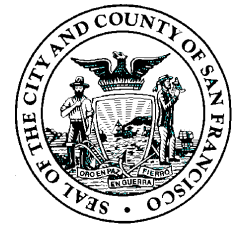


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**HEALTH COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN
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MINUTES
HEALTH COMMISSION COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday July 18, 2023 2:00 p.m.
101 Grove Street, Room 300
San Francisco, CA 94102 & via Webex

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner Suzanne Giraud, Ph.D , Chair
Commissioner Cecilia Chung, Member
Commissioner Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.

The meeting was called to order at 2:03pm.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 20, 2023 MEETING

Action Taken: The Committee unanimously approved the June 20, 2023 meeting minutes.

3) REVISIONS TO HEALTH CODE ARTICLE 31 REGULATIONS.

Patrick Fosdahl MS, REHS, Director, Environmental Health Branch, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Chung is concerned about Bayview residents' health concerns related to Shipyard clean-up. She asked if the rule changes will make the process to test the soil easier. She noted that Dr. Espanola Jackson was a community advocate who fought for better information and transparency regarding these parcels of land. Mr. Fosdahl stated that because the Shipyard is federal land, the federal and state governments have control over testing and analyzing the land. Article 31 is a City policy intended to assist the City in accepting the property in order to develop it. The City would like to double check the analysis to ensure the health and safety of future residents and workers.

Commissioner Christian stated that during her tenure on the Human Rights Commission, Bayview residents, including Dr. Jackson, complained that although the federal government declared the land clean, it was not clean nor safe. She noted that residents still say there is a lot of toxins in the ground that should be cleaned up. She asked if there is any option besides accepting or rejecting the land. Mr. Fosdahl stated that the DPH has tried to address the residents' concerns. There is a DPH engineer will be participating with federal and state

analyses and will monitor the soil analysis. The DPH participates in community meetings on an ongoing basis to stay attuned to community concerns.

Commissioner Christian stated that she feels it is her duty as a Health Commission to speak on behalf of the community on these issues. She asked what can be done to mitigate the situation between the community's experience and the data from the state and federal governments. Mr. Fosdahl stated that the DPH will continue with its community involvement and will increase its transparency.

Commissioner Giraudo noted that the community has its own data which differs from the federal and state data. She asked if the DPH is looking at both sets of data and discussing them with the community. Mr. Fosdahl stated that the DPH has worked with Supervisor Walton on Parcel A-1, getting additional soil samples analyzed to help address community concerns. The DPH strives to continue to be responsive to the community.

Action taken: The committee unanimously voted to recommend that the full Health Commission approve the regulations, with the understanding that the DPH will provide more information about addressing community safety concerns.

4) HEALTH CODE ARTICLE 38, ENHANCED VENTILATION RULES AND REGULATIONS

Jen Callewaert MS, REHS, Environmental Health Branch Assistant Director, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Giraudo noted that during the pandemic, many schools had enhanced ventilation. She asked if this would fall under Article 38 revisions. Ms. Callewaert stated that that issue is not included in Article 38 revisions.

Commissioner Giraudo asked when older buildings are renovated, if Article 38 would apply. Ms. Callewaert stated that if a building is not 25,000 square foot or more, and if the construction is adding on to an existing building, criteria for Article 38 would not be met.

Commissioner Giraudo asked if a school is 25,000 square feet, would it be required to have enhanced ventilation. Ms. Callewaert stated that only an addition to a building over 25,000 square feet would be required to have enhanced ventilation.

Commissioner Giraudo is concerned about vulnerable populations due to the lack of reach of the revision to Article 38. Ms. Callewaert stated that the DPH encourages improvements in ventilation but cannot mandate unless criteria for Article 38 is met.

Commissioner Christian asked if there is a way to incentivize ventilation improvements by working with the city, state, or federal governments. Ms. Callewaert stated she will look into this concept.

Commissioner Chung asked for clarification regarding a MERC 13 filter. Ms. Callewaert stated that it is related to the size of filtration.

5) JAIL HEALTH SERVICES UPDATE

Lisa A. Pratt MD, Director, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Giraudo asked for information regarding the rate of participation in mental health services in the jails. Dr. Pratt stated that participation is voluntary. In the downtown jails, participation in Jail Psychiatric Services is approximately 40% and in the other jails, which house individuals with longer stays in jail, the participation rate is approximately 50%.

Commissioner Giraudo noted that those who were arrested in the new pilot related to drug buying and use, refused any further treatment in the community. Dr. Pratt stated that most of these individuals were arrested and released within 24 hours; the pilot has not shown that this population is interested in connections to treatment.

Commissioner Giraudo noted that a challenge for those interested in treatment is availability of community treatment beds. Dr. Pratt stated that adjudication of an individual case impacts their length of stay in jail and is often related to their willingness to participate in treatment. She noted DPH Behavioral Health Services has worked to increase the number of treatment beds. Those with the most severe mental illness who committed the most serious crimes are hardest to place because of lack of available treatment beds for this population.

Commissioner Christian acknowledged how foundational Dr. Pratt was in keeping the levels of COVID-19 low in the jail population during the pandemic. She lauded Dr. Pratt for this work, which resulted in San Francisco having lower rates of COVID-19 than most other jurisdictions.

Commissioner Christian asked for information on the availability of treatment in custody. Dr. Pratt stated that the primary barrier is Sheriff Department staffing levels. The result is that currently, group and individual sessions that used to be conducted privately, are now conducted in front of other inmates and Sheriff's staff in the pods.

Commissioner Christian asked if Jail Health Services staff rely solely on the oral history given by someone who is incarcerated. Dr. Pratt stated that staff check EPIC and Avatar in an attempt to verify medical information.

6) EMERGING ISSUES

This item was not discussed.

7) PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

8) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:43pm