



City and County of San Francisco
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
OCCUPATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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Dear ENCHIA Community Council and friends:

Thank you for participating in Tuesday's ENCHIA Community Council Reunion meeting. It was a great opportunity to share SFDPH progress on the Healthy Development Measurement Tool (HDMT) and hear feedback from you all. Thanks also to Joe Murray and Katherine Williams for joining us to share the website and discuss the Executive Park project.

Meeting materials will soon be available at: <http://www.sfdph.org/phes/ENCHIA.htm>

One major request of you that we forgot to state at the end of the meeting. We included a draft of the ENCHIA Final Report in your packets. Please review the Final Report draft and provide your comments to me by Friday, January 19, 2007. We'll also be getting in touch with some of you for specific quotes and descriptions to incorporate into the Final Report.

If you are interested in accessing the beta version of the Tool website, please go to: <http://jcmurray.gotdns.com/sfdph/hdmt/>. The website is currently hosted on a personal home server. If the website appears to be down, please try again later. You may notice some changes while you are using the site, as it will be updated frequently through the testing period. We are not currently releasing the website publicly, but are seeking review from ENCHIA Council members to improve the content, usability, and look and feel. Our website developer, Joe Murray, will be in touch with those of you who volunteered to review the website to obtain your feedback.

Quick review of what we accomplished:

- SFDPH summarized its activities since May to finalize the Tool, develop the Tool website, apply the Tool to Executive Park, and write the ENCHIA Final Report;
- The Department of City Planning summarized the status of Eastern Neighborhoods Community Planning including a schedule for the completion of the EIR;
- Representatives from non-profit organizations, including Mission Anti-Displacement Coalition, Mission Economic Development Agenda, and SOMCAN described their engagement with Area Plan work;
- The Council reviewed and discussed a Board of Supervisors Policy Resolution calling on Eastern Neighborhoods plans to adhere to the General Plan;
- Joe Murray, our website developer demonstrated the Tool website, highlighting data and website structure;
- Katherine Williams, who works with Visitation Valley Community Development Corporation, and the SFDPH team presented a pilot application of the Tool to Executive Park, a residential development project proposed for Southeast San Francisco; and,
- The Council discussed potential ways we can apply the Tool to future San Francisco land use planning opportunities.

This last activity generated fruitful dialogue on the future of the Tool as well as SFDPHs and community partners' roles in applying the Tool. The following summarizes the group's dialogue:

- ENCHIA should fulfill its initial process goal to conduct an HIA on the Eastern Neighborhoods plans via the HDMT;

- There is danger in institutionalizing the Tool as it could be “watered down” like the CEQA/EIR process;
- SFDPH should retain leadership and oversight in developing, managing, and applying the Tool in order to maintain integrity of its breadth and data quality;
- The HDMT needs “proof of concept” through real world applications in order to build the case for broader use of the Tool;
- Different ways of applying the Tool (i.e., “Future Options” handout) can and should be pursued simultaneously;
- SFDPH and ENCHIA should consider a phased plan for Tool implementation, e.g., a 3-year plan with a funding strategy;
- Tool application should be one part of a multi-pronged strategy to support comprehensive, community-responsive land use planning – e.g., need organizing and Tool advocacy
- The Planning Department should provide resources to support Tool application;
- ENCHIA could benefit from a map of land use planning processes in SF to see where ENCHIA intersects – e.g., process/landscape map of Planning that is understandable to different people;
- It is also possible to apply the Tool retroactively to test the concept; it can be applied to both projects and plans;
- Application of the Tool takes time and resources to do well. SFDPH does not have the capacity to do multiple simultaneous applications; public and private capacity building and funding should be part of a larger long-term discussion of Tool strategy; and,
- A majority of Council members present at the meeting supported coming together under the auspices of a “Healthy City Council” to guide and direct SFDPH application of the Tool and other health assessment methods.

Based on this discussion, SFDPH committed to the following next steps:

- Maintain an official role in managing and applying the Tool;
- Complete the Executive Park pilot application;
- Convene a sub-group of Council members to review and test Tool website;
- Meet with community representatives from SoMa, Mission and Potrero Hill to discuss Tool application to Eastern Neighborhoods;
- Apply the Tool to the Eastern Neighborhoods Area Plans as resources permit; and,
- Re-convene ENCHIA Council in 4-6 months to review Tool applications and discuss the potential of a Healthy City Council to support SFDPH in applying the Tool.

Please feel free to get in touch with any questions and or concerns. We’re also happy to meet with any folks who missed the meeting. Hope everyone has a happy holiday and healthy new year.

Best,

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