

**Sonia E. Melara, M.S.W.**

President

**Margine A. Sako**

Vice President

**Edward A. Chow, M.D.**

Commissioner

**Cecilia Chung**

Commissioner

**David J. Sanchez, Jr., Ph.D.**

Commissioner

**Belle Taylor-McGhee**

Commissioner

**Catherine M. Waters, R.N., Ph.D.**

Commissioner

**HEALTH COMMISSION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
Edwin M. Lee, Mayor  
Department of Public Health**



**Barbara A. Garcia, M.P.A.**

Director of Health

**Mark Morewitz, M.S.W.**

Executive Secretary

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**MINUTES  
HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING  
Tuesday, November 6, 2012, 4:00 p.m.  
101 Grove Street, Room 300 or Room 302  
San Francisco, CA 94102**

**1) CALL TO ORDER**

Present: Commissioner Sonia E. Melara, President  
Commissioner Margine Sako, Vice President  
Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D.  
Commissioner Cecilia Chung  
Commissioner David J. Sanchez  
Commissioner Belle Taylor-McGhee  
Commissioner Catherine Waters

The meeting was called to order at 4:06pm.

**2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF OCTOBER 16, 2012.**

Commissioner Melara stated on page 8, the comments made by Judy Li regarding Sutter Health were in response to Commissioner Melara's statement that the percentage of Charity Care for CPMC is the lowest of San Francisco's hospitals. Commissioner Melara also asked Ms. Li what CPMC plans to do to raise the level of CPMC's Charity Care.

Commissioner Melara stated that the minutes should also reflect that she suggested that in addition to the current Charity Care activities and data it tracks, DPH staff should also focus on non-traditional Charity Care that is also not related to Healthy San Francisco.

Commissioner Chow stated that on page 9 in the section discussing the Community Health Assessment, the term "improvement" should replace the word "growth" in his comment, "He noted that because there is no comparison data that it is not possible to understand whether there has been growth in any areas."

Action Taken: The minutes of the October 16, 2012 Health Commission meeting were unanimously approved with the corrections noted above.

**3) DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Barbara Garcia, Director of Health, gave the report. The full report can be viewed at:  
<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

### **Gender Competence and Cultural Humility**

I am pleased to note that Commissioner Cecilia Chung has agreed to help us kick off a new training program designed to help us better serve our transgender, transsexual and gender non-conforming clients.

“Transgender 101” will support our commitment to providing excellent service to all our clients, and ensure that we are in compliance with applicable laws regarding gender non-discrimination. Commissioner Chung will be on hand to launch two, 3-hour training sessions in November at Delancey Street Auditorium, featuring a screening of “Transgender Tuesdays: A Clinic in the Tenderloin,” a film by Mark Freeman, and a panel presentation and discussion with DPH providers and consumers.

### **Combined Charities Campaign**

Each year the Commissioners and staff have an opportunity to make a donation—either with a one-time check or through payroll deduction—to the City’s Combined Charities Campaign. This is an excellent way to support the work of the charitable organizations you value, from environmental groups to foster kids to homeless services. As Commissioners, you also have the opportunity to participate in this annual giving campaign. We will be distributing pledge sheets and brochures to the Health Commissioner at the first meeting in November. I have also directed Laguna Honda, SFGH, Community Programs and Environmental Health to plan on-site activities to encourage staff to support and donate to Combined Charities. I urge the Commissioners and all staff to take some time to review the dozens of organizations who need our help and to donate generously.

### **Giants Parade Response**

The World Series Champion San Francisco Giants and nearly 1 million fans celebrated the team’s victory on November 1<sup>st</sup> with a ticker tape parade along Market Street, ending with a special tribute and program at the Civic Center. The San Francisco Department of Public Health worked closely with the Department of Emergency Management, the Fire Department, and the Police Department to plan for a safe celebration.

At the city's request, DPH operated an alternative care site (ACS) and activated the Department Operations Center (DOC) at 30 Van Ness Avenue. The ACS provided sobering services and medical services in Larkin Hall at Bill Graham Civic Auditorium to 59 individuals. The DOC monitored all DPH facilities and activities to ensure that we were responsive to the needs of the celebration but also maintaining everyday operations. DPH staff also were assigned to the city's Emergency Operations Center on Turk St. SFGH and the city's other hospitals were apprised of the plans, DPH also increased staff at the Sobering Center, and Tom Waddell handled walk-in patients who needed care. We also arranged for additional Sheriff's coverage at 101 Grove Street to ensure the security of the building.

### **Department Well-Represented at American Public Health Association Conference**

As the Commissioners know, the American Public Health Association (APHA) held their annual meeting this year in San Francisco from October 27-31. I am very pleased to note that San Francisco Department of Public Health was well-represented throughout the conference, both on the exhibit floor and on the program with presentations, posters and panel discussion. Visitors to the exhibit hall booth were greeted by a revolving staff of 27 volunteers from various programs throughout the Department. A list of the numerous topics featured at the booth is attached.

### **DPH Awarded CDC's Hepatitis B Early Identification and Linkage to Care Grant**

DPH has been awarded \$300,000 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to fund "HEAL SF-B: Early Identification and Linkage to Care for Foreign born Persons with Hepatitis B." The Department, through our Communicable Disease Control & Prevention section, has partnered with the San Francisco Hep B Free Campaign (SFHBF) to test at least 4000 foreign-born individuals (the majority of whom will be Asian/Pacific Islanders) to ensure that they know their hepatitis B status and to link to care anyone who tests positive for hepatitis B infection. DPH will test at least 2000 patients at Community Health Network (CHN) primary care network sites, and SFHBF will facilitate and coordinate at least 2000 free tests at established, convenient community locations.

### **Grant Awarded for Active, Enhanced Surveillance for Viral Hepatitis**

It seems to be the month for good grant news coming to the Department of Public Health from the CDC in Atlanta, GA. We have been notified that the CDC has awarded the Communicable Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP) unit \$519,945 to fund their grant proposal, "Active, Enhanced Surveillance for Viral Hepatitis in San Francisco, California." The grant period runs from 11/01/12-10/31/13, with the possibility of two additional years of funding, if funds are available. This grant will help us in our commitment to the extensive work we are doing in fighting the spread of hepatitis.

### **Demonstration Kitchen Debuts at San Francisco General Hospital's Community Wellness Center**

Eating healthy is not an easy task for many San Franciscans, including those living in single room occupancy hotels with minimal cooking appliances or for someone who lives a hectic life and relies on a quick meal in the microwave. San Francisco General Hospital has just unveiled the new demonstration kitchen at the Community Wellness Center, which will help teach community members how to create a nutritious meal on a limited budget and with limited kitchen and cooking appliances.

### **Influenza & Infectious Disease Forum**

The San Francisco Immunization Coalition hosted the annual Influenza & Infectious Disease Forum for health care providers on October 17th. The Forum was an educational opportunity for health care providers in San Francisco to learn more about influenza and other infectious diseases. This year's topics included an update on influenza and flu basics for travelers, complications from vaccine-preventable diseases, an update on vaccine storage and handling, and a presentation on chickenpox and shingles. All presentations from the Forum are posted here for download. <http://www.sfimmunize.org/influenza--infectious-disease-forum.html>.

### **The American Nurse Book Signing Scheduled**

The Commissioners, staff and members of the public are invited to a book signing on November 14<sup>th</sup> from noon - 1:30 pm at the San Francisco General Hospital Wellness Center, celebrating the release of the photo book, *The American Nurse*, which features SFGH nurse practitioner, Jun Ting-Liu. SFGH is especially pleased to participate in this project, given our history of nursing leadership and dedication. Appearing and speaking at the event will be the book's photographer/biographer, Carolyn Jones and nurse Rhonda Collins. Books will be available for purchase, for \$60 each and lunch will be provided by Random House Publishing Company. Contact [Arla.Escontrias@sfdph.org](mailto:Arla.Escontrias@sfdph.org) for more information.

### **BCC Observes 15<sup>th</sup> Year Serving Women**

On September 27<sup>th</sup> the Breast and Cervical Cancer Services (BCCS) program of Primary Care celebrated their 15th anniversary. The BCCS program provides breast and cervical cancer screening, diagnostic, and treatment services by Nurse Practitioners and is part of a unique component of patient navigation/case management services for breast and cervical cancer patients by patient navigators (health workers). The celebration was attended by nearly 50 patients, along with community partners, friends and family members. The celebration gave BCCS an opportunity to recognize and thank Suzy Goldsmith of the Breast Cancer Emergency Fund and Carol Rockett, community activist who organizes fundraising efforts, from which our patients have benefited.

### **National Disease Intervention Specialist Recognition Day**

October 5th, 2012 marked the first annual *National Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Recognition Day*. Whether called DIS, Disease Control Investigator (DCI) or Health Worker, these DPH staff are working with and for residents across the City on a daily basis performing important, core public health functions such as confirming communicable disease diagnoses, interviewing infectious cases of disease, eliciting and notifying partners of their exposure to an infectious disease, providing field delivered therapy, visiting private providers with high communicable disease caseloads, following up on dog bites and providing training for the general public as well as populations who are highest risk for these diseases. This important work protects the well being of the public at large by interrupting the chain of disease transmission.

### **UCSF Community Partnership Awards**

Congratulations to Transitions Clinic program at Southeast Health Center and Shape Up SF PE Advocates for being recognized by UCSF as part of a university-community partnership celebration. The *2012 Excellence in Partnership Award* was awarded to the Transitions program at Southeast Health Center due, in part, to the "...compassion and dedication of all Southeast Health Center staff to caring for people returning from prison." One patient in the Transitions Clinic program stated, "They [SEHC clinic staff] don't judge you – they treat you like a human being, like you're still a person. That's something that prison takes away from you, and when you get out, society takes that away from you... I think that's what makes the program so successful."

### **KOMEN for the Cure Award**

Congratulations to Barbara Cicerelli, lead patient navigator/case manager for Breast and Cervical Cancer Services of Primary Care, who was recognized by the San Francisco affiliate of KOMEN for the Cure at their annual survivor's luncheon on October 27<sup>th</sup> at the St. Francis Westin hotel on Union Square. Barbara was honored with the *Komen for the Cure 2012 Hope and Inspiration* award for her "heart-felt and compassionate care with breast cancer patients over the past 21 years."

### **Shanti Breast Cancer Program Hero**

Diane Carr, Program Director for Breast and Cervical Cancer Services of Primary Care, was recognized by Shanti with the *2012 Shanti Breast Cancer Program Hero Award* for recognition of her outstanding contributions to the community.

### **Food Guardians Are Unsung Heroes**

Shape Up SF's Southeast Food Access Food Guardians, Kenny Hill, Jazz Vassar and Antonia Williams, were honored by the Northern California Public Health Association the *2012 Unsung Heroes* award for public health community leaders. The award recognizes and celebrates the often unheralded, public health work of community leaders everywhere, paying special attention to Bay-Area community-based organizations. They were honored at a reception on Sunday, Oct. 28 at Samuel Merritt College in Oakland and received a scholarship to attend the American Public Health Association conference held here in San Francisco from October 27-31.

### **Electronic Medical Records and LGBT Patients**

Christopher Nguyen, MD, a provider at the Tom Waddell Health Center and a member of the CareLinkSF Steering Committee, presented a talk on Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) issues and electronic medical records (EMRs) at the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) annual conference held here in San Francisco in September. GLMA is the nation's largest association of LGBT healthcare professionals dedicated to equality and healthcare for LGBT patients and clients. The conference is the largest gathering of its kind focusing on LGBT health issues. Dr. Nguyen lead a discussion on the invisibility of LGBT issues in EMRs and ways to advocate for the inclusion of LGBT patients and the capture of their health care needs in EMRs.

### **Public Health Nursing Director**

Diane Beetham, Nurse Manager and Deputy Director of Public Health Nursing, will assume the role of *Director of Public Health Nursing* on November 1, 2012. Diane supervises the work of approximately 25 Public Health Nurses in Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH). She joined SFDPH in 2010 and will continue to manage the Field PHN Unit and the Nurse Family Partnership programs.

### **Community Programs Gets New Director of Health Equity, Cultural Competency and Workforce Development**

Please join me in welcoming Toni Rucker to her new role as Director of Health Equity, Cultural Competency, and Workforce Development for Community Programs. Toni first joined DPH as an epidemiologist, then moved on to become the Director of Grants for Community Behavioral Health Services.

### **Please Touch Community Garden Presentation**

Rob Joyce, from the *Please Touch Community Garden* located next to 101 Grove St, (between Grove and Lec Walesa alley) gave a presentation about the garden and ways for DPH employees to get involved in this community garden. He will also brought a harvest basket of items grown in the garden and fall recipes. The presentation took place before the showing of the first half of the lunch time Halloween showing of *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* 101 Grove. For more information on the garden, go to <http://pleasetouchgarden.tumblr.com/>.

Director Garcia introduced Naveena Bobba, MD MPH, as the new Director of the Public Health Preparedness and Response Section. Dr. Bobba reviewed the DPH activities related to the City's Giant's parade response which are explained on page 2 of the Director's Report under the section, "Giants Parade Response."

#### **4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Derek Kerr MD submitted the following written public comment:*

Last month, you accepted a \$500,000 bequest from the estate of Dolorous and Kenneth Knight for Laguna Honda's Patient Gift Fund. This huge gift will be a blessing for the patients. But it will also be tempting for hospital administrators. From 2005 through 2010, the Patient Gift Fund became an administrative slush fund. Out complaints about these misappropriations led to the recovery of \$350,000 for the patients. Although policies and procedures to safeguard patient funds were restored, some of the folks who misused the Gift Fund are still overseeing it. Therefore, I request that CFO, Greg Wagner and you Commissioners pay close attention to how this money is managed. Thank you.

#### **5) FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Chow, Committee Chair, stated that the Committee reviewed the Contracts Report and the new contract with FDI Planning Consultants, Inc. and stated that the Finance and Planning Committee recommends that the full Commission approve both.

#### **6) CONSENT CALENDAR**

Action Taken: The following was unanimously approved by the Health Commission

- NOVEMBER CONTRACTS REPORT
- REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,286,200 WITH FDI PLANNING CONSULTANTS, INC. TO PROVIDE TRANSITION PLANNING SERVICES FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HOSPITAL REBUILD PROJECT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH FOR THE TERM OF NOVEMBER 1, 2012 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016 (50 MONTHS).

#### **7) RESOLUTION: REMOVING HEALTHY SAN FRANCISCO EXCLUSIONS FOR GENDER REASSIGNMENT SERVICES**

Tangerine Brigham, Deputy Director of Health and Director of Healthy San Francisco, gave the presentation and explained the resolution. She stated that in addition to the recommendation to remove the exclusion of gender reassignment services from the Healthy San Francisco service list, the DPH is proposing to establish a separate program that would contract with providers with appropriate expertise to provide gender reassignment surgeries and related services. Ms. Brigham also stated that the removal of the exclusion of general reassignment services does not mean the DPH must provide these services immediately. The new program will likely be implemented in 2014. She added that the DPH is still working to define eligibility and other requirements such as income and residency for the program.

Director Garcia acknowledged the important work of Supervisor Scott Weiner and Human Rights Executive Director Theresa Sparks on this important issue and thanked Tangerine Brigham and others who participated in this process.

Supervisor Scott Weiner stated that he supports the resolution before the Commission because it advances two of San Francisco's core values: access to health care and non-discrimination. He stated that people that are transgender are often discriminated in many areas of their life. San Francisco has been on the forefront of providing transgender people with health care and services. This resolution is an opportunity to keep San Francisco on the cutting edge to fully include transgender people with services they need. He stated that the Board of Supervisors passed its own resolution in July supporting these efforts. He thanked the people involved in this process including Director Garcia, Tangerine Brigham, Theresa Sparks and the staff at the Transgender Law Center.

Theresa Sparks, Executive Director of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, stated that Ms. Brigham helped her understand that the establishment of a separate program is the appropriate route. She added that efforts on this issue began when Dr. Mitch Katz was Director of the DPH and have continued with Director Garcia. She stated that this is an incredibly significant policy impacting transgender people in San Francisco.

Dr. Barry Zevin, Director of Transgender services at Tom Waddell, stated that literature indicates surgery is part of providing health care for some transgender people. He added that the resolution before the Commission will help improve the health of transgender patients.

Public Comment:

Tracy Garza, employee of the Transgender Law Center, thanked Commissioner Chung for being a wonderful role model for the community and stated that the resolution is crucial to ensure the health of an underprivileged and persecuted group of people.

Jazzie Collins stated that she supports the resolution and stated that there is a lot of work ahead. By passing the resolution, the Health Commission can show the rest of the nation that communities can care about people who are transgender.

Nadia Babella, Human Rights Commission Policy Analyst, stated that access to healthcare is a human rights issue. Removing the exclusion of gender reassignment services is part of an effort to undo discrimination. The resolution will be historic and the new program will be a model for the rest of the country.

Mason Davis, Executive Director of the Transgender Law Center, thanked the DPH for its efforts and stated that the current exclusion of transgender services on the Healthy San Francisco services list are out of step with the values of San Francisco.

Tamara Chang stated that San Francisco needs to be inclusive so that transgender folks can access culturally appropriate services in all public health clinics.

Commissioner Comments/ Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chung asked if there were any relevant services that the DPH could provide immediately. Ms. Brigham stated that currently SFGH offers hysterectomy and orchiectomy. However, DPH does not currently use gender dysphoria as a clinical condition. The SFGH Executive Medical Committee will meet in early 2013 to review this issue and develop appropriate protocols for surgeons to ensure clarity among DPH staff and patients.

Commissioner Chung stated that genital reassignment surgery is not the only kind of procedures that are relevant. Ms. Brigham stated that SFGH currently performs mastectomies but has no current capability to do chest reconstruction. Director Garcia stated that the work on this topic will continue and she will ensure the Health Commission is updated as progress is made on plans for implementation of the new program if the Commission approves the resolution before them.

Commissioner Taylor-McGhee agreed that access to these surgeries is a human rights issue. She asked how quality of the potential providers performing these surgeries will be measured. Ms. Brigham stated that the services will be put out to bid and through this process the provider's capacity, history and expertise will be thoroughly evaluated.

Commissioner Chung offered an amendment to the resolution to add the term "gender affirming" to the sentences that state the term "sexual reassignment surgeries." The amended text would state "sexual reassignment and gender affirming surgeries."

Commissioner Chow asked the definition of "gender affirming." Commissioner Chung stated that the term "gender affirming" refers to the fact that not all transgendered people need to have surgery on their genitals; some may choose to only have chest surgeries.

Commissioner Chow thanked the people who made public comment and who put work into this resolution. He stated that it is important that this issue is not just about a list of services but about creating a quality center to provide a spectrum of services. He offered an amendment to the resolution to add, "SFGH will work to develop the clinical capacity and expertise to provide some sexual reassignment and gender affirming surgeries and to add gender dysphoria as a clinical indication for surgical procedures."

Commissioner Chung suggested that the resolution also add language to indicate that SFGH will include these services in their research.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the resolution with the amendments noted above. (See Attachment A)

#### **8) HCAO MINIMUM STANDARDS**

Jim Soos, Assistant Director of Policy and Planning and Patrick Chang, Public Service Trainee, Policy and Planning, gave the report.

#### Public Comment:

Debbi Lerman, Human Services Network, thanked Mr. Soos, Mr. Chang, and all the partners who worked on this process. She stated that the standards reflect a dwindling number of plans that can meet the requirements.

#### Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow asked if the maximum deductible listed is for an individual or family. Mr. Soos stated that the standards cover the employee only; there are no requirements for dependent coverage.

Commissioner Chow asked how the group decided on the new maximum deductible for prescription drugs. Mr. Soos stated that twenty-six healthcare plans were reviewed and it was determined that only one plan would not be eligible with \$300 as a maximum prescription drug deductible.

Commissioner Chow stated that he is concerned that if insurance plans are not in compliance with the HCAO standards that a cohort of people may be moving into Healthy San Francisco. Mr. Soos stated that the group considered that employers not be incentivized to drop coverage and opt to pay the "in-lieu fee," which would essentially move covered individuals into Healthy San Francisco.

Commissioner Chow asked whether there is a grace period and when plans are renewed they have to then be in compliance. Mr. Soos responded that enforcement is under the purview of the Office of Labor Standards Enforcement, but that it is his understanding that there is a grace period.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the resolution. (See Attachment B)

**9) DPH GIFT REPORT**

Jenny Louie, DPH Budget Director, gave the report.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow asked if the Laguna Honda Foundation submitted data for the Report. Ms. Louie stated that the Laguna Honda Foundation did not submit information for the report. Mivic Hirose, Laguna Honda Hospital Executive Administrator, stated that when Louise Renne, LHH Foundation Board Chair, appeared before the Health Commission in March 2012, she stated that the Foundation would not participate in the Gift Report but would instead send a summary of its activities on an annual basis to the DPH; she noted that the LHH Foundation has not sent the DPH such a report for this year. Commissioner Chow stated that it is important for the Health Commission to have the LHH Foundation information for their review.

Commissioner Sanchez stated that transparency is important; the DPH has made positive steps with the LHH Foundation and hopes to continue to make progress. He commended the SFGH, LHH and the Public Health Foundations because they are trying to make a difference for people in San Francisco.

**10) OTHER BUSINESS**

**JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Morewitz stated that the LHH JCC met on 10/23 to approve the monthly Credentials Report.

**COMMITTEE AGENDA SETTING**

Commissioner Sanchez stated that he attended the 10/24/12 SPUR Award ceremony honoring Commissioner Chow and congratulated Commissioner Chow for the well-earned recognition. Commissioner Chow stated that all good work is done in collaboration.

**11) CLOSED SESSION**

- A) Public comments on all matters pertaining to the closed session
- B) Vote on whether to hold a closed session (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.11)
- C) Closed session pursuant to Evidence Code Sections 1157(a) and (b); 1157.7; Health and Safety Code Section 1461; and California Constitution, Article I, Section 1

**People of the State of California v. Health Net, S.F. Superior Court No. 11-511181**

- D) Reconvene in Open Session

Action Taken: The Health Commission voted not to disclose discussion of the item in Closed Session.

**12) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:48pm

**HEALTH COMMISSION  
City and County of San Francisco  
Resolution No. 12-12**

**APPROVING AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING HEALTHY SAN FRANCISCO AND  
MEDICAL REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT PROVISIONS OF THE  
SAN FRANCISCO HEALTH CARE SECURITY ORDINANCE**

WHEREAS, in August 2006, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted the Health Care Security Ordinance (No. 218-06) creating the Health Access Program and in April 2007 approved amended the Ordinance by authorizing establishment and maintenance of Medical Reimbursement Accounts (No. 69-07); and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health is responsible for the design, planning, development, implementation and ongoing oversight of Healthy San Francisco and the Medical Reimbursement Account provision; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 14, Section 14.4 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, the Department is responsible for developing regulations to govern the Healthy San Francisco and Medical Reimbursement Account provision authorized in the San Francisco Health Care Security Ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Health Commission adopted regulations (Resolution No. 12-07) that cover program definitions, eligibility, fee structure, services, service provision, delivery network, covered employer participation, public information, administration and reporting; and,

WHEREAS, the regulations provide a non-exclusive list of health services that are not provided by Healthy San Francisco and this list includes sexual reassignment surgery which a transgender person may request; and,

WHEREAS, transgender individuals participating in Healthy San Francisco, with the exception of sexual reassignment and gender affirming surgeries, receive access to a range of services, including, but not limited to: patient education, prevention (communicable disease and HIV), primary care, hormone replacement therapy, behavioral health services (mental health and substance abuse) and inpatient services; and,

WHEREAS, the Department has been working with community partners to provide sexual reassignment and gender affirming surgeries to uninsured transgender persons; and,

WHEREAS, in July 2012, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution (No. 288-12) calling on the San Francisco Department of Public Health to provide medically necessary transition-related care for transgender people and to remove exclusions under the San Francisco Health Care Security Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Department is committed to providing sexual reassignment and gender affirming surgeries to transgender adult residents through the creation of a new separate program separate and apart from Healthy San Francisco that will serve this population and other eligibility uninsured adult residents; and,

WHEREAS, sexual reassignment and gender affirming surgeries for eligibility uninsured adult residents will be available through this new program and not through Healthy San Francisco, and that this will be communicated to clients;

WHEREAS, San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center will work to develop the clinical capacity and expertise to provide some sexual reassignment and gender affirming surgeries on its campus and to have gender identity dysphoria as a clinical indication for surgical procedures, it will couple this with a research component to assess the effectiveness of these surgeries and their clinical outcomes; and, therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, that the Health Commission approves amending the Regulations Implementing Healthy San Francisco and Medical Reimbursement Account Provisions of the San Francisco Health Care Security Ordinance to remove sexual reassignment surgery from the list of excluded services and modifying program materials to reflect this change; and let it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Health Commission approves the development of a new separate program to provide sexual reassignment and gender affirming surgery to eligible uninsured transgender adult residents that will not require provision of said surgeries through the Healthy San Francisco program.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of November 6, 2012 adopted the foregoing resolution.

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Mark Morewitz, Executive Secretary to the Health Commission

**Health Commission  
Resolution 12-11  
AMENDING THE HEALTHCARE ACCOUNTABILITY ORDINANCE  
MINIMUM STANDARDS**

WHEREAS, On May 29, 2001, the Board of Supervisors passed the Healthcare Accountability Ordinance (HCAO), requiring that employers doing business with the City provide health insurance coverage for their employees or pay a fee to offset costs for health care provided by the City and County of San Francisco to the uninsured; and

WHEREAS, The HCAO provides the Health Commission with the authority and responsibility to determine Minimum Standards for health plan benefits offered by City contractors and lessees, as well as certain subcontractors and subtenants; and,

WHEREAS, the HCAO requires that the Health Commission review the Minimum Standards at least every two years and make changes as necessary to ensure that they are consistent with the current health insurance market; and

WHEREAS, In September 2012, DPH convened the Minimum Standards Work Group, with representatives from various entities including health insurance broker firms, employers, labor, advocates, and others, with the task of making recommendations for a revised set of Minimum Standards; and

WHEREAS, This Work Group met four times and there was consensus on the revisions to the Minimum Standards, as detailed herein, that would balance the needs of employers and employees that would ensure health insurance plan options for employers, retain comprehensive benefits for employees, and consider affordability for both; and

WHEREAS, The Work Group agreed to meet again in 2013 to reconsider the Minimum Standards for 2014 in light of the changes anticipated in the health insurance market with broader implementation of the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA); and

WHEREAS, With the help of the Work Group's guidance, DPH produced a written report presented to the Health Commission on November 6, 2012, with an explanation of the process and description of the recommendations; and

WHEREAS, DPH supports the proposal developed by the HCAO Minimum Standards Work Group, as described fully in Attachment A to this resolution, and is respectfully requesting approval from the Health Commission;

THEREFORE, BE ITRESOLVED, that the Health Commission approves the revised Minimum Standards effective January 1, 2013 for the calendar year 2013, as detailed in Attachment A to this resolution; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Health Commission supports the Work Group's reconsideration of the Minimum Standards in 2013 to ensure compliance with the ACA.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of November 6, 2012 adopted the foregoing resolution.

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Mark Morewitz , Health Commission Executive Secretary