

PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO
RECOGNIZING
MARCH 2018 AS “PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH”

WHEREAS, drug overdose deaths are the leading cause of injury death in the United States and are highest among people aged 25 to 54 years:

WHEREAS, most teenagers who abuse prescription opioid drugs get them for free from a friend or relative – but those at highest risk of overdose are as likely to get them from a doctor’s prescription;

WHEREAS, in 2016 in Contra Costa County, there were 762,114 prescriptions given to patients for opioids which is an age-adjusted rate of 594.6 prescriptions per 1,000 residents which is higher than the state rate of 562.34;

WHEREAS, among the more than 64,000 drug overdose deaths estimated nationally in 2016, the sharpest increase occurred among deaths related to fentanyl and fentanyl analogs (synthetic opioids) with over 20,000 overdose deaths;

WHEREAS, in 2016 42,249 Americans died from opioid overdoses, an average of 116 people every day¹ and in 2016, 51 Contra Costa County residents died from an opioid overdose;

WHEREAS, as many as 1 in 4 people who receive prescription opioids long term for noncancerous pain in primary care settings struggles with opioid addiction;

WHEREAS, each day, more than 1,000 people are treated in emergency departments for not using prescription opioids as directed;

WHEREAS, in 2016 it is estimated that America’s opioid epidemic exacted at least \$504 billion in economic costs related to health care, crime and lost work productivity;

WHEREAS, Americans that have participated in DEA’s fourteen National Prescription Drug Take-Back Days have turned in more than 4,508 tons of medication over the past eight years at take-back sites available in all 50 states and U.S. territories, and in Contra Costa County, during the October 2017 DEA sponsored Take-Back Day, 1,628.2lbs of unwanted or unused prescription medication were removed;

WHEREAS, the San Pablo City Council supports April 28, 2018 as “National Prescription Drug Take Back Day” as declared by the DEA and encourages residents to locate their local collection site and safely dispose of their accumulated unwanted, unused prescription drugs; and

WHEREAS, the Alcohol, Marijuana, and Prescription Drug (AMPD) Coalition engages youth and adults, schools, businesses, faith-based communities, law enforcement, medical professionals, and local and county government officials to participate in Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month activities to raise awareness about prescription drug dangers, promote safe medication storage and disposal and ensure Naloxone is available for those at high risk of overdose.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the San Pablo City Council does hereby recognize **March 2018 as Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month, and encourages all citizens to participate in prescription drug related prevention programs and activities and further encourage all community members to pledge, “Spread the Word....One Pill Can Kill.”**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of San Pablo to be affixed this 5th day of March, 2018.

Genoveva Garcia Calloway, Mayor