



# What food issues are important to Southeastern San Diego residents?



In the summer of 2020, as part of [San Diego County Food Vision 2030](#), San Diego County residents answered a few survey questions to express their unique needs and aspirations related to food in their communities. We're excited to share what we heard from residents of Southeastern San Diego.

## OVERVIEW

What food issues are most important to you?

### TOP ISSUES

- Reducing hunger & food insecurity
- Addressing racial/ethnic inequities
- Reducing food waste
- Finding healthy, affordable, and culturally appropriate food
- Getting healthy food into schools

I would like to see more \_\_\_\_\_ in my community

### TOP SELECTIONS

- Community gardens
- Locally owned food businesses and restaurants
- Co-ops (community-owned businesses)
- Farmers' markets
- Composting programs

## ACCESSING HEALTHY FOOD

Do you face any challenges in getting healthy food?

**28%** of respondents answered 'yes,' they do face challenges in getting healthy food

What challenges do you face in getting healthy food?

### TOP CHALLENGES

- Cost of food
- Few healthy food options
- Limited options for fresh produce

## FOOD ISSUES AT SCHOOLS

Are you interested in food issues at schools?

**88%** of respondents answered 'yes,' they are interested in food issues at schools

What issues are most important to you at schools?

### TOP ISSUES

- Culturally relevant food options
- School gardens
- Nutrition education in the classroom
- Local food options (from local farmers and fishermen)

## GROWING FOOD

Are you interested in gardening or growing your own food?

**92%** of respondents answered 'yes,' they are interested in growing their own food

What support would be helpful with gardening or growing your own food?

### TOP SELECTIONS

- Garden education (tips, how-tos, classes, videos, etc.)
- Garden supplies
- More time, energy, & money

## SHAPING FOOD DECISIONS

Are you interested in playing an active role in shaping food decisions in your community?

**88%** of respondents answered 'yes,' they are interested in playing an active role

What resources would be most helpful?

### TOP RESOURCES

Community partners  
Information on advocacy efforts  
More education  
More money

## ASPIRATIONS FOR FOOD IN SOUTHEASTERN SAN DIEGO

Within the next 10 years, what is one hope that you have for food in your community?

### COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP

- "That we will have healthy, local, affordable food options close to home, without have to commute outside our community for access."
- "A neighborhood co-op, where the people can sell their locally grown food and other goods. This would help the community and also generate a little income for families that struggle."
- "To achieve food sovereignty by choosing to eat, grow, distribute and celebrate good food in my neighborhood; strengthening our supply chain."
- "That 50% of food is community produced, owned, or sold, including within the school system. Whether it's gardens, cooperatives, local family owned restaurants, or local farms."
- "Local control of food systems is as important as home/land ownership, and is key to redeeming the health and well-being of communities, evening out health disparities."
- "I want there to be more community gardens, school gardens, and locally-owned restaurants/food trucks that families can walk to and enjoy."

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### LOCALLY GROWN FOOD

- "I'd like to see more locally grown food. I want to know where my food comes from, and that it's ethically sourced."
- "More small, home-based farms. Farmers' markets that are well attended, less liquor and convenience stores."
- "That food production, distribution, and consumption works on a smaller, more local level as much as possible to address the needs of the community, issues of climate change, and issues of sustainable practices."
- "Every household has a garden, and the resources and knowledge for it to grow and thrive. Community gardens everywhere."

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### ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD

- "A food co-op that everyone can pay into and go get food anytime they need it... I could go and get a little of what I need because I pay."
- "A health food grocery store is needed!"
- "More grocery stores with fresh produce & healthy options. Farmers markets open a few times a week that accept EBT as well."
- "To have a thriving food co-op that sells fresh healthy & non-GMO foods."
- "That there are more stores and less liquor shops."
- "I want a quality grocery store and dining restaurant."
- "We need restaurants that will provide healthy foods."
- "Grocery's stores where I can buy my kids healthy food and veggies."