

# NEWS

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For Immediate Release

## San Mateo County Supervisors Approve Action Plan to Support Women's Reproductive Rights

***Supervisors Dave Pine and Warren Slocum Champion Financial Investments, Protections and Outreach Supporting Women's Access to Reproductive Care***

**Redwood City** — Today, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors approved the [Women's Reproductive Freedom and Healthcare Privacy Action Plan](#) to provide financial support for Planned Parenthood Mar Monte to deliver increased abortion care; create a buffer zone ordinance for the unincorporated areas of the county; develop an advocacy agenda; establish the Reproductive Rights and Healthcare Privacy Subcommittee to include Supervisors Pine and Slocum; and launch an information campaign to let patients know that San Mateo County Health continues to offer reproductive services.

The Action Plan was developed in conjunction with Planned Parenthood Mar Monte (PPMM), which serves residents of Northern California including San Mateo County. PPMM has three clinics in San Mateo County that provide comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care, gender-affirming care, behavioral health, and family medicine services. Together, these clinics serve about 13,000 San Mateo County residents a year.

“With the likely reversal of *Roe v. Wade* by the U.S. Supreme Court looming, San Mateo County and California as a whole must prepare for the inevitable increase of women seeking care here that will be unavailable to them elsewhere in the nation,” said Supervisor Dave Pine.

According to a report released in October 2021 by the Guttmacher Institute, if *Roe v. Wade* is overturned or gutted, 26 states are certain or likely to ban abortion. The actions by those states would increase the number of out-of-state patients seeking abortion care in California from 46,000 to 1.4 million—an increase of nearly 3,000 percent. Between July of 2021 and May of 2022, PPMM provided abortion care to 87 patients from out-of-state. Those services were provided to 5 patients at the PPMM clinics in San Mateo County.

“We are at a precipice and the time for action is now. These financial investments to Planned Parenthood Monte Mar will allow for more women to make decisions about their bodies, particularly those living in states set to ban abortion. What we have done today is monumental in this effort,” said Supervisor Warren Slocum.

The financial investment includes \$1,000,000 allocated in two tranches including \$549,312 to support the purchase of technology and equipment by PPMM to allow for increased patient capacity at its clinics. The second tranche of funding, up to \$450,688, would be held in reserve for use as needs emerge.

To provide additional access to services, a draft buffer zone ordinance for unincorporated San Mateo County clinics that protects patients and employees from harassment, intimidation, and obstruction when accessing a PPMM clinic while also balancing First Amendment rights will be brought to the Board of Supervisors at the June 28, 2022 meeting.

In addition, a women’s reproductive freedom and healthcare privacy advocacy agenda will be developed in coordination with the Commission on the Status of Women, County Attorney’s Office, County staff and the Board subcommittee to develop a proposed advocacy agenda for consideration at the August 2, 2022 Board meeting.

Lastly, the County will lead an information campaign to let patients know that San Mateo County Health continues to offer reproductive services.

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