

Item # 21C

**City of Carson City
Agenda Report**

Date Submitted: 3/4/10

Agenda Date Requested: 03/18/10

Time Requested: 15 Minutes

To: Carson City Board of Health

From: Health & Human Services (Dr. Susan Pintar)

Subject Title: Discussion and possible action on the use of the National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) sponsored assessment tool to assist in measuring the infrastructure and capacity of our local health systems.

Staff Summary: County Health Officer, Dr. Susan Pintar, will discuss the need to utilize National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) sponsored assessment tool used to measure infrastructure and capacity of our public health systems. This assessment tool, used primarily by boards of health, assists governing bodies in assessing their capacity to provide oversight of the Ten Essential Public Health Services.

Type of Action Requested: (check one)
☐ Resolution ☐ Ordinance
☒ Formal Action/Motion ☐ Other (Specify) Information Only

Does This Action Require A Business Impact Statement: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Recommended Board Action: I move to schedule, and authorize the participation of this Board, the use of the NALBOH sponsored assessment tool to assist in measuring the infrastructure and capacity of our local health systems.

Explanation for Recommended Board Action: The assessment tool is designed to identify gaps in our local public health infrastructure. The information gathered from this tool will assist this board in building a stronger foundation for public health improvement.

Applicable Statue, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

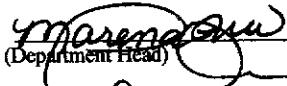
Explanation of Impact: N/A

Funding Source: N/A

Alternatives: Postpone Public Health Assessment Tool

Supporting Material: Introduction of Public Health Assessment Tool

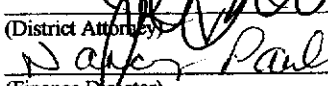
Prepared By: Marena Works, MSN, MPH, RN

Reviewed By: 
(Department Head)

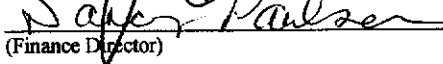
Date: 3-9-10


(City Manager)

Date: 3/9/10


(District Attorney)

Date: 3/9/10


(Finance Director)

Date: 3/9/10

Board Action Taken:

Motion: _____

1) _____
2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)

Governance

National Public Health Performance Standards Program An Introduction to the Local Public Health Governance Performance Assessment Instrument

The National Public Health Performance Standards Program (NPHPSP) assessments are intended to help users answer questions such as "What are the activities and capacities of our public health system?" and "How well are we providing the Essential Public Health Services in our jurisdiction?" The dialogue that occurs in answering these questions can help to identify strengths and weaknesses and determine opportunities for improvement.

The NPHPSP is a partnership effort to improve the practice of public health and the performance of public health systems. The NPHPSP assessment instruments guide state and local jurisdictions in evaluating their current performance against a set of optimal standards.

Three assessment instruments have been designed to assist state and local partners in assessing and improving their public health systems or boards of health. These instruments are the:

- State Public Health System Performance Assessment Instrument,
- Local Public Health System Performance Assessment Instrument, and
- Local Public Health Governance Performance Assessment Instrument.

The NPHPSP is a collaborative effort of seven national partners:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office of Chief of Public Health Practice (CDC/ OCPHP)
- American Public Health Association (APHA)
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
- National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)
- National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH)
- National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI)
- Public Health Foundation (PHF)

The three instruments were first released in 2002 after a comprehensive development and testing process. Since the NPHPSP began, 21 states and almost 1,000 localities (over 750 local jurisdictions and almost 200 boards of health) have used the instruments and submitted data. One or more of the NPHPSP instruments have been applied in 30 states. In late 2005, the NPHPSP partnership initiated a collaborative effort to update the instruments, in order to ensure the standards remain current and to seek opportunities for improving the tools. Similar to the development process of the original instruments, the effort was guided by three work groups of practitioners from

the field. Input from field test sites as well as subject matter experts on a variety of public health topics further informed the revisions. The "Version 2" instrument presented in this document is the result of this initiative.

About the Performance Assessment Instruments

Each of the three NPHPSP instruments is based on the framework of the ten Essential Public Health Services. The Essential Services represent the spectrum of public health activities that should be provided in any jurisdiction. Therefore, the instrument itself is divided into ten sections – one for each of the Essential Services.

Because many entities contribute to delivering the Essential Services, the NPHPSP addresses the important concept of the "public health system." A public health system includes all public, private, and voluntary entities that contribute to the delivery of the Essential Public Health Services within a given jurisdiction.

The purpose for undertaking a performance assessment is to strengthen and improve the public health system. The standards were set at the optimal level; for this reason, participating jurisdictions will likely see many differences between their own performance and the "gold standard" presented in the instruments. System partners should seek to address these weaknesses and also recognize and maintain areas in which they are strong.

The topics addressed within each of the three instruments are complementary and mutually-supporting, although each instrument may be used independently of the other. To view how the instruments relate, a side-by-side comparison of the model standard titles within each instrument follows this introduction. However, because the state public health system, local public health sys-



terms, and boards of health play important and synergistic roles in public health within a state, a coordinated application of all three instruments within the same timeframe is considered ideal. Findings from a coordinated use of multiple assessments may more effectively guide statewide efforts to improve public health practice and performance.

The Local Public Health Governance Performance Assessment

The audience for this instrument is the local governing body. Governing bodies have been defined as the individual, board, council, commission, or other body with legal authority over the primary governmental public health agency, usually defined as the health department. The nature of this authority varies from state to state, and even among jurisdictions within a state, and may or may not include regulatory authority. In most cases, however, the governing body assures that an infrastructure exists within the public health system to protect and promote health in the community. A governing board does this by assuring that the governmental public health agency and its local public health system partners have the necessary legal authority, resources, and policies to provide the Essential Services. The Local Public Health Governance Instrument assists board of health members in understanding these important roles and determining how they can strengthen their ability to oversee public health within the community. It serves as an educational, orientation, and improvement tool for boards of health.

This instrument is organized using only one model standard for each of the ten Essential Services, for a total of ten model standards. The model standard relates to all aspects of the governance and oversight activities for each of the Essential Services. Throughout each of the ten model standards, there is consistent attention to resources and policies needed to support each Essential Service, as well as the review and evaluation activities that must occur to ensure continuous quality improvement.

Through the assessment process, participants – primarily board of health members and senior local health department staff – will have an opportunity to discuss and determine how they are performing in comparison to each of the ten model standards. Once the assessment is completed, sites submit their data to the NPHPSP and receive a report summarizing their results within 24 hours. All of this information – the responses to the assessment questions, the NPHPSP report, and the comments shared during the dialogue – should be used to improve and strengthen the governing body's ability to provide oversight for local public health services.

A variety of technical assistance and training resources are available to assist jurisdictions in undertaking the assessment and post-assessment performance improvement activities. We encourage users to visit our website or contact the NPHPSP partners to access these resources.

Essential Public Health Services

1. Monitor health status to identify community health problems.
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.
4. Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and assure safety.
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. Assess community public and personal health needs, behaviors, and risks.
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health practices.
10. Research to inform, develop, and evaluate innovative approaches to health problems.

National Public Health Performance Standards Program Technical Assistance and Support

For general NPHPSP support and technical assistance resources, go to www.cdc.gov/od/ocphp/nphpsp/ or contact 1-800-747-7649 or phpsp@cdc.gov.

For support with the NPHPSP Local Public Health Governance Assessment, users may also contact NALBOH – www.nalboh.org or 419-353-7714.



Governance

Crosswalk of Model Standards Within the Three NPHPSP Instruments

Essential Services	State Public Health System Assessment	Local Public Health System Assessment	Local Public Health Governance Assessment
1. Monitor health status to identify community health problems.	1.1 Planning and Implementation 1.2 State-Local Relationships 1.3 Performance Management and Quality Improvement 1.4 Public Health Capacity and Resources	1.1 Population-Based Community Health Profile 1.2 Current Technology to Manage and Communicate Population Health Data 1.3 Maintenance of Population Health Registries	1. Oversight for Community Health Status Monitoring
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.	2.1 Planning and Implementation 2.2 State-Local Relationships 2.3 Performance Management and Quality Improvement 2.4 Public Health Capacity and Resources	2.1 Identification and Surveillance of Health Threats 2.2 Investigation and Response to Public Health Threats and Emergencies 2.3 Laboratory Support for Investigation of Health Threats	2. Oversight for Public Health Surveillance and Response
3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.	3.1 Planning and Implementation 3.2 State-Local Relationships 3.3 Performance Management and Quality Improvement 3.4 Public Health Capacity and Resources	3.1 Health Education and Promotion 3.2 Health Communication 3.3 Risk Communication	3. Oversight of Public Health Information, Education and Empowerment Activities
4. Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.	4.1 Planning and Implementation 4.2 State-Local Relationships 4.3 Performance Management and Quality Improvement 4.4 Public Health Capacity and Resources	4.1 Constituency Development 4.2 Community Partnerships	4. Oversight for Constituency Development and Partnership Building
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.	5.1 Planning and Implementation 5.2 State-Local Relationships 5.3 Performance Management and Quality Improvement 5.4 Public Health Capacity and Resources	5.1 Governmental Presence at the Local Level 5.2 Public Health Policy Development 5.3 Community Health Improvement Process and Strategic Planning 5.4 Plan for Public Health Emergencies	5. Oversight of Public Health Planning and Policy Development