

San Francisco Child Care Planning and Advisory Council (CPAC) Legislation and Public Policy Workgroup Meeting Notes

Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2026

Time: 9:30 – 10:30 am

Location: Zoom

Based on the meeting agenda and transcript.

Welcome and Check In

- Meeting opened with a brief welcome and acknowledgment of the smaller group attendance.
- Esmeralda Martin-Singh, Partnership & Policy Manager for the Early Care and Education at the Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF), was introduced to provide an overview of AB 1914 regarding child care and general plans.

Presentation: AB 1914 (Schiavo) – General Plan Elements: Childcare

Overview of AB 1914 and its Implications

Esmeralda shared an overview of AB 1914, which seeks to improve child care access by incorporating child care into long term local planning and community development through local general plans.

Key Points

- Beginning January 1, 2028, cities and counties would be required to incorporate child care into their general plans when updating two or more plan elements.
- The bill frames child care as essential infrastructure.
- Examples of cities already integrating child care into planning include Redwood City and Santa Barbara.
- UC Davis maintains a searchable database of local general plans.

Proposed Amendment Options Under Discussion

- Creation of a separate Child Care Plan
- Integration of child care into one or more existing general plan elements
- Creation of child care as its own general plan element

Support and Legislative Context

- The California Women's Council on Women and Girls joined as a co author of the bill.
- LIIF shared sign on opportunities and fact sheets through its website.
- Discussion highlighted the importance of elevating child care planning statewide.

Workgroup Discussion

Opposition and Concerns Raised

Participants discussed potential opposition arguments and implementation concerns.

Esmeralda noted:

- Concerns about implementation costs and local staffing capacity
- Questions from some cities regarding additional planning responsibilities
- Existing state law already recognizes family child care homes as residential uses under SB 234, though AB 1914 would elevate child care as a core planning priority.

Infrastructure and Planning Discussion

Participants discussed how the bill could:

- Position child care similarly to schools, roads, and utilities in planning processes
- Improve integration of child care into community development
- Encourage long term planning rather than reactive responses to shortages.

Participants emphasized that the bill appeared to be fundamentally about infrastructure planning and ensuring child care is treated as a necessary community service.

Relationship to Local Planning Councils (LPCs)

Participants raised questions about how AB 1914 could align with the work already conducted by Local Planning Councils, including:

- Child care needs assessments
- Child care master plans
- Existing LPC advisory responsibilities.

Discussion Themes

- Concern about duplication of efforts between LPCs and counties
- Opportunity to strengthen coordination between counties and LPCs
- Suggestion that bill language reference LPC needs assessments as a source of information for general plans
- Desire to preserve LPC advisory authority and expertise.

Participants noted that the bill could provide stronger accountability for incorporating child care planning into formal county planning processes.

Esmeralda agreed to bring these concerns and recommendations back to bill sponsors and lobbyists.

Proposed Action: Recommendation to Support AB 1914

The workgroup discussed recommending CPAC support for AB 1914.

Key Discussion Points

- Members generally agreed the bill aligned strongly with CPAC priorities.
- Participants discussed waiting for final amendment language before formal approval.
- Participants suggested allowing the Executive Committee to reevaluate CPAC's support if substantial amendments are made before final action.

Consensus

- General support for advancing the bill to the full CPAC for consideration
- Recognition that final bill language should be reviewed before final endorsement.

Updates: Federal, State and Local Policies

Federal Policy Updates

Ericka shared updates regarding proposed federal child care policy changes under the Trump administration.

Child Care Reimbursement Rules

- Proposed rollback of Biden era rules allowing reimbursement based on enrollment rather than attendance
- Potential impacts on California child care providers and administrative burdens.

Eligibility and Administrative Requirements

- New proposed requirements for verifying employment and eligibility for benefits
- Concern that increased administrative complexity could further strain child care providers.

State Legislative Grid

Ericka introduced CPAC's new legislative grid and explained that:

- Bills will now be analyzed using the CPAC Policy Platform
- Proposed positions will be discussed at upcoming meetings
- Members were encouraged to review the grid and provide feedback.

Discussion Highlights

- Interest in reimbursement rate legislation (AB 1981)
- Discussion of AB 2006 regarding child care in office buildings
- Concerns raised about quality standards for office based child care spaces, including:
- Natural light

- Outdoor access
- Appropriate learning environments.

Participants emphasized that child care expansion should not compromise quality standards.

State Budget and Hearings

Upcoming State Hearing

- Assembly Budget Subcommittee hearing scheduled for April 8
- Topics include preschool, TK, workforce, quality improvement, and reading difficulties.

Local Budget and Strategic Plan Updates

- Public hearing on the Department of Early Childhood (DEC) Strategic Plan update scheduled for May 13
- CPAC submitted feedback to DEC and the Mayor's Office regarding:
 - Inclusion investments
 - Spending plans
 - Alignment with CPAC's Policy Platform.

Upcoming Events

- Day Without Child Care activities planned for May 11 in Oakland
- Participation expected from Parent Voices, Child Care Providers United, and other partners.

Workgroup Role, Structure & Membership

- Discussion deferred to future meetings due to time constraints.
- Participants shared that Executive Committee conversations regarding workgroup structure and engagement would continue over the coming months.
- Goal identified to implement updated workgroup approaches by the new fiscal year.

Community Input & Partner Updates

DEC Updates

Participants shared:

- An April 22 meeting focused on the Children and Families Commission Prop 10 budget
- Clarification that the May 13 strategic plan hearing would be an ECCOAC/Commission public hearing.

Next Steps & Action Items

- Bring AB 1914 discussion and possible support recommendation to the full CPAC membership.

- Continue monitoring amendments to AB 1914 before final endorsement.
- Members to review the legislative grid and share feedback before the May meeting.
- Continue budget and strategic plan discussions during upcoming CPAC meetings.
- Future discussion planned regarding workgroup structure and engagement expectations.

Next Meeting

Legislation & Public Policy Workgroup

Wednesday, May 6, 2026

9:30 – 10:30 am