

Department:

Program #40061C - Healthy Streets

Program Contact: Kim Toevs

Program Offer Stage: As Adopted

Program Offer Type: Related Programs:

Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Health Department

Innovative/New Program

Executive Summary

The Healthy Streets project launched in February 2016 in response to the growing concern of discarded syringes in downtown Portland. This community-based disposal strategy established two secure disposal containers (syringe drop boxes) on the Waterfront Esplanade to encourage safe disposal of used needles by injection drug users (IDUs). FY 2018 services will expand Healthy Streets by adding three additional syringe drop boxes outside of the downtown core to address inappropriate syringe disposal and public safety.

Program Summary

The Healthy Streets project is one component of a preliminary strategy to reduce the number of improperly discarded syringes and provide the public a safe community-based disposal option. Over the past several years, injection drug use has dramatically increased as part of the overall rise in opiate addiction. Syringe exchange surveys conducted by Multnomah County Public Health show an increase in the percentage of heroin users hooked on prescription opioids before ever using heroin (from 45% in 2011 to 51% in 2016). Increases in community members experiencing substance abuse disorders and living in public spaces due to homelessness has contributed to an increase in discarded syringe. Despite the success of syringe exchange programs, some IDUs do not participate for a range of reasons including privacy concerns, fear of police or inability to store syringes. Members of the public have become increasingly concerned as the number of syringes found in neighborhoods, public spaces and businesses continues to increase.

Used syringes can carry Hepatitis C, Hepatitis B and HIV. Infections can be transmitted through sharing used syringes and accidental needle stick injuries. Strategically located syringe drop boxes create 24/7 disposal options for IDUs to safely dispose of used syringes with goals to reduce improper disposal (e.g., empty lots, trash bins, toilets, parks) and remove used syringes from drug use circulation. Members of the public comfortable with taking action when finding syringes are able to call Multnomah County Public Health for guidance and/or access safe disposal information at multco.us. Community members will be directed to five community-based syringe drop boxes for safe disposal. A biohazard waste disposal company will work with Public Health to routinely monitor, empty and clean the syringe drop boxes.

| Performar | Performance Measures | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|----------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|--|--|--|--|
| Measure Type | Primary Measure | FY16 Actual | FY17 Purchased | FY17 Estimate | FY18 Offer | | | | |
| Output | 3 new syringe drop boxes installed by fall 2017 | | | | 3 | | | | |
| Outcome | | | | | | | | | |

Performance Measures Descriptions

6/19/2017

Revenue/Expense Detail

| | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Program Expenses | 2017 | 2017 | 2018 | 2018 |
| Personnel | \$0 | \$0 | \$9,981 | \$0 |
| Contractual Services | \$0 | \$0 | \$20,000 | \$0 |
| Materials & Supplies | \$0 | \$0 | \$19 | \$0 |
| Total GF/non-GF | \$0 | \$0 | \$30,000 | \$0 |
| Program Total: | \$ | 0 | \$30 | ,000 |
| Program FTE | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

| Program Revenues | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|
| Total Revenue | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | |

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: