

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 3



City and County of San Francisco

AARON PESKIN

September 12, 2017

Shireen McSpadden
Executive Director
Department of Aging and Adult Services

Dear Director McSpadden,

Supervisors Peskin and Kim have called for a hearing on San Francisco's coordinated preparation and response to the record-breaking September 1 - 3, 2017 heat wave (File no. 170962), and ask that the Department of Adult and Aging Services present at the Government Audit and Oversight committee hearing scheduled for September 20. Please be advised of the following questions:

- The National Weather Service predicted on August 29 that San Francisco would be experiencing "severe" levels of heat September 1 – 3. What steps did DAAS take to prepare for this heat wave?
- How does DAAS collaborate with other City departments in an emergency plan? Does this vary given the nature of the emergency (weather, earthquake, terrorism)?
- Are there protocols in developing an emergency plan that are dependent on advance timing? That is, are there levels/types of planning that happen when there is a 3-day warning versus a 1-day or several hour warning?
- How did DAAS address severe heat in its facilities and its partners' facilities, and did it coordinate with City-wide cooling stations?
- Is DAAS aware of DPH's "Heat Vulnerability Index", which maps vulnerable population by Census block group?
- Given the fact that the Medical Examiner reported that the 3 people who died during the heat wave lived alone, died at home and none of them had called for medical help, how does DAAS outreach to our most vulnerable residents?
- Are there protocols for communicating public safety information to our seniors and people with disabilities? Is translation into multiple languages included?
- Did DAAS work with partner nonprofits to get safety information to our vulnerable populations? Is there an "emergency information tree" that connects DAAS to its partner nonprofits that serve our most vulnerable residents?
- As part of a 2012 CDC grant, DPH engaged in disaster planning. How is DAAS, and the populations it serves, integrated into the disaster plan?

- What kind of feedback loop and reflection is there after a disaster happens? How does DAAS (with other City departments) assess response and coordination so as to improve on it next time? Is there a performance matrix that is used to measure response?

Thank you for your response to these inquiries. I respectfully request to have DAAS's response submitted to the Clerk, as well as members of the GAO committee, by Tuesday morning, September 19. I look forward to the September 20 hearing. If you have any questions, please contact my office and my legislative aide, Beth Rubenstein at 415-554-7453 or beth.rubenstein@sfgov.org



Aaron Peskin