

**Dan Bernal**  
President  
**Laurie Green, M.D.**  
Vice President  
**Edward A. Chow, M.D.**  
Commissioner  
**Cecilia Chung**  
Commissioner  
**Suzanne Giraudo 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 June 2, 2020 3:00 p.m.  
Remote Meeting via Microsoft Teams Live Event**

**1) CALL TO ORDER**

Present: Commissioner Dan Bernal President  
Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D.  
Commissioner Cecilia Chung  
Commissioner Suzanne Giraudo, Ph.D  
Commissioner Laurie Green, MD  
Commissioner Tessie Guillermo

The meeting was called to order at 3:07pm.

**2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF MAY 19, 2020**

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the Health Commission May 19, 2020 meeting minutes.

**3) 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>

**City embarks on the path to recovery**

Today, there are over 2,500 San Francisco residents with confirmed cases of COVID-19. And, sadly, a total of 42 San Franciscans have died. The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) sends our condolences to their loved ones.

While San Francisco and the Bay Area continue our pandemic response, the Health Department and in City government will be preparing for the future by continuing to follow the science, data and facts and build out the public health infrastructure to support a gradual reopening and phased recovery. We will continue to watch five key indicators, to track our progress. These five indicators include:

1. Cases – monitoring if the number of new cases per day is flat or decreasing
2. Hospital capacity – watching our hospitalizations to ensure that our health system is prepared to serve patients with COVID-19 and other conditions
3. Personal protective equipment – sufficient supplies for health care workers for 30 days

4. Testing – we are continuing to expand testing; and
5. Contact tracing – and supporting people to isolate and quarantine.

Our recovery as a community will depend on our ability to protect the most vulnerable, and to maintain a health system that can respond to continued outbreaks. DPH will keep a close eye on the data, so that we can move forward, or pause, or increase restrictions, depending on the spread of the virus in the community.

#### New Health Order requires residents and workers to wear face coverings outside the home

On May 28, Mayor London N. Breed and Director of Health Dr. Grant Colfax announced that everyone in San Francisco will be required to wear face coverings on most occasions when they are outside of their homes, a step that will be critical to the City's ability to safely reopen further. The new rule strengthens the existing face covering Health Order by extending it to more activities. Wearing face coverings will be an essential habit to reduce the likelihood of transmitting the virus from person to person.

The requirement is a Health Order by Dr. Tomás Aragón, Health Officer of the City and County of San Francisco. The Order is effective at 11:59 p.m. on May 29, 2020. It is informed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. Previously, the City recommended face coverings on April 2nd, and then required them on April 17th for all essential businesses and in public facilities, on transit and when performing essential work. Now that requirement is expanded to whenever people are outside their homes in most situations in San Francisco, with very limited exceptions.

Wearing a face covering is most effective when combined with physical distancing and hand washing. It is not a substitute for staying home, but it is a way to protect other people and reduce the chance of transmission when outside the house. San Francisco's Stay Home order is still in effect, and residents should continue to stay inside as much as possible.

Face coverings should cover the nose and mouth and fit securely. They can be a manufactured or homemade mask, a bandanna, scarf, towel, neck gaiter or similar item. Cloth face coverings should be cleaned frequently with soap and water.

Masks with one-way valves are not effective because they allow air droplets to freely escape when the wearer exhales. They should not be worn and do not qualify as a face covering under the order. Medical masks – such as isolation masks or N95 masks – are not necessary for the general public. These items are still in short supply and must be reserved for health care workers and first responders.

Compliance with the new rule is not anticipated to be an issue, as the vast majority of San Franciscans have been adhering to the Stay Home Order and social distancing. Many people already are wearing face coverings outside. However, the order does carry the force of law, and noncompliance is a misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

#### Timeline and Plan for Safely Reopening

On May 28, Mayor Breed announced a plan for reopening San Francisco that will allow certain businesses and activities to resume with modifications in phases over the coming weeks and months. As long as San Francisco continues to make progress slowing the spread of COVID-19, meets key health indicators, and state guidance continues to allow more activities, San Francisco restaurants will be able to offer outdoor dining, retail businesses will be able to allow customers to shop inside with modifications, and additional outdoor activities can resume on June 15th. The City plans to allow additional activities and businesses to resume in July and August, depending on the key indicators .

Part of San Francisco's plan for safely reopening includes requiring residents to wear face coverings on most occasions when they leave their home and are near other people, both indoors and outdoors. The public also

must comply with other health and safety requirements and recommendations such as social distancing, handwashing, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces.

San Francisco's current Stay Home Health Order does not have an expiration date and will be amended over the coming weeks and months to allow for a gradual and safer reopening. The plan details the next phases, and provides dates that the City anticipates additional businesses and activities can resume with modifications. The dates in the plan will be finalized through amendments to the Health Order or directives, and will be guided by health indicators. If the City make progress faster than expected, then the timeline outlined below may shift to allow some reopening to occur earlier. For each phase, guidance will be issued to provide businesses and operators with adequate time for planning and compliance with health and safety requirements.

#### Summer Camps can operate starting June 15

On May 22, Mayor Breed announced San Francisco's summer camps and summer programs can reopen on June 15th with limited capacity and modifications intended to prevent the spread of COVID-19. On the same day, DPH issued a Health Order for summer camps and programs that is consistent with the statewide guidelines.

Under the Health Order, Francisco summer camps and programs can open this summer for children and youth ages six to 17. The camps and programs are open to all children and youth in San Francisco. Summer camps and programs must prioritize spaces for children of people who work in businesses and organizations that are allowed to operate under the Health Order, including children and youth of parents who are telecommuting for an allowable business. Camps and programs must also prioritize children and youth who need it the most, including low-income youth and those who are part of the most vulnerable populations. The Order applies to public and private camps and summer programs, and includes safety measures such as temperature screenings and enhanced cleaning. The City will allow summer camps and programs serving children to begin operating on June 15th, 2020 through August 17th, 2020.

In addition to allowing summer camps and programs to open, the Order clarifies that child care programs may continue operating or reopen. The San Francisco Health Officer will continually review whether modifications to the Order are needed.

#### Testing

San Francisco is working to expand testing as it is a key health indicator that impacts the progress of our re-opening. San Francisco has made great strides in building testing capacity and getting people tested. We lead the Bay Area and the state in testing. As of today, over 68,000 people in San Francisco have been tested, and an average of 5% have tested positive. We have goal of testing between 1,600-2,000 people per day, based on state guidelines and our population. Throughout the month of May, we have completed an average of about 1,525 tests per day.

Today, we are able to test anyone that matches any of the below criteria:

- any worker that serves San Francisco and who leaves their home to work can get tested for COVID-19, regardless of symptoms or exposure.
- any person living in San Francisco with at least one symptom of COVID-19 or who has been exposed to someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 can get tested.
- any person who has come in close contact with a confirmed cased, regardless of symptoms

#### **Mayor and Public Safety Officials announce curfew in San Francisco**

On May 30, Mayor London N. Breed, in consultation with the City's public safety partners, announced that she will implement a citywide curfew beginning Sunday, May 31, 2020. The curfew requires people within the City of San Francisco to stay indoors from 8 p.m. until 5 a.m. Monday, June 1, 2020. The Mayor's order will keep

the community safe in the wake of the civil unrest that erupted yesterday evening, May 30, in the City, and across the nation. This followed a day of peaceful and lawful demonstrations in San Francisco, protesting George Floyd's tragic death in Minneapolis last week. These conditions make the unrestricted presence of persons on City streets and sidewalks after 8:00 p.m. dangerous to both them and the public's safety. For more information about the curfew, please visit [www.sf72.org](http://www.sf72.org).

DPH acknowledges the pain, hurt and frustration our community feels about the violence we continue to see as it relates to Black/African Americans and police officers across the nation. We appreciate the compassion and courage of those who are standing up to protest injustice peacefully and safely. We are asking for your continued cooperation and support for the health of our San Francisco community.

COVID-19 continues to threaten our City and the stay at home order remains in effect. We know the spread of the coronavirus transmits rapidly among large groups of people who are not physically distancing at a minimum of 6 feet apart. DPH has issued guidance on how to stay safer together when outside the home including in legal, safe and peaceful protest activities:

- Always wear a mask or face covering properly and physically distance yourself at least 6 feet from people outside of your household. These measures will significantly help prevent and slow the transmission of COVID-19, protecting your health and the health of others in our communities.
- Because COVID-19 is spread through respiratory droplets, put extra distance between yourself and anyone who is yelling or chanting, especially if they are unmasked.
- Avoid touching other people, or sharing food, beverages, sign-making materials, or anything else unless it's an absolute emergency.
- Consider the COVID-19 risk of your loved ones and those you live with
- Consider alternate ways to take action and express yourself including virtual action, calling local politicians, or donating to bail funds, social justice organizations, legal defense, and other community organizations that promote civil rights and equity.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bernal thanked Dr. Colfax for the report.

**4) COVID-19 RESPONSE, TESTING, AND RECOVERY UPDATE**

Grant Colfax, MD, DPH Director of Health, and Susan Philip, MD, MPH, Deputy Health Officer, Director of Population Health Division, Disease Prevention & Control Branch, and Tomas Aragon, MD, DrPhD, Health Officer and Director of Population Health Division, gave the update.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Green asked for demographic information regarding those who have been tested for COVID-19. Dr. Colfax noted the importance of making COVID-19 testing accessible.

Commissioner Chow asked the COVID-19 reproductive rate has been impacted by the reopening of construction sites. Dr. Colfax stated that it is early to see the possible impact on COVID-19 cases in San Francisco.

Commissioner Giraudo asked if pediatric inflammatory response has been seen in San Francisco pediatric cases. Dr. Philip stated that the DPH has requested that medical providers report any such cases.

Commissioner Guillermo noted that data shows some differences in case progression in the Bay Area counties and asked if there may be a divergence in how San Francisco moves forward. Dr. Colfax stated that San Francisco will continue to base COVID-19-related policy decisions on City data. As neighboring county cases change, there may be a shift in how the counties coordinate their COVID-19 response.

Commissioner Bernal asked if there is COVID-19 data for Treasure Island. Dr. Colfax stated that he will follow-up through Mr. Morewitz with this request.

Commissioner Bernal asked if there is concern that as there is an increase in resident mobility, that COVID-19 replication may increase. Dr. Colfax noted that the universal masking Health Officer order will hopefully help with keeping COVID-19 spread at a minimum.

Commissioner Bernal asked for more information regarding the DPH guidelines for participating in protests and rallies. Dr. Colfax stated that participants in these events are encouraged to wear face masks and to get tested for COVID-19.

Commissioner Chung asked for more information regarding the high rate of deaths in the Asian COVID-19 cases in San Francisco. Dr. Colfax stated that the COVID-19 Asian cases in San Francisco have been in significantly older adults. He also noted that one of the congregate facility outbreak had a high number of Asian residents. He also stated that data shows that Asians are less likely to seek COVID-19 testing. The DPH is working with Chinese hospital to encourage testing in this population.

Commissioner Chow asked for more information on COVID-19 cases and deaths in the SRO population. Dr. Colfax stated that he will share data with the Commission at a later time.

Commissioner Chung noted that Dr. Philip's presentation shows 69,000 tests with a 5% positive rate; she asked why this would not mean there were at least 3,000 COVID-19 cases. Dr. Philip stated that the 5% rate of positivity is an average of all the San Francisco COVID-19 cases. She noted that early on, testing was only being done with those showing symptoms and the positive rate was around 34%. The current daily COVID-19 test positivity rate is closer to 3%.

Commissioner Chung asked for more information regarding SOGI data collection in regard to COVID-19 testing. Dr. Philip stated that there is no state-wide mandate for collect SOGI data. In San Francisco, the DPH can obtain some of this information through the San Francisco Health Network. COVID-19 case investigators ask about SOGI data. The data collection is a newer process. Dr. Philip offered to come back to the Commission with a COVID-19 SOGI data update.

Commissioner Chung noted there is a significant percentage of "unknown" gender for COVID-19 data. Dr. Philip stated that the DPH continues to train staff collecting this data to increase the accuracy of the dataset.

Commissioner Bernal asked how accurate COVID-19 testing is in San Francisco. Dr. Philip stated that San Francisco uses molecular-based laboratory tests. She noted that no test is 100% accurate. However molecular tests are very sensitive, depending on how well the specimen is collected. She also noted that the timing of the test in relation to a person's exposure is also important to keep in mind. She also added that for about 20% of negative tests, an individual may test positive at a later date.

Commissioner Guillermo asked how frequently long-term care facilities should be testing its residents. Dr. Philip stated that residents and staff of these facilities should be tested no more than every 14 days, due to the replication cycle of the virus.

Commissioner Chow asked for more information regarding plans to test SRO residents, housing project residents, and homeless individuals. Dr. Philip stated that current testing data and community input help the DPH determine how to proceed with testing plans. Commissioner Chow suggested working with Chinatown community partners to help ensure there will not be an outbreak in that neighborhood.

**5) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no general public comment.

**6) RESOLUTION HONORING STEPHANIE CUSHING**

Dr. Tomas Aragon, Health Officer and Director of Population Health Division, introduced the item and thanked Ms. Cushing for over thirty years of her dedicated services to the DPH. Ms. Cushing expressed gratitude for her years at the DPH.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bernal thanked Ms. Cushing for her tenure.

Action Taken:

The Health Commission unanimously approved the resolution. (see attachment)

**7) DPH BUDGET UPDATE**

Greg Wagner, DPH CFO, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Chow asked for more information regarding how the budget will be monitored with the understanding the City has a large deficit. Mr. Wagner stated that the usual financial monitoring systems remain in place. Within the DPH, there will be additional layers of approvals for hiring and materials and supplies. He added that the DPH has to add COVID-related services such as testing and contact tracing. Mr. Wagner also stated that the Controller's Office will continue to monitor COVID-related expenditures.

**8) MONTHLY CONTRACTS REPORT**

Michelle Ruggels, Director of the SFDPH Business Office, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Chow requested that the Health Commission receive information on the total number of contracts that the DPH has with RAMS, the one vendor on this report. Ms. Ruggels stated that she would send this information through Mr. Morewitz.

Action Taken:

The Health Commission unanimously approved the June Contracts Report.

**9) EPIC UPDATE**

Eric Raffin, DPH Chief Information Officer, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Guillermo asked for information regarding cybersecurity in a future presentation.

Commissioner Chung asked for information regarding patients using EPIC to help manage their care. Mr. Raffin stated that 7% of patients have registered for the EPIC My Chart function. He will provide additional data at the next EPIC update to the Commission.

Commissioner Chow requested that future presentations include a comparison of the current timeline with previous timelines.

Commissioner Chow asked how the CCSF budget situation may impact the EPIC rollout and functionality. Mr.

Raffin stated that there are important issues that remain unknown such as the number of employees that will continue to work remotely. In regard to EPIC, planning is still underway for determining superusers and trainings for Wave 2 of EPIC implementation.

Commissioner Green requested that future presentations include information regarding progress made with EPIC coding and revenue generation.

**10) JAIL HEALTH SERVICES UPDATE**

Lisa Pratt, MD, Director Jail Health Services, presented the item.

Public Comment:

Roma Guy, Taxpayers for Public Safety, stated that jails are congregate settings. She thanked the Jail Health Services leadership and staff for their care of those incarcerated in the county jails during the COVID-19 pandemic. She requested that current Jail Health Services staffing levels be maintained even as the jail census is decreased to ensure those who are released from jail can be connected to community services. DPH and community based agencies will need to organize community resources for this purpose. She requested a Behavioral Health Equity staff member to work with the Harder and Company consultant to develop this plan.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bernal asked for more information regarding those incarcerated individuals on psychotropic medications. Dr. Pratt stated that the majoring of individuals on medication in the jails have previously been prescribed the medications; she added that some may not have adhered to the prescription prior to their incarceration. She added that occasionally there are individuals experiencing their first psychotic episode while incarcerated and receive medication.

**11) OTHER BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Bernal noted that the DPH has developed suggested guidelines for those individuals who are participating in public demonstrations. He acknowledged the many DPH employees and leaders, such as Dr. Ayanna Bennett, for the important and impactful equity work, they develop and implement within the DPH.

**12) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46pm in honor of Margot Antonetty. Ms. Antonetty devoted over 30 years to helping those experiencing behavioral health issues, HIV, and/or homelessness. During her 22 years as a CCSF employee, she helped create the DPH Housing and Urban Health section. She later transferred to the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing.

**HEALTH COMMISSION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
Resolution No. 20-7**

**HONORING STEPHANIE CUSHING, MSPH, CHMM, REHS**

WHEREAS, Stephanie Cushing has served the City and County of San Francisco as a leader in the Department of Public Health's (DPH) Environmental Health branch for 33 years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cushing has modeled practical and innovative leadership throughout her tenure with the DPH; and

WHEREAS, as Director of Environmental Health, Ms. Cushing oversaw 36 distinct programs, ranging from food safety, Tobacco and e-cigarette policy, massage and tattoo business monitoring, and hazardous materials and waste. A majority of these programs enforce 40 of the 42 San Francisco Health Codes and require ongoing collaboration with local and state policy bodies; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cushing is the first DPH Environmental Health Director to begin her DPH tenure as an inspector, before being promoted as a Senior Inspector, and then Manager. This multi-level experience provided her with helpful knowledge to lead the branch successfully; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cushing is the first woman in the long history of the DPH to hold the position of Environmental Health Director; and

WHEREAS, Under the direction of Ms. Cushing, Environmental Health utilized LEAN Change Management to improve the efficiency of the branch's many diverse services; and

WHEREAS, The California Conference of the Directors of Environmental Health recognized Ms. Cushing's effective leadership by awarding her the Excellence in Environmental Health award.

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

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of June 2, 2020 adopted the foregoing resolution.

---

Mark Morewitz, MSW