

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT SAN FRANCISCO

Local Workforce Investment Board for the City and County of San Francisco

Draft Minutes of The

September 2, 2026

Meeting of the Workforce Investment San Francisco (WISF)

49 SOUTH VAN NESS AVENUE

MEETING ROOMS 0192, 0194, 0196

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

WISF Members Present

Jeanine Cotter, Chair, Luminalt Solar

Sam Rodriguez, Vice Chair, Rodriguez Strategic Partners LLC

Alex Wong, Kaiser Permanente

Charley Lavery, Operating Engineers Local 3

Christina Sellami, Marriott International

Jorge Tapia, The EDD

Kim Tavaglione, San Francisco Labor Council

Laurie Thomas, Golden Gate Restaurant Association

Paul Hinz, Swinerton

Tony Delorio, Teamster Local Union No.665

Vikrum Aiyer, Heirloom

Angie Lipschuetz for Lynn Mahoney, San Francisco State University

Bruce Callander, HUB International

David De La Torre, LiUNA! Local Union 261

Denise Dorsey, California Department of Rehabilitation

John Halpin, City College of San Francisco

Meaghan Mitchell, SF Standard

Madison Tam for Matt Dorsey, BOS District 6

Michon Coleman, Hospital Council-Northern & Central California

Shanell Williams, Rafiki Coalition

WISF Members Absent

Angela Tamayo, SEIU-UHW West

Ay'Anna Moody, Golden State Community Foundation

John Doherty, IBEW Local 6

Lan Huynh Lee, SF Giants

Shamann Walton (DA: Tracy Gallardo), BOS District 10

Ohlone Land Acknowledgement, Announcements & Housekeeping (Discussion Item)

Jeanine Cotter, WISF Chair, introduced herself and called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Secretary Ana Tellez-Witrigo (OEWD) opened the meeting by reciting the Ohlone Land Acknowledgement, Announcements, and Housekeeping.

Roll Call (Discussion Item)

Secretary Ana Tellez Witrigo conducted roll call. Quorum was present.

Chair's Welcome (Discussion Item)

Chair Cotter thanked WISF members and the general public for attending the hybrid WISF meeting at the 49 South Van Ness and remotely on Zoom.

Adoption of the Agenda for September 2, 2026

(Action Item)

Chair Cotter called for comments on the agenda for the September 2. There were none.

Action: Motion to approve the September 2, 2026 meeting agenda was made by Member Lavery, seconded by Member Hinz. The item was unanimously approved.

**Approval of
Minutes for
June 3, 2026**
(Action Item)

Chair Cotter called for comments on the June 3, 2026, Draft Meeting Minutes. Member Delorio noted he was present at the meeting. He made an amendment to the minutes noting him present at the June 3, 2026 WISF Meeting.

Action: A motion to approve the June 3, 2026, Meeting Minutes was made by Member Delorio, seconded by Member Thomas. The approval of the amended minutes were unanimously approved.

**Executive
Director's
Report**
*(Discussion
Item)*

Chair Cotter introduced Executive Director, Anne Taupier, to provide the Executive Director's report.

Executive Director Anne Taupier provided an overview of departmental accomplishments, integration efforts, and current labor market conditions. Over the past fiscal year, OEWD focused on strengthening collaboration across its six programmatic divisions, reducing silos, and improving cross-team alignment. Highlights included multi-teamwork supporting the Fillmore community, the successful Small Business Summit, and completion of OEWD's largest workforce procurement (RFP 234).

The department also invested in team culture-building initiatives, including participation in the Dragon Boat Race and the inaugural OEWD Day of Service. For the new fiscal year, all teams will align work around shared goals: building a resilient economy, attracting and retaining job-creating businesses, supporting generational economic change, delivering excellent customer service, and enhancing internal collaboration.

Labor Market Conditions

Unemployment remains stable at 3.7%. Economic activity is accelerating, driven largely by AI investment. Housing rents and prices are rising, traffic congestion has increased, and downtown office leasing is improving, though vacancy remains above 30%. Job growth is strongest in healthcare and tourism. OEWD continues to advance office-to-residential conversion projects, with four developments delivering over 300 units downtown.

Executive Director Taupier introduced Jen Hand, OEWD Workforce Impact Manager, to provide Workforce Program Updates

Ms. Hand reported full implementation of new standardized performance policies across the workforce portfolio, supported by digital tools from OEWD's central data team.

OEWD now operates eight centralized job centers. Self-Help for the Elderly will administer key WIOA training funds and begin certification to become a Comprehensive AJCC. Job center models have been consolidated to provide consistent services across all neighborhoods.

Employer Services supported a major hiring event for TNT Supermarket, resulting in over 500 attendees, 200 interviews, 190 job offers, and ongoing hiring needs for the store's November opening. CityBuild launched Cycle 45 with 39 students, and Farming Hope hosted successful culinary apprenticeship mock interviews. The MLBS in-custody barber program graduated 12 participants.

OEWD staff participated in regional apprenticeship convenings and launched new training initiatives, including a pharmacy technician program with New Door Ventures.

Mayoral & Interagency Initiatives

OEWD is coordinating with multiple departments on HR1 implementation, preparing for at least 600 client enrollments. A new dual-enrollment pipeline program for at-risk high school sophomores will launch this winter, connecting youth to work-based learning and sector-aligned training in later years.

Regional Workforce Efforts

OEWD has been leading California Jobs First implementation in the Bay Area, including 10 regional workforce pilot projects which have enrolled 1,300 participants and developed additional funds. Cal Poly

Maritime received \$8.2 million to serve as the Bay Area’s maritime industry convener. Local and regional WIOA planning will be brought to the board in upcoming meetings.

Board Discussion

Member Rodriguez raised questions about grocery store attractions, particularly in the Fillmore neighborhood. OEWD noted active discussions with Safeway, Lion Realty, and multiple grocers regarding interim and long-term plans.

Board Member Aiyer also discussed AI-related economic impacts, with OEWD monitoring job growth and potential displacement, and coordinating with the City Economist and state partners.

**FY 26-27 OEWD
Program
Portfolio**
*(Discussion
Item)*

Chair Cotter welcomed Acting Deputy Director of Workforce Development, Ren Floyd Rodriguez to provide updates on OEWD’s FY 26-27 Program Portfolio.

Acting Deputy Director of Workforce Development Ren Floyd-Rodriguez provided an overview of OEWD’s newly launched FY 26-27 Workforce Program Portfolio, developed through this year’s large workforce procurement (RFP 235). This year’s portfolio reflects priorities identified by both the WISF Board and extensive community listening sessions. OEWD finalized more than \$22 million in investments across 60+ grantees and over 20 program areas, blending local, state, and federal funds—including WIOA programs under the Board’s oversight. The portfolio is expected to serve approximately 7,000 jobseekers annually, with updated placement targets of 60–80% depending on program type, and an estimated 3,000 participants entering through the redesigned centralized job centers.

Deputy Director Floyd-Rodriguez highlighted significant updates to the service model, including the consolidation of OEWD’s neighborhood, resource, and comprehensive job centers into a unified centralized system offering citywide employment and barrier removal services. The portfolio also expands specialized job centers for targeted populations, enhances young adult work-based learning programs, and continues investments in priority sector pathways such as CityBuild construction training, the Healthcare Academy, Hospitality Initiative, Public Safety Academy, TechSF, and the Industries of Opportunity portfolio, including commercial driving, barbering, early childhood education, administrative roles, and automotive technology. New training partners were added across multiple sectors, including MLVS, CYC, Larkin Street, Tech Exchange, Year Up, Felton Institute, and New Door Ventures.

Board Discussion:

Member Sam Rodriguez encouraged OEWD to broaden placement partnerships for the pharmacy technician program beyond CVS by engaging San Francisco hospitals, noting the high concentration of hospital employers citywide.

**Commission
Streamlining
Task Force
Updates**
*(Discussion
Item)*

Chair Cotter welcomed OEWD Workforce Impact Manager, Jen Hand, to present on the Commission Streamlining Taskforce Update.

OEWD Workforce Impact Manager Jen Hand provided an overview of changes resulting from San Francisco Proposition E (November 2024), which established the Commission Streamlining Task Force to evaluate all boards and commissions across San Francisco. After a year-long review, both the Workforce Investment San Francisco Board (WISF) and the Committee on City Workforce Alignment were

New universal governance standards now apply: WISF is formally placed under Administrative Code Chapter 5; board membership is capped at 28 members; term limits are set at six 2-year terms (with a universal 12-year cap); and holdover service is limited to 60 days. OEWD is currently working with the City Attorney to update bylaws, which will be shared with the board in October and brought forward for adoption in December.

Ms. Hand noted that these term limits will result in several long-serving members rotating off the board in January. To preserve institutional knowledge and support transition, the Executive Committee recommended forming an Alumni Subcommittee for departing members. OEWD will also seat a new Executive Committee in November, ahead of December chair and vice chair elections. Members interested in serving were encouraged to notify OEWD staff. Additionally, at the request of the members of the board, OEWD will prepare a memo regarding potential impacts of upcoming November charter amendments on WISF operations.

Board Discussion

Member Kim Tavaglione

Requested a memo explaining how upcoming charter amendments may affect WISF, particularly regarding contracting authority, procurement consolidation under the City Administrator, and administrative oversight.

Member Charley Lavery

Encouraged colleagues to step forward for Executive Committee service, emphasizing the importance of member leadership and engagement in driving opportunities for city residents.

Member Sam Rodriguez

Reflected on the long history of federal workforce legislation, San Francisco's leadership in national workforce innovation, and urged members to commit time and leadership to support the board during this transition.

Member Jorge Tapia (Employment Development Department)

Affirmed EDD's ongoing commitment to supporting San Francisco's workforce system in light of upcoming ordinance changes.

Member Laurie Thomas

Requested OEWD provide a clear summary describing Executive Committee responsibilities, time commitments, and expectations to help members make informed decisions about serving.

Member Vikrum Aiyer

Commended OEWD staff for consistent transparency, clear communication, and responsiveness throughout the streamlining process and the broader administrative changes.

Chair Cotter

Expressed strong support for succession planning and committed to ensuring incoming leadership receives guidance, training, and institutional support from current members.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

*(Discussion
Item)*

Chair Cotter opened the meeting for public comments on non-agenda items. Secretary Tellez-Witrigo provided instruction for public comment and shared that those in a virtual space could provide public comment in the chat.

Gustavo Alatorre, introduced himself as the Employment Development Department Regional Advisor and shared that he is now the new regional support for the area since the retirement of this predecessor, Teri Brimacombe.

Adjournment
(*Action Item*)

Chair Cotter thanked the members for attending and reminded the Board that the next meeting will take place on December 2, 2026.

Action: A motion to adjourn was made by Member Tavaglione, seconded by Member Delorio. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 AM