



King County

King County Board of Health

Staff Report

Agenda item No: 12

Date: February 20, 2020

Resolution No. Resolution No. 20-07

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SUBJECT

A RESOLUTION adopting the 2020 work plan for the King County Board of Health.

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF LEGISLATION

Beginning in 2006, the King County Board of Health adopts an annual work program. The annual work program helps the Board of Health successfully fulfill its responsibilities by establishing goals and priorities and creating opportunities for action within the Board's authority and workload.

Proposed 2020 Work Plan

The proposed 2020 work plan for the Board of Health, Attachment A to proposed Resolution 20-07, builds on the Board's past accomplishments and ongoing work. Along with required reviews and actions on items such as aligning tobacco code with state and federal law, the work plan includes a focus on topics including: gun violence, gender-based violence and sexual assault, climate change and health, and state support for public health needs.

Input to the work plan was solicited from Board of Health members and is reflected in the draft workplan.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Resolution 20-07, with Attachment A: King County Board of Health 2020 Work Plan

King County Board of Health - Roles and Responsibilities

The King County Board of Health is granted the authority to protect and promote the health of King County residents as outlined in RCW 70.05.060. State law allows the Board to set countywide public health policy, enact and enforce local public health regulations, enforce state public health laws, prevent the spread of infectious diseases, and establishes fee schedules for certain licenses and permits (such as food permits for restaurants).

There are eight city and county elected officials, and three health professionals on the King County Board of Health in accordance with Title 2 of the Code of the King County Board of Health.

The Board of Health:

- Supervises the health of King County residents by voicing and advocating priorities for protection of public health;
- Collaborates with the Public Health Director and Health Officer to set an annual work plan which creates opportunities for action within the limits of the Board's workload and legal authority; and
- May enact local rules and regulations as necessary in order to preserve, promote and improve the public health and authorize for the enforcement thereof.

The Board's Powers:

The Board's operating rules¹ provide three primary tools available to the Board: enactment of rules & regulations, resolutions, and guidelines & recommendations.

1. Rules and Regulations. Codified in the Board of Health Code, the Board enacts countywide rules and regulations, which establish requirements to broadly promote public health, prevent and control the spread of infectious disease, abate nuisances, and establish fee schedules for licenses, permits, and other services. Prior Board rules and regulations pertaining to secure medicine return, and permit requirements for farmers markets and other temporary food establishments. Rules and regulations have the force of law and are general and permanent in nature.
2. Resolutions. Resolutions are policy statements of the Board and are not considered permanent. Unlike rules and regulations, resolutions *do not* have the force of law and do not require a public hearing. Resolutions are typically used to express support for a project, program, or policy. Examples of prior resolutions include supporting efforts for

¹ The Board sets operating rules for itself in conducting the business of the Board. These rules are codified in King County Board of Health Code chapter 2.04 and address membership and officers, staff, meetings, and procedures for adopting, amending, and/or repealing rules & regulations, guidelines & recommendations, and resolutions.

the annual board of health strategic work plan and encouraging the Washington State Legislature to support funding for foundational public health services.

3. Guidelines & Recommendations. Guidelines and recommendations provide policy guidance and express the Board's current thinking. They are advisory and, like resolutions, *do not* have the force of law. A typical use of a guideline & recommendation is to outline best practice based on the expertise and resources of Public Health – Seattle & King County. Examples include information for improving food and beverage nutritional quality in vending machines and healthy housing.

In addition to the above, advocacy is another strong role for the Board of Health. Boardmembers can speak to the media, constituents, and other elected officials and county leaders to educate about health matters. A recent example is a Boardmember publishing an Op-Ed in the Puget Sound Business Journal on secure medicine return.

Fiscal Authority:

The Board of Health does not have appropriation authority. The King County Council has sole appropriation authority over matters of public health. Any Board program or initiative requiring funding must go through the Council's budget appropriation process.

The Board has the authority to enact permit or license fees may not exceed the reasonable cost of providing the particular service.²

An interlocal agreement between King County and the City of Seattle established Public Health – Seattle & King County, our joint city-county health department. The interlocal agreement outlines the city's and county's respective financial contributions towards the health department.

² RCW 70.05.060(7)

King County Board of Health Draft 2020 Work Plan

Topic	Specific Issue	Potential Actions:					Notes
		R&R	Resolution	G&R	Discussion	Advocacy	
Board Required Work	2020 Order of Vice Chairs		X				Will be completed Feb 2020
	2020 Work Plan		X				Will be completed March 2020
	Tobacco code updates	X					
	Hazardous Waste Comprehensive Plan updates and policy approaches				X		
	Environmental Health technical code revisions	X					
	Secure Medicine Return alignment with state implementation				X		
Priority: Gun Violence	State action to restore local authority and pursue firearm policies		X				Resolution passed Jan 2020
	Youth and Young Adult Gun Violence Report				X		Will be completed Feb 2020
	Regional Approach to Youth Gun Violence - briefing and possible advocacy actions				X	X	
Priority: Gender-Based Violence	Ongoing subcommittee work						Continued work from 2019
	April committee update and resolution		X				
	Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, MMIWG Subcommittee					X	
	GBV Guidelines and Tools (as determined by DV, SA, MMIWG subcommittee)			X			
Priority: Climate Change	State action to address climate change and its health impacts		X				Resolution passed Jan 2020
	Health Care Climate Alliance briefing and possible advocacy					X	Continued work from 2019
Health and Wellbeing	Healthy food access resolution and associated advocacy options		X			X	Recommendations from 2019 subcommittee
	Antibiotic resistant bacteria and meat production		X				
	Allergens and restaurant menu labeling food code changes	X					
	State action to protect WA youth from harmful effects of vapor use		X				Resolution passed Jan 2020
	MOV-UP SeaTac Air Quality Study follow-up and APDE asthma analysis				X		Continued work from 2019
	Environmental Justice Briefing (including lead exposure)				X		
	HIV briefing: demographic shifts, upcoming challenges and FPHS				X	X	Continued work from 2019
	Drug user health model briefing				X		
	TBD: Marijuana candy as a risk to children					TBD	As requested by Board Member Baker
	TBD: LGBTQ health					TBD	As requested by Board Member Marx
	TBD: Mental health and suicide prevention for veterans					TBD	As requested by Board Member Marx
	TBD: Aging in place					TBD	As requested by Board Member Morales
	TBD: Mental health needs for retiring firefighters					TBD	As requested by Board Member Morales
TBD: Local methamphetamine data and potential treatment modalities					TBD	As requested by Board Member Marx	
Other Board Advocacy	WSPHA Lobby Day					X	February 5th, 2020
	State Funding for Foundational Public Health Services		X				Resolution passed Jan 2020
	Expanding affordable health care coverage to all Washingtonians		X				Resolution passed Jan 2020
	Resolution for state to improve reimbursement rates for Dental Medicaid		X				As requested by Board Member Delecki
	Establishing BOH legislative priorities for 2021 state legislative session					X	As requested by Board Member Marx
	TBD: Regional Health Plan					TBD	As requested by Board Member Mosqueda
Admin.	Adding a BOH meeting in August 2020						

* topic areas in green prioritized by multiple BOH members