PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 6:30 PM

NOTE NEW LOCATION:

South Berkeley Senior Center

2939 Ellis Street, Berkeley CA 94703

Commission Members:

Chair Emily Marthinsen, Vice-Chair Savlan Hauser, Commissioner Blaine Merker, Commissioner Jeff Vincent, Commissioner Darrell Owens, Commissioner Christina Oatfield, Commissioner Charles Kahn, Commissioner Alfred Twu, Commissioner Angela Wang

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid model with both in-person and virtual attendance. Attend this meeting remotely using **Zoom** https://cityofberkeley-info.zoomgov.com/j/1606722353. 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: 160 672 2353.** To provide public comment, Press *9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair. To submit a written communication for the public record, email planningpc@berkeleyca.gov.

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. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to Justin Horner, jhorner@berkeleyca.gov, (510) 981-7476.

1. Roll Call

2. Land Acknowledgement Statement:

The Commission 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.

3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters

4. Order of Agenda

5. Chairperson Report

The Commission Chair may make announcements or provide information to the Commission in the form of an oral report. The Commission will not take action on such items but may request the items be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

6. Ad Hoc Subcommittees and Liaison Comments

Receive opportunity reports on status of projects for which the Planning Commission has established a subcommittee or liaison.

7. Commissioner Announcements

8. Staff Announcements

9. Minutes for Approval

Draft minutes for the Commissions consideration and approval.

Minutes of March 18, 2026

From: Commission Secretary

Recommendation: Approve the draft minutes of the March 18, 2026 meeting.

10. Action and Discussion Items

The public may comment on each item listed on the agenda for action as the item is taken up. Following review and discussion of the items listed below, the Commission may continue an item to a future Commission meeting. ***No Action can be taken on items that are not noticed on the published agenda.***

A. **Housing Development Bills Senate Bill 79 and Assembly Bill 893**

From: Branka Tatarevic Associate Planner and Joshua Muller, Associate Planner

Recommendation: Review the staff report, receive the staff presentation, consider public comments, and provide feedback on policy issues regarding Senate Bill 79 (SB 79) and Assembly Bill 893 (AB 893) and potential implementation pathways.

B. **Objective Design Standards Discussion**
From: Chair Marthinsen
A Planning Commission discussion on Objective Design Standards

11. Information Items

2025 Housing Element and General Plan Annual Progress Reports

The APRs were submitted to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on March 23, 2026 to comply with state law. Commissioners may ask for discussion to be scheduled on a future agenda (per Brown Act, no deliberation or final action may be taken).

12. Correspondence

13. Next Commission Meeting

Wednesday May 6, 2026, 6:30 PM

14. Adjournment

Correspondence and Notices

For inclusion in the Commissioners' agenda packet, please submit written comments by Wednesday the week prior to the meeting. One set of "late communications" will be distributed to the Commissioners one day before the meeting. Please submit any material for distribution as "late communications" no later than 12:00 noon on the Tuesday prior to the meeting. Please be advised: Commissioners may not have an opportunity to read written materials handed out at the meeting.

- **To distribute correspondence for inclusion in the agenda packet** -- submit comments ***by 12:00 noon, Wednesday April 8, 2026.***
- **Late Communications** must be submitted ***by 12:00 noon, Tuesday, April 14, 2026.*** Correspondence received later, at the meeting, and after the meeting, will be posted to the website following the meeting.
- Members of the public may submit written comments themselves at the meeting. To distribute correspondence at the meeting, please provide 12 copies and submit to the Planning Commission Secretary.
- **Please be advised: You are strongly advised to submit written comments *prior* to the meeting date as Commission members may not have an opportunity to read written materials handed out at the meeting.**
- Written comments or requests for a Notice of Decision should be directed to the Planning Commission Secretary.

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

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at Planning and Development Department, Land Use Division located at 1947 Center Street, 2nd Floor, Berkeley, CA.



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, (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.

Video and audio recordings of the Planning Commission meetings are available upon request. Please contact PlanningPC@berkeleyca.gov to obtain a recording.

Certification of public posting
I hereby certify that the agenda for this meeting of the Berkeley City Commission 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 April 8, 2026.

Justin Horner, Planning Commission Secretary