



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 30, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: LaTanya Bellow, Interim City Manager
 Submitted by: Scott Gilman, Interim Director, Health, Housing, and Community Services
 Subject: Filling Human Welfare and Community Action Commission Public Sector Vacancies

RECOMMENDATION

1. Adopt a Resolution confirming the appointments of up to three public sector commissioners to the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC), having been approved by the Health, Life Enrichment, Equity & Community Policy Committee at their July meeting.
2. Adopt a Resolution appointing Catherine Huchting, Mary Behm-Steinberg, and George Lippman to the HWCAC as private sector representatives.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

There are no fiscal impacts associated with this recommendation.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The HWCAC advises Council on social welfare needs in the community. Failure to maintain full membership on 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 desk review of this program conducted by the State Department of Community Services and Development.

At their June meeting, the HWCAC voted to recommend that Council appoint Catherine Huchting, Mary Behm-Steinberg, and George Lippman to the HWCAC as private sector representatives (M/S/C: Sol, Atkinson. Ayes – Sol, Atkinson; Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent: None).

At their July meeting, the Health, Life Enrichment, Equity & Community Policy Committee (Committee) will vote to approve up to three public appointees to the HWCAC. These appointees will be named in the addendum to the report.

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 as a whole 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 determined that the most equitable method of selecting the three public sector commissioners for consideration by Council would be an open application process with the Committee. The Committee evaluates and approves new commissioner applicants and recommends three of the applicants for appointment by Council. City staff coordinate community outreach to create a pool of candidates for the Committee's consideration.

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 on the HWCAC is in violation of the City's CSBG revenue contract and may jeopardize future funding.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Mary-Claire Katz, HWCAC Commission Secretary, HHCS, (510) 981-5414

Attachments:

- 1: Resolution – Public Sector Commissioners
- 2: Resolution – Private Sector Commissioners

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

FILLING HUMAN WELFARE AND COMMUNITY ACTION COMMISSION
PUBLIC SECTOR VACANCIES

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

WHEREAS, the Health, Life Enrichment, Equity & Community Policy Committee evaluates and approves new public sector representative commissioner applicants and recommends three of the applicants for appointment by Council; and

WHEREAS, at their July 2024 meeting, the Health, Life Enrichment, Equity & Community Policy Committee voted to recommend three public sector representative commissioners to fill three public sector vacancies on the HWCAC.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that up to three commissioners are appointed as public sector representatives serving on the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission.

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

FILLING HUMAN WELFARE AND COMMUNITY ACTION COMMISSION
PRIVATE SECTOR VACANCIES

WHEREAS, Berkeley Municipal Code Section 3.78.020 (d) stipulates that three of the HWCAC members shall be members or officials of business, industry, labor, religious, welfare, education, or major groups and interests in the community, and that these members should be identified and nominated for Council approval by the existing commissioners; and

WHEREAS, at their June meeting, the HWCAC voted to recommend that Council appoint Catherine Huchting, Mary Behm-Steinberg, and George Lippman to the HWCAC as qualified private sector representatives (M/S/C: Sol, Atkinson. Ayes – Sol, Atkinson; Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent: None).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that Catherine Huchting, Mary Behm-Steinberg, and George Lippman are appointed to the HWCAC as qualified private sector representatives.