

File No. 220908

Committee Item No. _____

Board Item No. 2

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Committee _____

Date _____

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date August 8, 2022

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Completed by: _____ Date _____

Completed by: Alisa Somera Date August 4, 2022

1 [Ratifying the County Health Officer’s Declaration of a Local Health Emergency Regarding
2 Monkeypox Virus Outbreak]

3 **Motion ratifying the San Francisco Health Officer’s August 1, 2022, Declaration of Local**
4 **Health Emergency regarding the outbreak of the Monkeypox virus.**

5
6 WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code, Section 101080, authorizes the local
7 health officer to declare a local health emergency in the health officer’s jurisdiction whenever
8 the health officer reasonably determines that there is an imminent and proximate threat to the
9 public health due to the introduction of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, On June 3, 2022, the San Francisco Department of Public Health (“DPH”)
12 reported the first known probable case of monkeypox in a San Francisco resident, a number
13 that has since increased to 305 probable and confirmed cases in San Francisco residents as
14 of July 29, 2022, indicating ongoing community spread of the monkeypox virus; and

15 WHEREAS, DPH has been closely monitoring the appearance and spread of
16 monkeypox in San Francisco, making it a high public health priority and devoting substantial
17 resources to increasing testing and vaccination capacity, disseminating information, joining
18 the Mayor of San Francisco and other elected officials in advocating for increased vaccine
19 supply from the federal and state governments, and partnering with healthcare providers, non-
20 profit organizations, the LGBTQ+ and community members to educate residents and to
21 reduce the impact of the monkeypox outbreak in San Francisco; and

22 WHEREAS, On July 19, 2022, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted a
23 resolution urging the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the
24 Department of Health and Human Services to accelerate the purchasing and distribution of
25 monkeypox vaccines, prioritize vaccine access for populations at the highest risk of

1 contracting the virus, and eliminate administrative barriers to treatment in light of the growing
2 outbreak; and

3 WHEREAS, The monkeypox outbreak in San Francisco is causing substantial health
4 impacts on San Francisco residents, with some cases resulting in serious medical issues,
5 including, but not limited to, severe pain, difficulty eating, and the potential for scarring of the
6 skin; and

7 WHEREAS, The number of actual or suspected monkeypox cases in San Francisco
8 places San Francisco at the highest rate of infection per capita (along with Los Angeles) in
9 California and the second highest in the United States, meaning that San Francisco needs
10 additional vaccine allocations as soon as possible to address the risk here; and

11 WHEREAS, It is imperative that DPH have all tools available to augment outreach and,
12 as appropriate, provide treatment to all San Francisco residents who are potentially impacted
13 by monkeypox, including those who have historically had limited or restricted access to
14 healthcare and health education, to help residents protect themselves and others against
15 infection by monkeypox and manage monkeypox infection if it occurs; and

16 WHEREAS, On August 1, 2022, the San Francisco Health Officer (“Health Officer”)
17 declared a Local Health Emergency regarding San Francisco’s monkeypox virus outbreak,
18 based on the conclusion that there is an imminent and proximate threat to public health from
19 the introduction of the monkeypox virus in San Francisco necessitating the declaration of a
20 local health emergency;

21 WHEREAS, By declaring a local health emergency, the Health Officer activates the
22 provisions of Section 101085 of the California Health and Safety Code, Section 8659 of the
23 California Government Code, and as otherwise provided for by law; and

24 WHEREAS, Under Section 101080 of the California Health and Safety Code, a local
25 health emergency declared by the Health Officer may remain in effect for up to seven days

1 but can continue beyond that period if the Board of Supervisors ratifies the declaration; now,
2 therefore, be it

3 MOVED, That San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby ratifies the Health Officer's
4 Declaration of Local Health Emergency dated August 1, 2022, and that the Local Health
5 Emergency shall continue beyond August 8, 2022, until, in consultation with the Health
6 Officer, the Board of Supervisors proclaims the Local Health Emergency is terminated.

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City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health

DECLARATION OF LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO REGARDING THE OUTBREAK OF THE MONKEYPOX VIRUS

WHEREAS, Section 101080 of the California Health and Safety Code authorizes the Health Officer of the City and County of San Francisco (the “Health Officer”) to declare a local health emergency in the City and County of San Francisco (“San Francisco”) whenever the Health Officer reasonably determines that there is an imminent and proximate threat to the public health due to the introduction of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease; and

WHEREAS, Since early May 2022, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) has received reports of cases of monkeypox in countries where the disease was not previously endemic, marking the first time that many monkeypox cases and outbreaks have been reported concurrently in widely disparate geographical areas throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, On June 3, 2022, the San Francisco Department of Public Health (“DPH”) reported the first known probable case of monkeypox in a San Francisco resident, a number that has since increased to 305 probable and confirmed cases in San Francisco residents as of July 29, 2022, indicating ongoing community spread of the monkeypox virus; and

WHEREAS, DPH has been closely monitoring the appearance and spread of monkeypox in San Francisco, making it a high public health priority and devoting substantial resources to increasing testing and vaccination capacity, disseminating information, joining the Mayor of San Francisco and other elected officials in advocating for increased vaccine supply from the federal and state governments, and partnering with healthcare providers, non-profit organizations, the LGBTQ+ and community members to educate residents and to reduce the impact of the monkeypox outbreak in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, On July 19, 2022, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution urging the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Department of Health and Human Services to accelerate the purchasing and distribution of monkeypox vaccines, prioritize vaccine access for populations at the highest risk of contracting the virus, and eliminate administrative barriers to treatment in light of the growing outbreak; and

WHEREAS, On July 23, 2022, the WHO Director-General declared the escalating global monkeypox outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC); and

WHEREAS, The monkeypox outbreak in San Francisco is causing substantial health impacts on San Francisco residents, with some cases resulting in serious medical issues, including, but not limited to, severe pain, difficulty eating, and the potential for scarring of the skin; and

WHEREAS, Although anyone who gets infected can have a serious case, people at higher risk for a more serious outcome associated with monkeypox infection include, but are not limited to, people whose immune system is not as strong because of a disease, an infection, or medications, people with a history of eczema or other skin conditions, children under the age of eight, and people who are pregnant; and



City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health

DECLARATION OF LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY REGARDING THE OUTBREAK OF THE MONKEYPOX VIRUS August 1, 2022

WHEREAS, The Jynneos vaccine (a smallpox vaccine) is being used for the prevention of disease, including after exposure to monkeypox (known as Post Exposure Prophylaxis or PEP), but the vaccine is currently in very limited supply and only available for allocation to San Francisco by the federal government through the State of California; and

WHEREAS, The number of actual or suspected monkeypox cases in San Francisco places San Francisco at the highest rate of infection per capita (along with Los Angeles) in California and the second highest in the United States, meaning that San Francisco needs additional vaccine allocations as soon as possible to address the risk here; and

WHEREAS, Due to global supply constraints, the federal government and State of California are not yet allocating vaccine doses to San Francisco at sufficient levels to immunize San Francisco residents who would benefit from vaccination; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the importance of the vaccine, there are clinical treatments that health providers can use for serious cases of monkeypox, but those treatments also are in short supply and not as available in San Francisco as necessary, in part due to regulatory hurdles; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that DPH have all tools available to augment outreach and, as appropriate, provide treatment to all San Francisco residents who are potentially impacted by monkeypox, including those who have historically had limited or restricted access to healthcare and health education, to help residents protect themselves and others against infection by monkeypox and manage monkeypox infection if it occurs; and

WHEREAS, The monkeypox outbreak, in addition to the COVID-19 pandemic, highlights the need for everyone in San Francisco to be aware of communicable diseases, including ways to manage risk, prevent disease transmission and serious disease, and access diagnostic care and treatment; and

WHEREAS, The Health Officer, DPH, and the City value all people affected by the monkeypox outbreak, and especially gay and bisexual men who have sex with men and other LGBTQ+ residents of San Francisco, who have so far borne a disproportionate burden of the outbreak and historically faced discrimination and disparate treatment related to the provision of healthcare in general and to infectious diseases in particular; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has a rich tradition of social and cultural activities—including, but not limited to, street fairs, nightlife, and celebrations of the LGBTQ+ community—that are an integral part of the identity of San Francisco, monkeypox is not confined to those activities and communities and cannot be contained simply by telling people not to participate in those activities, and those activities and the communities that host them must not be stigmatized; and

WHEREAS, The Health Officer finds that based on the facts and circumstances described above there is an imminent and proximate threat to public health from the introduction of the monkeypox virus in San Francisco necessitating the declaration of a local health emergency; and



City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health

DECLARATION OF LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY REGARDING THE OUTBREAK OF THE MONKEYPOX VIRUS August 1, 2022

WHEREAS, Declaring a local health emergency will assist DPH and other departments in continuing to prioritize San Francisco's public health response to the outbreak, including, but not limited to, more efficiently mobilizing resources, and furthering its work with the community to help ensure access to monkeypox education, vaccines, diagnostic care, treatment, and advocacy for all residents who could benefit; and

WHEREAS, By declaring a local health emergency, the Health Officer activates the provisions of Section 101085 of the California Health and Safety Code, Section 8659 of the California Government Code, and as otherwise provided for by law; and

WHEREAS, Under Section 101080 of the Health and Safety Code, a local health emergency declared by the Health Officer may remain in effect for up to seven days but it can continue beyond that period if the Board of Supervisors ratifies the declaration; and

WHEREAS, The Health Officer expects that the emergency relating to monkeypox will persist well beyond seven days and respectfully requests that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors timely ratify this local health emergency declaration.

NOW, THEREFORE, Under Section 101080 of the Health and Safety Code, the Health Officer declares that a local health emergency exists in San Francisco due to the monkeypox virus and that the local health emergency continue beyond August 8, 2022 provided that the Board of Supervisors ratifies the local health emergency, and that this declaration stay in effect until the Board of Supervisors, in consultation with the Health Officer and DPH, proclaims the local health emergency has terminated.

Dated: August 1, 2022

Issued by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Philip", written over a horizontal line.

Susan Philip, MD, MPH
Health Officer of the
City and County of San Francisco

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp
or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).
- 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.
- 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
- 4. Request for letter beginning : "Supervisor inquiries"
- 5. City Attorney Request.
- 6. Call File No. from Committee.
- 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- 9. Reactivate File No.
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on

Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:

- Small Business Commission
- Youth Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission
- Building Inspection Commission

Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Form.

Sponsor(s):

Subject:

The text is listed:

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:

For Clerk's Use Only