



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Health
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: April 6, 2021
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Public Health Department
Director(s) Van Do-Reynoso, MPH, PhD
Contact Info: Van Do-Reynoso

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Understanding Between the California Government
Operations Agency and the County of Santa Barbara for COVID-19 Vaccines

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form:

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form:

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors consider recommendations as follows:

- a) Approve and ratify a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), between the California Government Operations Agency and the County of Santa Barbara, governing COVID-19 vaccine allocation and administration, which the County's Director of Emergency Services previously executed on March 19, 2021 pursuant to County Code § 12-5(b) ["Emergency Management"].
- b) Authorize the County Public Health Director, or their designee, unless otherwise ordered by the Board of Supervisors, to continue using this Memorandum of Understanding as part of the County Public Health Department's efforts to provide voluntary COVID-19 vaccinations to mitigate the continued spread of COVID-19.
- c) Determine that the above recommended actions are not a "Project" with the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and are exempt per CEQA Guideline section 15378(b)(4), since the recommended actions are government fiscal activities which do not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the Agenda for the Board of Supervisors to approve and ratify a Memorandum of Understanding, between the California Government Operations Agency and the County of Santa Barbara, which will help the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department to continue to receive COVID-19 vaccine allocations and to provide voluntary vaccinations to mitigate the continued spread of COVID-19. The attached clarification letters from California Government Operations Agency, dated March 16, 2021 and March 22, 2021, memorialize implementation details and expectations between the California Government Operations Agency and the County of Santa Barbara.

Background:

On March 17, 2020 the Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution ratifying the Proclamation of Local Emergency concerning the COVID-19 pandemic that was declared by the Director of Emergency Services on March 12, 2020, when the Board of Supervisors was not in session. That Local Emergency remains in effect.

On March 19, 2021 the County Executive Officer, after coordination with the County Public Health Director and County Counsel, executed the attached Memorandum of Understanding. Through that Memorandum of Understanding, the State of California will continue to supply the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department with COVID-19 vaccine for administration in County-sponsored vaccination clinics under the State's "Third Party Administrator" framework.

In January 2021, the State announced it would establish the California COVID-19 Vaccination Network to be operated by Blue Shield of California as the Third Party Administrator (TPA) to speed the equitable allocation and delivery of vaccines directly to providers. The vaccine provider network is expected to include public health systems, pharmacies, health systems, public hospitals, community health centers, pop-up and mobile sites. Local public health departments must interact with that network via a Memorandum of Operations with the California Government Operations Agency, versus a contract directly with Blue Shield as the Third Party Administrator, in order to receive vaccines and serve as vaccine providers. The State's clarification letters of March 16, 2021 and March 22, 2021 help to implement how the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department (SBCPHD) provides direct input into the recommendation process Blue Shield has developed with the State regarding vaccine distribution. Through the Memorandum of Understanding, SBCPHD will have significant control over vaccine allocations to the underserved and vulnerable communities within Santa Barbara County and also will be able to more freely transfer vaccine doses between County-operated vaccination clinics.

Performance Measure:

N/A

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

There is no fiscal and facilities impact.

Fiscal Analysis:

There is no fiscal impact to this action. The vaccines are provided by the State of California at no cost to Santa Barbara County.

Key Contract Risks:

N/A

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

0

FTEs:

0

There are no staffing impacts

Special Instructions:

None.

Attachments:

- A. Executed Memorandum of Understanding with State's Government Operations Agency
- B. California Government Operations Agency letter of March 16, 2021
- C. California Government Operations Agency letter of March 22, 2021

Authored by:

Van Do-Reynoso, Public Health Director