

COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

March 26, 2025 – Meeting Day One

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commission will conduct a meeting on March 26, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

This meeting will be conducted via teleconference pursuant to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act according to Government Code sections 11123, 11123.5, and 11133. The location(s) from which the public may participate are listed below. All members of the public shall have the right to offer comment at this public meeting as described in this Notice.

DATE March 26, 2025
TIME 9:00 a.m.
LOCATION 1812 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95811 and Virtual

ZOOM ACCESS

Zoom meeting link and dial-in number will be provided upon registration.

Free registration link: [Click Here](#)

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Mayra E Alvarez, *Chair*
Alfred Rowlett, *Vice Chair*
Pamela Baer
Michael Bernick
Mark Bontrager
Bill Brown, *Sheriff*
Keyondria D Bunch, Ph.D.
Robert Callan, Jr.
Steve Carnevale
Rayshell Chambers
Shuo (Shuonan) Chen
Christopher Contreras
Dave Cortese, *Senator*
Makenzie Cross
Dave Gordon
John Harabedian, *Assemblymember*
Karen Larsen
Mara Madrigal-Weiss
Gladys Mitchell
Rosielyn Pulmano, *Assembly Designee*
James L. Robinson III, Psy.D., MBA
Marjorie Swartz, *Senate Designee*
Marvin Southard, Ph.D.
Gary Tsai, MD





INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Will Lightbourne

Public participation is critical to the success of our work and deeply valued by the Commission. Please see the detailed explanation of how to participate in public comment after the meeting agenda.

Our Commitment to Excellence

The Commission's 2024-2027 Strategic Plan articulates four strategic goals:

-  Champion vision into action to increase public understanding of services that address unmet behavioral health needs.
-  Catalyze best practice networks to ensure access, improve outcomes, and reduce disparities.
-  Inspire innovation and learning to close the gap between what can be done and what must be done.
-  Relentlessly drive expectations in ways that reduce stigma, build empathy, and empower the public.

Meeting Agenda

It is anticipated that all items listed as “Action” on this agenda will be acted upon, although the Commission may decline or postpone action at its discretion. Items may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Chair. Public comment is taken on each agenda item. Unlisted items will not be considered.

9:00 a.m. **1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Information

Chair Mayra E. Alvarez will convene the Commission meeting, and a roll call of Commissioners will be taken.

9:10 a.m. **2. Announcements and Updates**

Information

Chair Mayra E. Alvarez will make announcements and provide the outline for today’s focus on Commission activities.

- Public Comment

9:30 a.m. **3. Special Presentation**

Information

The Commission will hear a presentation from award-winning poet, Barbara Fant.

- Public Comment

9:45 a.m. **4. General Public Comment**

Information

General Public Comment is reserved for items not listed on the agenda. No discussion or action will take place.

10:00 a.m. **5. Governance and Legal Requirements**

Information

The Commission will receive an overview of the principles and statutes that guide the work of the Commission and the legal requirements for Commission meetings and Commissioners; presented by *Sandra Gallardo, Chief Legal Counsel*.

- Public Comment

11:00 a.m.

6. Portfolio of Projects Information

The Commission will be briefed on key programs and projects, including their history, objectives, and progress, and an overview of how the budget allocates resources to support each work stream. Presented by *Will Lightbourne Interim Executive Director and Staff*.

- Public Comment

12:30 p.m.

7. Lunch

The Commission will pause for a 30-minute lunch break.

1:00 p.m.

Continuation of Portfolio of Projects Information

The Commission will be briefed on key programs and projects, including their history, objectives, and progress, and an overview of how the budget allocates resources to support each work stream. Presented by *Will Lightbourne Interim Executive Director and Staff*.

- Public Comment

2:30 p.m.

8. Team Organization and Responsibilities Information

The Commission will hear about the staffing structure of the Commission and the responsibilities of the various teams. Presented by *Norma Pate, Deputy Director of Administrative Services and Performance Management, Tom Orrock, Deputy Director of Operations, Melissa Martin-Mollard, PhD., Chief of Research and Evaluation, Kendra Zoller, Deputy Director of Legislation, and Andrea Anderson, Chief of Communications*.

- Public Comment

3:30 p.m.

9. Budget Update Action

The Commission will hear a presentation on the Commission’s budget, and expenditures for the 2024-2025 fiscal year will be considered. Presented by *Norma Pate, Deputy Director of Administrative Services and Performance Management*.

- Public Comment
- Vote

4:30 p.m.

10. Adjournment

Our Commitment to Transparency

In accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, public meeting notices and agenda are available on the internet at www.bhsoac.ca.gov at least 10 calendar days prior to the meeting. Further information regarding this meeting may be obtained by calling (916) 500-0577 or by emailing bhsoac@bhsoac.ca.gov.

Our Commitment to Those with Disabilities

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals who, because of a disability need special assistance to participate in any Commission meeting or activities, may request assistance by calling (916) 500-0577 or by emailing bhsoac@bhsoac.ca.gov. Requests should be made one (1) week in advance, whenever possible.

Notes for Participation

For Public Comments: Prior to making your comments, please state your name for the record and identify any group or organization you represent.

Register to attend for free here:

https://bhsoac-ca.gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/-1W6QNFUQuiL5bAxH_Hz-g

Email Us: You can also submit public comment to the Commission by emailing us at publiccomment@bhsoac.ca.gov. Emailed public comments submitted at least 72 hours prior to the Commission meeting will be shared with Commissioners at the upcoming meeting. Public comment submitted less than 72 hours prior to the Commission meeting will be shared with Commissioners at a future meeting. Please note that public comments submitted to this email address will not receive a written response from the Commission. **Emailing public comments is not intended to replace the public comment period held during each Commission Meeting and in no way precludes a person from also providing public comments during the meetings.**

Public Participation: The telephone lines of members of the public who dial into the meeting will initially be muted to prevent background noise from inadvertently disrupting the meeting. Phone lines will be unmuted during all portions of the meeting that are appropriate for public comment to allow members of the public to comment. Please see additional instructions below regarding public participation procedures.

The Commission is not responsible for unforeseen technical difficulties that may occur. The Commission will endeavor to provide reliable means for members of the public to participate remotely; however, in the unlikely event that the remote means fail, the meeting may continue in person. For this reason, members of the public are advised to consider attending the meeting in person to ensure their participation during the meeting.

Public participation procedures: All members of the public have a right to offer comment at the Commission's public meeting. The Chair will indicate when a portion of the meeting is open for public comment. **Any member of the public wishing to comment during public comment periods must do the following:**

- **If joining in person.** Complete a public comment request card and submit to Commission staff. When it is time for public comment, staff will call your name and you will be invited to the podium to speak. Members of the public should be prepared to complete their comments within 3 minutes or less, unless a different time allotment is needed and announced by the Chair.
- **If joining by call-in, press *9 on the phone.** Pressing *9 will notify the meeting host that you wish to comment. You will be placed in line to comment in the order in which requests are received by the host. When it is your turn to comment, the meeting host will unmute your line and announce the last three digits of your telephone number. The Chair reserves the right to limit the time for comment. Members of the public should be prepared to complete their comments within 3 minutes or less time if a different time allotment is needed and announced by the Chair.
- **If joining by computer, press the raise hand icon on the control bar.** Pressing the raise hand will notify the meeting host that you wish to comment. You will be placed in line to comment in the order in which requests are received by the host. When it is your turn to comment, the meeting host will unmute your line, announce your name, and ask if you'd like your video on. The Chair reserves the right to limit the time for comment. Members of the public should be prepared to complete their comments within 3 minutes or less time if a different time allotment is needed and announced by the Chair.

In accordance with California Government Code § 11125.7(c)(1), members of the public who utilize a translator or other translating technology will be given at least twice the allotted time to speak during a Public Comment period.