

How Four Cities in California are Using Sugary Drink Tax Revenue

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The first four cities in California to tax sugary drinks use the tax revenues to fund programs specific to the needs of their community. Common to the four approaches is the use of the tax revenues to promote health equity: funds are targeted and delivered to the most vulnerable members of the community. This pie chart shows the breakdown of how all four cities, taken together, are spending their tax revenues:¹



Photo credit: Clockwise from top left, Dawn Arlotta, CDC; USDA Food and Nutrition Service; Vouchers 4 Veggies; USDA Food and Nutrition Service

¹Krieger J, Magee K, Hennings T, Schoof J, Madsen KA. 2021. How sugar-sweetened beverage tax revenues are being used in the United States. *Prev Med Rep* 23:101388.

How four California cities invest sugary drink tax revenue in programs to meet the needs of their community:¹



Oakland

Investing in new athletic fields, playgrounds for tots, drinking water stations, food programs, and summer jobs programs; upgrading city pools, youth centers, and other facilities.

Berkeley

Funding school gardens, nutrition classes, oral health programs, community and youth programs, and work on organizational healthy beverage policies.



Above: Farmer Ben and garden class students.



Albany

Providing free health and wellness classes and installing water bottle filling stations in busy spots across the city.

San Francisco

Funding community and school programs, such as Peace Parks with physical activity and healthy eating programs for young adults in low-income housing. In May 2020, the S. F. citizen advisory board voted to send \$1.65 million to COVID-19 relief.



Peace Park basketball program.

Photo credit: From top left, USDA Food and Nutrition Service; Haldun Morgan; City of Albany; San Francisco Recreation & Parks Department

The University of California Research Consortium on Beverages and Health includes faculty from every UC campus working to provide California legislators and communities with the science base for policy to decrease consumption of sugary drinks and increase consumption of water and other healthy beverages.

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