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October 3, 2021

Ramin Yazdani
Division Director
Dept. of Community Services
Division of Integrated Waste Management
ramin.yazdani@yolocounty.org

Re: Your request for written input dated September 27, 2021

Dear Ramin,

Many thanks for your letter dated September 27, 2021 detailing in writing the proposed MOU terms that you verbally conveyed to me and my colleagues during our September 14 Zoom meeting. I wish to re-emphasize that Yolo Food Bank (YFB) is grateful for our impactful partnership with Yolo County as we continue to explore a path to a successful, countywide edible food recovery program that: 1) reduces greenhouse gas emissions; 2) preserves landfill capacity; and 3) advances the health and wellness of our vulnerable neighbors.

Unfortunately, despite all best efforts, it is not possible to achieve a quorum of the YFB Board of Directors to consider the MOU terms within the timeframe that you requested. As such, the direction of the YFB Board remains unchanged from that which I shared with you on September 14. The YFB Board next will have an opportunity to revisit SB 1383 and the MOU terms at its regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, October 27.

Over the past two years, YFB has encouraged a collaborative planning effort to explore how our existing countywide edible food recovery program might be adapted to meet the jurisdictions' regulatory compliance requirements, as well as maximize the opportunity to nourish residents instead of the landfill. Unfortunately, many inaccuracies and misunderstandings still exist, which are barriers to achieving outcomes that best serve the interests of all involved. The YFB team remains hopeful that opportunities to re-engage in these conversations in an inquisitive and productive manner will re-emerge in the near future. So many residents are depending upon our organizations for local improvements to both the environment and food security in order to live their very best lives in Yolo County.



The YFB Board and I look forward to continued partnership with Yolo County on this and all of our important work together. I will be back in touch following the October 27 Board meeting, however, I welcome your call or email for any conversation that you might find helpful in the interim.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Bisch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Bisch
Executive Director

Cc: Yolo Food Bank Board of Directors

(Tom Muller, Jennifer Engstrom, Dan Ramos, Louise Walker, Elizabeth Schmitz, Donald Hartman, Ned Spang, Jim Durst, Matt Mariani, Kate Stille)