



CITY OF BERKELEY **Council Special Meeting**



2026 Community Survey Results & Ballot Measure Considerations

March 17, 2026

Background & Purpose

- City Infrastructure Needs, Funding Options,

Community Engagement

- Draft Project Portfolio & Engagement

Community Survey

Presentation by Lake Research Partners

- Overview & Methodology
- Key Survey Findings

Next Steps & Timelines

- Illustrative Timeline & Ballot Measure Schedule

Recommended Actions

Council Discussion & Direction

Agenda



Above Image: Berkeley & East Bay Cityscape.

How Does the City Fund Infrastructure?

Permanent / Ongoing

General Fund

- ~\$3.03M per year
- ~\$9.9M for Streets

One-Time / Volatile

One-Time Revenues

- Property Transfer Tax (>\$16M)
- Interest Income ($\frac{1}{3}$ above \$6M)

Restricted by Use

Restricted Revenues

- Streets
- Sewer
- Stormwater
- Streetlights
- Marina

Voter-Approved

Local Measures

- Parcel Taxes (Parks, Measure FF – 2020 & 2024)
- Bonds (Measures M & TI)

External

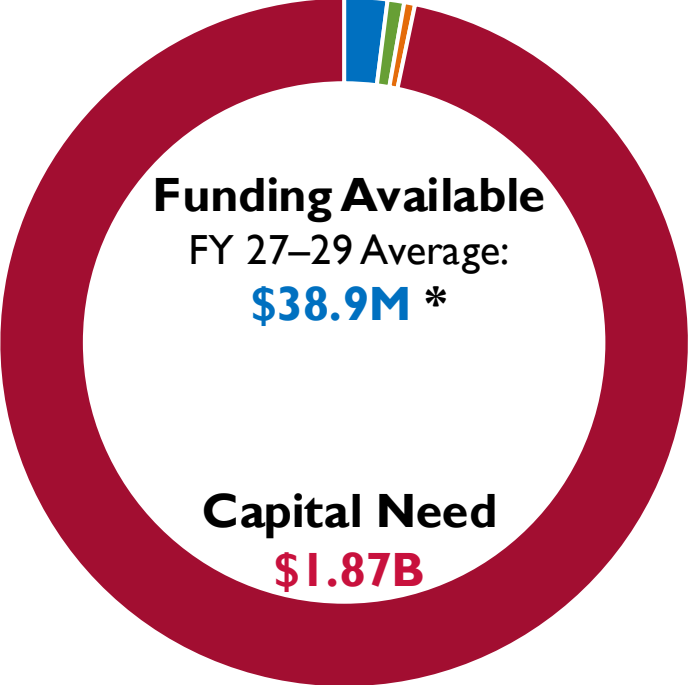
Grants

- Federal
- State
- Private

TI \$100M bond + leveraged \$83M grants = \$183M total

Annual funding is **not enough** to address infrastructure and deferred maintenance. Reliance on **one-time, restricted, and voter-approved sources** makes long-term planning difficult.

Current funding covers just ~2% of need, leaving a 98% structural shortfall.



* \$38.9M reflects General Fund, one-time, and restricted revenues, Measure FF & TI Spend down Projections not included in this amount.

*NOTE AMOUNTS ARE ESTIMATES	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Available Funding	\$40,998,776.00	\$37,727,476.00	\$36,664,976.00
Anticipated FF Funds	\$15,000,000.00	\$15,000,000.00	\$15,000,000.00
Projected TI Spend down	\$12,001,652.00	\$7,649,576.00	\$0.00
Capital & Maint. Need	\$1,831,954,652.58	\$1,868,593,745.63	\$1,905,965,620.54

Infrastructure Funding Gaps



Above Image: City of Berkeley Capital Projects Team



How projects* were evaluated and prioritized:

Community use and equity

- *Is there equitable community benefit?*

Geographic balance

- *Are projects fairly distributed across districts?*

Public health and safety

- *Does the project improve safety or well-being?*

Infrastructure resilience

- *Will the investment deliver long-term value?*

Deliverability and readiness

- *Is the project ready to move forward?*

External funding potential

- *Can the project leverage grants or other funding?*

*Applied within a **\$100M per-category cap** (\$300M total).

Project Portfolio



Above Images: Veterans Building Current State (top) & Interior Rendering with repair and programming possibilities (bottom)

Community Facilities & Quality of Life

Parks, playgrounds, restrooms, aquatics, dog parks, community/cultural centers and waterfront improvements.

Public Safety

Fire station modernization and critical upgrades to essential emergency-response facilities.

Critical Infrastructure & Accessibility

Core systems and facilities that require seismic replacements or repairs – public facilities improvements, ADA, 50/50 program sidewalk projects.

Project Themes





2026 Community Survey Presentation by Lake Research Partners

January – March 2026 Engagement:

- 6 City Commissions
- 4 Community Focus Groups
- 4 Joint District Community Meetings
- 1 City webpage & email for collecting feedback

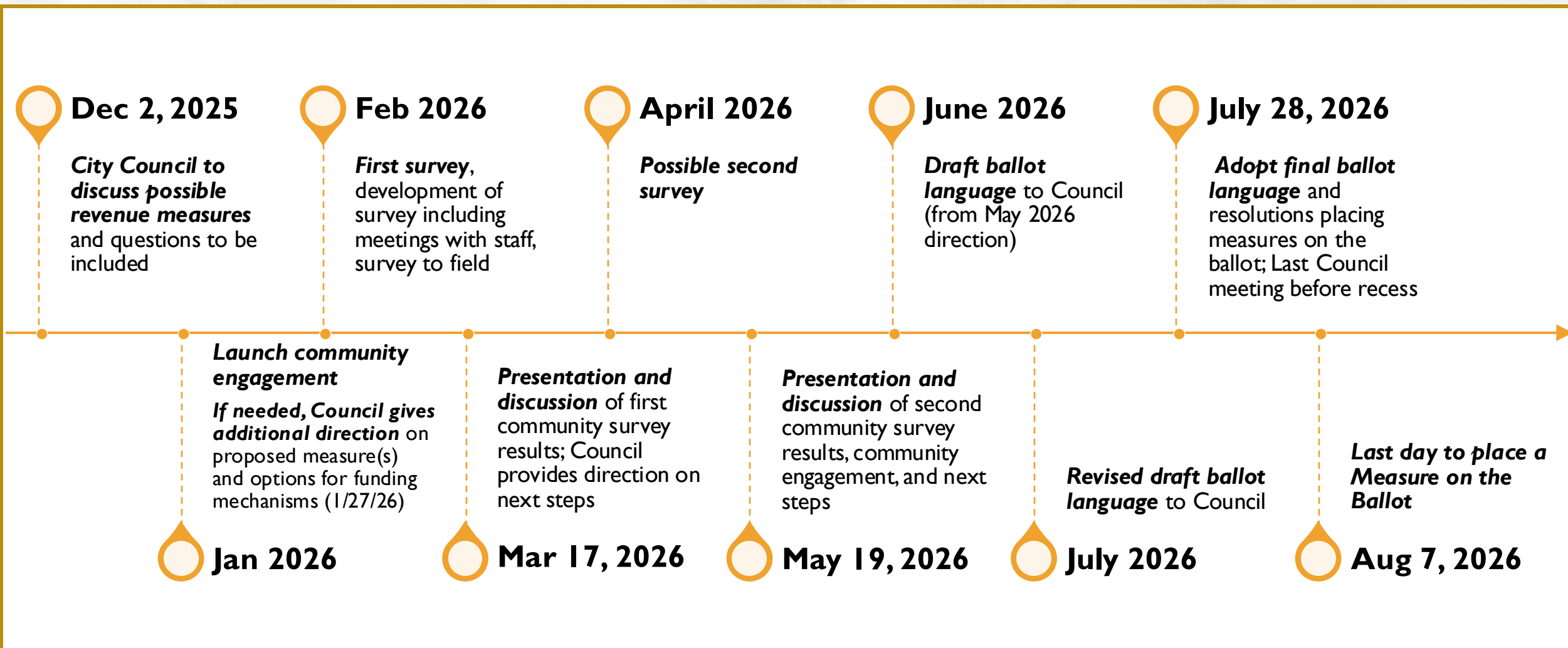


Community Engagement



Above Image: QR Code for the City of Berkeley Infrastructure Project Webpage.

Illustrative Timeline



Recommended Actions

- **Prepare draft ballot language for a \$300M General Obligation Bond** to fund priority infrastructure investments
- **Prepare draft ballot language for a 0.5% Sales Tax increase to address the City's projected structural deficit** and support essential services
- **Authorize a second voter survey to test refined ballot language** for both measures in the context of the anticipated November 2026 ballot environment.



Above Image: Berkeley Ballot Drop-Box



Thank You!