



COUNTY OF ORANGE
OFFICE OF CARE
COORDINATION

Policies, Procedures and Standards
(PPS) Committee Meeting
July 14, 2026

Welcome and Introductions

Nishtha Mohendra, Chair

Public Comments

Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar

Recommended Action

1. Approve the PPS Committee Meeting Minutes from June 9, 2026.

Business Calendar

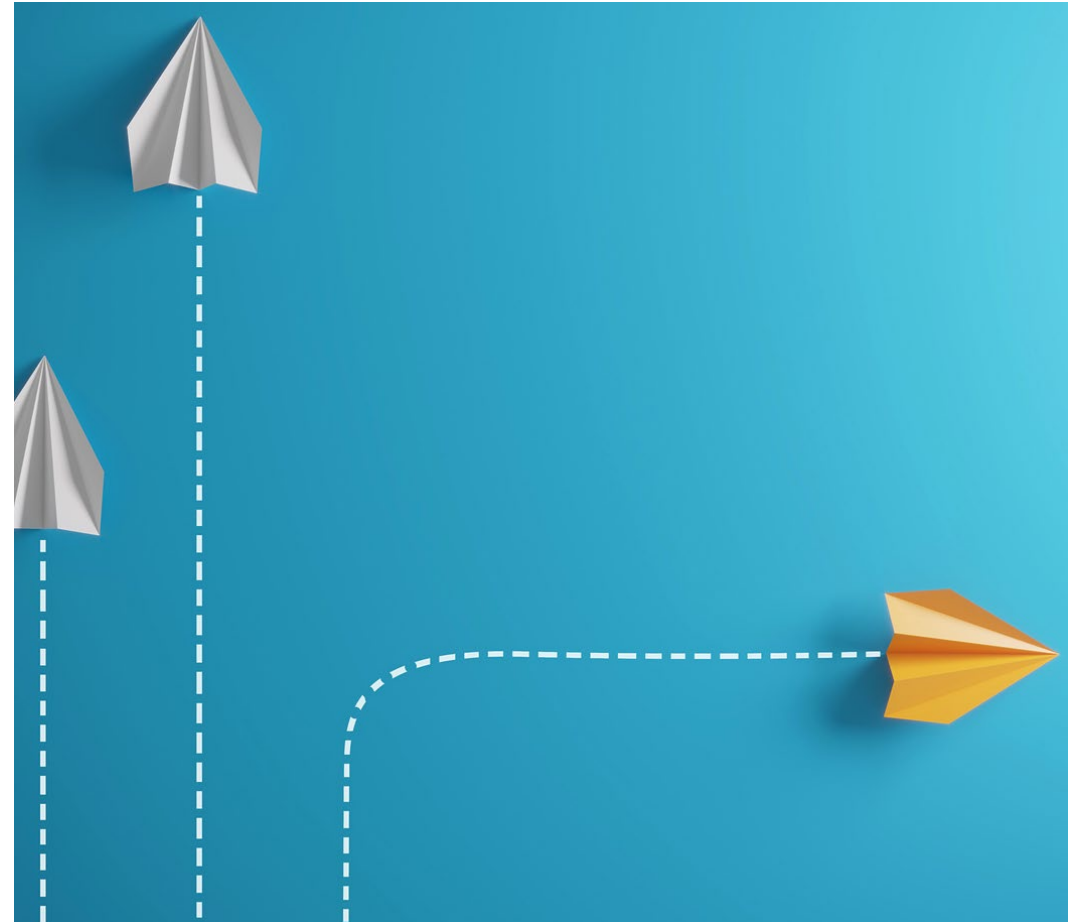
Continuum of Care (CoC) Governance Charter Revisions

Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator,
Office of Care Coordination

Business Calendar – Item #1

FY 2026 CoC Program NOFO: Updates to Desired CoC Governance Structure

- The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) introduced new scoring criteria for **Representative Governance Structure** within the FY2026 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
- To earn all 8 points for this criteria, the CoC Board must include:
 - ❖ At least 1 person with lived experience of homelessness
 - ❖ 3 elected public officials (required for urban CoC's like Orange County)
 - ❖ Representatives from key sectors including:
 1. Business
 2. Law Enforcement
 3. Recovery Housing/Sober Living
 4. Healthcare
 5. Workforce Development
 6. Specialty or civil commitment courts



Business Calendar – Item #1

Proposed Governance Charter Updates

- The following recommended changes to the CoC Governance Charter are proposed:
 - **Expand** the Board Membership from 17-21 members to **19-25 members**.
 - ❖ At least three (3) elected public officials
 - ❖ Business community
 - ❖ Recovery or sober living provider
 - ❖ Local workforce development organization
 - ❖ Local court system (i.e. Mental Health Court, Drug Court, Care Court)
 - **Update** Behavioral Health and Health Care Field descriptions, to call out specific types of providers as highlighted in the FY2026 NOFO
 - **Clarify** Board Membership will include at least **one (1) Youth Action Board (YAB) member**, as determined by the YAB, by January 2027.

Why this approach?

- Directly aligns with HUD's FY2026 NOFO
- Provides the strongest and most defensible strategy for earning all 8 Governance Structure points.
- Maintain flexibility since one member may represent multiple required categories.

Business Calendar – Item #1

Proposed CoC Governance Charter Updates

Why this approach?

- Directly aligns with HUD's FY2026 NOFO
- Provides the strongest and most defensible strategy for earning all eight (8) Governance Structure points.
- Maintains flexibility, since one member may represent multiple areas of representation within the Board composition.

Business Calendar – Item #1

Implementation Timeline and Impact

Key Considerations

- The new CoC Board seats do not need to be filled before the August 26, 2026, application deadline.
- New positions can be created now and remain vacant without affecting CoC Board quorum

Why not Use the Commission to Address Homelessness (Commission)?

- The Commission is not the CoC's decision-making body
- Amending the Commission By-Laws would require County Board of Supervisors approval
- Timeline for changes would not meet the August 26, 2026, CoC Program NOFO Deadline

Expected Outcomes

- Positions the Orange County CoC to earn the full 8 points
- Improved competitiveness for FY2026 HUD CoC funding
- Allows implementation through the CoC Board's existing authority and established governance process



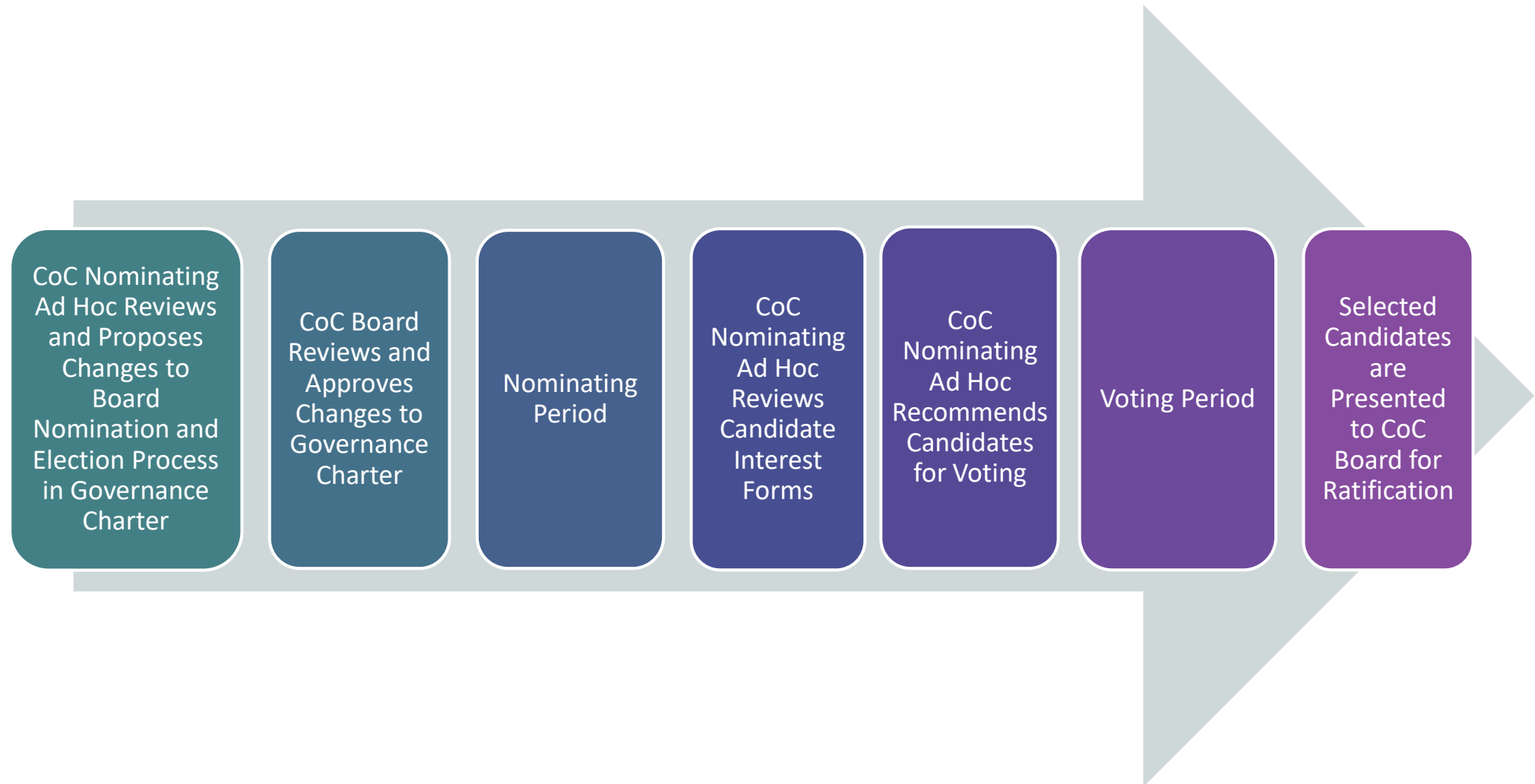
Business Calendar – Item #1

Annual CoC Board Nomination & Election Process and CoC Governance Charter Review

- As a reminder, the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant of the Orange County CoC, facilitates the annual CoC Board seat nomination and election process for the CoC Board in partnership with the CoC Nominating Ad Hoc, which takes place throughout the Fall.
- The CoC Governance Charter outlines a clear timeline for the annual CoC Board election process.
 - ❖ **August/September** - CoC Board Chair appoints Nominating Ad Hoc
 - ❖ **September/October** - Nominating Ad Hoc convenes to review and **update sections of the Charter that pertain to the CoC Board composition, selection process, and qualifications**
 - ❖ **October/November** - Nominating Ad Hoc outreaches to potential CoC Board candidates. The Nominating Ad Hoc will interview eligible CoC Board candidates who meet criteria
 - ❖ **November/December** - Candidates who moved forward based on their interview are presented to the CoC General Membership for voting/election
 - ❖ **December** - CoC Board ratifies slate of elected candidates by the CoC General membership
 - ❖ **January** - CoC Board seating takes place. Outgoing CoC Board and Board staff will provide training and orientation for incoming CoC Board

Business Calendar – Item #1

Annual CoC Board Nomination & Election Process and CoC Governance Charter Review



Business Calendar – Item #1

Recommended Action

- a. Recommend the revised CoC Governance Charter, inclusive of updates to the CoC Board Composition (Section V.B.2.b) policy change in response to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

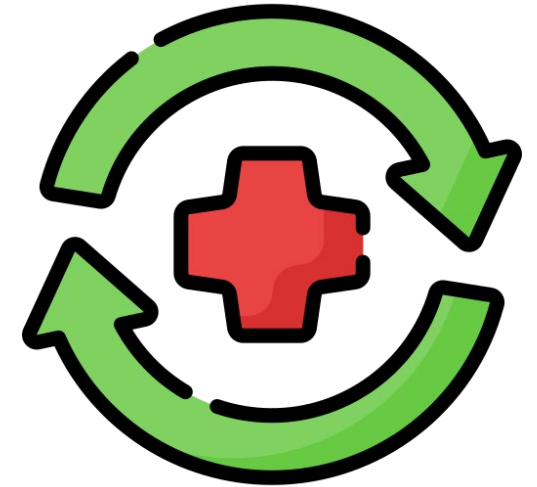
CoC Policy to Advance Recovery and Prohibit Illicit Drug Use

Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator,
Office of Care Coordination

Business Calendar – Item #2

FY 2026 CoC Program NOFO: New Recovery Policy Requirements

- The FY2026 CoC Program NOFO also introduced new scoring criteria for ***recovery-oriented policies*** (see page 85 of the NOFO).
- To earn all 10 points, the CoC’s Consolidated Application must “describe the policy or state the CoC has in place to ensure that all housing projects submitted by the CoC will not operate drug injection sites or ‘safe consumption sites,’ knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia on or off property under their control, or conduct, permit, encourage, or allow any of these activities under the pretext of ‘harm reduction.’”:
- Further, the NOFO states that to receive full points, the policy must include the following components:
 - ❖ Prohibits CoC-funded projects from operating drug injection/safe consumption sites
 - ❖ Prohibits knowingly distributing drug paraphernalia
 - ❖ Prohibits these activities from being conducted under the guise of *harm reduction*
 - ❖ Support recovery-oriented housing and services



Business Calendar – Item #2

Key Elements of the Proposed Policy

The *proposed policy applies* would apply to **all Orange County CoC Program-funded housing projects**, including:

- Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
- Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)
- Transitional Housing (TH)
- The Policy would move to **prohibit** any *knowingly illicit drug use* on CoC-funded property and programs that might *enable illegal drug use under the pretext of harm reduction*.
- There is **encouragement** for voluntary substance use treatment, recovery housing, peer support, behavioral health services, medication-assisted treatment (MAT), and connection to community recovery resources.

Participants' Protections Remain

- The policy ***does not*** require sobriety before housing, mandate treatment participation (except permitted by federal regulation) nor require automatic termination after a first drug related violation
- Services will continue to be trauma-informed, person centered and respectful of participant rights and legal protections.

Business Calendar – Item #2

Compliance, Enforcement and Impact

Addressing Policy Violations

- If a CoC-funded project violated the policy, the Orange County CoC may:
 - Issue written notice
 - Require a corrective action plan within 90 days
 - Provide technical assistance and staff training
 - Increase monitoring
 - Refer serious or repeated violations to the CoC Board, HUD, and local law enforcement (when appropriate)

Annual Review

- The policy will be reviewed at least annually to ensure alignment with:
 - HUD regulations
 - Future CoC NOFO Requirements
 - Federal, State and Local laws
 - Participant rights and civil rights protections

Expected Outcomes

- Adopting this policy will:
 - Position the Orange County CoC to earn up to 10 points within the FY2026 CoC Program NOFO Consolidated Application
 - Demonstrate alignment with HUD's recovery-focused priorities
 - Support housing stability while preserving participant rights and access to treatment
 - Increase competitiveness for FY2026 CoC funding opportunities.

Business Calendar – Item #1

Recommended Action

- a. Recommend the policy detailing how the Orange County CoC will advance recovery and prohibit illicit drug use, in response to the FY2026 CoC Program NOFO, for review and approval by the CoC Board.

Next Meeting:

*August 11, 2026, from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.,
at CAS Multipurpose Rooms 103/105, located
at 601 N. Ross St., Santa Ana, CA 92701*



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