Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax Advisory Committee
MINUTES

September 16, 2026
5:00pm
25 Van Ness, 6th Floor, Room 610
San Francisco, CA 94102

Order of Business:

1. Call to Order / Roll Call – Meeting called to order at 5:05pm
   SDDTAC members present: P Rodriguez (virtual), John Maa, Abby Cabrera, Prasanthi Patel, Jamey Schmidt, Chester Williams, Laura Urban, Jennifer LeBarre, Tiffany Kenison, Rubin Sorrell II, Saeeda Hafiz, Clara Obstfeld
   Excused absence: Monica Ferrey
   John motions to approve excused absence for Monica Ferrey. Jamey seconds. 8 votes, motion passes.
   SDDTAC members absent: Alesandra Lozano, Gabriela Castellanos Rumbo, Monica Ferrey
   Public: Najawa Ahmed

2. Land Acknowledgement and Housekeeping

3. Approval of Minutes for Previous (August) Meeting
   John motions to approve minutes. Clara seconds. 1 abstention, Jamey Schmidt. 8 votes, motion passes.

4. Review and Consideration of Regular Agenda
   Prasanthi motions to approve agenda. Jamey seconds. 8 votes, agenda is approved.

5. General Public Comment – no public comment

6. DPH Staff Report

   a. SDDTAC member introductions – members introduce themselves

   b. SDDTAC Youth Seat Vacancy – staff working with Board of Supervisors clerk for application, will share out flyer and application link once received.

   c. Food Coordination Legislation Review by Rules Committee – BOS Rules Committee meeting moved to 9/21/2026, can go to BOS website for agenda and online access link.

   d. 2027 Biennial Food Security and Equity Report Community Meetings – DPH hosting 2 community engagement meetings for community members to provide feedback for the 2027 Biennial Food Security and Equity Report. Sign up to attend the meetings.

   e. Shape Up SF 20th Anniversary - Coalition Meeting (9/17/26 at Community Well) and Health Commission Resolution (9/21)

   Member suggests SDDTAC sent a congrats letter to Shape Up coalition for 20th Anniversary. Members applaud SUSFC for their work and 20th anniversary.

7. SDDT Infrastructure Subcommittee Sunset Vote [Discussion and Action]
   Members review previous discussion on the infrastructure subcommittee rationale to sunset.
   Saeeda motions to sunset the SDDT Infrastructure subcommittee. Jamey seconds. 10 votes, motion passes.

Member suggest that the work of the infrastructure subcommittee can be shared with other soda tax jurisdictions. Member adds that much of the work is documented and is also included as part of the SDDTAC strategic implementation plan.

8. Teleconference Meetings for SDDT Subcommittee (Subsidiary Bodies) [Discussion and Action] Members review previous discussion on subcommittees meeting virtually and rationale such as meeting quorum and allowing accessibility for members of the public to attend meetings.

   Jamey motions to approve SDDT subcommittees meetings to meet virtually. Clara seconds, 10 votes, motion passes.

9. Review of Proposed SDDTAC Meeting Calendar Cadence [Discussion] 15 minutes

   Chair shared that subcommittees reviewed the proposed SDDTAC bimonthly meeting calendar cadence to begin in 2027. With in person SDDTAC meetings, strategic implementation plan, the chairs and backbone staff were exploring the potential to reduce the burden of in person meetings, and still remain efficient and on track with the work. Much of the strategic implementation plan work is done in the subcommittees and the proposed meeting cadence would still align with the natural pace of tasks that the SDDTAC would accomplish. Concerns about longer SDDTAC meeting were discussed, depending on what the agenda items are. Members agree to revisiting meeting calendar cadence to determine its effectiveness, every six months and for subcommittee chairs to meet with co-chairs monthly to ensure alignment and constant communication. Chairs to sit on subcommittees so that there is a balance and representation for SDDTAC co-chairs on each subcommittee.

   Member suggest keeping SDDTAC meetings monthly, since the influx of new SDDTAC members and possibly make the meeting calendar cadence in 6 months instead. Given the historical loss by the BOS appointees. That means meeting monthly, to ensure that we continue with consistency of meetings. There is also potential to have member turnover. If that is the reason to move to bi-monthly, then we will not ever do it. Do we have to have the meeting, can the chairs look at what is in front of us and determine if we need to have a meeting.

   Pre pandemic the meetings were well attended by non-committee members, talking in a room and inviting folks to speak virtually. How do we get more engaged in the work we are doing for the community to show up? We are doing a lot of advocacy work and for others to see what we are doing in person versus online.

10. SDDTAC FY 27-28 and FY 28-29 Budget Recommendations Strategy [Discussion and Possible Action]

    Chair reviews budget survey highlights presented at the August SDDTAC meeting. Members participate in interactive activity to answer the following questions digitally:

1) What should our recommendations protect/accomplish/focus on/target this year?

   Responses: Healthy school meals and nutrition education, maintain current program specific funding levels, CBO funding opportunities, oral health, healthy food access, priority populations impacted by ssbs, early chronic disease prevention interventions, water promotion.

   Member expands on response: greater community development through individual programs – looking at greater impact on the community through looking at programs previously funded and how SDDTAC can help them to stay funded to do a better job. Programs driven by CBOs funded by SDDT.

2) Given the fiscal realities we're facing, where are we willing to be flexible?

   Responses: not flexible with decreasing amount of funding in the current bridge plan, we've already been flexible enough, accept the possible settlement funds from the City Attorney's class action

litigation regarding ultra processed foods, funding CBOs where community gets the revenue, setting the budget for the people and not the administration.

Members expressed that the SDDTAC does not have to follow what we have done in the past, it is up to us, on how we would like to proceed and vote.

Member said that providing food is great and it is important to look at prevention and structural issues and how to work with partners and what else is included, community development is of importance as well and not just having food. Messaging is critical for our communities.

Member suggests creating rubric of recommendation/evaluation/values when developing SDDTAC budget recommendations. Can we require city agencies to engage with SDDTAC around food distribution work and its connection to chronic disease prevention? Member suggest submitting questions to HSA for October presentation.

Member suggests having different conversations with Mayor's office, such as soda at the sports games, seeing the realities, what has changed, industry has increased. Maybe there is another way to raise silo awareness.

Member shares, when we think about policy, when In Advance community-based action research results said they wanted food and those in survival mode, particularly around food. Preventative work and investment for the future and the community agrees and there has to be a balanced approach. What we are proposing for the balance that people want and the landscape of the city budget, how are we combatting the fact that the status quo is to be engaged, informed and educated. What we know based on the evidence, are there ways we can collaborate with HSA by spreading the word of the soda tax?

Chair recommends for October subcommittees, to think about key checklist items that tackle chronic disease and oral health and identify upstream measures for data and evidence, and for community input to work on priority populations and neighborhoods and discuss at October SDDTAC meeting as a roadmap. At the November SDDTAC meeting to talk it through and advocate to the community with the community input subcommittee to help guide that process.

Members suggest working with previous SDDT grantees to mobilize and work with SDDTAC health equity representatives. Member suggest encouraging HSA to conduct nutrition education and identify how soda tax is aligned.

Staff will reach out to members regarding specific questions for HSA presentation to the SDDT and to share with members FY 24-25 SDDT evaluation report.

11. SDDTAC Implementation Plan 2026-2031 Update [Discussion and Possible Action]

    Prasanthi reviews implementation plan strategies and provides next steps moving forward.
    - Subcommittees will review year 1 assigned strategies, goals and objectives
    - Members sign up to serve as drivers/owners for active objectives
    - Drivers identify 2-3 next steps, key collaborators and existing resources for their objectives
    - Subcommittees use the implementation plan to track process and bring issues to SDDTAC meetings
    - Backbone staff to provide support, documentation and items requiring broader committee action
12. Subcommittee Updates [Discussion and Possible Action]

    a. Co-Chair – meeting with DPH directors on 9/21/26; co-chairs asks are DPH to be a champion of SDDT and witness the SDDT work, visit sealant program school site and attend spring SDDT annual networking meeting with SDDT grantees; be champion for oral health and cardiovascular disease and diabetes prevention.

b. Community Input – reviewed proposed meeting calendar cadence; welcome Dr. Sorrell to the subcommittee; member shares witnessing soda industry still being marketed and promoting at sports events.

c. Data & Evidence – reviewed proposed meeting calendar cadence, preliminary discussions about budget recommendations process and strategy.

13. Committee Member Proposed Future Agenda Items [Discussion and Possible Action]

- HSA presentation
- Revisit budget recommendations strategy and SDDTAC values
- Strategic implementation plan check in update
- Debrief from DPH leadership meeting
- Lessons learned from other soda tax jurisdictions

14. Announcements [Discussion and Possible Action]

- Laura – September 19, 2026 Children's Council hosting its City Kids Family Fair

15. Adjournment [Action]

Prasanthi motions to adjourn. John seconds. Meeting is adjourned at 7:13pm.