



Brent Blackaby  
Councilmember District 6

CONSENT CALENDAR  
April 29, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
 From: Councilmember Blackaby (Author), Councilmember Tregub (Co-Sponsor)  
 Subject: Adding ADA expertise to the SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee

RECOMMENDATION

Approve an amendment to the Measure FF SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee (SSCOC) Resolution and Ordinance approved for establishment at the March 18, 2025 Council Meeting, to add an additional qualifying skillset for appointment: a background in ADA compliance and the accessible infrastructure challenges that seniors and disabled community members face.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On March 18, 2025 City Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 71,695–N.S. to support the establishment of a SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee (SSCOC), and authorized the City Manager to further implement Section 7.11.040 of City Ordinance 7,952-N.S, to ensure compliance with all requirements. Councilmember Blackaby stated at the meeting his interest in ensuring one of the SSCOC members have a background in ADA compliance and the accessible infrastructure challenges that seniors and disabled community members face and that he would bring an amendment to a near future meeting to do so.

Measure FF, approved by Berkeley residents on November 5, 2025, stated the SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee members must have a background in one of the following:

- civil engineering
- transportation engineering
- infrastructure program management
- implementation of municipal bond or tax measures

However, it is also critical that at least one SSCOC member have a background in ADA compliance and the accessible infrastructure challenges that seniors and disabled community members face to ensure accessible infrastructure development for all.

This item amends BMC 7.11.040 SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee to add expertise in ADA compliance and a background in senior and disability issues to the list of backgrounds necessary to be appointed to the SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee. The amended language of BMC 7.11.040 B. 2. shall read, "...Members of the public shall be required to have a background in civil engineering, transportation engineering, infrastructure program management, the implementation of municipal bond or tax measures, or ADA compliance and the accessible infrastructure challenges that seniors and disabled community members face."

This item also amends the Resolution to reflect the additional expertise requirement to the SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee.

Measure FF amendments can be made to the Ordinance without voter approval, per Section 7. of the Measure, under special circumstances, including changes that do not "reduce the public input, oversight, and accountability processes set forth in section 7.11.040 and 7.11.050."

Amending the Measure FF Ordinance to require additional expertise for Oversight Committee members does not reduce public input, oversight and accountability, rather it enshrines input representing our senior and disabled communities.

### BACKGROUND

On November 5, 2025, Berkeley residents voted for Measure FF: Sidewalk and Street Repairs Parcel Tax with 60% approval. The Measure calls for a Safe Streets Citizen Oversight Committee to help oversee funding for city streets, sidewalks, pedestrian paths, and stormwater management.

On March 18, 2025, Public Works Director Terrance Davis put forward, Council Item #7, [Establishing a Measure FF SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee](#). Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 71,695–N.S.,

1. Establishing a SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee (SSCOC) to review expenditures and progress reports from the City Manager and City Auditor to ensure compliance with the intent of Measure FF, evaluating the impacts and outcomes of tax expenditures on stated goals and prepare public reports on the Committee's findings; and
2. Authorizing the City Manager to further implement Section 7.11.040 of City Ordinance 7,952-N.S., to ensure compliance with all requirements.

Requirements for establishing the SSCOC through Council Resolution are explicitly laid out in Section 7.11.040 of City Ordinance 7,952-N.S, with a specific membership composition detailed in Section 7.11.040 (B):

- B. Composition:
1. The SSCOC shall consist of seven members, as follows:
    - a. Two members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission
    - b. One member of the Environment and Climate Commission
    - c. Four members of the public who are Berkeley residents
  2. SSCOC members from commissions shall be appointed by their respective bodies, and members of the public shall be appointed by the City Council as a whole. Members of the public shall be required to have a background in civil engineering, transportation engineering, infrastructure program management, or the implementation of municipal bond or tax measures.
  3. The SSCOC annually shall elect one of its members as the chairperson and one of its members as the vice-chairperson.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no environmental sustainability effects directly associated with the recommendations in this report.

#### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Input from the senior and disability communities.

#### ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Increasing the number of members from seven to eight so that one could be appointed from the Commission on Disabilities. However, the desire to keep the Commission at seven won over with the thought that the expertise can come from one of the four members of the public.

#### CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Brent Blackaby, (510) 981-7160

#### Attachments:

- 1: Resolution with Tracked Changes
- 2: Resolution Clean Copy
- 3: Ordinance Adding an Additional Qualifying Skillset for Appointment – Tracked
- 4: Ordinance Adding an Additional Qualifying Skillset for Appointment – Clean Copy

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

ESTABLISHING A MEASURE FF SAFE STREETS CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, Measure FF, also known as the known as the Sustainable and Accountable Funding for Equitable Street Transformation, Revitalization, Enhancements, and Essential Traffic Safety (SAFE STREETS) Initiative, was passed by voters on November 5, 2025 and adopted as Ordinance 7,952-N.S. on December 10, 2025, requires the establishment of the SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee (SSCOC) in Section 7.11.040; and

WHEREAS, Implementation of SAFE STREETS Initiative will be managed by the Department of Public Works in alignment with existing City Plans, as detailed in Ordinance 7,952-N.S.; and

WHEREAS, Requirements for establishing the SSCOC are explicitly laid out in Section 7.11.040 of City Ordinance 7,952-N.S, with a specific membership composition detailed in Section 7.11.040 (B).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Berkeley that the SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee is hereby created.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, According to Ordinance 7,952-N.S., Section 7.11.040 (B):

1. The SSCOC shall consist of seven members, as follows:
  - a. Two members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission
  - b. One member of the Environment and Climate Commission
  - c. Four members of the public who are Berkeley residents
2. SSCOC members from commissions shall be appointed by their respective bodies, and members of the public shall be appointed by the City Council as a whole. Members of the public shall be required to have a background in civil engineering, transportation engineering, infrastructure program management, ~~or~~ the implementation of municipal bond or tax measures, or ADA compliance and the accessible infrastructure challenges that seniors and disabled community members face.
3. The SSCOC annually shall elect one of its members as the chairperson and one of its members as the vice-chairperson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SSCOC is established to review expenditures and progress reports from the City Manager and City Auditor to ensure compliance with the intent of Measure FF, passed by voters on November 5, 2024, evaluating the impacts and outcomes of tax expenditures on stated goals and prepare public reports on the Committee's findings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee may make and alter rules governing its organization and procedures which are consistent with this Chapter or any other applicable ordinance or resolution of the City. A majority of the members appointed to the committee shall constitute a quorum and the affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed is required to take any action.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee shall prepare an annual independent report of progress and performance. Each report shall be made publicly available on the City's website and submitted to the City Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SSCOC shall sunset pursuant to BMC 7.11.030 and Section 7 of Ordinance 7,952-N.S.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if there are remaining funds or remaining reporting requirements after the completion of the SAFE STREETS implementation, completion of these requirements may be fulfilled by the SSCOC as a subcommittee to be absorbed by either the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission or the Environment and Climate Commission, or their successors, as deemed appropriate by the City Manager.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is authorized to further implement Section 7.11.040 of City Ordinance 7,952-N.S, to ensure compliance with all requirements.

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4. The SSCOC shall consist of seven members, as follows:
  - a. Two members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission
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5. SSCOC members from commissions shall be appointed by their respective bodies, and members of the public shall be appointed by the City Council as a whole. Members of the public shall be required to have a background in civil engineering, transportation engineering, infrastructure program management, the implementation of municipal bond or tax measures, or ADA compliance and the accessible infrastructure challenges that seniors and disabled community members face.
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Exhibits

A: Ordinance 7,952-N.S, SAFE STREETS Initiative (Adopted December 10, 2024)

## ORDINANCE NO. X,XXX-N.S.

ADDING AN ADDITIONAL QUALIFYING SKILLSET FOR APPOINTMENT TO MEASURE FF SAFE STREETS CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (SSCOC); AMENDING BERKELEY MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 7.11.040

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Berkeley as follows:

Section 1. That Berkeley Municipal Code Section 7.11.040 is amended to read as follows:

**7.11.040 SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee**

A. The City Council shall establish a SAFE STREETS Citizen Oversight Committee (SSCOC) to review expenditures and progress reports from the City Manager and City Auditor to ensure compliance with the intent of this chapter, evaluate the impacts and outcomes of tax expenditures on this chapter's stated goals, and prepare public reports on the committee's findings.

B. Composition:

1. The SSCOC shall consist of seven members, as follows:
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2. SSCOC members from commissions shall be appointed by their respective bodies, and members of the public shall be appointed by the City Council as a whole. Members of the public shall be required to have a background in civil engineering, transportation engineering, infrastructure program management, ~~or~~ the implementation of municipal bond or tax measures, or ADA compliance and the accessible infrastructure challenges that seniors and disabled community members face.
3. The SSCOC annually shall elect one of its members as the chairperson and one of its members as the vice-chairperson.

C. The City Manager shall designate a staff person to serve as secretary of the committee.

D. The committee shall establish a regular place and time for meeting. All meetings shall be noticed as required by law and shall be scheduled in a way to allow for maximum input from the public. The frequency of committee meetings shall be as determined by City Council Resolution, but no less than four per year.

E. The committee may make and alter rules governing its organization and procedures which are consistent with this Chapter or any other applicable ordinance of the City. A majority of the members appointed to the committee shall constitute a quorum and the affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed is required to take any action.

F. The Committee shall prepare an annual independent report of progress and

performance. Each report shall be made publicly available on the City's website and submitted to the City Council.

Section 2. Copies of this Ordinance shall be posted for two days prior to adoption in the display case located near the walkway in front of the Maudelle Shirek Building, 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way. Within 15 days of adoption, copies of this Ordinance shall be filed at each branch of the Berkeley Public Library and the title shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation.

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