



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV

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## PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 8, 2018

Approved  
2/15/2018

The Public Policy Committee acts in accordance with the role of the Commission on HIV, as dictated by Los Angeles County Code 3.29.090. Consistent with Commission Bylaws Article VI, Section 2, no Ryan White resources are used to support Public Policy Committee activities.

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC	COMM STAFF/ CONSULTANTS
Aaron Fox, MPM, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Eric Paul Leue, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Jason Brown	Cheryl Barrit, MPlA
Terry Goddard, MA	Kyle Baker	Craig Pulsipher	Jane Nachazel
Grissel Granados, MSW	Lee Kochems, MA	Craig Scott	Doris Reed
Eduardo Martinez ( <i>Alt.</i> )	Jerry D. Gates, PhD	Katja Nelson	Julie Tolentino, MPH
Martin Sattah, MD	José Munoz		
Ricky Rosales	Greg Wilson	<b>DHSP STAFF</b>	
		None	

### CONTENTS OF COMMITTEE PACKET

- 1) **Agenda:** Public Policy Committee Agenda, 1/8/2018
- 2) **Minutes:** Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes, 12/4/2017
- 3) **PowerPoint:** Health District Overview, January 2018
- 4) **Table:** LA County HIV/AIDS Strategy, Health District Overview, January 2018
- 5) **Priorities:** 2018 Policy Priorities, 12/7/2017
- 6) **Initiative:** California Healthcare Trust Fund Exempt from Revenue Restrictions Initiative, 2018
- 7) **Report:** Key Questions When Considering a State-Based, Single-Payer System in California, November 2017
- 8) **Memorandum:** Washington, D.C. Update, 12/26/2017
- 9) **Memorandum:** State Legislative Agenda for the Second Year of the 2017-18 Session, 12/21/2017
- 10) **Article:** Three California housing issues to watch in 2018, 12/27/2017
- 11) **Graphic:** California State Legislation: How a Bill becomes a Law, 2018
- 12) **Graphic:** Federal Legislation: How a Bill becomes a Law, 2018

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Fox called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm.

#### I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

##### 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

**MOTION #1:** Approve the Agenda Order, as presented (*Passed by Consensus*).

##### 2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

**MOTION #2:** Approve the 12/4/2017 Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes, as presented (*Passed by Consensus*).

#### II. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS COMMISSION ON ITEMS OF INTEREST WITHIN COMMISSION JURISDICTION:** There were no comments.

#### III. COMMITTEE COMMENT



4. **NON-AGENDIZED OR FOLLOW-UP:** There were no comments.

**IV. REPORTS**

5. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- Ms. Barrit reported the Commission's recommendation to endorse the Undetectable = Untransmittable (U=U) Consensus Statement has been officially transmitted to the Health Deputies and Board of Supervisors (BOS).
- This transmittal is part of the effort to line up key conversational pieces to use when participating in 8th Floor visits.
- Ms. Tolentino provided updated graphics in the packet on how state and federal bills become laws.
- a. **Los Angeles County HIV/AIDS Strategy (LACHAS):**
  - Ms. Barrit noted time is being allocated on all agendas to address LACHAS since its World AIDS Day launch.
  - The Operations and Executive Committees reviewed the Community Engagement draft document 12/28/2018 prior to full Commission review on 1/11/2018. Colloquia will also be fewer and more closely tied to LACHAS goals.
  - Several felt shortening Commission meetings overall would be more productive, e.g., averting questions not relevant to a presentation or the planning process, and requesting the Office of AIDS (OA) not read their report. Ms. Barrit replied other feedback stressed not short-changing report backs to the community, but the goal is not to exceed four hours.
  - For Public Policy, some policy issues will be agendized for fuller discussion, e.g., funds for the California PrEP Assistance Program, and implementation of mandatory routine opt out testing in private and public hospitals and clinics.
  - The Commission is also working closely with the Long Beach community. The Long Beach HIV Planning Group will meet 1/10/2018, 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm, at the Miller Family Education Center, 3820 Cherry Avenue. Mario Pérez, MPH, Director, DHSP, will present on LACHAS using that space to help develop a template for continuing Health District outreach. The meeting is now quarterly, but increased frequency is under consideration.
  - Ms. Tolentino presented on the Health District Overview PowerPoint in the packet. She also demonstrated a new interactive map she developed reflecting the Service Planning Areas (SPAs), Health Districts (HDs), Supervisorial Districts, City of Los Angeles Council Districts, and neighborhood councils. She just added neighborhood councils so had not had the opportunity to verify them all, but information should be helpful in identifying partners. Using the 26 HDs facilitates setting targets and goals for each community as opposed to using the broader SPAs.
  - She also developed a relational table for the structures and current available contact information. She noted DHSP has suggested some HDs might be best grouped, e.g., the West HD and the one above it may share services and providers.
  - With no set HD offices, stakeholders may be unaware of their HD. HDs fairly contiguous with cities facilitate outreach and engagement. Otherwise, the Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) approach can be used.
  - Ms. Barrit said the dilemma for Los Angeles County (LAC) is to break down a population of some 10 million to engage in planning and resource allocation. The Children's Planning Council for maternal and child services countywide along with the United Way developed the SPA model. LAC added the HD layer to achieve greater public health granularity.
  - The HD model allows the Commission better specificity in planning resources and making service recommendations.
  - ➡ Ms. Barrit will re-engage OA on not reading their report verbatim and, overall, work with the Commission Co-Chairs on shortening Commission meetings where possible to improve effectiveness.
  - ➡ Ms. Barrit and Mr. Fox will follow-up with Ayako Miyashita, Director, Los Angeles HIV Law and Policy Project, UCLA School of Law; and, Associate Director, UCLA California HIV/AIDS Policy Research Center on a summary of HIV-related laws pertaining to access and testing for the next meeting to better identify implementation versus legal issues.
  - ➡ Ms. Barrit will forward to Public Policy the link to the LAC Health Survey.

6. **CO-CHAIRS' REPORT:**

a. **Co-Chair Nominations:**

- Ms. Barrit opened nominations until elections at the next meeting. Co-Chairs must have served on their Committees for one year. They develop agendas with staff, facilitate meetings, and work with staff on any follow-up items.
- Public Policy Co-Chairs also engage with Commission and DHSP staff to review and, where pertinent, respond to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) annual legislative platform. Such reviews may require a quick turnaround with report back to the Committee via the Co-Chairs. Co-Chairs also strategize on policy or legislative items, work with others to identify pro and con speakers on bills to present at the Committee, and may meet with officials.
- ➡ Committee members may contact Ms. Barrit to nominate another member or oneself prior to the next meeting.



## **V. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 7. REVIEW POLICY PRIORITIES AND AGENDA FOR 2018:** Mr. Fox called attention to the 2018 Policy Priorities document in the packet. It was revised at the last meeting and reviewed by the Executive Committee.  
**MOTION #3:** Approve the 2018 Policy Priorities, as presented, and forward to the Commission for approval (***Passed by Consensus***).
- 8. HEALTHCARE ACCESS:**
- a. California Single Payer Ballot Initiative Update:**
- The Secretary of State has authorized gathering signatures for an initiative to fund universal healthcare in California through creation of a healthcare trust fund and allowing the Legislature to approve taxes that result in increased healthcare funding by a simple majority rather than the currently required two-thirds vote.
  - This initiative would not create a single payer system but, rather, a fund and a mechanism for funding such a system.
  - Ms. Barrit added neither the Commission nor Public Policy has taken a position on the Initiative. Public Policy is meeting its charge by providing information to monitor and track healthcare access in the state and country.
  - Mr. Fox added Public Policy normally waits for an initiative to qualify for the ballot before considering taking a position. If it does consider taking a position, pro and con speakers are asked to present. Positions taken by Public Policy are presented to the Commission for approval and, if approved, are forwarded as recommendations to the BOS.
  - Mr. Fox noted the Assembly Committee on Universal Healthcare will meet 1/17/2018, 1:00 to 5:00 pm. The Committee will meet in Sacramento, but the meeting will stream live on the Cal Channel.
- b. Office of AIDS (OA) PrEP Assistance Program:**
- Mr. Fox reported the California HIV Alliance met with OA again last week. OA reports that it still plans on rolling out the program this year starting with the uninsured. Mr. Pulsipher plans to raise implementation issues in the next call.
  - LAC has its own PrEP Assistance Program which covers medical services and laboratory expenses. Medication can be accessed through the Rand Schrader Clinic, LAC+USC Medical Center, or through Gilead's Patient Assistance Program. The state's program is also expected to utilize Gilead's Patient Assistance Program for medications, at least initially.
- c. Federal Healthcare Access:**
- Mr. Fox noted the penalty for not having individual insurance was eliminated in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (H.R. 1). Senator Mitch McConnell promised Senator Susan Collins that two bills to stabilize Affordable Care Act (ACA) market places would be incorporated into a Continuing Resolution (CR) funding bill but, to date, that has not happened.
  - The House has expressed interest in attacking the ACA again, but neither the Senate nor White House seem interested.
  - The larger 2018 threat is likely to be a House push to reform, i.e., cut, Medicare and, especially, Medicaid.
- 9. FEDERAL TAX BILL:** The Washington, D.C. Update from the Chief Executive Office (CEO) for the BOS in the packet provides a good summary with information on how H.R. 1 is expected to impact California and possible approaches to mitigation.
- 10. STATE LEGISLATION AND BUDGET:**
- Mr. Fox noted bills are just being introduced with some pertaining to HIV. One bill would include an HIV-focused course under the Medical Board for physicians primarily on PrEP, PEP, and some testing information, e.g., on U=U. A clean-up bill on HIV Decriminalization is also planned to correct some unintended consequences. Bills will be reviewed as introduced.
  - The California HIV Alliance is currently finalizing its budget priorities. They should be ready in the next two weeks.
  - The Health for All Initiative has been very successful in covering undocumented, eligible children on Medi-Cal. There will be a push to expand that effort to cover more undocumented. If successful, it would significantly impact Ryan White spending.
  - The initial Governor's Budget usually is released on 1/10/2018. The May Revise is based on more accurate tax income.
- 11. COUNTY LEGISLATIVE/POLICY ISSUES:**
- a. Housing Policy Advocacy:**
- Ms. Barrit reported the CEO is tracking some potential 2018 ballot initiatives that are housing-related. The Legislative Office is also tracking some successful 2017 housing-related bills to ensure LAC receives its fair share.
  - Ms. Barrit reported on attending the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA's) Operations Committee. It is the lead for the Coordinated Entry System (CES), a computer-based system to assess people with the Vulnerability



Index-Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) and prioritize them for the full gamut of housing. She provided an overview of the Commission, its appeal for affordable housing for PLWH, and VI-SPDAT issues.

- Interestingly, other agencies at the meeting also said the VI-SPDAT didn't capture the LGBT community well although it captures Transition Age Youth (TAY) better than other groups. That sparked some continuing dialogue on the topic.
- The policy director said a policy was under development to allow for flexibility for elevating the score for vulnerable populations, including PLWHA. Ms. Barrit suggested thinking about HIV from a communicable disease perspective including risk of infection, risk of further transmission, and risk of acquiring other types of diseases. She asked to be kept on the listserv for policy discussion notifications.
- Overall, she had anticipated a more coordinated discussion. Most discussion focused on getting Requests For Proposals (RFPs) out for the recent initiatives. On the positive side, LAHSA hired 100+ people in 2017 to meet the new demand.
- This was also a good space to share about the Commission's work. Many providers, though sharing the social work spirit, were unaware of U=U, the Continuum of Care (CoC), and how the CoC translates to viral suppression.
- Mr. Goddard said the Alliance for Housing and Healing has had, and fought to retain, HIV-designated units for years and has developed a sort of waiver process with LAHSA for them. His concern is to prioritize PLWH regardless of provider. LAHSA is working with domestic violence providers on a waiver system that might be mirrored for PLWH. Ms. Barrit noted domestic violence providers packed community planning meetings so it is not a surprise that strategic initiatives for the City and County and the RFPs coming out reflect very specific domestic and intimate partner violence language.
- The second annual meeting on Measure H will be in February, but conflicts with the Commission meeting.
- Ms. Barrit has also asked to attend LAHSA's Policy Group. It is currently reconsidering its meeting date.
- Mr. Scott asked about a letter Public Policy discussed to request attention to PLWH in housing RFPs. He also urged all to attend public meetings held on RFPs to advocate for PLWH as domestic violence advocates speak for their population.
- Ms. Barrit did review a previous letter the Commission sent the BOS supporting Los Angeles Countywide HOPWA Advisory Committee (LACHAC) recommendations. She wanted to position the new letter as a follow-through on similar recommendations to reflect that the Commission has not seen the active response new opportunities would warrant.
- Ms. Barrit noted Housing Task Force leadership of Mr. Goddard, Rebecca Ronquillo, Mario Pérez, MPH, and herself have committed to somewhat regular meetings, perhaps quarterly, to strategize, e.g., development of a model on what the system might look like in consideration of Measures H, HHH, and the Housing For Health (HFH) Program.
- On status of the Memorandum of Understanding between HFH and DHSP, legal language was successfully reviewed. The current issue is that DHSP has to collect specific data points for Ryan White that HFH does not currently collect.
- ➡ Ms. Barrit will send the next LAHSA Operations agenda to the Housing Task Force for whomever might wish to come.
- ➡ Ms. Barrit will bring the draft housing letter to the BOS to the next Public Policy Committee meeting.
- ➡ Ms. Barrit will provide an update on the HFH and DHSP MOU at the next meeting.

#### **VI. NEXT STEPS**

12. **TASK/ASSIGNMENTS RECAP:** There were no additional items.

13. **AGENDA DEVELOPMENT FOR NEXT MEETING:** There were no additional items.

#### **VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

14. **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE TO MAKE ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There were no announcements.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

15. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.