A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE LESBIAN GAY BISEXUAL TRANSGENDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1979 Lesbian/Gay community lobbies to establish a Lesbian/Gay Commission. Mayor Feinstein is opposed. Compromise: "Gay Advisory Committee" established by City ordinance to advise the Human Rights Commission on issues in the gay community. Original committee had three members.

1982 Committee holds a series of public forums regarding proposals to close gay bathhouses because of the AIDS epidemic.

1984 Committee organizes a Commission public hearing on racism in the lesbian/gay community, and publishes a report on the findings and recommendations.

1985 Committee organizes a Commission public hearing on discrimination against people with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions. Following the hearing, the Board of Supervisors passes protective legislation: Article 38 of the Police Code.

1989 Committee organizes a Commission public hearing on domestic partnerships and alternative families, publishes report. Following the hearing, the Board of Supervisors passes legislation establishing the Domestic Partners registry.

1993 Committee forms a task force to investigate and report on racial depictions in the lesbian/gay/bisexual media.

1994 Committee organizes a Commission public hearing on discrimination against transgender individuals and publishes report. Board of Supervisors passes legislation adding Gender Identity as a protected category in San Francisco.

1995 Committee establishes an Affirmative Action Task Force to acquaint the LGBT community with the issue of affirmative action, the threats against it, and why the issue is important to the LGBT communities.

1997 Task Force and public hearing on LGBT youth including a report with findings and recommendations.

1998 Task Force and public hearing on Economic Empowerment in the LGBT Community, including a report with findings and recommendations. This leads to a Community Development Program at the LGBT Community Center.

2002 Task Force and public hearing on Aging in the LGBT community, including a report with findings and recommendations.

2004 Task Force and public hearing on Intersex issues, including the human rights aspects of surgeries performed on intersex infants in order to assign gender when the surgeries are not medically necessary.

2006 Committee organizes public hearing on Native American issues including report with findings and recommendations.

2008 Committee holds hearing regarding FDA ban on blood donations from men who have sex with men.

2009 Committee hosts a panel to discuss the history of Queer Women's Neighborhoods and spaces in San Francisco.

2010 Committee and Commission urge the Board of Education to pass a resolution to establish a high school course on LGBT history, politics and culture and commit to funding LGBT support services.

2011 Committee holds panels and community meetings to study bisexual invisibility and issues a report entitled, "Bisexual Invisibility: Impacts and Recommendations."

2011 Commission holds public forum on unrecognized families and issues a report "Beyond Marriage: Unrecognized Family Relationships."

2011 Work Groups

LGBT Asylum – Developing cultural-competency curriculum for adjudicators and immigration judges

LGBT Elders – Increasing voice of LGBT seniors in government process

Beyond Castro – Expanding LGBT services to underserved communities