

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 FA0308180 - NIPPON CURRY		Site Address 96 E SANTA CLARA ST K112, SAN JOSE, CA 95113		Inspection Date 03/06/2026		Placard Color & Score YELLOW 51		
Program PR0451841 - FOOD PREP / FOOD SVC OP 0-5 EMPLOYEES RC 3 - FP11			Owner Name ZASH HOWARD LLC		Inspection Time 13:15 - 15:00			
Inspected By ALEXANDER ALFARO		Inspection Type ROUTINE INSPECTION		Consent By EDI				FSC Thomas Uehara 01/13/2031

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						S
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						N
K06	Adequate handwash facilities supplied, accessible		X		X			N
K07	Proper hot and cold holding temperatures	X						
K08	Time as a public health control; procedures & records		X		X			
K09	Proper cooling methods		X		X			N
K10	Proper cooking time & temperatures					X		
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		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	X	
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		
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	X	
K41	Plumbing approved, installed, in good repair; proper backflow devices	X	
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		
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

K06 - 8 Points - Inadequate handwash facilities: supplied or accessible; 113953, 113953.1, 113953.2, 114067(f)

Inspector Observations:

The only handwash station in the facility was obstructed. The rim of the handwash basin had an accumulation of filth when obstructions were removed.

Follow-up By 03/13/2026

[CA] Ensure the handwash station is accessible at all times and stocked with soap and paper towels.

[COS] Staff removed the obstructions.

K08 - 8 Points - Improperly using time as a public health control procedures & records; 114000

Inspector Observations:

1. Chicken katsu were found in the fryer basket and measured between 120-125F. Per cook it was cooked about 20 minutes prior. Per cook they cook an extra piece of chicken for each order and discard it after 30 minutes. No time marking or time tracking methods were employed.

2. Written procedures were not available.

[CA] When time only, rather than time and temperature is used as a public health control, PHFs shall be time marked to indicate when item is removed from temperature control, discarded if not consumed or served within 4 hours, and written procedures shall be readily available for review.

[SA] Cook showed that the previous order was done 25 minutes prior and discarded the chicken after 30 minutes came around. TPHC process appear to have been updated. TPHC form provided to update procedures.

Follow-up By 03/13/2026

K09 - 8 Points - Improper cooling methods; 114002, 114002.1

Inspector Observations:

Two large metal pots of curry with lids on were measured between 90-100F. Per staff they cooled the pots yesterday.

[CA] After heating or hot holding, Potentially Hazardous Foods (PHFs) shall be cooled rapidly from 135°F to 70°F within 2 hours and from 70°F to 41°F within 4 hours. Approved cooling methods include: 1) Placing the food in shallow pans 2) Separating the food into thinner or smaller portions. 3) Using rapid cooling equipment (Ex. blast chiller) 4) Using containers that facilitate heat transfer (ex. stainless steel) 5) Adding ice as an ingredient. 6) Using ice paddles 7) Using an ice bath and stirring frequently 8) Accordance with a HACCP plan. Cooling foods shall have enough space around the containers for cold air to circulate, be loosely covered, or uncovered and stirred as frequently needed to evenly cool.

[COS] Items were VC&D. See VC&D report.

K14 - 8 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:

Staff were observed skipping the sanitizing step of warewashing.

Follow-up By 03/13/2026

[CA] Manual warewashing shall be accomplished by using a three-compartment sink where the utensils are first precleaned, washed with hot soapy water, rinsed with hot water, sanitized with an approved method, and air dried. Use 1 TBS of bleach (5.25%) per 1 gal. of water for chlorine solution (100 PPM). Use 1 tbs of quaternary ammonium (10%) per 2 gal. of water for quaternary ammonium (200 PPM).

[COS] EH inspector educated staff on proper warewashing procedure, helped set up a chlorine solution, and instructed staff to sanitize dishes. Warewash procedure sticker handout was provided.

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Minor Violations

K21 - 3 Points - Hot and cold water not available; 113953(c), 114099.2(b), 114163(a), 114189, 114192, 114192.1, 11419

Inspector Observations:

Hot water at the three compartment sink and prep sink measured at a maximum of 115F.

[CA] Hot water shall be supplied at a minimum temperature of at least 120°F measured from the faucet throughout facility except at handwash sinks.

K27 - 2 Points - Food not separated and unprotected; 113984(a-d,f), 113986, 114060, 114067(a,d,e,j), 114069(a,b), 114077, 114089.1(c), 114143(c)

Inspector Observations:

1. Raw fish was found stored in contact with fresh produce in the drawer cooler.

2. Raw shelled eggs were found stored above ready to eat foods in the walk in cooler.

[CA] All food shall be separated and protected from cross-contamination. Store all raw meat or other raw products of animal origin below ready-to-eat food items.

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

Inspector Observations:

Potato starch in a cambro container was not labeled.

[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:

The sides of cooking equipment had an accumulation of grease and food debris.

[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:

Facility lacks testing materials for their choice of sanitizer, chlorine.

[CA] Testing equipment and materials shall be provided to adequately measure the applicable sanitization method used during manual or mechanical warewashing.

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

Inspector Observations:

Rice serving utensil was found stored in a container of water measuring 68F.

[CA] Utensils shall be stored in the following manner: 1) in the food with their handles above the top of the food and the container, 2) in running water, 3) in a container of water at 135°F or above, 4) at room temperature if washed within 4 hours of initial use.

K40 - 2 Points - Wiping cloths: improperly used and stored; 114135, 114185.1 114185.3(d,e)

Inspector Observations:

A wet cloth towel was observed stored on the prep surface near the cutting board.

[CA] Wiping towels shall be stored in sanitizing solution of an approved concentration when not in use (100 ppm - chlorine, 200 ppm - quaternary ammonium).

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K41 - 2 Points - Plumbing unapproved, not installed, not in good repair; improper backflow devices; 114171, 114189.1, 114190, 114192, 114193, 114193.1, 114199, 114201, 114269

Inspector Observations:

The handwash station hot water handle does not work. Food hall management came in to secure it but the handle went loose again during the inspection.

[CA] Repair plumbing fixture and maintain in clean and good repair.

Performance-Based Inspection Questions

Needs Improvement - Proper cooling methods.
Needs Improvement - Hands clean/properly washed/gloves used properly.
Needs Improvement - Adequate handwash facilities: supplied or accessible.

Measured Observations

Item	Location	Measurement	Comments
Water	Three Compartment Sink	115.00 Fahrenheit	
Curry	Soup Warmer	160.00 Fahrenheit	
Water	Handwash sink	100.00 Fahrenheit	
Shredded Cheese	Undercounter Cooler	39.00 Fahrenheit	
Raw Chicken	Undercounter Cooler	38.00 Fahrenheit	
Chlorine - Sanitizer	Three Compartment Sink	100.00 PPM	
Breaded Shrimp	Undercounter Freezer	8.00 Fahrenheit	
Vegetable Curry	Stove - Pilot Light	136.00 Fahrenheit	
Breaded Potato	Undercounter Freezer	8.00 Fahrenheit	
Rice	Rice Cooker	160.00 Fahrenheit	
Curry	Walk in Cooler	90.00 Fahrenheit	

Overall Comments:

Notes:

- A follow up inspection will be conducted within 5 business days to verify compliance with major violations noted. The first follow up inspection is free of charge. Any and all subsequent follow up inspections shall be charged at the approved hourly rate of \$298.00/hr, minimum of one hour, during normal business hours: Monday through Friday 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM, and \$645 for a minimum of two hours, during non-business hours, and upon inspector availability.

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 3/20/2026. 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.

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: Edi
Cook
Signed On: March 06, 2026