



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR

April 26, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Jordan Klein, Director, Department of Planning and Development

Subject: Contracts: Association for Energy Affordability, BlocPower, Ecology Center, Northern California Land Trust, and Waterside Workshops for Climate Equity Fund Pilot Programs

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt five Resolutions authorizing the City Manager to award contracts and execute any amendments, extensions, or change orders with: 1) Association for Energy Affordability in an amount not to exceed \$83,334; 2) BlocPower in an amount not to exceed \$83,333; 3) the Ecology Center in an amount not to exceed \$100,000; 4) Northern California Land Trust in an amount not to exceed \$83,333; and 5) Waterside Workshops in an amount not to exceed \$250,000; to develop Climate Equity Fund Pilot Programs, for a cumulative amount of all contracts not to exceed \$600,000, for the period of May 1, 2022 to May 31, 2024.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The \$600,000 in project funds for these contracts is being appropriated as part of the Second Amendment to the FY 2022 Annual Appropriations Ordinance and will be put into the Climate Equity Action Fund, in budget code 017-53-583-611-0000-000-441-612990. The amount requested per contract is a not-to-exceed (NTE) amount, which is expected to last for twenty-five months.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On December 3, 2021, the City of Berkeley released a Request for Proposals ([RFP Specification No. 22-11488-C](#)) for projects that support building and transportation electrification programs and provide climate and resilience benefits to low-income Berkeley residents. The RFP included three program areas: Program Area #1: Resilient Home Retrofits, Program Area #2: Electric Mobility Access Pilot, and Program Area #3: Community Access to Resilience Measures and Electrification Engagement Pilot.

The City received valid proposals from seven organizations for this solicitation. Staff reviewed and assessed the proposals according to the selection criteria in the RFP, including the organization's capacity and qualifications, project feasibility, community engagement, community benefits, proposed scope and whether they are a local vendor.

Based on a thorough review, staff recommends selection of the following proposed projects for the three program areas:

- **Program Area #1: Resilient Home Retrofits** – Staff recommends awarding contracts with Association for Energy Affordability for a total amount not to exceed \$83,334, BlocPower for a total amount not to exceed \$83,333, and Northern California Land Trust for a total not to exceed \$83,333, with a combined total amount for all three contracts not to exceed \$250,000. These proposed programs will focus on building decarbonization improvements that enhance resilience, support occupants and reduce greenhouse gas emissions for low-income residents. The recommended organizations were selected for their ability to leverage additional funds, address priorities and needs identified by local low-income community members, and integrate electrification and energy efficiency measures with other income-qualified housing improvement programs. For Program Area 1, an RFP process was conducted with the aim to establish a pool of contractors who could perform electrification retrofits. The selected proposers will request funding based on specific scopes of work for projects, which will be reviewed by the City.
- **Program Area #2: Electric Mobility Access Pilot** – Staff recommends awarding a contract with Waterside Workshops for an amount not to exceed \$250,000 to create an electric bike (e-bike) loan program for income-qualified Berkeley households, and a youth education and workforce training program on e-bikes that will service the e-bike loans and provide training for high-road job opportunities. Waterside Workshop was selected for its strong track record in the community, partnership with GRID Alternatives, leveraging of other funding and program aspects, and its proposed scope addressing both mobility and workforce benefits.
- **Program Area #3: Community Access to Resilience Measures and Electrification Engagement Pilot** – Staff recommends awarding a contract with the Ecology Center for an amount not to exceed \$100,000 to conduct engagement of low-income Berkeley residents on climate change and provide resources for resilience for low-income residents. The Ecology Center was selected for its strong track record in the community, proposed partnerships with other Berkeley community organizations, and scope to elevate the voices of under-represented voices in climate and resilience, pilot and build capacity in local community organizations, and increase access to information and equipment for climate resilience and electrification efforts.

The Climate Equity Fund Pilot is a Strategic Plan Priority Project, advancing our goal to create a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city and be a global leader in

addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment.

### BACKGROUND

On July 27, 2021 the City Council approved the “Resolution Establishing a Pilot Climate Equity Action Fund,” and on June 29, 2021 the City Council approved a budget item for FY21-22 of \$600,000 for climate equity programs to promote building and transportation electrification for low-income residents. On May 26, 2021 the Berkeley Energy Commission unanimously approved a recommendation to create a Climate Equity Action Fund, designate a process for making funding decisions, and appropriate \$600,000 to create a pilot test.

Building on the Electric Mobility Roadmap (approved by Council on July 21, 2020) and the Berkeley Existing Building Electrification Strategy (approved by Council on November 30, 2021), Berkeley established the Climate Equity Fund Pilot Programs to ensure that all community members can transition to a fossil fuel-free future and benefit from clean and affordable energy, healthy, safe and comfortable homes, and a carbon neutral transportation system that supports walking, biking and public transportation.

The Office of Energy and Sustainable Development conducted extensive interviews with over two dozen community organizations as part of a community needs assessment to better understand the needs and priorities of the community related to building and transportation electrification and resilience. Berkeley Energy Commissioners provided input on the Climate Equity Fund Pilot Programs on July 28, 2021 and September 22, 2021. At these meetings, staff discussed the proposed work plan and timeline and shared community feedback from the community needs assessment. Commissioners provided feedback on funding categories and the distribution of funding among project areas. They recommended prioritizing projects that maximize the number of community members served, and as a result of that feedback, staff added that as an evaluation criterion for the RFP. Staff also received valuable feedback on proposed program areas and funding categories from the FITES Committee on October 6, 2021, including the recommendation to prioritize projects that leverage resources from other programs, which staff added as an evaluation criterion for the RFP. Staff consulted with other City Departments and Divisions, as well as external partners serving low-income communities to determine program areas for the Climate Equity Fund Pilot Programs RFP that would align with and leverage existing programs.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

This funding focuses on low-income communities who are often hit first and worst by climate change and its impacts. These contracts will further advance the City’s climate and resilience goals and demonstrate the City’s commitment to a Just Transition framework. Specifically, they will foster both greenhouse gas emission reductions and health benefits by helping our community transition away from fossil fuels to clean

electricity in the building and transportation sectors, and strengthen community resilience to adapt to the impacts of climate change all while building a workforce focused on clean energy solutions.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The contracts directly respond to the goals set forth in the Council-adopted Electric Mobility Roadmap and Existing Buildings Electrification Strategy. Funding these projects will help the City of Berkeley implement the Climate Action Plan and the Resilience Strategy, be responsive to the Declaration of a Climate Emergency and Just Transition framework, and help Berkeley to become a fossil fuel-free community.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

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Billi Romain, Manager, Office of Energy & Sustainable Development, Planning Department, 510-981-7432

Attachments:

1. Resolution: Association for Energy Affordability
2. Resolution: BlocPower
3. Resolution: Ecology Center
4. Resolution: Northern California Land Trust
5. Resolution: Waterside Workshops

Links:

RFP issued 12/3/21: [https://www.cityofberkeley.info/uploadedFiles/Finance/Level\\_3 - General/22-11488-C%20-%20CEF\\_RFP\\_20211129%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.cityofberkeley.info/uploadedFiles/Finance/Level_3_-_General/22-11488-C%20-%20CEF_RFP_20211129%20(1).pdf)

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: ASSOCIATION FOR ENERGY AFFORDABILITY FOR CLIMATE EQUITY  
FUND PILOT PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has determined that supporting building and transportation electrification programs and provide climate and resilience benefits to low-income Berkeley residents is a priority; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley released a Request for Proposals on December 3, 2021 (Specification No. 22-11488-C); and

WHEREAS, a selection committee reviewed the proposals and determined that Association for Energy Affordability, BlocPower, and Northern California Land Trust were the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 1 – Resilient Home Retrofits for a cumulative amount not-to-exceed \$250,000; Waterside Workshops was the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 2 - Electric Mobility Access Pilot for an amount not-to-exceed \$250,000; and the Ecology Center was the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 3 - Community Access to Resilience Measures and Electrification Engagement Pilot for an amount not-to-exceed \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the contracted service of an amount for all three Program Areas not-to-exceed \$600,000 is covered by budget code 017-53-583-611-0000-000-441-612990; and

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2009, the Berkeley City Council adopted the Berkeley Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% of Berkeley's 2000 emissions level; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2016, the City of Berkeley released its Resilience Strategy; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2019, Berkeley City Council adopted a Prohibition of Natural Gas Infrastructure in New Buildings (BMC Chapter 12.80); and

WHEREAS, on November 30, 2021, Berkeley City Council adopted the Berkeley Existing Buildings Electrification Strategy; and

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2021, the Berkeley City Council adopted the commitment to a Just Transition from the Fossil Fuel Economy to ensure that all Berkeleyans have access to good paying jobs and equitable living standards free from the fossil fuel economy; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley's Strategic Plan sets the goal of being a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to award contracts and execute any amendments, extensions, or change orders with Association for Energy Affordability for an amount not to exceed \$83,334, for the period of May 1, 2022 to May 31, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a record signature copy of said contract and any amendments will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: BLOCPower FOR CLIMATE EQUITY FUND PILOT PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has determined that supporting building and transportation electrification programs and provide climate and resilience benefits to low-income Berkeley residents is a priority; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley released a Request for Proposals on December 3, 2021 (Specification No. 22-11488-C); and

WHEREAS, a selection committee reviewed the proposals and determined that Association for Energy Affordability, BlocPower, and Northern California Land Trust were the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 1 – Resilient Home Retrofits for a cumulative amount not-to-exceed \$250,000; Waterside Workshops was the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 2 - Electric Mobility Access Pilot for an amount not-to-exceed \$250,000; and the Ecology Center was the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 3 - Community Access to Resilience Measures and Electrification Engagement Pilot for an amount not-to-exceed \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the contracted service of an amount for all three Program Areas not-to-exceed \$600,000 is covered by budget code 017-53-583-611-0000-000-441-612990; and

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2009, the Berkeley City Council adopted the Berkeley Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% of Berkeley's 2000 emissions level; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2016, the City of Berkeley released its Resilience Strategy; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2019, Berkeley City Council adopted a Prohibition of Natural Gas Infrastructure in New Buildings (BMC Chapter 12.80); and

WHEREAS, on November 30, 2021, Berkeley City Council adopted the Berkeley Existing Buildings Electrification Strategy; and

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2021, the Berkeley City Council adopted the commitment to a Just Transition from the Fossil Fuel Economy to ensure that all Berkeleyans have access to good paying jobs and equitable living standards free from the fossil fuel economy; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley's Strategic Plan sets the goal of being a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to award contracts and execute any amendments, extensions, or change orders with BlocPower for an amount not to exceed \$83,333, for the period of May 1, 2022 to May 31, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a record signature copy of said contract and any amendments will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.



RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: THE ECOLOGY CENTER FOR CLIMATE EQUITY FUND PILOT PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has determined that supporting building and transportation electrification programs and provide climate and resilience benefits to low-income Berkeley residents is a priority; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley released a Request for Proposals on December 3, 2021 (Specification No. 22-11488-C); and

WHEREAS, a selection committee reviewed the proposals and determined that Association for Energy Affordability, BlocPower, and Northern California Land Trust were the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 1 – Resilient Home Retrofits for a cumulative amount not-to-exceed \$250,000; Waterside Workshops was the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 2 - Electric Mobility Access Pilot for an amount not-to-exceed \$250,000; and the Ecology Center was the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 3 - Community Access to Resilience Measures and Electrification Engagement Pilot for an amount not-to-exceed \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the contracted service of an amount for all three Program Areas not-to-exceed \$600,000 is covered by budget code 017-53-583-611-0000-000-441-612990; and

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2009, the Berkeley City Council adopted the Berkeley Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% of Berkeley's 2000 emissions level; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2016, the City of Berkeley released its Resilience Strategy; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2019, Berkeley City Council adopted a Prohibition of Natural Gas Infrastructure in New Buildings (BMC Chapter 12.80); and

WHEREAS, on November 30, 2021, Berkeley City Council adopted the Berkeley Existing Buildings Electrification Strategy; and

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2021, the Berkeley City Council adopted the commitment to a Just Transition from the Fossil Fuel Economy to ensure that all Berkeleyans have access to good paying jobs and equitable living standards free from the fossil fuel economy; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley's Strategic Plan sets the goal of being a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to award contracts and execute any amendments, extensions, or change orders with the Ecology Center for an amount not to exceed \$100,000, for the period of May 1, 2022 to May 31, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a record signature copy of said contract and any amendments will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: NORTHERN CALIFORNIA LAND TRUST FOR CLIMATE EQUITY FUND  
PILOT PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has determined that supporting building and transportation electrification programs and provide climate and resilience benefits to low-income Berkeley residents is a priority; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley released a Request for Proposals on December 3, 2021 (Specification No. 22-11488-C); and

WHEREAS, a selection committee reviewed the proposals and determined that Association for Energy Affordability, BlocPower, and Northern California Land Trust were the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 1 – Resilient Home Retrofits for a cumulative amount not-to-exceed \$250,000; Waterside Workshops was the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 2 - Electric Mobility Access Pilot for an amount not-to-exceed \$250,000; and the Ecology Center was the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 3 - Community Access to Resilience Measures and Electrification Engagement Pilot for an amount not-to-exceed \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the contracted service of an amount for all three Program Areas not-to-exceed \$600,000 is covered by budget code 017-53-583-611-0000-000-441-612990; and

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2009, the Berkeley City Council adopted the Berkeley Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% of Berkeley's 2000 emissions level; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2016, the City of Berkeley released its Resilience Strategy; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2019, Berkeley City Council adopted a Prohibition of Natural Gas Infrastructure in New Buildings (BMC Chapter 12.80); and

WHEREAS, on November 30, 2021, Berkeley City Council adopted the Berkeley Existing Buildings Electrification Strategy; and

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2021, the Berkeley City Council adopted the commitment to a Just Transition from the Fossil Fuel Economy to ensure that all Berkeleyans have access to good paying jobs and equitable living standards free from the fossil fuel economy; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley's Strategic Plan sets the goal of being a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to award contracts and execute any amendments, extensions, or change orders with Northern California Land Trust for an amount not to exceed \$83,333, for the period of May 1, 2022 to May 31, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a record signature copy of said contract and any amendments will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: WATERSIDE WORKSHOPS FOR CLIMATE EQUITY FUND PILOT PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has determined that supporting building and transportation electrification programs and provide climate and resilience benefits to low-income Berkeley residents is a priority; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley released a Request for Proposals on December 3, 2021 (Specification No. 22-11488-C); and

WHEREAS, a selection committee reviewed the proposals and determined that Association for Energy Affordability, BlocPower, and Northern California Land Trust were the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 1 – Resilient Home Retrofits for a cumulative amount not-to-exceed \$250,000; Waterside Workshops was the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 2 - Electric Mobility Access Pilot for an amount not-to-exceed \$250,000; and the Ecology Center was the best qualified to provide the services needed for Program Area 3 - Community Access to Resilience Measures and Electrification Engagement Pilot for an amount not-to-exceed \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the contracted service of an amount for all three Program Areas not-to-exceed \$600,000 is covered by budget code 017-53-583-611-0000-000-441-612990; and

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2009, the Berkeley City Council adopted the Berkeley Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% of Berkeley's 2000 emissions level; and

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WHEREAS, on November 30, 2021, Berkeley City Council adopted the Berkeley Existing Buildings Electrification Strategy; and

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2021, the Berkeley City Council adopted the commitment to a Just Transition from the Fossil Fuel Economy to ensure that all Berkeleyans have access to good paying jobs and equitable living standards free from the fossil fuel economy; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley's Strategic Plan sets the goal of being a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to award contracts and execute any amendments, extensions, or change orders with Waterside Workshops for an amount not to exceed \$250,000, for the period of May 1, 2022 to May 31, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a record signature copy of said contract and any amendments will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.