

Presented in Committee - October 25, 2017

# SAFE INJECTION FACILITIES TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

PUBLIC SAFETY & NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2017



SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



# INJECTION DRUG USE IN SF

- Estimated 22,500 people who inject drugs in SF
- SF has continued to see overdoses from heroin, methamphetamine, and fentanyl poisoning
- People who inject drugs are at-risk for
  - unhealthy substance use
  - acquisition and transmission of HIV and hepatitis C
  - serious physical and mental health conditions
  - premature death



# HARM REDUCTION

- Public health philosophy
- Promotes methods of reducing the physical, social, emotional, and economic harms associated with harmful behaviors that impact individuals and their community
- Free of judgment and directly involve clients in setting their own health goals

## *Examples in San Francisco*

- Syringe Access & Disposal
- Naloxone
- Medication-Assisted Treatment (e.g. methadone, buprenorphine)
- Sobering Center



# TASK FORCE OVERVIEW

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION #123-17

- Introduced by Supervisor London Breed (passed April 2017)
- Urged SFPDH to convene a safe injection services (SIS) task force
- Task Force Purpose:
  - to investigate: the potential opportunities and obstacles associated with safe injection services; the community need for such services; and the feasibility of opening and operating such services.
  - to make policy recommendations



# TASK FORCE COMPONENTS

- APRIL 2017 – SEPTEMBER 2017
- 15 TASK FORCE MEMBERS
- 3 TASK FORCE MEETINGS
- 3 SURVEYS
- 2 FOCUS GROUPS





# KEY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Support creation of safe injection services  
in San Francisco



# KEY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

## PROGRAM PLANNING

- Plan for **legal and real estate barriers**
- Conduct **need and planning assessments**
- **Clear program goals, metrics, and program improvement processes**



# KEY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

## MODEL

- **Integrated model** with on-site services and linkages to other services, including **peer staff**



# KEY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

## LOCATION

- **Multiple sites** throughout San Francisco where **drug use** most often **occurs**
- **Locate where existing services are delivered** to people who inject drugs



# KEY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION

- **Strong community engagement with:**
  - Residents, business owners, and neighborhood groups
  - Law enforcement, probation, and parole agencies
  - City agencies and community organizations



# TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

## SPECIAL POPULATIONS

- Identify **populations at greater risk** for health disparities, barriers to services, and/or risk for experiencing violence related to drug use

# QUESTIONS?

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