TRANSFORMING THE WAY PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS PURCHASE FOOD by creating a transparent and equitable food system built on five core values: local economies, health, a valued workforce, animal welfare, and environmental sustainability.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
Support sustainable production practices that reduce or eliminate synthetic pesticides and fertilizers and avoid genetic engineering in agriculture; avoid the use of hormones and routine antibiotics in livestock production; conserve soil and water; protect and enhance wildlife habitats and biodiversity; and reduce on-farm energy and water consumption, food waste and greenhouse gas emissions.

LOCAL ECONOMIES
Support robust regional economies by sourcing from locally-owned small and mid-sized agricultural and food processing operations.

VALUED WORKFORCE
Provide safe and healthy working conditions and fair compensation for all food-sector workers and producers from production to consumption.

ANIMAL WELFARE
Provide healthy and humane care for farm animals.

NUTRITION
Promote health and well-being by offering generous portions of vegetables, fruit, whole grains and minimally processed foods, while reducing salt, added sugars, saturated fats, and red meat consumption, and eliminating artificial additives.

HOW IT WORKS

BASELINE STANDARD
Each of the five value categories has a baseline standard. To become a Good Food Provider, an institution must meet at least the baseline in each of the five values.

CERTIFICATION-BASED
Standards are based on third party certifications that have been identified as meaningful and ranked by national experts in each category.

FLEXIBLE, TIERED POINT SYSTEM
More points are awarded for achievement at higher levels in each category, allowing institutions to raise their score by emphasizing their high priority categories.
The Good Food Purchasing Program (GFPP) is an investment in the idea that public food should reflect public values. The program helps institutions like schools leverage their food dollars to achieve a more transparent, equitable, and sustainable food system. Through GFPP, the District of Columbia will prioritize the purchase of foods that support our children’s health, our local economy, and our natural environment.

GFPP was created by the Los Angeles Food Policy Council in 2012 to better align public food dollars with public values. It has been adopted by institutions in Los Angeles, Oakland, San Francisco, and Chicago, with active campaigns underway in cities nationwide. The District of Columbia has incredible opportunities to leverage GFPP in building area food production capacity and strengthening the regional economy. In the DC region, 28% of land is already in agricultural use, generating $1 billion in economic activity.

We are building a coalition of stakeholders with a shared interest in GFPP’s core values: local economies, environmental sustainability, valued workforce, animal welfare and nutrition. We hope you’ll consider joining us.

**WHAT COULD GOOD FOOD PURCHASING DO FOR YOUR CITY?**

The GFPP awards progressive certifications using a flexible, metrics-based framework, meaning each institution can take a different path to meet its goals. The Los Angeles Unified School District has found success with a number of strategies, including:

- Directing 20 percent of its $150 million annual budget to local purchases—with a net benefit of between $48 million and $93.6 million to the local economy.
- Maintaining sodium and whole grain standards that keep school meals healthy for more than half a million kids.
- Reducing industrially produced meat purchases by 28 percent—saving more than 14 gallons of water per meal and decreasing the LAUSD carbon footprint by 22 percent as a result.

See full calculations and an institutional data collection toolkit at www.ucsusa.org/purchasingpower.

**GFPP COALITION PARTNERS INCLUDE:**

- Center for Food Safety
- DC Greens
- DC Food Policy Council
- DC Public Schools
- Food Chain Workers Alliance
- Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
- Union of Concerned Scientists
- United Food & Commercial Workers International Union

For more information, contact dcfoodpolicy@dc.gov