

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 09, 2022**

**MINUTE ORDER NO. 1**

**SUBJECT: RATIFY DECLARATION OF LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY REGARDING  
MONKEYPOX (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

On July 23, 2022, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the multi-country spread of monkeypox to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, which constitutes its highest alert level. On August 1, 2022, Governor Newsom declared a State of Emergency as part of California's response to the monkeypox outbreak. On August 2, 2022, the San Diego County Public Health Officer issued a Declaration of Local Health Emergency, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 101080, as a result of the global outbreak of monkeypox and the local impacts to public health. Today's recommended actions will provide the County of San Diego (County) additional powers to coordinate local efforts and identify resources that may be necessary to fully address this evolving situation.

Monkeypox is an unusual disease caused by infection with the monkeypox virus. It is spread through prolonged skin-to-skin contact and symptoms of monkeypox include rash, fever, muscle aches, and respiratory symptoms. Although most cases of monkeypox resolve within a few weeks, monkeypox can cause serious symptoms, including severe pain, hospitalization and, in rare cases, death.

State law requires the Declaration of Local Health Emergency to be ratified by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) within seven days of issuance. Today's action requests the Board to ratify and find that there is a continuing need for the Declaration of Local Health Emergency.

This item supports the County's vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by protecting the health of residents against the monkeypox outbreak.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Ratify the attached Declaration of Local Health Emergency made by the San Diego County Public Health Officer on August 2, 2022.
2. Find that there is a continuing need for the local health emergency until no longer needed, subject to the California Health and Safety Code Section 101080 requirements.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

In order to support the most vulnerable, an equity lens/risk-based approach was used to prioritize, when appropriate, the distribution of monkeypox vaccine and other resources. Response efforts are based on a data-driven approach, identifying communities that have the highest need for support in relation to the number of positive monkeypox cases. In any outbreak response, the County of San Diego's approach is to recognize the risk factors for infection and specific communities where the infection is being seen.

This is done without stigmatizing those affected. Helping people make the best-informed decisions to protect their health and the health of their community from monkeypox requires providing key health promotion and harm reduction prevention information to the public and working with partners and trusted messengers to ensure information reaches affected communities.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) is assessing the fiscal impact and funding needs for responding to the monkeypox outbreak. HHSA will use existing appropriations funded by General Fund fund balance, Realignment, and General-Purpose Revenue to support the current costs associated with the response efforts until funding sources are identified. HHSA will pursue federal and State revenue and other funding sources to cover response costs. HHSA may return to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors at a future date to seek further authority and request additional resources as needed. There is no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

#### **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

#### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION by Supervisor Fletcher, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Fletcher, Desmond

State of California)  
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



**Signed**  
**by** Andrew Potter

