



Healthy Sacramento Coalition Meeting

June 16, 2020

Meeting Notes

The Vision of the Healthy Sacramento Coalition (HSC) is to eliminate Inequities in Sacramento through Advocacy and Convening of Resources. With a mission to eliminate racialized health inequities in Sacramento through movements that advance policy and system change resulting in neighborhood impact.

Meeting Objectives

- Conversation with multiple chambers of commerce on their COVID-19 strategy and response
- Discussion of Sacramento's COVID-19 experiences and impact on community
- Update on letter to City and County government officials on funding decision criteria and pathways

Welcome and Overview

Tim Choi, Human Services Planner, County of Sacramento Department of Human Assistance, welcomed participants and provided a brief overview of the meeting agenda.

Conversation with Sacramento Chambers of Commerce About COVID-19

Richard Dana, Director of Economic Development, Sierra Health Foundation and The Center, facilitated a broad discussion on the handling and disbursement of the current CARES Act stimulus funds in the County of Sacramento and City of Sacramento. *Cathy Rodriguez Aguirre, President and CEO, Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce,* and *Pat Fong Kushida, President and CEO, Sacramento Asian-Pacific Chamber of Commerce Leadership,* provided their thoughts and experiences in relation to the importance of investment in small and local businesses.

- The city has \$89 million in CARES Act funding allocated by the federal government. The county has \$182 million in CARES Act funds.
- One of the things that is crucial is the internal advocacy on how the CARES funds will be utilized. The mayor's budget has four buckets: Small business; Youth and Workforce; Homeless and Housing; Tourism, Arts and Creative Economy.
 - How money is used is crucial during these times.
- There is a clear difference between Measure U funds and CARES ACT funds. The Measure U funds are for inclusive economic development to assist under-resourced neighborhoods. CARES funds are specifically for COVID-19-related activities.
- On June 16, the City Council will meet to discuss what the criteria are for the \$10 million forgivable loan program.
- The discussion with the chambers of commerce focused on small businesses and the impact of COVID-19 on the city and county. Additionally, there was discussion on how previous inequities further push small businesses and neighborhoods into tough situations.

- Pat Fong Kushida and Cathy Rodriguez Aguirre reflected on their experiences with businesses within their jurisdictions.
 - Everything is intertwined and it takes a collaboration of all efforts. Small businesses are deeply involved in the neighborhoods and are similar to families.
 - The businesses have withstood challenges and recessions, but every situation is different.
- Pat Fong Kushida provided some statistical data from their economic impact analysis within the major corridors in Sacramento.
 - The reports are being finalized for the City Council.
- Suggestion to build the economic and social capacity in neighborhoods by putting large amounts into varied and distinct types of projects in each of the neighborhoods. The key is to build up the social area and then the residents can be included in the modeling and infrastructure of how businesses are owned and run. This may avoid gentrification.
- Pat Fong Kushida and Cathy Rodriguez Aguirre offered the following ways for HSC members to stay involved:
 - Participate in City Council meetings and raise up the needs of your neighborhoods.
 - Volunteer with the chambers that are working on a large data collection project.
 - Choose to support local and small businesses with your dollars.

Discussion on Sacramento City Council Letter and Next Steps

Khalil Ferguson, Executive Fellow, California Urban Partnership, and Connie Chan Robison, Executive Director, Center for Collaborative Planning, recapped the HSC's letter to Mayor Steinberg and the City Council.

- In May 2020, the HSC Steering Committee submitted a letter to the Sacramento City Council, which laid out and invited the City Council to take into consideration specific recommendations and center health and racial equity in all funding strategies. The letter can be found within the e-mail blast.

Next Steps, Appreciation and Evaluation of Meeting

Tim Choi closed the meeting and reminded coalition members to register for the HSC Open Conversation on June 29, 2020, where there would be further opportunity to discuss topics raised during today's meeting, such as equitable funding strategies, economic mobility and budget transparency.

Next Coalition Meeting Date – September 22, 2020