

## HIV Community Planning Council

### FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
25 Van Ness Ave Room 610  
4:00-6:30 pm

**HIV Community Planning Council Members Present:** Erwin Barrios, Bill Blum, Anna Branzuela, Franco Chevalier, Ed Chitty, Zachary Davenport, Elaine Flores, Elyse Griffin, Ron Hernandez, Lee Jewell, Thomas Knoble, Nga Le, T.J. Lee-Miyaki, Helen Lin, Derrick Mapp, Marco Montenegro, Jon Oskarsson, Irma Parada

**HIV Community Planning Council Members Absent:** Chuck Adams [E], Robert Arnold [A], Jesus Guillen [A], Reina Hernandez [A], John Paul Soto [E], Nikos Pecoraro [A], Charles Siron [E], Richard Sullivan [A], Laura Thomas [E], Manuel Vasquez [A]

**Others Present:** Roger Al-Chaikh, Matt Foreman, Molly Herzig, Stephen Spano, Joseph Tuohy

**DPH Staff Present:** None

**Support Staff Present:** Ali Cone, Mark Molnar, Kira Perez

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### *Minutes*

#### **1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call. Introduction of Public. Co-Chair Welcome.**

The meeting was called to order at 4:13 pm by CM Knoble. Roll Call was called, everyone introduced themselves and quorum was established.

#### **2. Review and Approve July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, DRAFT Agenda – VOTE**

The July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 DRAFT Agenda was reviewed and approved by consensus.

#### **3. Review and Approve June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, DRAFT Minutes – VOTE**

The June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 DRAFT Minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.

#### **4. Announcements**

- None.

#### **5. Public Comment**

- None.

#### **6. Staff Announcements**

- CS Molnar announces that Ali Cone will be joining council staff part-time to help with various projects.
- CS Molnar shares that CM Smith has passed away. He speaks to her tenure with the HCPC and shares about the impact she's had.

#### **7. General Updates**

- CAEAR Coalition – CM Jewell
  - CM Jewell updates the group that after finalizing the fiscal year 2025 budget in early July, Congress has begun work on the fiscal year 2026 spending package ahead of the September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 deadline. The Senate Labor-HHS subcommittee plans to mark up its bill in late July, with a full committee markup scheduled for July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The President's fiscal year 2026 budget proposes major reforms to HHS and the HOPWA program. Republicans aim to advance these priorities using rarely employed tools such as rescissions, executive

impoundment, and reconciliation. Democrats, meanwhile, are weighing options to counter these moves, including raising the threat of a government shutdown if a full spending package or continuing resolution isn't passed by the deadline.

- HHS – CM Blum
  - CM Blum shares that Mayor Lurie signed the City's budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 into law on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
  - CM Blum notes that the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) is in the process of realigning services to ensure they are staying in balance with the mayor's budget and priorities. He reviews the additional reductions that are expected, as well as where new investments will be made. He adds that SFDPH is preparing for the shifting of the federal and state cuts to healthcare funding.
  - CM Blum shares that HHS has received the Ryan White Part A (RWPA) Carryover Notice of Award on July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025. He reviews the current known and projected funding for fiscal year 2025-2026.
  - CM Blum shares an update on the quarterly CQI meeting, which will be held on October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and HCPC members are encouraged to apply. He also highlights upcoming HHS-funded trainings.
  - CM Blum updates that the HHS Health Care Analyst position was approved by the Mayor's Office of Business and an offer has been extended and accepted. He adds that another position has been ranked for approval.
- CHEP & CPG – CM Knoble
  - CM Knoble announces the newly renovated Adult Immunization & Travel Clinic (AITC) at 27 Van Ness Avenue. They highlight the immigrant rights resources that are available. Additionally, CM Knoble shares about the gathering held at City Hall in honor of World Hepatitis Day.
- GTZ – CM Chevalier
  - CM Chevalier highlights the public meetings that will be held in the coming months, noting they are open to the public if any council members would like to attend. Topics that will be discussed include the HIV Epi report and HIV prevention, as well as World AIDS Day. He notes the statement issued on behalf of the GTZ Steering committee which is available online.
- SOA – CM Blea
  - CM Blea introduces himself and shares more information on what Ryan White Part B (RWPB) is. He provides information on what their integrated plan process will look like in the coming months. He highlights that he is the RWPB representative for all planning council jurisdictions and that something he hears time and time again is how to address the Medicaid cuts in the current policy environment. He reviews what he'd like to cover in his future SOA updates and lets council members know he is open to hearing what folks would like to see in these updates.
    - ❖ CM Blum asks if there are any updates he can provide about cuts that are being backfilled?
      - i. CM Blea says it's a requirement for the federal government to return those borrowed funds to the states. He highlighted cuts that didn't materialize. They have not received their RWPB notice of award but have received their notice of award for prevention and are reviewing it with a

fine-tooth comb due to a few policy changes. It is critical for them to maintain the numbers they have so that California can continue to receive the funds they have been.

- CM Jewell asks for clarification about what policies he's referring to?

1. CM Blea says that he is referring to the language that is being changed around certain data, such as gender and race.

- ETE Update – CM Sullivan
  - There are no ETE updates this month.
- ADAP Update – Nikki Gracey
  - There are no ADAP updates this month.

#### **8. Ryan White Planning Body Quiz & HRSA Mandate**

- CS Molnar began his Legislative Mandate presentation with a short quiz for council members before reviewing the HCPC roles and responsibilities. He highlighted the Council's mandate as a community body that must listen to and serve people living with HIV (PLWH). Key responsibilities include defining conflict of interest policies, maintaining HCPC support staff, and assessing the needs of PLWH through needs assessments. Additionally, the HCPC evaluates the efficiency of the grantee, develops Standards of Care (SOC), and sets priorities and allocates resources.
  - CM Oskarsson asked if the Council sorted the categories into two core groups?
    - ❖ CS Molnar says it's 75% minimum for core services, and 25% for support services.
      - i. CM Blum adds that for years they have spent more than 25% for support services. The percentages and ranking, once you get approval, are not locked in.
  - CM Knoble notes that the co-chairs are now well-versed in who the grantee is.

#### **9. Break**

#### **10. CQI/Quality Assurance**

- John Aynsley reviewed the HHS Quality Management presentation, outlining its purpose, goals, and activities. The program focuses on analyzing HRSA quality indicators for San Francisco, using data to improve care and health outcomes, and reporting to funders at all levels. He highlighted performance measures such as retention in care, ART prescription rates, and viral load suppression, with data from ARIES. A key focus this year includes improving viral suppression rates across all clients, with particular attention to Black/African American communities and individuals experiencing homelessness or unstable housing. Aynsley also noted that California updated its eligibility threshold for HIV services from 500% to 600% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), which will expand access to care.
  - CM Blum adds that when looking at improvements in viral suppression, the more you improve the harder it is to improve year after year.
  - CM Jewell mentions that the chart that demonstrates FPL is very easy to read.
  - CM Chitty asks about the viral suppression rate for those 70+ years old and asks if Aynsley is able to capture information about other ailments due to the medications they might be taking that could affect this?

- ❖ Aynsley explains that it would be hard to capture solely HHS clients, but he could work with a colleague who is well-versed in EPIC to be able to do that. He asks that CM Chitty email him so that he can try to see if this is possible.
  - i. CM Blum adds that what makes something doable or not is whether that kind of report has been made already or not.
    - CM Chitty adds that oftentimes when you look at viral suppression and it looks fine, people assume you're good but ignore any other ailments.
- CM Knoble asks if this data includes Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE)? They want to acknowledge that a lot of folks that are aging will eventually pass, so that will impact the data.
  - ❖ Aynsley confirms it includes EHE.
    - i. CM Blum notes they are doing collaborations with services like the Department of Aging Services (DAS) where they are educating these systems about PLWH.
- CM Mapp notes that the clients he is discussing these topics of passing with have questions such as, what services are available to them? For example, people who don't have an income to plan a funeral, what services might be available to them? CM Mapp mentions exploring the Medicare/Medicaid levels of challenges as a Needs Assessment or COLA target population.
- CM Lee-Miyaki mentions that it is time to start asking about modes of transportation when conducting Needs Assessments or COLAs.
- CM Jewell ponders about how aging is going to affect federal policy and the ability to get grants and funding as people age and pass.
- CM Blea mentioned that he will table his comments into his report next month because the State Office of AIDS is concerned about aging with HIV.
- CM Oskarsson states that the conversation in general about aging while HIV includes looking at a bigger picture that involves poverty, family structures, etc. This is because the landscape is changing, as there are very few places that were born out of the hospice era that are still able to bridge that need.

## 11. Prevention Megatrends

- CM Knoble presented current and emerging megatrends in HIV, HCV, and STI work, building on trends from 2024 and identifying new challenges in 2025. They noted that while HIV rates have declined in many urban areas, STI rates continue to rise, and overdose mortality remains a critical issue. Ongoing megatrends include the expansion of long-acting injectables for HIV care and PrEP, Doxy-PEP, integration of HIV, HCV, STI, and overdose services, as well as a focus on social determinants of health, equity, and workforce development that values lived experience. New megatrends in 2025 include unstable funding, national rollbacks on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and reproductive health, increased attacks on trans communities, and shifts in immigration enforcement. San Francisco has been an early leader in implementing syndemic approaches, telemedicine, home testing, and equity-focused Health Access Points. Funding remains uncertain, with some CDC and state grants awarded at reduced levels. Overall, the trends highlight both progress in biomedical tools and equity-driven care, and significant threats posed by political,

financial, and structural challenges. CM Knoble concludes with highlighting the Workforce Summit for Spanish Speaking Staff that is taking place in September.

- CM Mapp notes there is underreporting and public health concerns in general. He provided examples such as tuberculosis and COVID-19, where cases are on the rise and still happening. Additionally, the various reporting of diseases that are popping up, such as the measles outbreak and the one case of bubonic plague. These public health concerns and trends are being underreported, and it is damaging.
- CM Blea speaks to how infectious disease experts and the retiring workforce will see an interruption.
- CM Chitty shares how he cannot remember a time in all his years that he's seen a government who is so anti-science and anti-research.

## 12. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment

*The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 4:00 – 6:30 pm at 25 Van Ness, 6<sup>th</sup> floor conference room.*

*Meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM by CM Knoble.*

### Full Council Meeting

#### HIV Community Planning Council

Roll Call: **P**=Present; **A**=absent; **E**=Excused; **L**=Leave of Absence

Votes: **Y**=Yes; **N**=No; **B**=Abstain; **R**=Recused (deduct from quorum)

<b>Date: July 28, 2025</b>	[roll]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]	[8]	[9]	[10]
Chuck Adams	E	-	-								
Robert Arnold	A	-	-								
Erwin Barrios	P	Y	Y								
Leroy Blea	P										
Bill Blum	P										
Anna Branzuela	P	Y	Y								
Franco Chevalier	P	Y	Y								
Ed Chitty	P	Y	Y								
Zachary Davenport	P	Y	Y								
Elaine Flores	P	Y	Y								
Elyse Griffin	P	Y	Y								

Jesus Guillen	A	-	-								
Reina Hernandez	A										
Ron Hernandez	P	Y	Y								
Lee Jewell	P	Y	Y								
Thomas Knoble (Co-Chair)	P	Y	Y								
Nga Le	P	Y	Y								
T.J. Lee-Miyaki	P	Y	Y								
Helen Lin	P	Y	Y								
Derrick Mapp	P	Y	Y								
Marco Montenegro	P	Y	Y								
Jon Oskarsson	P	Y	Y								
Irma Parada	P	Y	Y								
John Paul Soto	E	-	-								
Nikos Pecoraro	A										
Charles Siron	E	-	-								
Richard Sullivan	A	-	-								
Laura Thomas	E	-	-								
Manuel Vasquez	E	-	-								
Ayes		17	17								
Nayes		0	0								
Abstain		0	0								
Recusal		0	0								
Total	19	17	17								