



**AGENDA**  
**BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL AGENDA & RULES COMMITTEE**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026**

**2:30 P.M.**

2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704

Committee Members:

Mayor Adena Ishii, Councilmembers Terry Taplin and Mark Humbert

Alternate: Ben Bartlett

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid model with both in-person and virtual attendance. Attend this meeting remotely using [Zoom](#). To request to speak, use the “raise hand” function in Zoom. To join by phone: Dial **1-669-254-5252** or **1-833-568-8864 (Toll Free)** and enter **Meeting ID: 160 119 2433**. To provide public comment, Press \*9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair. To submit a written communication for the public record, email [policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov). All Committee meetings are recorded.

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting, however, if you are feeling sick, please do not attend the meeting in person.

Pursuant to the City Council Rules of Procedure and State Law, the presiding officer may remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting. Prior to removing an individual, the presiding officer shall warn the individual that their behavior is disrupting the meeting and that their failure to cease their behavior may result in their removal. The presiding officer may then remove the individual if they do not promptly cease their disruptive behavior. “Disrupting” means engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting and includes, but is not limited to, a failure to comply with reasonable and lawful regulations adopted by a legislative body, or engaging in behavior that constitutes use of force or a true threat of force.

**California Government Code Section 84308 (Levine Act)** Parties to a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use are required to disclose if they made contributions over \$500 within the prior 12 months to any City employee or officer. Parties and participants with a financial interest are prohibited from making more than \$500 in contributions to a decisionmaker for the 12 months after the final decision is rendered on the proceeding. The above contribution disclosures and restrictions do not apply when the proceeding is competitively bid, or involves a personnel or labor contract. For more information, see Government Code Section 84308.

# **AGENDA**

**Roll Call**

**Public Comment**

## **Review of Agendas**

- 1. Approval of Minutes: March 9, 2026**
- 2. Review and Approve Draft Agenda:**
  - a. 4/14/2026 – Regular City Council Meeting
- 3. Adjournments In Memory**

## **Scheduling**

- 4. Council Worksessions Schedule**
- 5. Council Referrals to Agenda Committee for Scheduling**
- 6. Land Use Calendar**

## **Action Calendar**

- None

## **Unscheduled Items**

- None

## **Items for Future Agendas**

- Requests by Committee Members to add items to the next agenda

**Adjournment – Next Meeting Monday, April 6, 2026**

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## **Additional items may be added to the draft agenda per Council Rules of Procedure.**

*Rules of Procedure as adopted by Council resolution, Article III, C3c - Agenda - Submission of Time Critical Items*

*Time Critical Items. A Time Critical item is defined as a matter that is considered urgent by the sponsor and that has a deadline for action that is prior to the next meeting of the Council and for which a report prepared by the City Manager, Auditor, Mayor or council member is received by the City Clerk after established deadlines and is not included on the Agenda Committee's published agenda.*

*If the Agenda Committee finds the matter to meet the definition of Time Critical, the Agenda Committee may place the matter on the Agenda on either the Consent or Action Calendar.*

*The City Clerk shall not accept any item past the adjournment of the Agenda Committee meeting for which the agenda that the item is requested to appear on has been approved.*

*Written communications addressed to the Agenda Committee and submitted to the City Clerk Department by 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the Committee meeting, will be distributed to the Committee in advance of the meeting and retained as part of the official record.*

*This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953 and applicable Executive Orders as issued by the Governor that are currently in effect. Members of the City Council who are not members of the standing committee may attend a standing committee meeting even if it results in a quorum being present, provided that the non-members only act as observers and do not participate in the meeting. If only one member of the Council who is not a member of the committee is present for the meeting, the member may participate in the meeting because less than a quorum of the full Council is present. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding public participation may be addressed to the City Clerk Department (510) 981-6900.*

### **COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION:**

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at [ada@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:ada@berkeleyca.gov), (510) 981-6418 (V), or (510) 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Attendees at public meetings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various scents, whether natural or manufactured, in products and materials. Please help the City respect these needs.

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I hereby certify that the agenda for this special meeting of the Berkeley City Council was posted at the display case located near the walkway in front of the Maudelle Shirek Building, 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, as well as on the City's website, on Thursday, March 26, 2026.



Mark Numainville, City Clerk

## **Communications**

*Communications submitted to City Council Policy Committees are on file in the City Clerk Department at 2180 Milvia Street, 1st Floor, Berkeley, CA, and are available upon request by contacting the City Clerk Department at (510) 981-6908 or [policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov).*



## BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL AGENDA & RULES COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026

2:30 P.M.

2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704

Committee Members:

Mayor Adena Ishii, Councilmembers Terry Taplin and Mark Humbert

Alternate: Ben Bartlett

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**Roll Call:** 2:32 p.m. All present.

**Public Comment** – 9 speakers

## **Review of Agendas**

**1. Approval of Minutes: February 23, 2026**

**Action:** M/S/C (Taplin/Humbert) to approve the minutes of 2/23/2026.

**Vote:** All Ayes.

**2. Review and Approve Draft Agenda:**

a. 3/24/2026 – Regular City Council Meeting

**Action:** M/S/C (Humbert/Taplin) to approve the agenda of the 3/24/2026 regular meeting with the changes noted below.

- *Item 18 National Society of Black Engineers (O’Keefe) – revised item submitted; Mayor Ishii added as a co-sponsor*
- *Item 19 Make Music Day (O’Keefe) – Councilmember Taplin added as a co-sponsor*
- *Item 22 Interim Director (Ishii) – moved to first item on Action Calendar*
- *Item 23 Glue Traps (Tregub) – Councilmember Humbert added as a co-sponsor; moved to Consent Calendar*
- *Item 24 Letter of Gratitude (Tregub) – Mayor Ishii and Councilmembers Lunaparra and Taplin added as co-sponsors*

Order of Action Calendar

Item 22 Interim Director

Item 21 Public Safety

**Vote:** All Ayes.

**3. Adjournments In Memory**

- Marcia Poole, Community Activist

## **Scheduling**

**4. Council Worksessions Schedule** – received and filed

**5. Council Referrals to Agenda Committee for Scheduling** – received and filed

**6. Land Use Calendar** – received and filed

## **Action Calendar**

- None

## **Unscheduled Items**

- None

## Items for Future Agendas

- None

## Adjournment

**Action:** M/S/C (Taplin/Humbert) to approve the minutes of 2/23/2026.

**Vote:** All Ayes.

Adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct record of the Agenda & Rules Committee meeting held on March 9, 2026.

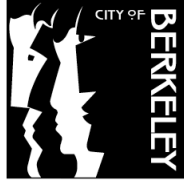
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Mark Numainville, City Clerk

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**DRAFT AGENDA**  
**BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, April 14, 2026**  
**6:00 PM**

SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD ROOM - 1231 ADDISON STREET, BERKELEY, CA 94702

ADENA ISHII, MAYOR

COUNCILMEMBERS:

DISTRICT 1 – RASHI KESARWANI  
 DISTRICT 2 – TERRY TAPLIN  
 DISTRICT 3 – BEN BARTLETT  
 DISTRICT 4 – IGOR TREGUB

DISTRICT 5 – SHOSHANA O’KEEFE  
 DISTRICT 6 – BRENT BLACKABY  
 DISTRICT 7 – CECILIA LUNAPARRA  
 DISTRICT 8 – MARK HUMBERT

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*Live captioned broadcasts of Council meetings are available on B-TV (Channel 33) and via [internet video stream](#). All Council meetings are recorded.*

*This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting, however, if you are feeling sick, please do not attend the meeting in person. The City Council may take action related to any subject listed on the Agenda.*

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## Preliminary Matters

### Roll Call:

**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. The City of Berkeley will continue to build relationships with the Lisjan Tribe and to create meaningful actions that uphold the intention of this land acknowledgement.*

**Ceremonial Matters:** *In addition to those items listed on the agenda, the Mayor may add additional ceremonial matters.*

**City Manager Comments:** *The City Manager may make announcements or provide information to the City Council in the form of an oral report. The Council will not take action on such items but may request the City Manager place a report on a future agenda for discussion.*

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters:** *Up to ten persons will be selected to address matters not on the Council agenda. If five or fewer persons are identified to provide non-agenda comment, each person selected will be allotted two minutes each. If more than five persons are selected to address matters not on the Council agenda, each person selected will be allotted one minute each.*

*In-person attendees wishing to address the Council on matters not on the Council agenda during the initial ten-minute period for such comment, must submit a speaker card to the City Clerk in person at the meeting location and prior to the moment that the Presiding Officer calls for public comment on non-agenda items. Remote attendees must raise their hand in the videoconference application when the Presiding Officer calls for non-agenda speakers. The first five raised hands on the videoconference application will be selected to speak and the first five cards drawn at the meeting will be selected to speak. The number of in-person and remote speakers selected may be adjusted by the Presiding Officer if fewer than five speakers from either format are identified.*

*The remainder of the speakers wishing to address the Council on non-agenda items will be heard at the end of the agenda.*

**Public Comment by Employee Unions (first regular meeting of the month):** *This period of public comment is reserved for officially designated representatives of City of Berkeley employee unions, with five minutes allocated per union if representatives of three or fewer unions wish to speak and up to three minutes per union if representatives of four or more unions wish to speak.*

## Consent Calendar

*The Council will first determine whether to move items on the agenda for “Action” or “Information” to the “Consent Calendar”, or move “Consent Calendar” items to “Action.” Three members of the City Council must agree to pull an item from the Consent Calendar or Information Calendar for it to move to Action. Items that remain on the “Consent Calendar” are voted on in one motion as a group. “Information” items are not discussed or acted upon at the Council meeting unless they are moved to “Action” or “Consent”.*

*No additional items can be moved onto the Consent Calendar once public comment has commenced. At any time during, or immediately after, public comment on Information and Consent items, any Councilmember may move any Information or Consent item to “Action.” Following this, the Council will vote on the items remaining on the Consent Calendar in one motion.*

*For items moved to the Action Calendar from the Consent Calendar or Information Calendar, persons who spoke on the item during the Consent Calendar public comment period may speak again at the time the matter is taken up during the Action Calendar.*

**Public Comment on Consent Calendar and Information Items Only:** *The Council will take public comment on any items that are either on the amended Consent Calendar or the Information Calendar. If ten or fewer persons are interested in speaking on an individual agenda item, each speaker may speak for two minutes. If there are more than ten persons interested in speaking, the Presiding Officer may limit the public comment for all speakers to one minute per speaker. Speakers are permitted to yield their time to one other speaker, however no one speaker shall have more than four minutes. The Presiding Officer may, with the consent of persons representing both sides of an issue, allocate a block of time to each side to present their issue. A speaker may only speak once during the period for public comment on Consent Calendar and Information items.*

*Additional information regarding public comment by City of Berkeley employees and interns: Employees and interns of the City of Berkeley, although not required, are encouraged to identify themselves as such, the department in which they work and state whether they are speaking as an individual or in their official capacity when addressing the Council in open session or workshops.*

## Consent Calendar

- Contract No. 32400067 Amendment: Westcoast Online Information Systems, Inc. DBA NetFile for Online Campaign Reporting, Public Financing Administration, Form 700 Filing and Tracking, State Law SB 827 Fiscal & Financial Training and Tracking, and State Law AB 1234 Ethics Training and Tracking**

**From: City Manager**

**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to Contract No. 32400067 with Westcoast Online Information Systems, Inc. DBA NetFile to increase the not-to-exceed amount by \$11,850 for financial and ethics training tracking and administration for a total contract amount not to exceed \$182,550 within the original term of October 23, 2023 to September 20, 2028.

**Financial Implications:** See report

Contact: Mark Numainville, City Clerk, (510) 981-6900

## Consent Calendar

**2. Revenue Contract: City of Emeryville for Animal Services**

**From: City Manager**

**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a revenue contract and any necessary amendments with the City of Emeryville to provide certain animal care services to be performed from FY2027 through FY2029, for which the City of Emeryville will pay the City of Berkeley a total amount not to exceed \$519,112.

**Financial Implications:** See report

Contact: Peter Radu, City Manager's Office, (510) 981-7000

**3. Contract No. 42400040 Amendment: City of Albany for Animal Services**

**From: City Manager**

**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend an existing contract (contract number 42400040) and execute any necessary amendments thereafter with the City of Albany to provide certain animal care services for which the City of Albany will pay the City of Berkeley \$413,582 for services performed from FY2027 through FY2029, for a new not to exceed amount of \$704,601.

**Financial Implications:** See report

Contact: Peter Radu, City Manager's Office, (510) 981-7000

**4. Contract No 32200032 Amendment: Administration of Downtown Berkeley Property Based Business Improvement District (DPBID), with the Downtown Berkeley Association**

**From: City Manager**

**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution to amend Contract No. 32200032 between the Downtown Berkeley Association (DBA) and the City of Berkeley. This amendment intends to modify the existing Not-to-Exceed (NTE) amount of the contract to allow all pass-through amounts collected on behalf of the Downtown Berkeley Property Based Business Improvement District (DPBID) above the existing NTE amount to be paid to the DBA when received. This amendment to the contract with the DBA will increase the contract amount by \$1,408,096 for a new contract amount NTE \$8,693,353.

**Financial Implications:** See report

Contact: Eleanor Hollander, Economic Development, (510) 981-7530

## Consent Calendar

- 5. Contract No 32600096 Amendment: Administration of the Elmwood Business Improvement District (Elmwood Business Association)**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution to amend Contract No. 32600096 between the Elmwood Business Association and the City of Berkeley. This amendment intends to modify the existing Not-to-Exceed (NTE) amount of the contract by increasing it to \$50,000 (from \$30,000) to align with additional collections anticipated due to the expansion of the boundary of the Elmwood Business Improvement District (BID).  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Eleanor Hollander, Economic Development, (510) 981-7530
- 6. Formal Bid Solicitations and Request for Proposals Scheduled for Possible Issuance After Council Approval on April 14, 2026**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Approve the request for proposals or invitation for bids that will be, or are planned to be, issued upon final approval by the requesting department or division. All contracts over the City Manager's threshold will be returned to Council for final approval.  
**Financial Implications:** \$817,901 - Various Funds  
Contact: Henry Oyekanmi, Finance, (510) 981-7300
- 7. Revenue Contract: Department of Health Care Services Performance Contract for City of Berkeley for Behavioral Health Services Act**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute a contract and any amendments with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) in the amount of approximately \$10,000,000 each year from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029, (FY 2027 – 2029) for the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA), Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act, Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH), Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG), and Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP) programs and county provision of community mental health services pursuant to the Bronzan-McCorquodale Act.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Scott Gilman, Health, Housing, and Community Services, (510) 981-5100

## Consent Calendar

- 8. Contract No. 32200185 Amendment: Sonya Dublin Consulting to Provide Evaluation Services**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to execute an amendment and any subsequent amendments or extensions to Contract No. 32200185 with Sonya Dublin Consulting for evaluation services. The amendment would increase the contract amount by \$62,400, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$171,600.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Scott Gilman, Health, Housing, and Community Services, (510) 981-5100
- 9. Contracts for On-Call Hardscape Installation and Repair Services at Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Facilities**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt three Resolutions authorizing the City Manager to execute on-call contracts and amendments for hardscape installation and repair services for a period of three years each with the following:  
1. Redwood Engineering Construction, for an amount not to exceed \$300,000.  
2. Kerex Engineering, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$300,000.  
3. Calico California Constructores, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$300,000.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Scott Ferris, Parks, Recreation and Waterfront, (510) 981-6700
- 10. Contracts for On-Call Painting and Repair Services at Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Facilities**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt three Resolutions authorizing the City Manager to execute on-call contracts and any amendments for painting and repair services for a period of three years each with the following:  
1. Athen's Painting & Commercial Coatings, Inc, for an amount not to exceed \$300,000;  
2. SDM Construction, for an amount not to exceed \$300,000; and  
3. Aiden's Quality Painting, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$300,000.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Scott Ferris, Parks, Recreation and Waterfront, (510) 981-6700

## Council Consent Items

11. **Referral to Establish a Citywide Local Density Bonus Program to Facilitate Lower-Cost Ownership Homes (Condominiums)** *(Reviewed by the Land Use, Housing & Economic Development Committee)*

**From: Councilmember Kesarwani (Author), Councilmember Tregub (Co-Sponsor), Mayor Ishii (Co-Sponsor)**

**Recommendation:** Refer to the City Manager to develop a citywide local density bonus modelled after the state density bonus that would incentivize new condominium development by allowing condo projects to take advantage of the same densities, bonuses, waivers, and concessions available under state density bonus law. Under the local density bonus, however, condo projects would be able to pay the current in-lieu affordable housing fee to the City's Housing Trust Fund for all units, rather than create on-site for-sale below-market-rate condo units—a requirement under state density bonus law that renders larger-scale condo development infeasible. Further, the local density bonus shall consider concession rules that uphold the City's workforce standards. The fiscal and policy goals of this proposed local density bonus are to help stalled rental residential projects in our downtown reach feasibility as condo projects, which will provide affordable housing in-lieu fee revenue, property tax revenue, serve as an economic force multiplier for our downtown, and provide much-needed ownership opportunities for young families seeking a starter home and aging residents seeking to downsize. Further, the local density bonus should apply citywide or downtown or on San Pablo Avenue, considering the area(s) that is most feasible, and provide language for at least two options for applicability: 1) Projects that have vested prior to Jan. 1, 2025 only; and 2) All projects regardless of vesting date—and to consider a sunset date, or a progress report to help determine an appropriate sunset date. The reason for providing these two options is so that Council may consider economic conditions and the number of stalled projects at the time that the ordinance is under consideration. And further, to consider removing the exemption on the first 5,000 square feet for the affordable housing in-lieu fee. Further, request information from staff on whether it is financially feasible and operationally possible to provide Affordable Housing Trust funding to provide for below-market-rate condos on site.

**Policy Committee Recommendation:** *To send the item to the City Council with a qualified positive recommendation and with the recommendation revised to read as follows: Refer to the City Manager to develop a citywide local density bonus modelled after the state density bonus that would incentivize new condominium development by allowing condo projects to take advantage of the same densities, bonuses, waivers, and concessions available under state density bonus law. Under the local density bonus, however, condo projects would be able to pay the current in-lieu affordable housing fee to the City's Housing Trust Fund for all units, rather than create on-site for-sale below-market-rate condo units—a requirement under state density bonus law that renders larger-scale condo development infeasible. The fiscal and policy goals of this proposed citywide local density bonus are to help stalled rental residential projects in our downtown reach feasibility as condo projects, which will provide affordable housing in-lieu fee revenue, property tax revenue, serve as an economic force multiplier for our downtown, and provide much-needed ownership opportunities for young families seeking a starter home and aging residents seeking*

**Council Consent Items**

*to downsize. Further, the local density bonus should apply citywide or downtown and provide language for at least two options for applicability: 1. Projects that have vested prior to January 1, 2025 only; and 2. All projects regardless of vesting date – and to consider a sunset date, or a progress report to help determine an appropriate sunset date. The reason for providing these two options is so that Council may consider economic conditions and the number of stalled projects at the time that the ordinance is under consideration. And further, to consider removing the exemption on the first 5,000 square feet for the affordable housing in-lieu fee. Further, information from staff on whether it is financially feasible and operationally possible to provide Affordable Housing Trust funding to provide for below-market rate condos on site.*

**Financial Implications:** Staff time  
Contact: Rashi Kesarwani, Councilmember, District 1, (510) 981-7110

**12. Kala Art 2026: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds from General Funds and Grant of Such Funds**

**From: Councilmember Taplin (Author)**

**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$500 per Councilmember, including \$500 from Councilmember Taplin, to support Art Institute 2026.

**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Terry Taplin, Councilmember, District 2, (510) 981-7120

**13. Celebración Cultural Sylvia Mendez (Spring Cultural Celebration) by the Sylvia Mendez School PTA: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds to General Fund and Grant of Such Funds**

**From: Councilmember Bartlett (Author)**

**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of funds, including \$1,000 from the discretionary council office budget of Councilmember Ben Bartlett, to the Sylvia Mendez Elementary School PTA to host a Spring Cultural Celebration event on April 26, 2026, on campus. The funds will be relinquished to the City’s General Fund from the discretionary council office budget of Councilmember Ben Bartlett and the discretionary council office budgets of any other City Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Ben Bartlett, Councilmember, District 3, (510) 981-7130

## Council Consent Items

14. **Referral to the City Manager: Amendments to the Berkeley Green Code for Newly Constructed Buildings and Existing Construction** *(Reviewed by the Facilities, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment & Sustainability Policy Committee)*

**From: Councilmember Tregub (Author), Councilmember Taplin (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember Lunaparra (Co-Sponsor)**

**Recommendation:** Refer to the City Manager the following: 1. Continued development of a Single Source Energy Margin (Single Margin) reach code for adoption; 2. Further analysis, for future consideration, of additional Green Building policy and operational measures, such as Flexible Path (FlexPath) and Air Conditioner to Heat Pump (AC2HP) provisions, and/or other applicable pathways; and 3. Further streamlining, as feasible and appropriate, of the approval of certain Green Building equipment, systems, features, and processes for residential and residential-over-ground-floor-commercial construction. Consideration should be given to the establishment of an expedited permitting pathway for installations performed by contractors that participate in a California Division of Apprenticeship Standards-approved apprenticeship program in the applicable trade. As part of this ongoing work, the City Manager shall continue to examine the projected costs and potential savings, as applicable, associated with the referral; evaluate the complexity of compliance; and develop options to simplify requirements and reduce friction, particularly for smaller builders, developers, and homeowners.

*Policy Committee Recommendation: To send the item to council with a qualified positive recommendation with the provisions that the ongoing work reexamine projected costs, evaluate the complexity of compliance, and offer options for making it simpler and as low friction as possible particularly for smaller builders, developers, and homeowners.*

**Financial Implications:** See report

Contact: Igor Tregub, Councilmember, District 4, (510) 981-7140

## Action Calendar

*The public may comment on each item listed on the agenda for action. For items moved to the Action Calendar from the Consent Calendar or Information Calendar, persons who spoke on the item during the Consent Calendar public comment period may speak again during the Action Calendar public comment period on the item*

*The Presiding Officer will request that persons wishing to speak line up at the podium, or use the "raise hand" function in Zoom, to determine the number of persons interested in speaking at that time. If ten or fewer persons are interested in speaking on an individual agenda item, each speaker may speak for two minutes. If there are more than ten persons interested in speaking, the Presiding Officer may limit the public comment for all speakers to one minute per speaker. Speakers are permitted to yield their time to one other speaker, however no one speaker shall have more than four minutes. The Presiding Officer may, with the consent of persons representing both sides of an issue, allocate a block of time to each side to present their issue.*

*Action items may be reordered at the discretion of the Chair with the consent of Council.*

*The Presiding Officer may open and close an additional comment period for Action items on this agenda (excluding any public hearings, appeals, and/or quasi-judicial matters), at the start of the Action Calendar. Those who speak on an item during this comment period may not speak a second time when the item is taken up by Council.*

## Action Calendar – Old Business

15. **Mills Act Contract – 2845 Woolsey Street** *(Continued from April 14, 2026)*  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Mills Act contract with Michael Pearson and Annette Blum Pearson for the maintenance and restoration of a City Landmark property at 2845 Woolsey Street.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jordan Klein, Planning and Development, (510) 981-7400

## Action Calendar – New Business

16. **Proposed Resolution Limiting Use of City Property to Authorized Uses That Further City Purposes and Protect Access to City Services**  
**From: City Attorney**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution limiting the use of City property to authorized uses that further City purposes and protect access to City services. This policy will ensure that City assets are not misappropriated in a manner that inhibits access to City services and interferes with City programs and other purposes.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Farimah Brown, City Attorney, (510) 981-6950
17. **Amendments to BMC Title 3.24 (Landmarks Preservation Commission) to Revise Procedures for Designating Landmarks, Historic Districts and Structures of Merit and Incorporate Technical Edits**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt the first reading of an ordinance amending BMC Title 3.24 (Landmarks Preservation Commission) to revise procedures for designating landmarks, historic districts and structures of merit, and to incorporate technical edits.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jordan Klein, Planning and Development, (510) 981-7400

## Action Calendar – Policy Committee Track Items

- 18. Referral to the City Manager and the Parks Commission the Request to Develop and Implement a Plan and Identify Budget to Rename City of Berkeley Locations, Events, and the City Holiday Currently Named for Cesar Chavez, and Engage with the Chavez/Huerta Commemoration Period Partners and Latinos Unidos de Berkeley to Bring Back to City Council Recommendations for How the City of Berkeley May Move Forward with a Name Changes That Will Continue to Honor the Legacy of Labor Organizing and Solidarity for Farm Workers and Recognize Farm Workers as the Backbone of America**  
**From: Mayor Ishii (Author), Councilmember Lunaparra (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember Humbert (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember O’Keefe (Co-Sponsor)**  
**Recommendation:** Refer to the City Manager and the Parks Commission the request to develop and implement a plan and identify budget to rename City of Berkeley locations, events, and the city holiday currently named for Cesar Chavez and engage with the Chavez/Huerta Commemoration Period partners and Latinos Unidos de Berkeley to bring back to City Council recommendations for how the City of Berkeley, may move forward with a name changes that will continue to honor the legacy of labor organizing and solidarity for farm workers and recognize farm workers as the backbone of America.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Adena Ishii, Mayor, (510) 981-7100
- 19. Recommendation to Parks and Waterfront Commission to Explore the Naming of a Public Plaza in South Berkeley as Delores Cooper Plaza**  
**From: Councilmember Bartlett (Author)**  
**Recommendation:** Refer to the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission to explore naming of the public plaza located at the intersection of Adeline Street and Fairview Street within the Lorin District corridor in South Berkeley as Delores Cooper Plaza; including process and directive of coordinating implementation, historical preservation, such as signage, universal design, and public engagement with community partners to document Delores Cooper’s historic contributions to the City of Berkeley.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Ben Bartlett, Councilmember, District 3, (510) 981-7130
- 20. Clarifying BPD Protocols to Protect Berkeley Residents, Support Public Safety, and Safeguard Constitutional Rights During Federal Immigration Enforcement Activities**  
**From: Councilmember Blackaby (Author), Mayor Ishii (Co-Sponsor)**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution to clarify Berkeley Police Department (BPD) protocols in order to protect all Berkeley residents and peaceful protestors during any potential federal immigration enforcement activities in Berkeley.  
**Financial Implications:** None  
Contact: Brent Blackaby, Councilmember, District 6, (510) 981-7160

## Information Reports

21. **Environment and Climate Commission 2026 Work Plan**  
**From: Environment and Climate Commission**  
Contact: Sarah Moore, Commission Secretary, (510) 981-7400
22. **Bond Measure Subcommittee — Final Report**  
**From: Parks and Waterfront Commission**  
Contact: Roger Miller, Commission Secretary, (510) 981-6700

## Public Comment – Items Not Listed on the Agenda

### Adjournment

**NOTICE CONCERNING YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS:** *If you object to a decision by the City Council to approve or deny a use permit or variance for a project the following requirements and restrictions apply: 1) No lawsuit challenging a City decision to deny (Code Civ. Proc. §1094.6(b)) or approve (Gov. Code 65009(c)(5)) a use permit or variance may be filed more than 90 days after the date the Notice of Decision of the action of the City Council is mailed. Any lawsuit not filed within that 90-day period will be barred. 2) In any lawsuit that may be filed against a City Council decision to approve or deny a use permit or variance, the issues and evidence will be limited to those raised by you or someone else, orally or in writing, at a public hearing or prior to the close of the last public hearing on the project.*

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Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the City Council regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the public counter at the City Clerk Department located on the first floor of City Hall located at 2180 Milvia Street, and through the City's online records portal: <https://records.cityofberkeley.info/>.

Agendas, agenda reports, and revised/supplemental material may be accessed via the online agenda for this meeting at: [berkeleyca.gov/council-agendas](http://berkeleyca.gov/council-agendas) and may be accessed at reference desks at the following locations:

City Clerk Department - 2180 Milvia Street, First Floor  
Tel: 510-981-6900, TDD: 510-981-6903, Fax: 510-981-6901  
Email: [clerk@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:clerk@berkeleyca.gov)

Libraries: Main – 2090 Kittredge Street,  
Claremont Branch – 2940 Benvenue, West Branch – 1125 University,  
North Branch – 1170 The Alameda, Tarea Hall Pittman South Branch – 1901 Russell

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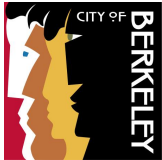
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Rashi Kesarwani  
Councilmember, District 1

CONSENT CALENDAR

April 14, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Councilmember Rashi Kesarwani (Author), Councilmember Igor Tregub, and Mayor Adena Ishii (Co-Sponsors)

SUBJECT: Referral to Establish a Citywide Local Density Bonus Program to Facilitate Lower-Cost Ownership Homes (Condominiums)

**RECOMMENDATION**

Refer to the City Manager to develop a citywide local density bonus modelled after the state density bonus that would incentivize new condominium development by allowing condo projects to take advantage of the same densities, bonuses, waivers, and concessions available under state density bonus law. Under the local density bonus, however, condo projects would be able to pay the current in-lieu affordable housing fee to the City’s Housing Trust Fund for all units, rather than create on-site for-sale below-market-rate condo units—a requirement under state density bonus law that renders larger-scale condo development infeasible. Further, the local density bonus shall consider concession rules that uphold the City’s workforce standards.

The fiscal and policy goals of this proposed local density bonus are to help stalled rental residential projects in our downtown reach feasibility as condo projects, which will provide affordable housing in-lieu fee revenue, property tax revenue, serve as an economic force multiplier for our downtown, and provide much-needed ownership opportunities for young families seeking a starter home and aging residents seeking to downsize. Further, the local density bonus should apply citywide or downtown or on San Pablo Avenue, considering the area(s) that is most feasible, and provide language for at least two options for applicability:

- 1) Projects that have vested prior to Jan. 1, 2025 only; and
- 2) All projects regardless of vesting date—and to consider a sunset date, or a progress report to help determine an appropriate sunset date.

The reason for providing these two options is so that Council may consider economic conditions and the number of stalled projects at the time that the ordinance is under consideration.

And further, to consider removing the exemption on the first 5,000 square feet for the affordable housing in-lieu fee.

Further, request information from staff on whether it is financially feasible and operationally possible to provide Affordable Housing Trust funding to provide for below-market-rate condos on site.

### **POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

On March 2, 2026 the Land Use Policy Committee took the following action:

Action: 15 speakers. M/S/C (Bartlett/Lunaparra) to send the item to the City Council with a qualified positive recommendation and with the recommendation revised to read as follows:

Refer to the City Manager to develop a citywide local density bonus modelled after the state density bonus that would incentivize new condominium development by allowing condo projects to take advantage of the same densities, bonuses, waivers, and concessions available under state density bonus law. Under the local density bonus, however, condo projects would be able to pay the current in-lieu affordable housing fee to the City's Housing Trust Fund for all units, rather than create on-site for-sale below-market-rate condo units—a requirement under state density bonus law that renders larger-scale condo development infeasible. The fiscal and policy goals of this proposed citywide local density bonus are to help stalled rental residential projects in our downtown reach feasibility as condo projects, which will provide affordable housing in-lieu fee revenue, property tax revenue, serve as an economic force multiplier for our downtown, and provide much-needed ownership opportunities for young families seeking a starter home and aging residents seeking to downsize. Further, the local density bonus should apply citywide or downtown and provide language for at least two options for applicability:

1. Projects that have vested prior to January 1, 2025 only; and
2. All projects regardless of vesting date – and to consider a sunset date, or a progress report to help determine an appropriate sunset date. The reason for providing these two options is so that Council may consider economic conditions and the number of stalled projects at the time that the ordinance is under consideration.

And further, to consider removing the exemption on the first 5,000 square feet for the affordable housing in-lieu fee. Further, information from staff on whether it is financially feasible and operationally possible to provide Affordable Housing Trust funding to provide for below-market rate condos on site.

Vote: All Ayes.

### **CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS**

***At Least Nine Recent Rental Residential Development Projects Are Stalled in Berkeley’s Downtown, Sometimes Creating Blight.*** Currently, there are at least nine rental residential development projects that have received a zoning permit, the initial step that allows a project to apply for a building permit, as shown in Exhibit 1. However, only five of these nine projects have received a building permit and none have broken ground due to unfavorable economic conditions. According to a May 2024 residential feasibility analysis for the City of Berkeley, most development prototypes cannot support the current cost of development in today’s market.<sup>1</sup> The report states, “This is being driven by increased construction and financing costs that are outpacing projected rental revenue relative to the required rate of return developers must provide to finance a project.”

**Exhibit 1: Nine Recent Proposed Rental Residential Development Projects in Downtown Have Received a Zoning Permit, But Have Not Broken Ground**

Address	Date Zoning Permit Was Received	Number of Proposed Units
2128 Oxford	Oct. 4, 2024	456
2190 Shattuck	April 28, 2023	325
2274 Shattuck	April 22, 2025	277
2015 Blake	Sept. 25, 2023	219
2100 Milvia	July 1, 2025	205
2065 Kittredge <sup>1</sup>	Feb. 22, 2023	189
2037 Durant	June 19, 2024	74
2138 Kittredge	Oct. 20, 2025	66
2210 Harold Way	Dec. 10, 2020	38
<b>Total Number of Proposed Units Stalled</b>		<b>1,849</b>

Source: City of Berkeley, <https://berkeley.buildingeye.com/building>

<sup>1</sup>Note: Harold Way Development at 2065 Kittredge has broken ground but is currently stalled.

For the nine proposed projects listed above that received a zoning permit, five projects went on to receive a building permit (2210 Harold Way, 2065 Kittredge, 2190 Shattuck, 2128 Oxford, and 2138 Kittredge) but have not broken ground for various reasons. We note that another three projects not listed above (2113 Kittredge, 1998 Shattuck, and 2450 Shattuck) submitted a pre-application but never received a zoning permit. Some of these stalled projects are creating blighted conditions in our downtown:

<sup>1</sup> Ernst, Margot, “Residential Feasibility Analysis and In-Lieu Fee Recommendations,” City of Berkeley Worksession, May 21, 2024, <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-02-25%20Item%2014%20Inclusionary%20Housing%20Ordinance.pdf>

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- The 2128 Oxford Street stalled project has caused a once vibrant block of small businesses to remain shuttered, with boarded up storefronts and fencing for an extended period;
- 2065 Kittredge project is the site of an unsightly pit of dirt; and
- 2274 Shattuck is the site of the shuttered United Artists Theatres.

**Over Last Five Years, No Largescale Condo Projects Utilizing the State Density Bonus Have Been Built in Berkeley.** While many multiunit rental housing developments have recently been added to Berkeley's housing stock, that has not been the case with multiunit ownership developments. Nor have many rental units been converted to condominiums over the same period. In large part that can be attributed to affordable housing requirements compelling developers to either include below-market-rate housing on site, which costs would need to be offset by the construction of additional market rate units, or pay an in-lieu fee that until very recently was costly.<sup>2</sup> The City's condominium conversion fees are also high which likely impacts the numbers of units converted to ownership opportunities.<sup>3</sup> Exhibit 2 shows the numbers of condominiums constructed and/or converted from rental units in Berkeley over the last five years.

#### **Exhibit 2: Number of Condominium Units Constructed and Converted over the Last Five Years in Berkeley**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Project Addresses (New Construction Only)</b>	<b>Number of New Construction Units</b>	<b>Number of Converted Rental Units</b>	<b>Total Number of Condo Units</b>
2020	1811 Sixty-Third St (3 units)	7	14	21
	1444 Fifth St (4 units)			
2021	1923 Ninth St (3 units)	6	3	9
	1516 Carleton St (3 units)			
2022	1157 Hearst Ave (4 units)	4	5	9
2023	1519 Fairview St (1 units)	4	10	14
	776 Page St (3 units)			
2024	2421 Ninth St (2 units)	4	2	6
	2323 Eighth St (2 units)			
2025	2403 San Pablo Ave (36 units)*	42	0	42
	805 Jones St (6 units)			
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>67</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>101</b>

<sup>2</sup> Berkeley's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance In-Lieu Fee was amended February 2025: [https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-02-25%20Item%2014%20Inclusionary%20Housing%20Ordinance.pdf#:~:text=SUMMARY%20The%20proposed%20updates%20to%20Berkeley's%20Inclusionary,development%20\(2%E2%80%9319%20units\)%2C%20which%20face%20market%20constraints](https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-02-25%20Item%2014%20Inclusionary%20Housing%20Ordinance.pdf#:~:text=SUMMARY%20The%20proposed%20updates%20to%20Berkeley's%20Inclusionary,development%20(2%E2%80%9319%20units)%2C%20which%20face%20market%20constraints).

<sup>3</sup> City of Berkeley Planning and Development Residential Condominium Conversion Packet: [https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Condo%20Packet%2007-01-2022\\_Posted%20Online.pdf](https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Condo%20Packet%2007-01-2022_Posted%20Online.pdf)

Source: Berkeley Planning Department

\*Indicates a private development for the purpose of a group living/ownership situation.

Note: There are two developments (2025 Kala Bagai Way, constructing 48 units, and 3000 San Pablo Avenue constructing 78 units) that have put a condo map on their projects but are being advertised as rental units; they are using a density bonus for those developments though will not be providing ownership units.

***A Local Density Bonus Would Alter the Financial Feasibility of Larger-Scale Condominium Development, Allowing Stalled Rental Projects to Move Forward as Condominium Projects.*** Establishing a local density bonus for stalled rental residential projects that received a zoning permit since Jan. 1, 2024 could enable these projects to move forward as condo projects. A local density bonus can provide the benefits of the state density bonus (in terms of densities, bonuses, concessions, and waivers) that helps projects reach economic feasibility, while also providing the option to pay the in-lieu affordable housing fee for *all* condo units on site. These funds can then be used to fund 100 percent below-market-rate affordable housing elsewhere in Berkeley, such as at the Ashby East Parking Lot that is now owned by the City. The requirement under the state density bonus to provide below-market-rate units on site for condo developments currently renders these types of projects infeasible, as the for-sale price for below-market-rate condos is too low to be absorbed by the project's market-rate units. Costs for purchasing a condo unit can be considerable as they include mortgage loan payments, homeowner's insurance payments, property taxes and assessments, homeowner's association fees, utilities allowances, insurance premiums, etc., making ownership units much more costly to subsidize than rental units.<sup>4</sup> A local density bonus exclusively for condo projects could allow some of the stalled rental projects to convert to condo developments, providing the City with affordable housing in-lieu fee revenue that it cannot otherwise realize for stalled rental projects under current economic conditions.

***Creating a Local Density Bonus to Jumpstart Stalled Residential Development Provides Fiscal Benefits to City and Economic Development in Downtown.*** By developing a citywide local density bonus, the City of Berkeley can help to ensure that some of the stalled rental projects can move forward as condo projects, providing significant fiscal benefits to the City. The City would realize affordable housing in-lieu fee revenue to fund 100 percent affordable housing as well as property tax revenue to support baseline City services. Further, new condominiums will bring new residents to our downtown who will patronize downtown small businesses, restaurants, and arts venues—acting as an economic force multiplier.

***Condo Development in Downtown Offers Starter Homeownership Opportunities for Young Families and Downsizing Opportunities for Empty Nesters That's***

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<sup>4</sup> Meyers|Nave 2024 California Developers' Toolkit: Density Bonus Law, Housing Laws, & Strategies for Success, p. 4: <https://www.meyersnave.com/wp-content/uploads/2024.10-California-Developers-Toolkit-Density-Bonus-Law.pdf>

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***Walkable to Amenities and Public Transit.*** The City’s median home price of \$1.3 to \$1.5 million remains out of reach for all but the wealthiest families. This is an issue of public concern because our community must be able to provide long-term viable home options for the families of middle-class workers who serve our community, including police officers, firefighters, teachers, and health care workers. For aging empty nesters living in larger homes in the hills, there are virtually no opportunities to remain in the community and downsize to a smaller home that is walkable to amenities like grocery stores and public transit. A local density bonus for stalled rental projects seeking to convert to condo projects addresses the need to create smaller and more affordable ownership units for those seeking more affordable homeownership opportunities than a single-family home.

## **BACKGROUND**

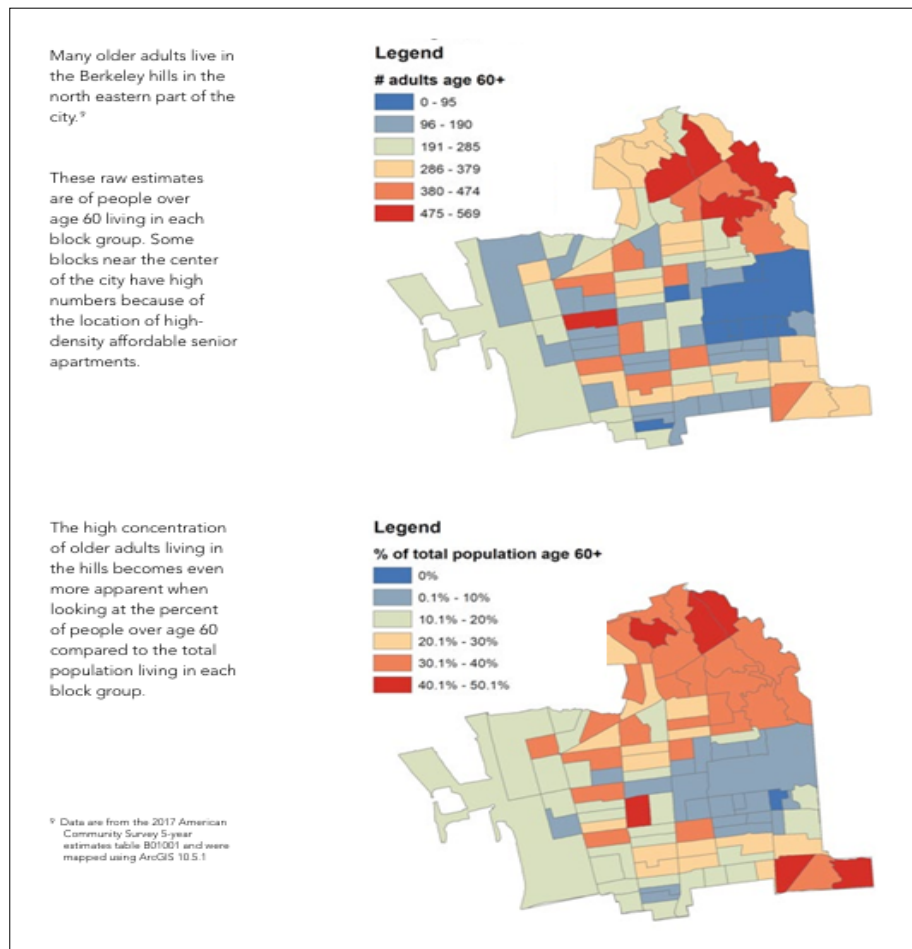
***The State Density Bonus Is a Powerful Tool to Help Residential Development Reach Feasibility.*** The state density bonus law allows developers to build more housing units than normally permitted by local zoning standards in exchange for including affordable deed-restricted units on site. Depending on the number of below-market-rate units and the affordability level, developers can increase the project’s density. For example, providing 20 percent of units at a very low-income level allows a developer to utilize a 50 percent density bonus. The goal of the state density bonus law is to incentivize the creation of affordable housing by helping a project reach economic feasibility. For each project that utilize a density bonus, local jurisdictions are required to provide up to four concessions to achieve an “identifiable and actual cost reduction” per State Government Code Section 65915(k) as well as an unlimited number of waivers as long as the developer can prove that the project cannot be built without them.

***Berkeley Has a Significant Aging Population of Homeowners.*** Slightly over a quarter of all Berkeley residents are 55 and older.<sup>5</sup> A high concentration of these older residents live in the Berkeley Hills, as shown in Exhibit 2 below. For aging residents wishing to remain in the community and downsize to a home they can own that is walkable to amenities and public transit, there are few options. Some new senior housing has been developed in recent years, such as Jordan Court for low-income seniors (corner of Oxford and Cedar), The Ivy at Berkeley assisted living and memory care home (corner of Dwight and Milvia), and Elegance Berkeley assisted living (corner of San Pablo Avenue and Addison). However, given the City’s significant aging population, more ownership opportunities are needed for seniors seeking to downsize and relocate to a walkable neighborhood as they age.

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<sup>5</sup> State of Public Health in Berkeley Summary Report, Information Report presented at the June 24, 2025 City Council meeting: <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-06-24%20Item%2030%20State%20of%20Public%20Health%20in%20Berkeley%20Summary%20Report.pdf>

## Exhibit 2: Aging Berkeley Residents Are Concentrated In Berkeley Hills



Source: Age-Friendly Berkeley Action Plan, 2018, : <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/2022-01/Age-Friendly-Berkeley-Action-Plan.pdf>

**Condo Affordable Housing In-Lieu Fee Has Been Lowered To Be Equal to Rental Affordable Housing Fee, With Potential to Encourage New Condo Development.** Historically, the affordable housing in-lieu fee for condo developments has been much higher than the fee imposed on rental projects; it was calculated as 62.5 percent of the difference between the market price for each unit and the below-market-rate price for each inclusionary unit.<sup>6</sup> In January 2023, the Berkeley City Council modified the affordable housing in-lieu fee to be applied on a square-foot basis, and to be applied equally to rental and ownership units.<sup>7</sup> Effective July 1, 2025, the current in lieu fee is \$62.83 per square foot, with all projects receiving a discount on the first 5,000 square feet.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Klein, Jordan and Warhuus, Lisa. "Citywide Affordable Housing Requirements," Jan. 17, 2023, <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2023-01-17%20Item%2021%20Citywide%20Affordable%20Housing%20Requirements.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> Klein, Jordan and Warhuus, Lisa. "Citywide Affordable Housing Requirements," Jan. 17, 2023, <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2023-01-17%20Item%2021%20Citywide%20Affordable%20Housing%20Requirements.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> Affordable Housing Requirements for Developers, City of Berkeley, [https://berkeleyca.gov/construction-development/permits-design-parameters/design-2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704](https://berkeleyca.gov/construction-development/permits-design-parameters/design-2180-Milvia-Street-Berkeley-CA-94704) • Tel: (510) 981-7110 • Fax: (510) 981-7111  
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***Oakland, San Francisco, and Hayward Have Implemented a Local Density Bonus To Further Policy Goals.*** Neighboring jurisdictions have adopted their own local density programs going beyond state requirements to further their own specific policy goals. In Oakland, the Zoning Incentive Program allows additional density beyond what is allowed by the Downtown Oakland Specific Plan Base Zoning in exchange for a variety of community benefits, on-site affordable housing and with the option of paying in-lieu fees.<sup>9</sup> San Francisco's local density program, HOME-SF,<sup>10</sup> allows more height than the state's density bonus in exchange for 20 to 30 percent of the units being affordable to low and moderate-income families, with 40 percent of the total units being two-bedrooms or larger, in an effort to provide more family-friendly housing. The City of Hayward allows an additional density bonus, incentives, and concessions for housing targeted to special populations, such as large families (3+ bedrooms), projects including universal design features for people with disabilities, seniors, college students, and foster youth to name several examples.<sup>11</sup> While this item is somewhat novel in allowing condominium projects to pay an in-lieu fee into our Housing Trust Fund only and not build affordable units on site, these other examples illustrate the flexibility that a local density bonus can provide to address local concerns.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The fiscal impacts of this referral would be staff time to draft municipal code updates and implement the referral. The overall fiscal benefits to the City could be notable if we are able to incentivize stalled rental projects to move forward as condo developments.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

Implementing a local density bonus for condo development will help create more infill housing in closer proximity to public transit. Studies show that infill development is an effective strategy for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by reducing vehicle miles travelled when compared to homes created in outlying undeveloped areas.

### **CONTACT PERSON**

Councilmember Rashi Kesarwani, District 1

(510) 981-7110

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parameters/affordable-housing#:~:text=Effective%20July%201%2C%202025%2C%20the%20rental%20or,from%20the%20Residential%20Unit%20Floor%20Area%20calculation

<sup>9</sup> Hausrath Economics Group Memorandum: Comparative Analysis of Housing Outcomes: Downtown Oakland Specific Plan Zoning Incentive Program and California Density Bonus Law, March 10, 2023: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/files/assets/city/v/1/public-meetings/zoning-update-committee/2023/b-comparing-zip-and-sdb-housing-outcomes.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> San Francisco Planning Department: HOME-SF: <https://sfplanning.org/home-sf>

<sup>11</sup> City of Hayward, Hayward Density Bonus User Guide, June 2025: <https://www.hayward-ca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/City-of-Hayward-Density-Bonus-User-Guide-2506.pdf>

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BERKELEY CITY COUNCILMEMBER  
**TERRY TAPLÍN**  
DISTRICT 2

**02a.12**

CONSENT CALENDAR  
April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Terry Taplin

Subject: Kala Art 2026: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds from General Funds and Grant of Such Funds

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$500 per Councilmember, including \$500 from Councilmember Taplin, to support Art Institute 2026.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

No General Fund impacts. Up to \$500 is available from contributing Councilmember's Council Office Budget discretionary accounts.

BACKGROUND

Founded in 1974, by Archana Horsting and Yuzo Nakano, as an international residency program rooted in the local community and a forum for ideas, Kala Art Institute encourages artistic experimentation. Over four decades -- from a garage studio with one etching press and a single hot plate to a 15,200 sq. ft. facility in the historic West Berkeley Heinz building -- Kala has grown steadily in the breadth of its offerings and in the size of its operation, yet remains true to its mission to be a workshop of ideas and to engage the community through exhibitions, education, and public programs.

In 2009, Kala dynamically expanded its facility providing new opportunities for artists and the community. With improved studios, project rooms, classrooms, and a 2,200 sq. ft. light-filled gallery with an accessible street level location, Kala is working to maximize its capacity to serve the community as a vital center for artistic experimentation. Kala serves 35,000 individuals yearly through artist residencies, exhibitions, and community workshops. In addition, Kala's Artists-in-Schools program provides curriculum-based visual arts education to children in neighboring public schools in Berkeley, Emeryville, and Oakland. Overall, their constituents range from 5 to 95 years old and represent a diverse group of participants including local residents, visiting artists from all state, country, and abroad -- representing an international spectrum of backgrounds and experience. Bay Area artists represent 85% of participants in Kala's artist residencies.

Kala Art Institute's mission is to help artists sustain their creative work overtime through its Artist-in-Residence and Fellowship Programs, and to engage the community through exhibitions, public programs, and education.

The heart of Kala's mission as a vital California art-making hub is supporting artists and engaging the community. Kala offers professional facilities to those working in and across print and digital media, new media, and performance. Artists at Kala are encouraged to work across disciplines, produce innovative artwork of the highest quality, and are given total freedom to realize their artistic vision using media that span the Gutenberg to digital eras. Kala offers access to equipment, time, and space to cultivate creative projects. Kala's studios provide tools for printmaking, photography, video, installation, and digital media. Kala fosters a fresh approach to experimentation, as artists investigate the interface of digital work, work made by hand, work made in the studio, performance-based work that engages the community and everything in between. A spirit of exchange and education is nurtured through all Kala's community programs.

Kala's creative community builds bridges between the intense art-making environment of the Kala studios, located in the historic Heinz ketchup factory in Berkeley and life outside the studio in Kala's immediate neighborhood and far beyond. Additionally, Kala is committed to offering quality art education to the general public and public school children through its on-site and online program of classes and workshops, summer programs and its Artists-in-Schools program, established in 1991, providing multiple week artist-led instruction to students in neighboring East Bay public schools.

Celebrating Kala's 52nd year, Art Kala 2026 brings together Kala's creative community and features the inventive and meaningful art being made in the Bay Area. Art Kala 52nd Anniversary Party with Honorary Auction Chair Doree Friedman will take place April 25th 2026, honoring Gale Antokal, Cathy Lu, and Adia Millett. Art Kala 52nd Anniversary Party will take place at: Kala Gallery, 2990 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley, California 94702.

More information can be found at: <http://www.kala.org/gallery/spring-gala-and-auction/>.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

This item is consistent with the city's vision on sustainability.

#### CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Terry Taplin, Council District 2 - 510-981-7120

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS FOR A GRANT TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SERVICES FOR A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC PURPOSE

WHEREAS, Councilmember Taplin has surplus funds in his office expenditure account (budget code 011-11-102-100-0000-000-411); and

WHEREAS, a private 501(c)(3) non-profit tax-exempt corporation Kala Arts Institute seeks funds to support their continued fundraising; and

WHEREAS, Kala Art Institute is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping artists sustain their creative work overtime through its Artist-in-Residence and Fellowship Programs, and to engaging the community through exhibitions, public programs, and education; and

WHEREAS, since 1974, Kala has grown steadily in the breadth of its offerings and in the size of its operation, yet remains true to its mission to be a workshop of ideas and to engage the community through exhibitions, education, and public programs; and

WHEREAS, Kala serves 35,000 individuals yearly through artist residencies, exhibitions, and community workshops, and through its Artists-in-Schools program provides curriculum-based visual arts education to children in neighboring public schools in Berkeley, Emeryville, and Oakland; and

WHEREAS, Kala's constituents range from 5 to 95 years old and represent a diverse group of participants including local residents, visiting artists from all state, country, and abroad – representing an international spectrum of backgrounds and experience – with Bay Area artists representing 85% of participants in Kala's artist residencies; and

WHEREAS, Art Kala 2025 brings together Kala's creative community and features the inventive and meaningful art being made in the Bay Area, honoring Gale Antokal, Cathy Lu, and Adia Millett; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by \$500 from Councilmember Taplin and any funds, up to \$500 per Council Office Budget, from the Mayor and other Councilmembers shall be granted to the Kala Art Institute to support Art Kala 2026 and to celebrate Kala's 52nd year helping artists sustain their creative work in Berkeley and beyond.



**BEN BARTLETT**

CITY COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT 3

**02a.13**CONSENT CALENDAR

April 14, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Ben Bartlett (Author)

Subject: Celebración Cultural Sylvia Mendez (Spring Cultural Celebration) by the Sylvia Mendez School PTA: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds to General Fund and Grant of Such Funds

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of funds, including \$1,000 from the discretionary council office budget of Councilmember Ben Bartlett, to the Sylvia Mendez Elementary School PTA to host a Spring Cultural Celebration event on April 26, 2026, on campus. The funds will be relinquished to the City's General Fund from the discretionary council office budget of Councilmember Ben Bartlett and the discretionary council office budgets of any other City Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

BACKGROUND

This year, the Berkeley Unified School District's (BUSD) only Two-Way Immersion school, Sylvia Mendez Elementary (Sylvia Mendez), will host a Cultural Celebration to celebrate the global heritage, various nationalities, and other cultures important to its community. Community members are creating teams to determine the information, tastes, crafts, dress, music, and performances they want to share at the event.

This is the fourth year of the event. In previous years, teams were formed to represent the following cultures: Eritrea, Mexico, Chile, Cuba, Canada, African American, Croatia, Farm & Garden, Rainbow Families, Finland, Germany, and Venezuela. Meals were catered by different local ethnic restaurants and supplemented by some of the teams with homemade foods. In addition, the tables shared cultural music in a community playlist, and there was live music. The participants shaped the events, which were well received by the community, which hopes to build off of last year's great success, which included a national parade featuring traditional clothing, a third-grade dance, and a traditional guitar performance.

With such great success, the Sylvia Mendez PTA is hosting this event for the fourth consecutive time, maintaining the same goal of contextualizing our students' cultural influences, backgrounds, and much more. The funds requested are intended to offset some costs associated with the event. Therefore, they should be sent to the Sylvia Mendez PTA organization to distribute accordingly.

This parent-led committee is already funding most of the event's costs and has been a reliable resource for offsetting budget shortfalls. The donations ultimately support the program guidelines laid out by BUSD (on the [Sylvia Mendez Elementary website](#)<sup>1</sup>), which is to “develop long-lasting relationships and cultural appreciation for peers who are often separated by race and language.” This is further defined on the [school's website](#) as “to seek to honor and understand families.”

Since the pandemic restrictions were lifted in 2022, Sylvia Mendez Elementary has hosted well-attended Spring Events. Scheduled late in the school year, they have proven crucial for the community. Facing heightened challenges this year due to on-site construction that began last summer and will continue at least through next school year, fostering relationships by building a greater understanding of families within and the development of our community is fundamental in uplifting morale.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

No negative impact.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

No General Fund impact; \$1,000 is available from the discretionary council office budget of Councilmember Ben Bartlett.

The cost is Sylvia Mendez School PTA: Celebración Cultural (Spring Cultural Celebration).

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Ben Bartlett  
James Chang

bbartlett@cityofberkeley.info  
jchang@cityofberkeley.info

ATTACHMENT

1. Resolution

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.berkeleyschools.net/schools/elementary-schools/sylviamendez-elementary/>

Attachment 1

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

AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS FOR A DONATION TO THE SYLVIA MENDEZ SCHOOL PTA TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR A SPRING CULTURAL CELEBRATION EVENT.

**WHEREAS**, Councilmember Ben Bartlett has surplus funds in his office expenditure account; and

**WHEREAS**, Sylvia Mendez School PTA, a California non-profit organization, will receive funds in the amount of \$1,000 from Councilmember Ben Bartlett's office expenditure account; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sylvia Mendez School PTA supports equitable public education for students, families, and our community through grants and volunteer programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of such services would fulfill the municipal public purpose of providing students and the youth with opportunities through educational programs and activities to encourage them to learn and embrace cultural diversity; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by the Mayor and Councilmembers from their office budgets, of an amount to be determined by each Councilmember, shall be granted to Sylvia Mendez School PTA for the purpose of supporting students and the youth in highlighting cultural heritage that forms the community of the student body.





CONSENT CALENDAR  
April 14, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Igor Tregub (Author), Councilmember Terry Taplin (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember Cecilia Lunaparra (Co-Sponsor)

Subject: Referral to the City Manager: Amendments to the Berkeley Green Code for Newly Constructed Buildings and Existing Construction

**RECOMMENDATION**

Refer to the City Manager the following:

- (1) Continued development of a Single Source Energy Margin (Single Margin) reach code for adoption;
- (2) Further analysis, for future consideration, of additional Green Building policy and operational measures, such as Flexible Path (FlexPath) and Air Conditioner to Heat Pump (AC2HP) provisions, and/or other applicable pathways; and
- (3) Further streamlining, as feasible and appropriate, of the approval of certain Green Building equipment, systems, features, and processes for residential and residential-over-ground-floor-commercial construction. Consideration should be given to the establishment of an expedited permitting pathway for installations performed by contractors that participate in a California Division of Apprenticeship Standards-approved apprenticeship program in the applicable trade.

As part of this ongoing work, the City Manager shall continue to examine the projected costs and potential savings, as applicable, associated with the referral; evaluate the complexity of compliance; and develop options to simplify requirements and reduce friction, particularly for smaller builders, developers, and homeowners.

**POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

On March 18, 2026, the Facilities, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment & Sustainability Committee adopted the following action: M/S/C (Taplin/Humbert) To send the item to council with a qualified positive recommendation with the provisions that the ongoing work reexamine projected costs, evaluate the complexity of compliance, and offer options for making it simpler and as low friction as possible particularly for smaller builders, developers, and homeowners. Vote: All Ayes.

## **FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION**

The proposed Ordinance may modestly or moderately increase the plan check and inspection workload. Costs would be offset by existing fees paid by permit applicants. Staff time associated with Recommendation 1 is already budgeted for and underway.

## **CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS**

City of Berkeley staff is in the process of responding to a May 2025 referral by the City Council to evaluate policies that accelerate building decarbonization.<sup>1</sup> Recommendations 1 and 2 align with the existing proposal for staff's current work plan.<sup>2</sup> <sup>3</sup> Recommendation 3 aligns with the City of Berkeley's ongoing efforts to streamline the permitting process for green building systems and equipment and reduce "soft costs" associated with their permitting process.<sup>4</sup>

### **Single-Margin Energy Reach Code**

The single margin approach would require the proposed building to meet a higher source energy compliance margin for all occupancies than currently required by the California Energy Code. Although "source energy" is not defined in the state Energy Code, a Code manual explains it generally measures the marginal greenhouse gas emissions of energy used to supply electricity (2022 Single Family Residential Compliance Manual at 1.6.4). The metric accounts for the system delivering energy to the building, as well as the time of day the energy is delivered.

By requiring that a proposed building achieve a certain compliance margin below the source energy requirement for a standard design building, such an ordinance would require that a building improve upon the state code's performance metric. Each building type would have a respective single margin it would need to comply with. This approach gives builders flexibility in how to meet these standards and allows and applies to both electric and mixed-use fuel designs. Methods to achieve a particular source energy compliance margin include electrifying appliances, or, if a building uses gas appliances, adding efficiency improvements such as insulation, and/or utilizing solar photovoltaic (PV) or a battery.

### **Air Conditioning (AC) to Heat Pump**

As the federal government is rolling back climate progress, local governments such as Berkeley have the opportunity to step up to sustain and accelerate emissions reductions. Under an "AC to Heat Pump" (AC2HP) policy, any new installation of an air conditioner

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<sup>1</sup> <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-05-20%20Item%2025%20Authorization%20for%20City%20Manager%20to%20evaluate%20policies.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [2025-12-03 ECC Item 8 Reach Code Memo.pdf](https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/legislative-body-meeting-attachments/2025%20Reach%20Codes%20for%20FITES%2003-04-26.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/legislative-body-meeting-attachments/2025%20Reach%20Codes%20for%20FITES%2003-04-26.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> [2023-10-30 Online Standardized Plan Review and Permitting for Rooftop Solar Systems.pdf](https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/legislative-body-meeting-attachments/2023-10-30%20Online%20Standardized%20Plan%20Review%20and%20Permitting%20for%20Rooftop%20Solar%20Systems.pdf)

would instead be required to use a heat pump, which provides both heating and cooling through a two-way valve, or, alternatively, to install a suite of energy efficiency measures. An AC2HP ordinance was produced in collaboration with the Statewide Reach Codes Program<sup>5</sup>, and establishes a “Time of Replacement” policy. The model code language proposes a reach code requiring that any existing single-family home involving replacement or alteration of an existing air conditioning system or installation of a new air conditioning must either include a heat pump space heater as the primary heating system or install other energy conservation measures. This approach targets a natural point of intervention in a building’s lifecycle. By focusing on equipment replacement events, this policy minimizes disruption to property owners while ensuring progress toward decarbonization.<sup>6</sup> Several other California jurisdictions (e.g., Mill Valley<sup>7</sup>, Glendale<sup>8</sup>, Oakland<sup>9</sup>, Menlo Park<sup>10</sup>, San Jose<sup>11</sup>, Sunnyvale<sup>12</sup>, Los Altos Hills<sup>13</sup>, Saratoga<sup>14</sup>, Campbell<sup>15</sup>, *et al*<sup>16</sup>) have passed or are on track to pass an AC2HP measure by the end of 2026.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Berkeley City Council adopted the California Green Building Standards Code with local amendments on November 29, 2022, and readopted this code on June 4, 2024, with State Mid-Cycle Supplements and further local amendments (effective July 1, 2024).<sup>17</sup>

Proposed amendments to the Berkeley Green Code were discussed by the Environment and Climate Commission (ECC) at its April and May 2024 meetings. ECC considered

<sup>5</sup> <https://localenergycodes.com/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://bayareareachcodes.org/model-reach-codes/>

<sup>7</sup> [https://cityofmillvalley.granicus.com/Viewer.php?view\\_id=2&clip\\_id=2073&meta\\_id=100851](https://cityofmillvalley.granicus.com/Viewer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=2073&meta_id=100851)

<sup>8</sup>

<https://glendaleca.primegov.com/api/compilemeetingattachmenthistory/historyattachment/?historyId=db909199-b056-4790-90ff-994bc0f6b172>

<sup>9</sup> Draft not publicly available as of the date of this report’s publication.

<sup>10</sup> <https://menlopark.gov/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/agendas-and-minutes/city-council/2025-meetings/20250812/h1-ordinance-amend-chapter-12-muni-code.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> <https://sanjose.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=14574069&GUID=051302E5-52A2-4958-9CEB-6AEDF6C0CAF8>

<sup>12</sup> <https://sunnyvaleca.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=AO&ID=164851&GUID=16d2e642-ad7e-485a-ac75-599a0d0b0f19&N=Q291bmNpbCBBZ2VuZGEgSXRlbSB1cGRhdGVkIGZvbGxvd2luZyBwdWJsaWNhdGlvbiAocG9zdGVkIDlwMjUwODEyKQ%3d%3d>

<sup>13</sup> <https://losaltoshills.ca.gov/571/Reach-Codes>

<sup>14</sup> Draft not publicly available as of the date of this report’s publication.

<sup>15</sup> Draft not publicly available as of the date of this report’s publication.

<sup>16</sup> <https://bayareareachcodes.org>

<sup>17</sup> On October 28, 2025, the Berkeley City Council adopted the first reading of an Ordinance repealing and reenacting the Berkeley Building, Residential, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing, Energy, and Green Building Standards Codes in BMC Chapters 19.28, 19.29, 19.30, 19.32, 19.34, 19.36 and 19.37, and adopting related procedural and stricter provisions and scheduled a Public Hearing, pursuant to state law, for the second reading on November 18, 2025. While the adoption of these codes constitutes an update from the 2022 to the 2025 Building Standards Code, with certain local amendments, the Green Building reach codes under discussion were not included in the ordinance. Staff anticipates advancing those codes for City Council review in early 2026.

options including a Zero NOx CALGreen reach code and a Single Margin Energy reach code. Several commissioners indicated support for a Zero NOx CALGreen reach code, without an exception for cooking equipment used in commercial kitchens, citing potential benefits including alignment with BAAD's Zero NOx appliance rules, appreciation of future preparedness that a reach code brings, and facilitation of neighborhood decarbonization efforts tied to seismic safety and other health and safety benefits.

On May 7, 2024, City Council referred to the Health, Life Enrichment, Equity & Community (HLEEC) Policy Committee to consider local amendments to CALGreen to require all newly constructed buildings to be Zero NOx Emission Buildings. On July 29, 2024, the HLEEC Policy Committee unanimously voted to send Council a qualified, positive recommendation for the Zero NOx CALGreen reach code, noting also that Council should consider a commercial kitchen exemption, or as an alternative, consider a single margin energy reach code.

The item was removed from the October 15, 2024, Council agenda in order to evaluate recommendations submitted by several environmental organizations to adopt a single margin energy reach code.

#### **CODE AMENDMENTS**

The California Building Standards Code (Title 24 of the State of California Code of Regulations) is updated and published on a three-year cycle. After the California Building Standards Commission publishes the triennial codes, they become effective statewide. The current (2022) cycle of State building codes became effective on January 1, 2023. Local jurisdictions may amend the published codes to address local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions.

The current three-year building code cycle and any effective amendments thereto are effective through December 31, 2025. The local amendments proposed with a green building reach code ordinance would not negate or otherwise affect previously adopted amendments; they introduce new amendments to the 2022 and California Green Building Standards Code. Under state law local jurisdictions may adopt stricter building code provisions if justified by findings of local climatic, geological or topographical conditions.

In Fall 2025, the Berkeley City Council adopted an Ordinance repealing and reenacting the Berkeley Building, Residential, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing, Energy, and Green Building Standards Codes in BMC Chapters 19.28, 19.29, 19.30, 19.32, 19.34, 19.36 and 19.37, and adopting related procedural and stricter provisions and scheduled a Public Hearing, pursuant to state law, for the second reading on November 18, 2025. While the adoption of these codes constitutes an update from the 2022 to the 2025 Building Standards Code, with certain local amendments, the Green Building reach codes under discussion were not included in the ordinance.

A green building reach code ordinance supports the City's Strategic Plan Goals to create a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city, and to be a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment. The

ordinance also supports City Council directives and policies related to fire and life safety, resilience, and climate protection, and is supported by the resolution adopting findings of local conditions.

### **RECENT STATE LAW DEVELOPMENTS**

On June 30, 2025, Governor Newsom signed AB 130 (Committee on Budget, 2025), which enacted into statute provisions that limited the ability of local jurisdictions to adopt certain performance standards that are higher than those prescribed in the California Building Standards Code, with certain stated exceptions.<sup>18</sup> Per discussion with the Berkeley City Attorney’s Office and the solicitation of other professional opinions as well as dialogue with applicable state legislative offices as to AB 130’s intent, AB 130 either does not apply or one of AB 130’s exemptions is likely to apply to the recommendations.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS**

The recommendations contemplated through this referral align with Berkeley’s health, safety, and climate goals. It supports the Climate Action Plan, Berkeley Resilience Strategy, and Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley goals. Green building reach codes reduce the human health, environmental, and climate impacts of emissions associated with occupying and using the new and existing buildings.

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) because there is no possibility that this action may have a significant effect on the environment; the referral will result in standards that are more protective of the environment than existing state standards. Further, the referral will result in standards that are exempt from the requirements of CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15307 and 15308 as an action by a regulatory agency taken to protect the environment and natural resources.

### **RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Local green building reach codes provide a higher level of safety than are achieved through the State’s Building Codes and Energy Codes. Fire risk, risks to the health of building occupants, the accumulating and compounding risks of climate change to the San Francisco Bay Area, its residents, its coastal and littoral zones, and broader risks of degraded air quality justify adoption of Berkeley code amendments that are stricter than the California Building Standards Code and Energy Code.

In addition to the climate benefits discussed elsewhere in the report, the recommendations would align with Berkeley’s Building Emissions Savings Ordinance, which provides a compliance pathway for properties with heat pumps. “Time-of-replacement” policies such as AC2HP are considered among the most cost-effective policies for decarbonizing buildings. According to the Berkeley Existing Buildings Electrification Strategy (BEBES), adopted by Council in 2021, “the marginal cost—[the] difference between installing electric equipment and replacing with new gas equipment—

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<sup>18</sup> [https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202520260AB130](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB130)

at this time is smaller than the full cost of installing electric equipment.”

Yet the economics of AC2HP are even more favorable than gas-to-electric conversions. While furnace-to-heat pump conversions typically incur added costs due to electrical work, the electrical and ducting requirements of an air conditioner are typically identical to those of a heat pump. For this reason, BEBES lists AC2HP as a Phase 1 strategy for implementation by 2025.

### **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

A wide array of other green building reach code types (e.g., Zero NOx, Ultra-Low NOx, and Flex Path and electric readiness reach codes) and scope of applicability (e.g., industrial and mixed-use buildings beyond residential-over-ground-floor-commercial) were considered by the District 4 Council office but were ultimately deemed to be less feasible than the recommended approaches, potentially preempted by federal and/or state law, less applicable to Berkeley’s climatological characteristics, or potentially already accomplished through prior adoption of other ordinances.<sup>19</sup> As such, the office supports the ongoing efforts of City of Berkeley staff under recommendations 1 and 2 as bolstered by recommendation 3.

### **CONTACT PERSON**

Igor Tregub, Councilmember, District 4, 510-981-7140  
[itregub@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:itregub@berkeleyca.gov)

Olga Bolotina, Chief of Staff, District 4  
[obolotina@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:obolotina@berkeleyca.gov)

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<sup>19</sup> For example, Berkeley’s recently updated Building Emissions Savings Ordinance already may accomplish certain Flex Path objectives through a similar mechanism for certain types of existing residential construction prior to or shortly following time of sale. See <https://berkeleyca.gov/construction-development/green-building/building-emissions-saving-ordinance-beso>



CONSENT CALENDAR  
April 14, 2026

To: Honorable Members of the City Council

From: Mayor Adena Ishii (Author), and Council Members Lunaparra, Humbert and O’Keefe (Co-Sponsors)

Subject: Referral to the City Manager and the Parks Commission the request to develop and implement a plan and identify budget to rename City of Berkeley locations, events, and the city holiday currently named for Cesar Chavez, and engage with the Chavez/Huerta Commemoration Period partners and Latinos Unidos de Berkeley to bring back to City Council recommendations for how the City of Berkeley may move forward with a name changes that will continue to honor the legacy of labor organizing and solidarity for farm workers and recognize farm workers as the backbone of America.

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the City Manager and the Parks Commission the request to develop and implement a plan and identify budget to rename City of Berkeley locations, events, and the city holiday currently named for Cesar Chavez and engage with the Chavez/Huerta Commemoration Period partners and Latinos Unidos de Berkeley to bring back to City Council recommendations for how the City of Berkeley, may move forward with a name changes that will continue to honor the legacy of labor organizing and solidarity for farm workers and recognize farm workers as the backbone of America.

BACKGROUND

Cesar Chavez, the late United Farm Workers (UFW) co-founder and labor leader has long been an icon and hero to communities across the country. Berkeley has a long history of honoring the legacy of Cesar Chavez dating back to 1996 by naming the City’s waterfront park after him and with an official city holiday that aligns with the State of California holiday. Over the years, the City has worked collaboratively with the Latinx community, local educational institutions, and community based organizations to organize commemorative activities that honor Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta, and farm workers.

The following is an initial list of locations and events:

- Cesar Chavez Park (1996)
- Cesar Chavez Day -March 30/31 (2000 - aligned with the State Holiday)
- Chavez/Huerta Tribute Site and Solar Calendar (2011)
- Cesar Chavez-Dolores Huerta Commemorative Period (2021)
- Cesar Chavez Park Perimeter Trail Project (2024 -aka Olivia Stegman Trail)

On March 18, 2026, the New York Times published an in-depth investigation documenting extensive evidence that Mr. Chavez groomed and sexually abused young girls who worked in the farmworker movement<sup>1</sup>. In the same story it was revealed that Mr. Chavez raped UFW co-founder Dolores Huerta. After 60 years of silence, Ms. Huerta, a renowned labor leader and civil rights activist issued a statement with her personal story recounting how Chavez had raped her and how she stayed silent because she “believed that exposing the truth would hurt the farmworker movement I have spent my entire life fighting for.”<sup>2</sup>

The members of the Berkeley City Council condemns sexual violence and stands with the survivors who bravely told their story. In light of the in-depth reporting of credible accusations against Mr. Chavez the City must work on a path forward to remove Cesar Chavez’s name from city locations, events, and holidays.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

No Impact

#### FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Staff time to develop a plan and cost allocation to change the name.

#### ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

No name change

#### CONTACT PERSON

Mayor Adena Ishii  
(510) 981-7100

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/03/18/us/cesar-chavez-sexual-abuse-allegations-ufw.html>

<sup>2</sup> [https://medium.com/@dolores\\_huerta/march-18-2026-e74c20430555?](https://medium.com/@dolores_huerta/march-18-2026-e74c20430555?)



**BEN BARTLETT**  
CITY COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT 3

**02a.19**

CONSENT CALENDAR

April 14, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Councilmember Ben Bartlett  
Subject: Recommendation to Parks and Waterfront Commission to Explore the Naming of a Public Plaza in South Berkeley as Delores Cooper Plaza

**RECOMMENDATION**

Refer to the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission to explore naming of the public plaza located at the intersection of Adeline Street and Fairview Street within the Lorin District corridor in South Berkeley as Delores Cooper Plaza; including process and directive of coordinating implementation, historical preservation, such as signage, universal design, and public engagement with community partners to document Delores Cooper’s historic contributions to the City of Berkeley.

**CURRENT SITUATION**

The City of Berkeley has continuously recognized individuals whose leadership and service have shaped the City’s cultural and civic identity. Public space naming is an important tool that honors community legacy by strengthening neighborhood identity and civic pride.

Delores Nochi Cooper is a founding board member and Executive Manager of Berkeley Juneteenth Cultural Celebrations, a 35-year-old non-profit organization located in Berkeley, California. A retired peace officer with 25 years of experience, Ms. Cooper’s professional background includes legal compliance monitoring, investigations, needs assessments, report writing, and drug intervention education. Ms. Cooper’s five years as a departmental training manager provided her with experience in strategic planning, policy development, contract negotiation, and production management. Ms. Cooper holds an MA in Legal Analysis and a BA in History from Lone Mountain College in San Francisco.

Ms. Cooper has used her professional expertise to empower and strengthen the community through events such as Juneteenth and Black History Month. Since taking over the helm of Berkeley Juneteenth as its Production Manager ten years ago, the festival has grown in its scope and influence and is hailed as the longest-running Juneteenth event in California. Ms. Cooper’s portfolio includes serving as a historical exhibits curator, Vision magazine editor, and graphic designer in charge of web and social media content,

event images, marketing materials, fundraising and proposal writing, budget management, and as the single point of contact for the City, press, and service providers.

Ms. Cooper played a central role in the successful effort to rename Grove Street as Martin Luther King Jr. Way, serving as a member of the Martin Luther King Ad Hoc Committee. She is an active participant in her community and has volunteered her services as a writing coach at Berkeley and Richmond schools through Writer Coach Connection; as a program consultant with the South Berkeley Legacy Project; and as a Police Review Commissioner with the City of Berkeley. In 2021, Ms. Cooper was appointed to serve on the City of Berkeley's Independent Redistricting Commission. In 2024, she published a collection of poetry, "A Sweating Body That is Cooled By A Sometimey Breeze."

South Berkeley, and specifically the Lorin District corridor, is widely recognized as the historic and contemporary epicenter of culture in Berkeley. As displacement pressures continue, it is increasingly important for the City to preserve and affirm Berkeley's legacy through intentional placemaking and cultural recognition.

The proposed Delores Cooper Plaza, located at the intersection of Adeline Street and Fairview Street within the Lorin District corridor in South Berkeley, reflects Ms. Cooper's deep connection to Berkeley and its ongoing cultural and historical significance. The naming has received unanimous support from the Lorin Business Association of South Berkeley and strong support from numerous members of the broader Berkeley community.

## **BACKGROUND**

Delores Cooper's legacy as an educator, advocate, and cultural leader spans decades of service to Berkeley residents, particularly Black youth and families. Born in Oakland, nurtured in Compton, and raised in Berkeley, she believes art, music, and history can serve as vehicles for channeling creative expression and building self-esteem, ultimately addressing the generational emotional trauma of slavery and systemic racism. Her passion is event programming with a community-healing component that builds community, with "ME and WE" as essential participants in a healthy, diverse community.

Cooper's leadership and her continued involvement in cultural institutions, such as the Berkeley Juneteenth Festival, demonstrate her enduring commitment to building the Berkeley community.

This proposal is further supported by Inter-City Services Inc. (ICS), a Bay Area organization that has served marginalized and underserved communities since 1984, which has formally expressed its support for establishing Delores Cooper Plaza and highlighted the appropriateness of the proposed location.

### **REVIEW OF EXISTING PLANS, PROGRAMS, POLICIES, AND LAWS**

This action is consistent with the Adeline Corridor Specific Plan's placemaking goals, which emphasize improvements to the public realm, corridor identity, and pedestrian-oriented retail and cultural activity.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

No negative impact.

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Community outreach for this proposal included engagement with the Lorin Business Association, community organizations, and South Berkeley residents. The proposal received unanimous support from the Lorin Business Association and broad endorsement from members of the Berkeley community.

In addition, outreach and consultation were conducted with Kieron Slaughter, former City of Berkeley Office of Economic Development staff member and former Liaison to the Lorin Business Association of South Berkeley. Mr. Slaughter brings extensive experience in public-space renaming and placemaking in Berkeley, as well as several other successful renaming efforts and placemaking installations in Oakland and Richmond. His expertise helped inform the proposed process and community-centered approach for this initiative.

The Commission is asked to review this proposal and, if appropriate, recommend a plan and approval to the City Council.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Costs associated with the fabrication and installation of plaza signage and interpretive elements are anticipated to be modest and may be covered by existing departmental budgets or through partnerships and donations.

### **CONTACT PERSON**

Councilmember Ben Bartlett

[bbartlett@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:bbartlett@berkeleyca.gov)

James Chang

[jchang@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:jchang@berkeleyca.gov)

Artemisia Spencer Mace

[aspencermace@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:aspencermace@berkeleyca.gov)

ATTACHMENTS AND MATERIALS

1. Delores Cooper Plaza Proposed Location Map
2. Inter-City Services Inc. Letter of Support
3. The Lorin Business Association Letter of Support
4. Delores Nochi Cooper Biography

Attachment 1:



Attachment 2:

s Fun



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Date: December 04, 2025

Kamau A. Edwards, Attorney  
The Edwards Firm  
ROW DTLA  
777 S. Alameda Street, 2nd Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90021

Re: Endorsement — Delores Cooper Honoring Project

Dear Mr. Edwards,

This letter confirms that Inter-City Services Inc. (ICS) fully endorses the proposal to honor Ms. Delores Cooper through the establishment of the Proposed Delores Cooper Plaza, located near Alcatraz Avenue and Adeline Street within the Lorin District corridor in the South Berkeley area of the City of Berkeley.

As a longstanding organization dedicated to serving and elevating marginalized and underserved communities in the Bay Area since 1984, ICS expresses its full support for this meaningful project recognizing Ms. Cooper's enduring legacy and contributions to the Berkeley community. The proposed location reflects her deep connection to South Berkeley and its ongoing cultural and historical significance.

Please accept this letter as formal documentation of ICS's endorsement. We look forward to continued collaboration on the next steps in bringing this project to fruition.

Sincerely,

Mansour Id-Deen  
Founder and Executive Director

3282 Adeline Street  
Berkeley, CA 94703 (510)  
655-3552 www.icsworks.com

Attachment 3:



**Date:** 11/3/25

**Kamau A. Edwards, Attorney**  
**The Edwards Firm**  
ROW DTLA  
777 S. Alameda Street, 2nd Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90021

**Re: Board Approval — Delores Cooper Honoring Project**

Dear Mr. Edwards,

This letter confirms that the **Lorin Business Association** met on **October 17, 2025**, and voted to **approve the proposal to honor Ms. Delores Cooper** through the establishment of the **Proposed Delores Cooper Plaza**, located near **Alcatraz Avenue and Adeline Street** within the Lorin District corridor.

The Lorin Business Association expresses its full support for this meaningful project, recognizing Ms. Cooper’s enduring legacy and contributions to the Berkeley community. The proposed location reflects her deep connection to the Lorin District and its ongoing cultural and historical significance.

Please accept this letter as formal documentation of the Board’s approval. We look forward to continued collaboration on the next steps in bringing this project to fruition.

Sincerely,  
**Liz Lisle, Co-Chair**  
**Yvette Holts, Co-Chair**

Attachment 4:

## DELORES NOCHI COOPER



Delores Nochi Cooper is a founding board member and Executive Manager of the day-to-day operation of Berkeley Juneteenth Cultural Celebrations, a 35-year-old non-profit organization located in Berkeley, California.

Her background as a retired peace officer for 25 years, honed her skills in legal compliance monitoring, investigation, needs assessment, report writing, and as a drug intervention educator; her five years as the departmental training manager provided her with experience in strategic planning, policy development, contract negotiation, and production management. Delores has transitioned her professional expertise in pursuit of her overarching commitment to the emotional well-being of her community through events such as Juneteenth and Black History

Month that celebrate the African American experience. Probation work taught her the importance of family, community connectedness, and that change is always possible.

Delores believes merely celebrating Juneteenth is not enough. Her passion is event programming with a community healing component that builds community with "ME and WE" as essential participants in a healthy, diverse community. Delores believes art, music and history can be used as a vehicle to channel creative juices and build self-esteem, that can change norms and behaviors, and ultimately address the generational emotional trauma of slavery and systemic racism.

Since taking over the helm of Berkeley Juneteenth as its Production Manager ten years ago, the festival has grown in its scope and influence and is hailed as the longest running Juneteenth event in California. Delores' portfolio includes historical exhibits curator, Vision magazine editor, graphic designer in charge of web and social media content, event images, and marketing materials. To that portfolio, add fundraising and proposal writing, budget management, and the single point of contact for the City, press, and service providers.

Delores is an active participant in her community and has volunteered her services as a writing coach at Berkeley and Richmond schools with Writer Coach Connection; as a program consultant with the South Berkeley Legacy Project; as a member of the Martin Luther King Ad Hoc Committee which successfully renamed a major Berkeley thoroughfare in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.; and with the City of Berkeley as a Police Review Commissioner. In 2021, Delores was appointed to serve on the City of Berkeley's Independent Redistricting Commission.

In 2024, Delores published a collection of poetry, "A Sweating Body That is Cooled By A Sometimey Breeze." She is currently working on her memoir.

Born in Oakland, nurtured in Compton, and raised in Berkeley, CA, Delores is a daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, aunt, cousin, devoted friend, and a team player with a strong work ethic instilled in her at an early age. She believes in cultivating dreams and ideas to fruition. In her down time, she enjoys, reading, writing, water aerobics, finding treasures at estate sales, sitting in her sacred spot just being and observing, and above all, spending time with loved ones.

Delores received her MA in Legal Analysis and BA in History from Lone Mountain College in San Francisco.



Brent Blackaby  
Councilmember District 6

ACTION CALENDAR  
April 14, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Councilmember Blackaby (Author), Mayor Ishii (Co-Sponsor)  
Subject: Clarifying BPD Protocols to Protect Berkeley Residents, Support Public Safety, and Safeguard Constitutional Rights During Federal Immigration Enforcement Activities

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution to clarify Berkeley Police Department (BPD) protocols in order to protect all Berkeley residents and peaceful protestors during any potential federal immigration enforcement activities in Berkeley.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

No fiscal impact. Actions to be completed by existing staff.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Recent high profile immigration enforcement operations throughout the U.S. have resulted in violence against residents and peaceful protestors, most notably in Minneapolis, demonstrating clear threats to community safety, public trust, and the exercise of constitutional rights during periods of increased federal immigration enforcement activity.

In order to prepare for potential public safety impacts and proactively assure Berkeley residents about their safety during any periods of heightened federal immigration enforcement activity, it is necessary to clarify and clearly communicate BPD protocols during these situations.

Berkeley is a city grounded in trust, safety, and the conviction that every individual deserves dignity and respect. When civil immigration enforcement actions disrupt our neighborhoods, they do more than target specific individuals—they create fear, separate families, and weaken the trust that binds our community. These actions place both residents and law enforcement at risk and run counter to the values we uphold.

It is our responsibility to strive to protect those who call Berkeley home and stand firm against federal overreach. This requires establishing clear expectations within our city.

This Resolution lays out the City Council's principles and expectations of the Berkeley Police Department and City of Berkeley staff related to interactions with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) before, during, and after federal immigration enforcement actions.

The Council directs the City Manager in consultation with the Berkeley Police Chief to update BPD's protocols, consistent with state law and Department policies, using the following specific guidance around Transparency, De-escalation, and Documentation and Investigation of Potential Violations of Law.

#### TRANSPARENCY IN LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE

1. The Berkeley Police Department ("BPD") shall instruct its personnel that the BPD on-scene supervisor(s) at any federal immigration enforcement site shall attempt, when feasible and consistent with officer safety and operational considerations, to identify, verify, and record, when it's tactically safe and won't interfere with immigration law enforcement operations, the on-scene supervisory immigration officer's name, badge, or identification number.
2. Given the inherently unpredictable and contentious nature of immigration enforcement matters, officers shall activate their BWCs in compliance with Departmental Policy 425(e). BPD personnel shall preserve the video pursuant to their evidence preservation protocols.

#### DE-ESCALATION, PUBLIC SAFETY RESPONSE, AND PROVISION OF FIRST AID

1. In the event of civil immigration enforcement operations, including the presence of ICE agents or other federal law enforcement personnel, BPD shall use its established de-escalation protocols to protect public health, welfare, and safety, and to safeguard the constitutional rights of all individuals present, including those engaged in nonviolent First Amendment activity.
2. When feasible, BPD shall use its agency-approved tactics and techniques to maintain the peace, preserve public safety, and de-escalate potential conflicts while remaining neutral and enforcing applicable state and local laws.
3. As appropriate, on-scene BPD personnel shall provide clear communication to bystanders that BPD is present to protect public health, welfare, and safety, preserve the peace, and that they are not participating in civil immigration enforcement activities, consistent with state law and Department Policy 415.
4. BPD shall instruct its personnel that they must protect and aid people in life-threatening situations, regardless of the involved party or agency affiliation. BPD personnel shall summon emergency medical assistance and render aid to injured persons at the scene of any immigration enforcement action. First responders

shall render aid according to their existing protocols and established standards of care.

#### DOCUMENTATION AND INVESTIGATION OF POTENTIAL VIOLATIONS OF LAW

1. BPD shall document and investigate potential violations of state or local law occurring within its jurisdiction, consistent with applicable law. Such investigations shall occur in coordination with appropriate prosecutorial and government authorities, as permitted by law. BPD shall work in collaboration with the City Attorney's Office, the Alameda County District Attorney, and/or the California Attorney General to refer cases for review and potential charging, as appropriate.
2. BPD personnel who receive information from the public regarding conduct by civil immigration enforcement personnel or others occurring within the City that may constitute a violation of City, state, or federal law, shall notify a supervisor, who will ensure that the information is documented, a report is taken when appropriate, and any investigation is handled in accordance with Department procedures and applicable law.
3. BPD may investigate reported violations of California state law within its jurisdiction and authority and make referrals of felony matters to the Alameda County District Attorney or California Attorney General, while coordinating with other investigating agencies, as appropriate.
4. BPD shall evaluate lawful and operationally appropriate methods for publicly sharing aggregated data regarding alleged violations of law arising from federal immigration enforcement activity within the City. Any such reporting shall be prepared in a manner consistent with applicable law, privacy requirements, evidentiary considerations, and Department practice, and may be provided periodically to the City Attorney, Mayor and City Council no less than quarterly and, if possible, on the Transparency Hub.
5. The City of Berkeley's Public Information Officer shall, in partnership with BPD, provide communications to residents regarding BPD's policy to investigate and document any such incidents.

#### BACKGROUND

Local law enforcement is prohibited from intervening with federal immigration enforcement operations.

However, local law enforcement can play a critical role in ensuring transparency and accountability consistent with applicable law by observing federal operations closely, documenting key details, and recording interactions. They can also help protect the public through clear communication, the use of de-escalation tactics, appropriate

actions to maintain public safety, enforcement of applicable laws when necessary, and provision of medical assistance to anyone in need.

The City and County of Denver executed an Executive Order to protect its residents from unconstitutional and dangerous federal operations, Executive Order No. 152. This Resolution is modeled after that order.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

No direct impact.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Brent Blackaby    District 6    (510) 981-7160

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

CLARIFYING BPD PROTOCOLS TO PROTECT BERKELEY RESIDENTS,  
SUPPORT PUBLIC SAFETY, AND SAFEGUARD CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS  
DURING FEDERAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, recent high profile immigration enforcement operations throughout the U.S. have resulted in violence against residents and peaceful protestors, most notably in Minneapolis, demonstrating clear threats to community safety, public trust, and the exercise of constitutional rights during periods of increased federal immigration enforcement activity; and

WHEREAS, in order to prepare for potential public safety impacts and proactively assure Berkeley residents about their safety during any periods of heightened federal immigration enforcement activity, it is necessary to clarify and clearly communicate BPD protocols during these situations; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley is a city grounded in trust, safety, and the conviction that every individual deserves dignity and respect; and

WHEREAS, when civil immigration enforcement actions disrupt our neighborhoods, they do more than target specific individuals—they create fear, separate families, and weaken the trust that binds our community; and

WHEREAS, public safety risks arising during federal enforcement operations may affect residents, bystanders, and law enforcement personnel and warrant a clear, lawful, and safety-focused local response; and

WHEREAS, establishing clear expectations for how BPD personnel will respond to federal immigration enforcement activity within the City, protect public spaces, and ensure accountability for violations of applicable law will help protect those who call Berkeley home while maintaining compliance with state law and Department policy.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley directs the City Manager, in consultation with the Berkeley Police Chief, to update BPD's existing protocols as necessary, consistent with state law and the Department, using the following specific guidance around Transparency, De-escalation, and Documentation and Investigation of Potential Violations of Law:

TRANSPARENCY IN LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE

1. The Berkeley Police Department ("BPD") shall instruct its personnel that the BPD on-scene supervisor(s) at any federal immigration enforcement site shall attempt, when feasible and consistent with officer safety and operational considerations, to identify, verify, and record, when it's tactically safe and won't interfere with

immigration law enforcement operations, the on-scene supervisory immigration officer's name, badge, or identification number.

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appropriate, and any investigation is handled in accordance with Department procedures and applicable law.

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5. The City of Berkeley's Public Information Officer shall, in partnership with BPD, provide communications to residents regarding BPD's policy to investigate and document any such incidents.





Environment and Climate Commission

INFORMATION CALENDAR

April 14, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
 From: Environment and Climate Commission (ECC)  
 Submitted by: Alison LaBonte, Chairperson, ECC  
 Subject: Environment and Climate Commission 2026 Work Plan

INTRODUCTION

The Environment and Climate Commission (ECC) is responsible for advising the City Council on matters related to environmental sustainability and climate change. ECC’s scope includes work to advance the goals of: advancing green buildings and resource efficiency; decarbonizing buildings and transportation; engaging and educating the community; addressing the impacts and welfare of all species, including animals, insects, and plants; reducing greenhouse gas emissions; reducing toxics and preventing pollution; and supporting environmental justice. The ECC works closely with the City of Berkeley’s Office of Energy & Sustainable Development (OESD).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The ECC has a broad scope, which supports the City’s Strategic Plan goal to be a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment, and a responsibility to support and work closely with OESD staff. The ECC created subcommittees to work on the following projects:

Project	Status	Description
Building Decarbonization	In Committee	Support OESD staff with feedback on building electrification programs, including Building Emissions Saving Ordinance (BESO), Berkeley Existing Buildings Electrification Strategy, Climate Equity Fund, Just Transition Fund, Reach Codes, and Building Performance Standards. Collaboration with Housing Advisory Committee as needed.
Community Outreach	In Committee	In collaboration with OESD, plan community outreach campaigns, create materials, and support events that raise awareness of City activities, public programs, and local climate action opportunities. Make suggestions about possible website improvements. Raise awareness of climate activities/resources to Councilmembers.
Climate Emergency Preparedness	In Committee	In coordination with the Office of Emergency Services and Public Health Community Preparedness and Prevention Team, support the City with engagement on

		climate emergency education and resources, including at Community Resilience Centers.
Data	In Committee	Analyze data sets of relevance to environment and climate activities in Berkeley and city-wide goals.
OESD Input & Support	Ongoing	Support OESD staff with feedback on programs, standards, and other initiatives, including the Climate Equity Fund, Climate Action planning, etc. Forward viable grant opportunities when appropriate.

At the February 25, 2026, meeting, the commission took the following action:

Action: M/S/C (Kesselman, Ranney) to approve the 2026 Environment and Climate Commission Workplan.

Vote: Ayes - Ranney, LaBonte, Tahara, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Binns, Brown, Athanasiou; Noes - None; Abstain - None; Absent - McGuire, Syed.

**BACKGROUND**

First established in 2022, the ECC was formed by merging the Community Environmental Advisory Commission and the Energy Commission. ECC commissioners bring a wide range of expertise, with backgrounds in government, academia, nonprofit, and private sector environmental work, and include youth perspectives. These backgrounds inform the ECC’s work and help it to consider diverse and equitable approaches to addressing the City’s environmental challenges.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS**

The ECC’s initiatives will improve environmental sustainability, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and support a just transition.

**POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION**

This work plan is intended to provide a guide to the work the ECC plans to take on in 2026. As additional items or issues arise, or are referred to the Commission from Council, the ECC will adjust this plan accordingly.

**FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION**

Future action items that the ECC may send to City Council could require staff time to develop, finalize, and/or implement. The ECC strives to ensure proposals provide significant net triple bottom line benefits to the City when evaluating total costs and benefits across environmental, social, and economic impacts.

**CONTACT PERSON**

Sarah Moore, Secretary, Environment and Climate Commission,  
[smoore@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:smoore@berkeleyca.gov)



Parks and Waterfront  
Commission

INFORMATION CALENDAR

April 14, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission  
Submitted by: Carrie Rybczynski, Vice-Chair, Park, Recreation and Waterfront  
Commission  
Subject: Bond Measure Subcommittee — Final Report

INTRODUCTION

The Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront (PRW) Commission is responsible for reviewing and advising the City Council on the policies, projects, planning efforts, activities, funding, and the physical condition of parks, pools, camps, recreation centers, the Marina, and public greenery.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Over the past two months, the PRW subcommittee on the 2026 bond measure has participated in the community process for the 2026 bond measure and has produced a report that evaluates the proposed bond program. In addition, the PRW subcommittee on potential dog park locations has produced a report with preliminary recommendations.

At its regular meeting on March 11, 2026, the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission took action to send the two reports to Council as an Information Item: M/S/C: Stewart/Nash/U) Ayes: Muszynski; Nash; Philips; Rybczynski; Stewart. Noes: None; Absent: None.

Attachments:

- 1: Bond Measure Subcommittee — Final Report
- 2: PRWC Dog Park Subcommittee Recommendations

2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704 • Tel: (510) 981-7000 • TDD: (510) 981-6903 • Fax: (510) 981-7099  
E-Mail: [manager@CityofBerkeley.info](mailto:manager@CityofBerkeley.info) Website: <http://www.CityofBerkeley.info/Manager>

## Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission

### Bond Measure Subcommittee — Final Report

**Prepared by:** Leigh Stewart, Mary Muszynski, Ben Nash

**Date:** March 11, 2026

**To:** Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission, for transmittal to City Council

#### 1. Summary

Berkeley has approximately \$1.65 billion in unfunded capital liabilities, including roughly \$340 million for Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront alone.<sup>[^1]</sup> Construction costs continue to rise. A \$300 million infrastructure bond is the right response — and the city has done serious work to get it right.

The City contracted with a professional survey company to conduct a 500-resident poll, held community meetings, consulted six commissions, and convened four focus groups with targeted constituencies. The \$300 million figure polled at 72% support — stronger, notably, than \$200 million.<sup>[^2]</sup> The defined-project-list approach directly addresses what went wrong with Measure L, which failed at 59% in 2022 after being criticized as too large, too vague, and too bundled.<sup>[^3]</sup> There is appetite for this.

This report focuses on the 20 PRW projects (\$107.6 million) and offers five recommendations: clarify the pool strategy, improve selection transparency, strengthen climate framing, reconsider the Civic Center allocation, and address the Southeast Berkeley gap.

The commission enthusiastically supports this bond — the need, the process, and the great majority of the project list. We want it to pass. The recommendations below are offered in that spirit — we believe addressing them will strengthen the bond and improve its chances with voters.

#### 2. PRW Project Review

The subcommittee has reviewed all 20 PRW projects through meetings with the PRW Director, community outreach sessions, subcommittee discussion, and review of the December 2 staff report and supporting materials. Below is our assessment of each project.

##### Community Facilities

**Frances Albrier Community Center — \$30M.** This is a major community facility serving West Berkeley. Based on resident feedback and commissioner input, this is one of the strongest items on the list.

**King Pool & Locker Room Replacement — \$25M.** The pool itself is needed — King is an

outdated 1960s facility. However, the subcommittee has concerns about the pool strategy that go beyond this single line item. The city does not own the land at King; it sits on BUSD property. The question is not just whether to upgrade King, but whether the city's overall pool plan is resilient — particularly given the risk of leaving the flats with no pool at all. See Section 3A.

### **Shoreline & Sea Level Rise**

**South Cove Seawall — \$5M.** Critical infrastructure. As the PRW Director noted in discussions with the subcommittee, if this seawall fails — which he described as a real risk given its condition — the entire landmass where the sailing clubs operate becomes unusable, and the city would have to fund repairs later at higher cost.<sup>[4]</sup> The shoreline projects are well-positioned for state and federal matching grants. Measure T1 demonstrated this model: \$100 million in bond funds leveraged an additional \$80 million in grants, producing over \$183 million in total infrastructure investment.<sup>[1]</sup>

**University Ave / Seawall Dr / Bay Trail / Plaza — \$5M.** Supports climate resilience and sea level rise adaptation. Highly competitive for existing state grants.

**Marina Docks Timber Pile Replacement — \$6M.** Critical for maintaining the marina as a revenue source for the Waterfront. This is a deferred maintenance that is not eligible for known grants or Parks Tax — it can only be funded through general fund or bond or the Marina Fund.<sup>[5]</sup>

**Marina Blvd Sea Level Rise & Bay Trail — \$1.9M.** Climate resilience infrastructure that protects access to the north side of the Waterfront, Cesar Chavez Park, and prevents SLR damage to important commercial tenants (Doubletree, Marine Center, and berth slips). Highly competitive for existing state grants.

**University Ave Sea Level Rise – Bike Park — \$2.75M.** Supports climate goals and adds a new Bike Park (on newly-vacant land) and has gone through an extensive community planning process . Highly competitive for existing state grants.

### **Park Amenities & Open Space**

**Adeline Corridor Open Space — \$6M.** One of the strongest items on the list. South Berkeley is projected for significant residential growth and needs more green space as a matter of equity. In a landlocked city, opportunities to create new open space are rare — this is one of them. Per the PRW Director, a \$825,000 federal earmark has already been secured for design.<sup>[4]</sup>

**Glendale-La Loma Park Improvements — \$3.5M.** Safety and ADA improvements to playgrounds, parking lot, and pathways.<sup>[5]</sup> Playstructure is close to 50 years old, needs replacement. Play structures are consistently among the highest-demand categories in community feedback, particularly popular with families.

**Cesar Chavez Park Restroom & Pathway — \$3M.** This is a high-use waterfront park and it urgently needs a proper bathroom. The pathway has deteriorated significantly and does not meet current ADA accessible codes, and needs replacement. Only 60% of the project cost comes from the bond; the project is highly competitive for State Coastal Conservancy grants.<sup>[5]</sup>

**Cedar Rose Play Structure — \$2.5M.** The play structure has not been replaced in almost three decades. Play structures are extremely popular with families — high-use, high-visibility

improvements that generate broad support.

**Aquatic Park Dreamland Area — \$2.1M.** One of the best returns on bond investment. The full Dreamland project totals \$8.4 million — including a bioswale, parking, restroom, and an expanded play area roughly 175% the size of the current one.<sup>[^4]</sup> The bond's \$2.1 million serves as the 25% local match with over \$6 million likely from a local developer.<sup>[^5]</sup> Very popular with families.

**Dog Parks (4–6 sites citywide) — \$2.5M.** Dogs using regular parks creates significant conflict among residents. Dedicated dog parks are a relatively inexpensive way to address a real and widespread problem, and distributing sites citywide means broad benefit.

**Restrooms: Cedar Rose (\$500K), Codornices (\$500K), Harrison (\$750K) — \$1.75M total.** Overdue bathroom replacements at well-used parks.<sup>[^5]</sup> Public restrooms are a critical basic service.

### Sports Facilities

**Harrison Field Turf Conversion — \$6M.** Strong community support. Harrison is a heavily used field; conversion to artificial turf would roughly double usable field capacity and significantly reduce maintenance and irrigation costs — and may increase revenue as well. Berkeley used to have a reputation for having the best sports fields in the region. It's important to keep investing here.

**Live Oak Soccer/Basketball/Lighting — \$3M.** Needed modernization at a well-used facility — re-levels uneven basketball courts, converts soccer field to turf, and adds lighting.<sup>[^5]</sup> Popular with families and youth sports. 66% of the project cost comes from the bond; the remainder may be funded with Parks Tax.<sup>[^5]</sup>

**San Pablo Sports Field Irrigation & Drainage — \$1.6M.** Critical system upgrade. Will significantly reduce maintenance and irrigation costs and allow this very popular, heavily used park to serve even more residents.

## 3. Recommendations

### A. The pool strategy needs more work

The bond proposes upgrading King Pool for \$25 million. Upgrading our existing pools is reasonable — but the current plan doesn't account for the fact that the city doesn't control any of its pool sites, and that creates real risk.

Both remaining city-operated pool sites — King and West Campus — sit on BUSD land.<sup>[^6]</sup> The city does not own any pool site. Willard has already been lost; BUSD reclaimed the site in 2010. West Campus has only four years remaining on its lease, and BUSD could choose not to renew — as it did with Willard. King has 24 years on its lease, but the City Attorney requires a minimum 25-year lease for bond-funded construction, meaning the lease would need to be renegotiated before bond funds could be spent.<sup>[^4]</sup>

The Frances Albrier Community Center Replacement Project included an option for a 25-meter community pool with play elements.<sup>[^4]</sup> It is the only potential pool site where the city owns the land outright.

If West Campus is lost, the city could end up with only one pool — at King, in Northeast Berkeley, the area that already has the highest park density in the city. The flats would have no pool at all.

If the city is confident that both leases will be secure for the long term, then upgrading King is reasonable. But even in that case, the city should seriously consider building a pool at San Pablo Park. It would put aquatic infrastructure on city-owned land, and its location near Southeast Berkeley adds particular value — SE has the fewest city park facilities of any quadrant and zero PRW projects on the current bond list.

If there is any doubt about whether West Campus will be available for the next decade, then a pool at San Pablo Park is essential. Staff estimates suggest the cost difference between replacing King and building new at San Pablo would not justify the risk of depending entirely on BUSD's continued cooperation.

The PRW Director has had preliminary conversations with the BUSD superintendent, who indicated that the district has no current plans for the King or West Campus sites and is willing to discuss sale, trade, or longer leases.<sup>[4]</sup> This is encouraging, but informal — it is not a binding commitment, and the history with Willard shows how quickly circumstances can change.

The city should have more confidence in its pool site agreements before going to voters. In particular, the commission urges Council to assess the long-term viability of the West Campus lease, given that losing it would leave King as the city's only pool.

## **B. The selection process needs more transparency**

The December 2 staff report lists five selection criteria: health, life, and safety needs; critical infrastructure condition and accessibility; community use and equity; geographic distribution; and potential to leverage external or matching funds.<sup>[1]</sup> These are good criteria. The problem is that the staff report does not document how the criteria were applied — no scoring, no weighting, no documented analysis of how individual projects were evaluated against each criterion. The PRW Director confirmed in discussions with the subcommittee that there was no formal scoring system.<sup>[4]</sup>

This matters because when multiple reasonable criteria point in different directions — as they inevitably do — the lack of a transparent process makes it impossible to understand why certain trade-offs were made. Southeast Berkeley is one example — see Section 3E.

The commission recommends that Council document how the selection criteria were balanced or applied.

## **C. Climate framing is an opportunity**

Many projects on the list have significant climate benefits — electrification, sea level rise protection, resilient infrastructure — but these are not being communicated to voters.

Polling shows that environmental and climate infrastructure is among the most popular categories with residents, while waterfront projects poll poorly.<sup>[2]</sup> But waterfront projects *are* climate projects — the seawall, the Bay Trail, the sea level rise adaptation work. This is a communication gap that may be leaving support on the table.

The seawall is the clearest example: if it fails, the city loses an entire recreation area, disproportionately affecting users of low-cost activities like sailing and windsurfing — and then has to pay to fix it anyway, at higher cost. That's climate resilience, equity, and fiscal responsibility in one project.

Several shoreline projects in the bond list are also consistent with the regional shoreline adaptation planning now required by the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, reinforcing their importance as long term climate resilience infrastructure.

Finally, many facility projects also involve electrification and gas removal. These climate benefits are real but invisible in the current framing.

The commission recommends that the city make the climate benefits of these projects visible to voters. This does not change the project list — it changes how the list is presented, and it aligns with what polls best.

#### **D. Civic Center improvements are difficult to justify**

Old City Hall and Veterans Memorial Building are included in the bond for seismic work. The commission has significant concerns about this allocation.

Community reaction to these projects has been consistently tepid to negative — met with skepticism at the Willard community meeting and across focus groups and commission consultations. These are closed buildings that are not currently serving the public.

The bond covers seismic work only. But seismic investment in closed buildings creates an implicit commitment to full rehabilitation, which would cost hundreds of millions more.<sup>[4]</sup> This is not just a one-time expense — it is the first installment on a much larger obligation.

Berkeley has \$1.65 billion in unfunded capital liabilities. PRW alone has a \$340 million backlog.<sup>[1]</sup> With that much deferred maintenance on active-use facilities — pools, playgrounds, parks that residents use every day — it is hard to see why seismic work on closed buildings should take priority.

These are Public Works projects, not PRW. But they share a ballot, and they affect whether the bond reaches the two-thirds threshold it needs. Voters who see money going to buildings they don't use may be harder to persuade on the rest of the bond.

The commission recommends that Council either provide a substantially stronger public justification for these projects — one that explains why they should take priority given the scale of unfunded needs elsewhere — or consider reallocating those funds to higher-impact items.

#### **E. Southeast Berkeley deserves a closer look**

Southeast Berkeley had the fewest city park facilities of any quadrant.<sup>[7]</sup> BMC 6.42.020.C establishes a standard of two acres of parks and open space per 1,000 residents, with areas below that standard designated as high priority for investment. The *Equitable Future* report (2016), produced by this commission, documents the SE deficit in detail.<sup>[7]</sup> It is not referenced in the staff report.

The word "southeast" does not appear anywhere in the 50-page staff report.<sup>[^1]</sup> Neither does "quadrant." No census tract analysis was performed. "Geographic distribution" appears exactly once — as a criterion name — with no supporting analysis.

The result is zero PRW projects in the quadrant with the fewest city park facilities. This is also consistent with a pattern: Measure T1 was similarly light on Southeast Berkeley improvements. This may reflect legitimate trade-offs against other criteria — but without a transparent process, there is no way to know.

The commission recommends that Council specifically address the SE quadrant omission and explain how geographic distribution was weighed against other criteria in the selection process.

#### 4. Conclusion

This bond is necessary and well-structured. The commission is enthusiastic about the vast majority of the PRW project list and believes this bond can and should pass. The recommendations above are intended to make it stronger — to close gaps in the pool strategy, improve transparency, sharpen the climate case, address geographic equity, and ensure every dollar on the ballot can be defended to voters. We urge Council to address these items before the bond goes to voters.

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#### Sources

[^1]: City of Berkeley, "Discussion Regarding Potential Ballot Measures for the November 3, 2026, General Municipal Election," Staff Report, December 2, 2025.

[^2]: Polling results presented by PRW Director to subcommittee, March 3, 2026. Results not yet public at time of writing; expected to be presented to Council March 17.

[^3]: Ballotpedia, "Berkeley, California, Measure L, Housing and Infrastructure Bond Measure (November 2022)." 26,545 yes (59.42%) / 18,130 no (40.58%).

[^4]: PRW Director Scott Ferris, in discussions with the subcommittee (January–March 2026).

[^5]: City of Berkeley, "Discussion Regarding Potential Ballot Measures — Supplemental," December 2, 2025. (Attachment 5, corrected project details.)

[^6]: City of Berkeley, *Citywide Pools Master Plan*, 2009, p. 7: "These are all pool venues currently operated by City of Berkeley and located on BUSD property."

[^7]: Parks & Waterfront Commission Subcommittee on Planning, *Berkeley Parks Planning for an Equitable Future*, July 2016.

[^8]: City of Berkeley, *Frances Albrier Community Center Replacement Project — Executive Summary with Attachments*, Siegel and Strain Architects, 2019. Design goals include "net-zero and all-electric strategies"; existing gas equipment flagged as conflicting with the city's all-electric goal.

## Addendum A: Selection Criteria Analysis — PRW Bond Projects

The December 2 staff report lists five core criteria used to evaluate projects for the bond, plus additional criteria from the Vision 2050 framework.<sup>[^1]</sup> No definitions are provided in the report. The following definitions are inferred from project descriptions, the bond's category structure, and city context. Each PRW project is then assessed against these criteria.

### Criteria Definitions

**1. Health, Life, and Safety (HLS)** Does this project protect the public from physical harm? Seismic hazards, structural failure, ADA non-compliance, lack of basic sanitation. Across the full bond, the paradigm case is fire stations — not just because the buildings are aging, but because without functional fire infrastructure, the city's ability to protect residents is compromised. For parks: seawall failure risk, safety hazards at aging facilities, missing restrooms.

**2. Critical Infrastructure Condition and Accessibility (CICA)** How deteriorated is the asset, and can the public actually use it? This covers the deferred maintenance backlog — assets that are failing or approaching failure — and the rising cost of maintaining them in their current state. The "accessibility" piece includes ADA compliance and the \$48M backlog identified in the city's Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan. Distinct from HLS: this is about asset condition and cost trajectory, not immediate danger to people.

**3. Community Use and Equity (CUE)** How many people does this serve, and does it reach underserved populations? This criterion blends two things: raw usage volume and distributional fairness. These can pull in opposite directions — a heavily used Northeast Berkeley facility scores high on use but low on equity if NE already has the highest park density. Bundling them as a single criterion means the trade-off between the two is never made explicit.

**4. Potential to Leverage External or Matching Funds (LEV)** Can this bond dollar unlock additional dollars? Grant eligibility and matching fund ratios — where bond funds serve as local match to access state or federal grants. The inverse also matters: some projects (marina docks, King Pool) have no alternative funding path, meaning the bond is the only option.

**5. Climate Resiliency and Sustainability (CRS)** Does this project protect against climate impacts or advance decarbonization? Sea level rise adaptation, electrification, gas removal, stormwater management. For parks, this is strongest in the shoreline projects. Many facility rehabs likely include electrification as part of modernization, but this is not documented in current project descriptions.

**Geographic Distribution** is omitted from the per-project analysis below. It is a portfolio-level criterion — applied to the overall project list rather than scored per project. The staff report lists it as a criterion but provides no supporting analysis. See Sections 3B and 3E of this report for a full discussion.

## Per-Project Assessment

### Shoreline & Sea Level Rise

Project	HLS	CICA	CUE	LEV	CRS
South Cove Seawall \$5M	Yes — "imminent failure," immediate safety	Yes — full replacement	Moderate — low-cost recreation, equity angle	Yes — 20% match unlocks state/federal grants	Yes
Univ Ave / Seawall Dr / Bay Trail \$5M	Low — proactive adaptation	Moderate	Yes — major public trail, high traffic	Yes — 20% match, grant-eligible	Yes
Marina Timber Piles \$6M	Moderate — structural	Yes — timber piles, 50+ yr fix	Moderate — marina users, but revenue source	No — not eligible for grants <sup>[5]</sup>	Moderate
Marina Blvd Sea Level Rise \$1.9M	Low — proactive adaptation	Moderate	Yes — Bay Trail connection, high traffic	Yes — 50% match, grant-eligible	Yes
Univ Ave Bike Park \$2.75M	Low — proactive adaptation	Moderate	Yes — Bump track elements for youth	Yes — 50% match, grant-eligible	Yes

### Community Facilities

Project	HLS	CICA	CUE	LEV	CRS
Albrier \$30M	Moderate — seismic; only major community center not rebuilt or upgraded; emergency shelter	Yes — dramatically undersized, aging	Yes — high-use facility, West Berkeley (equity)	Low — limited eligibility for FEMA/sustainable energy grants <sup>[5]</sup>	Yes — conceptual design targets net-zero and all-electric; includes heat pumps, 216 kW solar array <sup>[8]</sup>

King Pool \$25M	Low	Yes — 1960s facility, full replacement	Yes on use (doubles programmatic capacity), weak on equity (NE has highest park density)	No — difficult to secure grants for pool facilities <sup>[^5]</sup>	Likely — modernization, but not documented
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**Park Amenities & Open Space**

Project	HLS	CICA	CUE	LEV	CRS
Adeline Corridor \$6M	Low — new construction	No — new construction	Yes — equity-priority area, South Berkeley growth, rare new open space	Moderate — federal earmark for design secured <sup>[^4]</sup>	High - new green space in urban area reduces Urban Heat Island, new trees absorb CO2
Glendale-La Loma Play \$3.5M	Moderate — safety/ADA	Yes — aging, ADA access	Yes — play structures, families	Low	Low
Cesar Chavez Pathway and Restroom \$3M	Moderate — basic sanitation (portable toilets)	Yes — pathways deteriorating, do not meet ADA codes	Yes — high-use waterfront park	Yes — 60% bond, highly competitive for State Coastal Conservancy grants <sup>[^5]</sup>	Low
Cedar Rose Play \$2.5M	Low	Moderate — heavily used play area needs safety/accessibility upgrade	Yes — families, high-visibility	Low	Low

Dreamland \$2.1M	Low	Moderate	Yes — expanded play area	Yes — 25% local match, with \$6M+ likely from additional sources <sup>[^5]</sup>	Moderate — bioswale
Dog Parks \$2.5M	Low	No — new construction	Yes — citywide, addresses significant community demand	Low	Low
Restrooms \$1.75M	Moderate — public health, basic sanitation	Yes — aging/overdue	Yes — well-used parks	Low	Low

**Sports Facilities**

Project	HLS	CICA	CUE	LEV	CRS
Harrison Turf \$6M	Low	Yes — failing natural fields	Yes — heavily used, doubles capacity	Low	Moderate — water savings
Live Oak \$3M	Low	Moderate — modernization	Yes — families, youth sports	Low	Low — water savings from turf
San Pablo Irrigation and Drainage \$1.6M	Low	Yes — failing irrigation/drainage, most used sports fields in the city	Yes — most used sports fields	No — not eligible for grants <sup>[^5]</sup>	Low

## PRWC Dog Park Subcommittee Recommendations

### Executive Summary

Between October and November 2025, Dog Park Subcommittee members visited several locations identified by the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Department (PRWD) as potential dog park locations. Our reviews and recommendations are below. All locations have existing parks; based on PRWD guidance, Subcommittee members recommend converting a portion of the following parks to dog parks.

### Subcommittee Mission

Berkeley is a city that values equity, public health, and community engagement. As dog ownership rises and urban density increases, the demand for off-leash recreation areas has outpaced available space. Berkeley currently only has 2 dog parks; the first one, Ohlone Dog Park, was established in 1979 and was one of the first in the nation. Then, in 1998, the 17-acre Off Leash Area in Cesar Chavez Park started a trial period, and in 2000, it was formally authorized as a designated Off-Leash Area. This proposal urges the City of Berkeley to prioritize the creation and expansion of dedicated dog parks/dog play areas to support public health, safety, and neighborhood vitality.

### The Need for More Dog Parks

Currently, Berkeley has limited off-leash dog areas, which are often overcrowded or located far from many residential neighborhoods, such as Cesar Chavez Park. This shortage can create tension in shared-use parks, encourage off-leash activity in inappropriate areas, and diminish the quality of life for both dog owners and non-dog owners alike.

### Dog Park Site Recommendations

1. King School Park
2. Glendale La Loma Park
3. Berkeley Way Mini Park
4. San Pablo Park
5. Aquatic Park

## King School Park

Staff-provided description of proposed dog area: West side of King Park (small)

Address: 1700 Hopkins Street

Neighborhood: Hopkins

District: 5

Councilmember: Shoshana O'Keefe

Approx. Park Acreage: 1.72 acres | 74,920 sq. ft.

Topography: Flat

Ground Surface: Grass

### Site Conditions

Fencing Feasibility: Good ease of enclosure with low fencing (too low for dogs) existing along two edges, so within existing paths. A new dog fence system is needed. Though there is room for this, and possibly a planted setback strip along the main path and sidewalk edges.

Water Source: Existing fountain or irrigation tap likely

Drainage: No signs of ponding or erosion; slight slope toward Hopkins; relatively flat and elevated above sidewalk and path.

Shade / Trees: Existing street and park trees around perimeter, sunny.

Ground Cover Condition: Natural turf is not well-maintained. A minimal scope could support DG or gravel.

Potential Conflicts: Proximity to picnic and play areas.

Neighborhood Receptivity: Observed dog activity on leash.

Other notes

- Community input is needed. This is a well-used park throughout the day. It's not clear how much this lawn area is used. It was empty while the rest of the park was active. The area size would support split small and large dog areas or one big area.

### Photos



King West looking from the sidewalk at Hopkins



King West toward the play area

## Glendale La Loma Park

Staff-provided description of proposed dog area: Second level of Glendale, La Loma Park (medium-sized park)

Address: 1300 Glendale Ave

District: 6 Councilmember: Brent Blackaby

Approx. Park Acreage: 5.61 acres | 244,400 sq. ft.

Topography: Sloped - Terraced

Ground Surface: Grass

### Site Context

Surrounding Land Uses: Residential

Access: Street frontage, street parking, ADA access, neighborhood

Visibility & Safety: Slope interrupts sightlines from the lower terrace, but “eyes on the park” from neighbors overlooking spaces.

Fencing Feasibility: Good.

Water Source: unknown

Drainage: No signs of ponding or erosion; minimal to steep slopes.

Shade / Trees: Mostly sunny. Some shade from surrounding trees.

Ground Cover Condition: Natural grass turf not well-maintained. Possibly not irrigated.

Potential Conflicts: Proximity to homes for noise.

Neighborhood Receptivity: Unknown.

### Photos – Glendale La Loma Park



Berkeley Way Mini Park

Photos





## San Pablo North of Ballpark

### Site Conditions

Existing park: Yes

Surrounding neighborhood: Yes

Flat land: partly

Ground material: Grass

Other notes

- Two halves of this grassy strip are separated by a walking path that leads from the sidewalk to the park
- One half has a slope (closer to the baseball dugout)
- Lots of dogs play at this park

### Photos





## Aquatic Park

### Site conditions

Existing park: Yes

Surrounding neighborhood: No

Flat land: Partly

Ground material: Dirt and grass

Other notes

- Existing water fountain (not flowing) with ground level dog bowl.
- The open space next to the parking lot and train tracks is pretty flat with a slight grade and a few trees as you walk further along the path.
- Mostly small hills, but the pictured section is flat.

### Photos





Upcoming Worksessions and Special Meetings	
Scheduled Dates	
May 19 (4pm)	Results of Second Community Survey (tentative)

Unscheduled Presentations and Special Meetings
1. 5-Year Paving Plan & Hopkins Street Paving

Future Information Reports
1. Affordable Housing Fee Feasibility Study 2. Berkeley Fire Department Annual Report

	<b>City Council Referrals to the Agenda &amp; Rules Committee and Unfinished Business for Scheduling</b>
	None

CITY CLERK DEPARTMENT			
WORKING CALENDAR FOR SCHEDULING LAND USE MATTERS BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL			
Address	Board/ Commission	Appeal Period Ends	Public Hearing
<b>NOD – Notices of Decision</b>			
2276 Shattuck Avenue (construct a 15-story addition to Morse Block)	ZAB	3/30/2026	
600 Gilman Street (establish a public drive-in vehicle wash, incidental food service with a service window, and allow a 30-foot wide driveway)	ZAB	3/31/2026	
<b>Public Hearings Scheduled</b>			
<b>Remanded to ZAB or LPC</b>			
<b>Notes</b>			
ZAB: Zoning Adjustments Board			
LPC: Landmarks Preservation Commission			

3/25/2026

