



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 2

Agenda Date: August 25, 2022

In Control: Community Health, Environment and Culture Committee

DEPARTMENT: Health Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Claude Jacob

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

A briefing about ongoing communicable disease response efforts

SUMMARY:

Metro Health will provide an update on the progress of the COVID-19 and Monkeypox response efforts underway in San Antonio and Bexar County

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

A core function of public health provision in any community is the prevention and control of communicable diseases. Metro Health has maintained an active and robust effort to prepare for and respond to communicable disease outbreaks in San Antonio and Bexar County for many years.

For the last two and a half years, Metro Health alongside partners, SAFD and STRAC, has been maintaining its ongoing response efforts to the COVID-19 pandemic. The response has involved

the provision of testing sites, contact tracing, lab surveillance, regular data analysis, vaccine clinics and robust marketing campaigns. Metro Health continues to leverage resources to ensure that all eligible persons are vaccinated to include reaching those who have not yet completed their vaccination series or secured their booster. In addition, Metro Health, with community partner STRAC, continues to monitor the impact of COVID-19 on the area hospital systems. Metro Health is still operating a full schedule of pop-up vaccination clinics scattered throughout all ten (10) Council Districts focusing on vulnerable populations and areas with a smaller percentage of those vaccinated.

For the last three months, Metro Health has maintained an ongoing response effort to the appearance of monkeypox in the San Antonio area. Monkeypox has been declared as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern by World Health Organization. It was declared as a Public Health Emergency nationally by the US Department of Health and Human Services on August 4. Metro Health is closely monitoring case counts in the San Antonio and Bexar County area and is prepared to meet the ongoing response. Metro Health has received both vaccine and treatments from Texas Department of State Health Services and is working with community partners to ensure that these medical countermeasures are being available to those at the highest risk of infection. Public Health Communications are ongoing to both providers and community members in the form of exhibits at health fairs, panel sessions, a social media campaign, and webinars.

ISSUE:

Metro Health would like the opportunity to brief the Community Health, Environment, & Culture Committee on the progress of the COVID-19 and monkeypox response and preparedness.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact at this time.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.