



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
October 28, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager
Submitted by: Scott Ferris, Director, Parks Recreation & Waterfront
Subject: Grant Application – Caltrans Clean CA Program – Community Cleanup and Employment Pathway (CCEP)

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to submit a grant application to the Clean CA Community Cleanup and Employment Pathway (CCEP) Grant Program; accept any grants; execute any resulting grant agreements and any amendments; and that Council authorize the implementation of the project and appropriation of funding for related expenses, subject to securing the grant.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The City will submit a grant proposal in the amount of \$200,000 to cover 10-20 youth participant hourly salary costs and program materials. In addition, local match for the grant will be provided in the form of up to 20% of existing FTE staff costs that administer the program. The grant performance period is from April 1, 2026, to April 30, 2027.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On September 8, 2025, Caltrans announced the Community Cleanup and Employment Pathway (CCEP) Grant funding opportunity with a submittal deadline of November 3, 2025. The CCEP program is a signature initiative under the Clean California Program, administered by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Through competitive grants, the program provides funding to local agencies to conduct targeted litter cleanup and graffiti removal activities, complemented by educational and engagement efforts that foster community pride and long-term maintenance.

The City's Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Department (YouthWorks Division) will submit a grant application for up to \$200,000 to operate a one-year program that will connect justice-impacted individuals, those experiencing homelessness, at-risk youth, and others with meaningful job training and paid transitional employment opportunities. Program activities will focus on litter and graffiti abatement, landscaping, and other beautification efforts in highly-impact public spaces in Berkeley, workforce development, equity and inclusion and sustainable community engagement.

BACKGROUND

The City’s Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Department provides programming activities for a wide range of youth, young adults, and families in the areas of academic tutoring, pre-school readiness programs for 0-5 and families, and recreation of all types. Part-time paid internships through YouthWorks offer Berkeley residents valuable work experience, training, professional development and career growth opportunities. YouthWorks aligns with the City of Berkeley’s commitment to racial equity, recognizing systemic barriers and working to expand access to education, employment, and self-sufficiency.

During the school year of 2024-2025, the YouthWorks Division ran a successful program that involved three cohorts of paid interns from Berkeley High School, Berkeley Technical Academy, and Berkeley City College. Interns engaged in a wide range of staff-led workshops that focused on health education and workforce development. Interns worked at health-based community organizations and focused on peer-to-peer mentoring as well as community outreach efforts. Each year, the PRW Department seeks to build on the success of the program and expand the YouthWorks program offerings to reach a larger number of local youth.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

The proposed expansion of the City’s outdoor education program will provide larger numbers of underserved residents with outdoor experiences that will enhance their stewardship of the environment. This program will help the City work on two long-term City of Berkeley Strategic Goals: 4. Champion and demonstrate social and racial equity, and 7. Be a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

This program will help the City to support litter abatement and public space beautification efforts while creating workforce development opportunities for individuals facing barriers to employment.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None

CONTACT PERSON

Scott Ferris, Director of Parks, Recreation & Waterfront, 981-6703
Rafael Rangell, YouthWorks Manager, PRW, 847-0984.

Attachments

1: Resolution

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

GRANT APPLICATION – CALTRANS CLEAN CA PROGRAM – COMMUNITY
CLEANUP AND EMPLOYMENT PATHWAY (CCEP)

WHEREAS, on September 9, 2025, the Caltrans Clean CA grant program announced a funding opportunity for the Cleanup and Employment Pathway (CCEP) program; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Caltrans Clean CA grant program require the Applicant to certify by resolution the approval of the application before submission of said application; and

WHEREAS, successful Applicants will enter into a contract with Caltrans complete the Grant Scope program.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Council hereby:

APPROVES THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR the Cleanup and Employment Pathway (CCEP) program GRANT FUND; and

1. Certifies that said Applicant has or will have available, prior to commencement of any work on the program(s) included in this application, the sufficient funds to complete the program(s); and
2. Certifies that if the grant is awarded, the Applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate the program(s) as described in the Grant Selection Criteria response, and
3. Certifies that the Applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the General Provisions contained in the contract shown in the Grant Administration Guide; and
4. Delegates the authority to F. Scott Ferris, Director, Parks Recreation, and Waterfront, to conduct all negotiations, sign and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the Grant Scope; and
5. Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations and guidelines.
6. A record signature copy of said agreements and any amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

