

Wasteless Solutions

<u>Team Member Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Major</u>
Member 1: Xander Baquing	Sophomore	Business Administration
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Topic Title: Turning Excess into Excellence: Forwarding Sustainable Retail in LA Supermarkets

Audience: Northgate Markets Executive Board and CEO

Sustainable Development Goal

SDG #12- Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

SDG #13- Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Executive Summary

According to the Los Angeles Sanitation District, approximately 4,000 tons of food is wasted in Los Angeles County. This has dire effects on the surrounding environment as the organic material decomposes, emitting harmful greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Unfortunately, supermarkets are a large contributor to emissions of harmful greenhouse gases into the atmosphere as they dispose of large quantities of produce and other food, such as pre-made meals, that could have otherwise been sustainably utilized. This process has significant drawbacks to achieving Sustainable Development Goal #12, which encourages admissible consumption and production patterns, and Sustainable Development Goal #13, which urges climate action.

Wasteless Solutions strives to eradicate food waste within Los Angeles County by targeting prominent Los Angeles supermarkets. With the Hispanic demographic growing to be one of the largest ethnic groups within the county, ethnic supermarkets have the opportunity to flourish. This is exemplified through one of Los Angeles' most popular Hispanic supermarkets, Gonzalaz Northgate Markets. Beginning as a dream, the Southern California chain has grown to accumulate \$1 billion in revenue and is projected to grow within the coming years. Given its influence, it can inspire its community to initiate sustainability efforts by leading by example. To do so, Northgate Markets needs to be more transparent with its sustainability efforts. Wasteless Solutions suggests Northgate Markets begin with initiatives combatting food waste, and proposes for it to execute dynamic pricing, which would be reflected in stores and on its app. Although the financial contributions of this solution may appear high in the short term, it would enhance its ethical reputation and maximize profitability, while simultaneously abiding by sustainability regulations. Pursuing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals will position Northgate Markets and its communities to prosper for generations to come.