mechanisms? Please explain.

### **SB 1383 Facilitators**

24. What have been some of the successes that your organization has experienced in preparation for January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: What do you think has contributed to the success of these efforts so far?
25. Are there any partnerships/coalitions that have been most critical to your efforts?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: Were these formed explicitly to address the mandate?
26. Are there any incentives to assist in meeting the goals of SB 1383? If yes, please describe.
27. How confident are you that you will be able to successfully comply with the mandate? Why?

### **System logistics**

28. What resources does your organization need to successfully meet the requirement of the mandate?
29. What kinds of infrastructure changes at a system level will be needed to accommodate the mandate? (e.g., oversight, policies, funding, communication systems)
30. To what extent are your recovery and redistribution efforts coordinated with other organizations or government agencies?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: To what extent are you able to communicate demand for your food to relevant food suppliers/donors?
  - b. FOLLOW UP: To what extent are you able to receive information about upcoming supply from relevant food suppliers/donors?
  - c. FOLLOW UP: What do you do when you receive more perishable items than you are able to use?
  - d. FOLLOW UP: Are there communication and distribution resources and networks in place to facilitate timely redistribution of perishable items?
31. [IF COORDINATED] How does such coordination occur (and how well does it typically work)?
32. [IF NOT COORDINATED] How might you recommend such coordination occur?

### **SB 1383 Data and Perceived net benefit**

33. What type of data are you collecting as part of your compliance with the mandate?
34. How will you assess progress towards the mandate's goals?
35. What do you think about the net benefit of the mandate considering the redistribution costs (financial and greenhouse gas emissions) related to the implementation?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: In your view, is this the best use of resources to accomplish the goals? If yes, why? If no, what recommendations do you have?
  - b. FOLLOW UP: Are there any underutilized community assets that your organization might benefit from, such as vehicles, storage, transportation service from wholesale operators?
36. Before we wrap up, is there anything else you'd like to share that we haven't talked about (what additional questions should I be asking)? Is there anyone else you think we should be interviewing?

Thank you so much for your time.

**Figure A.3. Food Recovery and Redistribution Stakeholder Interview Guide (Government Agencies and Industry Associations)**

**Organizational Background Questions**

I would like to begin with an overview of your organization, so that I understand where you fit in the food recovery and redistribution system in Los Angeles County.

1. What is your agency/organization's mission?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: What organizations do you typically oversee or represent?
2. What is your role within your agency/organization?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: How long have you served in that capacity?
  - b. FOLLOW UP: Did you have a background in food provision before taking up this role? If yes, what was it?
3. How many staff do you have at your organization? How many of them work specifically on food recovery and/or re-distribution?
4. What people and resources does your organization have in place (currently) to ensure compliance with the new bill? What do you plan to have?

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5. What is your organization's opinion of the legislation mandate?
6. Was your organization/agency involved with state-level consultations around the mandate? If so, please tell me more.
7. When did your organization learn of the mandate?
  - a. Has your organization begun to prepare? If so, how?
8. What state level supports are available to help your organization prepare for and support implementation changes for the mandate?
9. [BUSINESS/INDUSTRY] How do you think the organizations you represent will respond to the mandate?
10. [GOVERNMENT AGENCY] To what extent have jurisdiction responsibilities been met in LA County?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: How are organics collection services provided to all residents and businesses in LA County?
  - b. FOLLOW UP: How would you describe the edible food recovery program in LA County?
  - c. FOLLOW UP: How are community education and outreach conducted in LA County?
  - d. FOLLOW UP: How are recyclable and recovered organic products procured in LA County?
  - e. FOLLOW UP: How does the County secure the capacity to recover and recycle edible food?
  - f. FOLLOW UP: How does the County monitor compliance and conduct enforcement of edible food recovery and distribution?

### **SB 1383 Barriers**

11. What challenges did your organization/agency face in preparation for the start of SB 1383 on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: What challenges have you experienced at a system level with other County or state agencies that oversee the mandate?
  - b. FOLLOW UP: How have you addressed any challenges?
  - c. FOLLOW UP: How successful have you been in addressing these challenges?
  - d. FOLLOW UP: Have you observed challenges at a system level among other agencies or organizations that are similar to yours? If yes, what are they?

### **SB 1383 Facilitators**

12. What successful initiatives has your organization/agency adopted in preparation for the start of SB 1383 on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: What do you think has contributed to the success of these efforts so far?
13. Have any partnerships/coordination efforts been critical to your efforts, and if so, how?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: Were these partnerships formed explicitly to address the mandate?
14. How confident are you that the organizations that you work with and/or support will be able to successfully comply with the mandate? Why?

### **System Logistics**

15. What further resources does your organization consider it needs to successfully meet the requirements of the mandate?
  - a. How about the organizations that you work with and/or support?
16. What kinds of infrastructure changes at a system level will be needed to accommodate the mandate? (e.g., oversight, policies, funding, communication systems)
17. To what extent are recovery and redistribution efforts coordinated with other organizations or government agencies?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: To what extent is there communication about supply of and demand for food between relevant food suppliers/donors and distributors?
18. [IF COORDINATED] How does such coordination occur?
19. [IF NOT COORDINATED] How might you recommend such coordination occur?

### **SB 1383 Data and Perceived Net Benefit**

20. What type of data are you collecting as part of your compliance with the mandate?
21. To your knowledge, have any studies been commissioned by your organization or by others to prepare for implementation of the mandate? If yes, tell me more.
22. Regarding the implementation, what do you consider the net benefits of the mandate when taking into account cost of recovery and redistribution financially, and in terms of any associated greenhouse gas emissions?
  - a. FOLLOW UP: In your opinion, is this the best use of resources to accomplish the goals? If 'yes', why? If 'no', what recommendations do you have?
  - b. FOLLOW UP: Are there any underutilized community assets that organizations on the frontline (such as distributors, service providers) might benefit from, such as vehicles, food storage capacity, and transportation services from wholesale operators?

23. Before we wrap up, is there anything else you'd like to share that we haven't talked about or anything else I should be asking? Is there anyone else you think we should be interviewing?

Thank you so much for your time.

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