

CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

2009 APR 30 PM 8:17

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Dan Lindheim
FROM: Oakland Fire Department
DATE: May 5, 2009

RE: **Informational And Situational Report To Provide The City Council With
Background Of The Current Swine Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Infection.**

SUMMARY

This is an informational and situational report to provide the City Council with background of the current swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection. This report includes background information and the City of Oakland's response by the Office of Emergency Services (OES), Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Oakland Police Department (OPD).

FISCAL IMPACT

This is an informational report and there is no fiscal impact.

BACKGROUND

Human cases of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection have been identified in the United States. Human cases of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection also have been identified internationally. The current U.S. case count is provided at www.cdc.gov.

As announced by the White House on April 26, Secretary Napolitano is the national Principal Federal Official (PFO). Secretary Napolitano and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) have the overall lead for coordinating the federal response to the current swine influenza outbreak in the United States. The National Pandemic Strategy and Implementation Plan are currently in effect. The Department is closely coordinating with Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Center for Disease Control (CDC).

There are five regional PFO positions and ten (10) deputy PFO's. Each team also includes a Federal Coordinating Official (FCO) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Currently, the department is reviewing staffing requirements should PFO teams need to be deployed.

Current update

As of April 30, 2009 1500 hours there are 109 confirmed cases in the US, resulting in 1 death.

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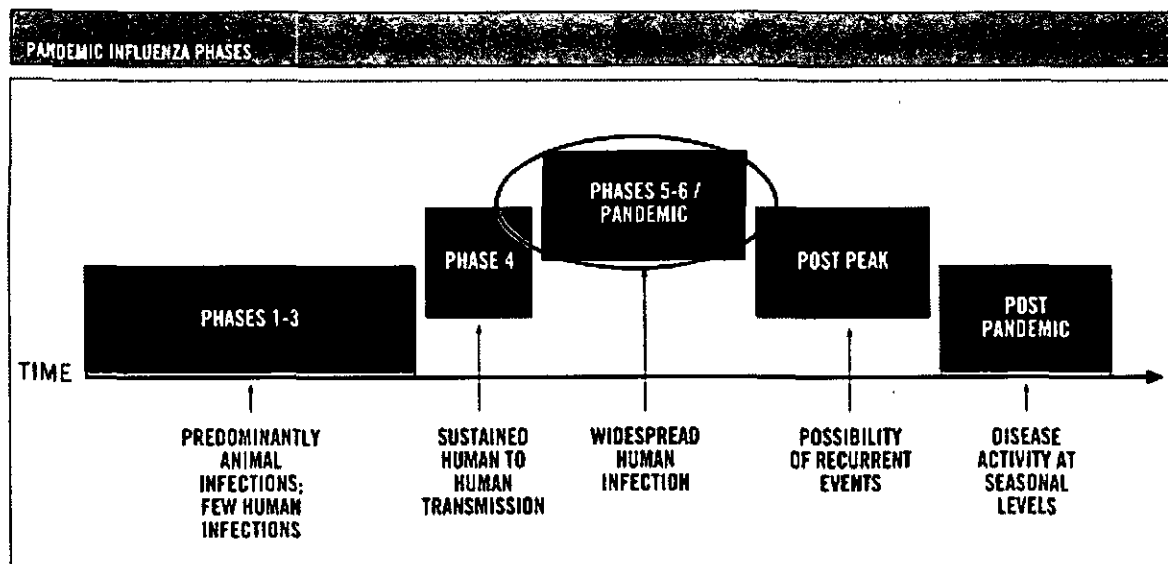
Nationally

The World Health Organization (WHO) has elevated its Pandemic Alert Level to 5 (Wide Spread Human Infection).

Phase 5 is characterized by human-to-human spread of the virus into at least two countries in one WHO region. While most countries will not be affected at this stage, the declaration of Phase 5 is a strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of the planned mitigation measures is short.

If this incident is raised to a Phase 6 by WHO this will mean the following:

Phase 6, the pandemic phase, is characterized by community level outbreaks in at least one other country in a different WHO region in addition to the criteria defined in **Phase 5**. Designation of this phase will indicate that a global pandemic is under way.



Currently, WHO stated that all countries should immediately activate their pandemic preparedness plans. At this stage, effective and essential measures include heightened surveillance, early detection and treatment of cases, and infection control in all health facilities. Some counties are declaring local states of emergency.

An investigation and response effort surrounding the outbreak of swine flu is ongoing. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is working very closely with officials in states where human cases of swine influenza A (H1N1) have been identified, as well as with health officials in Mexico, Canada and the World Health Organization. This includes deploying staff domestically and internationally to provide guidance and technical support.

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California:

14 confirmed cases: San Diego (7), Imperial (5), San Bernardino (1), Sacramento (1).

28 probable cases: LA (2), Marin (2), Riverside (4), Sacramento (3), San Bernardino (1), San Diego (8), San Joaquin (1), Santa Clara (7), Tulare (1).

Regional/County:

Alameda County received notice last night of the County's first probable case. An Alameda resident in her 50s.

There are currently nine (9) probable Bay Area cases- Marin (2) and Santa Clara (7).

Quarantine Authority

County, state, and federal public health officers can issue quarantines under each jurisdiction's legal authority. At the state and local level, each state has varying laws for implementing quarantines. Most, however, allow for county/local and state public health agencies to issue quarantine orders supported by local law enforcement.

At the federal level, the Department of Justice (DOJ) has established legal federal authorities pertaining to the implementation of a quarantine and enforcement. Under approval from HHS, the Surgeon General has the authority to issue quarantines necessary to prevent the introduction, transmission or spread of communicable diseases.

In addition, U.S. Customs and Coast Guard Officers assist in the enforcement of quarantine orders. Other DOJ law enforcement agencies including the U.S. Marshals, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) may also enforce quarantines. Military personnel are not authorized to engage in enforcement.

National, State and Local Declarations

CDC activated its Emergency Operations Center to coordinate the agency's response to this emerging health threat and on April 26, 2009 the Secretary of the Department Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano, declared a United States public health emergency.

This will allow funds to be released to support the public health response. CDC's goals during this public health emergency are to reduce transmission and illness severity, and provide information to assist health care providers, public health officials and the public in addressing the challenges posed by this newly identified influenza virus. To this end, CDC has issued a number of interim guidance documents in the past 24 hours.

The Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a State of Emergency on April 28, 2009 that will support and facilitate our state health departments' response to this outbreak.

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As of April 30, 2009, Santa Clara and Riverside Counties are the only counties at this time that has declared an emergency as a result of the Influenza H1N1.

In addition, CDC's Division of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) is releasing one-quarter of its antiviral drugs, personal protective equipment, and respiratory protection devices to help states respond to the outbreak. Laboratory testing has found the swine influenza A (H1N1) virus susceptible to the prescription antiviral drugs Tamiflu and Relenza. This is a rapidly evolving situation and CDC is providing updated guidance and new information as it becomes available. DHS is consulting closely with the CDC to determine appropriate public health measures. The CDC does not recommend closing the border as an effective public health measure at this time.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Since the City of Oakland recognizes the importance of a timely response to this event the following actions and guidance have been instituted by various City departments since Monday, April 27, 2009:

Oakland Fire Department, Office of Emergency Services (OES):

- OES has provided hygiene flyers in different languages for posting in all City Buildings, bathrooms, public areas, and elevators.
- OES has provided hygiene flyers in different languages to Oakland Unified School District (OUSD), Oakland Police Department (OPD), Parks and Recreation staff, Human Services staff, Community and Economic Development Agency (CEDA) for distribution in neighborhoods and other public facilities.
- OES is providing daily information and updates to the cities public information officers, key city staff, disaster council members, OUSD, faith-based organizations and other agencies.
- Identification of Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) and employee readiness are currently being evaluated by OES staff.
- Identification of policies and procedures to protect and sustain workers
 - Emphasize worker and workplace disease control and protection
 - Encourage employees to take actions to stay healthy. Such as covering the nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. Promote often hand washing with soap and water. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective. Avoid touching the eyes, nose or mouth

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- If an employee is sick, CDC recommends that the individual stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them
- OES will be working with other City departments on identifying and assessing all essential services, functions, and processes necessary to keep systems running on Monday, May 4, 2009.
- OES will be working with other City departments on Monday, May 4, 2009 for identifying the types and numbers of workers critical to sustain essential functions
 - Define roles and responsibilities of employees, labor organizations, staff, supervisors, managers, and staff medical personnel
 - Assess impacts from short-term and extended absences by essential workers
 - Access, practice, and test remote connectivity and accessibility options for workers to ensure services remain operational
- OES will be working with other City departments on Monday, May 4, 2009 to review all equipment critical to support each essential function
 - Review primary and supporting components of critical equipment to identify potential critical system failures and possible cascading consequences
- OES will be working with other City departments on Monday, May 4, 2009 to identify any potential Federal, State, and local regulatory requirements that may affect business operations
 - Consider how each action relates to those emergency response actions in existing business contingency and emergency response plans
- OES will be working with other City departments on Monday, May 4, 2009 to identify effects from mitigation strategies; take actions to reduce negative impacts
 - Discuss strategies' potential impacts with workers, as well as your strategies management will take to communicate with employees, before, during, and after an outbreak
 - Discuss the potential impacts of these strategies with workers, their families, and with customers, supporting businesses and other stakeholders
 - Collaborating with public/private health authorities and partners.

Oakland Fire Department, Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

- Oakland EMS has increased inventories of N95 masks, surgical masks, gowns and hand sanitizers. The EOC will also be equipped with the recommended supplies.

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- Per Alameda County requirement, Oakland EMS revised policies for treating patients with respiratory illness. This included ordering metered doses of Albuterol and spacers.
- Oakland EMS ordered limited supply of anti-viral drugs for adults and children. Additional supply will be issued by ALCO as needed.
- Oakland EMS provided “Just in Time Training” for all on-duty first responders. The training is consistent with County recommendations.
- Oakland EMS share information and provide regular updates to key staff, community groups, OUSD and other city agencies including OPR and HHS. This information includes statistical data as well as best practices.
- Oakland EMS maintains communication with Alameda County (ALCO) Public Health and Oakland OES to share public information related to recommended precautionary measures.
- Oakland EMS implemented Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) card in the Dispatch System. This card provides screening questions including “do you have a fever?”, “have you or anyone in your household travelled to Mexico recently?” This information is immediately forwarded to the responding crew so that they can take precautions prior to encountering the patient.
- Oakland EMS will provide training to Oakland Police Department (OPD) staff beginning May 1.
- Oakland EMS distributed notices and flyers to City staff for posting in public areas.
- Oakland EMS and Oakland OES continue ongoing collaboration to address the following:
 - Provide individual and family preparedness to be self sustaining during the emergency.
 - Anticipate and prepare for a reduced workforce due to the impact of the influenza on our personnel. Importantly, we must address the fact that we may not have mutual aid.

Oakland Police Department (OPD):

- OPD Executive Staff reviewed news reports and Police Executive Research Forum update bulletins

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- OPD requested Alameda County Public Health to give OPD Command Staff a presentation.
- Alameda County Public Health gave a presentation to OPD Command Staff and to invited guests from: Port of Oakland, Oakland Fire Department, Office of Emergency Services and Emergency Medical Services.
- EMS offered to conduct line-up training for OPD personnel and from May 1 to May 7 2009 EMS will conduct training for OPD.
- EMS gave a list of safety equipment that OPD should have.
- OPD conducted an inventory of equipment.
- OPD requested that EMS ask for additional equipment from Alameda County.
- OPD has established open lines of communication with ALCO Public Health, OES and EMS.
- OPD has established a point of contact for informational updates.
- Information is forwarded to key OPD personnel.
- OPD will work with the OFD, ALCO as needed to conduct outreach to the community.
- OPD is capable of providing security for key medical sites if needed.

Other City Departments

- Office of Parks and Recreation (OPR)
Sent out three (3) advisories through OPR Distribution email list; sent "Cover your Cough" flyer in multiple languages twice for posting in public locations and general distribution to the public; Director sent same information to the OPR list and sent email reminder to the OPR Central Office staff to post information in public area.
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
Posted flyers in office, public areas, restrooms and elevators; have hand sanitizer at the reception desk and made sure that if staff are sick they will be sent home.
- Community and Economic Development Agency (CEDA)
Flyers went out to Administration, Planning and Permits, Building Services, Zoning, Housing Redevelopment, and Economic Development. Flyers are posted on floors 2,3,4,5 at 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza (FOP) in all common areas and front reception desks.
- Public Works Agency (PWA)
The entire Civic Center has flyers at the guard stations, in the staff rooms, elevators, common areas, lunch rooms. Edgewater complex and all PWA corporation yards have flyers posted in the areas too.

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- Oakland Library
Posted in all staff areas at all branches and in common areas, elevators; also bottles of hand sanitizer have been made available
- Office of Personnel and Resource Management
Posted flyers in all staff areas. PWA took care of common areas, restrooms, and guard stations.
- Oakland Museum
Flyers are posted at the Museum entrances, posted throughout the public access areas and staff areas and restroom.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic:

At this time there are no economic opportunities related to this incident.

Environmental:

At this time there are no environmental opportunities related to this incident.

Social Equity:

The City of Oakland continues to ensure that all residents and the community are fully represented and considered in our planning, mitigation, prevention, response and recovery efforts.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

In providing public information and services the City of Oakland continues to meet all Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and provide the highest level of service to all residents and to the community.

ACTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

City of Oakland staff will continue to closely monitor this incident and will continue to plan for an escalated event. Oakland staff will determine the most efficient and effective ways to mitigate and prevent the spread of the H1N1 Influenza outbreak also known as the Swine Flu.

Oakland staff will continue to work together closely and collaborate with Alameda County Public Health and outside agencies to ensure that plans, policies and protocols are in place as soon as possible to address this event and any future pandemic events.

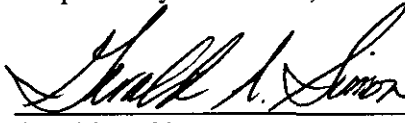
Oakland City staff will continue to provide the Mayor, Council, key City executives and employees with timely information as this event continues.

Staff recommends that City Council continue to provide leadership and support of the efforts by OES, EMS, OPD and other City departments to mitigate and prevent the spread of the H1N1 Influenza.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends that the City Council accept this informational report and provide any policy direction related to this event as Council deems necessary.

Respectfully submitted,


Gerald A. Simon
Interim Fire Chief

Prepared by: Cathey Eide
Emergency Planning Coordinator

Reviewed by: Renee Domingo
Emergency Services Manager

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
CITY COUNCIL:


Office of the City Administrator

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