

San Francisco

2022 Point-in-Time Homeless Count

LHCB Special Meeting: Jan 14, 2022



COVID Surge

- HSH has been monitoring the January surge of the Omicron variant of and evaluating its potential impacts on the PIT count scheduled for January 27, 2022
- We remain committed to our priorities to conduct a safe and accurate count, and to maintain the methodology previously approved at the December LHCB meeting

HUD Guidance for 2022

- HUD is permitting CoCs to file exceptions to conduct the PIT count outside of the final 10 days of January
 - For communities that have concerns around COVID affecting PIT count staffing and/or safety, HUD is encouraging CoCs to consider a February count
- As of January 10, 2022, HUD is still requiring the PIT count
 - HUD is indicating data submissions will still be due on a similar schedule to regular years (likely late April)
 - HUD recommends CoCs consider rescheduling to the last 10 days of February if feasible

DPH & ASR Recommendations

- DPH recommends we delay to February
 - DPH predicts SF hospitalizations peak in late January and the surge quickly declines beginning February
 - DPH concerned that positive case rate affects staffing and increases risk of COVID spread
- Applied Survey Research (ASR)
 - Recommends that HSH postpone to February
 - Outreach providers are experiencing low staffing; shelters have had outbreaks
 - Most Bay Area CoCs have postponed or are strongly considering postponing

Pros & Cons of Delaying to February

PROS

- Lower risk of COVID spread amongst participants
- Staffing shortages should be less of a problem (for both outreach workers & supplemental volunteers)
- Availability of lab / PCR tests and rapid tests hopefully improves
- Conducting the count mid-surge may impact accuracy (staffing shortages affecting count coverage, effects on clients seeking shelter, etc.)
- Additional time for Count planning
- Alignment with other regional CoCs

CONS

- Release of updated data may be delayed (though expected impacts are minimal)
- Constricts HSH and ASR's timeline for data analysis and report preparation
- Added logistics and communications around rescheduling

HSH Recommendation

- HSH recommends filing for a HUD exception to conduct the count in late February
 - Proposed date of Wednesday, February 23rd
- HSH will continue to plan for an on-time HUD data submission (deadline is TBD but expected in Late April)
- HSH continues to plan for a release of top-level data within 2 weeks of the HUD submission (mid-May) and release of the full report by early July