

**HEALTH COMMISSION**  
**City and County of San Francisco**  
**Resolution No. 15-07**

**APPROVAL OF PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE DEVELOPMENT OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH'S BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008/09**

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Budget Office and Controller's office are indicating that the fiscal year 2008/09 will open in deficit; and,

WHEREAS, by Charter, the City must deliver a balanced budget; and,

WHEREAS, the Budget Instructions will predictably require Departments to reduce spending to produce a balanced budget; and,

WHEREAS, the Health Department is the largest department in the City and will be required to reduce spending; and,

WHEREAS, the Department is projecting that spending in the current year will exceed budgeted appropriations, and must submit a plan to reduce spending in the current year; and,

WHEREAS, the structural budget issues that are contributing to current year overspending will continue into the 2008-09 budget year; and,

WHEREAS, the Health Commission has requested that there be increased communication to and participation by the Health Commission in the development of the budget; and,

WHEREAS, in previous years, the timing budget process has not provided sufficient opportunity for greater participation by the Health Commission; and,

WHEREAS, the Department shall be guided by its public health mission and the DPH Strategic Plan in preparing the budget; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Health Commission adopts the following principles to guide the Department in identifying strategies to deliver a balanced budget:

1. The Department shall develop a budget to include revenue increases to the maximum extent possible.
2. The Department shall first target budget cuts to programs and services that do not impact vulnerable populations.
3. Reductions will be guided by the DPH Strategic Plan goal that "Services, program and facilities are cost-effective and resources are maximized."
4. The Department will make no cuts to primary prevention, defined as measures provided to individuals to prevent the onset of a targeted condition, because the current investment in primary prevention is very small.

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5. The Department will include funding to address increases in the cost of doing business for our community partners, and increases in salaries of Department employees mandated by labor agreements, even if that funding necessitates a reduction in services to finance the increased cost.
6. The Department will maintain or increase supporting housing opportunities even in the face of budget cuts because of our belief that ultimately this strategy is very cost-effective.
7. The Department will not propose budget reductions that would jeopardize licensure and accreditation of our hospitals.
8. The Department, when making service cuts, will try to mitigate them by substituting a less expensive level of service for the same population.
9. The Department may propose cuts to non-essential operations even if those reductions were restored in previous budgets.
10. Costs for Jail Health Services are the responsibility of the Sheriff's Department and will not be funded by the Health Department.
11. The Department shall ensure that fee-based programs will have fees set to recover costs.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of November 13, 2007 adopted the foregoing resolution.



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Michele M. Seaton  
Executive Secretary to the Health Commission