



BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL AGENDA & RULES COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

3:15 P.M.

2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704

Teleconference Location – 1321 Garden Hwy, Sacramento, CA 95833

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: 165 822 7567**. 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. 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: August 31, 2026**
- 2. Review and Approve Draft Agenda:**
 - a. 9/29/2026 – 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

- 7. Discussion of possible changes to the 2027 City Council meeting schedule**

Unscheduled Items

- 8. Review Policy Committees Structure**
- 9. Review Boards and Commissions Structure**

Items for Future Agendas

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

Adjournment – Next Meeting Monday, September 28, 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, September 10, 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, AUGUST 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

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**Roll Call:** 2:33 p.m. All present.

**Public Comment** – 4 speakers

## **Review of Agendas**

**1. Approval of Minutes: July 13, 2026**

**Action:** M/S/C (Taplin/Humbert) to approve the minutes of 7/13/2026.

**Vote:** All Ayes.

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

a. 9/15/2026 – Regular City Council Meeting

**Action:** M/S/C (Humbert/Taplin) to approve the agenda on 9/15/2026 with the changes noted below.

- *Item 15 Gilman District (Kesarwani) – revised item submitted*
- *Item 17 Undergrounding of Electrical (City Manager) – item removed from the agenda by the City Manager*
- *Item 19 Housing Fees (Kesarwani) – scheduled for Consent Calendar*
- *Item 20 Zoning Ordinance (Kesarwani) – scheduled for Consent Calendar*
- *Item 21 Transport of Coal (Tregub) – Mayor Ishii added as a co-sponsor; scheduled for Consent Calendar*
- *Item 22 Commercial Vacancy Blight (Tregub) – Councilmembers O’Keefe and Blackaby added as co-sponsors; scheduled for Consent Calendar*

**Vote:** All Ayes.

**3. Adjournments In Memory** – None

## **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**

**7. Discussion of possible changes to the 2027 City Council meeting schedule**

**Action:** 0 speakers. Discussion held. Item to be placed on the next agenda.

## **Unscheduled Items**

**8. Review Policy Committees Structure**

**9. Review Boards and Commissions Structure**

## Items for Future Agendas

- None

## Adjournment

**Action:** M/S/C (Taplin/Humbert) to adjourn the meeting.

**Vote:** All Ayes.

Adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct record of the Agenda & Rules Committee meeting held on August 31, 2026.

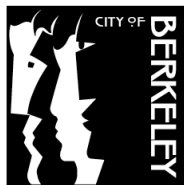
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Mark Numainville, City Clerk

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**DRAFT AGENDA**  
**BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, September 29, 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.*

## Recess Items

- 1. Increase Spending Authority to Create Purchase Orders Against Contract No. 31900270: Dell Computers, Inc. for Continued Hardware, Software, and Related Services**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution ratifying the action taken by the City Manager during recess to increase spending authority for purchase orders to Contract No. 31900270 with Dell Computers, Inc. for the purchase of hardware, software, and related services utilizing the County of Riverside Agreement 8084445, for an additional \$2,900,000 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$11,097,733 for the period of November 1, 2019, through October 31, 2027.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Kevin Fong, Information Technology, (510) 981-6500

## Recess Items

2. **Contract No. 32600016 Amendment: Team Ghilotti South Cove West Lot Repaving Project**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution ratifying the action taken by the City Manager during the City Council recess authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to Contract No. 32600016 with Team Ghilotti for the South Cove West Parking Lot Project, increasing the amount by \$335,740 for an amended total amount not to exceed \$2,220,381.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Scott Ferris, Parks, Recreation and Waterfront, (510) 981-6700
3. **Increased Spending Authority: East Bay Regional Communications System Authority Project Operating Agreement (Contract No. 31900111) for Public Safety Radio Services**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution ratifying the action taken by the City Manager to increase the spending authority with the East Bay Regional Communications System Authority for public safety radio communications services, increasing the amount by \$2,600,000 for a total not to exceed of \$6,819,482 and requiring Council reauthorization by December 31, 2031.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jaime Parks, Public Works, (510) 981-6300

## Consent Calendar

4. **Minutes for Approval**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Approve the minutes for the Council meetings of July 6, 2026 (closed), July 7, 2026 (regular), July 14, 2026 (special and regular), July 20, 2026 (closed), July 24, 2026 (closed), and July 28, 2026 (regular).  
**Financial Implications:** None  
Contact: Mark Numainville, City Clerk, (510) 981-6900
5. **Formal Bid Solicitations and Request for Proposals Scheduled for Possible Issuance After Council Approval on September 29, 2026**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Approve the request for proposals or invitation for bids (attached to staff report) 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:** \$17,585,000 - Various Funds  
Contact: Henry Oyekanmi, Finance, (510) 981-7300

## Consent Calendar

- 6. Adopt Resolution Approving Publicly Available Pay Schedule**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution approving a publicly available pay schedule effective September 15, 2026, pursuant to the Public Employee's Retirement Law (PERL), Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 (PEPRA), and Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Janelle Rodrigues, Human Resources, (510) 981-6800
- 7. Appointment of Director of Police Accountability**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution approving the appointment of Mary Opler as Director of Police Accountability and approving an employment agreement effective October 5, 2026, at an annual salary of \$230,000.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Janelle Rodrigues, Human Resources, (510) 981-6800
- 8. Contract: Agile Occupational Medicine for Occupational Health Services**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with Agile Occupational Medicine for Employee Occupational Health Services for the period of January 1, 2027 through June 30, 2030 for a total not to exceed of \$150,000.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Janelle Rodrigues, Human Resources, (510) 981-6800
- 9. Contract No. 32100138 Amendment: AnchorCM for On-call Waterfront Project and Construction Management Services**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to Contract No. 32100138 for AnchorCM, for on-call Waterfront project and construction management services, increasing the contract amount by \$1,000,000 for a total Not-to-exceed amount of \$3,000,000 and duration by twelve months, from December 31, 2026 to December 31, 2027.  
**Financial Implications:** \$3,000,000 - Various Funds  
Contact: Scott Ferris, Parks, Recreation and Waterfront, (510) 981-6700
- 10. Contract No. 32400043 Amendment: Elavon, Inc. for Online Credit Card Processing Services for Recreation Programs and Facilities**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to contract 32400043 with Elavon, Inc. for online credit card processing services for Recreation programs and facilities by \$125,000 for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$485,000.  
**Financial Implications:** \$485,000 - Various Funds  
Contact: Scott Ferris, Parks, Recreation and Waterfront, (510) 981-6700

## Consent Calendar

- 11. Donation: Memorial Bench at the Berkeley Waterfront in Memory of Mike Parker**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution accepting a cash donation in the amount of \$3,400 for a memorial bench to be placed at the Berkeley Waterfront in memory of Mike Parker.  
**Financial Implications:** \$3,400 - Donation  
Contact: Scott Ferris, Parks, Recreation and Waterfront, (510) 981-6700
- 12. Amendment to BMC Chapter 2.99 to Establish Surveillance Technology Vendor Accountability Requirements and to Revise the Annual Surveillance Technology Reporting Schedule**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt the first reading of an Ordinance amending Berkeley Municipal Code Chapter 2.99 to require enforceable violation, sanction, and termination provisions in agreements with surveillance technology vendors; to change the annual Surveillance Technology Report to a calendar-year reporting period due to the City Council at the first regular meeting in March, beginning with a report in March 2027 covering October 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026; and to conform references to the Police Accountability Board.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jennifer Louis, Police, (510) 981-5900
- 13. Contract No. 31900143 Resolution Amendment: Passport Labs Incorporated for Parking Citation and Permit Management System (CPMS)**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution amending Resolution No. 72,068-N.S., to clarify the total contract authority required to execute and operationalize the contract with Passport Labs Inc. for a Parking Citation and Permit Management System. The amendment reflects a total contract authority of \$9.3 million for the initial three-year term, from September 1, 2026 through August 31, 2029, with the option to extend the contract for two additional one-year periods, provided that the final extension shall end no later than August 31, 2031.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jennifer Louis, Police, (510) 981-5900

## Consent Calendar

- 14. Contract No. 32400003 Amendment: Cooke & Associates Background Investigations**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract amendment with Cooke & Associates, a background investigation services provider for public safety personnel, to increase the contract amount by \$350,000 to a total contract of \$930,000 expiring on July 31, 2028. As the expiration of this contract will mark five years from the original contract award, staff intend to conduct a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process for background investigation services before contract expiration to ensure continuity of services and compliance with the City's procurement process. This amendment will allow the Berkeley Police Department (BPD) and Berkeley Fire Department (BFD) to continue utilizing Cooke & Associates for timely, thorough, and high-quality background investigations of candidates, and will provide the City Manager with the authority to spend funds as needed under the amended contract to support ongoing public safety hiring needs.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jennifer Louis, Police, (510) 981-5900
- 15. Grant: Fiscal Year 2027 Alcohol Policing Partnership (APP) Grant**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager, to execute a grant contract and any subsequent amendments with the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) in the amount of \$97,330 for fiscal year 2027.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jennifer Louis, Police, (510) 981-5900
- 16. Revenue Grant: Cannabis Tax Fund Grant Program (CTFGP) Acceptance**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager, or their designee, to accept the Cannabis Tax Fund Grant Program (CTFGP) and execute any resultant revenue agreements and amendments with the California Highway Patrol. The total grant amount is \$90,629.70 for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jennifer Louis, Police, (510) 981-5900
- 17. Alameda County Transportation Commission Comprehensive Investment Program 2028 and One Bay Area Grant 4 Applications**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt Resolutions of local support for Alameda County Transportation Commission Comprehensive Investment Program (CIP) 2028 and One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) 4 grant applications submitted on July 27, 2026, for the Sacramento Crossings Improvement Project and the North and West Berkeley Safe Routes to Schools Project; accept the funds; and execute any resultant agreements and amendments.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jamie Parks, Public Works, (510) 981-6300

## Consent Calendar

18. **Contract No. 32600193 Amendment: Bay Construction Co. for Transfer Station Aboveground Storage Tank Specification No. 25-11733-C**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend Contract No. 32600193 with Bay Construction Co. for the Transfer Station Aboveground Storage Tank Project, increasing the contract amount by \$110,964.00 for a revised total amount not to exceed \$765,600.00, for the contract term beginning June 23, 2026, through December 30, 2026.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jamie Parks, Public Works, (510) 981-6300
19. **Contract: IDAX Traffic Data, LLC for On-call Traffic Survey Consulting Services**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with IDAX Traffic Data, LLC, for on-call traffic survey consulting services for an initial three-year period in the amount not to exceed \$240,000, with an option of up to two, one-year extensions.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jamie Parks, Public Works, (510) 981-6300
20. **Contract: One Workplace Construction LLC dba Vantis for 1947 Center St. Window Replacement Project**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution: 1. Approving plans and specification for 1947 Center St. Window Replacement Project (Specification No. 26-11762-C); and 2. Accepting the bid of One Workplace Construction LLC dba Vantis as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; and 3. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments, extensions, or change orders until the Project is completed in accordance with the approved plans and specifications for an amount Not To Exceed (NTE) \$1,764,620.00, including a contingency of \$294,100.00, for the term of November 1, 2026, to September 31, 2031.  
**Financial Implications:** \$1,764,600.00 - Various Funds  
Contact: Jamie Parks, Public Works, (510) 981-6300

## Consent Calendar

21. **Contract: Shaw Integrated and Turf solutions, Inc., for Civic Center Building, Fourth Floor @ IT Department Carpet Replacement Project**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution: 1. Accepting the California Multiple Award Schedule (CMAS) bid procedures; 2. Approving the CMAS Contract with Shaw Integrated and Turf Solutions, Inc. for Carpet Replacements at the Civic Center Building; and, 3. Authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments, extensions or other change orders until completion of the project in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreements with Shaw Integrated and Turf Solutions, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$90,542, which includes a contingency of \$11,810.  
**Financial Implications:** \$90,542 - Capital Improvement Fund  
Contact: Jamie Parks, Public Works, (510) 981-6300
22. **Expenditure Contract: AMCS GROUP, INC. for Online Refuse Payment Services**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with AMCS GROUP, Inc. for AMCS Pay, which provides online refuse payment services, in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for the term of October 1, 2026, to October 1, 2031.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jamie Parks, Public Works, (510) 981-6300
23. **Grant Acceptance: Alameda CTC TFCA Adeline Quick Build**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution accepting \$1,000,000 of Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) funds from the Alameda County Transportation Commission (CTC) for the Adeline Quick Build Project and execute any resultant agreements and amendments.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jamie Parks, Public Works, (510) 981-6300
24. **Purchase Order: Braun Northwest, Inc. for One 2027 Ford F-450 North Star Ambulance Body Remount to a New Chassis**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a purchase order with Braun Northwest, Inc. for one 2027 Ford F-450 North Star ambulance remount to a new chassis in an amount not to exceed \$260,000.  
**Financial Implications:** \$260,000 - Public Works Department Equipment Fund  
Contact: Jamie Parks, Public Works, (510) 981-6300

## Council Consent Items

- 25. Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds from General Funds and Grant of Such Funds to Support the Restoration of “Sinbad Voyage”**  
**From: Councilmember Tregub (Author), Mayor Ishii (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember Taplin (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember Bartlett (Co-Sponsor)**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution approving an expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$1,000 per Councilmember from the D13 Discretionary Accounts of members of the Berkeley City Council, including contributions of \$500 from Councilmember Igor Tregub, \$250 from Councilmember Terry Taplin, \$100 from Mayor Ishii, and \$100 from Councilmember Ben Bartlett, and inviting all Councilmembers to contribute to support the restoration of Mokhtar Paki’s “Sinbad Voyage” mural.  
**Financial Implications:** Councilmembers' Discretionary Funds - \$1,000  
Contact: Igor Tregub, Councilmember, District 4, (510) 981-7140
- 26. Music in the Elmwood Festival: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds to General Fund and Grant of Such Funds**  
**From: Councilmember Humbert (Author)**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$14,000 per Councilmember including \$14,000 from Councilmember Humbert to the Elmwood Business Association for the Music in the Elmwood Festival in the years 2027 and 2028, with funds relinquished to the City’s General Fund for this purpose from the discretionary Council Office Budgets of Councilmember Humbert and any other Councilmembers who would like to contribute.  
**Financial Implications:** Councilmember's Discretionary Funds - \$14,000  
Contact: Mark Humbert, Councilmember, District 8, (510) 981-7180

## 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 – Public Hearings

*Staff shall introduce the public hearing item and present their comments. For certain hearings, this is followed by five-minute presentations each by first the appellant and then the applicant. The Presiding Officer will request that persons wishing to speak line up at the podium, or use the "raise hand" function in Zoom, to be recognized and to determine the number of persons interested in speaking at that time.*

*If ten or fewer persons are interested in speaking during a public hearing, 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.*

*When applicable, each member of the City Council shall verbally disclose all ex parte contacts concerning the subject of the hearing. Councilmembers shall also submit a report of such contacts in writing prior to the commencement of the hearing. Written reports shall be available for public review in the office of the City Clerk.*

### **27. California Municipal Finance Authority Bond Financing for Ashby Lofts Project From: City Manager**

**Recommendation:** Conduct the public hearing on September 29, 2026, under the requirements of Tax and Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act ("TEFRA") and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and upon conclusion:

Adopt a Resolution approving the issuance of the Bonds by the California Municipal Finance Authority ("CMFA") for the benefit of Ashby Lofts LP, a California limited partnership (the "Borrower"), to provide for the financing of Ashby Lofts (the "Project"). The adoption is intended to solely satisfy the requirements of TEFRA, the Code and the California Government Code Section 6500 (and following).

**Financial Implications:** See report

Contact: Scott Gilman, Health, Housing, and Community Services, (510) 981-5100

### **28. Adoption of San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan From: City Manager**

**Recommendation:** Conduct a public hearing, and upon conclusion:

1. Adopt a Resolution: a. Considering an Addendum to the 2023-2031 Housing Element Update Environmental Impact Report (EIR) together with the previously certified EIR and finding that none of the conditions described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 requiring preparation of a subsequent or supplemental EIR have occurred; b. Adopting the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan and San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan Design Standards Document; c. Approving and adopting General Plan and University Avenue Strategic Plan map and text amendments to redesignate certain parcels and update certain land use designations to be consistent with the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan; and d. Rescinding the West Berkeley Plan and San Pablo Avenue Public Improvements Plan; and
2. Adopt the first reading of an Ordinance to amend the Berkeley Municipal Code to create the San Pablo Commercial District (Chapter 23.202.160) and additional conforming amendments to other sections of the Municipal Code.

**Financial Implications:** See report

Contact: Jordan Klein, Planning and Development, (510) 981-7400

## **Action Calendar – New Business**

- 29. Affordable Housing Preference Policy: Pilot Assessment and Policy Update**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution rescinding Resolution No. 70,960-N.S. to revise and update the Affordable Housing Preference Policy for new residential housing units created via the Housing Trust Fund (HTF) and Below Market-Rate (BMR) programs.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Scott Gilman, Health, Housing, and Community Services, (510) 981-5100
- 30. Surveillance Technology Ordinance Submission for Mutual Aid Air Support, Pursuant to Council Action of July 14, 2026**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution to accept the Surveillance Acquisition Report and approve the Surveillance Use Policy (BPD Policy 1308) for Mutual Aid Air Support, pursuant to Berkeley Municipal Code (B.M.C.) Chapter 2.99.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Jennifer Louis, Police, (510) 981-5900

## **Action Calendar – Policy Committee Track Items**

- 31. Referral to the City Manager to develop an updated Cross Departmental Program Plan and Strategic Asset Management Plan per the Realize Vision 2050 Plan to address the City's Long-term Infrastructure Needs and Maintenance Schedule and Provide Semi-annual Progress Reports to City Council**  
**From: Mayor Ishii (Author), Councilmember Taplin (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember Tregub (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember O'Keefe (Co-Sponsor)**  
**Recommendation:** Refer to the City Manager to develop an updated cross-departmental Program Plan and Strategic Asset Management Plan as set forth in the Realize Vision 2050 Plan to address the City's long-term infrastructure needs and maintenance schedule, and provide semi-annual progress reports to City Council.  
**Financial Implications:** See report  
Contact: Adena Ishii, Mayor, (510) 981-7100
- 32. Honoring Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**  
**From: Councilmember Blackaby (Author), Councilmember Bartlett (Co-Sponsor)**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution honoring September as childhood cancer awareness month.  
**Financial Implications:** None  
Contact: Brent Blackaby, Councilmember, District 6, (510) 981-7160

## Action Calendar – Policy Committee Track Items

33. **United Against Hate Week 2026 Resolution**  
**From: Councilmember Blackaby (Author), Councilmember Bartlett (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember Lunaparra (Co-Sponsor)**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution declaring October 18 – 24 as United Against Hate Week in Berkeley.  
**Financial Implications:** None  
**Contact:** Brent Blackaby, Councilmember, District 6, (510) 981-7160
34. **Reaffirmation of the Sister City Relationship Between the City of Berkeley and the City of Palma Soriano, Cuba**  
**From: Councilmember Humbert (Author)**  
**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution reaffirming the long-standing Sister City relationship between the City of Berkeley and the City of Palma Soriano, Cuba, and reauthorizing the Berkeley–Palma Soriano Sister City Committee to resume work on clean water, environmental, cultural, and educational projects in partnership with the Palma Soriano community, at no direct or indirect cost to the City of Berkeley.  
**Financial Implications:** None  
**Contact:** Mark Humbert, Councilmember, District 8, (510) 981-7180

## Information Reports

35. **Restaurant Inspection Audit Status Report**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Contact:** Scott Gilman, Health, Housing, and Community Services, (510) 981-5100
36. **Update: HR Response: Audit Recommendations for Comprehensive Domestic Violence Policy to Support City Employees**  
**From: City Manager:**  
**Contact:** Janelle Rodrigues, Human Resources, (510) 981-6800
37. **Response to City Council’s Motion Regarding Refinements to the Telegraph Multimodal Corridor Project Design Approved at the October 28, 2025 Meeting of the Berkeley City Council**  
**From: City Manager**  
**Contact:** Jamie Parks, Public Works, (510) 981-6300
38. **Planning Commission Fiscal Year 2026-27 Work Plan**  
**From: Planning Commission**  
**Contact:** Alisa Shen, Commission Secretary, (510) 981-7400

## 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.

Archived indexed video streams are available at: [berkeleyca.gov/council-agendas](http://berkeleyca.gov/council-agendas).  
Channel 33 rebroadcasts the following Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. and Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

Communications to the City Council 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 the City Council, 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 to the City Clerk Department at 2180 Milvia Street. 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 City Clerk Department for further information.

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

#### 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.

Captioning services are provided at the meeting, on B-TV, and on the Internet. In addition, assisted listening devices for the hearing impaired are available from the City Clerk prior to the meeting, and are to be returned before the end of the meeting.

If you have obtained interpretation services for your use during a City Council meeting and would like to request assistance, please contact the City Clerk Department at (510) 981-6900, [clerk@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:clerk@berkeleyca.gov), or in-person during the meeting.

Questions regarding public participation may be addressed to the City Clerk Department (510) 981-6900 or by email at [clerk@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:clerk@berkeleyca.gov).

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Igor Tregub
Berkeley City Councilmember
District 4
2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor
Berkeley, CA 94704
510-981-7140
itregub@berkeleyca.gov

CONSENT CALENDAR
September 29th, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Igor Tregub (Author), Mayor Ishii (Co-Sponsor),
Councilmember Terry Taplin (Co-Sponsor), and Councilmember Ben
Bartlett (Co-Sponsor)

Subject: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds from General Funds and
Grant of Such Funds to Support the Restoration of “Sinbad Voyage”

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving an expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$1,000 per Councilmember from the D13 Discretionary Accounts of members of the Berkeley City Council, including contributions of \$500 from Councilmember Igor Tregub, \$250 from Councilmember Terry Taplin, \$100 from Mayor Ishii, and \$100 from Councilmember Ben Bartlett, and inviting all Councilmembers to contribute to support the restoration of Mokhtar Paki’s “Sinbad Voyage” mural.

BACKGROUND

“Sinbad Voyage” is a large-scale public mural created by Berkeley-based Iranian immigrant artist Mokhtar Paki in 2023. Located at the corner of Dwight Way and Sacramento Street, the 28-by-14-foot mural depicts the experiences, journeys, and resilience of immigrants, refugees, and displaced people from around the world.

The mural was inspired in part by the story of Sinbad’s voyage, which follows a traveler journeying with others in search of a better life, and by the real-world refugee and migration crises that have affected millions of people across Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and elsewhere. Mr. Paki began developing the concept years before the mural was painted, drawing inspiration from the stories of people who risked their lives seeking safety and a better future for themselves and their families.

Mokhtar has described “Sinbad Voyage” as his “love letter to Berkeley.” The mural reflects Berkeley’s history as a community shaped by immigrants and people from diverse backgrounds, faiths, cultures, and countries of origin. It also reflects the deeply personal nature of migration: the mural includes more than 450 figures, including approximately 90 whose faces are clearly visible, many of whom represent actual people and real immigrant stories.

Among the figures depicted are individuals whose stories illustrate the profound human cost of displacement and migration, including Mokhtar’s own young niece, Sanaz, who died at five years old while attempting to flee Iran by boat with her father. The mural also depicts refugees and migrants from Central America, the Middle East, Africa, and other parts of the world, as well as members of Berkeley’s own diverse communities.

In this way, “Sinbad Voyage” is more than a mural. It is a public expression of memory, migration, loss, resilience, and belonging, and a reflection of the many stories that make Berkeley the community it is today.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On the night of August 19, 2026, “Sinbad Voyage” was vandalized with white paint, causing significant damage to the mural.

The vandalism has deeply affected the artist and members of the Berkeley community who see their own experiences, histories, and identities reflected in the work. In the days following the incident, community members gathered around the mural, left messages of solidarity, and expressed their desire to help with its restoration.

The Berkeley Police Department is actively investigating this vandalism case. Investigators have released video showing a person of interest walking through the neighborhood carrying what appears to be a can of paint and have pursued additional investigative leads. Police have also reported a related same-day incident in which white paint was poured onto a vehicle parked approximately one block from the mural. The investigation remains ongoing.

At this time, the motive for the vandalism has not been established. Nevertheless, the damage to “Sinbad Voyage” has understandably generated significant concern in a community that values immigrant stories, cultural diversity, and public art as essential parts of Berkeley’s identity.

Councilmember Tregub and his staff have met with Mr. Paki and City staff at the mural to hear directly from the artist and discuss potential avenues for City support for the restoration efforts. In addition, Councilmember Tregub’s office has been in

communication with the Mayor's Office, the Civic Arts Commission, and community members regarding ways to restore the mural and assist the artist.

Many local artists and community members have expressed strong interest in helping with the restoration process, including through potential volunteer events and other forms of in-kind assistance. The Civic Arts Commission is exploring opportunities for support, while City staff continue to identify potential funding sources and appropriate mechanisms for assisting with restoration.

Mr. Paki has also established a community fundraising campaign to help cover the cost of restoring "Sinbad Voyage." The campaign emphasizes that restoration will require financial resources as well as community support and calls upon people who value public art, immigrant stories, and community healing to participate in the effort.

The City Council's support through D13 discretionary funds would provide an immediate contribution toward restoration while also demonstrating the City's commitment to protecting and preserving public art that reflects the experiences and contributions of Berkeley's diverse communities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no impact to the General Fund. Contributions of up to \$1000 per participating members of the Berkeley City Council will come from existing Council Office Budget discretionary accounts.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Igor Tregub | itregub@berkeleyca.gov | 510-981-7140
Olga Bolotina | Chief of Staff, Council District 4 | obolotina@berkeleyca.gov
Shamaila Ahmed | Legislative Aide | sahmed@berkeleyca.gov

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - N.S.

APPROVING THE RELINQUISHMENT OF COUNCIL OFFICE BUDGET FUNDS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS' D13 DISCRETIONARY ACCOUNTS TO SUPPORT THE RESTORATION OF MOKHTAR PAKI'S "SINBAD VOYAGE" MURAL

WHEREAS, "Sinbad Voyage" is a large-scale public mural created by Berkeley-based Iranian immigrant artist Mokhtar Paki in 2023 and located at the corner of Dwight Way and Sacramento Street in Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, The 28-by-14-foot mural depicts the experiences, journeys, and resilience of immigrants, refugees, and displaced people from around the world and was inspired in part by the story of Sinbad's voyage and by the real-world experiences of people seeking safety and a better life; and

WHEREAS, The mural contains more than 450 figures, including approximately 90 clearly visible faces, many of whom represent actual people and real immigrant stories; and

WHEREAS, "Sinbad Voyage" includes deeply personal stories of migration and loss, including the story of Paki's young niece Sanaz, who died at five years old while attempting to flee Iran by boat with her father; and

WHEREAS, Paki has described "Sinbad Voyage" as his "love letter to Berkeley," reflecting the City's history as a diverse community shaped by immigrants and people from many countries, cultures, faiths, and backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, The mural has become an important piece of Berkeley's public art landscape and a meaningful expression of immigration, resilience, community, memory, and belonging; and

WHEREAS, On August 19, 2026, "Sinbad Voyage" was vandalized with white paint, causing significant damage to the mural; and

WHEREAS, The motive for the vandalism has not been established, and the City recognizes the importance of allowing the ongoing law enforcement investigation to proceed while supporting the restoration of the damaged artwork; and

WHEREAS, The vandalism has generated significant concern and sadness among Berkeley residents and community members who value the mural and the stories it represents; and

WHEREAS, Community members, local artists, City representatives, and the Civic Arts Commission have expressed interest in supporting efforts to restore the mural and have begun exploring opportunities for volunteer participation, fundraising, and other forms of assistance; and

WHEREAS, Supporting the restoration of “Sinbad Voyage” would help preserve a significant work of public art and reaffirm Berkeley’s commitment to welcoming and celebrating immigrant stories, cultural diversity, artistic expression, and community resilience; and

WHEREAS, The City Council recognizes that public art can serve as a powerful means of preserving community history, honoring lived experiences, strengthening neighborhood identity, and bringing people together in response to acts of vandalism and harm; and

WHEREAS, The relinquishment of Council Office Budget funds by participating Councilmembers would provide additional resources to support the restoration of “Sinbad Voyage” and help return this important work of public art to the Berkeley community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council approves the expenditure of an amount not to exceed 1,000 per participating Councilmember from each participating Councilmember’s D13 Discretionary Account to support the restoration of Mokhtar Paki’s “Sinbad Voyage” mural.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is directed to distribute the approved discretionary funds to Mokhtar Paki for the restoration of “Sinbad Voyage” mural.



Berkeley City Councilmember
Mark Humbert, District 8
2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor
Berkeley, CA 94704
mhumbert@berkeleyca.gov

02a.26

CONSENT CALENDAR
September 29, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Humbert (Author)

Subject: Music in the Elmwood Festival: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds to General Fund and Grant of Such Funds

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$14,000 per Councilmember including \$14,000 from Councilmember Humbert to the Elmwood Business Association for the Music in the Elmwood Festival in the years 2027 and 2028, with funds relinquished to the City's General Fund for this purpose from the discretionary Council Office Budgets of Councilmember Humbert and any other Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

BACKGROUND

People are increasingly taking note of the Music in the Elmwood Festival, which is heading into its fourth year and continues to grow in scale. Music festivals help build a strong economic base for our business districts, and we hope to see a sharp increase in attendance. It's hard to beat a free music event that's fun for the whole family, and we want to support the Elmwood Business Association's instrumental role in this event. Neighborhood festivals like this are a cymal of our community's vitality. These funds will drum up financial support and ensure that Music in the Elmwood crescendos for years to come.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No General Fund impact. \$14,000 is available from Councilmember Humbert's office budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with adopting this recommendation.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Mark Humbert Council District 8 510-981-7180

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

MUSIC IN THE ELMWOOD FESTIVAL 2027 and 2028

WHEREAS, people are increasingly taking note of the Music in the Elmwood Festival, which is now in its second year and continues to grow in scale; and

WHEREAS, music festivals help build a strong economic bass for our business districts, and we hope to see a sharp increase in attendance; and

WHEREAS, it's hard to beat a free music event that's fun for the whole family, and we want to support the Elmwood Business Association's instrumental role in this event; and

WHEREAS, neighborhood festivals like this are a cymbal of our community's vitality; and

WHEREAS, These funds will drum up financial support and ensure that Music in the Elmwood crescendos for years to come; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember has surplus funds in his office expenditure account, which would be key to the event; and

WHEREAS, the Elmwood Business Association is making a play for funds in the amount of \$14,000 to help cover the costs of the festivities in lieu of limited City Civic Arts funding; and

WHEREAS, working in concert for this event would serve the civic interests of community-building, supporting musicians, and trumpeting Berkeley's cultural influence;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by the Councilmembers from their Council Office Budgets up to \$14,000 per office shall be granted to the Elmwood Business Association for helping cover the costs of the Music in the Elmwood Festival.

ACTION CALENDAR

September 29, 2026

TO: Members of the City Council

FROM: Mayor Adena Ishii (Author), Councilmember Taplin (Co-Sponsor),
Councilmember Tregub (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember O'Keefe (Co-Sponsor)

SUBJECT: Referral to the City Manager to develop an updated Cross Departmental Program Plan and Strategic Asset Management Plan per the Realize Vision 2050 Plan to address the City's Long-term Infrastructure Needs and Maintenance Schedule and Provide Semi-annual Progress Reports to City Council.

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the City Manager to develop an updated cross-departmental Program Plan and Strategic Asset Management Plan as set forth in the Realize Vision 2050 Plan to address the City's long-term infrastructure needs and maintenance schedule, and provide semi-annual progress reports to City Council.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley has approximately \$1.5 billion in unfunded infrastructure needs. Currently, the City is taking steps to address this need, but to effectively accomplish this goal, it is imperative that the City continue to amplify its work to understand the landscape of the need and have criteria for setting priorities. To accomplish this, the City needs an updated Program Plan and Strategic Asset Management Plan. A Program Plan is a high-level strategic document that outlines the City's long-term organizational goals and coordinates projects across the appropriate departments. This document will outline all the infrastructure projects Citywide that need to be completed, attached with a rough cost analysis of each project and a prioritization plan informed by urgency and the Realize Vision 2050 plan. The Asset Management Plan is a roadmap for managing the City's physical assets, including infrastructure, equipment and facilities over the course of their life cycles. This will work in tandem with the Program Plan to help the Departments keep track of maintenance plans for the City's assets.

To promote transparency on how the City is progressing and addressing its infrastructure needs, City staff should institute a transparency hub dashboard to publicly track its infrastructure projects. This dashboard could be akin to the Transportation Studio: Capital Improvement

Program (CIP) Hub created by the UC Berkeley students in the Transportation Planning Studio course.¹ This Hub will track current project schedules and their budgets, as well as integrate future capital planning.

The City Manager will provide semi-annual (every six months) progress reports on the Program Plan and the Strategic Asset Management Plan to the City Council.

BACKGROUND

The City of Berkeley maintains over 300 miles of sidewalks, 54 parks, 95 buildings, as well as municipal drains, streets and much more.² In 2020, the City of Berkeley put forth the Vision 2050 plan, which is “a long-term infrastructure plan to create a city that is resilient and sustainable for future generations.”³ Following the November 16, 2021 Vision 2050 Progress Report⁴, on May 10, 2022, the Berkeley City Council approved Vision 2050: Strategic Asset Management Plan and Asset Management Policy.⁵ Because infrastructure is one of Mayor Adena Ishii’s priority areas, she reconvened the Vision 2050 Task Force in 2025 to update the plan, with consideration to the significant changes that have occurred between 2020 and 2025.⁶ This new plan, called Realize Vision 2050, iterates the need to implement both an Infrastructure Program Plan, as well as an Asset Management Plan. Both plans are integral to project prioritization and creating a comprehensive landscape of City infrastructure needs. Both Vision 2050 and Realize Vision 2050 should be foundational in building out the plans.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no environmental impacts generated by this referral.

FISCAL IMPACTS

The fiscal impact to update the Program Plan and the Strategic Asset Management Plan is estimated at approximately \$200,000, which includes staff and consultant time.

CONTACT

Adena Ishii, Mayor (510) 981-7100

mayor@berkeleyca.gov

¹ <https://sites.google.com/berkeley.edu/berkeley-cip-studio/home?authuser=0>

² <https://berkeleyca.gov/your-government/our-work/bond-revenue-measures/infrastructure-projects-potential-bond-measure>

³ <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Vision-2050-Framework.pdf>

⁴ <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2021-11-16%20Item%2008%20Vision%202050.pdf>

⁵ <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/2022-04/2022-05-10%20Item%2031%20Vision%202050%20Strategic%20Asset.pdf>

⁶ <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2021-03-16%20WS%20Item%2003b%20Turning%20Vision%202050%20into%20Reality.pdf>



Brent Blackaby
Councilmember District 6

CONSENT CALENDAR
September 29, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Blackaby (Author), Councilmember Bartlett (Co-sponsor)
Subject: Honoring Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution honoring September as childhood cancer awareness month.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children, and much more can be done to raise awareness about and find cures for this deadly disease. Eighty percent of childhood cancer patients are diagnosed late and with metastatic disease. One in 285 children in the U.S. will be diagnosed with cancer by their 20th birthday. This Resolution honors September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and recognizes the deeply painful impacts childhood cancer has on families in every community across our country.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Brent Blackaby Council District 6 510-981-7160

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

SEPTEMBER AS CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed with Childhood Cancer by their 20th birthday; and

WHEREAS, the average age of diagnosis is 6 years old; and

WHEREAS, 80% of childhood cancer patients are diagnosed late and with metastatic disease; and

WHEREAS, there's been an overall childhood cancer incidence increase of 24 percent over the last 40 years; and

WHEREAS, in the last 30 years only six new drugs have been approved by the FDA to specifically treat childhood cancer; and

WHEREAS, too many children are affected by this deadly disease, and more must be done to raise awareness and find a cure.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that September is proclaimed Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Berkeley.



Brent Blackaby
Councilmember District 6

CONSENT CALENDAR
September 29, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Blackaby (Author), Councilmember Bartlett (Co-sponsor),
Councilmember Lunaparra (Co-sponsor)

Subject: United Against Hate Week 2026 Resolution

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution declaring October 18 – 24 as United Against Hate Week in Berkeley

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Starting in Berkeley in 2017 in response to far-right rallies, United Against Hate was originally a poster campaign that spread throughout Alameda County. It has since transformed into an annual statewide event. The goal for United Against Hate Week is to provide communities with the tools, resources, and support they need to create locally driven actions to stand united against growing intolerance. This week is designed to not just raise awareness about the dangers of hate and the need for respect and civil discourse, but to help community members build stronger connections with civic leaders, businesses, and schools, so that deeper engagement can continue year-round. (www.unitedagainsthateweek.org)

Not in Our Town (www.niot.org) is a non-profit that serves communities across the country working to build safety, inclusion and equity for all. They are, once again, facilitating the organization for United Against Hate Week.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with adopting this recommendation.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Brent Blackaby Council District 6 510-981-7160

Attachments:

1: Resolution Proclaiming October 18 – 24, 2026 as United Against Hate Week

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

COMMEMORATING UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK 2026

WHEREAS, the United States is a nation of immigrants, whose strength comes from its diversity; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution enshrines equality on all individuals, regardless of race, gender, orientation, religion, or political view; and

WHEREAS, rhetoric continues to generate a toxic environment that encourages the propagation of racist, xenophobic, antisemitic, Islamophobic, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, and other bigoted views by emboldened hate groups and individuals; and

WHEREAS, deep divisions within our country are the result of extreme ideology, further strengthening a cycle of mistrust and suspicion fueled by fear, anxiety, and insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the number of hate crimes across the United States continues to increase with hate crimes against Jews, African Americans and Asian Americans especially increasing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley is dedicated to preventing and opposing hate and intolerance in our communities. Berkeley started United Against Hate Week in 2017, which has since expanded into a national movement; and

WHEREAS, education, compassion, and cooperation are key to unlocking understanding and embracing differences between people, with United Against Hate Week an important step in bridging divisions and strengthening our communities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that that it hereby proclaims October 18-24, 2026, as United Against Hate Week in the City of Berkeley.



Berkeley City Councilmember
Mark Humbert, District 8
 2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor
 Berkeley, CA 94704
mhumbert@berkeleyca.gov
www.MarkHumbert.com

02a.34

CONSENT CALENDAR

September 29, 2026

To: Members of the Berkeley City Council

From: Councilmember Mark Humbert (Author)

Subject: Reaffirmation of the Sister City Relationship Between the City of Berkeley and the City of Palma Soriano, Cuba

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution reaffirming the long-standing Sister City relationship between the City of Berkeley and the City of Palma Soriano, Cuba, and reauthorizing the Berkeley–Palma Soriano Sister City Committee to resume work on clean water, environmental, cultural, and educational projects in partnership with the Palma Soriano community, at no direct or indirect cost to the City of Berkeley.

SUMMARY

On May 14, 2002, the City of Berkeley established a Sister City relationship with the Municipality of Palma Soriano in the Province of Santiago de Cuba through Resolution 61,553-N.S. In the years since, Berkeley residents and organizations, including the Berkeley-Cuba Sister City Association, the Green Cities Fund, and the Berkeley–Palma Soriano Sister City Committee, worked alongside the Palma Soriano community and Cuban partner organizations to advance a locally designed, low-cost clean water project. But the Sister City relationship has been in abeyance for an extended period. This item reaffirms the relationship and reauthorizes the Sister City Committee to resume its work, consistent with the criteria the City established for Sister City relationships in Resolution 56,069-N.S.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None. Consistent with the City's Sister City criteria, there are to be no direct or indirect costs to the City of Berkeley. All expenses associated with the relationship and its associated projects are the responsibility of the Berkeley–Palma Soriano Sister City Committee, the Green Cities Fund, and partnering organizations, which take responsibility for any related fundraising.

Because the clean water project is an international effort rather than a local Berkeley organization, program, or project, Councilmembers may not contribute to it from their Council Office Budgets, which are restricted to local purposes. Councilmember Humbert will instead be making a personal donation in support of the effort and warmly invites his colleagues and members of the public who are moved to do so to contribute personally as well, through the Green Cities Fund (www.greencitiesfund.org), a Berkeley-based 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Palma Soriano is a community of roughly 80,000 people in the Province of Santiago de Cuba in eastern Cuba, at the confluence of the two main tributaries of the Cauto, Cuba's longest river, which descend from the Sierra Maestra mountains. Like Berkeley, it is known as a center for research, social programs, and culture. The community has a rich Afro-Cuban heritage, including descendants of people brought from Haiti more than two centuries ago in the era of the Haitian Revolution.

For years, raw sewage in Palma Soriano has been discharged directly into the Cauto River, the community's own water source. Working together, University of California, Berkeley clean water experts, the Berkeley–Palma Soriano Sister City organization, Cuba's leading environmental non-governmental organization (the Antonio Núñez Jiménez Foundation), and Palma Soriano's independent cultural organization (Grupo Ennegro) developed a low-technology, low-cost, and locally built clean water plan. Rather than emptying into the river, sewage would be directed into a series of ponds filled with flora and fauna that naturally remove toxins and sediment, yielding clean water that can be used for reforestation and community gardens. The approach is designed to be replicable by community groups elsewhere in Cuba and other developing regions.

The plan was devised with the assistance of University of California, Berkeley faculty as a graduate thesis project. As a next step, the Green Cities Fund is prepared to finance a return visit by the expert who designed the plan to provide an updated assessment of feasibility and cost. Reaffirming the Sister City relationship and reauthorizing the Sister City Committee will bolster this work moving forward and will renew opportunities for cultural and educational exchange between our two communities.

The relationship continues to satisfy the seven criteria for Sister City relationships established in Resolution 56,069-N.S.:

1. Benefit to the human rights, health, safety, culture, and education of the citizens of Berkeley. The relationship deepens Berkeley residents' engagement with

Afro-Cuban history and culture and with community-scale environmental problem-solving, and reflects Berkeley's long-standing commitment to international friendship and solidarity.

2. New opportunities for exchange programs, cultural enrichment, or curriculum enhancement. The partnership creates opportunities for cultural and technical exchange between Berkeley and Palma Soriano, including around the clean water project and among the communities' cultural organizations.

3. A sufficient number of committed Berkeley residents capable of representing Berkeley's interest. Berkeley residents and organizations, including the Berkeley-Cuba Sister City Association that originally proposed the relationship, former Mayor Tom Bates, former State Senator and Mayor Loni Hancock, the Wellstone Democratic Club, the Green Cities Fund, and the Berkeley–Palma Soriano Sister City Committee, have sustained this relationship over many years, including in-person delegations to Palma Soriano.

4. A sufficient number of committed residents in the Sister City capable of sustaining the relationship. Palma Soriano's cultural and environmental organizations, together with Cuban partner institutions, have demonstrated ongoing commitment to the Sister City partnership and the clean water project.

6. No direct or indirect costs to the City of Berkeley. All costs are borne by the Sister City Committee, the Green Cities Fund, and partnering organizations, with any donations being of a personal nature and not drawing from public funds.

7. Increased harmony in Berkeley and consistency with Berkeley's best interests. The relationship reflects Berkeley's historic commitment to standing with communities seeking to chart their own future and to advancing environmental sustainability and international friendship.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no adverse environmental effects associated with this recommendation. The clean water project is designed to reduce water pollution, restore a natural watershed, and support reforestation and community gardens in Palma Soriano.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Mark Humbert — mhumbert@berkeleyca.gov, 510-981-7180

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution

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

REAFFIRMING THE SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY OF BERKELEY AND THE CITY OF PALMA SORIANO, CUBA, AND REAUTHORIZING THE BERKELEY–PALMA SORIANO SISTER CITY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has a long and proud legacy as an international city, maintaining Sister City relationships around the world that advance friendship, cultural and educational exchange, and solidarity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley established a Sister City relationship with the Municipality of Palma Soriano in the Province of Santiago de Cuba on May 14, 2002, through Resolution 61,553-N.S., upon a proposal presented by the Berkeley-Cuba Sister City Association; and

WHEREAS, Palma Soriano is a community of approximately 80,000 people in the Province of Santiago de Cuba, situated at the confluence of the two main tributaries of the Cauto River, and, like Berkeley, known as a center for research, social programs, and culture, and rich in Afro-Cuban heritage, including descendants of people brought from Haiti more than two centuries ago; and

WHEREAS, this Sister City relationship has focused on helping Palma Soriano develop an environmentally sound, locally built clean water system that redirects raw sewage away from the Cauto River, the community's own water source, and into natural treatment ponds, yielding clean water for reforestation and community gardens; and

WHEREAS, this clean water plan was developed collaboratively by University of California, Berkeley clean water experts, the Berkeley–Palma Soriano Sister City organization, the Antonio Núñez Jiménez Foundation, and Grupo Ennegro, and was designed to be replicable by other communities in Cuba and beyond; and

WHEREAS, in December 2012, then-Mayor Tom Bates and then-State Senator Loni Hancock visited Palma Soriano on a trip sponsored by the Green Cities Fund, a Berkeley-based 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation, and Berkeley residents and organizations have sustained this relationship over many years; and

WHEREAS, the Sister City relationship established by Resolution 61,553-N.S. has been in abeyance for an extended period of time, and there is renewed commitment among Berkeley residents and organizations to reactivate it and resume its work; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has historically stood with communities seeking to chart their own destiny and to secure a healthy environment for their people; and

WHEREAS, the relationship continues to meet the criteria for Sister City relationships established by Resolution 56,069-N.S.; and

WHEREAS, consistent with those criteria, there are to be no direct or indirect costs to the City of Berkeley, and all associated expenses are the responsibility of the Berkeley–Palma Soriano Sister City Committee, the Green Cities Fund, and partnering organizations.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Council reaffirms the Sister City relationship between the City of Berkeley and the City of Palma Soriano, Cuba.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council reauthorizes the Berkeley–Palma Soriano Sister City Committee to resume and continue its work on the water purification project and related environmental, cultural, and educational projects contemplated in the original relationship, at no direct or indirect cost to the City of Berkeley.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council directs the City Clerk to forward a copy of this Resolution to the appropriate officials of the City of Palma Soriano, Cuba, and to Berkeley's Congressional representatives.



Office of the City Manager

02a.38INFORMATION CALENDAR

September 29, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Planning Commission

Submitted by: Emily Marthinsen, Chair, Planning Commission

Subject: Planning Commission Fiscal Year 2026-27 Work Plan

INTRODUCTION

The City of Berkeley Planning Commission (PC) hereby submits a work plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-27. The spreadsheet within Attachment 1 identifies the specific items prioritized.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

At its meeting on July 1, 2026, the Commission reviewed and approved its FY 2026-27 Work Plan (Attachment 1).¹ The Commission also provided additional guidance for Council referrals that staff identified that could be started without additional funding, prioritizing the Project to Increase Telegraph and Claremont Housing (PITCH), Neighborhood-serving retail in residential zones (particularly in areas where these non-conforming uses already exist), and to develop an Efficiency Unit Ordinance.

BACKGROUND

The Planning Commission is providing this informational report about its FY 2026-27 Work Plan pursuant to the City Council's 2016 formal action to require commissions to annually submit a work plan to Council in this format. At the July 1, 2026 meeting, the Planning Commission considered information prepared by staff, including actions completed to date from the previous work plan, available staff resources, and the proposed work plan for FY 2026-2027.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

The Planning Commission's work plan advances the City's sustainability and greenhouse gas reduction goals by focusing on creating housing and business opportunities in areas of high resources and frequent transit.

¹ Planning Commission vote to approve workplan and send to Council: Motion/Second: Kahn/Sanderson. Ayes: Bechtolsheim, Marthinsen, Kahn, Owens, Sanderson, Twu. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Hauser, Oatfield, Wang [6-0-0-3].

The FY 2026-27 Planning Commission Work Plan is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), in that it is solely administrative in nature and would have no adverse effect on the environment.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Based on recommendations received from PC, City Council may refer additional work to the City Manager.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

As identified by staff, some referrals already adopted by Council would require additional funding prior to starting work. Future new referrals to the City Manager may require additional staff and/or funding.

CONTACT PERSON(S)

Alisa Shen, Co-Secretary to the Planning Commission, Planning and Development Department, 510-981-7489.

Justin Horner, Co-Secretary to the Planning Commission, Planning and Development Department, 510-981-7476.

Attachment:

1. Staff report regarding FY 2026-27 Planning Commission Work Plan (Planning Commission Meeting of July 1, 2026)



Planning and Development Department
Land Use Planning Division

STAFF REPORT

DATE: July 1, 2026
To: Members of the Planning Commission
From: Alisa Shen, Principal Planner
Subject: FY 2026 – 2027 Planning Commission (PC) Work Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend that the Planning Commission review and approve the proposed Planning Commission Work Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 - 2027.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

This report provides background information about the work plan, including an update about work from the previous work plan completed to date, available staff resources, and the proposed work plan for FY 2026-2027.

In 2016 the City Council took formal action directing all boards and commissions to submit a work plan to the City Council in the form of an informational report. A Commission's work plan should contain the Commission's mission statement, goals, and resources. Pursuant to the City Charter, the mission of the Planning Commission is as follows:

“The Commission recommends modifications to the City of Berkeley General Plan and related policy documents. All Zoning Ordinance amendments are developed through this Commission and recommended to the City Council. Other purviews include subdivision map consideration and review and comments on substantial projects from surrounding jurisdictions.”

FY 2025-2026 Work Plan Update

The following projects included in the FY 2025-2026 workplan have been completed:

- ADU State Law Compliance (Planning Commission: March 3, 2025; City Council: July 27, 2025)
- Middle Housing Zoning and General Plan Amendments (Planning Commission: February 27 and October 9, 2024; City Council June 26, 2025)

- Assembly Bill 1033 Implementation: ADU Condominium Ordinance (Planning Commission: May 7, 2025; City Council: September 16, 2025)
- Amendments to Allow the Retail Sale of Alcohol in the Telegraph Avenue Commercial (C-T) Zoning District (Planning Commission: November 5, 2025; City Council December 2, 2025)
- Senate Bill 684 Implementation: Amendments to Title 21 Subdivisions and Title 23 Zoning (Planning Commission: October 8, 2025; City Council February 24, 2026)
- Amendments to Landmarks Preservation Ordinance (Landmarks Preservation Commission: February 5 and April 6, 2026; City Council April 14, 2026)

Staff Resources

The policy team currently consists of four full-time employees: two Principal Planners and two Associate Planners. From 2023 through 2026, the team consisted of eight full-time employees (FTE). However, over the past year, one temporary, grant-funded Senior Planner position expired, and three additional positions (a Senior Planner, an Associate Planner and an Assistant Planner) became vacant. Due to the City's current budget shortfall, the Planning and Development Department anticipates filling only two of the vacant positions within the policy team—a Senior Planner and Assistant Planner—and plans to share an Associate position with the project planning team. Once these recruitment efforts are complete, the policy team will consist of 6.5 FTE. The policy team is funded through the City's General Fund and from the Permit Service Center Fund and may receive additional funding from outside grants.

FY 2026-2027 Planning Commission Work Plan

The proposed FY 2026-2027 Planning Commission work plan, summarized below, reflects existing staffing levels and other resources (**Attachment 1**).

- **Ongoing Annual Reporting, Implementation and Administration.** Staff have ongoing administrative responsibilities, including staffing the zoning counter at the Permit Service Center, staffing the Planning Commission, and internal administration, including staff meetings, supporting interdepartmental and interagency planning efforts, professional development, and other related activities. In addition, the Planning and Development (PDD) Department regularly provides support to other City Departments and/or needs to respond to outside agencies, which require detailed policy analysis, the preparation of formal responses, and oftentimes consultation with the City Attorney, the City Council, and other staff.

PDD also has an ongoing requirement to produce General Plan and Housing Element Annual Progress Reports for the California Department of Housing Community Development (HCD), the Department of Finance (DOF) and Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI). Staff also periodically prepare staff-initiated zoning amendments and/or General Plan amendments that are necessary to ensure consistency with new State laws and/or clarify or correct non-substantive errors.

In addition, several recently completed projects referred by City Council require substantial staff time to train staff and inform the public about new processes, such as ministerial permit pathways for SB 684-compliant small-lot subdivisions and middle housing zoning applications.

- **Active Projects Continuing in FY 2026-2027.** There are several complex, multi-year planning projects underway that implement State mandates and/or Housing Element policies and programs. Projects in this category include the update to the Disaster Preparedness and Safety Element of the General Plan, the preparation of the City's first Environmental Justice Element, the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan, Ashby BART station area planning, and the Corridors Zoning Update. Staff also anticipate completing other smaller projects including requirements for undergrounding utilities and reporting back on Home Occupation amendments (enacted in February 2021).
- **Projects Anticipated to Start in FY 2026-2027.** Staff have identified the projects listed below that can be *started* with existing staff and budget resources in FY 2026-2027 as staff capacity becomes available with completion of active projects and the filling of vacant positions.
 - State-mandated Projects:
 - Historic Context Statement pursuant to the City's 2023-2031 Housing Element Environmental Impact Report.
 - Update to the General Plan Open Space Element.
 - Projects Implementing City Plans:
 - Local Density Bonus for the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan Area.
 - City Council-referred Projects:

The following projects were ranked by the City Council as part of their referral prioritization using "Re-Weighted Range Voting (RRV), adopted on February 10, 2026:

 - Neighborhood Scale Commercial in Residential Zones (RRV #8).
 - Affordable Housing for Artists: AB-812 Implementation and Cultural District Statutory Standardization (RRV #12).
 - Efficiency Unit Ordinance: study and propose standards for Efficiency Units (RRV #24).

The City Council also approved the following Council referral on March 10, 2026, and recommended funding it through the FY27 budget process on June 16, 2026: the Project to Increase Telegraph and Claremont Housing (PITCH) Rezoning (**Attachment 2**).
- **Question for the Planning Commission:** *Given that PITCH has been budgeted by the City Council, how should this project be prioritized relative to the other Council-referred projects?*
- **Projects to Be Started, Pending Additional Funding.** Staff have determined that several outstanding referrals cannot be initiated without budgeted funding for consultant services for legally required environmental review, specialized design

FY 2026-2027 PC Work Plan

July 1, 2026

activities, and other technical work that we do not have the capacity to implement at current staffing levels. These projects include:

- Rezoning Gilman from San Pablo Avenue to I-80 for Commercial Uses (RRV #4).
- Explore zoning modifications for added density as way to help offset costs added to projects by new HARDHATS ordinance (RRV #5).
- Objective Design Standards in Middle Housing zoning districts (RRV #21).

CONTACT PERSON

Alisa Shen, Co-Secretary to the Planning Commission, Principal Planner
ashen@berkeleyca.gov, (510) 981-7409.

Attachments:

1. Proposed FY 2026-2027 Planning Commission Work Plan
2. Council Referral: Project to Increase Telegraph and Claremont Housing (PITCH) Rezoning, approved March 10, 2026.

Source	Core Responsibilities	RRV 2026 Ranking*
Administration	Planning Commission	n/a
	Permit Service Center and Other Planning and Zoning Support	n/a
	Implementation & Research	n/a
Source	Annual Reporting/Recurring Projects	RRV 2026 Ranking
State Law	State General Plan and Housing Element Annual Progress Report	n/a
State Law	State Law Technical Edits to Zoning Ordinance	n/a
Source	Active Projects	RRV 2026 Ranking
State Law	General Plan: Update Disaster Preparedness and Safety Element, New Environmental Justice Element, and Climate Resilience Metrics	n/a
Housing Element (Program 28)	BART Station Area Planning: Ashby and North Berkeley BART	n/a
Housing Element (Programs 27 & 33)	Corridors Rezoning (College, Solano, North Shattuck Avenues)	n/a
Housing Element (Program 27)	San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan	n/a
Council	Referral to the Planning Commission and Housing Advisory Commission to research and recommend policies to prevent displacement and gentrification of Berkeley residents of color	n/a
Council	Report back on Home Occupation amendments enacted in February 2021	n/a
Source	Projects Anticipated to Start in FY 2026-2027	RRV 2026 Ranking
HE EIR Mitigation Measure Cul-1	Historical Context Statement	n/a
HE (Program 27)	General Plan Open Space Element Update	n/a
San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan	Local Density Bonus for the SPASP	n/a
Council	Neighborhood-scale Commercial in Residential Zones	8
Council	Affordable Housing for Artists: AB-812 implementation and Cultural District statutory standardization	12
Council	Efficiency Unit Ordinance: study and propose standards for Efficiency Units	24
Council	Project to Increase Telegraph and Claremont Housing (PITCH)	**
Source	Projects Requiring Additional Funding to Start	RRV 2026 Ranking
Council	Rezone Gilman for commercial uses from San Pablo Ave to I-80 to maximize revenue generation	4
Council	Explore zoning modifications for added density as way to help offset costs added to projects by new HARDHATS ordinance	5
Council	Objective Design Standards in Middle Housing zoning districts	21

*City Council Referral Ranking using the Re-Weighted Range Voting (RRV) system, approved February 10, 2026.

**City Council-referred on March 10, 2026 and recommended for funding through the FY27 budget process on June 16, 2026.



Berkeley City Councilmember
Mark Humbert, District 8
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mhumbert@berkeleyca.gov

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIAL for Supplemental Packet 2

Meeting Date: **March 10, 2026**

Item Number: **13**

Item Description: **Project to Increase Telegraph and Claremont Housing
(PITCH) Rezoning**

Submitted by: **Councilmember Humbert, Mayor Ishii, Councilmember
Bartlett**

The attached revises Item 13, *Project to Increase Telegraph and Claremont Housing (PITCH) Rezoning*, to add flexibility to the proposed goal base height along Telegraph Avenue in order to explore base height options that optimize for the provision of inclusionary affordable housing units. It also revises the item to specify that any necessary General Plan amendments would be part of the planning process.

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E-Mail: mhumbert@berkeleyca.gov

ACTION-CONSENT CALENDAR

January 27March 10, 2026

To: Members of the Berkeley City Council

From: Councilmember Mark Humbert (Author);
Mayor Adena Ishii (Co-Author);
Councilmember Ben Bartlett (Co-Author)

Subject: Project to Increase Telegraph and Claremont Housing (PITCH) Rezoning

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the City Manager the Project to Increase Telegraph and Claremont Housing (PITCH) as a standalone rezoning effort to proactively and equitably increase housing stock in southeast Berkeley's high-resource areas. This project would seek to:

1. Rezone the Telegraph Avenue corridor south of Parker Street to the Oakland border at Woolsey Street from the current C-C (Commercial-Corridor) district to the C-T (Telegraph Avenue Commercial) district (or similar), allowing for taller mixed-use housing development, with a goal of base zoning of 8 stories/85 feet, potentially adjusted to optimize production of affordable inclusionary units.
2. Identify and upzone specific auto-oriented C-N (Neighborhood Commercial) parcels in the Claremont and Ashby area (near Domingo Avenue) from their current 2–3 story limits to 4–6 stories using existing or new zoning districts.
3. Allocate funding from the District 8 office budget to begin required planning, General Plan amendments, and/or California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review for the proposed zoning changes.

SUMMARY

This item proposes a new, targeted rezoning effort to deliver a substantial and equitable increase in zoned housing capacity in District 8 (and limited portions of District 3 along Telegraph). The Project to Increase Telegraph and Claremont Housing (PITCH) focuses on the under-utilized Telegraph Avenue corridor, which offers significant capacity (estimated up to 5,700 new units), excellent transit access, and larger, more easily developable parcels.

By simultaneously applying targeted upzoning to auto-oriented sites in the highest-resource Claremont neighborhood, the project would fulfill Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) and other Housing Element goals by expanding housing opportunities into the highest-resource parts of Berkeley. This strategic approach ensures a significant and geographically equitable

contribution to Berkeley's housing goals, while potentially relieving pressure on more commercially and architecturally sensitive areas.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The estimated cost to execute the necessary initial planning, staff time, any General Plan amendments, and comprehensive environmental review (CEQA) for PITCH is \$250,000. To ensure the viability and timely commencement of this project, Councilmember Humbert commits to funding:

- ~~\$100,000~~ 180,000 from his Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 office budget.
- ~~\$50,000~~ 70,000 from his FY 2027 office budget.

The total contribution of ~~\$1250,000~~ \$250,000 helps make the project viable for immediate launch, allowing ~~the any unexpected balance or contingency to be secured from other general City funds~~ the City's general fund and/or grant opportunities in FY 2027/2028.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Telegraph Avenue, from Parker Street south to the Oakland border, is currently zoned C-C, which sets a base zoning for development of 3-story mixed-use or residential buildings. This represents a severe under-utilization of a key corridor located in a High Resource zone (slated to be upgraded to a Highest Resource area by 2026 TCAC maps) and which features wide street sections (~66' of traffic lanes) and large parcels ideal for higher-density housing.

Furthermore, new housing production has been disproportionately low in the highest-resource neighborhoods of District 8, such as Claremont. Although certain portions of the Claremont area have recently seen their housing capacity increase due to the City's Middle Housing efforts, fire risks and a limited number of underutilized non-residential parcels mean that, absent this project, this area is unlikely to contribute appreciably to the creation of new homes in Berkeley.

BACKGROUND

The City of Berkeley has a State mandate and made local commitments to increase housing production in high-resource, transit-rich areas. Telegraph Avenue's length, infrastructure, and under-developed parcels present an excellent opportunity for high-density housing. The State of California's new law (SB 79) will already require upzoning near Ashby BART (District 3) and the adjacent Telegraph/Alcatraz area, making a comprehensive upzoning of the entire Telegraph corridor both a logical and proactive step.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

This project is an effective approach to better meeting Berkeley's housing and equity goals:

- Increasing Housing Capacity on Telegraph: Rezoning Telegraph to C-T (8-stories) is projected to create a zoned housing capacity of up to around 5,700 units—a vital contribution to Berkeley’s housing stock.
- Equitable Development:
 - The Telegraph corridor is located in a High Resource area and the project will better satisfy Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing goals.
 - Including the Claremont area (targeting auto-oriented uses near Ashby and Domingo) creates new housing opportunities in one of Berkeley’s highest resource neighborhoods, diversifying housing options and providing walkable retail access to residents.
- Infrastructure Alignment: The project aligns new development with the City's investment in the Telegraph Multimodal Corridors project, which includes bus lanes and a protected cycletrack to improve transit and cycling infrastructure.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

The project promotes environmental sustainability and climate action by increasing housing development along the high-frequency 6-Telegraph AC Transit bus route, which also features good access to jobs, shopping, and other urban amenities. This location encourages car-free or car-lite living and would serve to reduce the carbon footprint associated with auto use relative to housing in other areas of Berkeley and especially outside Berkeley.

Encouraging infill development also has the effect of reducing development pressure on agricultural and wildland areas, helping preserve them as natural and working lands.

Subsequent completion of any required General Plan amendments and/or CEQA review will ensure all environmental impacts are fully assessed and, if necessary, mitigated before zoning changes are enacted.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

This referral represents the first step in a longer process that would involve substantial additional staff work, public engagement, subsequent Council input, environmental review, and subsequent Council votes to approve any rezoning, General Plan amendments, and associated CEQA documentation.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

The project is made more fiscally viable by the immediate financial commitment from Councilmember Humbert’s office. Subsequent fiscal impacts include increased property tax revenue from new housing development, increased sales tax revenue from more residents and subsequent foot traffic, and increased transit ridership on the 6-line, which will help AC Transit address its fiscal shortfall.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Mark Humbert — mhumbert@berkeleyca.gov, 510-981-7180

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment 1 Preliminary Buildout Analysis](#)

Upcoming Worksessions and Special Meetings	
Scheduled Dates	
1. None	

Unscheduled Presentations and Special Meetings	
1. None	

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

	City Council Referrals to the Agenda & Rules Committee and Unfinished Business for Scheduling
	None

CITY CLERK DEPARTMENT			
WORKING CALENDAR FOR SCHEDULING LAND USE MATTERS BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL			
Address	Board/ Commission	Appeal Period Ends	Public Hearing
NOD – Notices of Decision			
Public Hearings Scheduled			
Elmwood Commercial Historic District	LPC		TBD
2700 Shattuck Avenue (construct mixed-use residential development)	ZAB		TBD
Remanded to ZAB or LPC			
Notes			
ZAB: Zoning Adjustments Board			
LPC: Landmarks Preservation Commission			

9/10/2026

2027 - Draft

07

JANUARY						
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Agenda
Committee

City Council
Meeting

VTO

Holiday

City Holidays					
Jan 1	New Year's Day	May 19	Malcolm X's Birthday -Obs 5/17	Oct 11	Indigenous Peoples' Day
Jan 18	Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	May 31	Memorial Day	Nov 11	Veterans Day
Feb 12	Lincoln's Birthday	June 19	Juneteenth - Obs 6/18	Nov 25	Thanksgiving Day
Feb 15	Washington's Birthday	July 4	Independence Day - Obs 7/5	Nov 26	Day after Thanksgiving Day
Mar 31	Farm Workers Day - Obs 3/29	Sept 6	Labor Day	Dec 25	Christmas Day

City Policy Regarding the Scheduling of City Meetings on All Significant Religious Holidays

Pursuant to Resolution No. 70,066-N.S., it is the policy of the City to avoid scheduling meetings of City Legislative Bodies (City Council, Policy Committees, Commissions, Task Forces) on religious holidays that incorporate significant work restrictions for common observance in the United States. City legislative bodies must avoid scheduling meetings on the religious holidays listed below.

Religion	Holiday	2027 Date(s)
Shinto	New Year	1/1/2027 thru 1/3/2027
Hindu	Makara Sankranti	1/14/2027
Cultural	Chinese New Year (Eve, Day, Lantern Festival)	2/5, 2/6, 2/20
Islam	Ramadan (Eve & First Night)	2/7/2027 thru 2/8/2027
Islam	Eid al-Fitr	3/9/2027 thru 3/10/2027
Cultural	Nowruz*	3/21/2027
Hindu	Holi	3/22/2027
Christian	Good Friday	3/26/2027
Christian	Easter Sunday	3/28/2027
Jewish	Passover Nights 1 & 2 (7*, 8*)	4/21 - 4/22 (4/28, 4/29)
Islam	Eid al-Adha	5/16/2027 thru 5/17/2027
Buddhist	Vesak	5/20/2027
Jewish	Shavuot*	6/10/2027 thru 6/12/2027
Shinto	Obon Ceremony*	8/13/2027 thru 8/15/2027
Jewish	Rosh Hashanah	10/1/2027 thru 10/3/2027
Hindu	Dussehra	10/9/2027
Jewish	Yom Kippur	10/10/2027 thru 10/11/2027
Jewish	Sukkot (1st Day)*	10/15/2027 thru 10/16/2027
Jewish	Shmini Atzeret/ Simchat Torah*	10/22/2027 thru 10/24/2027
Hindu	Diwali	10/29/2027
Baha'i Faith	Birth of Bab	10/30/2027
Baha'i Faith	Birth of Baha'u'llah	10/31/2027
Jewish	Chanukah (1st night)	12/24/2027
Christian	Christmas	12/25/2027
Cultural	Kwanzaa	12/26/2027 thru 1/1/2027
Jewish	Shabbat (Friday sunset to Saturday sunset)*	Weekly

* Meetings not prohibited, but avoid scheduling meetings if possible



No Material
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this Item

There is no material for this item.

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