



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
LGBTQIA+ COMMISSION

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual plus (LGBTQIA+)

Commission

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order, Land Acknowledgement, Group Agreements		<u>Our Group Agreements</u> include Share the air; step up, step back; Listen for understanding; Lift as you climb; Be present & engaged; Let the facilitator guide the process; Technology on silent.
2. Roll Call		Present: Mike Cooper, Dave Crafts, Marilyn Hollinger, Dana Johnson, Camille Kennedy, Bismay Mishra, Vanessa Lemus-Tapia, Fabricio Perez, Christopher Sturken, Sha Sun <u>Non-Commissioners:</u> Tanya Beat, Christina Falla, Debbie Schechter, Frankie Sapp (on Zoom), President Noelia Corzo (on Zoom) On Zoom as member of the public: Jade Howard
3. Public Comment		
4. Action to Set Agenda & Approve Consent	<i>Action</i>	Dave Crafts motions to approve agenda, seconded by Marilyn Hollinger. Approved. Camille and Bismay arrived late, after this vote.
CONSENT AGENDA		
5. Approval of October Minutes	<i>Action</i>	
REGULAR AGENDA		
6. Welcome & New Year’s Traditions		Dana Johnson facilitated
7. Vision for 2026: President Noelia Corzo	<i>Update</i>	Board Liaison Noelia Corzo is now President of the SMC Board of Supervisors! Christina will send us her D2 Vision for 2026 via email.
8. Retreat Pre-work: Understand the Commission and Goals Focus	<i>Present ation</i>	Tanya Beat & Debbie Schechter (retreat facilitator) Please see additional meeting materials document. The presentation includes the history, accomplishments of the LGBTQIA+ Commission. It reviews Mission, Vision, Purpose, Role of the Commission and Role of the Commissioners. Three Goals have been identified: Revision of the Inclusion Community Campaign; Sanctuary County Potential; Engagement with the Community Logistics: Retreat is at SMC Office of Education, Tree room, 101 Twin Dolphin Dr., Redwood City from 8:25am-1:30pm. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.
9. Pride Center Report	<i>Update</i>	Frankie Sapp presented on Zoom - Pride Center is now looking for a building/office/community space. Frankie will send us the survey and we can help promote it to learn what the community wants/needs. - They are launching Conversation Cafes (for their providers)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They are also starting an “advocacy with legislation” campaign - They now have funding and have programming planned now through the end of June - They can support financially with the Pride Event.
10. Wellness Break		Cancelled due to time
11. Spotlight	<i>Present ation</i>	Dana Johnson
12. LGBTQ+ Sanctuary County Adhoc Committee Update	<i>Update</i>	<p>Marilyn Hollinger Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently in research/learn mode. - There have been two meetings. - We have not found any County in the US that has become a sanctuary county for LGBTQ+ community. - Jade has been significant learning about ordinances and what has been done with cities. - The Committee may need to focus on engaging with the community to learn what is truly needed to become a safer County to live in.
13. 2026 Calendar of Meetings & Potential Brown Act Updates	<i>Discuss and Action</i>	Motion to remove June 16 meeting and have a conversation about the November meeting later this year by Marilyn Hollinger. Seconded by Dave Crafts. Approved.
14. Pride Event Status	<i>Update</i>	<p>Dana Johnson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Behavioral Health & Recovery Services is leading Pride Planning for 2026 - The Planning Committee is smaller and more intentional - Kalimah Salahuddin is no longer leading the Parade Planning - No planning meetings have happened yet - Hold the Date for Saturday, June 13 - Dana will continue to update us on this event
15. Announcements		<p>Pride Prom at College of San Mateo is April 17. Email Dave if you are interested in volunteering.</p> <p>Dave will provide more information about Human Trafficking that has been distributed by the County’s Sheriff’s Office</p> <p>Chris Sturken shared a film viewing that CORA is supporting. Designed by Preeti on Friday, January 30, 7pm in Redwood City.</p>
16. Adjournment		

**LGBTQIA+ Commission Retreat
January 24, 2026. 8:30am-1:30pm
San Mateo County Office of Education, Tree Room
101 Twin Dolphin Drive, Redwood City, CA**

RETREAT NOTES

This report summarizes the LGBTQIA+ Commission's January 24, 2026 retreat. The retreat was facilitated by Debbie Schechter of Schechter Consulting.

Retreat Attendees:

Michael Cooper, Commissioner
Marilyn Hollinger, Commissioner
Jade Howard, Commissioner
Dana Johnson, Co-Chair
Vanessa Lemus-Tapia, Co-Chair
Bismay Mishra, Commissioner (arrived at 10:30am, after vote on agenda)
Fabricio Perez, Commissioner
Christopher Sturken, Commissioner
Sha Sun, Commissioner

Non-Commissioners

Tanya Beat, Commission Liaison
Debbie Schechter, Facilitator
Kalimah Salahuddin, Guest Speaker

Absent:

Dave Crafts, Commissioner
Camille Kennedy, Commissioner
Christina Falla, D2 Staff

Call to Order and Roll Call

Commission Co-Chairs called the meeting to order, read the Land Acknowledgement and conducted Roll Call. There were no public comments.

Approval of Agenda: Mike Cooper motioned to approve. Sha Sun seconded. Approved.

Retreat Goals, Agenda Review, Group Agreements

Debbie Schechter explained that the purpose of the retreat is to strengthen the Commission as a team and develop initial goals for the Commission for the next two years. The objectives of the retreat were to:

- Get to know and connect with each other
- Identify Commission goals, objectives, tasks and responsibilities and create a roadmap/workplan for actionable and measurable goals
- Rebuild and strengthen the ICC
- Identify ways to take care of ourselves and each other

Debbie reviewed the following group agreements:

- Listen for understanding; ask curious questions
- Share the air, step up/step back
- Let the facilitator guide the process needed and we can adjust

- Technology on silent
- Have fun!

Framing Activity/Introductions

Purpose: To get to know each other better and set the tone for the day

Commissioners paired up to share why they joined the Commission and one learning from their time on the Commission. They then introduced their partners and reported out on their responses. Responses are summarized below:

Why Joined the Commission

Be surrounded by queer community in a safe place; resources and advocacy

Get involved in community work; pass resources on

Personal experience; give back to community and younger generation

Represent Asian community

Because of Tanya; bring more support for things like Queer Prom and other issues

Have a bigger impact on the whole County; passionate about issues, represent and welcome Black folks

Care for well-being of the community, give back, meeting Tanya

Advocate for others, give back to the community to provide safety and well-being

One Learning

Importance of allyship, patience, resources

Different perspectives

Journey has ups and downs

Focus on policy and advice

Advising on legislation

Patience

How local government works, how to advocate

How difficult advocacy can be; reaching and listening to the community

Community, patience, and advocacy were identified as common themes from this exercise.

Ways to Connect with Each Other:

Commissioners identified the following ways that they could connect with one another and get to know each other better:

- Social gathering
- Casual events with the public
- Game night at Peninsula Books
- Gathering at Tanya's or someone else's house
- Attending conferences together (ex., youth conferences like OYE, March 28)
- Attend Pride Center events, Coast Pride events; have a meeting at Coast Pride
- Share information with other Commissioners (one way communication)
- Potluck in the park

Guest Speaker: Kalimah Salahuddin spoke to the Commissioners and shared her personal story and motivating remarks about the importance of the Commission's work.

Commission Goal Setting

Purpose: Agree on key Commission goals for 2026-2027 (approximately 3 goals)

Commission Co-Chairs Dana Johnson and Vanessa Lemus-Tapia and Staff Liaison Tanya Beat reviewed the three goals that the Commission had previously identified:

- Inclusion Community Campaign: Revise the Inclusion Community Campaign and how to engage with the community
- Sanctuary County: Study and learn an issue such as how to make San Mateo County a LGBTQ+ Sanctuary County
- Community Engagement: Prioritize community engagement and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors

Commissioners briefly discussed these goals and agreed upon them.

Commission Work Plan Development

Purpose: Develop Commission workplan for 2026-2027

Commissioners broke into three groups to begin to develop a workplan around the three identified goals. They did this work in three rounds, where Commissioners rotated to the other two groups to learn about and contribute to ideas that were identified in previous rounds. They focused on clarifying the goal and the outcome, defining success, identifying a few key activities to support the outcome, and noting any key questions that came up. The groups reported out on their goals, outcomes, activities/actions and key questions. The results are reflected in the attached workplan charts.

Overall themes identified based on the goals were:

1. Widening the circle of community members who are engaged in LGBTQ+ issues and sharing their perspectives
2. Learnings from community engagement will feed into the goals of the Inclusion Community Campaign (and possibly the idea of recommending an LGBTQ+ Office).

Based on the goals identified and the recognition of what the Commission can realistically accomplish, Commissioners agreed to focus on the goals of **Community Engagement and the ICC**. They formed subcommittees to further develop the workplan for these two goals as follows:

Engagement	Inclusion Community Campaign
Jade (Lead) Michael Vanessa Dana Fabricio	Marilyn (Lead) Sha Chris Bismay

*Absent Commissioners who need to choose a committee: Dave Crafts, Camille Kennedy

Supporting and Sustaining Ourselves and Our Work

Purpose: Identify ways to take care of ourselves and each other

Commissioners broke into two groups to discuss the following questions:

- What does care and support look like?
- How can we care for ourselves?
- How can we support each other?
- How can manage/respond to external stresses/events?

The Commission agreed to further discuss the ideas at a future Commission meeting and to focus on how these ideas can be implemented, including whether the Commission wants to develop agreements to support each other.

Steps to Conflict Resolution:

Facilitator Debbie Schechter shared five steps to conflict resolution, as an approach to helping Commissioners address conflicts within the Commission and with others. The five steps are as follows:

1. Pause and cool off
2. Define the problem: practice active listening, use I messages
3. Identify needs: ask questions to understand the need/interest underlying someone's position
4. Brainstorm solutions
5. Create a plan and execute it

Summary and Next Steps

Purpose: Review accomplishments and identify any next steps that need to be completed

Facilitator Debbie Schechter summarized the group's accomplishments. The following next steps were identified:

- Share retreat notes with absent Commissioners (Dana share with Dave, Vanessa share with Cam)
- At a future Commission meeting, review the ideas generated for supporting and sustaining ourselves and our work and identify ways to implement these ideas
- Assign absent members to a subcommittee at the February Commission meeting
- Subcommittees further develop workplans, report out and discuss the workplans at the February and March meetings, vote to adopt the workplan at the April meeting.



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE**

CONFIDENTIAL ATTORNEY-CLIENT COMMUNICATION

To: Staff and Liaisons to Boards & Commissions
From: John D. Nibbelin, County Attorney
Connie Juarez-Diroll, Chief Legislative Officer
Subject: 2025 Revisions to Brown Act
Date: January 7, 2026

We write to alert you to a significant amendment to the Brown Act that changes the rules for remote attendance and imposes new procedural requirements on certain public agencies.

Recently, California passed [SB 707](#) (Durazo). In its final form, the bill does several things affecting County advisory commissions and boards, including:

1. Social Media Use

Prior Law: Members of Brown Act bodies could communicate with their own constituents using social media platforms, and could comment upon, like, or repost social media content *generated by constituents or their own agencies* so long as a majority of members did not “discuss among themselves” business of a specific nature either via comments or reaction emoji on such content, and were altogether forbidden from commenting upon, liking or reposting the social media content *generated by other members of their own legislative bodies*, with a sunset date of January 1, 2026.

New Law: Makes these social media restrictions permanent.

2. Public Comment on Items Considered by Committees

Prior Law: A Brown Act body could limit public comment on items that had previously been considered by a committee.

New Law: Brown Act bodies cannot limit public comment on matters previously considered by a committee whose primary subject matter jurisdiction focuses on elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, library materials, taxes, or spending.

3. Copies of the Brown Act

Prior Law: Local agencies were authorized, but not required, to provide newly elected members of their legislative bodies with a copy of the Brown Act.

New Law: Local agencies are now required to provide a copy of the Brown Act to all newly elected and appointed members of its legislative bodies.

4. Streamlined Teleconferencing Rules

Prior Law: A member of the Brown Act body could, in cases of “just cause” or “emergency circumstances” as defined, participate remotely in a limited number of meetings.

New Law:

- Requires that the specific provision of law authorizing remote participation by a legislative body member be noted in the minutes of the meeting;
- deletes “emergency circumstances” as a separate category and collapses all grounds into “just cause”;
- adds immunocompromised family members and military duties as grounds for just cause to participate remotely;
- adds locally declared emergencies to the circumstances under which remote participation by members is allowed; and
- requires local agencies to identify and make available to their legislative bodies a list of one or more meeting locations that may be available for use to conduct their meetings.

5. Codification of Accommodation of Disabilities by Remote Participation

Prior Law: An opinion of the California Attorney General authorized local agencies to accommodate a member’s disability by allowing remote participation. This opinion, while instructive, did not carry the authority of law.

New Law: By law, confirms that nothing in the Brown Act is to be construed to prohibit a legislative body member with a disability to participate in a meeting by remote participation as a reasonable accommodation, and newly includes a provision that a member with a disability may participate through only audio technology if their disability results in a need to participate off camera.

6. Permission to Authorize Fully Remote Meetings of Certain Bodies

Prior Law: All boards and commissions created by local agencies were subject to a requirement to hold all meetings in person, with a limited opportunity for remote attendance by individual members when authorized by law.

New Law: Advisory-only "subsidiary bodies," as defined, of a local agency can be authorized to conduct a 100% teleconference meeting so long as the legislative body that established and appointed them makes and renews certain legislative findings every six months, and a physical location with a staff member present is provided within the jurisdiction where members of the public may participate and observe. Elected officials serving as members of the subsidiary body may not rely upon this provision for remote attendance (but may rely on other applicable grounds for remote attendance). Specified multijurisdictional bodies of local agencies can also conduct fully remote meetings.

7. Requirement to Post Agendas on Agency Website

Prior Law: Only certain specified agencies were required to post agendas on a website.

New Law: All agencies must post agendas on an Internet website.

8. Agenda Posting for Emergency Meetings

Prior Law: Specified types of agencies holding an emergency meeting could do so without complying with notice and posting requirements.

New Law: All agencies must comply with notice and posting requirements.

9. Meeting Disruptions Include Online Misbehavior

Prior Law: The presiding officer of a Brown Act body could remove a member of the public who actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting.

New Law: Clarifies that disruption of a meeting that would authorize the removal of an individual from a meeting site is applicable also to persons disrupting the orderly conduct of a teleconference meeting.

10. Merely Watching Online Meeting Does Not Trigger Teleconference Requirements

Prior Law: The legality of a member of a Brown Act body who merely watched or listened to a meeting via an online platform was potentially unclear.

New Law: Clarifies that a member of a legislative body who is solely watching or listening to a meeting via webcasting is not “teleconferencing” for purposes of the Brown Act, and teleconferencing requirements are not triggered by a member who is not interactively speaking, discussing or deliberating on matters in the meeting.

This new law will take effect on January 1, 2026.

JDN:tjf

RESOLUTION NO. .

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION FINDING THAT REMOTE MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS OF ELIGIBLE SUBSIDIARY BODIES ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WOULD ENHANCE PUBLIC ACCESS AND PROMOTE THE ATTRACTION, RETENTION, AND DIVERSITY OF MEMBERS OF ADVISORY COMMISSIONS AND AUTHORIZING FULLY ONLINE MEETINGS FOR ELIGIBLE SUBSIDIARY BODIES

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has established a number of advisory commissions, boards, and committees whose special expertise and focused attention on their respective subject matters have greatly enhanced the decision-making of County agencies, including the Board of Supervisors itself; and

WHEREAS, the members of these advisory commissions are overwhelmingly volunteers who generously commit their time, and the legal requirement that the members physically travel from across the County to attend in-person meetings has on occasion resulted in the inability to conduct meetings with the full complement of members, thereby limiting the participation of the membership and denying the public the opportunity to address all of the members at meetings; and

WHEREAS, valued members of advisory commissions have at times found it necessary to scale back their participation due to the necessity of in person meetings, even to the point of resigning from service; and

WHEREAS, in-person meeting requirements can have a negative impact on the diversity of the membership on advisory committees due to the heavier impact these requirements can have on primary caregivers, hourly workers, the elderly, persons with disabilities, rural residents, and others whose voices are needed in shaping public policy; and

WHEREAS, the public has grown familiar with online meeting platforms such as Zoom, which allow members of the public to view meetings on Internet-connected devices and virtually attend them through two-way audio-visual participation, and the option of a teleconference meeting using a two-way audio-visual platform when allowed by law is already something of which County residents are aware; and

WHEREAS, on October 3, 2025, the Governor signed SB 707 (Durazo), a Senate Bill that amended the Ralph M. Brown Act a manner that authorizes local agencies to permit remote attendance at meetings of “eligible subsidiary bodies” when doing so would, considering the circumstances of each eligible subsidiary body, enhance public access and promote the attraction, retention and diversity of the members of the eligible subsidiary body members; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the newly added Section 54953.8.6 of the Government Code, an eligible subsidiary body may conduct teleconference meetings pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it follows certain requirements and that the legislative body that established the eligible subsidiary body makes certain findings by charter, ordinance, resolution or other formal action; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the advisory boards and commissions listed in Attachment 1 are eligible subsidiary bodies within the meaning of Section 54953.8.6(b)(1) of the Government Code and that, considering the circumstances of each eligible subsidiary body listed in Attachment 1, authorizing remote member attendance would enhance public access to meetings and promote the attraction, retention and diversity of the members of each of these eligible subsidiary bodies.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that:

(1) The Board of Supervisors finds that the public has been made aware of remote participation via an Internet connected two-way audio-visual platform and has been provided the opportunity to comment before the Board of Supervisors at an in-person meeting regarding these findings; and

(2) Considering the circumstances of each eligible subsidiary body listed in Attachment 1, teleconference meetings of these eligible subsidiary bodies would enhance public access to meetings; and

(3) The Board of Supervisors finds that teleconference meetings of the eligible subsidiary bodies listed in Attachment 1 would promote the attraction, retention and diversity of the eligible subsidiary body members; and

(4) The advisory commissions of the County of San Mateo listed in Attachment 1 are hereby authorized to conduct, at their option exercised by majority vote of the members of each, teleconference meetings using two-way audio-visual web

conferencing software provided that the public is authorized to access and attend the meeting via the same means as members; and

(5) The County Executive, or designee, is authorized to promulgate uniform rules for the use of teleconference meetings authorized by this Resolution to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations, which shall incorporate the provisions of Sections 54953.8 and 54953.8.6.

Attachment 1 SB 707 (2025)

1. Agricultural Advisory Committee
2. Arts Commission
3. Behavioral Health Commission
4. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
5. Commission on Aging
6. Commission on Disabilities
7. Commission on the Status of Women
8. Deferred Compensation Advisory Committee
9. Emergency Medical Care Committee
10. Farmworker Advisory Commission
11. Housing and Community Development Committee
12. Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council
13. **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual Plus Commission**
14. North Fair Oaks Community Council
15. Parks and Recreation Commission
16. Public Authority Advisory Committee
17. Child Abuse Prevention Council
18. Child Care Partnership Council
19. Veterans Commission
20. Youth Commission

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Agenda #9



[San Mateo County Pride Center](#) (click for website)

February 2026 Updates

- February 2026 Pride Center newsletter – Still in progress

If you would like to receive the monthly Pride Center newsletters that include events and special programming, please sign up [here!](#)

Pride Center Important Updates:

As of August 1, 2025, our physical location of 1021 S El Camino Real, San Mateo, has been closed. **Our services are still available virtually from 10am-7pm Monday-Friday** until we find our new home.

We're excited to announce that the Pride Center is now a partner project of the [San Francisco Public Health Foundation](#)! Thank you to our new fiscal sponsor for helping us continue providing our invaluable services to the LGBTQ+ community across San Mateo County.

Survey

We are excited to share that we're now searching for a new home for our physical Pride Center, and we need your input! By taking our brief 10-minute survey, you can directly inform us on how our new location can serve and support **YOU best.**

Survey: <https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-site-survey>

We want to make sure we establish our new community center thoughtfully and intentionally. Our mission is to serve *you*, the LGBTQ+ community of San Mateo County, so we're asking for your input in designing the next Pride Center. For example: *Where in the County should it be? What onsite services do you need? What will make this new Center a safe space for you?* Let us know by completing [our survey](#).

If you complete the survey February 28, you can also be entered to win 1 of 3 draw prizes in the amount of \$100 to a local San Mateo County business of your choice! (certain conditions apply)

Thank you for your input and continued support. Please help us distribute this survey to your community, colleagues, friends and neighbors, and anyone else invested in LGBTQ+ services in San Mateo County. There is a PDF and PNG version of a flyer attached here.

We hope to see you when we open our doors!

Upcoming Programming

Clothing Swap (hosted by Outlet)

Tuesday, Feb 10 from 3-5PM at ACS Outlet (Redwood City)

Bring your clean unwanted clothes and/or find some new pieces! You do not need to bring clothes to take clothes. The SMC Pride Center will be onsite to provide case management services (free help with gender affirming care, housing, mental health referrals, and more!) No registration required.

Outlet is located at 1779 Woodside Rd. Suite 200 in Redwood City

Palentine's Movie Night (Hosted with Outlet)

Friday, February 20th from 4-6PM at ACS Outlet (Redwood City)

Join Outlet and the SMC Pride Center for a Palentine's Movie Night to watch **Crush** (2022) at Adolescent Counseling Services! Snacks and beverages will be provided. Doors open at 4pm and the movie will start at 4:30pm.

Outlet is located at 1779 Woodside Rd. Suite 200 in Redwood City

National Day of Reading

Friday, February 27 from 4-6PM at Reach and Teach (San Carlos)

The San Mateo County Pride Center, Outlet, a program of Adolescent Counseling Services, San Carlos Parks & Recreation, and Reach & Teach Books and Gifts are thrilled to partner for The National Day of Reading! We hope you can join us on Friday, February 27th at Reach & Teach for an afternoon filled with community and stories supporting Trans* and Non-Binary youth. Readings will be held at 4:15, 4:45, 5:15. And 5:45pm.

Throughout the afternoon, we will focus on creating welcoming and affirming spaces for transgender and non-binary youth through the reading of inclusive literature, such as *Marley's Pride*, *Chloe and the Fireflies*, *Halfway to Somewhere*, and *A World Worth Saving*.

This event is free and open to the public. Light snacks will be provided. Join us from 4 to 6pm. Reach & Teach Books and Gifts is located at 1179 San Carlos Ave, San Carlos. Register in advance for an extra ticket to win our door prizes.

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/SMCPCNDOR2026>

Questions? Please contact info@sanmateopride.org or call 650-591-0133

Spring Queeraoke

Can you think of a better way to spring into a new season than getting together with your besties and singing along to your favorite songs? Whether you're a karaoke regular, someone who is curious about karaoke, or someone who'd like to try singing a new song, this is a space for you!

Come join Outlet and the San Mateo County Pride Center for this fun and fabulous space! This is a sober, all ages event. Snacks will be provided.

See you on Wednesday, March 4th from 6-8 PM at the Adolescent Counseling Services (1779 Woodside Rd Suite 200, Redwood City, CA 94061)

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/SMCPCSpringQueeraoke26>

Accessibility information about Outlet at Adolescent Counseling Services (ACS):

- Adolescent Counseling Services (ACS) is a “mask friendly” space. While masks are not required, we will provide masks for those who wish to wear them.
- There is a parking lot located behind the building, with entrances on Woodside Road and Santa Clara Ave.
- ACS is located on the second floor of the building, at Suite 200. The suite can be accessed by elevator or stairs inside the entrance to the building by the parking lot.
- There is a wheel-chair accessible entrance located at the parking lot entrance.
- ACS is located 0.3 miles west of the Woodside Rd and Massachusetts stop for Samtrans 278.
- This is currently not a scent-free/fragrance-free space. We strive to be scent/fragrance-aware.
- ACS is a weapon and substance-free sober space.

Questions? Please contact info@sanmateopride.org or call 650-591-0133

Spring Flower Hike at Edgewood Park

Join Friends of Edgewood docents for a private hike organized for the San Mateo County Pride Center and CORA in conjunction with the San Mateo County Parks Foundation. This spring flower hike will take place Saturday, March 7 from 1-4pm.

Edgewood Natural Preserve is known for its extraordinary biodiversity and springtime wildflowers. We will hike up the Sylvan Trail through Edgewood's woodlands, making frequent stops to take a closer look at the interesting plants and animals we find along the way.

We'll cover about 3 miles, at a moderate pace. Elevation gain is approximately 400 feet.

We will be starting from the Bill and Jean Lane Education Center at Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve.

All participants, including children, must be registered individually and have approved the liability waiver through Eventbrite. More details on where to meet will be emailed to participants by your group leader before the event.

Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. Consider sunscreen, a hat, and snacks. Restrooms and water are available only at the picnic area near the Sylvan Trailhead. Please plan ahead.

We will still hike in light showers, but heavy rain cancels this hike. Note that Edgewood's many narrow trails cannot accommodate strollers.

For more information about the trail we will take, visit: [Sylvan Trail | County of San Mateo, CA](#)

RSVP ASAP at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/san-mateo-county-pride-center-private-hike-at-edgewood-natural-preserve-tickets-1982837420100?aff=oddtcreator>

Please let us know if transportation support is needed. For any questions or concerns regarding the event, please contact Cristina P. Vila Ruiz at cristina@supportparks.org and Elana Ron at elana.ron@sanmateopride.org. For more information about San Mateo County's various parks, visit: <https://supportparks.org>.

Meeting Spot Address: 10 Old Stagecoach Road, Redwood City, CA 94062

For more information about Wunderlich Park and its history, visit:

[Edgewood Park & Natural Preserve | County of San Mateo, CA](#)

Spaces are LIMITED, RSVP ASAP at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/san-mateo-county-pride-center-private-hike-at-edgewood-natural-preserve-tickets-1982837420100?aff=oddtcreator>

Out & About- Laurel Street Arts

Join the San Mateo County Pride Center as we explore our county with our Out & About events.

This is the second in a series of community gatherings at locally owned or friendly LGBTQ+ businesses in San Mateo County. This month, we will meet at Laurel Street Arts in San Carlos. Laurel Street Arts is a locally-owned, full-service, crafts studio specializing in pottery painting, mosaics, and glass fusing. Come paint with us, and the best part is that this is on us- no cost to our community members!

Registration is required

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/SMCPCOutandAboutMarch>

See you on Thursday, March 12th from 5:30 -7 PM at Laurel Street Arts (733 Laurel Street, San Carlos).

Accessibility information about Laurel Street Arts:

- Laurel Street Arts is located at 733 Laurel Street, San Carlos
- There are 2-hour parking lots located across the street behind Nick the Greek and to the right of Cherry Street behind Peet's Coffee, and there are a few spots available behind our studio.
- Street parking is available on Laurel Street.
- Caltrain San Carlos is located about a block from our studio on El Camino Real, as well as the El Camino Real & Arroyo Ave - San Carlos Bus Stop
- Laurel Street Arts is ADA wheel-chair accessible with one gender-neutral restroom
- This Pride Center event at Laurel Street Arts is a weapon and substance free Sober space.

Questions? Please contact info@sanmateopride.org or call 650-591-0133

SAVE THE DATES

Trans Week of Visibility – March 23-31, 2026

Join the San Mateo County Pride Center as we celebrate our third annual Transgender Week of Visibility! More details to come, but activities will include:

- Becoming More Visibly You Workshop
- Belonging in Nature Sunset Hike
- Be-YOU-tiful Celebration

Trainings:

Hire Us to Train Your Organization

Does your organization or group want to better support LGBTQ+ individuals? The San Mateo County Pride Center is excited to offer a variety of trainings and educational opportunities!

Be sure to reach out to sign-up for trainings this month! We're offering a 26% discount if you book before March 26.

Trainings that the Pride Center provides include

- Pronouns 101
- Becoming Aware of Our Assumptions
- SOGIE 101
- SOGIE 201
- Trans* 101
- Putting Allyship Into Action

Please note: we do charge a fee for our trainings! To learn more, visit our [training page](#). If you are interested in receiving a training, please use [this link](#).

If you have questions about trainings, reach out to Ishani Dugar (they/xe) at ishani.dugar@sanmateopride.org or 650-554-1234 (text ok)

Community Events:

Ongoing Pride Center Programs and Services:

Peer Support Groups:

All Peer Support Groups are currently only meeting over Zoom. All peer support groups are 18+

Peer Support Groups- Upcoming meeting dates

- o LGBTQ Book Club - Monthly on the 1st Wednesday from 4:30- 6pm PST
 - This group is now only meeting over Zoom!

- Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smpcbookclub>
- To access a list of books we're reading click [this link](#).
- Upcoming books/dates:
 - February 4: *Dead, Dead Girls* by Nekesa Afia
 - March 4: *The Deviant's War* by Eric Cervini
 - April 1: *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig
- Polyamory Peer Power - Monthly on the 1st Wednesday from 7- 8:30pm PST
 - Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smpcpolypeerpower>
 - Upcoming dates: February 4, March 4, April 1
- Trans* Group - Monthly on the 1st Thursday from 6-7:30pm PST
 - This group is now only meeting over Zoom!
 - Registration is required: <https://tinyurl.com/smpctransgroup>
 - Upcoming meeting dates: February 5, March 5, April 2
- **New Group!** QTBIPOC Group – Monthly on the 2nd Thursday from 6-7:30pm PST
 - Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smpcqtbi poc>
 - Upcoming Dates: February 12, March 12, April 9
- **New Space!** Crafting In Community – Monthly on the 3rd Wednesday from 5:30-6:30pm PST
 - Join Link: <https://tinyurl.com/smpccic>
 - Upcoming Dates: February 18, March 18, April 15
- LGBTQ Parent Group- Monthly on the 3rd Wednesday from 7:30-8:30pm PST
 - Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smpcparentgroup>
 - Upcoming dates: February 18, March 18, April 15
- Gay Men's Group - Monthly on the 4th Tuesday from 6-7:30pm PST
 - Registration is required: <https://tinyurl.com/smpcgaymengroup>
 - Upcoming dates: February 24, March 24, April 28
- **New Group!** Queer Peers – Monthly on the 4th Wednesday from 6-7:30pm PST
 - Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smpcqueerpeers>
 - Upcoming dates: February 25, March 25, April 29
- Queer Women's Social Group - Monthly on the 4th Friday from 6-7:30pm PST
 - Registration is required: <https://tinyurl.com/smpcqueerwomengroup>
 - Upcoming dates: February 27, March 27, April 24

Clinical Services:

Currently, therapy services are on a temporary pause at the Pride Center as we restructure our clinical program.

Please contact clinical@sanmateopride.org to receive our Pride Center LGBTQ+ Provider Referral Directory.

However, case management services are still available and free of charge! Those services include support and service linkage for housing, healthcare, employment, legal aid, community events, and more. Please check out [our case management page](#) for more information on what can be provided.

We can also provide referral services for:

- LGBTQ+ affirming providers vetted by the Pride Center who have therapy openings
- Providers who can write a letter of support/WPATH letter
- Organizations that provide workshops or 1-1 support with name and gender marker change

You can book an appointment for case management through [our Calendly page](#) or email clinical@sanmateopride.org and we can share more resource options with you as needed.

Outreach

If your organization, business, group, church, or school is interested in having the Pride Center participate in your programming, we ask that you submit your request [via this form](#) (<https://tinyurl.com/SMCPCOutreachRequestForm>).

Examples of how we can support or collaborate with you include, but aren't limited to:

- Tabling at your resource fair or event
- Co-hosting/ partnering an event [with the Pride Center](#)
- Speaking at your event

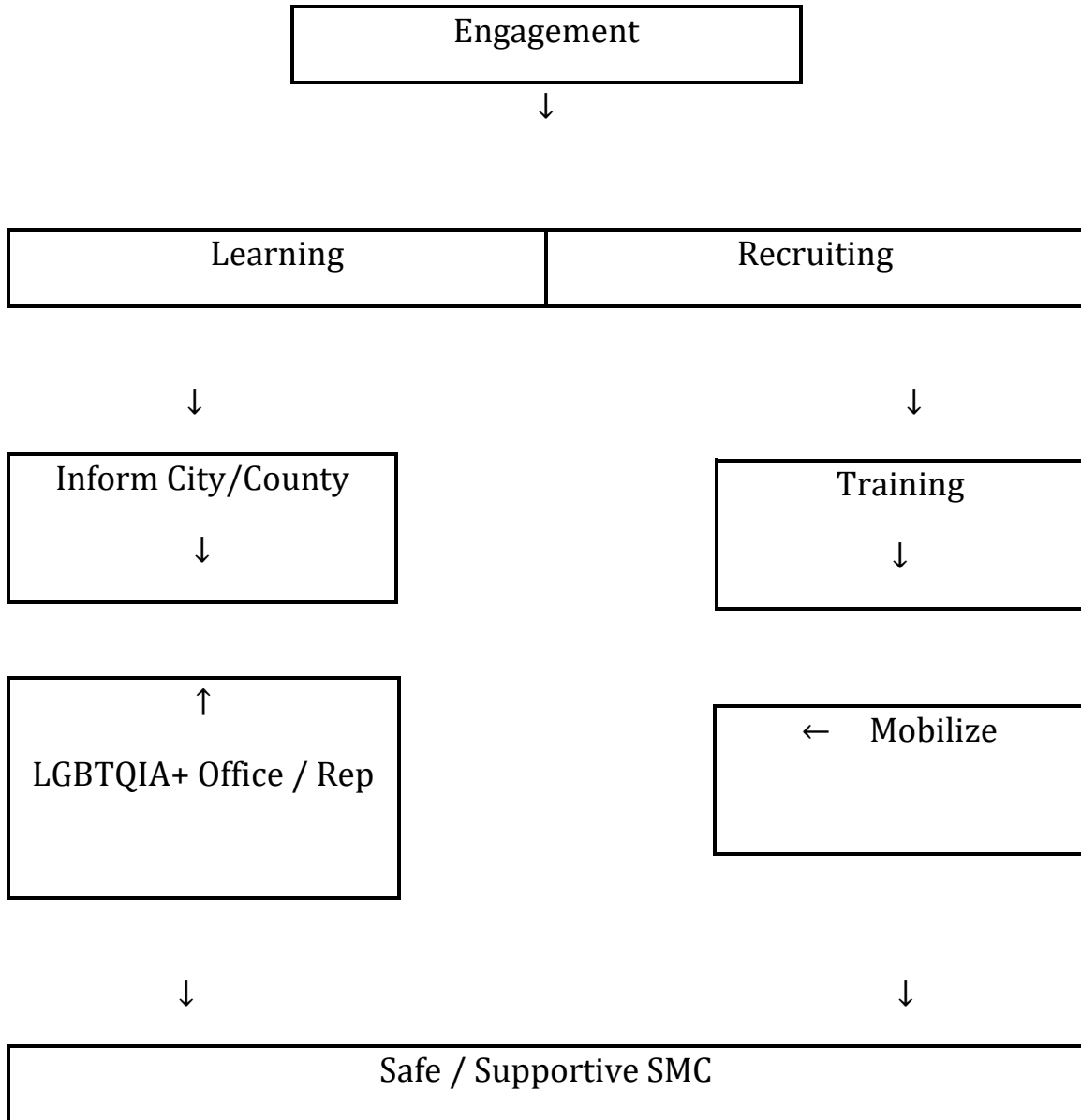
Please note:

Submitting a request is not a guarantee that we can participate

Free services include – collaborating or co-hosting events, tabling, and giving a speech at your event

General Pride Center information:

Agenda #10



Inclusion Community Campaign

<p>Goal and Outcome: <i>The Inclusion Community Campaign equips the community with tools to engage in order to affect change by being visible and voicing issues.</i> The ICC helps community members who have a goal and those without a specific goal to engage so that LGBTQIA+ are visible in more places, mentioned in a positive light, counterbalance “bad comments” and elevate issues.</p> <p>What is Success: Public bodies take actions to support the LGBTQIA+ community. Positive and relevant LGBTQIA+ mentions at all public meetings.</p>					
Activities/Action Steps & Level of Effort (high, med, low)	Who is Responsible?	Timeline	Resources/Partners	Outcomes/Indicators of Progress	Status
Target young people and old people			High schools and colleges, Sage, Justice in Aging		
Improve the content of training and continue it: record, shorten					
Implement alternatives to training like emails and social media					
<p>Conduct PR for training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the pitch repeatable • Expand reach • Better marketing and messaging about why to attend (the vision, feelings) • Target messages to motivate using current events (e.g., MN shootings) • Improve outlets for recruiting: LGBTQIA+ and sympathetic organizations, 					

religious orgs, parents of gay kids					
Conduct training for officials on LGBTQIA+ issues					
Commissioners each bring on a volunteer					
Conduct PR for the Commission by going to City Council meetings and holding meetings with local officials					
Improve ICC branding					

Questions:

- Need commitment from Commissioners (time and effort)

Community Engagement

<p>Goal and Outcome: <i>Engage the community and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors based on what we've learned.</i> Understand LGBTQIA+ community needs in order to prioritize them, represent them accurately, and advise the Board of Supervisors on specific issues. Focus on those who are currently not well represented.</p> <p>What is Success: Meet people where they are and acquire new data and stories to advise the Board of Supervisors on LGBTQIA+ issues and policies.</p>					
Activities/Action Steps & Level of Effort (high, med, low)	Who is Responsible?	Timeline	Resources/Partners	Outcomes/Indicators of Progress	Status
Hold Commission meetings in new spaces					
Faith based meet-up					
Understand and identify community organizations to partner with to meet and hear from people					
Establish an outreach/engagement schedule				Consistency of events, meet and greets, things outside of monthly meetings that people can count on	
Attend rather than host “3 rd thing” based activities, e.g., coffee, book club (listen and learn)				Number of events attended by Commissioners as guests/listeners	
Support/uplift LGBTQ representation, especially women and nonbinary					
Mobilize people to tell their own stories (in conjunction with ICC)					

Questions:

- What does “acting on stories mean?”
 - Needs to be permitted/culturally competent
 - More tangible storytelling, i.e. in own voice
 - Highlight for community as well as Board of Supervisors
- How do we choose which stories/issues to act on?
- How do we prioritize communities for engagement?
- Need commitment from Commissioners (time and effort)

Safe and Supportive Space for LGBTQIA+ Folks

Note: At the retreat, the Commission discussed this as a potential goal (originally called Sanctuary County) and later decided to prioritize the ICC and Community Engagement first. The learnings from those efforts could inform the pursuit of this goal.

Goal and Outcome: <i>Create a safe space for LGBTQIA+ folks living and working in San Mateo County.</i> This includes, LGBTQIA+ folks, immigrants and families looking for safe, inclusive and supportive spaces and resources.					
What is Success: The creation of an Office of LGBTQIA+ Affairs					
Activities/Action Steps & Level of Effort (high, med, low)	Who is Responsible?	Timeline	Resources/Partners	Outcomes/Indicators of Progress	Status
Research how to form and implement an LGBTQ office					
Form a subcommittee dedicated to moving the LGBTQ office on; report out monthly at Commission meeting					
Have Santa Clara County and San Francisco LGBTQ offices give a presentation at a Commission meeting			Santa Clara County LGBTQ Office, San Francisco LGBTQ office		
Bring the importance of having LGBTQ office to Charter rep as additional support					
Develop a proposal to the Board of Supervisors for the LGBTQ Office. Have Board of Supervisor liaison			Sup. Corzo		

sponsor/elevate the idea of an office.					
Have LGBTQIA+ Commission serve as a liaison to the office					
Get data from the Engagement group for implementing the office					
Attend existing LGBTQ community meetings to Listen & Learn on LGBTQ office creation					

2026 Community Engagement Communications Workplans

Introduction & Strategic Context

This document presents two communications workplans designed to support the San Mateo County LGBTQIA+ Commission's 2026 strategic goals. Programming, event logistics, and policy work are outside the scope of these plans, though communications actions are designed to complement those efforts.

Guiding Principles

- **Lead with listening.** Our communication should invite a response, not just deliver information.
- **Rely on stories.** People connect with people. We should aim to feature real community members.
- **Make the next step obvious and easy.** Every email, post, and text should include one clear action the reader can take right away.
- **Close the loop:** Report back on what happened as a result of community input or participation. Make it a learning experience.
- **Collaborate with trusted partners:** Partner organizations are not just distribution channels. We can collaborate and rely on their expertise and already existing communities.

Available Communication Channels:

Channel	Strengths	Best Use
Email	Direct, personal, allows clear CTAs; already established reader list	Surveys, event invitations, follow-ups, storytelling, resource delivery
Facebook	Visual storytelling, community visibility, shareable content	Spotlights, event recaps, survey promotion, shareable graphs
Text Messaging	Immediate, best for warm leads	Personal invitations, event reminders, quick follow-ups (use sparingly)
Partner Channels	Trusted community organizations can reach new audiences, know about community outreach	Co-promotion of events and trainings via their email lists, social media, and in-person events

Goal 1: Meet Our Community Where They Are

Goal: Improve outreach to reach LGBTQIA+ community members and allies in the spaces they already occupy and create structured opportunities to listen and learn from them.

Communications Role: Design and execute outreach that gathers community insight, builds the contact list, and establishes the Commission’s presence at existing community events and spaces throughout San Mateo County.

8-Week Communications Workplan

Week	Focus Area	Communications Actions	Deliverables / Outputs
1–2	Research & Listening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify 8–10 community touchpoints (Pride Center events, GSA meetings, college campus orgs, local faith communities, senior centers) • Draft a survey (5 questions max) to understand what community members need from the Commission • Reach out to partners (Pride Center, CoastPride, GSAs) to request co-promotion and learn about their upcoming events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community touchpoint map • Draft listening survey • Partner outreach emails sent
3–4	Launch Outreach & Distribute Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy survey via email with a clear, personal subject line (e.g., “We Want to Hear From You”) • Create Facebook posts sharing the survey with visuals and community-centered language • Provide partners with pre-written materials they can share via their own channels • If possible, attend 1–2 partner events in person with QR-code flyers linking to the survey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email blast sent • 3 Facebook posts scheduled • Partner toolkit (blurbs + graphics) • QR-code flyer designed
5–6	Analyze & Respond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End survey and compile results • Send a “Thank You + What We Heard” email to all respondents and the broader list, sharing top themes • Post a Facebook graphic summarizing key findings (“You told us…” format) • Begin planning presence at 2–3 upcoming community events based on survey insights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey results summary • Thank-you email sent • Facebook results graphic • Event attendance plan
7–8	Show Up & Build Relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend planned community events with materials (sign-up sheets, QR codes) • Collect new contacts and add to email list • Post Facebook recaps after events (“We were at [Event]!” with photos, if allowed) • Send follow-up emails within 48 hours to new contacts • Draft a “Community Spotlight” section for the newsletter featuring partner orgs, community voices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event materials kit • New contacts collected • Facebook event recaps • Follow-up emails • Newsletter spotlight draft

Key Messaging Themes for Goal 1

- "We're your Commission, and we want to hear from you."
- "What matters most to you right now? Tell us"
- "You shared your concerns with us, and here's what we're doing about it."
- "We were at [an event], and here's what we learned."

Success Metrics (Communications-Specific)

- **Survey responses collected.** We can aim for about 30 per cycle.
- **New email list subscribers.** Let's aim for 15 per cycle.
- **Facebook engagement (likes, comments, shares) on outreach posts:** not a priority, but it can be helpful to see that some people like the initiative
- **Number of community events attended with Commission presence:** 2 to 3 per cycle.
- **Partner organizations actively co-promoting:** at least 2 per cycle

Goal 2: Empower Civic Participation

Goal Statement: Support community members by training them to exercise their civic rights (delivering public comments at government meetings and contacting elected representatives) so they can advocate effectively for themselves and their communities.

Communications Role: Recruit participants through compelling promotion. Provide post-training resources that make civic action easy. Sustain engagement through follow-up communications that celebrate action and build community.

8-Week Communications Workplan

Week	Focus Area	Communications Actions	Deliverables / Outputs
1–2	Reframe & Rebrand the Offering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reframe the training toward empowerment language: “Your Voice Matters: Learn How to Make It Heard.” • Develop a short, compelling name and visual identity for the initiative. • Create a one-page “why this matters” document connecting civic engagement to current local issues affecting LGBTQIA+ communities • Identify community members or leaders willing to be featured as people who have used public comment or contacted representatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiative name and branding • Core messaging document • “Why this matters” one-pager • Champion testimonials created
3–4	Build Anticipation & Recruit Through Storytelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft a newsletter section: “What happens when you speak up?” featuring a public comment story, with a clear CTA to sign up for the training • Ask partners (Pride Center, CoastPride) to share the sign-up link with their communities; provide them with pre-written materials • Lower the barrier: offer several kinds of learning options, keep sessions accessible, and frame them as “practice.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter section with CTA drafted and sent • Partner kit sent • Create “learning options” guides, learning sessions, etc.
5–6	Deliver Training & Activate Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send reminder emails and texts before each session • After each session, email attendees a follow-up: “Thank you, and, if you want, there is an upcoming meeting, a template public comment, the contact info for your representative.” • Create a simple, shareable “How to Make a Public Comment in 3 Steps” graphic for Facebook and newsletter • For those who couldn’t attend: email a condensed version of the training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminder emails/texts • “Your Next Step” follow-up email/text • “3 Steps” shareable graphic • Training recording or cheat sheet
7–8	Sustain Momentum & Measure Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send a check-in email one week after the training, asking if participants submitted a public comment or contacted a representative; celebrate those who did • Compile participation and action metrics • Send a brief post-training survey: What worked? What would make you come back? • Begin planning the next cycle using lessons learned, and tease the next session on Facebook and email 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check-in email sent • Impact metrics report • Post-training survey sent • Next cycle planning notes

Key Messaging Themes for Goal 2

- "Your voice matters, and it's easier than you think to make it heard."
- "You don't need to be an expert. You just need to show up."
- "We'll practice together! No judgment, just support."
- "Here's your next step: [specific meeting date], [specific template], [specific contact]."

Success Metrics (Communications-Specific)

- **Training sign-ups per cycle:** target 5
 - **Training attendance rate** (sign-ups who attend): target 50% or more
 - **Post-training civic actions taken** (public comments submitted, emails to reps): Target 1 per cycle
-

Cycle Planning: Recurring 8-Week Cadence

Each 2-month cycle can include a brief (10-minute) review of what worked, refresh messaging based on current community issues, etc.

Tone and Voice

All communications should reflect the Commission's identity as a community body. This means writing in first person plural ("we"), using plain language, centering community members' stories and voices, and always reminding the reader that they belong.

LGBTQIA+ Commission Meeting

February 17, 6:30-8:30pm

Policy Update: Christopher Sturken

As individuals, submit a public comment to the federal government to protect transgender youth healthcare.

The federal government is considering two new regulations

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/12/19/2025-23464/medicaid-program-prohibition-on-federal-medicaid-and-childrens-health-insurance-program-funding-for>)

that would severely limit access to medically necessary health care for transgender youth nationwide. If these rules are finalized, doctors and hospitals across the country could be forced to stop providing this health care to transgender youth altogether — regardless of whether families use public insurance, private insurance, or pay out of pocket. **These proposals are not final, and there is still time to stop them. The federal government is accepting public comments until February 17, 2026. [Submit your comments today — totally anonymously through EQCA's portal — along with additional resources and information!](#)**



CoastPride Report

LGBTQIA+ Commission Meeting- Tuesday, February 17, 2026

From CoastPride Board Member: Dana “TherActivist” Johnson (they/ them/ he), MSW

❖ Our Vision

A welcoming and safe Coastsides where all LGBTQ and gender-expansive individuals, their families, and allies thrive.

❖ Our Mission

Creating a Coastsides that supports and celebrates people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

- CoastPride Events/ Trainings:
- *For events and to learn about what’s going on at CoastPride see the [CoastPride newsletter](#).*
- Center Hours:
 - Drop-in—all are welcome
 - Monday- Friday, 10am–4pm (**Closed on federal holidays)
- CoastPride Groups
 - More details regarding the groups please reach out to CoastPride Executive Director Laura Cartwright (she/her) laura@coastpride.org And/or Program Director, Mimi Castro (he/ him) mimir@coastpride.org
- ***Allcove Half Moon Bay has a location! More details regarding the space coming soon.***
- ***Allcove is hiring for a lead clinician. Please share this information with your networks.***
 - ***Here’s the link to apply:***
<https://coastpride.org/about-mobile/employment-mobile>

❖ Upcoming Events/ Announcements

- CoastPride is looking for volunteers to join the Half Moon Bay Pride planning committee and Pacifica Pride Planning committee
 - If you are interested or know somebody interested please have them fill out this link https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdV6LGfJA_nPXXAVikZgZDnMJ19r3ROVhDIMv_tYEZxy0ENZw/viewform?usp=header
 - Please connect with Mimi Castro (he/him), Program Director mimir@coastpride.org
- For more details regarding LGBTQIA+ events on the Coast, please reach out to CoastPride board member Dana “TherActivist” Johnson (they/ he) dana@coastpride.org or CoastPride Executive Director Laura Cartwright (she/her) laura@coastpride.org And/ or Program Director, Mimi Castro (he/ him) mimir@coastpride.org

2026 Charter Review Committee
Summary of Subcommittees Formed on 2/3/2026

#	Subcommittee	Description	Subcommittee Chair	Subcommittee Members
1.	Procedures for Board Appointments to Fill Vacancies in Elected Office	Whether Section 415 of the County Charter should be amended to further specify Board procedures in the event that the Board makes an appointment to fill a vacancy in an elected office.	Iliana Rodriguez	Liliam Perez-Avila Julie Lind
2.	Annual Review of Board Governance Practices	Whether the County Charter should be amended to add a new Section requiring the Board of Supervisors to annually review the Board's governance processes and practices, such as requiring the creation of a governance handbook, amending the handbook, and inclusion of a demographic report.	Eddie Flores	Daniela Jonguitud Lynette Garcia Talavou Aumavae Mark Haesloop
3.	Independent District Lines Commission	Whether to amend the Charter to include an independent District Lines Commission to be formed of county citizens after each federal census (every ten years). Such a commission would be tasked to create new supervisorial districts as specified by general state and local law. The new map would not be subject to supervisorial approval.	Kathleen Wheeler	Mark Haesloop Karen Chapman Nathan Healy
4.	Row Officer Consolidation / Language Access & Equity	Whether to require a "professional qualifications audit" before any two unrelated offices (like Treasurer and Tax Collector) are consolidated; and Whether to mandate linguistic rights by requiring all "essential public notices" and Charter-mandated hearings to be provided in the county's threshold languages (Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog).	Jacquelyn Foust	Tom Adams George Smith

#	Subcommittee	Description	Subcommittee Chair	Subcommittee Members
5.	Human Rights & Equity Commission	Whether to codify a Human Rights & Equity Commission directly into the Charter to provide "Constitutional" weight to the body overseeing DEI initiatives and equity in service delivery. (Chair: Monica Mejia)	Monica Mejia	Dana Johnson Kimberly Woo

Charter Review Proposals that were Declined

Tuesday, February 3 Charter Review Committee Meeting

1. Review funding allocation to provide Dedicated Funding for Community Centers serving the most vulnerable marginalized communities (i.e. LGBTQI+ communities, underserved communities, and marginalized groups)- This Did not pass the vote from the Charter Review Committee

Proposal:

Establish a charter-recognized funding mechanism that allows funding and/or grants to have allocated dollars supporting Community Centers serving the LGBTQI+ community, underserved community and marginalized groups in the County of San Mateo.

Why it matters:

- Ensures sustainability
- Prevents funding from being tied to shifting political priorities
- Allows culturally responsive programming and support to marginalized communities

2. Adapt Non-Discrimination & Gender Identity Protections- This Did not pass the vote from the Charter Review Committee

Proposal:

Explicitly add community members that identify with having a diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression as protected classes in the County of San Mateo.

Why it matters:

- Provides long-term legal protection beyond policy changes
- Prevents discrimination in housing, employment, and public services
- Signals the County commitment to inclusion at the highest level.



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE 2026
PROPOSED MEETING SCHEDULE**

[2026 Charter Review Committee | County of San Mateo, CA](#)

Website includes Agenda and Zoom link

- **Monday, January 26th, 2026 | 1/26/2026**
- **Tuesday, February 3rd, 2026** | 2/3/2026
- **Tuesday, February 17th, 2026** | 2/17/2026
 - 5:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
 - Hybrid (Manzanita Hall, 500 County Center, Redwood City, CA.)
- **Tuesday, March 3rd, 2026** | 3/3/2026
 - 5:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
 - Hybrid (Manzanita Hall, 500 County Center, Redwood City, CA.)
- **Tuesday, March 17th, 2026** | 3/17/2026
 - 5:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
 - Hybrid (Manzanita Hall, 500 County Center, Redwood City, CA.)
- **Thursday, April 2nd, 2026** | 4/2/2026
 - 5:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
 - Hybrid (Manzanita Hall, 500 County Center, Redwood City, CA.)
- **Tuesday, April 14th, 2026** | 4/14/2026
 - 5:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
 - Hybrid (Manzanita Hall, 500 County Center, Redwood City, CA.)
- **Tuesday April 28th, 2026** | 4/28/2026
 - 5:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
 - Hybrid (Manzanita Hall, 500 County Center, Redwood City, CA.)