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## HEALTH COMMISSION

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### MINUTES HEALTH COMMISSION COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE Tuesday, March 15, 2011 2:00 p.m. 101 Grove, Room 220, San Francisco, CA 94102

#### 1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner Margine Sako, Chair  
Commissioner James M. Illig, Member  
Commissioner Steven Tierney, Ex Officio  
Commissioner Sonia Melara

Excused: Commissioner Catherine Waters R.N., Ph.D., Member

The meeting was called to order at 2:04pm.

#### 2) APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 15, 2011 COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES

Action Taken: The minutes of the February 15, 2011 Community and Public Health Committee were unanimously approved.

#### 3) DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES (DCYF) COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Maria Su, Director, Sandra Naughton, Senior Planner and Policy Analyst, and Stacey Blankenbaker, Senior Planner and Policy Analyst made the presentation.

The Following Are Highlights of the Discussion of the Item:

DCYF and the DPH work closely together on developing and implementing many programs for children, youth and their families. The two departments insure that there is no duplication of effort in regard to developing and implementing services to this population.

The inclusion of behavioral health within in-school wellness centers helps to remove the stigma of accessing these services. The high usage rate of these centers indicates that a high percentage of youth clients are using the mental health services.

The total approximate DCYF budget is approximately \$70M and of that amount, approximately \$50M is contracted out to non-profit service providers. Within the DPH budget, approximately \$35M is spent on youth behavioral health services.

#### **4) MHSA UPDATE**

Jo Robinson, CBHS Director, made the presentation on behalf of Marlo Simmons.

##### The Following Are Highlights of the Discussion of This Item:

Because the MHSA funds originate from taxes on California residents who earn over one million dollars, it is expected that the slow economy will reduce the amount of tax revenue for these services.

The City must maintain a certain number of clients to receive MHSA funds. A General Fund match on MHSA funds is not a requirement.

Although the amount of MHSA funds spent on each high-need client is substantial, the spectrum of services offered (e.g. housing, job training) helps to stabilize the population for an overall cost savings on emergency services such as police and emergency room visits.

The demographic data for this client population shows that Asian residents are accessing services at a very low rate. The DPH is outreaching to the Asian and Pacific Islander community in an effort reduce barriers for this population to utilize MHSA funded services.

A portion of MHSA funds help youth of color through scholarships.

##### Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up

Commissioner Sako requested data which shows the breakdown of MHSA clients who continue using services and for those who "graduate." She asked Mr. Morewitz to follow-up with Ms. Robinson to get this information.

#### **5) PEDESTRIAN SAFETY**

Tim Papandreou, SFMTA Deputy Director gave the presentation. The following individuals were also present and part of the discussion: Tilly Chang, Deputy Director of Planning, San Francisco County Transportation Authority; David Alumbaugh, Manager, City Design Group of the San Francisco Planning Department; Lt. Favetti, San Francisco Police Department, and Rajiv Bhatia, M.D., Director of DPH Occupational and Environmental Health. Tim Papandreou, SFMTA Deputy Director made the presentation.

##### The Following Are Highlights of the Discussion of this Item:

Pedestrian fatality data shows that the highest number of pedestrian-related deaths occur among the senior population. The MTA has not singled out specific designs to aid seniors but instead has a street improvement plan that should assist all San Francisco residents through audible pedestrian countdown signals, islands, and the marking of cross walks.

Pedestrian-related data is sent to the state by all relevant City Departments and it takes approximately a year for the data to be sent back. Currently there is no process by which this data is shared among City Departments before it is submitted to the state. There are efforts to change this

so data analysis can remain current. The Task Force would like to improve its data collection by directly receiving DPH information from SFGH and by the police utilizing electronic hand-held devices which could download and share accident data.

The Pedestrian Safety Taskforce, the group of City agencies brought together through the Mayor's Executive Directive, will also attempt to address this issue.

MTA has prioritized education for bicyclists in an effort to reduce the amount of collisions between bicyclists and pedestrians.

The CPMC Van Ness campus hospital will likely change the pedestrian flow in that area. The MTA is working with CPMC on these issues.

The most effective and cost effective way to implement pedestrian safety activities is to integrate pedestrian safety into all design work throughout the city and for all City Departments to support this effort through appropriate planning and budgeting.

Ana Validzic, DPH Pedestrian Safety Program Coordinator, reported that there are pedestrian safety programs in a very limited number of schools due to budget issues.

The Task Force acknowledged that requests for funding have not been submitted to DPH.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Melara requested a future report which includes details of how the CPMC Van Ness campus may impact pedestrian traffic and related safety issues.

Commission Sako requested that the Committee members be sent the final Pedestrian Safety Taskforce report when it is completed.

**6) COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE CALENDAR**

There was no discussion of this item.

**7) EMERGING ISSUES**

Tomas Aragon, DPH Health Officer DPH, gave an update on the crisis in Japan. Since the earthquake and tsunami, there have been issues regarding safety of several nuclear power plants in the region. Some San Francisco residents have been concerned that radiation from these plants may make its way to San Francisco and have asked for guidance about whether they should take potassium iodide as possible prevention. Dr. Aragon stated that the DPH has been working with the Department of Emergency Management to get the most up-to-date information. Dr. Aragon also stated that the DPH has an existing Radiological Event Plan and this incident is enabling the staff of the new Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Section to insure the plan is up-to-date and feasible.

**8) PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**9) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:59pm.