



Community Health Commission
Andy Katz, Chair
Susan Reese, Vice Chair
Kellie Knox, Staff Secretary

Community Health Commission

Thursday, July 23, 2026, 6:30 – 9:00pm

Meeting Location:

Judge Henry Ramsey Jr. South Berkeley Senior Center
2939 Ellis Street, Berkeley, CA 94703
Phone: 510-981-5170

AGENDA

Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order by Chair
2. Roll Call by Secretary
3. Land Acknowledgement (Attachment 5)
4. Announcements & Introductions
5. Public Comment – The public may comment about any item **not** on the agenda. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker.

Discussion and Action Items

Public comments regarding agenda items will be heard while the Commission is discussing the item. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker.

1. Staff Report from HHCS
2. CHC Chair's Report
3. Approval of Draft Minutes from 6/25/26 Regular Meeting – Action (Attachment 1)
4. Presentation – Amy Barden, Seattle CARE Department Director - Action
5. Community Health Improvement Plan Updates – Discussion
6. CHC FY 26-27 Work Plan Review - Discussion (Attachment 2)
7. Commission Workgroups- Action

Future Agenda Items:

- PH Program Presentations
- Briefing on Housing funding by Homeless Services Panel of Experts or Housing Advisory Commission
- Environmental Justice/Safety Elements Presentation Plan –September
- Proposal to Resume Operations of BEAR Program
- Environmental Health Restaurant Inspection Audit Update – October
- Hybrid Commission meetings - September

Adjournment

Attachments

1. Draft minutes from 06/25/2026 CHC Regular meeting
2. CHC 2025-2026 Work Plan
3. CHC Meeting Calendar 2026
4. City Council and Community Health Commission Timeline 2026

A Vibrant and Healthy Berkeley for All

5. Land Acknowledgement

The *next meeting* of the Community Health Commission is scheduled to be held on Thursday, September 24, 2026 with a *deadline of Tuesday, September 15, 2026 for the public's submission of agenda items and materials for the agenda packet*. **Dates are subject to change.** Please contact the Commission Secretary to confirm.

Any writing or documents provided to a majority of the commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at Health, Housing & Community Services Department located at 2180 Milvia Street, 2nd floor, Berkeley, CA 94704 during regular business hours. The Commission Agenda and Minutes may be viewed on the City of Berkeley website: [Boards & Commissions | City of Berkeley \(berkeleyca.gov\)](#) (SB 343)

CONFLICT OF INTEREST INFORMATION: City commissioners, pursuant to Government Code section 1090, are responsible for recusing themselves from all commission discussions and actions in which they may have a conflict of interest. If your affiliation, paid or unpaid, with other agencies has changed since the last meeting of this commission, your ability to participate in commission activities may have changed. Individual guidance is available from the City Attorney's Office (CAO). Commissioners are encouraged to consult with the CAO if they have questions, concerns, or would like clarification about matters related to potential conflicts of interest.

The CAO may be reached at:

Email: attorney@cityofberkeley.info

TEL: (510) 981-6950 TDD: (510) 981-6347, FAX: (510) 981-6960

2180 Milvia Street 4th Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704 - Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm

COMMUNITY ACCESS INFORMATION: This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the **Disability Services Specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD)** at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public records and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the commission secretary for further information.

Secretary:

Kellie Knox

Health, Housing & Community Services Department

2180 Milvia Street, 2nd Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704 510-981-5301 kknox@berkeleyca.gov



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Community Health Commission

DRAFT MINUTES

Regular Meeting, Thursday, June 25, 2026

The meeting convened at 6:35 p.m. with Commissioner Katz presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Charney, Herzer-Baptiste, Kappagoda, Katz, Marasovic, and Reese.

Absent: None.

Excused: Commissioners Breckwich Vasquez and Bacon.

Staff present: Kellie Knox

Community Members: None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

ACTION ITEM

3. M/S/C (Reese/Kappagoda): Motion to approve the draft minutes from meeting on May 28, 2026.

Ayes: Commissioners Charney, Herzer-Baptiste, Kappagoda, Katz, Marasovic, and Reese.

Noes: None.

Abstain: None

Absent from Vote: Commissioners Breckwich Vasquez and Bacon.

Excused: None.

Motion Passed.

A Vibrant and Healthy Berkeley for All

Discussion and Action Items

1. HHCS Director Report – Director not present. Staff answered questions.
2. CHC Chair's Report -Discussion
3. Approval of Draft Minutes from 5/28/26 Regular Meeting – Action
4. City Manager's FYI 2027 & 2027 Proposed Budget Balancing Plan - Discussion
5. Community Health Improvement Plan - Working Group Updates - Discussion
6. CHC FY 26-27 Work Plan Review - Discussion
7. Commission Workgroups -Not discussed.

Future Agenda Items:

- PH Program Presentations
- MIH/CP pilot and CARE/Health One presentation
- Briefing on Housing funding by Homeless Panel of Experts or Housing Advisory Commission
- Environmental Justice/Safety Elements Presentation Plan –September
- Proposal to Resume Operations of BEAR Program
- Environmental Health Restaurant Inspection Audit Update – October
- Hybrid Commission meetings

This meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Minutes will be reviewed and approved on Thursday, July 23, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Kellie Knox, Commission Secretary _____

Community Health Commission 2025-26 Work Plan

Guiding Philosophy: To look at health through an equity lens in order to address, ameliorate, and abolish health inequities in Berkeley while addressing and supporting public health efforts in collaboration with the City of Berkeley City Council, City of Berkeley Public Health staff, and community members.

I. Mission/Purpose:

- A. Collaborate with the community, the City of Berkeley Health Officer Unit, Public Health Division, and Berkeley City Council to eliminate health inequity by:
 - Advocating to the City Council for policies that have the potential to improve the health of Berkeley residents and that can be implemented, monitored and evaluated.
 - 1. Representing the diversity of the community through the diversity of this commission's membership.
 - 2. Increasing public education and engagement to develop greater understanding and awareness of public health issues.
 - 3. Advocating with the residents of Berkeley most affected by institutional, social, and organizational inequities and disparities.
 - 4. Providing a public forum for all community members to share their public- health related concerns and ideas
- B. Achieve progress in attaining general good health for all Berkeley residents by being responsive to community needs and facilitating general health and safety.

Overall issues to be addressed through a health equity lens.

- a. Be responsive to recommendations that will help Berkeley residents, care providers, and clinics cope with spending cuts to local, state, and federal funding.
- b. Continue to be a community advocate to City Council to address structural, institutional, and health inequities impacting all underserved populations, taking into account the social determinants of health.
- c. Evaluate and act on health status data such as the 2018 Health Status Report, and data updated in the Community Health Assessment and other periodic reports.
- d. Increase healthy food security, particularly preparing for SNAP/CalFresh changes, including advocating for the necessary support for the Berkeley Food Network / Pantry, and access to fresh groceries.
- e. Support expansion of affordable housing as a part of addressing root causes of health disparities.
- f. Work to support policies and initiatives that advance Universal Health Care such as Medicare for All.

- g. Advise the City Council as HHCS and Public Health Division develop the strategic plan and Results-Based Accountability framework, Community Health Assessment, and Community Health Improvement Plan.

II. General steps and actions needed to meet priorities:

- A. Conduct outreach to encourage Berkeley community members to engage with the CHC, inclusive of diverse communities.
- B. Collaborate with other commissions to share resources and support recommendations.
- C. Form focused/specialized work groups, as needed.

1. Basic Needs Security

- a. Focus on healthy food security and affordable/accessible housing.
- b. Advocate for affordability and accessibility of healthy foods by supporting programs in Berkeley that address these issues.
- c. Advocate for affordable housing and rent protections for Berkeley residents.
- d. Connect with community-based organizations and appropriate City of Berkeley departments to acquire information about available resources for Berkeley residents.

2. Chronic Disease Prevention

- a. Recommend interventions to address diabetes, obesity, heart diseases, and other chronic conditions highlighted by the updates to Berkeley health status report and Community Health Assessment.
- b. Engage with Public Health Division staff development of Results-Based Accountability framework and evaluation of public health programs.

3. Health Equity

Engage with Public Health staff and community members to advocate for the implementation of strategies that will reduce health inequities, detailed in the Health Status Report:

- a. Monitor the utilization and support outreach for the West Berkeley Family Wellness Center.
- b. Continue to support the development of the African American Holistic Resource Center.
- c. Investigate and implement efforts to improve immigrant access to health care.

4. Health Facilities

- a. Address the planned closure and replacement of Alta Bates Hospital to maintain acute care services for Berkeley residents, including evaluation and advocacy of the adequacy of the number of replacement beds in the successor acute care hospital facility, and the inclusion of critical care services such as Labor and Delivery, Cardiac Catheterization, and Burn Units.

- b. Continue to engage with and monitor city council actions related to implementation of the Commission's recommendation and council referral on ombudsperson funding and safe staffing at long-term care facilities.

5. Environmental Health

- a. Monitor and engage with city council actions responding to the City Auditor's audit of restaurant health and safety.
- b. Monitor environmental health division programs regarding vector control and other programs to protect environmental health and safety.
- c. Engage with the Planning Division to provide input to the City of Berkeley General Plan Environmental Justice element.

2026 Commission Meeting Schedule

Please complete this form and email it to the
commission@berkeleyca.gov by: **Wednesday, January 7, 2026**

Name of Commission: Community Health

Commission Secretary: Kellie Knox

Example

Month	Meeting Day	Meeting Date	Time
February 2026	Wednesday	2/11/2026	7:00 pm

Month	Meeting Day	Meeting Date	Time
January 2026	Thursday	1/22/2026	6:30 pm
February 2026	Thursday	2/26/2026	6:30 pm
March 2026	Thursday	3/26/2026	6:30 pm
April 2026	Thursday	4/23/2026	6:30 pm
May 2026	Thursday	5/28/2026	6:30 pm
June 2026	Thursday	6/25/2026	6:30 pm
July 2026	Thursday	7/23/2026	6:30 pm
August 2026	Thursday	No Meeting	
September 2026	Thursday	9/24/2026	6:30 pm
October 2026	Thursday	10/22/2026	6:30 pm
November 2026	Thursday	No Meeting	
December 2026	Thursday	12/03/2026	6:30 pm

HHCS DEPARTMENT

2026 COUNCIL MEETING TIMELINE

COUNCIL MEETING	THURSDAY 5:00 PM Reports Due to Director	THURSDAY 12:00 PM - Day 33 - DEPT. REPORTS DUE TO CLERK	THURSDAY 12:00 PM - Day 19 - AGENDA COMMITTEE PACKET TO PRINT	MONDAY 2:30 PM - Day 15 - AGENDA COMMITTEE MEETING	WEDNESDAY 11:00 AM - Day 13 - FINAL AGENDA MEETING (PRINT AGENDA ON WED.)	THURSDAY By 5:00 PM - Day 12 - COUNCIL AGENDA DELIVERY
Winter Recess [December 3, 2025 through January 19, 2026]						
Jan 20	12/4	12/18	1/2 (Fri)	1/5	1/7	1/8
Jan 27	12/11	12/26 (Fri)	1/8	1/12	1/14	1/15
Feb 10	12/26	1/8	1/22	1/26	1/28	1/29
Feb 24	1/8	1/22	2/5	2/9	2/11	2/11 (Wed)
Mar 10	1/22	2/5	2/19	2/23	2/25	2/26
Mar 24	2/5	2/19	3/5	3/9	3/11	3/12
Spring Recess [March 25 through April 13, 2026]						
Apr 14	2/26	3/12	3/26	3/31 (Tue)	4/1	4/2
Apr 21	3/5	3/19	4/2	4/6	4/8	4/9
Apr 28	3/12	3/26	4/9	4/13	4/15	4/16
May 12	3/26	4/9	4/23	4/27	4/29	4/30
May 19	4/2	4/16	4/30	5/4	5/6	5/7
Jun 9	4/23	5/7	5/21	5/28 (Thur)	5/28 (Thur)	5/29 (Fri)
Jun 16	4/30	5/14	5/28	6/1	6/3	6/4
Jun 30	5/14	5/28	6/11	6/15	6/17	6/18
Jul 7	5/21	6/4	6/18	6/22	6/24	6/25
Jul 14	5/28	6/11	6/25	6/29	7/1	7/2
Jul 28	6/11	6/25	7/9	7/13	7/15	7/16
Summer Recess [July 29 through September 14, 2026]						
Sep 15	7/30	8/13	8/27	8/31	9/2	9/3
Sep 29	8/13	8/27	9/10	9/14	9/16	9/17
Oct 13	8/27	9/10	9/24	9/28	9/30	10/1
Oct 27	9/10	9/24	10/8	10/13 (Tue)	10/14	10/15
Nov 17	10/1	10/15	10/29	11/2	11/4	11/5
Dec 1	10/15	10/29	11/12	11/16	11/18	11/19
Dec 15	10/29	11/12	11/25 (Wed)	11/30	12/2	12/3
Winter Recess [December 16, 2026 through January 18, 2027]						

VTO Affected Dates	Holiday Affected Dates	Religious Holiday Affected Date
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Updated 10/22/25

Reports not submitted by the deadlines listed will not be included on the agenda.

HHCS COMMISSIONS

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VTO Affected Dates	Holiday Affected Dates	Religious Holiday Affected Date
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Updated 10/22/25

Reports not submitted by the deadlines listed will not be included on the agenda.

Land Acknowledgement Statement

The City of Berkeley recognizes that the community we live in was built on the territory of xučyun (Huchiun (Hooch-yoon)), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (Cho-chen-yo)-speaking Ohlone (Oh-low-nee) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County.

This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band.

As we begin our meeting tonight, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay.

We recognize that Berkeley's residents have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley's incorporation in 1878.

As stewards of the laws regulating the City of Berkeley, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land, but also recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today.