

Harm Reduction Commission



**Executive Office of Health & Human Services
Marylou Sudders, Secretary**

**January 28, 2019
3:00-5:00 pm**

**One Ashburton Place
21st Floor, CR 1 & 2**



Agenda



- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Approval of minutes from January 9, 2019 meeting**
- 3. Review of updated meeting schedule and agenda**
- 4. Presentation from Boston Users Union**
- 5. Presentation on Kraft Center Mobile Health Program**
 - Elsie M. Taveras, MD, MPH
- 7. Discussion of harm reduction opportunities**
- 8. Report back on Mayors' trips to Canada**
- 9. Updated timeline**



Updated Meeting Schedule and Agenda



February 12, 2019 (from 3-5 pm)

- Discussion of Commission's charges and findings

February 26, 2019 (from 3-5 pm)

- Review of document summarizing Commission's findings

March 1, 2019

- Submission of Commission's findings to the Legislature



Invited Speakers



Boston Users Union

Kraft Center for Community Health Mobile Health Program

- Elsie M. Taveras, MD, MPH



Report Back on Mayors' Trips to Canada



Mayor Walsh

- January 17-18, 2019
- Toronto, Montreal

Mayor McGovern

- January 17-18, 2019
- Montreal



Selected City/State Health Data



Indicator		Boston	Massachusetts	Montreal	Toronto
Population		685,094 (2017)	6.86 million (2017)	1.70 million (2017)	2.92 million (2017)
Supervised injection facilities (SIF) and overdose prevention sites (OPS)		0	0	4 (incl. 1 mobile unit)	9
Opioid-related overdose deaths		191 (Boston Residents) 272 (ODs occurred in Boston)	1,938 (MA Residents) 2,013 (ODs occurred in MA)	95 (2017)	308 (2017)
Syringe service programs (SSPs)		1 program operating in two sites	25 operating 31 approved	178 Injection Equipment Access Centres	47
No. of engagements at SSPs		Over 20,000	Over 56,000	N/A	120,000
No. of syringes distributed		710,282 (2018)	1.46 million (2018)	1.36 million (2015)	2.47 million (2018)
No. of naloxone kits distributed		16,927 (2018)	44,480 (2018)	7,838 (2017)	20,217 (2017)
HIV	# of new cases	141 (2015)	627 (2015)	318 (2015)	500 (2017)
	rate per 100,000	20.58 (2015)	9.14 (2015)	18.71(2015)	17.12 (2017)
Hepatitis C	# of new cases	875 (2018)	7,766 ⁵ (2018)	1,073 (2015)	694 (2017)
	rate per 100,000	127.72 (2018)	113.21 (2018)	63.12 (2015)	23.77 (2017)



Updated Timeline



Dates	Milestones
February 12, 2019 from 3-5 pm	Next commission meeting (21st floor)
February 20, 2019	Draft based on feedback shared with commission members
February 23, 2019	Comments and feedback due back
February 23-25, 2019	Feedback incorporated
February 26, 2019 from 3-5 pm	Final commission meeting to discuss and review commission's findings
March 1st, 2019 – Submission of findings to the Legislature	



Commission's Charge Overview



- Examine the **feasibility** of operating harm reduction sites
- Consider the **potential public health and public safety benefits and risks**
- Review the **potential federal, state and local legal issues**
- Recommend **appropriate guidance that would be necessary and required for professional licensure boards**
- Review **existing harm reduction efforts in the commonwealth**
- Identify **opportunities to maximize public health benefits**
- Explore **ways to support persons utilizing the sites** who express an interest in seeking substance use disorder treatment
- Identify **other harm reduction opportunities** (e.g. fentanyl test strips)
- Review **alternatives and recommendations to broaden the availability of naloxone without prescription.**
- Consider other matters deemed appropriate by the commission.