

**FIRST 5 SAN MATEO COUNTY COMMISSION
BYLAWS
Adopted May 2019**

ARTICLE I (Authority)

These bylaws (“Bylaws”) are adopted by the First 5 San Mateo County Commission (the “Commission” or “F5SMC”) to establish rules for its proceedings. The Commission is authorized by, and shall operate consistent with, the Children and Families First Act of 1998, as amended (the “State Act”), and Chapter 2.24 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, as amended (the “County Ordinance”).

ARTICLE II (Vision, Mission, Outcomes and Status)

The vision of the Commission is “Success for every child.”

The mission of the Commission is to promote positive outcomes for young children and their families through strategic investments, community leadership, and effective partnerships.

F5SMC adopted the following desired outcomes to guide its efforts in its 2015-2020 Strategic Plan:

1. San Mateo County prioritizes young children and their families;
2. Communities provide a safe and healthy environment for young children;
3. Children have access to high-quality early care and education settings;
4. Families feel connected to and supported by their community and are able to nurture their children’s health and development;
5. Children have healthy attachments to their parents and caregivers; and
6. Children have access to and are utilizing appropriate health care services to meet their health and developmental needs.

F5SMC is an agency of the County of San Mateo (the “County”) with independent authority over the Strategic Plan and the Local Trust Fund. Obligations of F5SMC shall be the obligations solely of the Commission and shall not directly or indirectly be obligations of the County or any officials, employees or agents of the County. The County shall not be liable for any act or omission of the Commission.

ARTICLE III (Powers and Duties)

The duties of the Commission shall be those proscribed in the State Act and the County Ordinance and may include the following:

- Adopt Strategic Plan for the support and improvement of early childhood improvement within the County, consistent with the requirements of the State Act and any other applicable state laws and County guidelines.
- At least annually, conduct a review of the Strategic Plan and revise the plan as may be necessary or appropriate, and conduct at least one public hearing on the Commission’s review of the plan before

any revisions to the plan are adopted and submitted to the First 5 California Commission (the “State Commission”).

- Measure outcomes of funded programs through the use of applicable, reliable indicators and review on a periodic basis as part of the public review of the Strategic Plan.
- Prepare and adopt an annual audit and report pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 130150, and conduct at least one public hearing prior to adopting any annual audit or report.
- Review the State First 5 California Commission annual report at a public hearing.
- Adopt policies and procedures consistent with the requirements of the State Act.
- Establish one or more advisory committees to provide technical and professional expertise and support for any purposes that will be beneficial in accomplishing the purposes of the State Act.
- Enter into such contracts as necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions and purposes of the State Act or the County Ordinance.

ARTICLE IV (Commission Membership)

The composition of the Commission, and the membership qualifications, terms, entitlement to compensation, and all other aspects of Commission membership shall be as proscribed by the County Ordinance or the State Act in the absence of an applicable provision of the County Ordinance.

ARTICLE V (Conflicts of Interest Policy)

The Commission shall by resolution adopt and may amend a Conflicts of Interest policy for the Commission as required by applicable law. Any such policy, and any amendments thereto, shall be consistent with County policies and requirements.

Each Commissioner shall file a statement disclosing reportable economic interests in accordance with the Political Reform Act of 1974 and the regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission and the Commission’s Conflict of Interest Policy.

ARTICLE VI (Officers)

1. Officers:

- A. Officers of the Commission shall be a Chair and Vice-Chair and such other officers as the Commission may from time to time provide. The Chair, who shall be a Commissioner, shall preside over all business and meetings of the Commission, appoint chairs of standing and *ad hoc* committees, and exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Commission.
- B. The Vice Chair shall be a Commissioner, and in the Chair’s absence or inability to act, shall preside at the meetings of the Commission. If both the Chair and Vice-Chair will be absent or unable to act at a meeting at which a quorum of the Commission will be present, the Chair may in advance of said meeting appoint a Commissioner to preside at said meeting over all business of the Commission, appoint chairs of standing and *ad hoc* committees, and exercise such powers and perform such other duties of the Chair as may be prescribed by the Commission.

2. Terms and Removal:

Officers of the Commission shall be chosen annually through an election to be held at the last scheduled meeting of each calendar year, unless an earlier election is necessary because of a vacancy or vacancies on the Commission. Officers shall serve from the date of their election until a successor is selected, or until an earlier removal or resignation.

ARTICLE VII (Staffing)

1. Executive Director:

The Commission hires, evaluates, and terminates the Executive Director. The Executive Director shall act under the authority of, and in accordance with the direction of the Commission.

2. Staff:

The Executive Director hires, evaluates and terminates F5SMC Staff.

ARTICLE VIII (Meetings)

1. Regular and Special Meetings:

- A. The Commission and its standing committee(s) shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 9 (Commencing with Section 54950) of Part I, Division 2 Title 5 of the Government Code, relating to meetings of local agencies (the “Ralph M. Brown Act” or the “Brown Act”).
- B. The Commission shall meet regularly at times and places to be determined by the Commission. There shall be at least 4 meetings each calendar year, generally on the fourth (4th) Monday of the month.
- C. Special meetings may be called at a time and place designated by the Chair. The Commission staff shall give notices of regular and special meetings in accordance with the Brown Act.

2. Open and Public:

All meetings of the Commission shall be held in accordance with the Brown Act.

3. Quorum:

A quorum is required to initiate the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting of the Commission. A quorum is a majority of the seated members of the Commission. A meeting at which a quorum is initially present may continue to transact business notwithstanding the withdrawal of Commissioners, provided that any action taken is approved by at least four Commissioners.

4. Voting:

Except as otherwise provided by these Bylaws, all official acts of the Commission require the affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners who are present and voting as long as the quorum requirements are met. No official act shall be approved with less than the affirmative vote of four Commissioners.

5. Recusals:

A Commissioner shall recuse him or herself from making, participating in making, or in any way attempting to use his or her official position to influence a decision on a contract or grant where the contract or grant directly relates to services to be provided by that Commissioner or the entity that the Commissioner represents or financially benefits the Commissioner or the entity that he or she represents, or as otherwise required by applicable law or by the Conflict of Interest Policy of the Commission.

6. Minutes:

Commission staff shall prepare the minutes of each meeting of the Commission.

ARTICLE IX (Committees)

1. Advisory Committees:

The Commission shall establish one or more advisory committees to provide technical and professional expertise and support for any purpose that will be beneficial in accomplishing the purpose of the State Act and of the Commission. Advisory committees shall meet and shall make recommendations and reports as deemed necessary or appropriate.

A. Early Childhood Evaluation Advisory Committee:

The duties and responsibilities of this Committee shall be to advise the full Commission on issues related to planning and implementing the Commission's research and evaluation activities; to hear the perspectives of F5SMC grantees on evaluation and data collection and utilization; to serve as the initial audience for research and evaluation findings; and to provide guidance to staff and evaluation contractors regarding presentation of results to the full Commission.

2. Standing Committees and Appointment of Members:

The Commission may establish standing and *ad hoc* committees and appoint members to those committees, wherever necessary. The following standing committees have been established: the Finance and Administration Committee and the Program, Operations and Planning Committee.

A. Finance and Administration Committee:

The duties and responsibilities of the Finance and Administration Committee shall be to advise the Commission concerning the budget, administrative costs, savings, investments, fixed assets, long term financial plan, financial objectives, funding strategies and annual allocation plan, annual financial audit, and other tasks and issues as assigned by the Commission.

B. Program, Operations and Planning Committee:

The duties and responsibilities of the Program, Operations and Planning Committee shall be to advise the Commission concerning the County's Children and Families First Strategic Plan, policies concerning programs to be implemented and supported under the Strategic

Plan, community needs assessments, program evaluations and other tasks and issues as assigned by the Commission.

3. Conflicts of Interest:

Commission members shall abide by all applicable laws, policies and regulations governing conflicts of interest, including those adopted by this Commission, the Board of Supervisors and the State Commission.

4. Committee Membership:

Notwithstanding section 3 above, persons who are not members of the Commission, including other elected officials and public members, may be appointed to serve on any committee established by the Commission. Unless otherwise provided, standing committee memberships shall be reviewed annually by either the Chair or the Commission as a whole.

5. Meetings:

Regular meetings of standing committees shall be held at times and places determined by the Commission. Special meetings may be held at any time and place as designated by the Chair of the Commission or the Chair of the Committee. A majority of the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for that committee.

6. Open and Public:

All meetings of standing committees shall be held in accordance with the Brown Act.

ARTICLE X (Procedures for Conduct of Business)

1. Executive Director Signature Authority:

The Executive Director shall have such signature authority to approve and execute service agreements, memorandums of understanding and/or contracts up to \$25,000. After receiving direction to proceed from the Commission Chair, the Executive Director has signature authority to approve all service agreements, memorandums of understanding, and/or contracts above \$25,000 and up to \$50,000 on behalf of the Commission.

2. Apply for Grants:

All grants, gifts, or bequests of money made to or for the benefit of the Commission from public or private sources to be used for early childhood development programs shall be expended for the specific purpose for which the grant, gift, or bequest was made. The amount of any such grant, gift, or bequest shall not be considered in computing the amount allocated and appropriated to the Commission by the State Board of Equalization.

ARTICLES XI (Amendments)

These Bylaws may be amended or repealed by the Commission at any duly-noticed regular or special meeting by a majority vote of the Commissioners who are present and voting as long as the quorum requirements are met. No amendment to or repeal of these Bylaws shall be approved with less than the affirmative vote of five Commissioners.

DATE ADOPTED: May 20, 2019

SIGNED BY:


Chair, First 5 San Mateo County Commission