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# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Lafayette endorses the EPA Food Recovery Challenge

**LAFAYETTE, Colo March 23, 2018** – The Lafayette City Council has pledged to improve sustainable food management practices through a [Resolution](#) passed to endorse the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) [Food Recovery Challenge \(FRC\)](#). The FRC seeks to reduce environmental impacts of extraction, manufacturing, distribution, use, reuse, recycling, and disposal of materials.

In 2017, the City’s Waste Reduction Advisory Committee (WRAC) set a priority to increase citizens’ awareness of food waste and the associated opportunities to save money, feed those in need, and conserve resources by proactive food recovery. The committee also strives to prioritize actions addressing the top levels of the [food recovery hierarchy](#) in order to create the most benefits for the environment, society and the economy.

"One of our big victories to reduce food waste in Lafayette has been WRAC's efforts to rescue food at the Peach and Oatmeal Festivals," explained Adam Gianola, WRAC Chair. "We collected 160 pounds of usable food from these two events and donated it to local shelters. One vendor commented that they participate in 50 festivals a year and Lafayette is the only entity making the effort to put excess food to use."

WRAC is also actively promoting awareness of this and other topics through an ongoing sustainability film series. In November, a free screening of “Just Eat It!”, a 74-minute documentary film about food waste and food rescue, was offered to the community. Criteria pertaining to food waste initiatives was also added to Lafayette’s Green Business Program to encourage and support local businesses to make significant impacts in this area.

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*[About WRAC:](#) The Lafayette Waste Reduction Advisory Committee (WRAC) is appointed by City Council to promote waste reduction and zero waste awareness and programs in Lafayette. The committee reviews and recommends waste reduction programs to the City Council and promotes a variety of zero waste programs throughout the city aimed at reducing waste through conservation awareness, conscious consumption and community solutions aimed at sustainability.*

*[About the EPA’s sustainable management of food:](#) Sustainable Management of Food is a systematic approach that seeks to reduce wasted food and its associated impacts over the entire life cycle, starting with the use of natural resources, manufacturing, sales, and consumption and ending with decisions on recovery or final disposal. EPA works to promote innovation and highlight the value and efficient management of food as a resource. Through the sustainable management of food, we can help businesses and consumers save money, provide a bridge in our communities for those who do not have*

*enough to eat, and conserve resources for future generations. Building on the familiar concept of "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle," this approach shifts the view on environmental protection and more fully recognizes the impacts of the food we waste.*