

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION  
October 10, 2013  
MINUTES**

**COMMISSIONERS**

**Patrick Dowling, M.D., M.P.H., Chairperson\*\***  
Jean G. Champommier, Ph.D., Vice-Chair\*  
Waleed W. Shindy M.D., M.P.H.\*  
Michelle Anne Bholat, M.D., M.P.H. \*

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE**

Jonathan E. Fielding, Director of Public Health and Health Officer\*\*\*  
Angela Haley, Secretary\*  
Public Health Commission

**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION ADVISOR**

Cynthia Harding, Chief Deputy\*  
Public Health

**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION YOUTH ADVISOR**

Vacant

**\*Present \*\*Excused \*\*\*Absent**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
I. CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:07 a.m. by Vice-Chairperson Champommier at Public Health Administration.	Information only.

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<b>II. ANNOUNCEMENTS &amp; INTRODUCTIONS</b>	<p>Introductions of Commissioners and guests were conducted.</p> <p>The Commission welcomed Richard Espinosa, Health Deputy, Fourth Supervisorial District, to the Public Health Commission meeting.</p>	<p>Information only.</p>
<b>III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	<p><b>MOTION: APPROVAL OF APRIL 11, 2013 MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>MOTION: APPROVAL OF MAY 23, 2013 MINUTES</b></p>	<p>Vice-Chairperson Champommier entertained a motion from Commissioner Shindy, seconded by Commissioner Bholat and carried unanimously.</p> <p>Vice-Chairperson Champommier entertained a motion from Commissioner Bholat, seconded by Commissioner Shindy and carried unanimously.</p>

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<p><b>IV. PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT</b></p>	<p>Cindy Harding provided the Commission with a Public Health Report and discussed public health activities since the last report on September 12, 2013.</p> <p><b>Toxic Emissions Exposure and the Exide Technologies Plant in Vernon, California</b></p> <p>Ms. Harding informed the Commission subsequent to the last update, the Superior Court ruled to allow Exide to resume operations. There remain substantial comments, concerns, and questions about exposure to emissions from this facility and the degree to which they may place the public at risk. However, since the original risk assessment dated January 2013, several modifications to reduce emissions have been made at the facility. The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) is presently conducting source testing in order to re-estimate health risk under current operating conditions. SCAQMD is also performing weekly testing of arsenic levels in and around the facility. DPH anticipates receiving the revised risk assessment in September 2013.</p> <p>DPH is working with the California Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) to design a work plan to collect both dust and soil samples outside the facility perimeter and within the adjoining residential communities. Second, DPH will work with DTSC and SCAQMD to implement risk reduction</p>	<p>Commissioner Shindy expressed an interest in how did DPH first become aware of the toxic emissions exposure, role of the regulatory agencies, litigation issues, and how DPH plans to address environmental justice issues. Ms. Harding indicated she will have Environmental Health to present to the Commission in the near future to address these concerns.</p>

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<p><b>IV. PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT CONTINUED</b></p>	<p>your Board motion.</p> <p><b>Early Childhood Obesity Prevention (First 5 LA) Grant Update</b></p> <p>DPH was granted a four-year, \$41 million award from First 5 LA in 2012 with the goal of reducing the prevalence of overweight and obesity among young children and their families. The Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Initiative (ECOPi) is bringing together a broad range of partners to implement community-based public education, skills-building and environmental changes to promote physical activity and healthy eating among the nearly one million L.A. County children ages 0-5 and their families. The initiative focuses on child care settings, community interventions, and inter-conception care.</p> <p><b>Health Officer Order for Mandatory Annual Influenza Vaccination for Healthcare Personnel in Acute Care, Intermediate Care, and Skilled Nursing Facilities</b></p> <p>Ms. Harding discussed the above-subjected memo to the Board from Dr. Fielding that indicates his plan to issue a health officer order that requires mandatory annual influenza vaccination for healthcare personnel in acute care, intermediate care, and skilled nursing facilities for the influenza season. Evidence supports that immunization of health care personnel reduces the frequency of infection in patients in these facilities, which can be life threatening.</p>	

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<p>V. AHO REPORT SPAs 7&amp;8 CONTINUED</p>	<p><b>Social Determinants</b></p> <p><u>High School Graduation Rate</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPA 7 – 72.5%</li> <li>• SPA 8 – 81.1%</li> <li>• LAC – 76.8%</li> </ul> <p><u>Poverty</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPA 7 – 15.5%</li> <li>• SPA 8 – 17.2%</li> <li>• LAC – 18%</li> </ul> <p><i>Dr. Prieto discussed slides that showed the impact of chronic diseases in SPAs 7&amp;8.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Leading Causes of Death 2009 Morbidity Report. Coronary heart disease is the number one leading cause of death for both SPAs 7&amp;8.</i></li> <li>• <i>Smoking Rates – In SPA 7, 14.4 percent of adults smoke cigarettes, and in SPA 8, 13 percent of adults smoke cigarettes.</i></li> <li>• <i>Percent of Adults (18+years) Ever Diagnosed with Diabetes – 1997-2011; in SPA 7 there has been an increase of adults with Diabetes of 184</i></li> </ul>	

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<p><b>V.AHO REPORT SPAs 7&amp;8 CONTINUED</b></p>	<p>and playing in our community. Residents in the community are learning how to be advocates for the neighborhood, i.e., working with local corner stores that offer fresh produce, promote exercise at the neighborhood park, and etc.</p> <p>Ms. Sandoval discussed the Photovoice Project that focuses on healthy eating and active living in the community. Using Photovoice we hope to engage youth in documenting the strengths and concerns of their community and make them known through photography.</p> <p><b>Project Modeled After Evidence-Based Intervention</b></p> <p>The Community Preventive Services Task Force recommends the following on the basis of strong evidence of effectiveness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smoke-free policies to reduce secondhand smoke exposure and tobacco use</li> <li>• Implementing programs that increase the length of, or activity levels in, school-based physical education classes</li> <li>• Worksite programs that implement policy and environmental approaches aimed at making healthy choices</li> </ul>	

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<p><b>V.AHO REPORT SPAs 7&amp;8 CONTINUED</b></p>	<p>Ms. Sandoval indicated staff has advocated for a strong school wellness policy, and after the workshop parental knowledge has increased 100 percent. Also, environmental changes have shown a substantial increase in a year.</p> <p><b>Longer Term Outcomes</b></p> <p><u>Neighborhoods/Community-at-Large</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase healthy food available at corner markets</li> </ul> <p><u>Worksites</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote adoption of worksite wellness policies</li> </ul> <p>Roberta Delgado, PIH Health, indicated that it's the non-profit obligation to improve the health and welfare of the community, provide advocacy training (both English and Spanish), and continue to collaborate with SPA 7 staff and other organizations.</p> <p>Vice Chairperson Champommier stated that the involvement of staff and guests is terrific. He indicated that its important that residents are involved in their communities.</p> <p>Commissioner Shindy asked if Whittier has a farmer's market. Dr. Prieto indicated yes, and they have just started adding the EBT card as a form of payment.</p>	

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<p><b>V.AHO REPORT SPAs 1&amp;2</b></p>	<p>Dr. Frank Alvarez, Area Health Officer (AHO), provided the Commission with an overview, future challenges, and opportunities in SPAs 1&amp;2.</p> <p>Dr. Alvarez distributed and discussed the Community Preventive Services Task Force Annual Report to Congress and to agencies related to the work of the task force. The task force discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alcohol: Preventing Excessive Alcohol Consumption</li> <li>• Cardiovascular Disease Prevention &amp; Control</li> <li>• Diabetes Prevention &amp; Control</li> <li>• Nutrition: Promoting Good Nutrition</li> <li>• Obesity Prevention &amp; Control</li> <li>• Physical Activity: Increasing Physical Activity</li> <li>• Tobacco: Reducing Tobacco Use &amp; Secondhand Smoke Exposure</li> <li>• Worksite Health Promotion</li> </ul> <p>Dr. Alvarez discussed the following Valley Press Newspaper articles: Kid chefs preparing healthy dishes, no more 'boys', 'girls' restrooms, Governor Brown signs bill for transgender kids, and sewage water due to irrigate city park.</p>	

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<p><b>VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS</b></p>	<p><i>Dr. Prieto asked the Commission what does the Commission wants to hear from the SPAs in future presentations, such as, data, statistics, community partners, consumers, what are the SPAs doing in terms of the community, and what's been done and where the impact is being made.</i></p> <p><i>The Commission indicated that community partners is of interest (collaboration), community advocates, consumers, how are the SPAs utilizing the monies they receive from grants, what the SPAs are doing in terms of impacting the community and the impact on disease status, and the big problem(s) in the community.</i></p> <p><i>Commissioner Bholat indicated we hear a lot about what's going right, we need to hear about the failures, where's the closure, what's successful, who's accountable, and have a solution to the problem(s).</i></p> <p><i>The Commission thanked both Drs. Alvarez and Prieto for an excellent presentation.</i></p> <p><i>The meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.</i></p>	