

James M. Illig
President

Sonia E. Melara
Vice President

Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Commissioner

Margine A. Sako
Commissioner

David J. Sanchez, Jr., Ph.D.
Commissioner

Steven Tierney, Ed.D.
Commissioner

Catherine M. Waters, R.N., Ph.D.
Commissioner

HEALTH COMMISSION

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Gavin C. Newsom, Mayor

Department of Public Health



Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.
Director of Health

Michele M. Seaton
Executive Secretary

TEL (415) 554-2666
FAX (415) 554-2665

Web Site: <http://www.sfdph.org>

MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, February 19, 2008

At

2:00 p.m.

**101 GROVE STREET, ROOM 300 or ROOM 302
San Francisco, CA 94102**

1) CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Illig called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Present: Commissioner James M. Illig, President
Commissioner Sonia E. Melara, MSW, Vice President
Commissioner Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Commissioner Margine A. Sako
Commissioner David J. Sanchez, Jr., Ph.D.
Commissioner Steven Tierney, Ed.D.
Commissioner Catherine M. Waters, R.N., Ph.D.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF FEBRUARY 5, 2008

Action Taken: The Commission approved the minutes of the February 5, 2008 Health Commission meeting. Commissioner Melara said the Commission should discuss at a future meeting how they want their comments noted in the minutes.

3) **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Michael Petrelis asked when DPH will hold public hearing about a Swiss study that was just released. Also, when is the Department going to report to the community about all research it is doing on gay men.

4) **PRESENTATION OF THE FY 2008-2009 HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET INCLUDING MID YEAR BUDGET REDUCTIONS**

Mitchell H. Katz, M.D., Health Director, presented the FY 2007-2008 mid year budget reductions and the FY 2008-2009 Department of Public Health budget reductions.

FY 2007-2008 Budget Reductions (scheduled for implementation on April 15, except for the Workers Compensation Clinic, which is scheduled for closure on March 15)

- Workers Compensation Clinic Closure
- Oral Surgery Clinic Reductions in Hours of Operation
- 8-hour per Day Reduction in OR Time
- Elimination of Chronic Care Public Health Nursing Program
- Clinic Director Consolidation – CBHS Mental Health
- Buster's Place
- Senior Disaster Registry

FY 2008-2009 Budget Reductions

- Move Young Adults to Healthy San Francisco
- Clarendon Hall Closure Annual Value
- Reduce LHH Beds from 935 to 780 to Meet Rebuild Bed Capacity
- Limit Services for Uninsured to Seriously Mentally Ill Clients
- Transfer of Gonorrhea and Chlamydia Testing from SFGH Clinical Laboratory to
- Reduction of Health at Home Program
- 15% general fund reduction in Mental Health, Substance Abuse and AIDS
- End Capitation for Assertive Community Treatment Programs
- Administrative and Operating Reductions—Department wide
- Shape Up San Francisco
- Residential Treatment for Paralyzed Gunshot Victims
- Reduce Bayview Health Initiative
- Sex Worker Program
- SRO Collaboratives
- Hygiene Funding for Shelters
- Job Training and Outreach for Youth
- Adult Day Medical Patch
- Roads to Recovery and Post Release Education Program
- Asthma Task Force
- Nursing Staffing and HR Position Substitutions
- Reduction in HIV Health Services
- Sale of Building on Onondaga
- Buprenorphine acquisition offset by reduction of Adult Residential and Outpatient Slots
- Reduction of Chlamydia Testing for low-risk asymptomatic persons

Next Steps

The San Francisco Health Commission will conduct a Beilenson Hearing to hear public testimony on the mid-year cuts on Tuesday, March 4 at 3 p.m. in the Health Commission Chambers, 101 Grove, Room 300. Dr. Katz said these are the worst cuts the Department has ever recommended. None of the suggestions are because the services are not considered valuable.

Public Comment

- Nan O’Conner spoke in support of the clinic director position at the Center for Special Problems (CSP).
- Steven Hoffman spoke in support of the clinic director position at CSP.
- Katy Davis spoke in support of the clinic director position CSP.
- Gloria Namkung spoke in support of the clinic director at CSP.
- Mary Ma spoke in support of the clinic director at CSP.
- Melissa Bloom, Director of CSP spoke in support of the mental health clinic director positions.
- Sharon and Lily Nalls asked the Commission not to cut Health at Home and public health nurses.
- Andreas Schmitz spoke in support of the mental health clinic director position.
- Peter Goetz spoke against cutting the mental health clinic director position, specifically the position at CSP.
- Mark Sheldon spoke in support of the clinic director at CSP.
- Jim Lee Master spoke in support of the clinic director at CSP.
- Janeyce Ouellette spoke in support of the clinic director at CSP.
- Diane Kile spoke in support of the clinic director position at CSP.
- Matt Foley spoke in support of the clinic director at CSP.
- Daya Johnson spoke in support of the clinic director at CSP.
- Julie Graham spoke in support of the clinic director at CSP, which is a very specialized clinic.
- Joey Childress spoke in support of the clinic director at CSP.
- Jeanne Bjorno said do not cut services.
- Mike Ahern expressed concern about proposed consolidation of clinic directors, and in support of the CSP director. Mr. O’Hearn read from a letter that Blanche Korfmacher sent to the Commissioners.
- Deborah Muise spoke against reducing funding for substance abuse services.
- Jimmy Loyce said San Francisco DPH and its partners have a tremendous array of services unduplicated anywhere else. The Health Commission’s role is to take health policy out of the political arena.
- Charles Hardigree, resident of Walden House, spoke against budget cuts.
- Ellen Tubachnick asked if the Commission knows if any of this is legal, and have they consulted the city attorney. The Mental Health clinic director should not run two clinics.
- Rod Libby, Walden House, spoke against cuts to substance abuse services.

- Vitka Eisen, Walden House, spoke against cuts to substance abuse services.
- Gregory Maillet spoke in support of Walden House and against the budget cuts in substance abuse.
- Meredith Miller spoke against the 15 percent cut in substance abuse.
- Ed Kinchley said a number of the cuts are morally wrong and fiscally backwards. If Busters Place closes, people will go to SFGH. The Health Commission is charged with providing public health, not cutting it. Use the Rainy Day fund.
- Francisco Silva, spoke against cuts adult public health nurses. Martha Hawthorne translated his public testimony.
- Mary Magee spoke against closing the Workers Compensation Clinic at SFGH. She urged the Commission to ask the Mayor to attend the Beilenson hearing, who never has to listen to the heartache of San Franciscans. (She submitted a written summary of her testimony.)
- Terry Wong, Director of Sunset Mental Health Clinic, spoke against consolidating the Mental Health Clinic Director positions. (He submitted a written copy of his testimony.)
- Mabel Jung spoke against eliminating clinic director position. (She submitted a written copy of her testimony)
- Ellen Sakolof spoke against cuts to public health nursing (check tape, Tape 1,side B)
- Peg Hickox spoke against cuts to mental health clinic directors.
- Sylvia Petrin spoke against cuts to public health nursing
- Peggy Coster said none of the cuts are directed at middle and top managers, who have no reason for being if you eliminate services. Clinic Directors are good.
- Joe Martinelli, Teamsters Union, spoke against cutting the clinic directors because they provide direction to the line staff.
- Dr. Brian Bass spoke against proposed cuts to the Oral Surgery Clinic, which would greatly impact patient care.
- Dr. Newton Gordon spoke against cuts to the Oral Surgery Clinic. They are currently understaffed. (He submitted written copy of his testimony.)
- Lisa Leighton spoke against eliminating the Chronic Care Public Health Nursing. Once this program is eliminated it will never reappear.
- Linda Ray spoke against eliminating Chronic Care Public Health Nursing.
- Martha Hawthorne spoke in support of public health nurses who could not attend today's hearing. She read from and submitted for the record a letter from William B. Shore, M.D. opposing the elimination of Chronic Care Public Health Nursing.
- Barbara Rothkrug spoke against eliminating Chronic Care Public Health Nursing.
- CW Johnson spoke against cuts to mental health clinic directors.
- David Carptner spoke against cuts to the South of Market Mental Health Clinic.
- Eugene Gordon spoke against eliminating the Chronic Care Public Health Program
- Stefan Lynch spoke against cuts to public health nursing.
- Ginger Holman spoke against cutting mental health clinic directors.
- Mark Silva spoke against cutting mental clinic directors. He hasn't heard about any cuts in security services, only cuts to health, teachers and others.

- Mark Bernstein, M.D., Sunset Mental Health Services said the current proposal to eliminate program directors at CBHS clinics is reminiscent of what DPH unsuccessfully tried to do in 2004. He spoke in support of the Sunset Mental Clinic director and all director positions. (He submitted a written summary of his testimony.)
- Wilma Louie spoke against the elimination of mental health program directors. These personnel provide direct client care.
- Danielle Spillmen spoke in support of CSP and Melissa Bloom.
- Diane Willis spoke against the cuts to the Oral Surgery Clinic. They serve patients that no one else will see. Cutting staff will be a catastrophe.
- Terra Purcell spoke against cuts to the Oral Surgery Clinic.
- Alfredo Mirales, Jr. spoke against proposed mid year budget cuts. You can't cut public health nursing and reduce beds at Laguna Honda Hospital.
- Susan Ferreira, Shelter Not Jail, on behalf of Jennifer Friedenbach, spoke against cutting Buster's Place. The city must provide after hours services. (She submitted written information about Buster's Place.)
- Joey Cain asked the Commission to oppose the mid year cut to Buster's Place. Buster's Place serves twice the number of clients it is contracted to serve.
- Reverend Debra Benedict, client of Baker Places, has had to call police because her roommates have threatened her. No one has done anything to assist her and now Baker Places has asked her to leave.
- Manuel Mena, Director of Mission Mental Health Clinic, spoke against cuts to Mental Health Clinic directors.
- Michael Lyon, Gray Panthers, said all of the proposed cuts are unacceptable and unjustified. The eight hour reduction in OR time means 720 fewer cases per year.
- Ying Zhang-Chiu, Sunset Mental Health, spoke against cutting program directors and in support of Terry Wong, director of Sunset Mental Health. A time of crisis is the worst time to take away leadership.
- Vanessa Flores, Asian Women's Shelter, said all the cuts proposed will impact San Francisco's most vulnerable populations. Please oppose cuts to CSP.
- Ruth Hughes is opposed with the elimination of the clinic director at CSP. Having an onsite clinic director is essential.
- Marc Ellyn Garth, DEAP, spoke against reduction of the mental health clinic directors. (She submitted a written copy of her testimony.)
- Lucia Hammond, Mission Family Center, still sees clients as well as administers the program. She is hands on with her families. Do not cut on site directors.
- Pat Putney, Health at Home, said if DPH sells the building on Onendaga they would have to move St. Mary's Adult Day Health Center. Health at Home keeps people in the community. These are truly homebound patients.
- Cyrus Carter, Golden Gate for Seniors, urged the commission to maintain the Department as it is and not make any cuts.
- Tee spoke against eliminating the program director at CSP.
- Gloria Canas, Mission Family Center, spoke against reducing the clinic director.

- Rachel Matillano, API Wellness Center, spoke on behalf of HIV Services and urged the commission not to cut general fund to these services.
- Erica Reyes, client of API Wellness Center, spoke in support of the center and against cutting funding.
- Janet Goy, MAP, spoke against the 15 percent funding cut and asked the Commission to reconsider cuts to these essential services.
- Sasha Cuttler, USF School of Nursing, read a statement from the other faculty at USF, urging the Health Commission to oppose budget cuts to essential services.
- Krista Lim, USF School of Nursing, urged the Commission not to cut public health nursing.
- Max Haptonstahl, CATS/MAP program, spoke against cuts to community services.
- Felicia Houston, Program Director of A Women's Place, spoke against cuts to CBHS and HIV/AIDS funding. Women are already underserved and this cut is devastating.
- Nancy Rubin, Edgewood Center for Children and Families, said the kids her program serves would otherwise be served by juvenile hall or acute inpatient services. Unless the general fund \$700,000 augmentation they received last year is restored to Edgewood's budget they will be closing their children's residential beds.
- Rick Mariano, Edgewood Boardmember, said Edgewood's Executive Director has consistently told the City that Edgewood is providing \$1 million more in services than they receive funding for, and that the City has promised to make Edgewood whole. Last year they finally received half of the funding but this year it is now. The Board has advised the executive director they cannot do this anymore.
- Bryce Eberhart read a letter from Annie Darrow, who has a child being served by Edgewood Children's Center.
- Perry Zinnanti, Program Director, Redwood Services, said the Health Commission must listen to the people who do the work of the Department, who have testified for hours today. Please oppose the cuts.
- Myrna Filman, Nurse Practitioner at OMI, spoke against the proposed reduction of the clinic director. Peg Hickox is the best person to run this program.
- Steven Butts, Walden House, spoke against cuts to treatment beds.
- John Atchan, Walden House, asked the Commission not to cut treatment beds.
- Charles McClain, Walden House, urged the Commission to oppose cuts to treatment beds.
- Lee Shafer, Walden House, asked the Commission not to cut treatment beds.
- Dave Fariello, Citywide Case Management Community Focus, urged the Commission not to remove the capitation system in the Assertive Community Treatment Programs. This cut will have unintended consequences. (He submitted a written copy of his testimony.)
- Yue Hua Yu spoke in support of the SRO Families United Collaborative and all SRO Collaboratives who have helped people to better deal with their lives.
- Miguel Carrera, Coalition on Homelessness, spoke in support of the SRO Collaboratives. The money should be spent on poor and homeless families in SROs and other programs and the Health Commission should ask the Mayor to fund these programs.
- Jesus Perez, South of Market SRO Collaborative, urged support for the collaboratives.

- Hilary Klein, SRO Families United Collaborative, said she was able to move out of a hotel and into housing because of the Collaborative's help. The clients served by these programs slip through the cracks of other services. She submitted a letter from a woman who had to leave, as well as information about the program.
- Ann Jayne, Church Women United, urged the Commission to ask that the across the board reductions not be applied to Public Health. She spoke in support of health at home services and mental health services.
- Eve Meyer, San Francisco Suicide Prevention, spoke against the proposed 15 percent cut in community behavioral health. She encouraged the Commission to refuse to make these cuts.
- Wendy Phillips, Dolores Street Community Services, spoke against cutting the SRO Colaboratives.
- Debbi Lerman, Human Services Network, spoke against the 15 percent cut to community services, the substance abuse and residential treatment cuts and the \$3 million cut to HIV services. These cuts are devastating.
- Susan Phillips, SAGE Project, shared how important it is to deal with trauma issues. Please do not cut this program.
- Julie Slater, Health counselor and AIDS Manager at SAGE, urged the Commission not to cut the program.
- Jack G. Hill urged the Commission not to make any cuts to the SAGE program. Cuts would put him back on the streets.
- Jenny Wiley, Central City Hospitality House, is concerned about the 15 percent cut to community programs. She also spoke in support for Buster's Place.
- Perry Lang, Black Coalition on AIDS, spoke about wellness services to the African American Services. The proposed budget cuts will adversely affect these services. The budget must reflect the crisis in the African American community. (He submitted written copy of his testimony and a AACHIE/Cameo fact sheet).
- Reverend Norman Fong, Chinatown CDC, spoke in support of the SRO Collaborative. Please save the SRO funding. This is a real collaborative that serves the genuine poor.
- Lizbett Calleros, Mission Neighborhood Resource Center, spoke in support of the Mission SRO Collaborative. Please do not cut community programs
- Jorge Portillo, Mission SRO Collaborative, spoke against the cuts to the program.
- Bill Hirsch, Executive Director, AIDS Legal Referral Panel, urged the Commission to repeat the move they made last year and refuse to pass on these cuts. These are all essential services.
- Angela Chu spoke in support of the SRO Families Collaborative. Housing impacts people's health and DPH and the Collaboratives are doing something about unhealthy housing.
- Autumn spoke in support of CSP and Melissa Bloom.
- Mara Kopp spoke in support of good field staff at mental health clinics. The clinic directors are the anchors to the clinics. They are creative people and this is not the time to cut them.
- Carmella Patton, Black Coalition on AIDS AACHIE Coordinator, asked the Commission to reconsider cuts to the program.
- Arthur Curry, Office of Self-Help, said across the board cuts, on the State and local levels, would be devastating to San Francisco.

- Brinda Faye Drummer, Black Coalition on AIDS, is opposed to the cuts to the Black Coalition's AACHI and Cameo programs.
- Cecelia Collins spoke against cuts to the AACHIE and Cameo programs. The programs are good for her body, soul and mind.
- Jean Margaret Strauss spoke in support of the Cameo program. She is using the methods that this program taught her to manage her pain. Please continue to fund this program.
- Dr. Raymond Tompkis, Associate Researcher at San Francisco State, asked the Commission to continue funding for the Black Coalition on AIDS. The program serves the highest risk community.

Written Public Testimony (all written testimony is on file in the Health Commission Office)

- Sivilia Flores, supporting the work of the SRO Collaboratives.
- Rebecca Lam, opposing cuts to public health nursing
- Denise Vellegas, opposing cuts to mental health clinic directors.
- Martha Ryan, MPH and Nancy Frappier, Homeless Prenatal Program, opposing cuts to the public health nursing program.
- Mercedes Cortez, opposing cuts to mental health clinic directors.
- Jane Ma, Sunset Mental Health Services, opposing cuts to mental health clinic directors at Sunset and OMI.
- Anonymous, Mission Family Center, opposed to cuts to mental health clinic directors.
- Murne Stone, opposed to cut to clinic director at South of Market Mental Health Clinic.
- Nancy Lim Yee, Chinatown Child Development Center, opposed to consolidating mental health clinic directors.
- Richard Schoenbrun, M.D., Sunset Mental Health Services, opposed to cut to clinic director at Sunset Mental Health.
- Catherine Lan-Cheng, Sunset Mental Health Services, opposed to cuts to mental health services.
- Raul Reyes, Sunset Mental Health Services, opposed to removing CBHS clinic directors.
- Cynthia Pon, Sunset Mental Health Services, opposed to consolidation of mental health clinic directors and service cuts to mental health.
- John Baker, Sunset Mental Health Services, opposed to cuts to mental health clinic directors.
- EunJoo Lee Justice, M.D., Sunset Mental Health Services, opposed to cuts to mental health clinic directors.
- Alexis Malone, Mission Family Health, opposed to cutting the clinic director.
- Vera Vasey, LCSW, Sunset Mental Health Services, opposed to cuts to mental health clinic directors.
- Paul Lam, Sunset Mental Health Services, opposed to cuts to CBHS providers and clinic directors.
- Hannibal Lowry, Family Mosaic Project, opposed to cutting mental health clinic directors.
- J Hipolito, opposed to cutting mental health clinic directors.
- Sujin Lee, LCSW, Sunset Mental Health Services, opposed to cutting mental health clinic directors.

Commissioners' Comments

- Commissioner Sako asked if the public health nurses make home visits. Dr. Katz said Health at Home provides services through two different types of nurses. The public health nurses stationed at Health at Home provide case management services. The clinical nurses serve those people who have a licensed skilled nursing need. Both types of nurses make home visits, however not all of the patients are home bound.
- Commissioner Melara said chronic illnesses are one of the biggest issues impacting emergency departments today. How do we create case management services to prevent people from going into the emergency department? Dr. Katz said DAAS has a growing group of case managers and DPH has been talking to DAAS about these services.
- Commissioner Waters asked what the Health Department's definition of case management is, and what the case management protocols are for public health nurses. The American Public Health Association public health nursing standards give a broader definition of case management than what she has heard in terms of San Francisco's public health nurses. Dr. Katz said he will research this further and provide the Commission with the protocols and definition.
- Commissioner Tierney has never liked across the board cuts as this approach gives the impression that all programs have equally important outcomes and are equally efficient. Has any thought been given to using a different approach to achieving the 15% cut in Community Programs? Dr. Katz said they have not decided yet how to implement this budget reduction. One strategy is to RFP as much as the Department is capable of. This allows the Department to look at quality and Department priorities.
- Commissioner Sanchez said over time DPH has been dissected in terms of how it maintains the safety net. The Department has never focused on what the data shows—we have an aging city, more SNF beds will be needed, etc. We should be increasing the system but instead we are dismantling significant pathways. At what point do we say there is nothing left to cut if we are going to maintain our mission?
- Commissioner Melara suggested having a meeting next week to discuss the budget cuts in more detail. The Health Commission can be thinking more creatively and look strategically at health policy.
- Commissioner Chow favors the idea of a more in depth discussion on the individual budget proposals. He also wants to look at the grants that are expiring. Many of these grants fund primary prevention efforts and other critical programs. He would also like to further discuss the issue of the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors inadequately funding the Department of Public Health in prior years.
- Commissioner Illig announced that the Health Commission would meet to discuss the budget on Tuesday, February 26, 3:00 p.m.

- Commissioner Waters' said her questions are of a philosophical, ethical and rhetorical nature, including what the impacts of the cuts would be on the values, mission and vision of the Health Department, and are as follows:
 1. What impact will budget cuts have on the values, mission, and vision of the Health Department?
 2. What are the prevailing views about short- and long-term gains and/or losses that will result from these budget cuts?
 3. Most importantly, how will these budget cuts affect patient outcomes and delivery of services, given that the clientele are vulnerable?
 4. Have we looked at efficiency and effectiveness benchmarks for these programs that are proposed for budget cuts or elimination?
 5. How was productivity measured?
 6. Was feedback given to the programs that are deemed less valuable than other programs?
 7. What is the Health Department's definition of direct patient care?
 8. Have we looked at the national standards and benchmarks for individual programs to ensure that we are not compliant with these standards?
- Commissioner Illig said he would like the budget principles to be tied to the budget proposals. He would also like to know if the Mayor's Office would accept the Health Department's funding of structural budget issues to meet the remainder of its target.
- Commissioner Sako does not like making these decisions in a vacuum. She would like to know if there are existing services somewhere else.
- Commissioner Chow would like an understanding if we are going to match the least mentally ill clients to a medical home. If the SRO is really a housing issue, can it be moved to the Building Department? The Commission must understand where the vulnerable populations are going to go. Dr. Katz wants to be realistic in terms of expectations. This is \$33 million in cuts, and the Health Department only serves vulnerable populations. The goal is certainly to mitigate all possible cuts but this is just not possible with \$33 million in cuts. Commissioner Waters said this is what Dr. Katz has to help the Commission understand so that commissioners feel ethical when they make their decisions.

Follow Up

- Staff will provide Commission with protocols for public health nurses and the definition of case management.
- Health Commission Secretary will schedule a special Health Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 26, 2008, 3:00 p.m. for the purposes of discussing the budget.
- Staff will link the budget proposal to the budget principles the Health Commission adopted on November 13, 2007.
- Staff will identify when there are other existing services that can help mitigate Health Department cuts.
- Staff will identify any other mitigating factors to cuts and help the Commission understand where the vulnerable populations would go if the cuts were to be implemented.

5) **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

6) **COMMISSIONER REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/JOINT CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

7) **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.



Michele M. Seaton
Executive Secretary to the Health Commission