



Interoffice Memorandum

AGENDA ITEM

January 29, 2020

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
-AND-
Board of County Commissioners

THRU: Danny Banks, Deputy County Administrator 
County Administrator's Office

FROM: Yolanda G. Martinez, EdPhD., PhD., Director 
Health Services Department

SUBJECT: Needle Exchange Program
Work Session – February 11, 2020

On February 11, 2020, the Board will hold a work session to discuss the Infectious Disease Elimination Act (IDEA) which authorizes county commissions to enact ordinances to allow needle or syringe exchange programs to operate within its county boundaries. The passage of IDEA has generated interest due to the connection between intravenous drug use (IDU), the transmission of infectious disease, and the reduction and/or prevention of disease transmission through the implementation of a needle exchange program (NEP).

During the work session, staff will provide an overview of IDEA, define a NEP, present the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendations for determining the need for a NEP, local statistics on HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C, modes of transmission, and some examples of cities that have implemented NEPs.

The purpose of the presentation is to seek Board input regarding the desire to advance a local ordinance to allow the implementation of NEPs in Orange County.

This work session is for informational purposes only; no board action will be requested.

YGM/sb