



[First Last name]
Councilmember Igor Tregub

SUPPLEMENTAL 3 AGENDA MATERIAL

Meeting Date:

Item Number: 20

Item Description: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds from General Funds and Grant of Such Funds to support of the Raising the Next Generation of Student Advocates (RISE) Program

Supplemental/Revision Submitted By: Igor Tregub

“Good of the City” Analysis:

The analysis below must demonstrate how accepting this supplement/revision is for the “good of the City” and outweighs the lack of time for citizen review or evaluation by the Council.

This supplemental item is for the good of the City because it enables the timely allocation of existing Council Office discretionary funds to support the Berkeley Public Schools Fund's Raising the Next Generation of Student Advocates (RISE) program, which promotes youth leadership, civic engagement, and educational equity for Berkeley students. Prompt approval will help ensure the program can continue providing critical mentorship, leadership development, and advocacy opportunities while meeting immediate student needs, particularly for young people facing significant economic, personal, and systemic challenges.

Summary of Changes:

- Added Mayor Adena Ishii and Councilmember Ben Bartlett as co-sponsors
- Added a resolution

Consideration of supplemental or revised agenda material is subject to approval by a two-thirds vote of the City Council. (BMC 2.06.070)

A minimum of **42 copies** must be submitted to the City Clerk for distribution at the Council meeting. This completed cover page must accompany every copy.

Copies of the supplemental/revised agenda material may be delivered to the City Clerk Department by 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Copies that are ready after 12:00 p.m. must be delivered directly to the City Clerk at Council Chambers prior to the start of the meeting.

Supplements or Revisions submitted pursuant to BMC § 2.06.070 may only be revisions of the original report included in the Agenda Packet.



Igor Tregub

**Berkeley City Councilmember
District 4**

2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor

Berkeley, CA 94704

510-981-7140

itregub@berkeleyca.gov

CONSENT CALENDAR

July 14th, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

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

Subject: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds from General Funds and
Grant of Such Funds to support of the Raising the Next Generation of
Student Advocates (RISE) Program

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$250 per Councilmember from the D13 Discretionary Accounts of members of the Berkeley City Council, including a contribution of \$250 from Councilmember Igor Tregub, \$100 from Mayor Ishii, and \$250 from Councilmember Ben Bartlett, and inviting additional Councilmembers to contribute, to support the Berkeley Public Schools Fund's RISE (Raising the Next Generation of Student Advocates) program.

BACKGROUND

The Berkeley Public Schools Fund RISE (Raising the Next Generation of Student Advocates) program supports youth leadership, civic engagement, and student advocacy initiatives across Berkeley schools, with a strong focus on equity and access for students who have historically been underserved.

The program provides students many of whom are first-generation youth going to college, low-income students, and students navigating significant personal and systemic challenges, with opportunities to develop leadership skills, elevate student voice, and participate in meaningful projects that strengthen their schools and communities.

Through mentorship, advocacy training, and student-led initiatives, RISE helps young people build confidence, civic awareness, and practical leadership experience, while fostering pathways for long-term educational and personal success.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The RISE program operates without a dedicated budget line for program expenses and does not have stable or sufficient funding to support basic student-facing needs. As a result, program staff and students rely on informal fundraising and outside contributions to sustain programming and cover essential costs.

Even modest expenses, such as graduation recognition materials, cannot be covered through program funds and must instead be covered by students. For example, students were required to fundraise for graduation sashes totaling \$595.76 for 30 sashes due to the absence of allocated program funding.

This lack of consistent funding places ongoing strain on both students and staff. Many of the youth served by the program are facing significant life challenges, including housing instability, loss of family support, and other traumatic circumstances. Despite this, the program serves as a critical source of stability, mentorship, and support.

Without additional resources, RISE is limited in its ability to consistently provide student leadership opportunities, recognition, and basic program support aligned with its mission.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No impact to the General Fund. Contributions of up to \$250 per participating members of the Berkeley City Council will come from existing Council Office Budget discretionary accounts.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Igor Tregub | itregub@berkeleyca.gov | 510-981-7140
Olga Bolotina | Chief of Staff, Council District 4 | obolotina@berkeleyca.gov
Shamaila Ahmed | Legislative Aide | sahmed@berkeleyca.gov

Attachments

- Resolution

**APPROVING THE RELINQUISHMENT OF COUNCIL OFFICE BUDGET FUNDS
FROM COUNCILMEMBERS' D13 DISCRETIONARY ACCOUNTS TO SUPPORT THE
BERKELEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FUND'S RAISING THE NEXT GENERATION OF
STUDENT ADVOCATES (RISE) PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, The Berkeley Public Schools Fund's Raising the Next Generation of Student Advocates (RISE) program promotes youth leadership, civic engagement, and student advocacy opportunities for Berkeley students, with a particular focus on advancing equity and expanding opportunities for historically underserved youth; and

WHEREAS, The RISE program provides students, including first-generation college-bound students, low-income students, and students facing significant personal and systemic barriers, with mentorship, leadership development, advocacy training, and opportunities to participate in projects that strengthen their schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, Through its programming, RISE equips students with the skills, confidence, and civic awareness necessary to become effective leaders and engaged members of their communities while supporting their long-term educational and personal success; and

WHEREAS, The RISE program currently operates without a dedicated budget for program expenses and lacks stable funding sufficient to support basic student-facing needs and program activities; and

WHEREAS, Program staff and students have been required to rely on fundraising and outside contributions to cover essential program costs, including graduation recognition materials and other expenses that celebrate and support student achievement; and

WHEREAS, Students participating in the program have previously been required to fundraise to cover the cost of graduation sashes and other recognition items due to the absence of dedicated program funding; and

WHEREAS, Many students served by the RISE program experience significant challenges, including housing instability, financial hardship, and other barriers, making the mentorship, advocacy, and supportive community provided by the program especially valuable; and

WHEREAS, Providing financial support for youth leadership and civic engagement programs is consistent with the City of Berkeley's longstanding commitment to educational opportunity, youth empowerment, equity, and civic participation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Council approves the expenditure of an amount not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per participating Councilmember from each participating Councilmember's D13 Discretionary Account to support the Berkeley Public Schools Fund's Raising the Next Generation of Student Advocates (RISE) program.