MINUTES
HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, September 15, 2015, 4:00 p.m.
101 Grove Street, Room 300 or Room 302
San Francisco, CA  94102

1)  CALL TO ORDER
Present:  Commissioner David B. Singer, Vice President
Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D., President
Commissioner Judith Karshmer, Ph.D, PMHCNS-BC
Commissioner David Pating, M.D.
Commissioner David J. Sanchez Jr., Ph.D.
Commissioner Belle Taylor-McGhee

Excused:  Commissioner Cecilia Chung Commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 4:10pm.

2)  APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:
Commissioner Pating requested that his statements on page 9 of the minutes be changed to the following to better reflect his comment:

“Commissioner Pating noted that homelessness is one of the most serious health issues in San Francisco.”

“Commissioner Pating encouraged the SFDPH to consider innovative strategies, such as the STOP model which showed effectiveness, to increase physician appointment attendance rates for individuals with complex issues.”

Commissioner Singer requested that his statement on page 7, be changed to the following to better reflect his comment:

“Commissioner Singer noted that the data presented at the 9/15/15 meeting paints a more positive picture than the more comprehensive data he recently reviewed at the SFGH Joint Conference Committee.”
Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the minutes with the suggested changes noted.

3) 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

California Legislative Update
The State Legislature adjourned for the year on Friday, September 11, 2015. Governor Brown now has until October 11th to act on most bills passed by the Legislature. Among the high-profile health bills passed by the Legislature are:

- a set of bills to create a statewide regulatory system for medical cannabis,
- a physician-assisted right to die bill,
- a set of bills aiming to reduce the high rate of prescription of antipsychotics for foster youth,
- a bill allowing the State to request amendments to the current 1115 Medicaid Waiver, in case the Waiver renewal deadline is not met,
- and a bill to delay the planned transition of the California Children’s Services program to Medicaid managed care.

The Legislature failed to reach an agreement on the $1.1 billion Managed Care Organization tax, which is at the crux of the Special Session on Health, called by the Governor earlier this year. The Special Session also included several bills aimed at regulating e-cigarettes as tobacco products and raising the state’s tobacco tax. Special Session committees may continue to meet over the next few months, and the Special Session may be called back if needed before the Legislature reconvenes in January. SFDPH will update the Health Commission as more information becomes available.

Mayor Lee to Expand Innovative Homeless Navigation Sites with Additional Funding
The Navigation Center is the City’s pioneering approach to help homeless individuals find stable housing or residential treatment programs and get access to the services needed to stabilize their lives. Located in San Francisco’s Mission District, this unique program has served about 200 homeless persons since its launching in March of this year. Last week, Mayor Lee reiterated his support for the Navigation Center by adding an additional 3 million dollars of City funding to expand the program to other sites in San Francisco, noting that the program has been very successful and encouraging the private sector to lend financial support to his efforts.

Mayor Lee Announces Affordable Housing Plan
On Tuesday, September 8, 2015, Mayor Lee, Board President London Breed and other members of the Board announced a plan to increase affordable housing options in San Francisco by 10,000 units by 2020. To achieve this critical goal, the plan relies on both existing housing stock and brand-new options along five main legislative dimensions:

1. reconstruction of over 1,000 distressed housing units
2. preservation of expiring affordable units
3. housing priority options for neighborhood residents
4. amendments to the City’s Inclusionary Housing Program, and
5. the establishment of additional developer incentives for affordable units

Maternal and Child Health Given “Healthy Mothers Workplace” Award
Maternal and Child Health was among 31 San Francisco employers recently recognized for family-friendly work policies. Family-friendly policies include parental leave, lactation accommodation and work-family balance. The employers were recognized with awards from US Department of Health and Human Services Regional Health Administrator, Betsy Thompson, MD, DrPH, The Office of Mayor Lee, and Assessor-Recorder Carmen Chu. The ceremony was held Monday, September 14th at the Federal Building in San Francisco.
Publicity plus Enforcement Reduces Pedestrian Fatalities
A recent Vision Zero study was just featured in the SF Chronicle. The Department of Public Health, working with the Municipal Transportation Agency, found that a marketing campaign — promoting the message “It stops here” and stressing that pedestrians have the right of way at intersections — was successful in increasing by 3.2 percent the number of vehicles yielding for pedestrians when paired with enforcement. The study focused on four of the city’s most dangerous intersections: Kearny and Clay streets; Sixth and Folsom streets; Mission and 20th streets; and Geary and Arguello boulevards.

Ad campaigns, including bus ads, billboards and flyers, were displayed along streets leading to the intersections, while police cited drivers. Observers recorded whether or not drivers followed laws requiring them to yield to pedestrians. At the end of the 31 week study, the number of drivers yielding to pedestrians increased between 3 percent and 4 percent at each of the intersections. Four similar intersections, which saw no publicity or enforcement, were also studied — but drivers didn’t improve their behavior at those.

Recognizing Administrative Staff
Administrative staff from all over the DPH gathered at 101 Grove September 4th for a celebratory luncheon to acknowledge their hard work, which is often behind the scenes, but makes this organization move. In attendance were: Mary Lou Remo, Virginia Van Patten, Annette Gargollo, Faye DeGuzman, Lawrence Lee, Mary May Beltran, Cindy Garcia, Stephanie Aquino, Maria Fu-Vong, Delores Sanchez, Stephanie Hon, Nina da Silva, Madeleine Chanbanchong, Linda Hmelo, Martha Benioff, Molly Bode, Kathy Aquas-Aclan, Amber Masselot, Vita Ogans, Edmund Carnercer, Wesley Chow, Aida Flandez, Carmen Nolasco, Fidez Bituin, Isela Ford, Delia Molloy, Alicia Leon Jhong, Vicky Beltran, Josephine Muir, Nora Macias, Mark Morewitz, Denise Lopez, Teresita Francisco and Michaela Varisto. Please take a moment to thank administrative staff for the great work they do every day.

Hiring for Diversity
The Public Health Human Resource Team has participated in two out-of-state hiring events to fulfill its goal of strengthening and diversifying the current workforce. They participated as exhibitors for the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) annual convention held in Anaheim, California on July 8 – July 10, 2015. The event was a well-attended, featured 77 exhibitors and had 400 attendees from all over the bay area and other eastern and western states. They had an overall sign up of 60 interested experienced nurses for San Francisco General Hospital.

They also participated in the National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) held in Atlanta Georgia from July 28 – August 2, 2015. This event was attended by 800 nurses. There were over 200 exhibitors. There were 81 experienced nurses in different specialties including some leadership that indicated their interest in joining San Francisco General Hospital.

They will also participate in the Assembly of Men in Nursing National Event to be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota on September 24 – 26, 2015. There are over 500 registered attendees. The goal is to increase gender diversity in the department.

Performance Appraisal Trainings
The DPH HR Department presented Department-wide trainings on the Performance and Appraisal Planning. These trainings were hosted for an integrated management audience, and were well attended and received. Additional trainings are planned through September.

UCSF at SFGH Research Building Approvals
On Tuesday, July 21, 2015 the Board of Regents of the University of California approved funding for initial design of the proposed UCSF research building at SFGH. The San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the non-binding term sheet.
These approvals allow UCSF and SFGH to begin the planning process for the building and to move forward with the environmental review process. It is anticipated that complete the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be completed next spring and the ground lease finalized with the City and County of San Francisco in Summer 2016.

Security Operations Center Opens at SFGH
San Francisco General Hospital celebrated the opening of its new Security Operations Center (SOC) on Thursday, July 9, 2015. Staffed 24 hours a day and outfitted with CCTV cameras of all high risk areas, SOC staff will provide timely security and law enforcement service to patients, visitors and staff of San Francisco General Hospital. The SOC will also operate as the dispatch and security call center for all Department of Public Health facilities.

Crisis Prevention Institutes at SFGH
Basil Price, DPH Director of Security, initiated the first in a series of Crisis Prevention Institutes (CPI) Non-violent Crisis Intervention course trainings in the Emergency Department at SFGH. The course was well attended by a mix of ED nursing, ancillary and medical staff. The staff were engaged throughout the session and more staff are excited to attend the next three additional training sessions.

SFGH Holds Racial Humility Courses Led by Dr. Ken Hardy
SFGH held the first Racial Humility cohort during the week of August 3rd for Emergency Department and Executive Staff. The four-day courses aim to increase awareness and continually improve the care we provide to patients and their families. Dr Ken Hardy, who leads the courses, is an internationally recognized clinician, author and trainer. Dr Hardy helped develop the training manual and curriculum used in New York City to train licensed clinicians in Trauma Based Family Therapy.

2015 Hearts Grants Awards Ceremony
On August 13, the SF General Foundation hosted the 2015 Hearts Grants Awards Ceremony. They awarded over one million in support to programs at SFGH. Programs funded through the 2015 Hearts Grants include the Health Advocacy and Navigation Desk Expansion ($75,465), which is designed to improve care by providing volunteers, social workers, and legal aid for patients. One program will improve medical education for high-risk patients through ‘Meducation’ ($25,200), an online tool that creates patient specific information in eighteen languages. The Hearing Aid Program for School-Aged Children ($17,161) will provide the necessary equipment to fit hearing aids for school-aged patients, addressing many risks these children face. And free legal services for patients will be made available through the San Francisco Medical Legal Partnership at the Family Health Center ($5,218).

Milka Rols Gift to Laguna Honda goes Before Board of Supervisors
The Board of Supervisors voted today to authorize the Department of Public Health to accept and expend gifts from Dr. Milka Rols to Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center Resident Gift Fund in the amount of $400,000 and to the Development Fund for Quality Improvement, Education, and Training in the amount of $100,000.

Annual Certification Survey Starts at Laguna Honda
CDPH surveyors arrived at Laguna Honda on Monday morning to conduct the annual certification survey. The survey team consists of a team leader, seven health facilities evaluation nurses and a dietitian. They are expected to complete the survey process by next Tuesday, September 22nd.

Laguna Honda Priorities FY2015-2016
Each year, Laguna Honda’s Executive Committee sets forth and agrees upon priorities, based on the Department’s and the SF Health Networks goals. This year, they agreed to three priorities: 1) SF Health Network
2) Service Delivery Improvements and 3) Wellness. As part of their SF Health Network support, they welcomed three new leaders: John T. Grimes as Chief Operating Officer, David Snyder as Rehabilitation Manager and Chris Lai as interim Director of Food Services. Also part of priority one: a Sugar Sweetened Beverage Initiative and Vision Planning for Strategic Planning Goals and Objectives, focusing on a 2016 celebration of 150 years of Laguna Honda. Service Delivery Improvements include: signage improvement, ICD-10 Implementation, Hospital-wide hand hygiene, In-home Support Services (IHSS) Transitional Mentorship, and an improvement in parking. As part of Wellness, they are focusing on learning circles for behavioral care planning, to empower staff in developing interventions that are safe and to decrease reliance on prescribing and administering psychotropic medications.

**Laguna Honda Walks**
Laguna Honda Campus participated in the AIDS walk on July 19. Laguna Honda has been participating in the AIDS Walk SF for the past 12 years. Many former staff and volunteers pitch in to make it a great day. This allows more than 20 residents of the Positive Care program to participate in this wonderful event. This year was one of the warmest on record with not a cloud in the sky. Laguna Honda will also be participating in the Alzheimer’s Walk on Saturday, September 19th. The Walk to End Alzheimer’s is the world’s largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer’s care, support and research. The event will take place at Fort Mason Great Meadow of San Francisco.

**Laguna Honda Sugar and Sweetened Beverage Ban goes into effect**
Laguna Honda followed SF General and the SF Board of Supervisors in banning sugar sweetened beverages from campus. Sugar-sweetened beverages (SSB) are those that contain one or more added sweeteners and more than 25 calories per 12 ozs. As of September 1, patients, staff, visitors and volunteers will not be able to purchase SSBs on campus. Under the SSB ordinance, 100 percent fruit and vegetable juices, unsweetened beverages, diet beverages, waters, sparkling waters, milk, coffee and teas will still be available.

**Castro Mission Turns 50**
The Castro Mission Health Center was established in 1965, along with Medicaid and Medicare. It was the first of the five public health clinics built in the county. Originally called “Health Center 1”, it hosted a TB Clinic, dental services, women’s clinic, children’s clinic, family services, and housed the home-visiting Public Health Nurses and the Environmental Health inspectors. Retired physician Fred Strauss recalls providing physical exams to gay men in the area: “At the time it was unknown why gay men were coming down with a very rare form of cancer, Kaposi’s Sarcoma, and a rare lung infection, Pneumocystis Pneumonia. It was the beginning of the AIDS epidemic and Castro Mission became a leader in HIV care. In 1993 they began to integrate mental health services into the growing primary care services. They also began using harm reduction models with substance users, which was adopted city-wide in 2000. In the 1990’s Castro Mission helped develop the Dimensions Clinic for LGBTQI Youth. Participants in the program helped evolve a new model for care for gender non-conforming individuals. Castro Mission continues to demonstrate adaptability and innovation. They were the first clinic to participate in Lean training, focusing on minimizing waste and maximizing value, in this case value is based on optimal patient experience. A celebration is being planned at Castro Mission to celebrate 50 years of Primary Care.

**Healthy Hearts SF Goes Live**
Eighty percent of the city’s most serious heart disease is concentrated among some 23,500 low-income African American and Latino residents in 20 census tracts. Healthy Hearts SF, a campaign managed by Population Health and funded by the CDC, mobilizes health care providers to give patients prescriptions for free physical activity programs throughout the city. They will be holding a media event on Tuesday, September 29 from 11am to 1pm at the World Affairs Council, 312 Sutter Street, and will feature presentations by clinicians, fitness providers, and SFPDH Population Health leaders including Health Officer Tomas Aragon and Jacque McCright, Community Health, Prevention & Promotion.
Environmental Health assists with Noise Pollution in SF

Environmental Health recently assisted the San Francisco Police Department to regulate noise from amplified sound systems on unenclosed tour buses. The City’s Noise Ordinance requires that noise from the amplified systems not be audible at a distance of 50 feet from the tour bus in operation. In a joint enforcement venture last month at Union Square, one of the most popular tour bus destinations, DPH worked with SFPD to identify tour buses that were not in compliance, and bus companies that were in violation were issued citations. Follow-up testing opportunities were provided by DPH to make sure that the tour buses had reduced their amplified sound to the appropriate levels. Because of collaborative enforcement efforts like this, noise complaints associated with tour bus amplified sound have been greatly reduced over the last year.

Awards

The Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County is celebrating 50 Years of service and is honoring community members who have been game changers in the community. For the past 5 decades, CAB has been focused on fighting poverty and improving lives in Santa Cruz County. DPH Health Director Barbara Garcia will be honored for her commitment during the 1970's for her service to Santa Cruz County.

Richard Lee, Interim Director of Environmental Health, has been selected to sit on the Board of Directors of the California Massage Therapy Council (CAMTC). The Council licenses the majority of the massage practitioners in California. DPH interacts closely with the CAMTC through our enforcement work for massage establishment permitting and massage practitioner certifications.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow asked whether the State bills passed were supported by the SFDPH. Aneeka Chaudhry, SFDPH Office of Policy and Planning, stated that all the bills that passed were being monitored by the SFDPH.

Commissioner Chow asked for more information on the State Legislature special session on health functions. Ms. Chaudhry stated that the session continues until the Legislature special committees feel they have resolved the issues being considered.

Commissioner Pating asked to track the impact of the $1 billion Managed Care Organizations Tax. Director Garcia stated that the tax will impact the San Francisco Health Plan and not the SFDPH directly. She stated that the Health Commission will be updated as more information is known.

Commissioner Chow requested an update on the effectiveness of the Navigation Center as data is available. He also asked that the Health Commission be updated when the new Navigator Center sites are chosen.

4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no general public comment.

5) COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Commissioner Pating, Chair, stated that the committee heard a presentation on the SFDPH Maternal, Child, Adolescent Health Preterm Birth Project and an update on the San Francisco Children’s Oral Health Strategic Plan 2014-2017.

He also stated that the Preterm Birth Project goal is to reduce preterm births across the San Francisco Health Network (SFHN) and throughout San Francisco. This goal is accomplished by reducing risk factors through improving access to women-centered prenatal care and examining social determinants that impact preterm birth rates.

Commissioner Pating stated that the Children's Oral Health Plan update included information on
DentiCal, a new benefit offering full dental services with a low reimbursement rate for providers. The new benefit has created an access-burden on the primary care clinics within SFHN. The Network has hired two new dentists to deal with huge rise in request for dental appointments. In the area of Population Health Division, the City has been looking into how to increase children’s access to fluoride.

Commissioner Chow noted that he attended a Chinatown event in which efforts to increase children’s oral health was discussed; he commended Dr. Albert Yu, Director of SFHN Ambulatory Care, for efforts to coordinate dental care through the Chinatown Health center.

6) UPDATE ON PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE
Naveena Bobba MD, Director, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response, gave the presentation.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:
Commissioner Karshmer asked if there is a way to make emergency planning part of everyday thinking for San Franciscans. Director Garcia stated that the Incident Comment Structure (ICS) could be used for any major city-wide project to help reinforce the practices necessary during a disaster.

Commissioner Karshmer requested that the Health Commission receive a future update on the successes of the neighborhood resiliency work being conducted.

Commissioner Karshmer asked if schools are part of the neighborhood coalitions. Dr. Bobba stated that the San Francisco Unified School District is an important partner.

Commissioner Sanchez stated that it is vital that City Departments have modes to communicate with each other during disaster.

Commissioner Pating noted that the response to the Asiana Airlines crash and Ebola preparedness are two examples of the high quality of San Francisco’s emergency preparedness and response.

Commissioner Pating asked Dr. Bobba for the disaster-preparedness issues for which she is most concerned. Dr. Bobba stated that the SFDPH strives to make disaster training and preparation part of everyday work. She stated that communication during a serious incident such a major earthquake will require the use of radio; she is concerned that San Francisco residents have access to a radio during these events. She also stated that during a disaster healthcare system complexities are important to consider.

Commissioner Chow noted that since 1989 Chinatown has had a coalition to respond to disasters; he asked how these neighborhood coalitions are integrated into the city-wide disaster planning activities. Dr. Bobba stated that the SFDPH works with existing neighborhood coalitions to identify needs and to provide resources. She added that there is no centralize budget for emergency preparedness at the neighborhood level.

Commissioner Singer stated that communication is such an important part of effectively responding in a crisis. He asked if the City is well coordinated with state and federal agencies to most effectively respond to a crisis event. Dr. Bobba stated that the Association of Bay Area Health Officers meets monthly to plan and discuss disaster preparedness. She added that the region plans to work together during disasters.

Commissioner Taylor-McGhee asked whether the disaster trainings for staff teach skills transferable to various types of disasters. Dr. Bobba stated that the purpose of the general disaster training is to understand the language and the Incident Command System paradigm.
Commissioner Taylor-McGhee asked when all SFDPH staff will be trained in disaster preparedness. Dr. Bobba stated that the ultimate goal is to train approximately 80% of SFDPH staff due to staff attrition.

7) UPDATE ON AMBULATORY CARE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE
Leslie Dubbin, PhD, MS, RN, Chief Program Integration Officer, Ambulatory Care, gave the presentation.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:
Commissioner Sanchez thanked Dr. Dubbin for the excellent presentation.

Commissioner Chow asked when the San Francisco Health Network (SFHN) Ambulatory Care began its emergency preparedness efforts. Dr. Dubbin stated that the effort began about two years ago and that the ambulatory focus began about 9 months ago.

Commissioner Karshmer commended Dr. Dubbin for being proactive in identifying those most at risk as part of disaster-preparedness activities.

Commissioner Pating stated that he is impressed with the ability to track patients to assist them in accessing care during a disaster or crisis.

8) OTHER BUSINESS:
This item was not discussed.

9) JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS
Commissioner Karshmer, LHH JCC Chair, stated that at the September 8, 2015 LHH JCC meeting, the committee heard presentations on the LHH ICD-10 transition and LHH Rehabilitation Services. In addition, the Committee reviewed the Administrator’s Report and approved hospital-wide policies and procedures. In closed session, the Committee approved the Credentials Report.

10) COMMITTEE AGENDA SETTING
This item was not discussed.

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

PERSONNEL EVALUATION: BARBARA GARCIA, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

D) Reconvene in Open Session

Action Taken: The Committee voted not to disclose the discussion held in closed session.

12) ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 6:41pm.