

From: Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@CityofMelrose.org>
Sent: Apr 08, 2025 15:58:50.000000000 UTC
Subject: FW: FY25 Q3 Quarterly Report draft.
To: Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@CityofMelrose.org>

Racial equity:

Equity Narrative: Q3 Same as Q2

Progress Narrative: Q# No in-work trainings or other equity projects. Nothing offered by the City of Melrose. However, our NFG policy discussions always begin with a reminder to use an equity lens in our language, and in our outreach to other communities across the Commonwealth. I still try to attend ASH (Action on Smoking Health) webinars as well as AATCLC (African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council) webinars as time allows.

Policy Reporting:**Number of Presentations to municipal decision makers to promote local policy strategies:**

Metric #: None in my collaborative region but many outside of my assigned area.

Equity Narrative: As stated in the Equity Section, the NFG Task Force has continued to be mindful of nicotine addiction/health disparities. (See Q2 narrative.)

Progress Narrative: No formal presentations other than regular updates in my region where all municipalities have all of the updated regulations and six of seven have adopted NFG. Participated in fourteen presentations and/or testimony at BOH meetings or public hearings in non-Mystic Valley Region communities, some of which adopted NFG, most notably Newton and Somerville. Also shared NFG related information with several other municipalities and/or regions who are starting to look at NFG, Tri Town Council among others. Several presentations coming up in the next week - Lee/Lennox/Stockbridge, Mansfield, Hopkinton to name a few.

Number of Municipalities for which policy has been changed/created

Metric #: None.

Equity Narrative: Same as above.

Progress Narrative: Same as above. No policy changes in the Mystic Valley Region but Pelham, Newton and Somerville all adopted NFG this quarter. I provided testimony, both written and in person or virtually for all. I also presented NFG, and/or provided testimony in other communities that have not yet adopted NFG (see above).

Number of tobacco retailer density policies passed (specify specific policy)

Metric #: None

Equity Narrative: N/A

Progress Narrative: All of my communities have a permit cap. Three communities have the most progressive permit cap in the state.

of cigar pricing packaging policies passed

Metric #: None

Equity Narrative: N/A

Progress Narrative: All of my communities have cigar minimum price regulation.

Enforcement and Surveillance Report:

Number of investigations made to smoke-free workplace law complaints

Complete: None

Equity Narrative: The same protocol is followed for each SFWP complaint without regard to who filed the complaint or who might have been smoking or where they were allegedly smoking, whenever there are complaints that need to be investigated.

Progress Narrative: N/A No complaints of workplace smoking this quarter. Several SFH (Smoke-Free Housing) complaints investigated. I submitted written comments to the CCC regarding the proposed on-premises-use plan. I stated both the concern about exposing workers and customers in the on-premises

site itself as well as the impact on allowing marijuana smoking may have on the state's very important smoke-free workplace law.

Number of retail inspections completed:

Complete: 61

Equity Narrative: The same protocol is followed for every retail store inspection - - driven by the POST retail store education form.

Progress Narrative: Stores were all basically compliant. Only one store had flavored products but they had enough to make up for those that didn't! Worked with DOR to effect a confiscation of all flavored products. A few sign violations. No vapes with more than 3% nicotine found in any family friendly stores. No Newport Non-menthols.

Number of compliance checks completed with youth buyers:

Complete: xxx

Equity Narrative: The same protocol is followed for every compliance check - - driven by the POST Enforcement form.

Progress Narrative: Conducted more compliance checks than normal this quarter in order to take advantage of a college student who was home on winter break. All my other youth buyers are high school students. Interestingly, compliance was not as good with the college student as with the high school age youth. Also, I have a new car. Could be that security cameras, which are everywhere, have not allowed clerks to spot me. We do know that some stores have their regular, or "safe", customers. I continue mix up my visits – a male one time, a female the next. Afterschool, early evening, Saturday afternoon, Sunday morning, even holidays.

Number of follow-up visits conducted from violations of previous compliance checks or inspections:

Complete: 16

Equity Narrative: Since follow-ups are prescribed by the workplan there is no wiggle room to treat a minority owned stores (or minority employees) differently than other employees.

Progress Narrative: Six of the sixteen follow-up visits (some compliance checks, some re-inspections) were at the same problem store.

NOTES: In addition to MTCP off-site, Quarterly TFM meeting, Monthly MTCP/BOH calls, various local community meetings (monthly Coalition, monthly prevention partnership, quarterly social services networking lunch, quarterly HD update meetings, quarterly youth advisors' meeting, etc.) I did a podcast for Wakefield. It was with Mass CCC and linked Cancer Screening and tobacco use. Also tabled (with Adolis) at the NE Metro Voke Parent and Student Substance Use Prevention event.

Continue to answer questions from colleagues on both NFG and other more routine Tobacco Program issues. Attended the Personal Safety training. I've also provided NFG info to many HD's, Board members, and Substance Prevention colleagues, and others outside of the MV region. And we continue to receive media inquires which I refer to Anthny Chui for response.

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