



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GREG COX
First District

DIANNE JACOB
Second District

PAM SLATER
Third District

RON ROBERTS
Fourth District

BILL HORN
Fifth District

DATE: June 18, 2002

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT: San Diego Prevention Coalition Club Drug Task Force Action Plan (District: All)

SUMMARY:

Overview

On February 5, 2002 (24), your Board approved several recommendations brought forward by myself and Sheriff Kolender that would attack the growing health problems caused by certain types of emerging drugs, commonly referred to as "Club Drugs", that are frequently used at Rave parties and nightclubs by teens and young adults. To begin to address this problem your Board approved a contract with the San Diego Prevention Coalition in the amount of \$140,000 to establish a Club Drug Task Force to develop a public awareness campaign and to return to your Board with an action plan.

This letter recommends approval of the San Diego Prevention Coalition's Club Drug Task Force public awareness campaign action plan. The letter also summarizes the Sheriff Department's comprehensive law enforcement strategy to reduce usage and availability of Club drugs. It is our expectation that this combination of an effective public awareness campaign and effective law enforcement strategies will form a foundation for an effective long-term club drug use prevention approach for the benefit of San Diego County's residents.

This proposal supports the Crime Prevention and Regional Leadership Initiatives of the County's Strategic Plan.

Recommendation(s)

SUPERVISOR BILL HORN AND SHERIFF BILL KOLENDER

Approve the San Diego Prevention Coalition's Club Drug Task Force Action Plan.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this Action Plan in excess of the \$140,000 already approved by your Board on February 5, 2002 (24).

Business Impact Statement

N/A

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Advisory Board Statement

N/A

BACKGROUND:

On February 5, 2002 (24), your Board approved several recommendations brought forward by myself and Sheriff Kolender that would attack the growing health problems caused by certain types of drugs, commonly referred to as “Club Drugs”, that are frequently used at Rave parties and nightclubs by teens and young adults. These drugs, most often referred to with their common names of “Ecstasy” (methylenedioxymethamphetamine or MDMA), “GHB” (Gamma Hydroxy Butyrate), “Roofies” (Rohypnol), and “K, Special K, or Vitamin K” (Ketamine), have been growing in popularity in recent years. Part of the reason for their increased usage is a perception that these drugs don’t have the same serious health effects as other illegal drugs such as heroin, cocaine and methamphetamine. To begin to address this problem your Board approved a contract with the San Diego Prevention Coalition in the amount of \$140,000 to establish a Club Drug Task Force to develop a public awareness campaign and return to our Board with an action plan.

Club Drug Task Force Action Plan

This report contains the progress to establish a Club Drug Task Force and the development of a public awareness campaign that includes radio and television public service announcements.

1. Formation of the San Diego Prevention Coalition Club Drug Task Force:
 - a. Funding in the amount of \$140,000 was provided by Supervisor Bill Horn to develop the San Diego Prevention Coalition Club Drug Task Force and to develop a public awareness campaign regarding Club drugs.
 - b. Members: San Diego Prevention Coalition, Supervisor Bill Horn, District 5, San Diego County Sheriff’s Department, State Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement, Federal Drug Enforcement Agency, San Diego City Schools, County Health and Human Services Agency-Alcohol and Drug Services, San Diego Police Department, County Department of Probation, McAlister Institute for Treatment and Education, East County Communities Against Substance Abuse, San Diego County Responsible Hospitality Coalition, North County Serenity House, Tri-City Prevention Collaborative, San Diego County Office of Education, and the California National Guard.
 - c. A Logic Model was used to develop the San Diego Prevention Coalition Club Drug Task Force goals to ensure the effort focused on performance outcomes
 - d. The Club Drug Task Force met on the following dates: 2/20, 2/28, 3/11, 3/13, 3/22, 4/4, 4/17/, 5/29/02.
2. Development of an action plan to advance public awareness of Club drugs:
 - a. Work with media to produce a Club drug educational video for middle/high school youth.
 - b. Produce 200,000 youth-centered Club drug study guides for dissemination with video.

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- c. Produce five Club drug awareness public service announcements.
 - d. Produce ten media stories in San Diego County related to Club drugs.
 - e. Disseminate Club drug educational videos to San Diego County video store outlets as a community service.
 - f. Develop Club drug resource website.
 - g. Conduct two countywide Club drug awareness forums.
 - h. Conduct three Club drug school assemblies in San Diego City Schools and survey attendees.
 - i. Develop a plan to reduce Club drug use in the County of San Diego.
 - j. Determine available data (ED mentions, ME reports, DAWN, SCADDS, ADAM, seizures, etc) on Club drugs.
 - k. Develop policy goals and/or ordinances for use by all cities in the County that require responsible venue promotion for youth events (i.e. zoning, health & safety, security).
3. Further steps to be taken by the San Diego Prevention Coalition Club Drug Task Force:
- a. The San Diego Prevention Coalition Club Drug Task Force will partner with the San Diego County Public Safety Group, Health and Human Services Agency, Substance Abuse Summit, the Methamphetamine Strike Force, the San Diego County Sheriff's Department and other local, state and federal law enforcement, treatment and prevention providers, healthcare, businesses, San Diego County Office of Education, schools and others, to educate, and maximize resources to inform San Diego County residents of the dangers of Club drug use.
 - b. Pursue other funding avenues for ongoing efforts.
 - c. Leverage all asset opportunities.

Comprehensive Law Enforcement Strategy

The Sheriff's Department will provide a comprehensive law enforcement strategy to reduce usage and availability of Club drugs with special emphasis on Ecstasy.

1. Current Situation:

Rave parties and Club drug usage presents a number of law enforcement related problems. Some of these problems are: drug overdoses and associated medical hazards, drug trafficking with the potential for violence, noise complaints from the music and crowds, driving under the influence, traffic control and parking congestion, assaults in and around the clubs, theft from cars, graffiti, disorderly conduct and use of illicit drugs in acquaintance rape.

The apparent increase in the availability and use of Ecstasy and other Club/Rave related drugs are and will likely continue to be a significant law enforcement problem. Without immediate and significant intervention, the Club/Rave drug problem will continue to grow.

- a. Mission:

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In cooperation with the San Diego Prevention Coalition and the Club Drug Task Force, the San Diego Sheriff's Department will spearhead the enforcement element of a multi-faceted approach to the reduction of Club/Rave drug related problems.

b. Strategies:

The Sheriff's Department will act as a facilitator between enforcement agencies and the Club Drug Task Force in the setting up and execution of an organized Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (C.O.P.P.S.) program for the reduction of non-trafficking Club/Rave related drug problems.

The San Diego Sheriff's Department, as part of the Club Drug Task Force, will act as the liaison between the Task Force and all State, Federal and local enforcement agencies in San Diego County. This liaison will provide a two-way line of communication between enforcement agencies and the prevention, treatment and education elements of the Club Drug Task Force.

The San Diego Sheriff's Department, through the utilization of existing assets at the Narcotics Task Force (NTF), will act as the focal point for all enforcement agencies in San Diego County in the collection and dissemination of information/intelligence related to the trafficking of the drugs commonly associated with the Club/Rave scene, with a special emphasis on Ecstasy

c. Execution:

The execution of a successful plan will require a partnership with both law enforcement and the San Diego community. The enforcement part of this will be designed to impact the availability and use of Club/Rave related drugs and will need to focus, at varying levels of intensity, at the three (3) basic elements of the problem: the Suppliers (Dealers/Traffickers), the Customers (Users) and the Locations (Clubs/Raves). The interruption of the activities of any one of the three elements should significantly affect the other two.

2. The secondary portion of this partnership will focus on education, treatment and prevention programs. The implementation for each of these elements will be addressed as follows:

a. Suppliers:

Intelligence – The coordinated collection and dissemination of Club Drug information and intelligence between all enforcement agencies in the County through the use of existing resources. The utilization of this intelligence will be concentrated on the following efforts:

- Identification – The Identification of traffickers of Club/Rave related drugs with special emphasis on Ecstasy.

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- Disrupting/Dismantling - The disrupting and/or dismantling of groups and organizations involved in the importation or distribution of Club/Rave drugs through the execution of search and arrest warrants.
- Interdiction – Coordination and sharing of intelligence with those Federal agencies responsible for the policing of our international borders.

b. Customers:

Demand Reduction – Support and participate in the efforts of the Club Drug Task Force in the education of Club/Rave drug users of the health risk of Club drugs.

c. Locations:

Intelligence – Sharing with other Club Drug Task Force elements intelligence on the locations of Club/Rave functions.

Advocacy – Support the Club Drug Task Force in the advocacy of legislation for laws and ordinances that help regulate Club/Rave functions.

Code Enforcement - Regulate rave venues to ensure that basic health and safety measures are in place.

Prosecution - Prosecute rave operators and/or owners criminally for drug-related offenses.

3. Cost:

The Sheriff will be utilizing existing assets for the enforcement portion of this proposal, so no additional costs are attached to its implementation.

Your Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer to provide an analysis of the number of arrests associated with Club drugs. The arrest data for possession, possession for sale and sales are reported under Health and Safety Code Sections 11350 through 11379 and reference drug schedules I – V (H&S Sections 11054 through 11058). Unfortunately, the crime data reports do not specifically identify “Club drugs” within these drug schedules. For arrest information to be broken down by specific type of drug within each of the schedules, each of the arrest reports would have to be read and tabulated manually.

Your Board also directed the CAO to report back in six months on the health effects, deaths and injuries, statistics on use and demographics and hot spots within San Diego County of Club drugs (with emphasis on Ecstasy). A task force led by representatives of the Health and Human Services Agency and the Sheriff’s Department is preparing this report to your Board.

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Respectfully submitted,

BILL HORN
Supervisor, Fifth District

BILL KOLENDER
Sheriff

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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

CONCURRENCE(S)

COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Written Disclosure per County Charter Section 1000.1 Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
GROUP/AGENCY FINANCE DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Requires Four Votes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
GROUP/AGENCY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
COUNTY TECHNOLOGY OFFICE	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A

Other Concurrence(s): N/A

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Bill Horn, Supervisor, Fifth District

CONTACT PERSON(S):

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AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: _____

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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

(continued)

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:

February 5, 2002 (24), Formation of San Diego Prevention Coalition Club Drug Task Force

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:

N/A

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

N/A

CONTRACT NUMBER(S):

N/A