

Supervisor Coonerty Motion

Item #12: SSP Biennial Report

Litter

Added Direction: Direct the County Administrative Office to work with appropriate departments to draft a Request for Proposal (RFP), not to exceed \$100K, to develop an on-demand syringe litter pick-up program that would concentrate service in the Cities of Santa Cruz and Watsonville focusing on identified hot spots and bring this back during budget hearings later this month.

Data

Added Directions:

1. Health Services Agency (HSA) obtain data from the state or locally from our state licensed local Harm Reduction Coalition (HRC) Syringe Services Program (SSP) and report the following data twice per year to the SSP Commission. This data shall include: number of syringes dispensed and collected, number of clients served, number of clients connected to treatment, disease rates for bloodborne diseases, and any complaints from the public. This information shall also be included in the biennial SSP reports;
2. In future biennial reports, in addition to the data collected in this biennial report, include the number of syringes collected by our contractors;
3. In future biennial reports, include per capita analysis when making comparisons with other counties;
4. In future biennial reports, include number of needle sticks by community members and staff of other jurisdictions and contractors. This data should be collected on a quarterly basis from all agencies and groups that pick up syringes, and staff shall report at each SSP commission meeting the number of needle sticks. Staff will need to reach out to Cities, Downtown Streets Team, county contractors who collect syringes, Save Our Shores, and others in order to obtain this data in absence of a central reporting system that would tally needle sticks.

Task Force on Injection Drug Use/Abuse

Added Directions:

1. In response to our county's epidemic of injection drug use, under the direction of the County Administrative Officer, HSA staff shall convene a Task Force, similar to the task force convened by Dr. Newel in Fresno County, to develop comprehensive recommendations for the Board of Supervisors and the Sheriff to consider implementing. The goal of this Task Force would be to reduce the number of individuals who inject drugs. The recommendations developed should be crafted to meet the goal of reducing the number of individuals who inject drugs. Areas of focus and inquiry for the Task Force should be education campaigns to discourage injection drug use among youth and adults (similar to successful anti-tobacco campaigns), treatment, expanding Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) programs, and drug enforcement, at a minimum.
2. County staff shall return to our Board by December with a report on the Task Force and return to our Board with recommendations to be implemented, no later than March 2022 in advance of the 2022-23 Proposed Budget.