

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Shikira Saul

**Date Submitted:** 01/25/2022 12:08 PM

**Council File No:** 11-1678-S3

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Chair Lee, Councilmember Bonin, and Councilmember Biscaino, My Name is Shikira Saul and I've been a resident of Los Angeles for 6 years. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on Council File 11-1678-S3 and general public comment on this matter. As a consumer, I care greatly about the expansion of consumer choice, and commend the Council for placing importance on the completion of this impactful resolution. As such, I also strongly support a subsequent resolution that would require at least one vegan option at city-run concessionaires, as well as in movie theaters and large-scale entertainment venues. I am also aware that cities like Berkeley, California have enacted similar policies to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with city procurement. I value our planet, and support this effort as it would reduce emissions associated with LA city purchasing.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mary Pierce

**Date Submitted:** 01/25/2022 12:28 PM

**Council File No:** 11-1678-S3

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing in support of the Vegan Options Motion being heard at 2:00 p.m. today, January 25. In addition to the issues surrounding animal cruelty on factory farms, plant-based eating is beneficial for the environment. For example, according to the University of California, Los Angeles, “If each and every person in the United States gave up meat and dairy products on one or more days of the week; ideally, all days of the week, we would save the environment from thousands of tons of carbon emissions. In fact, in one year, animal husbandry creates as much carbon emissions as the entire transportation sector. Similarly, by reducing our animal-based foods consumption, we would reduce our water use at least by half as animal husbandry utilizes more than 50% of fresh water.” Requiring these venues to offer a plant-based option not only helps our environment but also provides more options to all customers, including meat eaters. More and more people today are looking for plant-based options and this motion assures that at least one is offered. I thank you for your consideration. Mary Pierce

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kate Brindle, Humane Society of the United States  
**Date Submitted:** 01/25/2022 01:12 PM  
**Council File No:** 11-1678-S3  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Chair Lee and members of the Arts, Parks, Health, Education and Neighborhoods Committee, Attached please find the Humane Society of the United States' comment in favor of 11-1678-S3, regarding the feasibility of plant-based options at city venues, sponsored by Councilmember Paul Koretz. Thank you. Sincerely, Kate Brindle Public Policy Specialist, Farm Animal Protection [kbrindle@humanesociety.org](mailto:kbrindle@humanesociety.org)



## THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

January 25, 2022

Chair John Lee and members of the Arts, Parks, Health, Education and Neighborhoods Committee  
200 North Spring Street, Room 1050  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: Item 11-1678-S3**

Dear Chair Lee and members of the Arts, Parks, Health, Education and Neighborhoods Committee,

My name is Kate Brindle, and I am a Public Policy Specialist in Farm Animal Protection at the Humane Society of the United States. We are in strong support of Item 11-1678-S3, regarding the feasibility of plant-based options at city venues, sponsored by Councilmember Paul Koretz.

Plant-based options are growing in popularity. Over half of Americans are currently trying to incorporate more plant-based meals into their daily lives, according to a survey conducted by [OnePoll](#). It's not just vegans and vegetarians who are eating plant-based foods. Market research company [NPD Group](#) found that "[s]ome 95% of people who purchased a plant-based burger this year also ate meat." And a survey conducted by [Ipsos](#) noted that nearly half of dairy-drinking Americans were found to have purchased plant-based milks over the past six months.

Even fast food chains are now offering plant-based foods. Burger King and Del Taco provide plant-based burgers and tacos. This month, KFC launched plant-based chicken at its locations nationwide. McDonald's CEO said their offering of a plant-based burger is a matter of "when," not "if." Restaurant Brands (BK's parent company) [CEO Jose Cil noted](#) that Burger King's plant-based Impossible Whopper is a "huge hit" and that it was "one of the most successful product launches in Burger King's history." Restaurant industry publication [QSR magazine](#) declared, "It's no longer a question of whether or not the plant-based movement is here to stay."

The three largest foodservice companies in the country, Compass Group, Sodexo, and Aramark—which run the dining operations at tens of thousands of hospitals, universities, K-12 schools, museums, stadiums, and more—all have initiatives to provide more plant-based meals to their clients on a national scale.

Incorporating more plant-based proteins into our diet is a great way to promote health and prevent a variety of diseases. According to the [Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics](#), people who choose plant-based diets are "at reduced risk of certain health conditions, including ischemic heart disease, type 2 diabetes, hypertension, certain types of cancer, and obesity."

Increasing plant-based options at city venues could also help the environment. Raising billions of animals for food each year causes pollution and uses a tremendous amount of land, water and other precious natural resources. [Senior UN Food and Agriculture Organization official Henning Steinfeld](#) has concluded, "Livestock are one of the most significant contributors to today's most serious environmental problems." And the [UN Environment Programme](#) noted, "As humans, meat production is one of the most destructive ways in which we leave our footprint on the planet." So, offering more plant-based protein options could help ease the environmental degradation caused by producing meat.

Plant-based eating could also help reduce the risk of another global pandemic since there is “strong evidence” that “intensified [farming] systems can be linked to disease emergence and amplification” as noted by a 2013 review published in the [Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences](#). Further, an article in peer-reviewed journal [EcoHealth](#) warned that, “industrial food animal production generates unique ecosystems—environments that may facilitate the evolution of zoonotic pathogens and their transmission to human populations.” So, a measure to study and increase plant-based options is more crucial and timely than ever.

For the foregoing reasons, we ask that you please support Item 11-1678-S3.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kate Brindle", is placed over a light blue rectangular background.

Kate Brindle  
Public Policy Specialist, Farm Animal Protection  
[kbrindle@humanesociety.org](mailto:kbrindle@humanesociety.org)