



CONSENT CALENDAR

July 28, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Ben Bartlett (Author), Councilmember Igor Tregub (co-sponsor), and Mayor Adena Ishii (co-sponsor)

Subject: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds from General Funds and Grant of Such Funds to Support the Citywide Berkeley School Supply Distribution & Resource Fair

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$200 per Councilmember from the D13 Discretionary Accounts of members of the Berkeley City Council, including a contribution of \$200 from Councilmember Ben Bartlett, \$150 from Councilmember Igor Tregub, \$100 from Mayor Adena Ishii, and inviting additional Councilmembers to contribute, to support SupplyBank.org's Citywide Berkeley School Supply Giveaway & Resource Fair.

BACKGROUND:

For 16 consecutive years, SupplyBank.org has hosted the Citywide Berkeley School Supply Giveaway & Resource Fair at San Pablo Park, in partnership with Berkeley Unified School District's Office of Family Engagement and Equity, Covenant Church, and the Berkeley Public Schools Fund. The fair takes place annually on the weekend before the start of the school year.

The event serves more than 1,000 TK-12 students each year who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, as well as families experiencing poverty or homelessness across Berkeley. Families attend on a walk-up basis with no paperwork or appointment required.

Each child receives a grade-appropriate school supply kit, and families are connected

with City of Berkeley health and mental health resources and with more than 10 partner organizations that provide wraparound support. Kits are valued at \$55 to \$65 each, providing a value of more than double the cost.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley has fully funded the program for the past 15 years. Amid broader budget constraints, the City canceled funding for FY 26-27.

As a result, SupplyBank.org must now raise the full cost of the event, approximately \$30,000, from community donations and other sources to sustain a resource that Berkeley families have come to rely on for 16 uninterrupted years. Without additional support, the scale of supplies and wraparound resources available to families at the fair may be reduced.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY:

No negative impact.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

There is no impact on the General Fund; \$200 is available from Councilmember Ben Bartlett's discretionary council office budget of Councilmember Ben Bartlett.

CONTACT PERSON:

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ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Resolution
2. Berkeley School Supply Distribution & Resource Fair Event Flyer
3. Berkeley School Supply Distribution & Resource Fair Event Brief

Attachment 1:

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

**AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE
EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
FOR A DONATION TO SUPPLYBANK.ORG IN SUPPORT OF THE CITYWIDE
BERKELEY SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY & RESOURCE FAIR**

WHEREAS, Councilmember Ben Bartlett, Councilmember Igor Tregub, Mayor Adena Ishii, and other members of the Berkeley City Council have funds available in their respective Council Office Expense Accounts; and

WHEREAS, the Citywide Berkeley School Supply Distribution & Resource Fair, organized by SupplyBank.org in partnership with the Berkeley Unified School District Office of Family Engagement and Equity, Covenant Church, the Berkeley Public Schools Fund, and numerous community organizations, has served Berkeley families for 16 consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, they provide over 1,000 Berkeley students with the necessary materials to start their education off on the right foot, as well as connecting them with educational, health, mental health, and community resources to ensure they can be successful at school and beyond;

WHEREAS, due to budgetary issues, the city could not provide funding for the FY 2026-27 event, which left SupplyBank.org searching for ways to get support within the community to keep an important resource alive that many Berkeley families have used for over fifteen years;

WHEREAS, supporting access to school supplies and resources supports the city's goal to provide equitable education opportunities for its children, promote youth success, and improve the overall health and wellness of Berkeley children and families;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by the Mayor and Councilmembers from their office budgets, of an amount to be determined by each Councilmember, shall be granted to SupplyBank.org to support the Citywide Berkeley School Supply Distribution & Resource Fair.

[illegible]

Attachment 2:

Donate to the Citywide Berkeley School Supply Giveaway & Resource Fair!



For the past 16 years community organizations have come together to ensure all BUSD students have access to school supplies and other essential resources they need to be successful at school. This year, due to city budget constraints, we are turning to the community to help us keep this program alive.

Fundraising Goal of \$30,000 to:

- Ensure all low-income students in Berkeley have access to school supplies
- Continue an event that families have come to rely on
- Connect families with essential resources



Scan here to learn more and donate

**Supply
Bank.org**



**Covenant
CHURCH**

OFEE
Berkeley
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Berkeley Unified School District

Attachment 3:

2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, Floor 5, CA 94704 • Tel: (510) 981-7130 • E-Mail: bbartlett@cityofberkeley.info

Citywide Berkeley School Supply Distribution & Resource Fair Since 2010	Supply Bank.org	1,300+ students served annually	16 consecutive years	\$30k provides more than double the value in supplies
SupplyBank.org K to College Program				



Who We Serve	What Families Receive	Why This Investment
• All free/reduced-price meal eligible TK-12 BUSD students • Families experiencing poverty and/or homelessness across Berkeley • Multilingual outreach via BUSD robo-call and mailing lists • Walk-up access — no paperwork required	• Grade-appropriate school supply kits (TK-12th grade) • Dental hygiene kits for every child • City of Berkeley health & mental health resources • Voter registration — Alameda County Registrar • 10+ partner orgs providing wraparound resources	• \$30,000 covers \$70,000 of supplies, kitting, shipping, permits, and other event fees • 16 uninterrupted years of service • Supplies in each kit are valued at \$55-\$65 • Berkeley's only one-stop back-to-school resource fair • Families have come to rely on this resource



Community Partners

