“We are in the health business”
– Bill Lindsay, Richmond, City Manager

City of Richmond
Health in All Policies

City services through the prism of health
Overview

- Background and Context, Gabino Arredondo (5 mins)
- What is Health in All Policies? Meredith Lee (5 mins)
- Health in All Policies: Opportunities, Shasa Curl (10 mins)
- Next Steps and Questions, All (10 mins)
Background and Context
Model of change
Community Health and Wellness Element and Current Health Initiatives
How can we best align existing City plans with HiAP

- There is no formula or right way to implement HiAP.
How do you define Health?
Other definitions of Health...

Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

(Preamble to the Constitution of the World Health Organization as adopted by the International Health Conference, New York, 19-22 June, 1946; signed on 22 July 1946 by the representatives of 61 States (Official Records of the World Health Organization, no. 2, p. 100) and entered into force on 7 April 1948.)
What are the determinants of health?
Cumulative Stressors on some Richmond residents

Chronic stress has known physical and mental health impacts, from clogging arteries and heart disease, to overweight & diabetes to chromosome damage and premature aging.

- Racial Profiling
- Poor air quality & lack of safe recreation space
- Residential Segregation
- Economic insecurity
- Stress
- Street, neighborhood & school Violence
- Over-burdened social services
- High food prices/ lack of healthy foods
- Lack of health care
What is Health in All Policies?
What is Health in All Policies?

**CALIFORNIA DEFINITION**

- HiAP approach recognizes that health and prevention are impacted by policies that are managed by non-health government/non-government entities.
- Many strategies that improve health will also help to meet the policy objectives of other agencies.

HiAP Task Force Report—Executive Summary pg. 4 and 5
Health in All Policies: Richmond

- **Health in All Policies is both a process and a goal.**

1. **Process:** Collaborative approach - changing way City employees and larger community think about health.

2. **Goal:** Improve health equity by addressing the social determinants of health and integrating health into the decision making process across all departments of the City.
Health Equity

- Full Service and Safe Communities with Quality Health Care
- Housing, Residential Segregation and Concentrated Poverty
- Education and Social Environments
- Environmental Health and Justice
- Increase Economic Opportunities
- Health Equity Screening Tools
- Leadership and Interdepartmental Coordination
- Identification of Drivers of Health inequity and equity
- Integrate Health Equity in City’s Budget Strategy
- Increase Awareness of the Role for City Staff in Promoting Health Equity
- Health Equity Goals in City Procurement
- Recruit and Maintain a Diverse Workforce in City Government
- Opportunities:
There is a need to demonstrate and institutionalize leadership within the City to make health equity a priority. The Richmond Health Equity Partnership (RHEP) is an example of leadership from within the city and coordination with other health promoting government and public entities, including the County Health Department and West Contra Costa Unified School District.
While our working hypothesis is that cumulative stress is a key driver of health inequities in Richmond, we need better and more consistent data to identify the specific set of hazardous exposures, stressors, lack of resources, etc., that are influencing health for different population groups in Richmond. This includes collecting data on race, ethnicity, sex, primary language, and disability status; assuring public access to data that is at the appropriate geographic level (i.e. neighborhoods).
Integrate Health Equity in City’s Budget Strategy

Each chapter of the Five Year Strategic Business Plan can be linked to the goals of health equity outlined in this Strategy. In addition, the budget can and should be linked to health equity goals already identified in the Community Health and Wellness Element of the General Plan. All city departments and community-based organizations should be involved in the drafting of the health equity measures for the Five Year Strategic Business Plan and progress should be reported annually.
Increase Awareness of the Role for City Staff in Promoting Health Equity

Develop on-going trainings for all city staff on health equity and social justice issues in Richmond and what each department and staff person can do both within their organization and through the work of their department to promote health equity in Richmond.
Contracting by the city can be one way to direct economic opportunities to businesses within Richmond that are owned by women, LGBT, and racial/ethnic minorities, as well as hold contractors to the standards that promote a healthy and equitable workplace and workforce.
Recruit and Maintain a Diverse Workforce in City Government

Hiring, training and retaining an educated and diverse workforce in Richmond that reflects the demographics of the City is crucial. This can not only provide employment opportunities for residents but also will also ensure that city residents ‘see themselves’ in their government and ensure that administrative decisions (not just City Council) are being made with knowledge of the needs of Richmond’s diverse populations and communities.
This HiAP strategic document is intended to set in motion a process of selecting a set of tools for city staff to use that assist them in making decisions that are consistent with the goals of health equity. A set of clear but flexible tools are needed to ensure that staff know how to, and are rewarded for, screening decisions for their potential positive and adverse impacts on the poor and people of color in Richmond.
Increase Economic Opportunities

Economic opportunities, wealth and income are all important resources that can promote the health of Richmond’s residents.
Environmental quality and sustainability are linked to human health and Richmond has an important history of Environmental Justice research and action. The HiAP strategy should build on this commitment to environmental health justice to promote the well being of Richmond’s residents.
Schools and the education environment more generally plays an integral role in promoting health and well-being of young people and their families in Richmond. The availability of quality education combined with supportive educational environment for students and families is essential for community health equity. The West Contra Costa Unified School District has already committed to such things as enhancing their school-based clinics and supporting students and families with health education and resources, including distributing healthy foods.
Housing quality, cost and location all contribute to health in numerous ways. Involuntary displacement contributes to stress, loss of supportive social networks and increased risk for substandard housing conditions and overcrowding. Racially segregated neighborhoods and those with concentrated poverty typically have fewer assets and health promoting resources. Unsafe housing and habitability conditions that affect health include poor indoor air quality and inadequate heating or ventilation, which can lead to the growth of mold and dust mites, exacerbating asthma and respiratory allergies; lead-based paint which is the primary cause of lead poisoning in children; rodent and pest infestations; exposed heating sources; excessive noise; and unprotected windows.
Access to quality, affordable and culturally appropriate primary and preventative health care is a crucial component of health equity in Richmond. Too many residents rely on emergency rooms for primary care or fail to seek preventative or early-intervention treatment. This can increase the severity of illness and the financial, social and other burdens on patients, families and the health care system. While expansions in Medicaid coverage is one care strategy, greater targeted place-based efforts are necessary to ensure that all Richmond residents enroll in eligible programs and receive the health benefits for which they are eligible.
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<th>Short-term measures of Equity</th>
<th>Long-term Actions</th>
<th>Long-term Measures of Equity</th>
<th>Progress at Year ending</th>
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Next Steps

- Compile comments and publish on City website
  - www.richmondhealth.org

- Prepare draft HiAP strategy plan incorporating community input

- Next community meeting: TBD (likely in Jan 2014)
Questions?
THANK YOU

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