

HIV Community Planning Council

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, January 26th, 2026

25 Van Ness Ave Room 610

4:00-6:30 pm

HIV Community Planning Council Members Present: Chuck Adams, Robert Arnold, Erwin Barrios, Leroy Blea, Bill Blum, Anna Branzuela, Ed Chitty, Jesus Guillen, Ron Hernandez, Lee Jewell, Thomas Knoble, Derrick Mapp, Irma Parada, John Paul Soto, Laura Thomas

HIV Community Planning Council Members Absent: Franco Chevalier [LOA], Zachary Davenport [LOA], Elaine Flores [E], Elyse Griffin [E], Nga Le [LOA], T. J. Lee-Miyaki [E], Helen Lin [LOA], Marco Montenegro [E], Jon Oskarsson [LOA], Charles Siron [E], Richard Sullivan [E], Manuel Vasquez [E]

Others Present: Paul Aguilar, Natalie Basha, Dominic Calhoun, Mollie Davis, Isabel Eskin Shapson, Molly Herzig, Martin Muneton, Mercy Nyangau, Nikos Pecoraro, Michael Petrelis, Andre Robertson, Stephen Spano, Sue Walburg-Smith, Robert Whirry, Hannah Whitmore

DPH Staff Present:

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 4:08 pm by CM Knoble. Roll Call was called; everyone introduced themselves and quorum was established.

2. Review and Approve January 26th, 2026 DRAFT Agenda – VOTE

The January 26th, 2026 DRAFT Agenda was reviewed and approved by consensus.

3. Review and Approve November 24th, 2025 DRAFT Minutes – VOTE

The November 24th, 2025 DRAFT Minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.

4. Announcements

- CM Thomas discussed the set of cuts that are coming to HIV funding. She noted that the HIV/AIDS Provider Network (HAPN) and the HIV Advocacy Network (HAN) are organizing folks to attend the upcoming health commission meeting. She will send out information to share with folks.

5. Public Comment

- Michael Petrelis stated that the draft minutes from the November meeting were not found online and speaks to the burden this puts on members of the public. He requests that draft minutes be posted on the HCPC website prior to the meetings.
- Michael Petrelis states that he deplores the yearly salary of Dr. Tyler TerMeer at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) and feels his compensation is a greedy amount. He states that Dr. TerMeer's yearly salary is harming efforts to help people with AIDS and to prevent HIV. He notes that when SFAF announced layoffs last summer Dr. TerMeer told the Bay Area Reporter (BAR) that he would not cut executive salaries. Petrelis speaks to the number of staff that have been cut at the agency because of budget cuts and feels that Dr. TerMeer should take a reduction in salary to compensate for budget cuts. He speaks to the salaries of five other executive-level staff at SFAF and says there needs to be tightening at the executive-level before they cut other services.

6. Staff Announcements

- CS Molnar announces the HIV & Aging forum that is being held Valentine's Day weekend.

7. UCSF Clinical Trial – Hannah Whitmore

- Hannah Whitmore, a hospice and palliative care nurse at UCSF, introduced the Pragmatic Trial of Psilocybin Therapy in Palliative Care (PT2PC) clinical trial that UCSF is doing. She notes that this clinical trial is testing the effectiveness of psilocybin for patients who have a life-threatening diagnosis.
 - CM Guillen speaks to the trial and encourages folks to refer folks to them.
 - CM Jewell asks how people qualify?
 - ❖ Whitmore says the qualifying criteria is that the patient must be facing a life-limiting diagnosis with roughly less than two years to live. She clarifies that it does not matter what the diagnosis is.
 - CM Hernandez asks what psilocybin is?
 - ❖ Whitmore says psilocybin is mushrooms, commonly known as “magic mushrooms.” She says they are a mind-altering psychedelic and clarifies the whole experience is monitored and held by clinicians.
 - CM Chitty asks if the trial is open to folks who don't have HIV diagnoses?
 - ❖ Whitmore confirms that is correct.

8. General Updates

- HHS – CM Blum
 - CM Blum provides updates about the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) budget. He announces that Director Tsai announced that the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) is reducing general fund contracts by \$17M effective July 1, 2026. He states there are no reductions proposed to HIV direct care services and reviews the proposed reductions. Additionally, Mayor Lurie has directed SFDPH to identify \$50M in reductions effective July 1, 2026, and reviews the corresponding timeline.
 - ❖ CM Jewell asks what the total budget for SFDPH is?
 - i. CM Blum says it is \$3.5B.
 - CM Jewell asks what the City's budget shortfall is?
 1. CM Blum confirms it is \$800M.
 - CM Blum highlights the Ryan White conference happening in August. It will be held August 4, 2026-August 7, 2026 in Washington D.C.
 - CM Blum speaks to the CQI activities taking place and highlights that HCPC members are invited to attend.
 - ❖ CM Guillen asks about trainings specifically for those who are aging with HIV and long-term survivors?
 - i. CM Blum says these trainings are not exclusive to people living with HIV, they are focused on providers. He highlights the upcoming HIV & Aging forum that is taking place February 13-14, 2026.
 - CM Blum speaks to safety concerns folks are having following the incident at Ward 86 and discusses what plans are in place to address said concerns. He adds that there will be a memorial for Alberto tomorrow.
 - ❖ CM Thomas asks if folks who are accessing services have a formal say in these changes?

- i. CM Blea says they would love to come to the Membership committee meeting to discuss guidelines for this particular position.
- 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, 2026 and Saturday, February 14th, 2026.

9. Break

10. Standards of Care Update – VOTE

- Robert Whirry introduces himself and provides background information on the Standards of Care (SOC). He notes there were two SOC for Marin County that hadn't been completed and he worked with Nga Le at Marin County to get them completed.
- Whirry provides an overview of the Medical Transportation SOC and the Health Insurance Premium and Cost-Sharing Assistance (HIPCSA) SOC.
 - ❖ CM Thomas asks if there are any other jurisdictions that use Ryan White Part A funds for HIPCSA?
 - i. Whirry says he does not know.
 - CM Blea says no, they rely on the state's program to cover that.

Motion: CM Jewell motions to accept the Medical Transportation and the Health Insurance Premium and Cost-Sharing Assistance Standards of Care as written.

Second: CM Soto seconds this motion.

Motion passes through consensus, refer to column (3).

11. HIV Care Megatrends – Bill Blum

- CM Blum introduces the Care Megatrends presentation, noting that he will cover trends at the city, state, and federal levels, with a focus on San Francisco's HIV viral suppression, budget, housing, overdose crises, and the aging HIV population. He reviews San Francisco's HIV viral suppression data, noting that disparities in viral suppression are primarily based on housing stability. He adds that greater age directly correlates with increasing levels of viral suppression, and there are some viral rate suppression variances by race/ethnicity, with Black/African American folks and Latine/x/a/o folks being overrepresented in new diagnoses. CM Blum reviews the budgetary trends that are happening at the city level and covers the various budget cuts that DPH is undergoing. CM Blum discusses the overdose crisis in San Francisco and reviews recent changes to the City's harm reduction policies. He reviews information pertaining to HIV and aging. CM Blum highlights the issues and trends at the state level, noting an ongoing multi-year budget deficit, a likely reduction of Ryan White Part B to San Francisco due to the recent HRSA HAB formula change, issues with Medi-Cal for undocumented and documented non-citizens, and ongoing impacts to Medi-Cal and Medicaid. Nationally, CM Blum highlights the likely changes to the Ryan White Part A funding formula, the impacts of recent presidential executive orders, flat funding for Ryan White, and professional pipeline issues. He also discusses advancements in biomedical interventions and evolving HIV care models.
 - CM Jewell asks, regarding the overdose crisis slide, is the increase in treatment beds coming from the State?
 - ❖ CM Blum says it is a combination of State and local.
 - CM Guillen speaks to the streamlining of HIV care as a chronic health condition and the differences between those who are aging with HIV and those that are long-term survivors.

- CM Mapp asks, when talking about flat funding, is there an idea that the flat funding will be adjusted for inflation?
 - ❖ CM Blum says federal funding hasn't increased in over a decade.
- CM Chitty thanks CM Blum for this eloquent way of framing bad news. He says there would be a lot of interesting research that could be done, particularly at the intersection of HIV and geriatrics, but due to the political climate, there's going to be years of lost research.
- Member of the public, Andre Robertson, says they work directly with patients, and as demographics shift towards an aging population, they find in their daily work that there are minimal services for elderly people with HIV. They ask if these services can be expanded?
 - ❖ CM Blum says there is an interdepartmental group that meets and they are starting to look at this.
- CM Chitty speaks to how providers tend to focus on an undetectable viral load, and equate an undetectable viral with being okay, but they don't look at the whole picture of how the body is operating.

12. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 23rd, 2026, 4:30 – 7:00 pm at 25 Van Ness, 6th floor conference room.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:32 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)

| Date: January 26, 2026 | [roll] | [1] | [2] | [3] | [4] | [5] | [6] | [7] | [8] | [9] | [10] |
|-------------------------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Chuck Adams | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | |
| Robert Arnold | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | |
| Erwin Barrios | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | |
| Leroy Blea | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | |
| Bill Blum | P | | | | | | | | | | |
| Anna Branzuela | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | |
| Franco Chevalier | LOA | - | - | - | | | | | | | |
| Ed Chitty | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | |
| Zachary Davenport | LOA | - | - | - | | | | | | | |

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|--------------------------|-----|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Elaine Flores | E | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Elyse Griffin | E | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jesus Guillen | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ron Hernandez | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lee Jewell | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | | | | |
| Thomas Knoble (Co-Chair) | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nga Le | LOA | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | |
| T. J. Lee-Miyaki | E | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Helen Lin | LOA | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Derrick Mapp | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marco Montenegro | E | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jon Oskarsson | LOA | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Irma Parada | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | | | | |
| Charles Siron | E | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | |
| John Paul Soto | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | | | | |
| Richard Sullivan | E | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Laura Thomas | P | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | | | | |
| Manuel Vasquez | E | - | - | - | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ayes | | 14 | 14 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nayes | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Abstain | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Recusal | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 15 | 14 | 14 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | |