

Workforce and Employment Committee Agenda

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

[Embassy Suites San Francisco Airport-South San Francisco](#)

250 Gateway Boulevard
South San Francisco, CA 94080
Pauling Room

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 974 4556 1442

Passcode: WEC2026

Join by phone: 1-669-900-6833

Passcode: *7363688#

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|------------------|---|--------------|
| 1:30 p.m. | Welcome, Introductions, and Housekeeping
<i>Bill Stewart, Chairperson and All Members</i> | |
| 1:35 p.m. | Review and Accept June 2026 Draft Meeting Minutes (Action)
<i>Dave Cortright, Chair-Elect and All Members</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Discussion• Public Comment• Accept Minutes | Tab 1 |
| 1:40 p.m. | 2026-2030 Workforce Education and Training (WET) Plan Update
<i>Angela Brand, Section Chief, Behavioral Health and Policy, Health Workforce Development, Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Discussion• Public Comment | Tab 2 |
| 2:10 p.m. | “Nothing About Us Without Us” Presentation
California’s Peer Leaders on Scaling Peer Support: A Call to Collaborate Across Systems
<i>Meron Agonafer, Policy Director, CalVoices</i>
<i>Carolina Ayala, Founder and CEO, The Happier Life Project</i>
<i>Jason Robison, Chief Program Officer, SHARE!</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Discussion• Public Comment | Tab 3 |
| 2:40 p.m. | Break | |

2:50 p.m.	Contra Costa County Presentation on the Employment of Peer Support Specialists and Senate Bill 803 Implementation <i>Suzanne Tavano, Behavioral Health Director, Contra Costa Health Services</i> <i>Jennifer Tuipulotu, Behavioral Health Office of Peer and Family Empowerment, Contra Costa Health Services</i> • Committee Discussion • Public Comment	Tab 4
3:30 p.m.	Community-Based Organization Perspective on the Employment of Peer Support Specialists <i>Rosemarie Laguna, Chief Executive Officer, PEERS Envisioning and Engaging in Recovery Services</i> • Committee Discussion • Public Comment	Tab 5
4:10 p.m.	Break	
4:20 p.m.	Discussion and Planning for Issue Paper on Peer Support Specialist Employment and Senate Bill 803 Implementation (Action) <i>Bill Stewart, Chairperson and All Members</i> • Committee Discussion • Public Comment	Tab 6
4:45 p.m.	Discussion of 2026 Workforce and Employment Committee Activities for the Council's Year-End Report (Action) <i>Bill Stewart, Chairperson and All Members</i>	Tab 7
4:50 p.m.	General Public Comment <i>Members of the public can comment on any non-action agenda item that did not have public comment or any other general item.</i>	
4:55 p.m.	Meeting Wrap-Up, Next Steps, and Survey on Future Topics For Behavioral Health Paraprofessionals <i>Bill Stewart, Chairperson, Dave Cortright, Chair-Elect, and All Members</i>	
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn	

The scheduled times on the agenda are estimates and subject to change.

Public Comment: Limited to a **2-minute maximum** to ensure all are heard.

Workforce and Employment Committee Members

Chairperson: Bill Stewart **Chair-Elect:** David Cortright

Members: Susie Baker, John Black, Janet Frank, Jessica Grove, Lynne Martin Del Campo, Lanita Mims-Beal, Donald Morrison, Dale Mueller, Deborah Pitts, Marina Rangel, Maria Sierra, Samantha Tosetti, Arden Tucker, Milan Zavala

WET Steering Committee Members: Abby Alvarez, Rayshell Chambers, Theresa Comstock, Chad Costello, Kristin Dempsey, Shanti Ezrine, Tara Gamboa-Eastman, Randall Hagar, Le Ondra Clark Harvey, Kathryn Kietzman, Robb Layne, Robert McCarron, Steve Sodergren, Sierra Smith, Carli Stelzer, Heidi Strunk, Karen Vicari

Staff: Ashneek Nanua, Simon Vue