

[Organic Certified Goods]

Resolution Establishing City Policy of Maximizing Purchase of Organic Certified Materials when Procuring Necessary Goods for the City

WHEREAS, Each year the City and County of San Francisco spends hundreds of thousands of dollars purchasing food, apparel and other goods; and,

WHEREAS, the City's Department of the Environment has established several programs which seek to minimize the purchase of toxic products that are harmful to the environment and human health; and

WHEREAS, The City has adopted the Integrated Pest Management Ordinance (file number 030422, passed October 1996), which requires the City to minimize the use of chemical pesticides and to eliminate the use of the most toxic chemicals on Cit property, and

WHEREAS, The City has adopted the Precautionary Principle Ordinance (file number 030422, passed July 2003), which states that when an activity raises threats of harm to human health or the environment, precautionary measure should be taken, and

WHEREAS, the City has recently established an ordinance sponsored by Supervisor Maxell entitled the Precautionary Purchasing Ordinance (file number 050595, passed June 2005) that seeks to identify and promote the purchase of products by the City that protect human health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, "Organic" certification is a market-based system that encourages healthy, safe and sustainable systems of production and consumption by identifying food, beverage and fiber products that are produced in an environmentally benign, toxic-free manner, and that

producers of these products are protected from exposure to dangerous agricultural chemicals, and

WHEREAS, Organic certified products are widely available and competitively priced in the United States;

RESOLVED, the City and County of San Francisco will establish a policy to maximize the purchase of Organic certified products in the process of procuring necessary goods for the city, when such products are available and of comparable cost to non-certified products; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Department of Environment is requested to investigate current purchasing options for Organic certified goods and issue recommendations by December 2005 that identify how the city will maximize purchase of competitively priced Organic certified food and other products and potentially compel city contractors to provide such goods; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, based on these recommendations, the city will implement a process to maximize the purchase of Organic Certified goods, possibly through the procurement process established in the Precautionary Purchasing Ordinance or through a separate ordinance if appropriate.

July 12, 2005 Board of Supervisors – Adopted

Ayes: 10: Alioto-Pier, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Mirkiarimi, Peskin, Sandoval

Absent: 1 – Ammiano