Policy prioritization framework (SR 21-051; N. Thomsen)

Division:
Administration / Nicole Thomsen, Health Policy Analyst

Prior Board Review:
Program Policy Committee, 1/21/21, 2/18/21, 3/18/21, 4/15/21, 5/20/21
Administration Committee, 4/28/21, 5/26/21
Executive Committee, 4/29/21, 5/27/21

Background

Since January, and at the request of the Program Policy Committee, work has been completed to develop a policy prioritization framework and procedure. In response to Board member comments received at April's committee meetings, a 3x3 prioritization matrix was developed for consideration (Exhibit A).

The alternative prioritization matrix is based on two concepts that consistently are elevated in Board policy discussions: linkage to the 2021 Strategic Plan and equity. A comparison of the revised prioritization flowchart (Exhibit B) previously presented and the alternative matrix are:

Flowchart	Matrix
Provides multiple inputs/factors in determining priority level – policy priority within the strategic plan, equity, forwarding leadership goals, BOH input, compliance requests, resource allocation, emergency, and data.	Focuses on two key factors/themes – strength of policy linkage to the strategic plan and equity. Emergency policies are assumed to go first based on definition of emergency.
Concepts above are themselves prioritized.	Strategic plan alignment and equity are equally weighted.
Limits the ability for secondary/lower priority strategic plan policy priorities to move forward.	Provides opportunity for the growth of policy items that are secondary/lower priority.
Creates a Board of Health checkpoint.	Board of Health role directed back to the approved Division of Responsibilities.

Either framework is to be used in conjunction with drafted PRO 100.001 – Policies and Procedures (Exhibit C).

Goals of these frameworks remain:
- Provide a usable tool in determining which policies are identified for development
- Create equal footing between public health and administrative policies
- Establish connective and actionable threads between existing plans and policies

Comments and feedback from Board members will be incorporated and brought back through committees for consideration and approval.

Board Authority:

Consistent with Resolution 19-20 and the revised Division of Responsibilities (10/8/19), the Board of Health is responsible for setting District budget and policy.

Recommended Motion:
No motion required. Briefing only.