

DRAFT Meeting Notes

Public Health Advisory Council of Snohomish County

July 26, 2017 | 7:45-9:15 a.m. | Snohomish Health District | Room 309 A/B
3020 Rucker Ave., Everett, WA 98201

Members present:

Jason Biermann
Jiho Bryson
Mickie Gundersen
Martha Peppones
Jim Steinruck
Tové Skaftun
Brant Wood – Chair
Donna Wright – Board of Health Representative

Staff Present:

Jeff Ketchel
Nancy Furness
Shawn Frederick
Heather Thomas
Carrie McLachlan
Gina Clark
Linda Carl
Gabby Fraley

Members not present: John Brozovich, Amy Beth Cook, Brent Hackney, Kevin O'Brien, Tony Mace, Korey MacKenzie, Mark Richardson, Sid Roberts, Jim Welsh, Fred Worthen

Special guests: Marisa Furney, guest of Mr. Steinruck and second year Master's student from the UW interning with Tulalip Tribes; and Madeline Heim, guest of Ms. Peppones and student at Central Washington University interning with Homage Senior Services.

Recording Secretary: Gina Clark, Health Policy Analyst

The meeting was called to order at 7:47 a.m.

Welcome, Introductions, Review Agenda

Welcome by Chair Wood, introductions

Approval of meeting notes

It was moved by Mr. Jim Steinruck and seconded by Ms. Tové Skaftun to approve the minutes from the May 24, 2017, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Follow-Up on Previous Topics

There was no follow-up on previous topics.

Opioid Portal and Partner Coordination

Heather Thomas stated the health district is constructing a website that will provide countywide information on the opioid epidemic. The website will be a resource for community members including, business owners, providers, families, educators, and youth, and will include information about opioids (what they are, they they're a problem, and how overdoses happen); prevention (preventing addiction and preventing deaths); resources (treatment options and educational information); and data. Throughout the pages there will be links to treatment and support as well as news and updates from community members.

The website will also contain information in LiveStories to enhance user experience and provide more community resources. Jeff emphasized one important aspect of this website is being able to link providers with those seeking treatment.

There was discussion about the need for a second methadone clinic and where it should be cited. Jim Steinruck encouraged the health district to continue to talk about signs and symptoms of use and overdose for parents as well as parental resources, and where community members can return and dispose of unused medications.

Heather discussed the implementation and launch of the countywide medication/drug-takeback program, officially kicking off on August 1, with a press release and ribbon-cutting in Edmonds with Rep. Strom Peterson. Twenty-eight mailbox-like kiosks will be placed throughout the county to start. Some police departments and big-box pharmacies, with the exception of QFC, are opting out at this time. The kiosks will accept all medicine except vitamins, supplements, and sharps.

MedProject is overseeing the implementation of the medicine-return program, as well as the media and associated advertising. We'll hear more about it 30-45 days after launch, once the kinks are worked out of the system.

PHAC ACTION: PHAC members can expect to see the website launched on August 31, and the health district will need your help promoting the website and spreading the word in your communities.

In addition, the health district will partner with MedProject to advertise the medicine-return locations and availability and importance of the program. We'll also need the PHAC's participation in promoting this vital program.

Healthy Housing Report

Jeff kicked off the report by stating this is more than indoor air quality. It's a broad baseline assessment of healthy housing in Snohomish County that can help determine programmatic and policy needs.

Gabby Fraley, an epidemiologist with the health district, introduced the housing report stating it's based off of seven principles of healthy housing that the health district has grouped into four, which include, but are not limited to:

- Air: ventilation, mold, indoor smoking, radon and CO2, and other indoor air pollutants
- Maintenance: water systems, lead, onsite sewage systems, flood zones, pest control, electrical safety, structural safety
- Safe: chemical storage and disposal, kitchen fires, falls/slips/trips, pool safety, gun and medication storage, emergency preparedness
- Built environment: what's outside the house including safe sidewalks and walkability, parks within a walkable distance, pesticide-free parks, alcohol outlet density, limited access to food, etc.

Throughout the report will be an eye toward health equity, potential policy threads, and next steps, including some pieces that acknowledge areas that are not data-heavy and need further exploration and partner collaboration. There was discussion by PHAC members and staff of the need to address climate change, including urban heat deserts, air conditioning, and proper tree retention and canopies, as well as the best way to design the outside of a home (streetscapes, landscaping, etc.) to provide the best health outcomes including shade, better water quality, and walkability.

In addition, there was discussion about the need to continue discussion about known hazards, such as urban interference with protected habitat and forests, creating more wildfires; building on earthquake/fault zones; people living within 50/100-year floodplains; unstable slopes. These should be included or acknowledged in the report as well.

A reminder that this is a baseline report, setting the potential for additional reports that address other issues or needs in greater detail.

2017 State Legislative Budget Wrap-Up

The Washington State Legislature did not finish its work during the Regular Session and was called back for three Special Sessions, ending its longest-ever session on July 20.

Throughout the regular and special sessions, 2,687 bills were introduced and 391 were signed into law, for a pass rate of 15%.

The Legislature adopted a 2017-2019 \$43.7 billion Operating Budget and a 2017-2019 Transportation Budget, but has failed to adopt a full 2017-2019 Capital Budget.

The proposed \$4.2 billion Capital Budget has been postponed because Senate Republicans will not vote on it until there's a resolution to the controversial Hirst decision. Hirst is a decision by the court requiring counties to determine whether there's enough water available for a new well in rural areas before landowners can build. Each county must come up with its own system for predicting the impact on water flowing to nearby streams or available to existing wells.

The health district does receive some money from the capital budget for solid waste enforcement; however, there are other sources of funding available to continue this work until capital budget funding is approved and distributed.

Foundational Public Health Services would move to ensure core public health services are available to every resident through our original ask of a \$60 million down-payment toward public health. \$50 million would have been used for local health departments to move toward closing critical gaps in communicable disease and chronic disease programs and services, \$6 million would have been used by the state department of health to improve capacity and infrastructure needs, and \$4 million would have been used for two pilot projects to help improve cross-jurisdictional efficiency.

The Governor proposed \$23.8 million.

What we received: \$12 million for the biennium; \$2 million to DOH, \$10 million to Local Health Jurisdictions. Snohomish Health District anticipates receiving a little over \$400,000 per biennium under the current agreement.

Some policy bills that did pass:

- HB 1054 concerns the age of individuals at which sale or distribution of tobacco and vapor products may be made. This bill increases the smoking age to 21.
- HB 2165 addresses requirements for and the sale and taxation of vapor products, e-cigarettes, and nicotine products.
- HB 1975 concerns the tax on the first sale of prepackaged sugar-sweetened beverages made by a distributor in this state.

- HB 1505 regarding the naloxone-access grant program to distribute funds to local health jurisdictions to purchase naloxone, train on use, and educate about opioids.
- HB 1551 grant would establish the Apple a Day Act of 2017. Create a competitive equipment assistance grant program, to be known as The Apple a Day Program, to enhance overall student nutrition in public schools. Requires the superintendent of public instruction to establish a competitive process to prioritize applications for state assistance. Provides that this act is null and void if appropriations are not approved.
- HB 1518 improving student achievement by promoting social emotional learning throughout the calendar year.
- HB 1508 promoting student health and readiness through meal and nutrition programs, including Breakfast after the Bell.
- HB 1047 establishes a drug-takeback program for the safe and secure collection and disposal of unwanted medications and creates the secure drug-takeback program account to fund the statewide program.
- HB 1339 prohibits a practitioner, when issuing a prescription for an opioid drug to a patient for the first time for outpatient use, from issuing more than a seven-day supply. Prohibits a dentist, when issuing a prescription for an opioid drug to a patient for the first time for outpatient use, from issuing more than a three-day supply.

Some wins:

- SB 5223 declares that the state fully occupies and preempts the entire field of safe-injection-site regulation, including the registration, licensing, possession, purchase, sale, acquisition, transfer, use, authorization, or any other element relating to safe-injection sites, including needle exchange. The local health jurisdiction would have to certify annually that it does not have nor is it funding any such sites within its jurisdiction or risk losing state funding for public health programs.
- 10 Nurse Care Managers funded statewide. How and exactly where they will be placed to help manage opioid prevention and aid with medication-assisted treatment is still being worked out. One is targeted for Snohomish County.
- \$200,000 allocated to a pilot program in the Snohomish County jail to help with medically assisted treatment of opioid detox.
- HB 1235 requires school districts to conduct an annual assessment of their physical education programs and make the results of the assessment available to the public and posted on the web site of the district. Bill aims to enhance and improve physical education in K-12 to target childhood obesity and improve the link between healthy bodies, healthy minds, improved learning, reducing long-term health issues, and long-term health care costs.
- SB 5131 makes numerous regulatory changes to current marijuana law. The bill clarifies and strengthens advertising rules and allows local governments to adopt more restrictive advertising restrictions

PHAC ACTION: I will have thank you letters to all of our state Snohomish County delegation for you to sign at our September meeting, thanking them for their work during this long session. Please consider signing them as a member of the PHAC and in the capacity of your service to the health district.

PHAC Bylaws and Committees Formation

Decision to not move forward with adopting bylaws or committee formation at this time. There was discussion that standing committees in public policy, budget and finance, water quality, chronic disease prevention, and built environment may not be needed. Rather, ad hoc working groups related to the needs of what the health district and/or board may be working on or addressing may prove more valuable, and that the PHAC continue to be seen as the body that is an entire resource for the board and the board's public policy committee. There was some concern that establishment of standing working groups may be redundant to some of the work of the board, may not have the right focus of what the staff may be doing, or that staff may not have the time to dedicate to these working groups.

There were some others, however, who felt these working groups could be a place to further educate and inform the community, the PHAC, and the board, and to generate small group discussion and community engagement.

There was also a comment about whether or not it would make sense for standing committees, but based on the departments and the work of the health district, to help inform and be ready to engage in the work that is done by the health district on a regular basis.

A concern was expressed over term limits in the bylaws, and perhaps there's not enough community knowledge or desire to serve on the PHAC. Generally it was agreed that it's up to the PHAC to generate that interest and recruit skilled, interested, engaged members to serve, as well as to develop succession planning.

The issue of bylaws and committees will be brought back at a later date once staff determines a more proper role for committees/working groups.

PHAC ACTION: If there is any recommendation or additional thoughts on the type of working groups (ad hoc or otherwise), please forward to Gina Clark, health policy analyst.

Announcements

Jeff announced that the Merger Issues Analysis written by Dave Gossett will be presented at the Board of Health meeting on August 8. The meeting is open to the public and the PHAC is encouraged to attend. Highlights of the report include the health district is "scrappy" and a good steward of public funds but needs to do a better job of setting a clearer vision and work more collaboratively with the county. It's ultimately up to the county council and/or board of health to make a decision on the merger.

The new health district Health Officer has been hired and will start sometime in August, or whenever his Washington State medical license is approved.

Shawn Frederick is our new Administrative Services Director.

Jeff is our current Interim Administrator. The board has announced they will begin a nationwide search for a permanent administrator, but they've extended Jeff's position until the end of 2017.

Jeff has been visiting city council's to learn more about each area and to share the good work of the health district. He'll meet with school district's next and then return to city councils in the fall to start making the case for health district funding as a priority in 2018 (while continuing to show our worth).

Jeff said he hopes to maintain staffing during the SHD budget process, but we remain cautious during the unpredictable federal budget process. The health district has made a modest rate of inflation increase ask of the county, but for the most part, is holding steady.

Gina Clark updated the PHAC on potential lawmaker visits to their districts to show them the work the health district is doing, and encouraged the PHAC to share any ideas. The PHAC will also be invited to any tours/visits.

On August 31 the health district will participate in International Overdose Awareness Day and attend a candlelight vigil at Silver Lake Park. PHAC members were invited to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 a.m.