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Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Commissioner
Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.
Commissioner
Cecilia Chung
Commissioner
Suzanne Giraudo ED.D
Commissioner
Laurie Green, M.D.
Commissioner
Tessie M. Guillermo
Commissioner

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

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



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MINUTES
HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday October 20, 2020 4:00 p.m.
Remote Meeting via Webex Event

1) CALL TO ORDER

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:01pm.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF OCTOBER 6, 2020

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the October 6, 2020 meeting minutes.

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

STATE UPDATE:

State official reintroduces safe injection site bill

On October 8, State Senator Scott Wiener convened a news conference in San Francisco, joined by Mayor London Breed and Dr. Grant Colfax, Director of Health, to announce plans to reintroduce legislation as soon as December that would allow safe injection sites (also known as safe consumption or overdose prevention sites) in San Francisco and Oakland. Mayors London Breed and Libby Schaaf expressed their support for this effort. In addition, Dr. Colfax reiterated the San Francisco Department of Public Health's (DPH) longstanding support for medically supervised drug consumption services. The San Francisco AIDS Foundation, HealthRIGHT 360, and other advocates for overdose prevention and the health of people who use drugs also echoed the need for this legislation.

With the powerful opioid fentanyl driving dramatic increases in overdose mortality in San Francisco, San Francisco needs every tool at our disposal to save lives. According to Dr. Phillip Coffin's, Director of Substance

Use Research at DPH, [substance use trends 2019 annual report](#), overdose deaths increased 70% from 2018 to 441 San Franciscans in 2019. Preliminary data from the medical examiner indicate that San Francisco has lost more than that – nearly 470 people – in the first eight months of 2020. Drs. Hali Hammer, Judith Martin and Phillip Coffin are leading a San Francisco Department of Public Health initiative to apply new metrics to addressing this crisis, which disproportionately affects Black/African American San Franciscans.

LOCAL UPDATE:

Health Officials urge everyone to receive a flu shot

The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) strongly recommends that every individual ages six months and older to receive a vaccination for influenza. With COVID-19 and the upcoming flu season overlapping, health officials say it is more important than ever to get vaccinated against influenza this year. Each winter, people sick with flu crowd hospitals and urgent care clinics, resources that may be strained due to COVID-19 this year. The flu vaccine protects everyone's health. When you are vaccinated against flu, you protect yourself and lower the chances of infecting others, including people at high risk of developing potentially serious flu complications.

Flu vaccination is the best protection against influenza. The flu season generally starts in November, peaks in December through February, and remains through April. The flu vaccine provides protection starting approximately two weeks after receiving the vaccine – the time needed for your body to develop the antibodies that protect you. It is best to get the vaccine before the end of October, before the flu season begins, but if you cannot access it in October, you should receive it whenever you can to protect yourself during the rest of the flu season.

Flu is not COVID-19. Flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. Flu and COVID-19 have similar symptoms including fever, cough, body aches, chills and fatigue. Therefore, this year, people with symptoms of the flu should call their healthcare provider and get tested for COVID-19. After testing, you will need to stay home from work and isolate away from family members while awaiting results.

While flu vaccine is recommended for everyone six months and older, it is especially important for pregnant women, children younger than five, adults 65 and older, and those with chronic medical conditions, such as heart disease, asthma, and diabetes. These individuals are more likely to experience complications from the flu and should contact their health care provider if they develop flu or COVID-19 symptoms. Anyone who is very sick should seek immediate medical attention.

For those with insurance, a flu vaccine is widely available without cost to the patient as a preventive service from their regular doctor or most pharmacies. Call your doctor, clinic or pharmacy to schedule your flu shot in advance. To find a flu vaccine at a location near you, visit the [Vaccine Finder](#).

For those without health insurance, DPH and community clinics will be offering opportunities to get a free flu shot. For more details and a list of San Francisco locations that offer free or low-cost flu vaccinations, visit www.sfcdcp.org/flushots.

In addition to protecting yourself with a flu vaccine this year, keep your family and community healthy by:

- washing your hands often and thoroughly with soap and warm water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- wearing a face covering and practicing social distancing.
- covering your cough and sneezes with your elbow or arm.
- avoiding touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- staying home when you are sick.

For more information about influenza or flu vaccine, contact your health care provider or

visit www.sf.gov/flushot.

San Francisco to move forward with reopening of playgrounds

Today, there are over 11,900 San Francisco residents with confirmed cases of COVID-19. And, sadly, a total of 133 San Franciscans have died. The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) sends our condolences to their loved ones.

On October 14, Mayor London N. Breed, San Francisco Recreation and Park Department General Manager Phil Ginsburg, and Director of Health Dr. Grant Colfax announced the City's outdoor playgrounds are now open. San Francisco's more than 180 public playgrounds will have signs reminding families of capacity limits and other guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Recreation and Park Department monitors will be stationed at the City's busiest playgrounds for the first two weekends of operation to educate families about the new rules and ensure health guidelines are followed.

Playgrounds are reopening with limits on the number of children and adults who can enter based on the size of the playground, and limits on the number of children who can use playground equipment at once. To comply with State regulations, playground visits must be limited to 30 minutes when others are present. Visitors of all ages must stay 6 feet away from non-household members and everyone 2 and older must wear masks. To maximize the number of children who can play, only one adult may accompany each child.

Eating and drinking are not allowed, and visitors should clean their hands before and after playing.

Adults must actively supervise children at all times and avoid non-essential cell phone use. If a caregiver must take a break, children should stay by their side until they can resume. Children younger than 2 must remain within arm's reach of a caregiver and are not allowed on play structures that hold more than one child at a time.

The San Francisco Department of Public Health offers families the following tips to play safely:

- Go to the playground during days and times when there are fewer people.
- Choose playgrounds within walking distance of your home instead of taking public transportation.
- Choose smaller playgrounds with fewer people over larger playgrounds that can hold more people.
- If your child is crying and cannot be consoled, remove them from the play structure or playground until they are calm, since loud crying can produce a large number of respiratory droplets.
- If anyone in your household is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, do not visit a playground.

Environmental Health provide education to San Francisco essential workers

In October, the San Francisco Department of Public Health's Environmental Health Branch (EHB) and COVIC Command Center's Community Mitigation Branch (CMB) co-presented to the Board of Supervisors regarding their work during the COVID-19 pandemic with essential workers. Specifically, EHB highlighted the outreach, enforcement and overall response to COVID-19 case clusters at food facilities. In addition, CMB shared their outstanding work around contact tracing and their process of identifying COVID clusters in the workplace. In response to food facility outbreaks, EHB will have a health inspector conduct a facility visit to determine compliance with the Health Orders. During the COVID-19 emergency, EHB has conducted over 2,800 food facility inspections, over 4,750 phone calls to food facility operators, and distributed over 43,300 informational emails along with distributing free barrier masks. Most food facilities have been responsive and corrected any Health Order issues or violations. However, for repeat violators, EHB has partnered with the City Attorney's Office in issuing Cease and Desist orders or suspending permits to operate.

All food facilities for dining, food takeout, or delivery must complete and post a Health and Safety Plan before their operations begin. For restaurant reopening guidance and forms, visit <https://sf.gov/resource/2020/reopening-guidance-restaurants>.

San Francisco Department of Public Health will host symposium to promote drug user health initiatives

The San Francisco Department of Public Health's Community Health Equity & Promotion Branch (CHEP) was funded to participate as a mentor in the National Association of County and City Health Officers (NACCHO) Overdose Prevention Mentorship project. As part of the project, CHEP will be hosting Drug User Health Symposium 2020 to provide sessions for all participating health jurisdictions to attend. The symposium will provide an opportunity to gather ideas, discuss challenges, and identify specific tools to prevent fatal overdose and otherwise improve the health of people who use drugs in your jurisdiction.

The symposium will be presented virtually October 27-28, 2020. To register for free to the virtual event, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/drug-user-health-symposium-2020-registration-121586547637>.

National Disease Intervention Specialists Recognition Day

National Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) Recognition Day was the first Friday of October. DIS are on the front lines and their skills are more important than ever during the pandemic. DIS include Disease Control Investigators, Health Workers, Case Investigators, Contact Tracers, and Community Outreach Workers. They provide education, link patients to care, identify contacts, and facilitate preventive treatment and control measures to interrupt disease transmission. Disease Intervention Specialists are a critical part of our public health workforce, both as part of the San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) Disease Prevention and Control Branch and COVID Command Center (CCC).

This year, we also have Disaster Service Worker staff from outside of DPH, including the Library, City Attorney's Office, Assessor's Office, Public Defenders Office, Office of the Treasurer and Tax Collector and others serving in DIS roles in CCC. Our community partners have their DIS staff working to ensure our COVID-19 response continues to have a patient and community-centered approach.

Thank you to all DIS within and outside of DPH, for their dedication and commitment to serving the health needs of San Francisco residents, workers and visitors, especially given the many challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are very proud to have them promoting and protecting health in San Francisco, and we are grateful for their efforts every day.

DPH in the News

NPR, Oct 19 2020, Removing cops from behavioral crisis calls: 'We need to change the model'
<https://www.npr.org/2020/10/19/924146486/removing-cops-from-behavioral-crisis-calls-we-need-to-change-the-model>

Marin Independent Journal, Oct 18 2020, California seeing payoff for virus vigilance
<https://www.marinij.com/2020/10/18/california-seeing-payoff-for-virus-vigilance/>

Bay City News, Oct 16 2020, Rape: San Francisco develops first-in-the-nation testing
<https://patch.com/california/san-francisco/rape-san-francisco-develops-first-nation-testing>

SF Chronicle, Oct 16 2020, How will California distribute coronavirus vaccines? Bay Area planning for multiple scenarios
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/health/article/How-will-California-distribute-coronavirus-15647829.php>

The Counter, Oct 15 2020, Does the American diet make us more vulnerable to COVID-19?

<https://thecounter.org/does-the-american-diet-make-us-more-vulnerable-to-covid-19/>

SF Chronicle, Oct 15 2020, At least 10 times a day, someone on the brink of death from a drug overdose is saved in S.F.

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/S-F-s-overdose-numbers-are-staggeringly-high-15648878.php>

SF Chronicle, Oct 15 2020, S.F.'s overdose numbers are staggeringly high. They could have been even higher without Narcan

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/S-F-s-overdose-numbers-are-staggeringly-high-15648878.php>

SF Examiner, Oct 15 2020, Breed calls on residents to get their flu shots

<https://www.sfoxaminer.com/news/breed-calls-on-residents-to-get-their-flu-shots/>

Bay Area Reporter, Oct 14 2020, Closed for months due to COVID, San Francisco gay sex venue reopens as 'jack-off club'

https://www.ebar.com/news/latest_news///298214/closed_for_months_due_to_covid_san_francisco_gay_sex_venue_reopens_as_jack-off_club

KPIX, Oct 14 2020, COVID reopening: San Francisco allows children to return to city's playgrounds

<https://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2020/10/14/covid-reopening-san-francisco-allows-children-to-return-to-citys-playgrounds/>

Next City, Oct 14 2020, San Francisco doula program tackles birth equity and economic justice in one fell swoop

<https://nextcity.org/daily/entry/san-francisco-doula-program-tackles-birth-equity-and-economic-justice>

SF Chronicle, Oct 14 2020, How will California distribute coronavirus vaccines? Bay Area planning for multiple scenarios

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/health/article/How-will-California-distribute-coronavirus-15647829.php>

SF Chronicle, Oct 14 2020, San Francisco is reopening playgrounds. Here's the long list of rules visitors must follow

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/San-Francisco-to-reopen-playgrounds-with-long-15645398.php>

ABC 7, Oct 12 2020, Bay Area parents, teachers, students weigh in on distance learning challenges since start of school

<https://abc7news.com/distance-learning-bay-area-schools-reopening-virtual-zoom/6900731/>

SF Gate, Oct 12 2020, The lack of pandemic safety by diners in San Francisco's Marina District

<https://www.sfgate.com/local/editorspicks/article/Outdoor-dining-marina-san-francisco-covid-15632141.php>

Mission Local, Oct 11 2020, Right to Recover set to improve after initially failing to meet public health goal

<https://missionlocal.org/2020/10/right-to-recover-set-to-improve-second-time-around-after-initially-failing-to-meet-public-health-goals/>

Bay Area Reporter, Oct 10 2020, Wiener to reintroduce supervised injection bill

<https://www.ebar.com/news/news//298083>

SF Chronicle, Oct 10 2020, Two deaths a day: S.F. drug overdoses fueled by fentanyl are spiking, figures show

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/heatherknight/article/Two-deaths-a-day-S-F-drug-overdoses-fueled-by-15635199.php>

Mission Local, Oct 9 2020, More than 450 overdose deaths recorded in SF through August alone

<https://missionlocal.org/2020/10/overdose-fentanyl-san-francisco-450/>

SF Examiner, Oct 9 2020, Report: Drug overdose deaths in 2020 already surpass 2019's staggering high

<https://www.sfexaminer.com/news/report-drug-overdose-deaths-in-2020-already-surpass-2019s-staggering-high/>

SFist, Oct 9 2020, SF & Bay Area COVID hospitalizations return to June lows as case counts stabilize

<https://sfist.com/2020/10/09/sf-bay-area-covid-hospitalizations-return-to-june-lows-as-case-counts-stabilize/>

KCBS, Oct 8 2020, Renewed effort to legalize safe injection sites in the Bay Area

<https://www.radio.com/kcbradio/news/local/renewed-effort-to-legalize-safe-injection-sites-in-bay-area>

KPIX, Oct 8 2020, State Sen. Scott Wiener announces renewed push for safe injection sites

<https://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2020/10/08/state-sen-scott-wiener-announces-renewed-push-for-safe-injection-sites/>

SFist, Oct 8 2020, Movie theaters in San Francisco refuse to reopen under city rules banning all concessions

<https://sfist.com/2020/10/08/movie-theaters-in-san-francisco-wont-reopen-under-city-rules-banning-all-concessions/>

Vox, Oct 8 2020, I'm a contact tracer. Trump's advice not to fear COVID-19 is dangerous.

<https://www.vox.com/first-person/2020/10/8/21507602/coronavirus-covid-19-trump-contact-tracing>

SF Chronicle, Oct 8 2020, 'This is a public health crisis': New push to allow safe drug use sites in S.F. and Oakland

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/S-F-and-Oakland-would-be-allowed-to-open-safe-15631845.php>

SF Examiner, Oct 8 2020, 'Navy Seals of nurses' provide vital care in shelter-in-place hotels

<https://www.sfexaminer.com/news-columnists/navy-seals-of-nurses-provide-vital-care-in-shelter-in-place-hotels/>

SF Examiner, Oct 7 2020, Theaters turn down chance to reopen due to 'insurmountable' restrictions

<https://www.sfexaminer.com/news/theaters-turn-down-chance-to-reopen-due-to-insurmountable-restrictions/>

SF News, Oct 7 2020, Officials ban Halloween parties, discourage trick-or-treating

<https://www.thesfnews.com/officials-ban-halloween-parties-discourage-trick-or-treating/68259>

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bernal noted a recent CDC study that showed people that have COVID-19 are twice as likely to have eaten inside a restaurant. Dr. Aragon stated that the CDC study was released after California had developed its tier system, which included metrics for reopening restaurants. He noted that the study verified what public health officials already knew about transmission indoors. He added that although the state has determined San Francisco is at tier yellow, the City is keeping its restaurant reopening plans at an orange tier level to be cautious.

Commissioner Christian asked if the study distinguished between indoor and outdoor dining. She also asked if the study indicated that those choosing to dine inside a restaurant may take more risks. Dr. Aragon stated that the study was observational and the results indicated that indoor dining was the transmission mechanism.

4) COVID-19 UPDATE

Grant Colfax, MD, DPH Director of Health, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Guillmero thanked Dr. Colfax and Dr. Aragon along with all the DPH employees for their COVID-19 related work. She noted concern regarding a USA Today article, "Asian Americans in San Francisco are Dying at Alarming Rates from COVID-19: Racism Is to Blame." She stated appreciation for the San Francisco DPH data showing the positivity rate in Asians is low but voiced concern for the high death rate. She also stated that the article indicated that Asians are underrepresented in testing data. She gave credit to the robust COVID-19 prevention and response effort and suggested that there may continue to be pockets within San Francisco communities which may not be reached with current strategies. Dr. Colfax stated that data shows that those Asian individuals who died from COVID-19 were 8 years older than other groups.

Commissioner Chow stated that the USA Today article could have been avoided if the DPH had provided relevant death data throughout the past months so the situation would have been clear to the Commission and community. He noted that the Asian death rate is twice that of the White population, which is the largest group in San Francisco. He noted that the lack of transparency with this data creates distrust between the DPH and impacted communities. Dr. Aragon stated that older age is an important factor in the COVID-19 death rate; another is being a skilled nursing facility (SNF) resident. Many of the San Francisco Asian COVID-19 deaths involved individuals who were older and SNF residents. He added that in San Francisco, Asians have lower COVID-19 case rates. He also stated that anecdotally, Asians adhered to mask-wearing earlier and more consistently.

Commissioner Christian requested that COVID-19 updates include data on the disparities in the Black/African American communities. Dr. Aragon stated that most COVID-19 cases in the Bayview are Latinx and added that this demographic could change. He also gave credit to the Bayview Black/African American communities for their outreach and education around the importance of social distancing and wearing masks.

Commissioner Bernal requested demographic information with the testing data. Dr. Colfax stated that because many of the testing sites are not run by the City, it is difficult to obtain this data.

Commissioner Bernal thanked the people in San Francisco for adhering to health orders by wearing masks and keeping social distanced. He noted that key health indicators look good but contact tracing and case investigations remain below 90%. Dr. Colfax stated that the DPH set its goals very high in these areas. Most jurisdictions have much lower goals and many have stopped contract tracing completely due to lack of resources. He added that the DPH is utilizing key partnerships with community organizations to assist with these important parts of the City's COVID-19 response. Dr. Aragon stated that most counties in California have only completed 60% of contract tracing on existing COVID-19 cases.

Commissioner Bernal noted that San Francisco diverged from national trends earlier this summer and asked what has worked here. Dr. Colfax stated that residents understood that wearing masks and engaging in activities outdoors was important.

Commissioner Christian asked for data on Native Americans. Dr. Colfax stated that the number of cases in Native Americans is 36 with no deaths. He added that in many Tribal Nations, the number of cases and deaths has been much higher. Commissioner Christian thanked Dr. Colfax for this information and noted that in her short tenure on the Health Commission, she has seen little information on Native Americans. She is concerned

that that this community is not being seen. Dr. Aragon stated that a few months prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, he began meeting with leaders of the Native American community and will reconnect with them.

5) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no general public comment.

6) COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Commissioner Giraudo, Chair, stated that the committee discussed updates on the Maternal Child Adolescent Health (MCAH) and Tobacco Cessation programs. The committee discussed MCAH programs focused on decreasing preterm births. She noted that Director Aline Armstrong will bring outcome data back to the Committee in 2021. Most of the Tobacco Cessation program staff have been activated for COVID-19 activities and only recently have been able to return to this work. The Committee requested that tobacco cessation protocols be disseminated to high school clinics. There has been a general decrease in tobacco sales permits during the year. The Committee also discussed a request that all future presentations to the Committee have a racial equity lense to align with the DPH racial equity goals.

7) RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND A GIFT OF \$200,000.00 TO THE LAGUNA HONDA GIFT FUND FROM THE JOAN KELLEY-RYDER TRUST

William Frazier, LHH Gift Fund Program Manager, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bernal thanked Mr. Frazier.

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

8) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND MENTAL HEALTH REFORM UPDATE

Marlo Simmons MPH, Acting Director, Behavioral Health Services, and Anton Nigusse Bland MD, Director, Mental Health Reform, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Giraudo requested a short update at the Community and Public Health Committee in March on progress made with the Street Crisis Team. Dr. Nigusse-Bland stated that by that time, the DPH will be able to provide an update on progress and outcomes

Commissioner Chow suggested that the DPH develop a simple dashboard to update the Commission on progress and benchmarks of Mental Health Reform. He noted that similar dashboards have been presented for EPIC implementation and the construction of building 25 at ZSFG.

Commissioner Christian thanked Ms. Simmons and Dr. Nigusse-Bland for their extensive work. She asked for more information on the Proposition C committee and its membership. Ms. Simmons stated that voters passed Proposition C which taxes corporations earning more than \$50M; this revenue is earmarked for mental health and substance use services. She added that the Proposition C Committee is an oversight body which has just begun. Commissioner Christian requested names of members.

Commissioner Green noted the 2018 BOS Audit of DPH Behavioral Health Services recommended an expansion of intensive case management (ICM) through an increase in staff and asked about this and other of the audit's recommendations. Ms. Simmons stated that ICM programs have a low vacancy rate because 70% of these programs are run by community based organizations, which have no bureaucratic issues with hiring. The waitlist for these services is currently 200 people. She added that the DPH plans on expanding existing

contracts with community based organizations to meet the ICM needs of the community. She also added that the DPH plans to expand case management services through Mental Health SF in an effort to support individuals moving out of ICM services.

Commissioner Chung stated that Mental Health SF will save lives and help many people stabilize so they can experience a higher quality of life. She expressed gratitude to everyone involved in the planning and implementation of Mental Health SF and Behavioral Health Services.

Commissioner Bernal asked how the current Behavioral Health Services staff vacancies impact access to services. Ms. Simmons stated that the impact of staff vacancies on service access is significant. Regulatory requirements signify that someone referred for behavioral health services should be seen within 10 days; currently the wait for behavioral health services with the San Francisco Health Network is several months. She noted that Behavioral Health Services was stretched thin prior to COVID-19 and with the addition logistical and emotional issues related to the pandemic, staff are stressed. She noted that DPH Executive leadership has been very compassionate and helpful during this time.

Commissioner Giraudo stated that in her work outside of the Commission, there is a behavioral health services waitlist of 415 families; she indicated that the DPH is not alone in this situation.

9) OPIOID AND STIMULANT OVERDOSE MORTALITY IN SAN FRANCISCO 2020 UPDATE

Phillip Coffin MD, Director of Substance Use Research, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Guillermo asked for sexual orientation and gender data. Dr. Coffin stated that 75% of substance users are men and there is no current data available on sexual orientation.

Commissioner Green asked if there is data on people seeking fentanyl or whether people are unknowingly ingesting fentanyl laced drugs. Dr. Coffin stated that anecdotally there are few reports of individuals unknowingly partaking in fentanyl-laced drugs. He indicated that most deaths involve people who have sought fentanyl because it is cheap and long lasting.

Commissioner Chow asked for data for Asian Americans. Dr. Coffin stated data shows a very small percentage of few Asian Americans are injecting drugs.

Commissioner Chow noted successful cessation models with tobacco and sugar. Dr. Coffin stated that those efforts involved levying taxes on these products which is not possible for illicit drugs. He noted that harm reduction and age-specific approaches are likely the most effective models.

Commissioner Bernal noted the recent introduction of legislation to allow pilot safe injection sites in San Francisco. Dr. Coffin stated that these models can help people stay alive. He noted that sobering centers and drop-in sites are also effective but these models conflict with COVID social distance goals.

Commissioner Chung asked if prevention messages that encourage injection drug users not to use alone are effective. Dr. Coffin stated that San Francisco's overdose prevention strategies helped prevent two waves of fentanyl related deaths that many other counties experienced. He added that fentanyl crosses the blood brain barrier quickly, is very potent, and can kill quickly. Unless someone else present is focused on monitoring other users, having another person present may not be an effective preventative measure. He also stated that Buprenorphine is effective in preventing overdoses.

10) OTHER BUSINESS:

This item was not discussed.

11) JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Guillermo, LHH JCC Chair, stated that at the 10/13/20 LHH JCC meeting, the Committee discussed the following items:

- 1) CEO Report-the Committee was pleased to hear that a Chief Nursing Officer has been hired. The Committee requested trending of AWOL data to better understand this cohort.
- 2) Regulatory Affairs Report-the Committee was pleased that the Acute Unit Census has been steady enough for the state to conduct its survey.
- 3) LHH Reopening Activities;
- 4) In closed session the Commission approved the Credentials Report and discussed Medical Quality Improvement and Performance Improvement and Patient Safety Reports and Peer Reviews

12) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03pm.

**Health Commission
City and County of San Francisco
Resolution No. 20-12**

RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND A GIFT OF \$200,000.00 TO THE LAGUNA HONDA GIFT FUND FROM THE JOAN KELLEY-RYDER TRUST

WHEREAS, the Joan Kelley-Ryder Trust provides for the distribution of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) to the Laguna Honda Gift Fund; and

WHEREAS, the trustee of the Joan Kelley-Ryder Trust has notified Laguna Honda that proceeds from the trust will be distributed; and

WHEREAS, Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center (Laguna Honda) is part of the San Francisco Health Network operated by the Department of Public Health and is a safety net and community hospital, with a mission to provide a welcoming, therapeutic, and a healing environment that promotes the individual's health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the Laguna Honda Hospital Gift Fund is used to benefit the residents at Laguna Honda, including providing comfort and support for hospital residents; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Health Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisor authorize Department of Public Health to accept and expend a gift of cash of up two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) donated to the Laguna Honda Hospital Gift Fund to support resident care programs; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the donation will be accepted and expended consistent with San Francisco Administrative Code Sections governing the acceptance of gifts to the City and County of San Francisco, including San Francisco Administrative Code Section 10.100-201.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the San Francisco Health Commission is grateful to the family of Joan Kelley-Ryder.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting on October 20, 2020, adopted the foregoing resolution.

Mark Morewitz, MSW
Health Commission Executive Secretary