

# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
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**Agenda Number:**  
**Prepared on:** April 20, 2006  
**Department Name:** Public Health Department  
**Department No.:** 041  
**Agenda Date:** 05/02/06 ONGOING-21 day term  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:**  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Elliot Schulman, MD, MPH, Director and Health Officer  
Public Health Department

**STAFF CONTACT:** Dan Reid, 681-5421  
HIV/AIDS Program Administrator

**OBJECT:** Declaration of a Local Emergency Relating to the Spread of Hepatitis Infection and HIV Among Injection Drug Users, Their Sexual Partners, and Their Children.

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## **Recommendation(s):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

Approve the continued Local Emergency, Resolution Number 00-193, due to the spread and on-going epidemic of blood-borne viral hepatitis (Hepatitis B and C) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infections among injection drug users and authorize Pacific Pride Foundation as the agent of the County to carry out the Syringe Exchange and Education Program.

## **Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation is primarily aligned with:

Goal No. II. A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit.

Goal No. VII. A Community that Fosters the Safety and Well-Being of Families and Children.

## **Executive Summary and Discussion:**

On June 6, 2000, your Board approved a resolution #00-193 proclaiming the existence of a local emergency relative to transmission of Hepatitis B and C, and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) through contaminated needles. The resolution provides that the local emergency shall continue in effect until its termination is proclaimed, by the Board of Supervisors, and that the need for the proclamation of a local emergency be reviewed every fourteen (14) days. Because of the cancellation of your Board's meeting on April 29, 2003, and in order to change the cycle of this action during April, the term of this agenda item is twenty-one (21) days, the maximum time allowed by legislation for continuation of the resolution.

The need for the declaration of a local emergency continues due to the ongoing threat to the health and safety of the residents of Santa Barbara County from the transmission of blood-borne viral Hepatitis B and C and HIV infections.

**Mandates and Service Levels:**

This is a non-mandated program. However, the California Health and Safety Code Sections 11364.7 allows for the Board of Supervisors to declare a local emergency, as defined in Government Code Section 8558, in order to authorize a Syringe Exchange and Education Program.

This recommendation does not increase service levels for the County.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

This action does not increase the use of the General Fund contribution. Pacific Pride Foundation operates the Syringe Exchange and Education Program at no cost to the County.

The action does not result in the need for additional facilities.

**Special Instructions:**

None

**Concurrence:**

Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services  
Santa Barbara County Alcohol & Drug Advisory Board

**Endorsement for Needle Exchange Programs from Other Groups:**

The American Medical Association  
The American Society of Addiction Medicine  
The American Public Health Association  
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
The American Bar Association  
The United States Conference of Mayors  
The National Academy of Science  
The National Research Council  
The National Commission on AIDS  
The National Institute of Health Consensus Statement  
The American Academy of Pediatrics