

Dan Bernal
President

Laurie Green, M.D.
Vice President

Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Commissioner

Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.
Commissioner

Cecilia Chung
Commissioner

Suzanne Giraud ED.D
Commissioner

Tessie M. Guillermo
Commissioner

**HEALTH COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO**

**London N. Breed Mayor
Department of Public Health**



Grant Colfax, MD
Director of Health

Mark Morewitz, M.S.W.
Executive Secretary

TEL (415) 554-2666

FAX (415) 554-2665

Web Site: <http://www.sfdph.org>

MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday December 15, 2020 4:00 p.m.

Remote Meeting via Webex Event

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner Dan Bernal President
Commissioner Laurie Green, MD, Vice President
Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D.
Commissioner Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.
Commissioner Suzanne Giraud, Ph.D
Commissioner Tessie Guillermo

Excused: Commissioner Cecilia Chung

The meeting was called to order at 4:06pm. Commissioner Bernal noted the year of many challenges and acknowledged the incredible work of the DPH during the past year. He added that the Commissioners recorded a video to express their gratitude to staff.

2) RESOLUTION HONORING MICHAEL L. BROWN

Greg Wagner, DPH Chief Operating Officer, read the resolution and thanked Mr. Brown for his service to the DPH.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Green stated that when Mr. Brown presented to the Commission, it was apparent how kind and thoughtful he is. She thanked him for his contributions to the DPH.

Commissioner Chow thanked Mr. Brown for helping the DPH successfully hire nurses and other required staff during the pandemic.

Commissioner Bernal thanked Mr. Brown for providing leadership during a very important year and successfully implementing strategies to hire necessary staff during the pandemic.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the resolution. (see attached)

3) COVID-19 UPDATE

Grant Colfax, MD, DPH Director of Health; Andrea Tenner, MD, Director of Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response; and Juliet Stoltey, MD, Director of Communicable Disease Control and

Prevention, presented San Francisco COVID-19 data and a COVID-19 vaccine update.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bernal asked whether EPIC is being used to track vaccine type and doses. Dr. Tenner stated that EPIC is used to track COVID-19 vaccine doses. She noted that the DPH is working closely with the City Administrator's Office in this planning process.

Commissioner Chow noted that with different kinds of vaccines available, it may be difficult for patients to remember the type of vaccine they received or when to return for a second dose. Dr. Tenner stated that cards are distributed to vaccine recipients that have the type of vaccine and the date for their second dose. Dr. Stotley stated that the state is also keeping a registry of every dose given.

Commissioner Green asked if there are concerns about the impact of room temperature when taking the vaccine out of cold storage for use. She also asked how the DPH will handle planning vaccines with staff to ensure if there are any adverse side effects that staff coverage is not impacted. Dr. Stotley stated that the DPH is following CDC and stated guidelines about storage of the vaccine. Each vaccine has instructions for how long it can be stored and how long it can be maintained once opened. Regarding staff vaccinations, the DPH is adhering to the CDC guidance that staff vaccinations should be staggered to ensure no adverse impact on services.

Commissioner Guillermo asked how implementation of the vaccination process will impact staffing levels, noting that the vaccinations will require staff be pulled from other work. She also asked where in the vaccine prioritization process are primary care workers. Dr. Stotley stated that primary care clinic workers are in tier two of the vaccine schedule. She also stated that the DPH does not anticipate staffing capacity issues in relation to the vaccination process.

Commissioner Green asked if there are changes in the COVID patient population, such as age, that could impact the expected rate of hospitalizations. Dr. Colfax stated that ICU/acute bed patient stays are being monitored closely.

Commissioner Bernal noted that San Francisco has conducted over 1 million tests during the pandemic. He also noted that San Francisco has been more conservative than the state's COVID-19 criteria and asked whether the City plans to continue this trend. Dr. Colfax stated that San Francisco will continue its current path, adhering to state guidelines to understand regions issues while following its own criteria to ensure safety for residents.

Commissioner Bernal stated that the proportion of ICU admissions compared to hospital admissions has decreased and asked for some context of this trend. Dr. Colfax stated that the DPH is striving to care for patients so that ICU beds are not needed.

Commissioner Chow asked whether hospitals have been directed to reduce or eliminate elective surgeries to make more room for COVID-19 patients. Dr. Colfax stated that the Health Officer has been working to plan for a reduction in elective surgeries to make room for COVID-19 patients.

4) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Grant Colfax, Director of Health, gave the report, which can be viewed at:
<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

FEDERAL UPDATE:

FDA Issues emergency use authorization for first COVID-19 vaccine

On December 11, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued the first emergency use authorization (EUA) for a vaccine for the prevention of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in individuals 16 years of age and older. The emergency use authorization allows the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to be distributed in the U.S.

The FDA has determined that Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine has met the statutory criteria for issuance of an EUA. The totality of the available data provides clear evidence that Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine may be effective in preventing COVID-19. The data also support that the known and potential benefits outweigh the known and potential risks, supporting the vaccine's use in millions of people 16 years of age and older, including healthy individuals. In making this determination, the FDA can assure the public and medical community that it has conducted a thorough evaluation of the available safety, effectiveness and manufacturing quality information

A safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine is the most important intervention to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of the decisions regarding the distribution are being driven by the state and federal government, including the amount of vaccine a county will receive, when, and how. Vaccine prioritization and allocation is dependent on the decisions and timeline of the state and federal government.

San Francisco will be provided approximately 12,000 doses in the first round of allocation by the state and federal government. San Francisco Department of Health anticipates the first doses could arrive as early as December 14.

The current proposal for Phase One distribution, which determined by the state prioritization plan, is currently targeted to front line health care workers and nursing homes. Nursing home residents are more likely to get severely ill or die from COVID-19, and workers in our health systems need to stay healthy to care for others who may become sick.

We are bound by the state prioritization plan. The state's allocation plan is based on a phased approach while the vaccine doses are in limited supply. Once vaccine supply has increased, the vaccine will be available to a broader segment of the population. The general population will not likely have access until the vaccine supply is no longer limited – expected to be a Summer or early Fall 2021.

The distribution of a national vaccine during a pandemic is an unprecedented event. San Francisco is planning with all our partners to ensure the safe delivery of vaccines.

STATE UPDATE:

Governor Newsom taps SF Health Officer Dr. Tomás Aragón to lead California DPH

On December 7, Governor Gavin Newsom announced the decision to appoint Dr. Tomás Aragón as Director of the California Department of Public Health. This position requires Senate confirmation.

Dr. Aragón has been Health Officer for the City and County of San Francisco and Director of the Population Health Division for the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) since 2011. He has been Volunteer Faculty for the University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health since 2004. He earned a Doctor of Medicine degree from Harvard Medical School, a Doctor of Public Health Degree from the University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health and a Master of Public Health degree from the Harvard School of Public Health.

Dr. Aragón's appointment comes at a critical moment in our COVID-19 response. The SFDPH team is so proud to see the governor recognizing what we in SFDPH have known since 1996, that Dr. Aragón is an exceptional public health leader, professor, doctor and Californian who will always put equity first. We have seen firsthand how Dr. Aragón leads with humility, curiosity and compassion – qualities that have served us well for decades, but never so much as in the COVID-19 pandemic. His steady, thoughtful approach in San Francisco's emergency response has saved lives, especially in our City's vulnerable populations, and has garnered praise from around the world.

LOCAL UPDATE:

San Francisco to join Bay Area counties to preemptively adopt California's regional stay at home order in an effort to contain COVID-19 surge

Today, there are over 18,500 San Francisco residents with confirmed cases of COVID-19. And, sadly, a total of 167 San Franciscans have died. The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) sends our condolences to their loved ones.

On December 4, Mayor London N. Breed and Director of Health Dr. Grant Colfax announced San Francisco will join counties across the Bay Area to impose significant restrictions across the region in an effort to mitigate the current surge in COVID-19 cases. The City's case rate and hospitalizations continue to increase unabated since late October and are now prompting San Francisco to take further action.

San Francisco and many other Bay Area Counties are opting into the Regional Stay at Home Order that Governor Newsom announced Thursday, December 3rd for regions with less than 15% capacity in ICU beds. Although San Francisco and the Bay Area have not yet met that threshold, the City in partnership with Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Santa Clara and City of Berkeley, is preemptively implementing these restrictions in an effort to flatten the curve of COVID-19 cases, which continue to surge, and prevent hospitals from being overrun across the region.

Please visit <https://sf.gov/news/updates-regional-stay-home-order> to review how San Francisco implemented the [Bay Area Regional Stay Home Order](#). Closures include in-person dining, personal care services, indoor gyms, museums, and drive-in movies.

San Francisco, along with California and the United States, is experiencing a surge in COVID-19 more aggressive than what the City has experienced to date. Local COVID-19 cases have quadrupled during the last month. San Francisco is currently averaging 142 new COVID-19 positive cases per day compared to the 34 per day that it averaged in late October. Moreover, the City currently has approximately 900 COVID-19 cases diagnosed per week and hospitalizations have tripled over the last month. As a result, the City's hospital capacity will be under considerable stress. At its current rate of COVID hospitalizations, the City would run out of hospital beds by the end of December. Unlike in previous surges, the rest of the State's hospital capacity is strained and reaching patient limits and it is unlikely there will be additional hospital capacity in other counties if San Francisco's is compromised.

San Francisco's Health Order is expected to be in effect through January 4, 2021. If, after a week of this order being in effect, the City's indicators show a consistent reduction in case rates and hospitalizations for three additional weeks (for a total of 4 weeks) and ICU capacity is holding at 25% availability or more, San Francisco will lift this health order. If however, the Bay Area continues on its current trajectory and reaches the 15% ICU capacity threshold, it would trigger the State's Regional Stay at Home Order and mandate that the region continue these restrictions for at least 3 weeks from that time and until ICU capacity exceeds 15% and forward-looking indicators would allow easing the restrictions. In either scenario, once this order is lifted, San Francisco would be returned to the State's blueprint tier system.

In addition to the measures the City is taking in order to reduce close interactions by people from different households, the City is increasing its focus on compliance and enforcement activities. For example, the City's Community Education and Response Team (CERT) is addressing complaints regarding Health Order violations to ensure that business owners and operators are fully aware of and adhere to health orders and directives. Further, with expanding contact tracing capabilities and infection monitoring efforts, CERT is strategically focusing its proactive outreach and education efforts to business corridors in areas of the City with high infection rates, low compliance, and/or elevated risks.

SF Department of Public Health funds \$5.25m in grants for COVID-19 community response

On December 11, the San Francisco Department of Public Health, in partnership with the San Francisco Public Health Foundation, announced the results of a \$5.25 million grant program to provide culturally responsive services to neighborhoods and populations most impacted by COVID-19. Ten Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and their partners will be funded for COVID-19 community prevention, mitigation, and wellness programs. Funded activities include focused outreach, mobile test site support, case investigation and contact tracing (CI/CT), community care for COVID-19 positive individuals, and the development of a community-based CI/CT training center.

During this pandemic, CBOs have supported San Francisco's most vulnerable communities. SFDPH values the expertise of these organizations, as they are rooted in the community and know how to best serve the diverse populations in the City. Trust is crucial to effective COVID-19 outreach, care, and prevention services and to address stigma.

This funding program is part of SFDPH's equity strategy to focus on populations and neighborhoods that have the greatest disparities in COVID-19 case rates, with a goal of preventing and decreasing the transmission and severity of the disease. The two service categories funded include I) Community Outreach and Care and II) Community Case Investigation/Contact Tracing (CI/CT) Training Center.

The Community Outreach and Care Teams will use a person-centered, culturally and linguistically competent approach to provide harm reduction-based, low barrier, wrap-around services within their

This \$5.25 million community grant is part of SFDPH's and the City's larger COVID-19 response investments which include: health operations; housing and shelter programs; food insecurity and human services; and emergency communications and operations. In September 2020, Mayor Breed announced \$28.5 million to support COVID-19 community response efforts for San Francisco's Latino population across multiple areas. This grant will fulfill a portion of that allocation, given that the Latino community represents 45% of current COVID-19 cases.

City of SF and community organizations hosted holiday giveaway for 5,000 families and residents

On December 9, the San Francisco Department of Public Health, in partnership with the San Francisco African American Faith-Based Coalition and with support from the COVID Command Center, and other local community-based organizations, hosted a holiday giveaway event at the Cow Palace, called "Feeding 5000," to provide holiday resources to some of San Francisco's most vulnerable residents. The event, supported by major contributors from Salesforce, Five-Point, Hellman Foundation, and the Cow Palace, distributed turkeys and trimming bags, gift cards, culturally-appropriate foods, and other resources to community and faith-based organizations to deliver to more than 5,000 families and residents living in San Francisco. Items were distributed via a drive-through service with strict COVID-19 safety procedures in place.

Partners included the San Francisco-Marin Food Bank, Pacific Agri-Products, Earl's Organic Produce, SF Market, SF New Deal, and Dixon Delights; all of which are local nonprofit organizations that have been instrumental in addressing food insecurity during the pandemic.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, one in four San Francisco residents were at risk of hunger due to low income. With the increased number of residents out of work, the number of people struggling to afford enough nutritious food is also increasing and the City's nonprofit partners have reported a surge in demand for food.

Focusing on serving those most vulnerable to the effects of COVID-19, addressing food insecurity and expanding food access has been a critical objective of the City's COVID Command Center over the past several months. The City has led a major expansion of food security programs to ensure all residents have access to food in this time of great need and economic uncertainty. This effort was made possible by the City's partnerships with a diverse network of private and community-run organizations who work tirelessly to provide food to the community, such as the San Francisco-Marín Food Bank, the San Francisco Unified School District, and multiple local nonprofits.

City community mobile testing sites in partnership with community-based organizations, test over 10,000 people

As of December, the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the COVID Command Center, in partnership with the Latino Task Force and Excelsior Strong collaborative, tested over 10,000 people and vaccinated 554 individuals with flu shots, at the mobile COVID-19 testing sites at the Mission HUB (701 Alabama) and Excelsior District site (Crocker Amazon). These community led sites focus on serving the Latinx community's essential workers, uninsured, and families impacted by COVID19 always put families first. With support from DPH both sites are set to launch the community-based organizations' Community Wellness Teams who will provide wrap around support for Latinx and anyone testing COVID19 positive at these sites. This successful partnership, with the Latinx community, highlights the value of trusting the leadership and wisdom that community brings to our work during this difficult time. Since July 2020, Isela Ford, Latinx Lead for SFDPH and CCC and Oscar Macias, Latinx Liaison for CCC Community Branch have facilitated the coordination between the City and community partners.

San Francisco's new street crisis response team launches

On November 30, Mayor London N. Breed announced the launch of the first phase of San Francisco's Street Crisis Response Team (SCRT) pilot program. The first team will begin responding to 911 calls regarding people experiencing behavioral health crises today. The Street Crisis Response Team is part of San Francisco's efforts to develop alternatives to police responses to non-violent calls, which advances the Mayor's roadmap to fundamentally change the way that the City handles public safety, and is also a major step in implementing Mental Health SF.

The SCRT pilot program is a collaboration between the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the San Francisco Fire Department with significant support from the Department of Emergency Management. The San Francisco Police Department will also be a key partner in the transition of certain types of 911 calls to the new teams. Each team includes a community paramedic, a behavioral health clinician, and a behavioral health peer specialist. The goal of the new program is to provide an appropriate non-law enforcement response to behavioral health emergencies in San Francisco and divert individuals in crisis away from emergency rooms and criminal legal settings into behavioral health treatment. The SCRT aims to provide trauma-informed clinical interventions and care coordination for people who experience behavioral health crises on the streets of San Francisco.

Starting November 30, this first team will focus on responding to calls in the Tenderloin, which will allow the SCRT to respond efficiently to calls in a high-need and relatively small geographic area during the initial phase of the program. Additional teams will be phased in over the coming weeks and months, ramping up to at least six teams by the end of March 2021, with the goal of enabling the SCRT to operate citywide, 7 days per week and up to 24 hours a day.

DPH in the News

NBC News, Dec 12 2020, \$5.25M grant to strengthen city's COVID-19 response in most impacted neighborhoods

<https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/san-francisco/5-25m-grant-to-strengthen-citys-covid-19-response-in-most-impacted-neighborhoods/2421838/>

The Guardian, Dec 12 2020, 'The virus is moving in': why California is losing the fight against COVID
<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/dec/11/california-covid-19-coronavirus-surgin>

SF Chronicle, Dec 12 2020, Cancel Christmas? Bay Area officials warn against gatherings if you want to see the new year
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Cancel-Christmas-Bay-Area-officials-warn-against-15795793.php>

SF Examiner, Dec 11 2020, Debate begins over who should get COVID-19 vaccine first
<https://www.sfexaminer.com/news-columnists/debate-begins-over-who-should-get-covid-19-vaccine-first/>

Times-Herald, Dec 11 2020, Coronavirus: Light at the end of the tunnel? Yes, but it may be a long ride
<https://www.timesheraldonline.com/2020/12/11/coronavirus-light-at-the-end-of-the-tunnel-yes-but-it-may-be-a-long-ride/>

SF Chronicle, Dec 10 2020, Bay Area nears critical shortage of ICU beds, with Santa Clara County at 8% of capacity
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/health/article/The-Bay-Area-nears-critical-shortage-of-ICU-beds-15792778.php>

UCSF News Services, Dec 10 2020, Latinx low-income workers hardest hit by SF COVID-19 surge
<https://www.ucsf.edu/news/2020/12/419266/latinx-low-income-workers-hardest-hit-sf-covid-19-surge>

ABC7, Dec 9 2020, 'Not our destiny yet': San Francisco health director projects as many as 1,500 more deaths if COVID-19 surge continues
<https://abc7news.com/sf-covid-update-ca-stay-at-home-order-san-francisco-coronavirus/8641215/>

CBS Bay Area, Dec 9 2020, COVID: SFUSD begins process with Department of Public Health on reopening schools
<https://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2020/12/09/covid-sfUSD-begins-process-with-department-of-public-health-on-reopening-schools/>

KCBS Radio, Dec 9 2020, 'Feeding 5,000' event spreads holiday cheer when it's needed most
<https://www.radio.com/kcbsradio/news/local/feeding-5-000-event-spreads-holiday-cheer-when-its-needed>

LA Times, Dec 9 2020, San Francisco could run out of ICU beds in 17 days if coronavirus infection rate continues
<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-12-09/san-francisco-could-run-out-of-icu-beds-in-17-days-if-coronavirus-infection-rate-continues>

Mission Local, Dec 9 2020, Health Department: ICU beds could run out in next few weeks – if COVID-19 surge does not abate
<https://missionlocal.org/2020/12/health-department-icu-beds-could-run-in-next-few-weeks-if-covid-19-surge-does-not-abate/>

Mission Local, Dec 9 2020, Without the data, the science and the facts, SF's closures appear arbitrary and regressive
<https://missionlocal.org/2020/12/without-the-data-the-science-and-the-facts-sfs-closures-appear-arbitrary-and-regressive/>

Mission Local, Dec 9 2020, Black city employees file class-action suit against SF alleging discrimination
<https://missionlocal.org/2020/12/black-city-employees-file-class-action-suit-against-sf-alleging-discrimination/>

MSN, Dec 9 2020, Graph shows what could happen if SF residents don't stay home

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/graph-shows-what-could-happen-if-sf-residents-don-t-stay-home/ar-BB1bN4lf?ocid=hplocalnews>

SF Chronicle, Dec 9 2020, San Francisco warns that hundreds will die if guidelines ignored: 'The virus knows no holidays'

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/San-Francisco-warns-that-hundreds-will-die-if-15789411.php>

SF Chronicle, Dec 9 2020, Charts show how bad the COVID surge has been in Bay Area counties since Thanksgiving

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Charts-show-how-bad-the-COVID-surge-has-been-in-15786275.php>

SF Chronicle, Dec 9 2020, Black S.F. employees file racial discrimination lawsuit against city

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Black-S-F-employees-file-racial-discrimination-15788952.php>

SF Examiner, Dec 9 2020, SF expects batch of 12K COVID-19 vaccines by Dec. 15

<https://www.sfexaminer.com/news/sf-expects-batch-of-12k-covid-19-vaccines-by-dec-15/>

SF Chronicle, Dec 8 2020, S.F. reverses course on tobacco smoking ban inside apartment buildings, seeks more review

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/S-F-reverses-course-on-tobacco-smoking-ban-15785819.php>

SF Chronicle, Dec 8 2020, Castro homeless woman known for wandering into traffic is dead. Why couldn't S.F. save her?

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/heatherknight/article/Castro-homeless-woman-known-for-wandering-into-15783160.php>

ABC News, Dec 7 2020, Will the US ever have a national COVID-19 testing strategy?

<https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/us-national-covid-19-testing-strategy-74569513>

Arkansas Democrat Gazette, Dec 7 2020, Worse ahead; don't stop fight, urge health leaders

<https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2020/dec/07/worse-ahead-dont-stop-fight-urge-health-leaders/?news>

FTN News, Dec 7 2020, San Francisco Travel Association held its first virtual annual meeting

<https://ftnnews.com/mice/40807-san-francisco-travel-association-held-its-first-virtual-annual-meeting>

KRON4, Dec 7 2020, SF Health Officer Tomas Aragon appointed as new CDPH Director

<https://www.kron4.com/news/bay-area/sf-health-officer-tomas-aragon-appointed-as-new-cdph-director/>

KRON4, Dec 7 2020, Grim Christmas: SF hospitals can hit max capacity in 3 weeks

<https://www.kron4.com/news/bay-area/grim-christmas-sf-hospitals-can-hit-max-capacity-in-3-weeks/>

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<https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/california/san-francisco-health-officer-appointed-as-new-cdph-director/2416862/>

NY Times, Dec 7 2020, COVID-19: San Francisco Bay Area issues strict stay-at-home order

<https://www.nytimes.com/live/2020/12/04/world/covid-19-coronavirus>

SF Chronicle, Dec 7 2020, Newsom taps S.F. Health Officer Tomás Aragón to lead California public health department

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Newsom-taps-S-F-health-officer-to-lead-15782026.php>

SF Chronicle, Dec 7 2020, Bay Area begins to feel Thanksgiving fallout as coronavirus cases surge

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Bay-Area-begins-to-feel-Thanksgiving-fallout-as-15782988.php>

SF Examiner, Dec 7 2020, San Francisco's health officer to head the California Department of Public Health

<https://www.sfoxaminer.com/news/san-franciscos-health-officer-to-move-on-to-head-the-california-department-of-public-health/>

Financial Times, Dec 6 2020, Californians ordered to stay at home as COVID surges in US

<https://www.ft.com/content/8be408b4-6ea9-46bf-b845-673ba5c49080>

SFist, Dec 5 2020, Contact tracing program in San Francisco might become overwhelmed by winter surge

<https://sfist.com/2020/12/05/contact-tracing-program-in-san-francisco-might-become-overwhelmed-by-winter-surge/>

ABC7, Dec 4 2020, San Francisco will run out of ICU beds by Dec. 26 if current trend continues, Dr. Colfax warns

<https://abc7news.com/san-francisco-mayor-london-breed-dr-grant-colfax-stay-at-home-order-announcement-covid-19/8502726/>

CNBC, Dec 4 2020, Stay-at-home order issued for San Francisco Bay Area, ahead of state mandate

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/12/04/stay-at-home-order-issued-for-san-francisco-bay-area-ahead-of-state-mandate.html>

CNN, Dec 4 2020, San Francisco Bay Area issues stay-at-home order for nearly 6 million people

https://edition.cnn.com/world/live-news/coronavirus-pandemic-12-04-20-intl/h_c440debf866bbf47d405513e757f49ab

LA Times, Dec 4 2020, Bay Area counties will begin stay-at-home order on Sunday ahead of State mandate

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-12-04/bay-area-counties-will-begin-stay-at-home-order-on-sunday-ahead-of-state-mandate>

Mission Local, Dec 4 2020, New shelter in place order to take effect Sunday at 10 p.m. shutting down even outdoor dining

<https://missionlocal.org/2020/12/new-shelter-in-place-order-to-take-effect-sunday-at-10-p-m-shutting-down-even-outdoor-dining/>

SF Chronicle, Dec 4 2020, Five Bay Area counties to enact strict stay-at-home order ahead of state edict, starting Sunday

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Six-Bay-Area-jurisdictions-to-enact-strict-15776839.php>

KTVU, Dec 3 2020, San Francisco on track to run out of ICU beds the day after Christmas

<https://www.ktvu.com/news/san-francisco-on-track-to-run-out-of-icu-beds-the-day-after-christmas>

The Hill, Dec 3 2020, San Francisco bans indoor tobacco smoking, marijuana permitted

<https://thehill.com/homenews/news/528528-san-francisco-bans-indoor-tobacco-smoking-marijuana-permitted>

Mission Local, Dec 3 2020, SF stay-at-home order likely coming in weeks

<https://missionlocal.org/2020/12/sf-stay-at-home-order-likely-coming-mid-to-late-december/>

NBC News, Dec 3 2020, San Francisco bans smoking tobacco inside apartments—but smoking pot is still OK
<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/san-francisco-bans-smoking-tobacco-inside-apartments-smoking-pot-still-n1249866>

SF Chronicle, Dec 3 2020, Bay Area coronavirus testing delays persist. Who's to blame?
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/health/article/Bay-Area-coronavirus-testing-delays-persist-15773256.php>

SF Chronicle, Dec 3 2020, Charts show the evolution of the pandemic in California and Bay Area counties
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Charts-show-the-evolution-of-the-pandemic-in-15771314.php>

ABC News, Dec 2 2020, San Francisco bans smoking inside apartments; pot smoking OK
<https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/san-francisco-bans-smoking-inside-apartments-pot-smoking-74507785>

[Mission Local, Dec 2 2020, Covid-19 testing campaign finds 10% infection rate at 24th Street BART post-Thanksgiving](https://missionlocal.org/2020/12/covid-19-testing-campaign-finds-high-infection-rate-at-24th-street-bart-post-thanksgiving/)
<https://missionlocal.org/2020/12/covid-19-testing-campaign-finds-high-infection-rate-at-24th-street-bart-post-thanksgiving/>

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Chow asked what the plans are to fill the DPH Health Officer position since Dr. Aragon has been appointed to a state position. Dr. Colfax stated that Dr. Susan Philip is the Acting Health Officer.

5) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no general public comment.

6) DRAFT DPH RACIAL EQUITY ACTION PLAN

Ayanna Bennett, MD, MS, FAAP, Director Office of Health Equity, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bernal asked for context of the employee engagement survey data showing an increase in understanding that governmental policies and practices impact differences in health outcomes in different racial groups. Dr. Bennett stated that the question comes from a Government Alliance on Racial Equity survey; she wanted to include the question so the DPH could have national data to compare itself to as equity work progresses.

Commissioner Chow acknowledged that Dr. Bennett was working at the COVID-19 Command Center and still developed the DPH Racial Equity Action Plan. He commended her for laying out the groundwork for the entire department's process. He thanked her for the Commission-specific goals and the plan to update the Commission on a quarterly basis.

Commissioner Chow noted that the UCSF medical interns at ZSFG are a diverse group and suggested that the DPH may find a way to include them in the plan's activities.

Commissioner Chow noted that the concept of one homogenous Asian population is not accurate and that different groups have different disparities and health issues. He noted that issues such as Tuberculosis, Hepatitis B, and diabetes, related to misuse of BMI for some groups, impact some Asian populations at a higher rate. He advocated for ensuring these issues are addressed in the plan's implementation. Dr. Bennett stated that Human Rights Commission Office of Racial Equity designed the plan for all City departments.

Therefore, health issues, such as the examples Commissioner Chow listed, are not specifically included in the plan because most City departments do not deal with health. However, the DPH will strive to address these types of health disparities in its equity activities.

Commissioner Christian thanked Dr. Bennett for the important progress and noted that the Commission is here to support this equity work. She asked if there are human resource-related issues with developing DPH staff affinity groups. Dr. Bennett stated that the creation of these groups is complex and that the DPH has been attempting to develop affinity groups for several years. Dante King, DPH Office of Health Equity, stated that while working for the SFMTA, he helped create affinity groups based on race/ethnicity/and gender. He noted that San Francisco does have a model within its City departments to use.

Commissioner Guillermo stated that she is excited to witness the DPH develop its best practices, which may be used throughout the country. Dr. Bennett stated that San Francisco will also benefit from the work other cities have already done.

Dr. Colfax thanked Dr. Bennett and all those who contributed to the development of the draft plan, and the ongoing impactful DPH equity work.

7) FY 2019 -2020 FOURTH QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

Jen Louie, DPH Budget Director, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Chow thanked Ms. Louie for the clear presentation of complex fiscal data. He asked if the DPH can access unused funds set aside for Healthy San Francisco to help make up the budget shortfall. Ms. Louie stated that the trend since the approval of the Affordable Care Act has been a decrease in Healthy San Francisco enrollment because many more people are eligible for health insurance coverage. She added that the \$5.5 million in unrealized revenue related to the City Option medical reimbursement accounts has been put on hold as the City Attorney and San Francisco Health Plan consult on use of funds.

8) FY 2020-2021 FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

Jen Louie, DPH Budget Director, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Green noted the huge shifts in the city's revenue and expenses due to the pandemic and asked when the DPH may have a clarity on its financial projections for the next two years. Ms. Louie stated that the DPH is working closely with the Mayor's Office and Controller to have an accurate view of the 5 year budget projections. She added that Medi-Cal Waiver has been extended for another year, which will positively impact the DPH budget.

Commissioner Bernal thanked Ms. Louie and Greg Wagner, DPH COO, for their effective management of the DPH budget.

9) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF DECEMBER 1, 2020

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the December 1, 2020 meeting minutes.

10) COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Commissioner Girardo, Chair, stated that the committee heard an informative update from Bridget HIV, a section of the Population Health Division. The committee also had follow-up discussion on the Behavioral Health Services internship and pipeline programs. The committee encouraged a more centralized internship

model for the department and looks forward to an update in summer of 2021. She also stated that the committee discussed use of the Adverse Childhood Event Survey (ACES) within DPH. Dr. Hali Hammer, Director of San Francisco Health Network (SFHN) Ambulatory Care, presented and stated that ACES is currently used in the ZSFG pediatric clinic and there are long-term plans to incorporate the survey in EPIC. Once this step is completed, SFHN primary care clinics can utilize the survey.

11) OTHER BUSINESS:

This item was not discussed.

12) JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Chow, who chaired the November 10th Laguna Honda Hospital Joint Conference Committee meeting, thanked Commissioner Christian for also attending the meeting. He noted that the committee reviewed the Chief Executive Report and the Regulatory Affairs Reports. In these discussions, the committee brought up COVID testing and plans for vaccinations for staff and residents. The staff also let us know that visitations are currently on hold due to the surge in community COVID-19 cases. In closed session, the committee approved the Credentials report and discussed the Medical Quality Improvement reports and the PIPS minutes for the SNF and acute units.

13) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01pm.

(Attachment)

**HEALTH COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
Resolution No. 20-14**

HONORING MICHAEL L. BROWN

WHEREAS, Michael L. Brown has served as a dedicated City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) staff member since 1988; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown has held the position of the Department of Public Health (DPH) Human Resources Director since November 2019. In this position, he has been responsible for all the complex policy decisions and intricate operations management impacting over 8,000 DPH employees, and supervision of 135 Human Resource employees; and

WHEREAS, Under the innovative direction of Mr. Brown, DPH Human Resources implemented transformative changes to hiring practices for DPH nurses during the COVID-19 pandemic to meet the increasing need for these medical staff. He has used these changes as a model in other high-need areas such as hiring process for a large group of behavioral health staff in preparation for the launch of Mental Health SF in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown's previous CCSF positions include the Executive Officer/Department Head of the Civil Service Commission, DPH Labor Relations Director, Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital Senior Personnel Analyst, Civil Service Commission Examination Division Assistant Personnel Analyst, and Public Utilities Examination Division Personnel Analyst; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown is a proud native of San Francisco and is a member of a family with a tradition of civil and military service to the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Health Commission honors Michael L. Brown for his many years of outstanding service contributing to the health and wellbeing of all San Franciscans, and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of December 15, 2020 adopted the foregoing resolution.

Mark Morewitz, MSW
Health Commission Executive
Secretary