



Berkeley City Councilmember
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CONSENT CALENDAR

April 29, 2025

To: Members of the Berkeley City Council
From: Councilmember Mark Humbert (Author)
Subject: Defer \$150,000 referral for Round Park from Nov 2024 FY2025 AAO#1

RECOMMENDATION: Place a hold on or otherwise defer the FY2025 \$150,000 budget referral from the November 2024 AAO#1 budget, which set aside funding for initiating a process to potentially convert the median informally known as “Round Park” (and possibly other nearby medians) to an official City park in District 8.

FISCAL IMPACT: None or net positive for FY2025. The \$150,000 in funds for the potential Round Park public engagement and planning process were allocated but not spent. This item seeks to defer that budget allocation while maintaining the referral among other outstanding referrals for consideration at a future budget, thereby freeing up \$150,000 for other immediate FY25 budget priorities.

BACKGROUND: City Council approved this \$150,000 allocation as part of its Fall 2024 Annual Appropriations Ordinance process for the FY2025 budget. The referral was initiated by Councilmember Humbert at the behest of neighbors who wished to explore this project. The budget allocation was approved at the November 19, 2024 meeting.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS: Subsequent input from neighbors revealed insufficient consensus existed for the City to move forward with further engagement and planning efforts. Additional discussion among neighbors and members of various neighborhood-level organizations is needed before the City considers next steps.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS: Since this proposal pauses a planning effort that was not yet underway, no environmental effects exist.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION: The Council would need to re-approve the allocation of these funds as part of a future budget adoption/action. Upon completion of consultant work, conceptual design, and public outreach, additional Council actions and City funding would be necessary to create final designs and begin physical improvements.

CONTACT PERSON

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