

Laurie Green, M.D.
President

Tessie M. Guillermo
Vice President

Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Commissioner

Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.
Commissioner

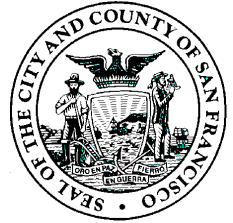
Suzanne Giraudo ED.D
Commissioner

Judy Guggenhime
Commissioner

Karim Salgado
Commissioner

**HEALTH COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO**

Daniel Lurie Mayor
Department of Public Health



Daniel Tsai
Director of Health

Mark Morewitz, M.S.W.
Executive Secretary

TEL (628) 754-6539

MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Monday October 20, 2025 4:00 p.m.

**1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall, Room 408
San Francisco, CA 94102 & via Webex**

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: President Laurie Green, MD, President
Vice President Tessie Guillermo
Commissioner Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.
Commissioner Suzanne Giraudo, Ph.D
Commissioner Judy Guggenhime
Commissioner Karim Salgado

Excused: Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D

The meeting was called to order at 4:04pm.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF OCTOBER 6, 2025.

Public Comment:

There was no public comments.

Commissioner Comments:

There were no Commissioner comments.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the October 6, 2025 meeting minutes.

3) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Ward Kline stated that people use surveillance for their own political greed. If the military is sent to San Francisco, it is because of the surveillance equipment being used.

Antoinette Conde, requested that the DPH staff providing services to the Behavioral Health Center be allowed to move with the residents to the new facility for continuity of care.

Elizabeth Travelslight, SEIU 1021, stated that residents and staff have voiced concerns about converting the BHC to a locked ward. She requested that the DPH allow the DPH staff providing care to BHC residents to

move to the new facilities for continuity of care. She noted that a former resident who was transferred to an inappropriate setting should be allowed to return to the BHC.

Debbie Gish, urged the Commission to make sure care of sister is not outsourced to the private sector.

Marcus Jae Husieman, BHC resident asked that his home not be taken from him. He doesn't want to be put out on the street.

Yvonne Chan stated that her family member was placed in a board and care facility, which is now evicting her. She requested more rigorous screening for appropriate discharge and asked for interpretation support.

Sara Clark opposes the relocation of the ARF and RCFE clients to non-profit services. She noted that 7% of the patients transferred from Laguna Honda Hospital during the recertification process died. She urged that the same mistake is not repeated with BHC residents.

Sandy works at the RCFE is concerned at the detrimental way the BHS residents have been impacted by the decision to force them to move. She hopes the BHS staff can continue to serve the clients.

Sadhi Okway, UCSF citywide case management, stated that they have witnessed that BHS staff have formed familial relationships with BHC residents.

Jason Balazar is a BHC resident and enjoys the high quality of care at the BHC.

Jennifer Esteem. SEIU 1021, stated that the BHS is a crucial resource in the city. She understands the need for locked treatment beds but wants the BHC communities to not be separated from their long-term providers.

Dennis Hill. BHC Team Leader, stated that RCFE residents live in fear of having to be homeless. The transition plan is not good for their mental health.

Myrna, BHC staff, stated that she has seen marked improvement in BHC residents in her 3 years of working there.

Patrick Monette-Shaw made comments and submitted the following written summary:

As shown on my overhead chart, the 158 housing units for LHH Mercy now claims it will build represents just 42% of the 375 units it promised in 2020. Mercy slashed and burned 58% of promised units. On 10/14/2025 Mercy submitted a "Preliminary Project Application" "CODE LOCK-IN" to the Planning Department, announcing it will build just 158 one-bedroom units, eliminating 24 units. There won't be an ADHC. It's become clear the goal isn't to build affordable housing and/or assisted living units. That has been a pretense all along, as a pretext for building a daycare center for 50 children for LHH and SFGH staff, so they have a childcare facility. As a replacement for a full-fledged ADHC, the "Senior Center" for lunches at noon is a mockery! This Health Commission should cancel this project now! Have MOHCD re-allocate LHH's Bond funds to another project for the elderly elsewhere, much sooner.

4) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Daniel Tsai, DPH Director of Health, presented the item.

DPH ENCOURAGES COVID-19 AND FLU VACCINATION THIS RESPIRATORY VIRUS SEASON

As the fall and winter respiratory virus season begins, DPH strongly encourages residents to get the updated COVID and flu vaccines.

The updated COVID and flu vaccines provide protection against the current strains of both viruses and are the best tools available to prevent severe illness and hospitalization. People who have been vaccinated or have been sick with COVID or flu in the past should still get the updated vaccines. People can get the vaccines through their healthcare provider or local pharmacy.

DPH has aligned with the science-based COVID and flu vaccine guidance provided by the [California Department of Public Health](#) and the West Coast Health Alliance. Anyone age 6 months and over can get the COVID and flu vaccines. Both vaccines can be given at the same time. Please visit the [San Francisco Department of Public Health](#) website for the full list of vaccine recommendations.

In addition to getting vaccinated this respiratory virus season, members of the public should consider wearing a well-fitted mask in crowded indoor spaces, including when traveling. People should also stay at home if they are feeling sick.

Visit sf.gov/vax for more information about the vaccines and where to find them.

DIRECTOR TSAI AND MAYOR LURIE PROMOTE VACCINATION AT TOM WADDELL URBAN HEALTH CLINIC

On October 10, the staff at Tom Waddell Urban Health Center proudly hosted Mayor Daniel Lurie and Director of Health Daniel Tsai at a media event to promote vaccinations for the respiratory virus season.

The Mayor, Director and members of the Tenderloin community were vaccinated in front of members of the press to send a message to the public that COVID-19 and flu vaccines are safe, effective and strongly encouraged.

Learn more at [Get vaccines | SF.gov](#).

WELCOME BACK SOUTH 5 – REOPENING A SKILLED NURSING NEIGHBORHOOD

Earlier this month, Laguna Honda officially reopened the South 5 neighborhood as a skilled nursing unit. South 5 now operates as a standard skilled nursing neighborhood with a focus on complex care—just like it was before the COVID pandemic.

The South 5 team played a critical role during our COVID-19 response and for more than five years, they have cared for residents with COVID-19 with skill and compassion.

Reopening South 5 means more space to serve San Franciscans in need of skilled nursing care, a return home for South 5 residents who transferred at the beginning of the pandemic, and alignment with skilled nursing facility practices nationwide.

NEW RESEARCH PUBLISHED IN THE ANNALS OF FAMILY MEDICINE

We are proud to share that a new study from DPH and UCSF's Center for Excellence in Primary Care, which highlights the powerful impact of pharmacy technicians in primary care teams, was published in the prestigious *Annals of Family Medicine*. This research shows how integrating pharmacy techs into care teams improves efficiency, equity, and clinician well-being — all while enhancing patient care.

Anusha McNamara, Supervisor for Ambulatory Care Clinical Pharmacy Services is the corresponding author. Her co-authors are Clinical Pharmacist Lenny Chan and Tiffany Kenison, Primary Care Director of Equity and Care Experience and Interim Medical Director of Potrero Hill Health Center.

Read the full study: <https://www.annfammed.org/content/23/5/412>

SUPERVISOR BILAL MAHMOOD TOURS ZSFG

On October 14, ZSFG welcomed San Francisco District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood for a site visit and tour. Representing neighborhoods including the Tenderloin, Haight Ashbury, the Western Addition and others, Supervisor Mahmood connected with frontline teams and learned firsthand about ZSFG's innovative programs that serve patients and families across the city. During his visit led by Hospital CEO Dr. Susan Ehrlich, Supervisor Mahmood explored several areas of ZSFG including the Family Birth Center where he saw how parents and newborns receive comprehensive support and care and also met members of Team Lily, the only program of its kind in San Francisco that provides addiction care to meet birthing patients where they are—providing them with critical services and linkages to care for substance use disorder.

The visit to the Emergency Department included Dr. Chris Colwell as well as Dr. Caitlin Collins and Mike Texada from the Wraparound Project. Wraparound is a violence intervention program based at ZSFG providing life-saving interventions ensuring patients in crisis receive holistic care that extends beyond the hospital walls with the goal of reducing violent injuries and criminal recidivism among vulnerable San Francisco residents.

We are grateful for Supervisor Mahmood's partnership and advocacy, which help amplify the essential work of ZSFG staff and their tireless efforts to deliver high-quality, inclusive care to all San Franciscans.

CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The Children's Environmental Health Promotions Program has collaborated with the DPH Communications Office to develop and implement a comprehensive Lead Awareness Marketing and Communications Campaign. This initiative is designed to raise public awareness about the dangers of lead exposure, particularly among young children, and to promote preventive measures that can be taken within the home environment.

As a key component of this campaign, the program has created an informational lead prevention poster, which is prominently displayed on hundreds of public transit buses throughout San Francisco. This wide-reaching effort aims to educate families and caregivers about the serious health risks associated with lead exposure and to encourage them to take advantage of the services offered by our program.

There is no safe level of lead exposure in the human body, especially for young children, who are particularly vulnerable to its harmful effects. In response to this public health concern, the Children's Environmental Health Promotions Program provides comprehensive services, including in-home inspections and environmental assessments for residences where children under the age of six live.

In addition to these services, the program distributes educational materials that inform families about common sources of lead in the home and offer practical guidance on how to reduce exposure. These efforts are part of a broader strategy to protect children's health, promote environmental justice, and support safe and healthy living environments for all San Francisco residents.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

The federal government has entered a shutdown. While these events can create uncertainty, our mission at DPH continues and the essential public health, clinical care, and behavioral health services we provide will continue.

We do not anticipate significant immediate impacts on day-to-day operations. Some federally supported programs may experience delays in approvals, guidance, or reimbursements, but services will continue. For research and grants, funds that have already been awarded should not be affected, and work supported by existing grants can continue. However, no new funding approvals will be issued.

We are closely monitoring the situation and will share updates if anything changes.

COVID-19 UPDATE

As of 10/15:

- San Francisco's 7-day rolling average of COVID test positivity is 2.6%.
- Ten percent of SF residents are fully up to date on their COVID vaccinations and have received the updated vaccine.

Public Comment:

Patrick Monette-Shaw made comments and submitted the following written summary:

It's disturbing Director Tsai didn't mention anything today about the paltry census at Laguna Honda Hospital. According to the "State of the Hospital" report presented to the LHH-JCC, the 649-bed SNF units at LHH had 544 residents, which dropped by six patients to just patients in August and September. As of 9/22/2025, LHH had 111 empty SNF beds. The failure to fill those beds with significant numbers of new admissions suggests that there is something OTHER THAN the "seasonal fluctuations" in admissions, as Diltar Sidhu lamely suggested is the cause for the lag in patient admissions to reach having "a full census." Obviously, the slow pace of admissions is causing more and more San Franciscans — who want and need — SNF level of care to face being dumped into out-of-county facilities. What's the delay with admissions to LHH, driving down potential Medi-Cal reimbursement for LHH's still full contingent of Nursing staff?

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Christian asked if COVID-19 vaccine data is collected and available. Mr. Morewitz stated that the state requires that COVID-19 vaccines be noted in their registry, which can output neighborhood-level data.

5) RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND A GIFT OF \$77,000 FROM THE EPIC SYSTEMS CORPORATION

Greg Wong, DPH Administrative Analyst, presented the item.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Commissioner Comments:

There were no Commissioner comments.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the resolution. (See Attached)

6) **DPH FOURTH QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT**

Drew Murrell, DPH Chief Financial Officer, presented the item.

Public Comment:

Patrick Monette-Shaw made comments and submitted the following written summary:

The "Fourth Quarter Financial Report" started 7/1/2024 — just ten days AFTER LHH re-gained Medicare recertification on 6/20/2024. There's no reason why LHH is shown as having a \$51.2 million shortfall in Medi-Cal revenue. After all, LHH had an entire fiscal year to be earning full Medi-Cal reimbursement, but has slow-walked admissions. This is shameful, at best! As my overhead chart shows, that shame extends for the past three Fiscal Years, with LHH having racked up the loss of just short of \$120 MILLION in forgone Medi-Cal reimbursement, that the City, Board of Supervisors, and SFDPH have had to make up for with other funding sources of revenue, or transfer of other funds. My chart also shows the SNF bed census has remained flat since July 22, and there's still 111 empty SNF beds, driving down potential Medi-Cal reimbursement for your full contingent of Nursing staff. You must expedite patient admissions!

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Guggenheim asked for clarification regarding when the DPH Management Fund would be used. Mr. Murrell stated that the fund was created for use in short-term revenue shortfalls.

Vice President Guillermo asked for more information on the need to utilize savings from other divisions to cover ZSFG expenditures. Mr. Murrell stated that as part of the DPH budget process, funds are moved from one DPH area to another in order to reach a balanced budget. In regard to ZSFG, the census was so high, it increased nursing staff costs.

Vice President Guillermo noted that the DPH rate of its budget growth has been greater than the City's general budget. Mr. Murrell stated that the DPH has historically developed a budget that makes sense with its costs and revenue. Vice President Guillermo stated in the current local, state, and federal budget environment, the DPH will have shift its budget development process as federal and state revenue streams are quickly shifting.

President Green asked if there are any settlements expected in the future that may assist the DPH in its budget development. Mr. Murrell stated that the settlement revenues are subject to state and federal audits before the DPH can access the funds. It is a complicated and These settlement revenues are subject to state and federal audit before we can realize the funds. Complicated time-consuming process.

7) **LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL POLICIES**

Nawzaneen Zahir, Chief Quality Officer, LHH, presented the item.

Public Comment:

There was no public comments.

Commissioner Comments:

There were no Commissioner comments.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the following policies:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Scope</u>	<u>Policy No.</u>	<u>Policy Title</u>
1	Nursing	A 2.0	Nursing Services: Organization, Authority/Responsibility and Oper
2	DPH Wide	18.04	Order Entry
3	DPH Wide	18.05	Blood and Blood Product Component Administration

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4	Facility Wide	25-16	Safe Use of Medicinal Cannabis Products
5	Facility Wide	25-16 Attachment A	Laguna Honda Medicinal Cannabis Policy Acknowledgement
6	Facility Wide	24-06	Resident and Visitor Complaints/Grievances
7	Facility Wide	24-06 Attachment A	Resident Grievance Information Flyer
8	Facility Wide	24-06 Attachment B	24-06 Attachment B Resident Grievance Form
9	Facility Wide	24-06 Attachment D	Resident Grievance Response Form
10	Facility Wide	24-28	Behavioral Health
11	Facility Wide	65-02	Monitoring of Third Party Agreements
12	Facility Wide	65-02 Attachment A	Monitoring of Third Party Agreements
13	Medical Services	MSPP-003-03	Billing for Physician Services
14	Medical Services	MSPP-D15	Prescribing Controlled Substances for Chronic Pain Management
15	Medical Services	MSPP-D15_Attachment A 1	Prescribing Controlled Substances for Chronic Pain Management
16	Out Patient Clinic	A2	Outpatient Clinic Appointment System
17	Out Patient Clinic	C7	Shelf-life of Sterile Packages
18	Out Patient Clinic	C4	High-Level Chemical Disinfection
19	Out Patient Clinic	C5	Flexible Nasopharyngeal Laryngoscope
20	Volunteer Services	A01.0	Volunteer Recruitment Process Life Cycle
21	Volunteer Services	A02.0	Volunteer Fingerprinting
22	Volunteer Services	A03.0	Volunteer Orientation
23	Volunteer Services	A04.0	Volunteer Infection Prevention
24	Volunteer Services	A06.0	Record Keeping
25	Volunteer Services	A08.0	Clothing Room
26	Volunteer Services	A09.0	Resident Library
27	Volunteer Services	A10.0	Holiday Gifts
28	Volunteer Services	A11.0	Volunteer ID Badge

8) COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Commissioner Giraudo, Chair, stated that the committee heard robust presentations from the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Section and the Tuberculosis Prevention Program.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Commissioner Comments:

There were no Commissioner comments.

9) OTHER BUSINESS

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Comments:

There were no Commissioner comments.

10) CLOSED SESSION

- a. Public comments on items 10 and 11.
(San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.15).
There was no public comment on this item.
- b. Vote on whether to hold a Closed Session.

Action Item: The Health Commission voted unanimously to go into closed session.

**CONSIDERATION OF LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL MEDICAL STAFF
CREDENTIALING MATTERS**

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

Existing and Anticipated Litigation. Closed session for the Health Commission to convene pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(a), 54956.9(d)(1), 54956.9(d)(2), 54956.9(d)(4), 54956.9(e)(1) and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(d), for the purpose of conferring with, or receiving advice from, legal counsel regarding the following existing litigation matters in which the City is a party, and regarding anticipated litigation as plaintiff and/or defendant: State of New Jersey, et al. v. Donald J. Trump, et al., Case No. 1:25-cv-10139 (D. Mass.), 25-1170 (1st Cir.), 24A886 (U.S. Sup. Ct.); City and County of San Francisco v. Donald J. Trump, et al., Case No. 3:25-cv-01350 (N.D. Cal.); Doctors for America v. Office of Personnel Management, Case No. 1:25-cv-00322 (D.D.C.); SFUSD, City of Santa Fe v. AmeriCorps, et al., Case No. 3:25-cv-02425 (N.D. Cal.); AFGE, et al. v. Trump, et al., Case No. 3:25-cv-03698, (N.D. Cal.); King County, et al. v. Turner, et al., Case No. 2:25-cv-00814 (W.D. Wash.); City of Chicago v. U.S. Dep't of Homeland Security and Kristi Noem, Case No. 25-cv-05462, (N.D. Ill); Appalachian Voices, et al v. US. Environmental Protection Agency, Case No. 25-cv-01982 (D.D.C.); County of Santa Clara, et al v. Noem, Case No. 25-cv-08330 (N.D. Cal.).

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

- i. Discussion and Vote to elect whether to disclose any portion of the closed session discussion that is not confidential under Federal or State law, The Charter, or Non- Waivable Privilege (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(a).)

- ii. Possible report on action taken in closed session (Government Code Sections 54957.1(a) and 54957.7(b) and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(b)).

11) POSSIBLE DISCLOSURE OF CLOSED SESSION INFORMATION

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the LHH Credentials Report and voted not to disclose discussions held in closed session.

12) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42pm.

Attachment

**Health Commission
City and County of San Francisco
Resolution No. 29-10**

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND A GIFT OF \$77,000 FROM THE EPIC SYSTEMS CORPORATION**

WHEREAS, The Epic Systems Corporation provides for the distribution of seventy-seven thousand dollars (\$77,000) to the Department of Public Health; and

WHEREAS, The Epic Systems Corporation has notified the Department of Public Health that proceeds from the gift will be distributed; and

WHEREAS, The Epic Systems Corporation has donated to the Department of Public health in the amount of \$77,000 for the department's role as a Federally Qualified Health Center; and

WHEREAS, The Epic Systems Corporation provides gifts to entities that help low income and at-risk populations; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Health Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisor authorize the Department of Public Health to accept and expend a gift of cash of up to seventy-seven thousand dollars (\$77,000) to support the goal of helping low income and at-risk populations; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the gift will be accepted and expended consistent with San Francisco Administrative Code Sections governing the acceptance of gifts to the City and County of San Francisco, including San Francisco Administrative Code Section 10.100-305.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting on October 20, 2025, adopted the foregoing resolution.

Mark Morewitz, MSW
Health Commission Executive Secretary