

County of Santa Clara

Department of Environmental Health

Consumer Protection Division

1555 Berger Drive, Suite 300, San Jose, CA 95112-2716

Phone (408) 918-3400 www.ehinfo.org



OFFICIAL INSPECTION REPORT

Facility FA0209480 - EL BUEN GUSTO		Site Address 436 S KING RD, SAN JOSE, CA 95116		Inspection Date 03/10/2026		Placard Color & Score GREEN 82		
Program PR0303055 - FOOD PREP / FOOD SVC OP 0-5 EMPLOYEES RC 2 - FP10			Owner Name EL BUEN GUSTO CORPORA		Inspection Time 13:10 - 14:35			
Inspected By JENNIE PENALOZA		Inspection Type ROUTINE INSPECTION		Consent By RICHARD ORTIZ				FSC Not Available

RISK FACTORS AND INTERVENTIONS		IN	OUT		COS/SA	N/O	N/A	PBI
			Major	Minor				
K01	Demonstration of knowledge; food safety certification			X				
K02	Communicable disease; reporting/restriction/exclusion	X						
K03	No discharge from eyes, nose, mouth	X						
K04	Proper eating, tasting, drinking, tobacco use	X						
K05	Hands clean, properly washed; gloves used properly	X						S
K06	Adequate handwash facilities supplied, accessible	X						
K07	Proper hot and cold holding temperatures	X						N
K08	Time as a public health control; procedures & records						X	
K09	Proper cooling methods	X						
K10	Proper cooking time & temperatures	X						N
K11	Proper reheating procedures for hot holding	X						
K12	Returned and reservice of food	X						
K13	Food in good condition, safe, unadulterated	X						
K14	Food contact surfaces clean, sanitized			X				
K15	Food obtained from approved source	X						
K16	Compliance with shell stock tags, condition, display						X	
K17	Compliance with Gulf Oyster Regulations						X	
K18	Compliance with variance/ROP/HACCP Plan						X	
K19	Consumer advisory for raw or undercooked foods						X	
K20	Licensed health care facilities/schools: prohibited foods not being offered						X	
K21	Hot and cold water available	X						
K22	Sewage and wastewater properly disposed	X						
K23	No rodents, insects, birds, or animals	X						

GOOD RETAIL PRACTICES		OUT	COS
K24	Person in charge present and performing duties		
K25	Proper personal cleanliness and hair restraints		
K26	Approved thawing methods used; frozen food		
K27	Food separated and protected		
K28	Fruits and vegetables washed		
K29	Toxic substances properly identified, stored, used		
K30	Food storage: food storage containers identified	X	
K31	Consumer self service does prevent contamination		
K32	Food properly labeled and honestly presented		
K33	Nonfood contact surfaces clean	X	
K34	Warewash facilities: installed/maintained; test strips	X	
K35	Equipment, utensils: Approved, in good repair, adequate capacity	X	
K36	Equipment, utensils, linens: Proper storage and use	X	
K37	Vending machines		
K38	Adequate ventilation/lighting; designated areas, use		
K39	Thermometers provided, accurate		
K40	Wiping cloths: properly used, stored		
K41	Plumbing approved, installed, in good repair; proper backflow devices		
K42	Garbage & refuse properly disposed; facilities maintained		
K43	Toilet facilities: properly constructed, supplied, cleaned		
K44	Premises clean, in good repair; Personal/chemical storage; Adequate vermin-proofing		
K45	Floor, walls, ceilings: built, maintained, clean	X	
K46	No unapproved private home/living/sleeping quarters		
K47	Signs posted; last inspection report available		

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K48	Plan review		
K49	Permits available		
K58	Placard properly displayed/posted		

Comments and Observations

Major Violations

No major violations were observed during this inspection.

Minor Violations

K01 - 3 Points - Inadequate demonstration of knowledge; food manager certification

Inspector Observations: Food safety certificate is not provided.

[CA] Food facilities that prepare, handle, or serve non-prepackaged potentially hazard foods shall have a valid Food Safety Certificate available for review at all times.

K14 - 3 Points - Food contact surfaces unclean and unsanitized; 113984(e), 114097, 114099.1, 114099.4, 114099.6, 114101, 114105, 114109, 114111, 114113, 114115(a,b,d), 114117, 14125(b), 114141

Inspector Observations: Dry encrusted food observed on meat slicer components.

[CA] Wash, rinse and sanitize meat slicer before use to prevent cross contamination.

K30 - 2 Points - Food storage containers are not identified; 114047, 114049, 114051, 114053, 114055, 114067(h), 114069 (b)

Inspector Observations: Containers with flour and sugar do not have a label.

[CA] Working containers holding food or food ingredients that are removed from their original packages shall be identified with the common name of the food if not easily recognizable.

K33 - 2 Points - Nonfood contact surfaces not clean; 114115(c)

Inspector Observations: Encrusted food residue observed on exterior of baking equipment.

[CA] Nonfood-contact surfaces of equipment shall be kept free of an accumulation of dust, dirt, food residue, and other debris.

K34 - 2 Points - Warewashing facilities: not installed or maintained; no test strips; 114067(f,g), 114099, 114099.3, 114099.5, 114101(a), 114101.1, 114101.2, 114103, 114107, 114125

Inspector Observations: Chlorine test strips are not provided.

[CA] Provide chlorine test strip to measure sanitizer concentration when ware washing (100 ppm for 30 seconds).

K35 - 2 Points - Equipment, utensils - Unapproved, unclean, not in good repair, inadequate capacity; 114130, 114130.1, 114130.2, 114130.3, 114130.4, 114130.5, 114132, 114133, 114137, 114139, 114153, 114155, 114163, 114165, 114167, 114169, 114175, 114177, 114180, 114182

Inspector Observations: 1. Aluminum and cardboard lining observed on shelves.

[CA] Discontinue the use of aluminum/cardboard boxes to line shelves/flooring, use approved equipment made of materials that is easily cleanable, durable, smooth, and nonabsorbent.

2. Prep table gasket is torn.

[CA] Repair gasket.

K36 - 2 Points - Equipment, utensils, linens: Improper storage and use; 114074, 114081, 114119, 114121, 114161, 114178, 114179, 114083, 114185, 114185.2, 114185.3, 114185.4, 114185.5

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Inspector Observations: *Working knives are stored between prep unit and prep table.*

[CA] *Store knives in an approved location to prevent cross contamination, such as magnetic knife holder.*

[COS] *Knives were relocated to the 2 comp sink for ware washing.*

K45 - 2 Points - Floor, walls, ceilings: not built, not maintained, not clean; 114143(d), 114266, 114268, 114268.1, 114271, 114272

Inspector Observations: *1. Grease accumulation on back wall of food prep table.*

[CA] *Walls and/or floors in food preparation area shall be kept clean.*

2. Residue and debris observed on floor throughout facility.

[CA] *Walls and/or floors in food preparation area shall be kept clean.*

3. Floor is deteriorating in some areas within kitchen.

[CA] *Repair floor.*

Performance-Based Inspection Questions

Needs Improvement - Proper cooking time & temperatures.

Needs Improvement - Proper hot and cold holding temperatures.

Measured Observations

Item	Location	Measurement	Comments
beans	steam table	156.00 Fahrenheit	rice - 138F
tripe	walk-in cooler	36.00 Fahrenheit	rice - 56F - cooling 1 hour per staff raw chicken - 36F raw shrimp - 36F beans - 40F
cooked pork	prep unit	41.00 Fahrenheit	raw bacon - 41F
beans	plastic container	167.00 Fahrenheit	cooling
water	restroom	100.00 Fahrenheit	
water	2 comp sink / kitchen hand sink	125.00 Fahrenheit	
milk	beverage cooler	32.00 Fahrenheit	
water	mop sink	127.00 Fahrenheit	
raw beef	top well	39.00 Fahrenheit	raw beef - 39F sliced tomatoes - 39F ham - 39F

Overall Comments:

When required to determine compliance, a single reinspection will be conducted without additional charge. If subsequent reinspections are required, an hourly fee (minimum one hour) at the current rate approved by the Board of Supervisors will be assessed for each and every reinspection until the necessary changes or corrections are made. Unless otherwise noted by the inspector, all violations are to be corrected no later than **3/24/2026**. Any major change in menu or any change in ownership must have prior approval by this Department. This may require structural and/or equipment changes or remodeling to accommodate new operations.

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Legend:

[CA]	Corrective Action
[COS]	Corrected on Site
[N]	Needs Improvement
[NA]	Not Applicable
[NO]	Not Observed
[PBI]	Performance-based Inspection
[PHF]	Potentially Hazardous Food
[PIC]	Person in Charge
[PPM]	Part per Million
[S]	Satisfactory
[SA]	Suitable Alternative
[TPHC]	Time as a Public Health Control



Received By: Richard Ortiz
Owner

Signed On: March 10, 2026