



SFDPH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BRANCH

CONSUMER PROTECTION PROGRAM

UNPERMITTED FOOD VENDING



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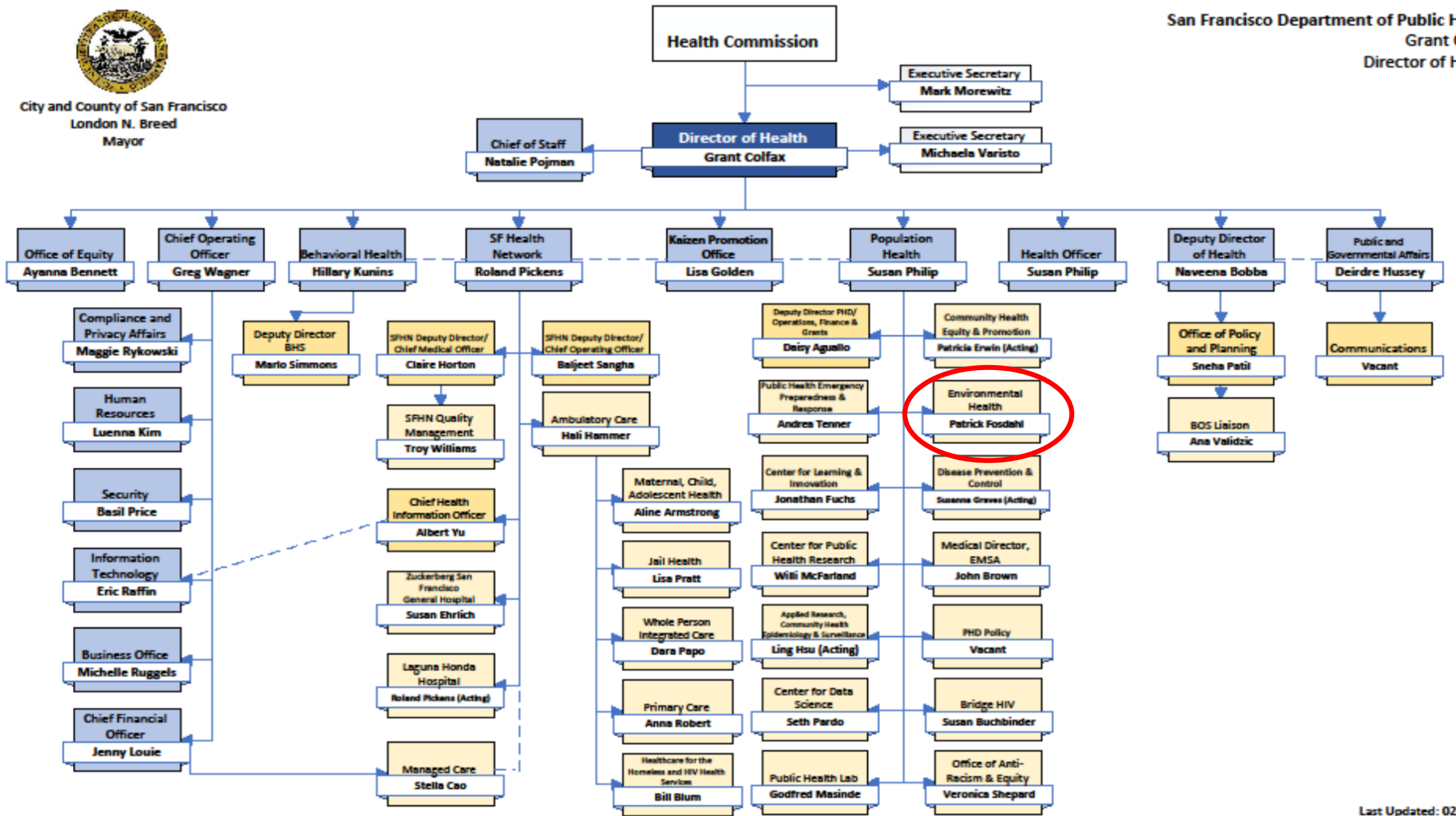


POPULATION HEALTH DIVISION
SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



City and County of San Francisco
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Mayor

San Francisco Department of Public Health
Grant Colfax
Director of Health



Unpermitted Food Vending

- What is unpermitted food vending? How does this differ from permitted mobile food facilities?
- What is Environmental Health's role in unpermitted vending?
- What challenges do we face now and in the future?

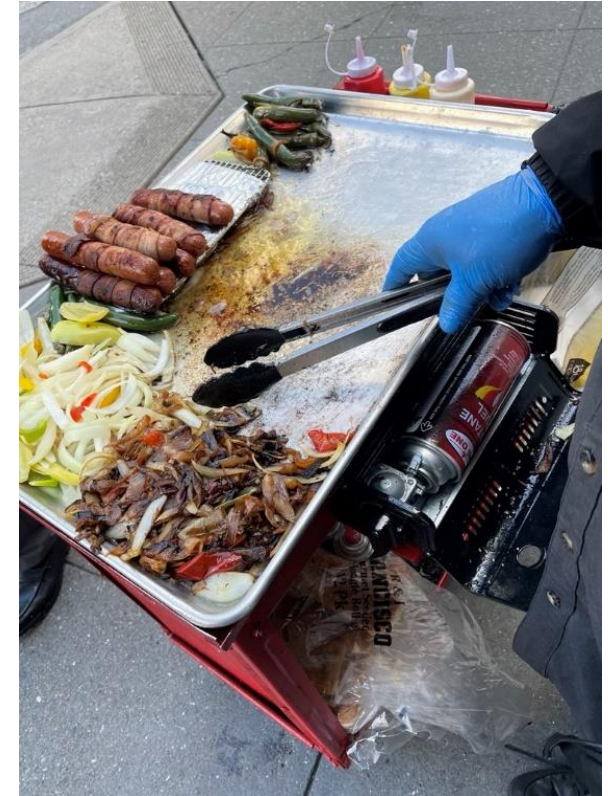
**Improving Environments, Protecting Health,
Promoting Equity**



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What is unpermitted food vending (UPV)?

- Sales of any food, including beverages, sold (or given away) to a consumer without the approval of the local health jurisdiction.
- Products can be peddled.
- This includes both cooked or uncooked food.



What do inspectors encounter with unpermitted food vendors?

- Food stored in cardboard boxes with no refrigeration or protection.
- Lack of personal hygiene – no handwashing on site.
- Unsafe and unapproved cooking set ups.



What are the risks of consuming food from an unpermitted vendor?

- With no refrigeration or protection, food can sit for hours.
- Food is exposed to contaminants.
- Food can be undercooked and obtained from an unapproved source.
- All of these factors can contribute to an elevated risk for foodborne illnesses.



How do mobile food facilities (MFFs) differ from unpermitted food vendors?

- Permitted MFFs have been inspected for structural compliance.
- MFFs are routinely inspected for cleanliness and safe food handling.
- MFFs that are inspected and approved to operate will have a SFDPH issued decal and placard.



A permitted mobile food facility will have a DPH issued decal and placard:



Unpermitted food vendors will have neither and the public should not be purchasing food from such entities.



Partnerships and Collaborations



City Agencies that Assist DPH

- Department of Public Works
- San Francisco Fire Department
- San Francisco Police Department
- The Port of San Francisco
- Department of Public Health team
 - (1) Manager
 - (3) Senior Health Inspectors
 - (1) Senior Clerk
 - ❖ Access to 3 Spanish speakers



Joint Working Group Missions

We have conducted and continue enforcement and education in the following neighborhoods:

- 90-day ban in the Mission
- DMACC Nighttime Enforcement in Tenderloin
- Union Square during holiday season
- Downtown during APEC Summit
- Fisherman's Wharf/The Embarcadero on weekends
- Stats
 - 2023 – 92
 - 2024 – 25



What DPH Provides

- DPH staff who are bilingual in various languages
- Outreach materials in multiple languages
- Building working relationships with community/vendors
- Assess vendor set-up



Providing Education

- SFDPH always provides educational outreach to unpermitted vendors
- Educational brochures
- Translation assistance provided in person

Selling Food Without A Permit:

- Food sold by unpermitted vendors is at high risk for **not** being safe, e.g., cross contaminated, no temperature controls, and not from an approved food source.
- Permitted food establishments are required to know and follow food safety laws designed to protect the public.

For assistance on how to obtain a permit to operate a food/drink push cart, or other mobile food facilities, contact:

Office of Small Business
 415-554-6134 English
 415-554-6181 Spanish
 415-554-6407 Chinese



Sidewalk Food Vendors

California state law requires that anyone who sells or gives food and drink away to the public be permitted and inspected by the local health department.



**San Francisco City and County
 Department of Public Health**



Fostering working relationships

- Get to know the vendors
- Observe needs of the vendors
- Ask if they are working with other city agencies or non-profits for information



Breaking Language Barriers

- Certified translation
 - 3 Spanish translators
 - 2 Cantonese translators
- Continue to conduct outreach to community while SB972 is codified



Anticipating the Future



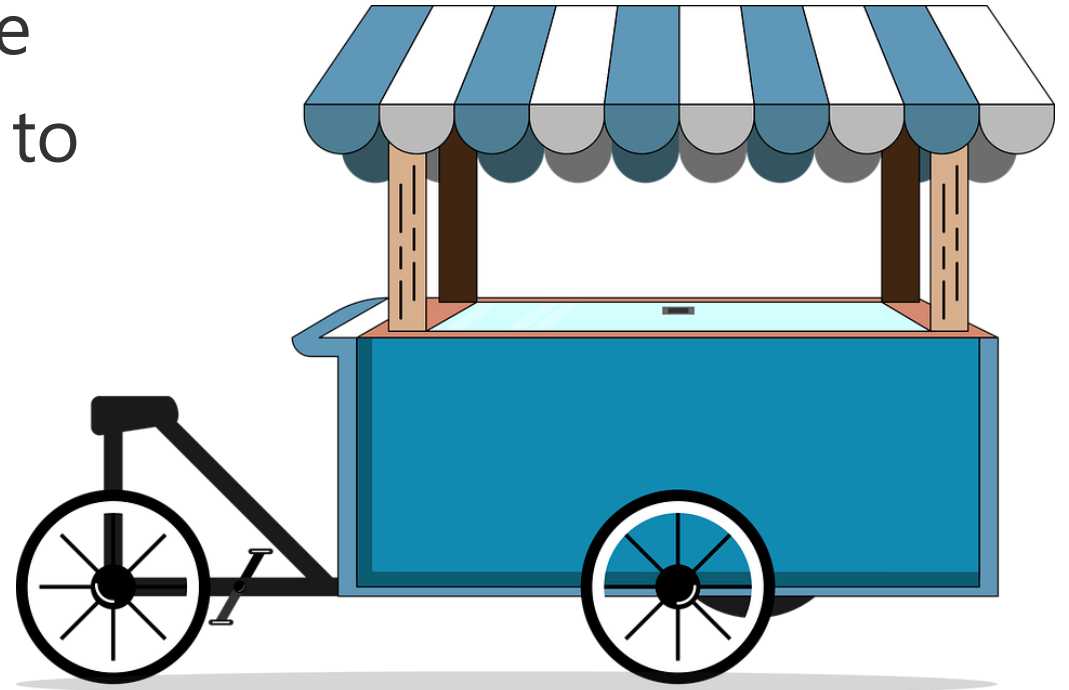
California Senate Bill 972

- Modernizes the Food Code with Compact Mobile Food Operations
- Promotes economic inclusion
- Establishes public health standards for street food vendors



Compact Mobile Food Operation

- Nonmotorized unenclosed conveyance
- Less stringent minimum requirements to operate
- Back to food safety basics



Challenges

- Legislation
 - Requires change to local legislation to include Compact Mobile Food Operations.
- Multi-agency coordination
 - Involving other city agencies in the permitting process.
 - SF Fire, Public Works, and Planning
- Enforcement
 - Limit resources however vendors are treated with respect and professionalism.



Questions

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