

**Agenda**  
**Community Health Commission**  
**City Of Edina, Minnesota**  
**City Hall - Community Room**

**This meeting will be held in person and electronically using Webex software. The meeting will be streamed live on the City's YouTube channel, YouTube.com/EdinaTV or you can listen to the meeting via telephone by calling 1-415-655-0001, Access code: 177 576 9269**

**Monday, July 12, 2021**

**6:30 PM**

- I. Call To Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval Of Meeting Agenda
- IV. Approval Of Meeting Minutes
  - A. Approve June 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- V. Community Comment

*During "Community Comment," the Board/Commission will invite residents to share relevant issues or concerns. Individuals must limit their comments to three minutes. The Chair may limit the number of speakers on the same issue in the interest of time and topic. Generally speaking, items that are elsewhere on tonight's agenda may not be addressed during Community Comment. Individuals should not expect the Chair or Board/Commission Members to respond to their comments tonight. Instead, the Board/Commission might refer the matter to staff for consideration at a future meeting.*

- VI. Reports/Recommendations
  - A. Opioid Initiative Report Update
- VII. Chair And Member Comments
- VIII. Staff Comments
- IX. Adjournment

The City of Edina wants all residents to be comfortable being part of the public process. If you need assistance in the way of hearing amplification, an interpreter, large-print documents or something else, please call 952-927-8861 72 hours in advance of the meeting.



**US Toll +1-415-655-0001 Access code: 177 087 5374 MINUTES**  
**Community Health Commission**  
**June 14, 2021 at 6:30 PM**  
**City Hall, Community Room**

I. Call To Order

II. Roll Call

Present: Julia Selleys, Andrew Hawkins, Philip King-Lowe, Mary Absolon,  
Michael Wood, Rob Loesch, Tracy Nelson, Isadora Li  
Absent: Greg Wright, Amanda Herr, Ellie Mullen, Eva DeSimone

III. Approval Of Meeting Agenda

**Motion by Mary Absolon to approve meeting agenda. Seconded by Michael Wood. Motion Carried.**

IV. Approval Of Meeting Minutes

A. Minutes: Community Health Commission, May 10, 2021

**Motion by Tracy Nelson to approve May 12, 2021 CHC meeting minutes. Seconded by Mary Absolon. Motion .**

V. Reports/Recommendations

A. Subcommittee Updates

Social Connectedness Initiative - No update, need to schedule a meeting.  
Discussed next steps for Vitals App and other potential initiatives.

Smoke-Free Multi-unit Housing Initiative: Draft report being refined.

Opioid Initiative: Draft is done, editing and refining.

VI. Chair And Member Comments

VII. Staff Comments

A. Return to In-Person Meeting Discussion

Discussed returning to in-person meetings in July. CHC will be one of first commissions to meet in person and will provide feedback to City.

VIII. Adjournment



## CITY OF EDINA

4801 West 50th Street

Edina, MN 55424

[www.edinamn.gov](http://www.edinamn.gov)

**Date:** July 12, 2021

**Agenda Item #:** VI.A.

**To:** Community Health Commission

**Item Type:**

Report and Recommendation

**From:** Opioid Initiative Subcommittee

**Item Activity:**

**Subject:** Opioid Initiative Report Update

Action, Information

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### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

Review report and approve for submission to City Council.

### **INTRODUCTION:**

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Opioid Initiative Final Report 2021

## Opioid Awareness Review

**Community Health Commission 2021 Work Plan Initiative #3:** “Study and report on existing programs in Edina and Hennepin County regarding opiate use. Provide examples of efforts to increase public awareness of existing programs.”

**Municipalities and other entities reviewed:** A committee of the Commission reviewed information from websites for Hennepin County, and cities of Edina, Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Golden Valley, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Plymouth, Richfield, St. Louis Park, and Plymouth (see Appendix). Interviews were conducted with Kate Ebert MPH, CHES, Health Specialist of the Bloomington Health Department and Candi Davenport, of the Bloomington Health Department and Candi Davenport, Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor for the Edina School District.

**Background:** Opiates obtained both by prescription or by illegal means have caused an increasingly severe epidemic of addiction and death in the United States. From 1999 until 2019, opiate deaths increased in the US from approximately 18,000 to over 70,000 annually (1). Figures from 2020 are preliminary, but opiate-related deaths probably exceeded 90,000. Minnesota has not been immune from this epidemic. Deaths from opiates increased from 412 in 2019 to 654 in 2020, with 59% of the deaths occurring in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Data for Edina are difficult to locate, but in 2018, at least 3 deaths were attributed to opiates, 9 in the tri-city area (Edina, Richfield, Bloomington) (2). The importance of municipalities to contribute to the reversal of these trends is readily apparent.

**Strategy:** The 2020 Hennepin County Opioid Response Strategic Framework (“2020 Framework”) (2) provides a solid basis for municipalities to implement programs to reduce opioid-related morbidity and death. Three key pillars of strategy are identified: primary prevention, response, and treatment and recovery. In reverse order:

- a) *Treatment and recovery:* The entities reviewed do little more than sometimes list available programs to which opiate users may be referred. This aspect of strategy does not appear to be regarded as a municipal or school district responsibility.
- b) *Response:* The strategic goal is two-fold: ensure easy and rapid access to naloxone, the antidote for opiate overdose; and provide clean needle exchange to minimize contamination risk among opiate, especially heroin, users. Of note, Edina police, fire and emergency medical personnel are all trained in the use of naloxone.
- c) *Primary prevention:* This is the area in which municipalities and schools have the greatest opportunity to impact the opioid epidemic, and will be reviewed separately in the following section.

**Primary prevention:** “The 2020 Framework focuses on preventing further spread of the opioid crisis and contains five...priority areas: monitoring and communication; public education and stigma reduction; manage access; safer storage and disposal; and public safety interventions.” Of these, a municipality such as Edina can most significantly impact a) public education, and b) safer storage and disposal.

a) *Public education:* Of the municipalities reviewed, none were found to have robust programs to educate the public regarding the opioid crisis. Websites present no readily apparent links to opioid education programs. Within the Edina School System, the dominant foci in health classes regarding foreign substances use are alcohol use and vaping. Opioids are not a significant element of the curriculum. As only 1-2 students annually are found to have overt struggles with opioid use, they are provided individual and family counseling, but opioids are not discussed at any length within classrooms.(3)

b) *Safer storage and disposal:* “Safe storage and environmentally sound disposal will help prevent access to opioids by those not prescribed the medication. Frequently, family and friends have easy access to prescription opioids through medicine cabinets and sharing. A majority of persons who misuse opioids go on to use heroin, which is more accessible and less expensive than prescription opioids. Research has shown that adolescents are particularly at risk for misuse and subsequent overdose. Providing patients information on safe home storage and the importance of safe and environmentally sound disposal of unused medication lowers the risk of those drugs being abused. Informing the public on medicine disposal (medication drop boxes), medication take-back events, and pharmacy-based medication return programs help reduce non-prescribed access to opioid medications.” (2) Consequently, **action items** in the 2020 Framework include increasing medicine disposal boxes, providing proper disposal information to area residents, and providing easily available medicine disposal bags.

A review of the websites of the municipalities surveyed reveals a general failure to meet the action items:

i) No website, including Edina’s, presents easy access to information on either the opioid crisis or appropriate disposal of opiate or other medications. Multiple search terms were required (“medicine disposal”, “drugs”, “opioids”, “medications”) to locate any information, even if available.

ii) Communities in general do not make multiple disposal sites available. Edina’s website notes that medications may be disposed of at the Police Station or Fire Station #1 during limited hours. There is no Hennepin County disposal site in Edina. The CVS and Walgreen pharmacies on the 6900 block of York Avenue are the only other disposal sites. Although this information is available on the Edina website, it is difficult to find, and highlights the relative paucity of disposal sites in convenient locations throughout the city.

iii) Municipalities may have “Drug Disposal Days”, but they appear to be poorly publicized and, as just once-yearly events, have little impact on efforts to minimize the storage of residual quantities of opiates that may become available to adolescent early users.

iv) No municipality, including Edina, makes disposal bags readily available in multiple retail locations (e.g., pharmacies, grocery and convenience stores), nor do municipalities create public education materials, such as widespread posters, to educate the general public of the existence of the crisis, the location of educational materials, the availability of disposal bags, or locations of disposal sites.

### **Conclusions:**

- 1) Generally, municipalities, including Edina, are not using city resources to provide highly visible citywide publicity regarding the opioid crisis.
- 2) Municipal websites, including Edina’s, do not highlight the opioid crisis or make information regarding storage and disposal easily available. Only those determined to locate the information will succeed in virtually all municipal websites.
- 3) Opioids are not a focus in health classes in the Edina School System.
- 4) If the Edina City Council views the relative lack of visibility of information and the paucity of medication disposal options for Edina residents as problematic, specific recommendations could be developed as a component of the 2022 Health Commission Work Plan.

### **References:**

1. National Institute on Drug Abuse. <https://www.drugabuse.gov/drug-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates>, January 29, 2021.
2. Opioid Prevention Steering Committee, Hennepin County. Opioid Response Strategic Framework 2020. <https://www.hennepin.us/-/media/hennepinus/your-government/projects-initiatives/documents/opioid-response-strategic-framework-2020.pdf>
3. Candi Davenport, Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor for the Edina School District, personal communication.

## **Appendix: Minnesota Cities Websites Reviewed**

Edina: <https://www.edinamn.gov>

Bloomington <https://www.bloomingtonmn.gov>

Eden Prairie <https://www.edenprairie.org>

Golden Valley <http://www.goldenvalleymn.gov>

Hopkins <https://www.hopkinsmn.com>

Minnetonka <https://www.minnetonkamn.gov>

Plymouth <https://www.plymouthmn.gov>

Richfield <https://www.richfieldmn.gov>

St. Louis Park <https://www.stlouispark.org>