

Member, Board of Supervisors  
District 3



City and County of San Francisco

AARON PESKIN

September 12, 2017

Jeff Kositsky  
Director  
Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing

Dear Director Kositsky:

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 Homelessness and Supportive Housing 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 DSHH take to prepare for this heat wave?
- How does DSHH 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?
- Is DSHH aware of DPH's "Heat Vulnerability Index", which maps vulnerable population by Census block group?
- How did DSHH address severe heat in its facilities, and did it coordinate with City-wide cooling stations?
- Are there protocols for communicating public safety information for the homeless and unstably housed population? Is translation into multiple languages included?
- Did DSHH work with partner nonprofits to get safety information to homeless and unstably housed residents? Is there an "emergency information tree" that connects City departments to nonprofits that serve our most vulnerable residents?
- As part of a 2012 CDC grant, DPH engaged in disaster planning. This was prior to the creation of DSHH. How has DPH and DSHH integrated DSHH and the populations it serves into the disaster plan?

- What kind of feedback loop and reflection is there after a disaster happens? How does DSHS (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 DSHS'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](mailto:beth.rubenstein@sfgov.org)



Aaron Peskin