From:	Jung, Yoonie
To:	<u>Carroll, John (BOS)</u>
Cc:	Nguyen, Elise (UCSF); Gardner, Adriana (UCSF); Cunningham, Daniela (UCSF)
Subject:	Re: City and County of San Francisco Meeting: 201388 [Administrative Code - Protections for Occupants of Residential Hotels During COVID-19 Pandemic]
Date:	Thursday, February 18, 2021 10:07:54 AM
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Dear Board of Supervisors,

We are pharmacy students currently attending the University of California, San Francisco. We understand that you are discussing protective measures for occupants of residential hotels during the COVID-19 pandemic in the City and County of San Francisco Meeting today. We would like to further advocate for the addition of safe injection facilities (SIFs) to help improve the health of people who use illicit drugs and protect the population by preventing overdose deaths.

We believe the number of drug-overdose deaths is rising rapidly across the country including the bay area and we have the third-largest homeless population in the country. According to CDC, in 2018, almost seventy thousand people died from a drug overdose.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, drug overdoses and related deaths have accelerated across the country. Safe injection facilities in other counties have been shown to decrease fatal overdoses, decrease emergency room visits, increase substance use treatment, reduce public drug use, save costs, and reduce transmission of infectious diseases. Therefore, we believe that safe injection facilities should be readily incorporated into the San Francisco Bay Area.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Yoonie, Elise, Adriana, & Daniela

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