



Igor Tregub, Councilmember District 4

Adena Ishii, Mayor

Terry Taplin, Councilmember District 2

Shoshana O'Keefe, Councilmember District 5

CONSENT CALENDAR

MAY 19, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Igor Tregub (Author), Mayor Adena Ishii (Co-Sponsor), Shoshana O'Keefe (Co-Sponsor), and Terry Taplin (Co-Sponsor)

Subject: Berkeley Rotary Endowment Education and Community Welfare Support: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds from General Funds and Grant of Such Funds to Berkeley Rotary Endowment

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$500 per Councilmember from the D13 Discretionary Accounts of members of the Berkeley City Council, including contributions of \$250 from Mayor Ishii and Councilmembers O'Keefe, Taplin, and Tregub, and inviting other members of the City Council to contribute to the Berkeley Rotary Endowment with funds relinquished to the City's general fund.

The relinquished funds will help the Berkeley Rotary Endowment to raise funds for their RotaCare Health Clinic, 4-year collegiate scholarship program, supportive housing and hygiene kit programs. In previous years, funds were raised in tandem with and through the Taste of Downtown Berkeley event.

BACKGROUND

Since its 2023 pilot, the Berkeley Rotary Endowment in partnership with the Downtown Berkeley Association has been hosting an annual Taste of Downtown Berkeley event to help raise awareness and funding for a variety of community-serving programs, including health clinic, supportive housing services, and scholarship initiatives at the Taste of Downtown Berkeley events. Over 200 tasters per year have cumulatively raised nearly \$65,000. These contributions have a positive and tangible impact on our

community. Every \$1,000 supports one month of hygiene kits and warm clothing for those in need; and \$6,000 supports a scholarship for one student for a year of a 4-year college.

Currently, scholarship program supports 14 low-income students from Berkeley High School. In Fall 2026, the Berkeley Community Scholars' High Hopes Scholarship will be increased from up to \$4,000 annually to \$6,000 annually. These scholarships are available to senior students attending any high school in Berkeley. In addition, for financial contributions, in partnership with Berkeley Community Scholars, Berkeley Rotary provides mentoring for these students.

This year, the Berkeley Rotary elected to switch to a biennial Taste of Downtown Berkeley event, to create a more robust event with increased visibility for local businesses, and higher fiscal impact for local community.

FISCAL IMPACTS

No General Fund impact. Funds are available from contributing Councilmembers' Council Office Budget discretionary accounts.

CONTACT

Councilmember Tregub, 510-981-7140, itregub@berkeleyca.gov

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution

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

**AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE
EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF MEMBERS OF THE BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL FOR A
GRANT TO SUPPORT BERKELEY ROTARY ENDOWMENT AND ITS ONGOING
COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING**

WHEREAS, the mission of Rotary International is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders; and

WHEREAS, since Taste of Downtown Berkeley's 2023 pilot, over 200 tasters per year have cumulatively raised about \$63,000 for the Rotary Club's community programs, including health clinic, supportive housing services, and scholarship initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley Rotary's fundraising contributions provide our community with tangible impacts, such as hygiene kits and warm clothing for those in need and scholarships for college students.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by the Mayor and Councilmembers from their discretionary office budgets, up to \$500 per office, shall be granted to the Berkeley Rotary Endowment with proceeds serving the public good and local students.

