

Capitola City Council

Agenda Report



Meeting: February 12, 2026

From: City Manager Department

Subject: Housing for Health Partnership Board Appointment

Recommended Action: Appoint the City of Capitola's representative on the Santa Cruz County Housing for Health Partnership Policy Board for a two-year term expiring December 2027.

Background: Formerly known as the Homeless Action Partnership (HAP), the Housing for Health Partnership (H4HP) was formed in 2021 and serves as the federally-designated Continuum of Care (CoC) for Santa Cruz County and coordinates resources, programs and services focused on preventing and ending homelessness. Employees from the County of Santa Cruz Human Services Department Housing for Health Division provide staffing support for the H4HP.

The H4HP is a collaboration of five public jurisdictions in Santa Cruz County (the County and the cities of Santa Cruz, Watsonville, Capitola and Scotts Valley) along with housing and service providers, people with lived experience of homelessness and other stakeholders. HUD provides over \$4 million per year to the Santa Cruz County community through the work of the H4HP. The H4HP also plays a role in receiving and coordinating other resources from federal and state government agencies.

The Housing for Health Partnership Policy Board (H4HP Board) acts as the governing board for the Santa Cruz County HUD-designated Continuum of Care, known as the Housing for Health Partnership. The Board is responsible for high-level planning and decision-making. It sets overall policy direction, provides system oversight, and delegates implementation, operational, and planning responsibilities to specific Operational Committees and Working Groups. The H4HP Board is responsible for aligning and developing resources, stakeholders, and collective wisdom across the greater Santa Cruz community to promote public health and make significant impacts on the crisis of homelessness, benefitting all residents, particularly those without homes.

Discussion: Pursuant to the Santa Cruz County Housing for Health partnership Governance Charter, Board membership consists of 15 community leaders and stakeholders who represent different entities and constituencies. Capitola and Scotts Valley share a board seat on a rotating basis for two-year terms. This seat was filled by Scotts Valley for the last two years and it is now Capitola's turn to appoint a representative for a two-year term (2026-2027). This seat may be filled by an elected official, government staff, or other citizen. The Board is mostly comprised of elected officials, city staff members, public health staff, and those with lived experience. The H4HP Board meets every two months, with the next meeting scheduled for February 9, 2026.

Staff recommends the Council either: 1) appoint a City Council Member to represent Capitola on the Policy Board; or 2) appoint a staff member to represent Capitola on the Policy Board.

Fiscal Impact: None

Alignment with 2025-2029 Strategic Plan Priority: Collaborative Engagement, Dynamic Innovations, Fiscal Sustainability, Resilient Community, Respectful Service

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