

CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

# Public Health Advisory Committee 2014 Annual Report

Presented to the Minneapolis City Council  
Health, Environment & Community  
Engagement Committee

Karen Soderberg and Jennifer Pelletier,  
Co-Chairs

March 2, 2015



# PHAC Responsibilities

## **Advise the City Council regarding:**

- Policy matters affecting health of Minneapolis residents
- General roles and functions of the Health Department

## **Review proposed priorities of the Health Department:**

- Make recommendations to the City Council and the Department

## **Consider complaints, concerns, and views expressed by residents affecting delivery of public health services in Minneapolis:**

- Forward concerns & make recommendations as necessary to the City Council and/or the Health Department

# Community Health



# 2014 Learning Items

## **Informational presentations related to Health Department and / or City goals and initiatives:**

- Breastfeeding
- Minneapolis Staple Foods Ordinance
- E-cigarettes and Tobacco Alternatives
- Housing Disparities & Hoarding Behavior
- Blueprint for Action to Prevent Youth Violence

# 2014 Key Activities

Priorities	Action	Result
School ready children: Breastfeeding rates, supports, and challenges	<p>Received presentations from the Minnesota Breastfeeding Coalition, Minneapolis Health Department, The Family Partnership, and the Minnesota Visiting Nurse Association</p> <p>Hosted panel discussion with representatives from four area hospitals including Abbott-Northwestern Hospitals and the Medical Centers of North Memorial, Hennepin County, and the University of Minnesota</p>	Commissioned a study by a U of MN – School of Public Health Master’s student to examine cultural and structural barriers to breastfeeding in Minneapolis and identify actions the City could take to better support breastfeeding families
Access to Healthy Foods	<p>Gave feedback on proposed changes to the Staple Foods ordinance; Submitted a letter to the HE&amp;CE Committee and provided public testimony during the public hearing supporting the proposed changes</p> <p>Engaged Minnesota Sports Facilities Association in discussion of health considerations in Vikings Stadium development and operation</p>	Ordinance changes passed unanimously

# 2014 Key Activities

Priorities	Action	Result
Smoke – Free Living	<p>Urged support for regulating e-cigarettes according to the Minnesota Indoor Clean Air Act:</p> <p>Wrote letters to Governor Dayton, each member of the Minneapolis delegation and Health Commissioner Ehlinger</p> <p>Supported the Minneapolis Youth Congress work and recommendations; submitted a letter of support and provided testimony at their presentation to the HE&amp;CE Committee</p> <p>Provided public testimony at the public hearing on e-cigarette regulation</p>	<p>HE&amp;CE received and filed MYC’s report and recommendations and called for a public hearing</p> <p>Ordinance passed</p>
Housing and Homelessness	<p>Received presentations from the Institute for Metropolitan Opportunity - University of Minnesota and the Minneapolis Health Department</p> <p>Discussed City housing policies, funding, and development with the Residential Finance Manager – CPED</p>	<p>Recommend development of a City of Minneapolis Housing Advisory Committee</p>

# 2014 Key Activities

Priorities	Action	Result
Committee Operations	<p>Helped review the nominations for Local Public Health Heroes awards, an annual Public Health Week event hosted by the Minneapolis Health Department</p> <p>Updated orientation manuals, provided an orientation to all members</p> <p>Reviewed applications for vacancies as they occurred</p> <p>Communicated with Council members and Health Department staff on key issues</p>	<p>Public ceremony held the first week of April; Seven awards given to community members and / or organizations</p> <p>Membership roster, orientations, oaths, and ethics trainings up-to-date</p>

# Highlights for 2015

- Provide feedback on the Cradle to K Cabinet report
- Plan viewings and community discussions around the documentary: *The Raising of America*
- Draft a recommendation for the development of a Housing Advisory Committee
- Review PHAC priorities alongside Health Department goals
- Engage Council Members, community, and partners: discuss health concerns and priorities in Minneapolis

# Questions?

- PHAC Co-chairs: Karen Soderberg and Jennifer Pelletier
- PHAC meetings are open to the public and held on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in City Hall Room 132.
- Meeting records and annual reports are available on the City website: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/health>
- For more information contact: Margaret Schuster, MHD, 612.673.2643 or by email at: [Margaret.Schuster@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:Margaret.Schuster@minneapolismn.gov)