City and County of San Francisco

Department of Public Health



Michelle Ruggels,
Director of DPH Business Office

MEMORANDUM

Date:

February 28, 2020

TO:

Commissioner Dan Bernal, President of Health Commission

Commissioner Cecilia Chung, Chair of Finance and Planning Committee

Members of the Health Commission

FROM:

Michelle Ruggels W

RE: Information for HealthRIGHT360-Project 180 (Drug Sobering Center for homeless) to be located at 180 Jones Street.

The purpose of this memo is to provide a summary and supporting documentation pertaining to the hearings scheduled for the March 3, 2020 Health Commission Finance and Planning Committee (2:00 p.m.) and the full Health Commission (4:00 pm) for a new DPH project, and to document the Department's compliance with its own Good Neighbor Policy. This new project was announced by Mayor Breed and Supervisor Mandelman on February 6, 2020 in partnership with DPH and HealthRIGHT360.

The Department established its Good Neighbor Policy following Citywide legislation adopted in June 1998, to allow interested residents to bring concerns regarding City funded projects involving new construction, a change in use, or a significant expansion of an existing use at a specific location to a public hearing. The Department's Good Neighbor Policy includes public posting requirements established in the City's legislation, referenced as "Prop I" and detailed in Chapter 79 of the San Francisco Administrative Code. Additionally, the Good Neighbor Policy requires the Department to convene a minimum of two public meetings, with the second meeting being held before the Health Commission.

The March 3, 2020 hearing is the second of the two required meetings to allow interested residents and the public-at -large to bring concerns or comments pertaining to the implementation of the Department's new pilot drug sobering center, ("Project 180") that is to be located at 180 Jones Street. The operator of the proposed Project 180 is HealthRIGHT360, a DPH contractor. DPH completed its signage posting for the required community meeting on February 11, 2020 and for the Health Commission hearings on March 3, 2020. A total of 107 individuals attended the meeting.

For more information about the required community meetings, other Good Neighbor Policy requirements, and additional community outreach efforts, please see the Attachments. Additionally, please note that the Department and HealthRIGHT360 representatives will also present an overview of the project, providing additional information to describe the project's goals and objectives during the March 3, 2020 meeting. This information is summarized within separate power point presentations.

Additional Information may be found in the following Attachments:

- Attachment 1: Summary of Project Proposal to the Health Commission
 - Summary of Project and DPH's process to meet Proposition I requirements
- Attachment 2: Neighborhood-Based Drug Sobering Center: A Proposal for the Tenderloin
 - Copy of flyer hand distributed to neighbors surrounding the proposed site.
- Attachment 3: Copy of meeting posting signage
 - The text of the signage posted at the location, 180 Jones Street
- Attachment 4: Photograph of the actual signage posting
- Attachment 5: Copy of attendee sign-in sheet
 - Individuals that attended the Community Meeting, held on 2/11/20
- Attachment 6: Notes from 2/11/20 Community Meeting Regarding Proposed Project: Drug Sobering Center.
- Attachment 7: Photos of site location
- Attachment 8: Muni Transportation Availability

ATTACHMENT 1 San Francisco Department of Public Health



SUMMARY OF PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR THE HEALTH COMMISSION

Contract Agency:	HealthRIGHT 360 (HR360)	DPH Division/Section:	Behavioral Health Services (BHS)
Proposed Contract	HR360 Project 180: Pilot, 15-		
Program:	bed drug sobering center for homeless	DPH Project Sponsor:	Judith Martin, MD, Medical Director, SUD; County Alcohol and Drug Administrator
individuals.	individuals.	Business Office of Contract Compliance (BOCC) Contact:	Tom Mesa, Director of BOCC
Date of Health Commission Meeting:	March 3, 2020	Contract Agency Contact:	Vitka Eisen, CEO, HealthRIGHT360

In compliance with Chapter 79 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, (put into effect July 9, 1998 upon the passage by voters of Proposition I "Citizens Right to Know" Act of 1998), and the Department of Public Health's (DPH) "Good Neighbor Policy", established in response to Chapter 79, the purpose of this meeting is for the DPH Health Commission to allow interested persons and the public-at-large the opportunity to bring up their concerns prior to the final funding and approval of the project.

Chapter 79 of the San Francisco Admin. Code identifies the specific types of City projects that are subject to Chapter 79, along with required notification procedures. The DPH "Good Neighbor Policy" captures these requirements, while setting forth DPH's intent to work collaboratively with neighbors and communities to allay fears regarding the siting of new or existing programs in neighborhoods. The following summary describes DPH's process to comply with the its Good Neighbor Policy for the following project:

Name of Program:	HR360 Project 180
Purpose of Program:	Provide a 15-bed pilot program designed to accommodate the differing needs of individuals experiencing homelessness who are under the influence of methamphetamine or other drugs.
Location (Address):	180 Jones Street
Square Footage	24' x 50' = 1,200 square feet (tent); Lot size is 4,744 square feet
Hours of Operation	24/7

DPH Good Neighbor Policy Requirements Implementation:

DPH Good Neighbor Policy Notice Requirements

Public notice of a proposed new City project must be posted at least 15 days prior to the date at which a new City project will be considered for approval. In lieu of signposting requirements, notices may be mailed to property owners within 300 feet of the lot line of the property.

DPH Public Notification: DPH posted signage on February 10, 2020 announcing (1) the Health Commission Meeting to be held on March 3, 2020, and (2) a community meeting to be held on February 11, 2020 to obtain community feedback in compliance with DPH's Good Neighbor Policy.

As DPH implemented the required signage posting, a separate mailing of the notice was not required. However, DPH hand-distributed flyers (see Attachment 2 for Flyer) to neighbors within 300 feet of the proposed site at 180 Jones Street. Additionally, DPH conducted specific outreach to leaders of community-based organizations serving the Tenderloin to introduce the proposal and answer specific questions. These organizations included Hospitality House, Boys & Girls Club, Unite HERE, St. Anthony's, Glide, SF AIDS Foundation, Tenderloin Community Benefit District, Tenderloin Health Improvement Partnership, Drug Users Union, Coalition on Homelessness, and the DOPE Project. DPH also met with Supervisor Matt Haney, who represents the Tenderloin, and Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, who co-chaired the Methamphetamine Task Force, and invited members of that task force to the February 11 meeting.

Community Meetings

DPH's Good Neighbor Policy establishes a required community meeting prior to the Health Commission meeting to be held with the contractor involved to (a) give information to interested neighbors and the public-at-large about the project, and also to (b) receive input from the public about any concerns regarding the project. Additionally, the Good Neighbor Policy speaks to DPH's commitment to ongoing collaborative work with its neighbors.

DPH Community Meeting: The Mayor's Office, DPH and HR360 hosted a community meeting at the Antonia Hotel, across from the proposed site at 180 Jones Street, on February 11, 2020. The DPH Director of Mental Health Reform, and HealthRight360 each presented. Shalini Rana from the Mayor's Office facilitated comments, questions and answers from the attendees. Based on the sign-in sheets, there were 107 attendees (See Attachment 5 for Sign-In Sheet). The minutes of the meeting are attached, (See Attachment 6).

Since the Feb. 11 community meeting, DPH has continued its one-on-one outreach conversations, and DPH and HR360 have attended regular meetings of groups like the Tenderloin Health Improvement Partnership, the Golden Gate Block Safety Group, and Tenderloin police station's monthly community meeting. DPH and HR360 will continue to be active partners in the Tenderloin community, keeping schools, neighbors, local merchants and others informed about the pilot program and listening to their feedback. DPH will be proposing quarterly meetings, to begin once the pilot launches.



NEIGHBORHOOD-BASED DRUG SOBERING CENTER: A Proposal for the Tenderloin

The San Francisco Department of Public Health is proposing a safe space for people who use drugs — especially methamphetamine — to recover from intoxication. In this first drug sobering center in the Tenderloin, DPH and a community-based organization will offer opportunities to move toward wellness and recovery while meeting the safety needs of the neighborhood.

Background

In October 2019 – after several months of gathering community input, conducting focus groups and public meetings, and researching best practices in public health – San Francisco's Methamphetamine Task Force issued its <u>final report</u>. The top recommendation, immediately endorsed by Mayor London Breed, was to *create a trauma-informed sobering center with harm reduction services for people under the influence of methamphetamine*.

The San Francisco Department of Public Health has operated a 12-bed sobering center, primarily serving people who drink alcohol, since 2003. While other cities' sobering centers may also serve people who use drugs, San Francisco is believed to be the first to focus specifically on the needs of people who use methamphetamine with targeted motivational supports and connections to services.

Services at a Drug Sobering Center in the Tenderloin

DPH and its community-based partner will collaboratively design a program prioritizing people experiencing homelessness and substance use disorder in the Tenderloin, working with outreach teams already in the neighborhood to refer clients to the sobering center. Supportive care and hospitality services would include:

- Individualized monitoring for health and safety
- Providing respite, showers, hydration and light snacks, and some clothing if necessary
- Assessments for substance use, physical and mental health issues
- Linkage to social services, including assessment of housing needs
- Referrals to continue treatment at various levels of care

Model for the Pilot Program

- A community-based provider will staff the drug sobering center 24/7 through a contract with DPH. The
 intended staff: client ratio is 1:4, which includes nurses, health workers, and a van driver who can
 transport clients.
- Low-threshold admission with referrals from neighborhood service providers including Glide, the HSH Homeless Outreach Team (HOT), DPH Street Medicine, SFPD Tenderloin Station and Law-Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) officers
- 15 beds
- Average length of stay: 6-12 hours
- A quiet rest area and room to walk, designed to accommodate people's needs at different stages of methamphetamine intoxication
- Storage for clients' belongings
- On-site security for safety monitoring

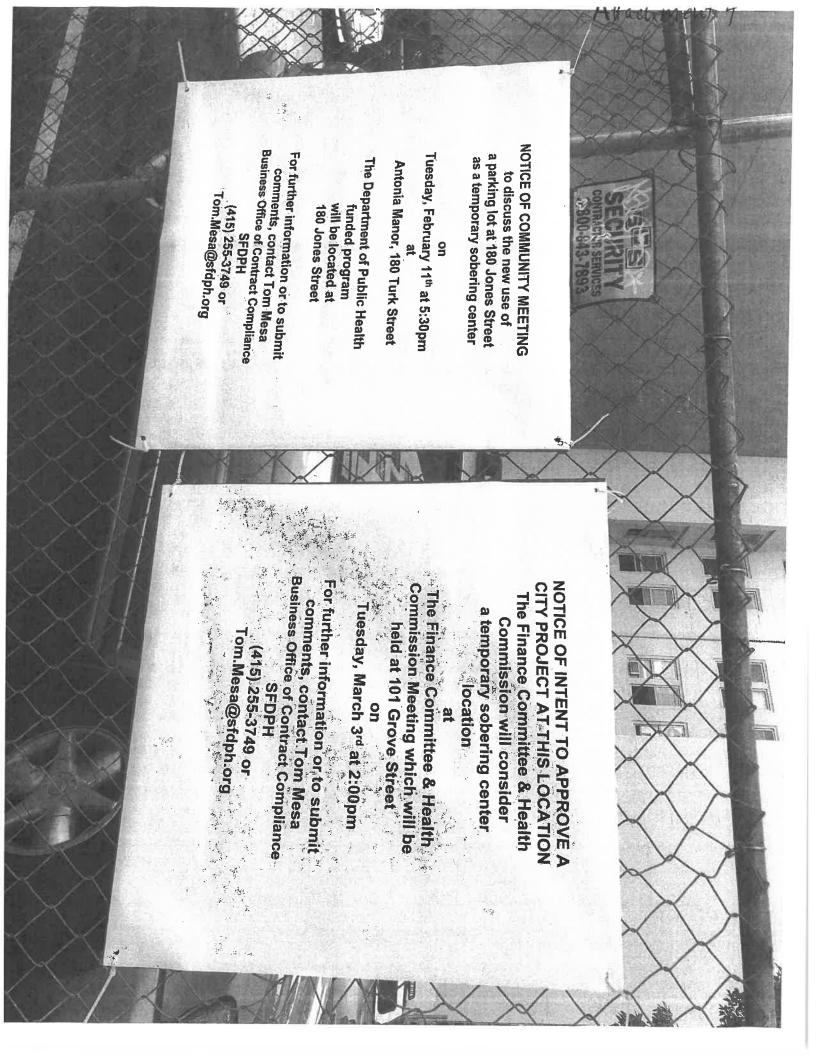
Attachment) (1 of 1)

NOTICE OF COMMUNITY MEETING to discuss the new use of a parking lot at 180 Jones Street as a temporary sobering center

on Tuesday, February 11th at 5:30pm at Antonia Manor, 180 Turk Street

The Department of Public Health funded program will be located at 180 Jones Street

For further information or to submit comments, contact Tom Mesa Business Office of Contract Compliance SFDPH (415) 255-3749 or Tom.Mesa@sfdph.org



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ATTACHMENT 6 (1 of 4) San Francisco Department of Public Health



City and County of San Francisco London N. Breed Mayor

NOTES FROM 2/11/2020 COMMUNITY MEETING

REGARDING PROPOSED PROJECT (HR360- Project 180) at 180 Jones Street: DRUG SOBERING CENTER

Date of Community Meeting: February 11, 2020

Location: The Antonia Manor Residences, across the street from the project site at 180 Jones Street

Time: 5:30 -7:00 Scheduled, and extended to approximately 8:30

Purpose: In accordance with DPH's Good Neighbor Policy, the Department held a required community meeting prior to the Health Commission's hearing scheduled for 3/2/20 to give information to interested neighbors and the public-at-large about the proposed Project 180 to be located at 180 Jones Street, and also to receive input from the public about any concerns regarding the project.

Project Representatives:

Representatives from DPH:

- Dr. Grant Colfax, Director of He
- Dr. Anton Nigusse Bland, prese
- Dr. Judith Martin, SUD Medical
- Tom Mesa, Director Business Q
- Marshia Herring, Business Offil
- Nick Hancock, Business Office

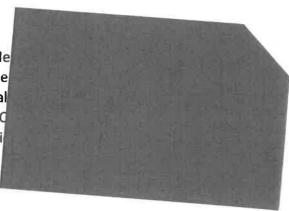
Representatives from HR360:

• Vitka Eisen, CEO, presenter

Representatives from Mayor's Office:

• Shalini Rana, Health Policy Advisor

There were also staff from MOHCD, DPW and the SFPD in attendance.



Attendees: The audience had 107 attendees based on the sign-in sheets.

Attachment 6 (2 of 4)

Presentations: Presentations were made by a panel consisting of the DPH Mental Health Reform Director, and the CEO and staff from HealthRIGHT360. HealthRIGHT360 is the proposed operator of Project 180, the proposed Drug Sobering Center. Additionally, a one-page project summary, printed copies of the presentations given by DPH, and a description of HR360's comprehensive services were available as hand-outs. The presentations were based on these handouts. The panel responded to questions and comments throughout the meeting.

Questions and comments from the audience were limited to 2 minutes in order to accommodate the numbers attending who wished to speak. The audience was advised that cards were available for collecting comments from those who wished to communicate in that fashion. Arrangements had been made for language interpreters in Arabic, Cantonese, and Spanish; the Spanish interpreter did not appear, but an audience member agreed to translate.

The audience had 107 attendees based on the sign-in sheets. DPH received five cards and several emails with comments. The public comments and questions are presented below by categories:

A. Lack of community input, community needs, and rush

- Many persons, both orally and on cards submitted, indicated that not enough input from the community had been considered and that the City should help folks already here rather than bringing new folks in.
- One person commented that the planning process was bad because the district supervisor was not informed before the Mayor's announcement
- Several business owners commented that they were not consulted
- One comment said the proposed project was not properly advertised; the neighborhood was "blindsided"
- One comment deplored that the residents of the area had to find out about the project from the newspaper
- One comment noted that people in the Tenderloin are promised help that never arrives; there is very little change
- Several comments were made regarding how the process seemed rushed with little consideration of other site possibilities
- One comment about the City's failure to ask what the community needs, which is bathrooms; the town is being known as "fecaltown"
- One email said Tenderloin residents are being treated as a "containment zone" and that needed help is not happening because it is a "poor neighborhood being treated poorly"; this project feels oppressive; this should be located in one of the empty storefronts

B. Tents

- Many comments were made about the existing tent encampment located at the parking lot and concern for those people being moved, to where, and can this be done without a "sweep".
- One person commented that the City's first task is to get people out of tents and not to just move them from one part of the Tenderloin to another part of the Tenderloin.

C. Support for the proposed project

- 13 different persons spoke regarding support for the project
- One neighborhood resident said that help was appreciated and long overdue
- One comment from a worker at St. Anthony's said that there is a need to have a place for drugged people and that this will improve the community
- One comment about how the Tenderloin is a compassionate community and that the project is necessary
- One comment from a recovering addict who was homeless and sees this as a great project
- One comment from a neighborhood service provider applauding progress on the recommendation of the meth task force

D. Families and Children

- Many comments were made about the number of children in the immediate neighborhood and fear about this project
- One comment came from a teacher in an after-school program saying that the neighborhood does not want this project because it will bring in more drug users
- A comment in Spanish on a card stated that there are too many families and kids in the Tenderloin experiencing "horrible" things and that the answers from the panel are contradictory because the community did not vote for this
- One mother who has lived in the Tenderloin for 20 years says that families and children are not being helped by this project
- One comment came from a neighbor who has lived in the Tenderloin for 10 years and says he doesn't know how to explain to his kids the drug and dirty streets
- One email pointed out that the Boys & Girls club, a K-8 school, and the Kroc Center are all providing services to children within a half block or less of the proposed center

E. Misc.

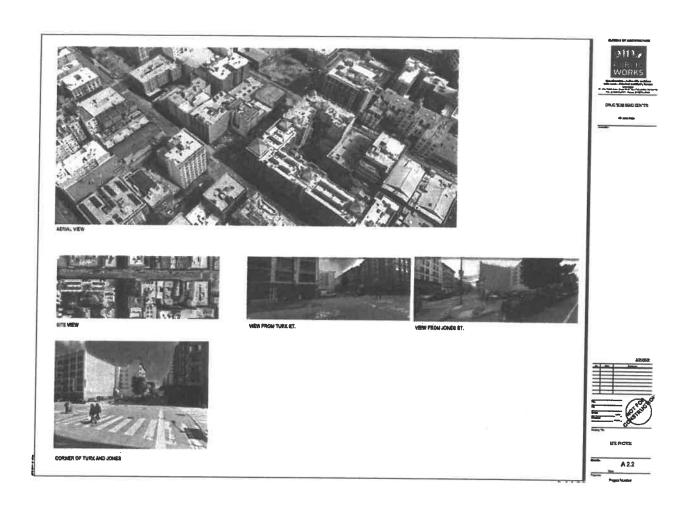
- One comment that clients exiting the project needs to be considered; transportation options are important
- One comment applauded the way St. Anthony's handles security with its community safety services rather than security guards
- One email wanted to know what other specific City sites were considered
- One comment suggested placing sobering centers throughout the City
- One comment was focused on how the sidewalks will be managed

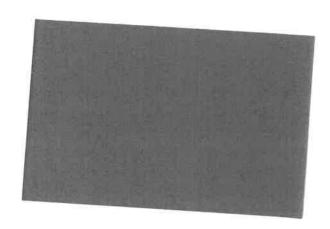
Misc. Continued

 Some questions were raised about how people would be referred into the center, and whether people would be brought from other parts of the City to this facility.

SPECIFIC ANSWERS FROM THE PANEL FOR SPECIFIC QUESTIONS RAISED DURING THE COMMUNITY MEETING:

- This site was selected because of its ready availability, and proximity to where the meth
 deaths and most meth crises are occurring, knowing that it is a temporary site and a pilot;
 there will need to be a different location when the site begins development for housing
- This is a pilot program from a recommendation of the meth task force
- Community feedback will be incorporated into program design
- The program operator will be responsive to the community on an ongoing basis with a direct telephone number for neighbors to use
- Program will have security and monitors
- Every individual who enters the program will be treated for their specific intoxication
- There will be staff ratio of 1:4; one staff for every 4 clients
- There is no uniform length of stay, every client is different
- Health workers will be working to bring clients in off the street
- The intent is to keep the area clear and to not displace anyone
- Services are voluntary
- Symptoms of meth intoxication vary but can include anxiety, paranoia, stress, sleep disturbance
- Clients will be de-escalated if they are aggressive
- Housing referrals will be coordinated with the City's DHSH
- Intention is to have a "warm hand-off", from referral sources such as street outreach teams and Tenderloin Station police officers, to the Center's trained staff.
- Intention is to refer clients to partners for benefits eligibility assistance, residential treatment, and housing lists
- HR360 provides outpatient services on Mission Street
- The project is still in the planning phase and is working with the Tenderloin Police Station
- HR360 will be on-site 24/7, has experience with such staffing, and promises to be responsive





Altachment 0

ATTACHMENT 8 (1 of 1)

HR360- Project 180 (DRUG SOBERING CENTER)

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION Options to project location

The following routes serve 180 Jones:

0	Muni 31	1 block
•	J, M, K, N, T, L	1 block
•	Muni 9R	1 block
•	Muni 19	3 blocks
	BART Civic Center Station	3 blocks