

HIV Community Planning Council

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, August 24th, 2026

25 Van Ness Ave Room 610

4:00-6:30 pm

HIV Community Planning Council Members Present: Chuck Adams, Erwin Barrios, Leroy Blea, Bill Blum, Anna Branzuela, Jesse Brooks, Ed Chitty, Ron Hernandez, Lee Jewell, Thomas Knoble, Nga Le, T. J. Lee-Miyaki, Derrick Mapp, Jon Oskarsson, Irma Parada, Andre Robertson, Johnny Rodriguez, Charles Siron, Richard Sullivan, Laura Thomas

HIV Community Planning Council Members Absent: Robert Arnold [E], Zachary Davenport [LOA], Elaine Flores [E], John Paul Soto [E]

Others Present: Molly Herzig, Stephen Spano, Susan Walburg-Smith

DPH Staff Present: Kevin Chen, Eric Dew, Vilma Molina, Beth Neary, Flor Roman

Support Staff Present: Mark Molnar, Kira Perez

Minutes

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm by CM Mapp. Roll Call was called; everyone introduced themselves and quorum was established.

2. Review and Approve August 24th, 2026 DRAFT Agenda – VOTE

The August 24th, 2026 DRAFT Agenda was reviewed and approved by consensus.

3. Review and Approve July 27th, 2026 DRAFT Minutes – VOTE

The July 27th, 2026 DRAFT Minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.

4. Announcements

- None.

5. Public Comment

- None.

6. Staff Announcements

- CS Perez reminded the public to sign in and council members to fill out the meeting survey for today's meeting.
- CS Molnar reviewed the HRSA Service Category sheet and outlined directions to rank the categories. He highlighted the importance of support services and reminded council members to put their names at the top of their sheets and when done to turn them into him via email or in person by the end of the first week of September. CS Molnar mentioned that if you don't rank the services in gray, they will receive an 18 or bottom number.

7. HIV Care Connect Report

- Flor Roman and Vilma Molina introduced the HIV Care Connect (HCC) presentation as well as their presenting team. They noted that HCC has replaced the AIDS Regional Informational Evaluation System (ARIES), and this is the first year they are relying solely on data from HCC. Roman highlighted that this report is an analysis of the San Francisco Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA) that includes

data for all Ryan White parts, San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) HHS General Funds, and EHE funds for the 2025 calendar year. They noted that the information is not reflective of all epidemiological data from EMA. They reviewed what HHC is and what it is used for and reviewed facts on the data reporting including reporting period, funding sources, dates of data, and total EMA unduplicated client count (UDC). The data shows a total EMA-wide UDC count of 6,139. They reviewed EMA data including sex at birth, age, race, and current living situation. Vilma noted that on slide seven titled "Sex at Birth for EMA" there was a typo, so the Female number total should read 812 not 813. They reviewed data for antiretroviral therapy (ART) and viral load (VL) including demographics like race and age. Flor highlighted that their clients can choose more than one race, so the total number may appear higher in this infographic versus their total unduplicated clients. She also emphasized that a majority of patients are on ART.

- CM Thomas asked for more information regarding the handout. She and CM Lee-Miyaki shared their concerns about the release of demographic data.
 - ❖ Flor Roman explained that they want to be mindful of the current situation but want to still acknowledge what clients share.
 - ❖ CM Blum explained they pulled this information separately and they discussed this. He mentioned that they are open to hearing what people think and had previously asked the Steering Committee how they wanted this represented. He stated this is open for further discussion.
 - ❖ Beth Neary added that they are not required to present this, but they can just omit sex at birth when they present things in the future.
 - ❖ CM Jewell shared that this is no different than what other Public Health Departments are facing across the country. He added that no one wants this and to go against it could put funding in jeopardy since they are already faced with programs being cut. He wanted to make sure that folks are aware that we don't want to be in a position to jeopardize funding. He stated that he appreciates the handout to be able to see what the numbers are for the community in discussion.
- CM Knoble added that we should have more thoughtful conversations and thanked everyone for that.
- CS Molnar noted that the number of clients seeing primary care providers seemed low, so is that number accurate? He asked how this number compares to previous years?
 - ❖ Beth Neary stated that these are the only people who they are obligated to put in who are on ART, but that they have clients accessing other health care. She notes that this is a fairly low number.
- CM Lee-Miyaki asked about the housing slide on why the "other" or "unknown"?
 - ❖ Beth Neary answered that they chose to report on the smaller subset of data that they did have access to.
- CS Molnar stated that he understands the 3,467 is a normal number, but asked if partners in San Mateo or Marin are seeing something similar?
 - ❖ CM Le answered that they do not have primary care for Marin.
 - ❖ CM Branzuela answered that she will take a look at that data for San Mateo.
- Member of the public asked how they can extrapolate this data to everyone who is not in the HCC database?

- ❖ Beth Neary stated that they can go look at the data and let them know after the break. She adds that after ACA, not everyone is on Medi-Cal and can look into it.
- ❖ CS Molnar added that they do have the EPI Report coming up next month.

8. Break

9. General Updates

- HHS – Bill Blum
 - CM Blum reviewed the HHS report and noted that DPH and Planning Council members attended the CARE Conference in Washington, D.C. this year. He opened up the floor for questions.
- CHEP & CPG – Thomas Knoble
 - CM Knoble reviewed the CHEP & CPG report and answered questions regarding the information.
 - ❖ CM Thomas added that this year they are funding additional training because these machines are more difficult to operate than what people were previously familiar with. She echoes everything CM Knoble stated and noted that addressing some of these barriers have been moving San Francisco forward.
 - ❖ CM Jewell asked if it takes a significant amount of blood to use these machines and how much does it take?
 - i. CM Knoble answered that it utilizes a finger prick as the legislature around certain testing doesn't allow for traditional phlebotomy.
 - ❖ CM Robertson asked in the event a person tests positive for Hep C since the drugs are expensive, what is that path like? He added that his patients previously had to jump through hoops to get access to care and what that looks like when they are not HIV positive.
 - i. CM Knoble answered that the barrier to medication is not what folks struggle with, but it is other barriers. He adds that in San Francisco folks have amazing access to treatment.
 - ❖ CM Sullivan thanked council members and council staff as well as DPH staff for all the help they provided and hopes to be in attendance in person for next month's meeting.
- CAEAR – Lee Jewell
 - CM Jewell noted that on August 8, 2026, the Senate passed a continuing resolution (CR) that extends current fiscal year 2026 (FY2026) funding through December 11, 2026. The House of Representatives passed their own CR that would extend FY2026 spending levels through December 4, 2026. The bill is now returning to the House.
 - ❖ CM Lee-Miyaki asked about the continuing resolution regarding funding.
 - i. CM Jewell answered yes, they are continuing funding.

- ii. CM Blum added that anyone who has further questions can talk to him and CM Jewell offline.
- CARE Conference – Lee Jewell, Bill Blum, Irma Parada, Mark Molnar
 - CM Jewell shared that there was discussion just for people that were HIV positive. Anyone who was an administrator or not HIV positive had to leave the discussion. They wanted to hear what is really going on with people in their jurisdictions. Trans folks living in D.C. were afraid to speak up. National guards were stationed in D.C. and he shares that it is a suppressing feeling. He adds that he found AI being implemented in planning councils could be interesting for this particular council to help improve the work that these councils do.
 - CM Parada shared that it was a confirmation for her that San Francisco is ahead of everyone else. She added it was hard to see how the states in the South are lacking the help and don't work as well as they do here in San Francisco. She clarified that there is clear access to people like CM Blum and Beth Neary in San Francisco, whereas in other states that is not the case. Additionally, she shared that she noticed that other states and jurisdictions were barely going over the information and data from previous years.
 - CM Jewell echoed the same sentiment as CM Parada about how far and advanced San Francisco is in comparison to other states. He mentioned the conference was very useful for best practices for people wanting to get involved.
 - CS Molnar noted that he has attended these conferences before and it was good to be reminded how much privilege it is to be able to have clear pathways of communication with various agencies including the Mayor's Office and DPH. He added that in San Francisco we conduct targeted Needs Assessment rather than comprehensive ones. He suggests trying a comprehensive one for next year. He highlighted that San Francisco's system of care is very ahead of other states.
 - CM Blum shared that some things he found interesting were how HIV impacts again. He found around age 65, HIV really accelerates the body. Additionally, the number of years someone has been dealing with HIV effects how much support they require if they have been living with it for a long time. He also noted that the Carry Forward motion the council approved earlier this year was just approved and they will be moving forward with it.
 - ❖ CM Sullivan asked about the older population and attendance at polls. He asks about how political the Council can be in the upcoming elections to ensure people are going out to vote.
 - i. CM Thomas answered that it isn't the roll of the Council to get involved in that way politically, but there are other organizations in the Bay Area who are doing this work.
 - ❖ CM Lee-Miyaki asked about AI and is curious if they created this tool because they are touched by HIV?

- i. CM Jewell answered that the person who created this tool has been involved with HIV for a long time.
- ❖ CM Thomas added that the Community Health Assistants program at San Francisco AIDS Foundation is hiring and is a great program that DPH proposed cutting and the community fought back. They changed the commission's mind, but the program is smaller and is a fantastic program to go through. If interested in becoming a HIV/STI Prep clinic assistant, she recommends it.
- SOA & ADAP – Leroy Blea
 - CM Blea announced that the registration for the upcoming Ending the Syndemic Symposium is now open. The Symposium will be held virtually September 29-October 1, 2026, from 12-4 PM each day.
 - CM Blea announced that the California Planning Group (CPG) meeting will be held in Southern California this year.

10. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 28th, 2026, 4:00 – 6:30 pm at 25 Van Ness, 6th floor conference room.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:51 PM by CM Mapp.

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)

Date: August 24, 2026	[roll]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]	[8]	[9]	[10]
Chuck Adams	P	Y	Y								
Robert Arnold	E	-	-								
Erwin Barrios	P	Y	Y								
Leroy Blea	P	-	-								
Bill Blum	P										
Anna Branzuela	P	Y	Y								
Jesse Brooks	P	–	–								
Ed Chitty	P	Y	Y								

Zachary Davenport (Co-Chair)	LOA	-	-								
Elaine Flores	E	-	-								
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								
Derrick Mapp (Co-Chair)	P	Y	Y								
Jon Oskarsson	P	-	-								
Irma Parada (Co-Chair)	P	Y	Y								
Andre Robertson	P	Y	Y								
Johnny Rodriguez	P	-	-								
Charles Siron	P	Y	Y								
John Paul Soto	E	-	-								
Richard Sullivan	P	-	-								
Laura Thomas	P	Y	Y								
Ayes		14	14								
Nayes		0	0								
Abstain		0	0								
Recusal		0	0								
Total	20	14	14								