



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 28, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager
Submitted by: Scott Ferris, Director, Parks Recreation & Waterfront
Subject: Purchase Order: One Workplace Inc. for furniture and equipment for the MLK Jr. Youth Services Center and other Community Centers

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to issue purchase orders with One Workplace Inc. for the purchase of furniture and equipment for the MLK Jr. Youth Services Center and other community centers using the Omnia Partners Contract No. 2019.001899, R221104, and R240103 for an amount not to exceed \$300,000 through June 30, 2027, with the option of one (1) single-year extension if the Omnia contract is extended.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Funding is available in the Parks Tax Fund. No other funding is required, and no other projects will be delayed due to this expenditure.

Funding

Parks Tax Fund.....	\$300,000
Total funding	\$300,000

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Department has multiple renovation projects and needs to purchase furniture and equipment for offices, community rooms, recreation programs, and community centers. One Workplace Inc. utilizes Omnia Partners agreements which give the benefit of economy of scale for purchasing furnishings and equipment.

BACKGROUND

The construction contract for the MLK Jr. Youth Services Center/Y.A.P. Seismic Retrofit and Renovation Project at 1730 Oregon Street was approved on June 3, 2025 by the City Council. While construction is ongoing, the Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Department is seeking vendors to provide furniture and equipment for the offices, community rooms, recreation programs, and other community centers.

The City currently has an existing blanket PO with Blaisdell's Business Products for the purchase of miscellaneous office supplies, small equipment and office furniture. Blaisdell's offers the City competitive prices, by piggybacking off of Omnia Partners agreements. Omnia Partners is a cooperative purchasing organization serving state, local, and educational agencies. By piggybacking off of cooperative agreements, the City can secure furnishings and equipment at the most advantageous prices.

The Blaisdell's contract is not of sufficient size and does not include all the products that are needed for current renovation projects. One Workplace Inc. offers a larger variety of products and provides the City the same competitive prices by piggybacking on Omnia Partners agreements. Working with One Workplace Inc. enables the City to work with one company, rather than several, making it more efficient to track budgets and purchases.

Purchase order with One Workplace Inc. will piggyback on the following contract awards:

- Omnia Partners Contract 2019.001899 awarded by the University of California. The agreement provides access to the full Steelcase community of brands, including AMQ and Smith System. It covers an expansive range of furnishings and solutions for government, K-12 education, and higher education environments, including seating, desks, tables, storage, accessories, and architectural and space-division products.
- Omnia Partners Contract R240103, which is a competitively solicited agreement for "Furniture, Installation, and Related Services" awarded by the Region 4 Education Service Center (ESC). The agreement covers a wide range of products, including tables, benching environments, steel desks and storage, laminate and wood casegoods, seating, ergonomic products, and accessories.
- Omnia Partners Contract R221104, which is a competitively solicited agreement for "Wall System Solutions" awarded by the Region 4 Education Service Center (ESC). The agreement includes a range of wall and divider solutions, including movable, acoustic, partition, and special/designer systems. Specific product categories include room dividers, desk dividers, wall coverings, architectural solutions, and acoustic baffles.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

On November 18, 2025, the City Council issued Resolution No. 72,030-N.S. authorizing the City Manager to issue purchase orders for miscellaneous office supplies, small equipment, and office furniture using Omnia Partners contracts as the best sourcing method since it would afford the City cost savings derived from the economies of scale of a large purchasing consortium. The evaluation remains relevant and applies to this project.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

Omnia Partners awarded the contracts through RFPs and criteria considering factors like green initiatives and social diversity efforts to assess proposers' responsiveness and responsibility. Moreover, One Workplace Inc. seamlessly incorporates environmental sustainability into its daily operations and client services through its corporate strategy, educational programs, and product lifecycle management. Its "One Planet" program offers valuable training for designers, partners, and customers within the architecture and design community. The company is dedicated to reducing its carbon footprint and waste by focusing on reuse, refurbishment, and strategic decommissioning of furniture to minimize landfill contributions. It has also formed an ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) Advisory Board, an employee-led group that champions environmental stewardship by emphasizing environmental justice, promoting healthy products, and reducing furniture waste. Their careful selection of sustainable products highlights their strong commitment, including a pledge to achieve a "70% Reduced Carbon Vendor Commitment," and they've earned a commendable EcoVadis Sustainability Rating.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The alternative considered was to conduct a formal bid solicitation. However, after researching the market and assessing departmental needs, the City would need to issue multiple bid solicitations. It was found that the costs and risks of issuing RFPs outweigh the benefits of piggybacking on the Omnia Partners Contracts. A City RFP, on its own, will not improve pricing due to a lack of economies of scale, and would impact the timeliness of securing the furnishings and equipment upon completion of the renovation projects.

CONTACT PERSON

Scott Ferris, Director, Parks Recreation & Waterfront, 981-6700

Evelyn Chan, Supervising Civil Engineer, Parks Recreation & Waterfront, 981-6430

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

PURCHASE ORDER: ONE WORKPLACE INC. FOR FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE MLK JR. YOUTH SERVICE CENTER AND OTHER COMMUNITY CENTERS

WHEREAS, the City must purchase furniture and equipment for the offices, community rooms, recreation programs, and community centers, including the MLK Jr. Youth Services Center/Y.A.P. Seismic Retrofit and Renovation Project currently in construction; and

WHEREAS, the Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Department has multiple renovation projects; and

WHEREAS, City Council Resolution No. 72,030-N.S. authorized the City Manager to issue purchase orders for miscellaneous office supplies, small equipment, and office furniture using an Omnia Partners cooperative agreement Contract No. R190301 as the best sourcing method; and

WHEREAS, Omnia Partners Contract No. 2019.001899, R221104, and R240103 allows the City to secure furniture and equipment at pricing utilizing economies of scale from other RFPs; and

WHEREAS, funding is available in the Parks Tax Fund (Fund 138).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager, or designee, is authorized to issue purchase orders with One Workplace Inc. for the purchase of furniture and equipment for the offices, community rooms, recreation programs, and community centers, using the Omnia Partners Contracts No. 2019.001899, R221104, and R240103 for an amount not to exceed \$300,000 through June 30, 2027, with the option of a one (1) year extension if the Omnia contracts are extended.