



HEALTH COMMISSION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
Resolution No. 23-05

**HONORING AYANNA BENNETT, MD, MS, FAAP**

WHEREAS, Dr. Ayanna Bennett has served the City and County of San Francisco as an exceptional leader at the Department of Public Health (DPH) since 2004, and making tremendous contributions to the Department's efforts to address health disparities and issues of racial equity; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bennett has held several DPH positions including Southeast Health Center as-needed physician, Interim Medical Director of Community Health Programs for Youth, Director of Interdivisional Initiatives, and most recently as the Chief Health Equity Officer; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bennett oversaw the awesome task of developing the DPH Racial Equity Action Plan, monitoring mechanisms, and coordinating the complex implementation of the plan throughout the multi-billion dollar department; and

WHEREAS, Through her work developing and overseeing the Office of Health Equity (OHE), Dr. Bennett created an infrastructure that makes equity part of each DPH employee's daily work. Every new employee is oriented to equity as a central part of the DPH work and throughout the Department, there are dedicated equity staff and health equity plans of action; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bennett convened the DPH Executive Staff every other month for many years as the Equity Governing Council to discuss approaches to improving equity across the DPH; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bennett was the longest-serving COVID-19 Incident Commander, shepherding the City's response at a time during the pandemic in which the outcome was uncertain. She expertly inhabited this important leadership role while balancing the needs of her family; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bennett is known for her innovation, creativity, and always being willing to volunteer to address the many complex health equity-related issues at the DPH; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bennett leaves a legacy of service and leadership to support and improve the lives of all San Franciscans. She will be dearly missed by many at the DPH and in the greater San Francisco public health communities.

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Health Commission honors Dr. Ayanna Bennett for her outstanding service and leadership, and wishes her well in her new position as the Washington D.C. Director of Health.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of June 20, 2023 adopted the foregoing resolution.

  
Mark Morewitz,  
Health Commission Executive Secretary