

HIV Community Planning Council

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, November 24th, 2025
25 Van Ness Ave Room 610
4:00-6:30 pm

HIV Community Planning Council Members Present: Chuck Adams, Robert Arnold, Leroy Blea, Bill Blum, Anna Branzuela, Franco Chevalier, Ed Chitty, Zachary Davenport, Elaine Flores, Ron Hernandez, Lee Jewell, Thomas Knoble, Helen Lin, Irma Parada, John Paul Soto, Richard Sullivan, Laura Thomas, Manuel Vasquez

HIV Community Planning Council Members Absent: Erwin Barrios [A], Elyse Griffin [E], Jesus Guillen [LOA], Nga Le [E], T. J. Lee-Miyaki [E], Derrick Mapp [E], Marco Montenegro [E], Jon Oskarsson [E], Charles Siron [E],

Others Present: Matt Foreman, Barbara Green-Ajufo, Martin Muneton, Nikos Pecoraro, Isabel Shapson, Stephen Spano

DPH Staff Present: None

Support Staff Present: Mark Molnar, Kira Perez, Kat Tajgeer

Minutes

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm by CM Davenport. Roll Call was called; everyone introduced themselves and quorum was established.

2. Review and Approve November 24th, 2025 DRAFT Agenda – VOTE

The November 24th, 2025 DRAFT Agenda was reviewed and approved by consensus.

3. Review and Approve October 27th, 2025 DRAFT Minutes – VOTE

The October 27th, 2025 DRAFT Minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.

4. Announcements

- None.

5. Public Comment

- None.

6. Staff Announcements

- None.

7. General Updates

- HHS – CM Blum

- CM Blum announces that the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) will be doing further budget reductions and they will be reducing general funds contracts by \$17,000,000.

- ❖ CM Thomas asks for clarification around the internal decision-making process and criteria?

- i. CM Blum shares some of the criteria, noting that they will look at agencies who do not fulfill contracts, looking at alignment of core mission of DPH and programs that focus on substance use and unique, special populations.

- CM Thomas asks if people with HIV are considered a special population?
 - 1. CM Blum is not positive, but he is guessing so.
- ❖ CM Arnold asks if there will be a portal for people to leave public comment?
 - i. CM Blum will share this information once he has it.
- CM Blum says the Health Resources & Services Administration HIV/AIDS Bureau (HRSA HAB) wants to come up with new formulary for Ryan White Part A (RWPA) and Ryan White Part B (RWPB). Historically, funding was based on address at time of diagnosis, but now it will be switched to most recent address. This would result in reductions to San Francisco, with a proposed 19% reduction of RWPA over 5 years, and a 5% reduction of RWPB over 5 years.
 - ❖ CM Thomas says this was something CAEAR had been pushing for.
- CM Blum provides an HIV Health Services (HSS) staffing update, noting that Natalie Basha will be working on the CQI, and Flor Roman has been promoted into a new position.
- CHEP, CPG, ETE – CM Knoble
 - CM Knoble discusses the upcoming World AIDS Day events that will be taking place.
 - CM Knoble updates the group that their project office had been caught up in the federal furlough and is just now getting back into the office.
 - CM Knoble speaks to the in-person CPG meeting that took place and notes that Los Angeles is well-represented now, which was not happening in the past.
- CAEAR Coalition – CM Jewell
 - CM Jewell updates the group that the government has reached an agreement and appropriations are continuing. He will provide more information once it is available.
- SOA & ADAP – CM Blea
 - CM Blea highlights that the State Office of AIDS (SOA) had previously been recruiting for a new position. Recruitment is now closed and SOA has begun reviewing applications, with the hopes that the position will be filled by April. He notes the Ending the Epidemic (ETE) Symposium sessions are now available online on the conference website. CM Blea shares that SOA has opened dialogue with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to be the Medi-Cal Medicaid representative on all planning councils in California. He will keep the group updated on their progress.
 - ❖ CM Blum asks about the proposed change in allocation.
 - i. CM Blea says RWPB would be a 5% reduction, which would impact jurisdictions.
 - CM Jewell asks for information about the timeline of this happening and says he would like to put forth a motion that the HCPC write a letter regarding this.
 - 1. CS Molnar notes this cannot be a motion.
 - ❖ CM Chitty asks if the state is aware of the senior advantage plans?
 - i. CM Blea will take this back to ADAP.
- The Reunion Project – CS Molnar
 - CS Molnar provides an update on the Reunion Project event that is taking place and notes that the dates are now Friday, February 13th and Saturday, February 14th.

8. Membership Discussion – VOTE

- CM Thomas opens the membership discussion by noting the recent decision from the mayor's office to not appoint a council member. She reviews how the HCPC is structured, highlights that there are sets of demographics the HCPC needs to meet and appointed seats that need to be filled, and notes how essential it is that people living with HIV (PLWH) be seated on the Council. She says she is worried this recent decision will overrule the HCPC's authority in voting in new members and would like to ask the co-chairs and Planning Council staff to meet with the mayor's office to provide background and education on the HCPC.
 - CM Chevalier asks if there are requirements for new mayors to familiarize themselves with the councils they oversee, and what the mayor's familiarity with the HCPC is?
 - ❖ CS Molnar says he does meet with the new Director of Appointments whenever they are appointed, and provides education to them about the HCPC.
 - CM Thomas asks what the most effective way to engage the mayor's office would be?
 - ❖ CS Molnar says CM Blum and council staff have tried to engage on this issue already. If there were to be further efforts, it should come from the co-chairs and other council members.
 - CM Chitty asks if the HCPC was given any indication as to why the mayor declined the appointment?
 - ❖ CS Molnar says no official reason has been provided to the declined applicant, nor to council staff.
 - CM Jewell states that questioning the political leanings of new applicants is not ideal, and that declining to appoint a new member hinders the Membership Committee's efforts to recruit new members. He adds he would be in favor of the co-chairs or Council sending a letter to the mayor.
 - CM Hernandez asks CS Molnar if, when he met with the Director of Appointments, if he seemed resistant to explaining the new process?
 - ❖ CS Molnar said he was exceedingly agreeable and present.
 - CM Chitty asks if there is a mechanism where the mayor can do a provisional appointment?
 - ❖ CS Molnar explains that when someone is voted onto the Council they are provisionally appointed.
 - CM Flores asks if the HCPC will have to change any of their practices?
 - ❖ CS Molnar says that council members serve at the discretion of the mayor and the local DPH.
 - Nikos Pecoraro thanks the Council for considering this. They are very passionate about this work. This has become their life's work, and the precedent being set is very important.

Motion: CM Thomas motions to ask the HCPC co-chairs and other planning council members set up a meeting with the appointment director to provide education, and to discuss recent appointment decision, and escalate as needed.

Second: CM Jewell seconds this motion.

Motion passes through a roll call vote, refer to column (3).

9. Break

10. Getting to Zero Update – Susan Buchbinder

- Susan Buchbinder introduces the Getting to Zero (GTZ) update, reviews efforts within the GTZ San Francisco Consortium, and reviews the overall goals of GTZ-SF. Buchbinder focuses efforts

on what is happening to the local epidemic and reviews new HIV diagnoses, deaths, and prevalence, noting that there is a need to address the aging population. Buchbinder reviews new diagnoses by race/ethnicity, noting that new diagnoses are highest in the Latine community. She reviews additional demographics of new diagnoses and drills down to show further details. She notes that disparities exist for cis women, people who inject drugs, and unhoused folks. She highlights that deaths are increasing as the population ages, particularly amongst Black men. Buchbinder reviews the various GTZ-SF work groups and committees.

- CM Jewell says this was an excellent presentation.
- CM Blum shares kudos for all the work they're doing.

11. California Integrated Plan – Leroy Blea

- CM Blea introduces the Integrated Plan and reviews the overview of today's presentation. He provides an overview of the California Statewide Integrated Strategic Plan and Blueprint, noting that there are multiple strategies organized across the six social determinants of health. CM Blea reviews the priority populations, noting that the ones listed in red were not included in the first plan. He reviews the elements of the Integrated Plan and highlights the additions and edits that will be made. He reviews their process for ensuring that the reporting is acceptable for the federal government, while also maintaining an internal plan that allows for diversity in reporting. He reviews the key elements of the planning process, along with the timeline for drafting the Integrated Plan. CM Blea reviews key action items which include a comment/review period, concurrence presentations and votes, and submitting an external-to-California document.
 - CM Davenport thanks CM Blea for the presentation. They ask, when California is submitting this information to HRSA, why can't they just use the language they already use? Would this cause the document to get kicked back? What are the consequences versus resisting?
 - ❖ CM Blea says they have gotten push back on some reports, as they are not able to accept more than two gender data. They have been required to change language to not support DEI or health equity, noting that other states are doing similar work that is acceptable to compromised partners. Their plan is to lift the fight to the state level above public health, and speaks to the alliance they have created with other states to develop a new set of guidance.
 - CM Thomas says housing first is under attack at the federal and state level, as is harm reduction. She asks what the strategy is for holding onto evidence-based harm reduction strategies?
 - ❖ CM Blea says housing first is a social determinant of health and California's strategy is to remain California.
 - CM Knoble the state doing an integrated plan is critical and a significant lift. Calls out that folks can join ETE steering meeting.
 - CM Knoble says the state doing an integrated plan is critical and a significant lift. They note that folks can join the ETE Steering meetings.
 - CS Molnar asks when CM Blea would like the follow up portions to take place?
 - ❖ CM Blea says it can be wrapped into his monthly update, and then in March there will be a significant review portion.

12. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment

- CS Molnar opens the floor for discussion on whether the Council would like to meet in December.

Motion: CM Thomas motions to cancel the December meeting and meet next in January.

Second: CM Soto seconds this motion.

Motion passes through consensus, refer to column (4).

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 26th, 2026, 4:00 – 6:30 pm at 25 Van Ness, 6th floor conference room.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:32 PM by CM Davenport.

Full Council Meeting

HIV Community Planning Council

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

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

Date: November 24, 2025	[roll]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]	[8]	[9]	[10]
Chuck Adams	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Robert Arnold	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Erwin Barrios	A	-	-	-	-						
Leroy Blea	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Bill Blum	P										
Anna Branzuela	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Franco Chevalier	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Ed Chitty	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Zachary Davenport	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Elaine Flores	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Elyse Griffin	E	-	-	-	-						
Jesus Guillen	LOA	-	-	-	-						
Ron Hernandez	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Lee Jewell	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Thomas Knoble (Co-Chair)	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Nga Le	E	-	-	-	-						

T. J. Lee-Miyaki	E	-	-	-	-						
Helen Lin	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Derrick Mapp	E	-	-	-	-						
Marco Montenegro	E	-	-	-	-						
Jon Oskarsson	E	-	-	-	-						
Irma Parada	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Charles Siron	E	-	-	-	-						
John Paul Soto	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Richard Sullivan	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Laura Thomas	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						
Manuel Vasquez	P	Y	Y	Y	Y						

Ayes		17	17	17	17						
Nayes		0	0	0	0						
Abstain		0	0	0	0						
Recusal		0	0	0	0						
Total	18	17	17	17	17						