



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
March 10, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager

Submitted by: Scott Gilman, Health, Housing, and Community Services

Subject: Filling Human Welfare and Community Action Commission Public Sector Vacancies

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution confirming the appointment of Catherine Gelsing to the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC).

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

There are no fiscal impacts associated with this recommendation.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The HWCAC advises City Council on social welfare needs in the community. Failure to maintain full membership of the HWCAC, which also acts as the Board of the Berkeley Community Action Agency (CAA), could result in a loss of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding. Vacancies on the Berkeley CAA Board were noted as a “finding” during the most recent monitoring audit of this program conducted by the State Department of Community Services and Development (CSD). The HWCAC has significant vacancies with only three of nine seats filled after losing several members to moving out of Berkeley in 2025. The low vacancy rate is a critical issue with CSD and jeopardizes the City’s funding.

BACKGROUND

The HWCAC has a nine-seat, tripartite board structure with three low-income elected, three private sector, and three public sector representatives, which may include officials or members of business, industry, labor, religious, law enforcement, education, or other major groups and interests in the community served. The three public sector representatives are appointed by Berkeley City Council per Berkeley Municipal Code (BMC) Section 3.78.020 (b); the low-income members are appointed through an election process per BMC Section 3.78.020 (c); and the private-sector representatives are identified by existing HWCAC members for appointment by Council per BMC Section 3.78.020 (d).

City staff and existing HWCAC members coordinate community outreach to encourage and solicit applications for Council consideration and approval.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no known environmental impacts associated with the recommendation of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Failure to maintain full membership of the HWCAC is in violation of the City's CSBG revenue contract and may jeopardize future funding (about \$300,000 per year).

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Kat Larrowe, Community Services Specialist III, HHCS, (510) 981-7555

Attachments:

- 1: Resolution
- 2: Catherine Gelsinger HWCAC Application

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

FILLING HUMAN WELFARE AND COMMUNITY ACTION COMMISSION PUBLIC
SECTOR VACANCIES

WHEREAS, the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC) shall consist of nine members. Three public sector representatives are appointed by Berkeley City Council per Berkeley Municipal Code (BMC) Section 3.78.020 (b); three low-income members appointed through an election process per BMC Section 3.78.020 (c); and three representatives for the private sector identified by existing HWCAC members for appointment by Council per BMC Section 3.78.020 (d); and

WHEREAS, Berkeley Municipal Code Section 3.78.020 (b) stipulates that three public sector representatives are appointed to the HWCAC by Berkeley City Council as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Catherine Gelsinger applied to serve on December 8, 2025.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that Catherine Gelsinger is appointed to the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission as public sector representative her term beginning March 11, 2026, ending March 10, 2030.



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BERKELEY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Redistricting Commissioners may not be eligible to serve. Contact the City Clerk to verify.

NAME: Catherine Gelsinger

PREFERRED PRONOUN(S): she/her

RESIDENCE ADDRESS: [Redacted] Street City Zip

BUSINESS NAME/ADDRESS: LifeLong Medical Care [Redacted] Street City Zip

EMAIL ADDRESS: [Redacted]

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION: Registered Nurse

HOME PHONE: [Redacted] BUSINESS PHONE: [Redacted]

I have been a resident of Berkeley since: Feb 2025

I am interested in being considered for appointment to the following Berkeley board(s)/commission(s):

Name of board/commission: Human Welfare and Community Action Commission

Name of board/commission:

List any qualifications (work experience, education, attributes and training) which you feel would provide positive input to the work of the commission and the reason why you are interested in being appointed:

My work experience includes over a decade of nursing roles, including significant time working with vulnerable populations in community and public health fields. Additionally, I used my graduate education in public health to focus on population health and policy from a data analysis and systems perspective which allowed me to deepen my understanding of community-based health and programs. I feel my direct experience working with populations who utilize programs evaluated by this committee would make my input valuable and I would like the opportunity to contribute to city-level decisions that impact the patients I work with on a daily basis

Please use another sheet of paper, if necessary.

The following individuals are qualified to comment on my capabilities:

Table with 3 columns: NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NO. Two rows of redacted information.

***PLEASE COMPLETE DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY ***

Demographic survey form with checkboxes for gender, student status, and racial/ethnic categories.

*The City of Berkeley's Conflict of Interest Code requires members of all City of Berkeley Commissions except the Youth Commission and Commission on Status of Women to file Statements of Economic Interests – FPPC Form 700. The Form 700 is a public document. For more information, please contact the City Clerk's Department at 981-6900, or visit our website at <https://berkeleyca.gov/your-government/public-records/conflict-interest-reports>.

AFFIDAVIT OF RESIDENCY*

I, Catherine Gelsinger, hereby declare, under penalty of perjury, that I am a resident of the City of Berkeley. I understand that, with the exception of a temporary relocation outside of Berkeley not to exceed six months, I may no longer serve on a Berkeley Commission should this cease to be true.

Signature of Applicant:  Date: 12/08/2025

*Not required for Police Accountability Board, Loan Administration Board, Elmwood BID Advisory Board, Solano BID Advisory Board, or BUSD appointees

Return this form to the City Clerk Department: 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, 94704



APPOINTMENT FORM - BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
(For Mayor and Council use only)

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBER _____

NAME OF APPOINTEE _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____
Street City Zip

BUSINESS NAME/ADDRESS _____
Name
Street City Zip

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION _____

HOME PHONE: _____ BUSINESS PHONE: _____

Check appropriate box: New Appointment Reappointment Temporary Appt.

Temporary Appt.: From (date) _____ To (date) _____
(only if appointing for more than one meeting)

Please send mail to: Home Business

Please indicate the name of the board/commission to which you are appointing this individual

Board/Commission Name: _____

***Please indicate the SPECIAL CATEGORY being fulfilled, if appointment is to ANY of the following boards or commissions: Elmwood BID Advisory Board, Human Welfare & Community Action Commission, Loan Administration Board, Solano Avenue BID Advisory Board.

Special Category _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Mayor/Councilmember

For Mayor/Councilmember and City Use Only:

Interview Date	Appoint. Date	Process Date

