

**Commission on the Status of Women** 

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 – 7:00pm North Berkeley Senior Center 1901 Hearst Ave, Berkeley, CA 94709

### AGENDA

**Mayor Arreguin**: Tiffaney Boyd Rashi Kersarwani:

**Terry Taplin**: Saanvi Arora

**Ben Bartlett**: Kameka Goodwin Kate Harrison Shirley Posey **Sophie Hahn** Vice-Chair Radha Seshagiri

**Susan Wengraf**: Chair-Carole Marasovic **Rigel Robinson**: Keyanna Ortiz-Cedeno Mark Humbert Linda Oliver

#### All items are for discussion and possible action.

- 1. Roll Call.
- 2. Land Acknowledgment.
- 3. Agenda Approval
- 4. Public Comments for Items not on the Agenda
- 5. Presentation with Q and A on Women's Economic Opportunity: Small Businesses and Credit Reporting. Presentation by East Bay Community Law Center, Desiree Nguyen Orth.
- 6. Presentation with Q and A on the War on DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) by David Oppenheimer, Clinical Professor of Law; Director, Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality and Anti-Discrimination Law.
- 7. Approval on January 17, 2024 minutes.
- 8. Chair Report
- 9. Preliminary Discussion on Sex Trafficking Recommendations to be Made. Discussion and Possible Action.
- 10. Chair and Voce-Chair Elections. Discussion and Possible Action.

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Commission on the Status of Women February 21, 2024 Page 2 of 2

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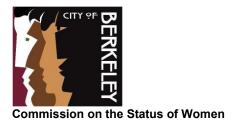
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#### SB 343 Disclaimer

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the City Manager's Office located at 2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor.

#### **Commission Contact Information**

Okeya Vance-Dozier, Secretary Commission on the Status of Women 2180 Milvia Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704 510/981-7239 (Office) 510/529-5376 (Cell) Ovance-dozier@berkeleyca.gov (email)

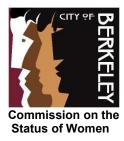


### Commission on the Status of Women Approved 2024 Meeting Schedule

- 1. Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 7pm
- 2. Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 7pm
- 3. Wednesday, March 30, 2024 at 7pm
- 4. Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 7pm
- 5. Wednesday, May 17, 2024 at 7pm
- 6. Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at 7pm
- 7. Wednesday, July 17, 2024 at 7pm
- 8. Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 7pm
- 9. Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 7pm
- 10. Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 7pm

#### 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 Chochenvo (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.



#### **Commission on the Status of Women** Regular Meeting – January 17, 2024 **DRAFT MINUTES**

The meeting convened at 7:00pm with Chairperson Marasovic presiding.

**ROLL CALL** 

Present: Marasovic, Posey, Ortiz-Cedeno, Boyd, Goodwin Absent: Seshaqiri Leave of Absence: Arora, Oliver

#### **Comments from the Public**

- Public attendance: 1
- Public comments: 1 .

#### Action Items:

Item # 1: Approval of Agenda. Discussion and Possible Action. Meeting began with item #5, and staff would proceed to the following items until the presenter arrives and pick up once the presentation has concluded.

M/S/C: Posey, Goodwin Ayes: Marasovic, Posey, Ortiz-Cedeno, Boyd, Goodwin Absent: Seshaqiri Leave of Absence: Arora, Oliver

Item # 2: Presentation on Title IX and Affirmative Consent with Q and A. Discussion and Possible Action.

Presenter will send an informational mail to secretary which will distribute.

M/S/C: Ayes: Marasovic, Posey, Ortiz-Cedeno, Boyd, Goodwin

2180 Milvia Street - 5th Floor • Berkeley • CA • 94704 • Tel. 510.981.7071 • TDD: 510.981.6903 • Fax: 510.981.7099

Commission on the Status of Women Minutes – January 17, 2024 Page 2 of 3

Absent: Seshagiri Leave of Absence: Arora, Oliver

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#### Item # 3: <u>Possible Presentation on Sex Trafficking with Q and A. Discussion and Possible Action.</u> <u>Presenter was not available commissioners will move to another meeting date in the future.</u>

M/S/C: Ayes: Marasovic, Posey, Ortiz-Cedeno, Boyd, Goodwin Absent: Seshagiri Leave of Absence: Arora, Oliver

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#### Item # 4: Update from the Small Business Subcommittee and Possible Presentation by Small Business Owner. Discussion and Possible Action.

This will be moved to a future meeting as all commissioners on the subcommittee were not present.

M/S/C: Ayes: Marasovic, Posey, Ortiz-Cedeno, Boyd, Goodwin Absent: Seshagiri Leave of Absence: Arora, Oliver

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Item # 5: <u>Approval of the Minutes from November 15, 2023 COSOW Meeting. Discussion and Possible</u> <u>Action.</u> <u>All commissioners with the exception of one approved minutes, the other abstained due to her</u> <u>not being present at the last meeting.</u>

M/S/C: Marasovic, Goodwin Ayes: Marasovic, Posey, Ortiz-Cedeno, Goodwin Abstain: Boyd Absent: Seshagiri Leave of Absence: Arora, Oliver

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Item # 6: <u>Approval of 2024 Meeting Schedule. Discussion and Possible Action.</u> *The calendar for 2024 was set and will be distributed to commissioners in the agenda packet.*  Commission on the Status of Women Minutes – January 17, 2024 Page 3 of 3

M/S/C: Boyd, Posey Ayes: Marasovic, Posey, Ortiz-Cedeno, Boyd, Goodwin Absent: Seshagiri Leave of Absence: Arora, Oliver

Item # 7: <u>Letter to Council on Right to Reproductive Freedom. Discussion and Possible Action.</u> *Commission Chair verbally read aloud the drafter letter to commissions. Discussion was had to include a few edits and would be sent to the secretary to send over to the council.* 

M/S/C: Marasovic, Ortiz-Cedeno Ayes: Marasovic, Posey, Ortiz-Cedeno, Boyd, Goodwin Absent: Seshagiri Leave of Absence: Arora, Oliver

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm

**Respectfully Submitted,** 

Okeya Vance-Dozier, Secretary Commission on the Status of Women 2/14/24, 3:30 PM

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### David B. Oppenheimer

University of California, Berkeley - School of Law **Clinical Professor of Law** 

215 Boalt Hall Berkeley, CA 94720-7200 United States

(https://www.law.berkeley.edu/)

BerkeleyLaw

University of California, Berkeley - Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality & Anti-Discrimination Law Boalt Hall

Berkeley, CA 94720-7200 United States



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	y of San Francisco Law Review, Vol. 29, No. 645, 1995
	f pages: 36
Posted: 05	Nov 2009
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Number o	f pages: 16
Posted: 07	Jul 2020
Last Revis	ed: 10 Jul 2022
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#### (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=1236362)

Hastings International and Comparative Law Review, Vol. 31, No. 2, 2008, UC Berkeley Public Law Research Paper No. 1236362 Number of pages: 18 Posted: 20 Aug 2008 Last Revised: 01 Sep 2008 David B. Oppenheimer University of California, Berkeley - School of Law Downloads: 724 (63,751) View PDF (../Delivery.cfm/SSRN\_ID1261023\_code375395.pdf?abstractid=1236362&type=2) Download (../Delivery.cfm/SSRN\_ID1261023\_code375395.pdf?abstractid=1236362) Show Abstract 4. (../Delivery.cfm/SSRN\_ID2770841\_code375395.pdf?abstractid=2770841)

#### Playing the Trump Card: The Enduring Legacy of Racism in Immigration Law (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=2770841)

Berkeley La Raza Law Journal, Vol. 26, No. 1, 2016, UC Berkeley Public Law Research Paper No. 2770841

Number of pages: 46

Posted: 01 May 2016

David B. Oppenheimer, Swati Prakash (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=2544731) and Rachel Burns (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=2544733)

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5. (../Delivery.cfm/SSRN\_ID2745356\_code375395.pdf?abstractid=2737679)

#### The Disappearance of Voluntary Affirmative Action from the U.S. Workplace (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=2737679)

Journal of Poverty and Social Justice, 2016, UC Berkeley Public Law Research Paper No. 2737679

Number of pages: 30

Posted: 26 Feb 2016

Last Revised: 15 Mar 2016

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#### Archibald Cox and the Diversity Justification for Affirmative Action

#### (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=2913310)

UC Berkeley Public Law Research Paper No. 2913310, Virginia Journal of Social Policy and the Law, Vol. 25, No. 2, 2018

#### 2/14/24, 3:30 PM

Number of pages: 47

Posted: 10 Nov 2018

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#### Verdicts Matter: An Empirical Study of California Employment Discrimination and Wrongful Discharge Verdicts Reveals Low Success Rates for Women and Minorities (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=1264102) UC Davis Law Review, Vol. 37, No. 2, 2003 Number of pages: 56 Posted: 06 Sep 2008 Last Revised: 08 Sep 2010

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#### Religiosity and Same-Sex Marriage in the United States and Europe

(https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=2287286)

Berkeley Journal of International Law (BJIL), Fall 2013

Number of pages: 34

Posted: 30 Jun 2013

Last Revised: 10 Jul 2013

David B. Oppenheimer, Alvaro Oliveira (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=1699799) and Aaron Blumenthal (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=2083758)

University of California, Berkeley - School of Law, European University Institute and University of California, Berkeley - School of Law

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9. (../Delivery.cfm/SSRN\_ID2221667\_code1524744.pdf?abstractid=2221667)

#### <u>Measuring Merit: The Shultz-Zedeck Research on Law School Admissions</u> (<u>https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=2221667</u>)

Journal of Legal Education, Forthcoming , UC Berkeley Public Law Research Paper No. 2221667

#### 2/14/24, 3:30 PM

Number of pages: 22

Posted: 21 Feb 2013

Kristen Holmquist (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=1524744), Marjorie Maguire Shultz

(https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=80099), Sheldon Zedeck

(https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=1313785) and David B. Oppenheimer

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### Dr. King's Dream of Affirmative Action (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?

#### <u>abstract\_id=3015018)</u>

UC Berkeley Public Law Research Paper, Harvard Latino Law Review

Number of pages: 33

Posted: 08 Aug 2017

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Berkeley Journal of African-American Law & Policy, Vol. 13, 2011

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UC Berkeley Public Law Research Paper, Berkeley Comparative Equality & Anti-Discrimination Law Study Group 2018 Conference at Melbourne Law School at the University of Melbourne

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#### Sources of United States Equality Law: The View from 10,000 Meters

(https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=1672832)

European Anti-Discrimination Law Review, Vol. 10, No. 19, July 2010

Number of pages: 11

Posted: 06 Sep 2010

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California's Anti-Discrimination Legislation, Proposition 14, and the Constitutional Protection of Minority Rights: The Fiftieth Anniversary of the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=1598862) Golden Gate University Law Review, Vol. 40, pp. 117-127, 2010 Number of pages: 11 Posted: 01 May 2010 David B. Oppenheimer University of California, Berkeley - School of Law Downloads: 137 (368,765) View PDF (../Delivery.cfm/SSRN\_ID1598862\_code375395.pdf?abstractid=1598862&type=2) Download (../Delivery.cfm/SSRN\_ID1598862\_code375395.pdf?abstractid=1598862&type=2) Show Abstract

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#### <u>Negligent Discrimination (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?</u> abstract\_id=2737701)

University of Pennsylvania Law Review, Vol. 141, pp. 899-972 (1992), UC Berkeley Public Law Research Paper No. 2737701

Number of pages: 75

Posted: 26 Feb 2016

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16. (../Delivery.cfm/SSRN\_ID3378317\_code375395.pdf?abstractid=3378317)

# Be Careful What You Wish For: Ronald Reagan, Donald Trump, The Assault on Civil Rights, and The Surprising Story of How Title VII Got Its Private Right of Action (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=3378317)

Berkeley Journal of Employment and Labor Law, Vol. 39, No. 1, 2018

Number of pages: 31

Posted: 09 May 2019

Last Revised: 02 Jan 2021

David B. Oppenheimer, Henry Cornillie (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=3499263), Henry

Bluestone Smith (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=3499267), Thao Thai

(https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=3499270) and Richard Treadwell

(https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=2797000)

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#### <u>Using a Simulated Case File to Teach Civil Procedure: The Ninety-Percent</u> Solution (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=2816343)

65:4 Journal of Legal Education 817 (2016) Number of pages: 22 Posted: 12 Aug 2016 David B. Oppenheimer University of California, Berkeley - School of Law

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#### 18. (../Delivery.cfm/SSRN\_ID4158606\_code375395.pdf?abstractid=3894732)

#### The South African Sources of the Diversity Justification for U.S. Affirmative

Action. (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=3894732)

34 California Law Review Online 13:32 (July 2022)

Number of pages: 26

Posted: 02 Aug 2021

Last Revised: 10 Jul 2022

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#### 19. (../Delivery.cfm/SSRN\_ID2262028\_code375395.pdf?abstractid=2262028)

#### <u>Berkeley Law's Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects</u> (<u>https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=2262028</u>)

Journal of Legal Education, Vol. 62, No. 4, p. 621-630 (May 2013)

Number of pages: 10

Posted: 08 May 2013

David B. Oppenheimer, Sue Schechter (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=743489), Shalini

Swaroop (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf\_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per\_id=2051323) and Trish Keady

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#### <u>The Legality of Promoting Inclusiveness: May the University of California Use</u> <u>Race or Ethnicity as Factors in Applicant Outreach?</u> (<u>https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\_id=1239242</u>)

UCLA Chicana/o Latina/o Law Review, Forthcoming, UC Berkeley Public Law Research Paper No. 1239242 Number of pages: 32 Posted: 20 Aug 2008 Last Revised: 07 Sep 2008 David B. Oppenheimer University of California, Berkeley - School of Law Downloads:

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Commission on the Status of Women

To: Mayor and Members of the Berkeley City Council From: Commission on the Status of Women Submitted by: Carole Marasovic, Chair Subject: Reproductive Rights

Dear Mayor and Council:

The Commission on the Status of Women expresses appreciation to the City Council for passing Resolution No. 71.150-N.S., Right to Reproductive Rights, on December 12, 2023 in support of women's reproductive rights.

Post-Dobbs, it has been clear that despite the strong reproductive rights afforded to women under California state laws, that local jurisdictions need to remain diligent to honor and protect those rights. This need is apparent given the recent litigation brought against the City of Beverly Hills, California by an abortion provider planning to lease in Beverly Hills who had their lease rescinded following protests from anti-abortion protestors.

The Commission on the Status of Women refers to the following laws in California protecting abortion rights.

17 Bills Introduced: <u>https://womenscaucus.legislature.ca.gov/news/2023-03-13-ca-legislative-women%E2%80%99s-caucus-fab-council-announce-2023-bill-package-reproductive</u>

Passed/Approved by Governor: <u>https://www.gov.ca.gov/2023/09/27/california-expands-access-and-protections-for-reproductive-health-care/</u>

of Women refers to the following laws recently passed in California protecting abortion rights.

https://laist.com/news/health/abortion-provider-files-lawsuit-alleging-beverly-hills-officialscolluded-to-block-clinic-from-opening

https://beverlypress.com/2023/10/clinic-sues-beverly-hills-over-reproductive-health-facility/ https://www.beverlyhills.org/citymanager/newsroom/statementcaseofdupontclinicpcacaliforni aprofessionalcorporationetalvcityofbeverlyhills/

On January 17, 2024, the Commission on the Status of Women passed the following motion:

I move that the Commission on the Status of Women submit to Council the letter in appreciation of Council Resolution No.71,150-N.S., Right to Reproductive Rights, passed on December 12, 2023.

M/S: Marasovic/Ortiz-Cedeno Yes: Boyd, Goodwin, Marasovic, Ortiz-Cedeno, Posey Noes: None Abstentions: None Absent: Aaora, Oliver, Seshagari

Respectfully Submitted,

Carole Marasovic, Chair Commission on the Status of Women

# CITY ?F BERKELEY Reimagining Public Safety



# Status Update and Report Out

January 23, 2024



## **Reimagining Public Safety Status Update Presentation**

## • Reimagining Public Safety Framework

Background Leadership Team Guiding Principles Reimagining with Purpose Phased Approach

## • Status of Reimagining Public Safety Initiatives

Reimagine Improve

Reinvest

Considerations and Next Steps

Considerations/Challenges Next Steps

• Comments from the City Council

## **Transition to GVP Presentation**

# **Gun Violence Prevention Program Presentation**

- Background
- Shooting Trends in Berkeley
- Gun Violence Prevention Program Design
- Ongoing Work and Next Steps

### **Closing Remarks & Thank You**

# Overview

# The Team



Dee Williams-Ridley City Manager



LaTanya Bellow **Deputy City Manager** 



Anne Cardwell Deputy City Manager



Farimah Brown *City Attorney* 



Jennifer Louis **Police Chief** 



David Sprague Fire Chief



Dr. Lisa Warhuus Health, Housing, and Community Services Director



Sharon Friedrichsen Budget Manager

# The Team (Continued)



Rex Brown Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Officer



Carianna "Cari" Arredondo Assistant to the City Manager Reimagining Public Safety



*Emile Durette Assistant to the City Attorney* 



Brendan Darrow Assistant City Attorney



Lieutenant, BPD

Keith May Deputy Fire Chief, BFD



Shanalee Gallagher Program Manager, BFD



Katherine Hawn *Senior Management* Analyst, HHCS



Hamid Mostowfi Transportation Manager, Public Works



Eric Anderson Principal Transportation Planner, Public Works

- Review and discuss the provided status report from the City Manager with the goal of demonstrating transparency and facilitating informed council discussion towards the advancement of the Reimagining Public Safety initiative in Berkeley.
- Provide comments on the Gun Violence Prevention program model report for Berkeley with the goal of facilitating informed council discussion.

# Recommended Actions

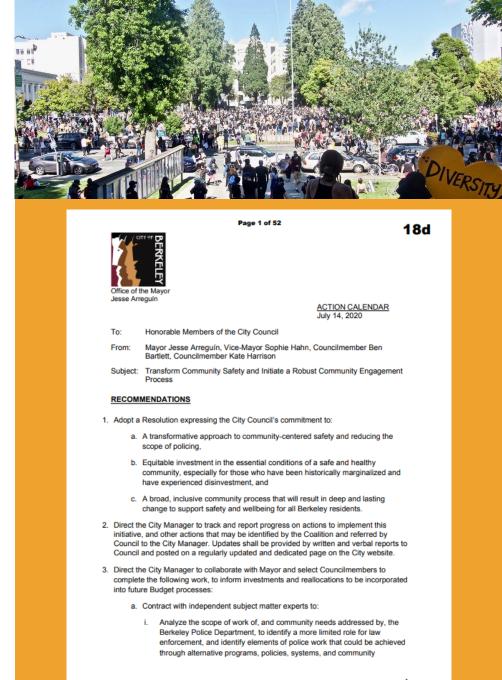
# REIMAGINE PUBLIC SAFETY FRAMEWORK



# Background

On July 14, 2020, City Council voted to progress on public safety reform with the **omnibus motion**, committing to:

# a transformative and equitable approach to communitycentered safety that includes a broad and inclusive process.



# Reimagining Public Safety Guiding Principles

## REIMAGINE

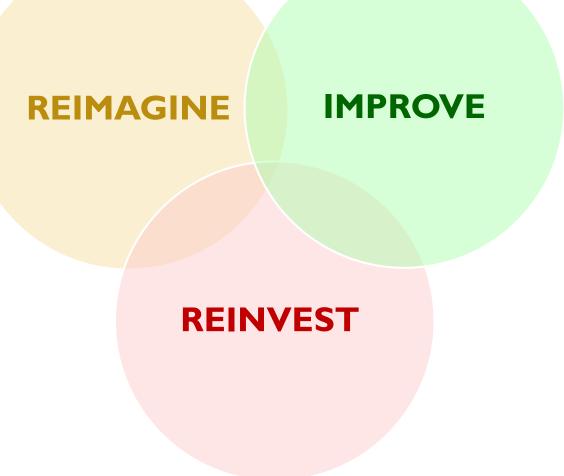
Redesign public safety from a traditional Police-Centered Model (Police Department) to one that is focused on the diverse needs of the community it serves.

## **IMPROVE**

Improve the City of Berkeley's public safety system for residents and communities that have experienced the greatest harm from the existing public safety model.

# REINVEST

Increase equitable investment in vulnerable communities and for those who have been historically marginalized.



# Reimagining Public Safety Reimagining with Purpose

### INPUTS

- Partnerships
- Advisory Services
- Thought Leadership
- Financial Resources
- Grantmaking
- Training and Education

### ACTIVITES

- Community Engagement and Consultation
- Policy and Infrastructure Development
- Specialized Recruitment and Training
- Comprehensive Public Safety Programs
- Technological and Operational Innovation

## OUTPUTS

- Implemented Public Safety Initiatives
  - Gun Violence Prevention
- Mental Health Crisis Response (SCU)
- Community-Centric Measures
- Community Investments
- Strategic Organizational Development
- BerkDOT
- Office of Equity

### OUTCOMES

- Strengthened Community Relations
- Enhanced Public Safety Metrics
- Accessible and Equitable Support Services
- Community Empowerment and Safety
   Infrastructure

## IMPACT

• A resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city.

# Reimagining Public Safety Phased Timeline



# Phase | Deliverables

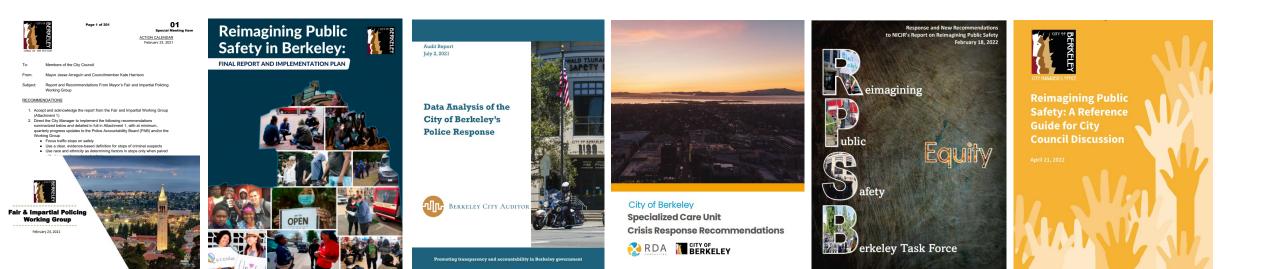
2020-2022 | Community Process & Research

### Completed

- Community/Consultant Engagement Process
- SCU Development
- City Auditor Analysis
- Crossing Guards Transition

### In Progress

- Community Crisis Response (CCR) Bridge Services
- Gender Violence Recommendations
- BerkDOT Development
- Gun Violence Intervention Program
- Fair and Impartial Policing Recommendations
- Dispatch Needs Assessment



# Phase 2 Deliverables

2022-2024 | Continued Analysis & Implementation

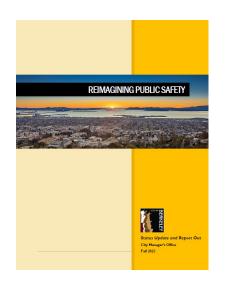
### Completed

### Key City Staffing Hires:

- Reimagining Public Safety Project
   Coordinator
- Vision Zero Coordinator
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer
- Community Services Specialist II

#### **Key Milestones:**

Dispatch Needs Assessment (Phase I)



#### In Progress

- Specialized Care Unit Implementation (Phase I)
- Bridge Services (Phase I)
- Dispatch Needs Assessment Validation
- Crisis Needs Assessment
- Respite from Gender Violence
- Violence Prevention and Youth Services
- Youth Peers Mental Health Response
- Fair and Impartial Policing (Phase I)
- Police Staffing Assessment
- Staffing (Community Service Officers & Dispatchers)
- Wellness Funding
- BerkDOT Development and Continued Assessment (Phase 1)
- Collision Analysis
- Office of Equity
- Grant Assistance
- Gun Violence Prevention Program Implementation

#### To Be Initiated/Pending Funding

- Language Equity
- Transportation Fines/Fees Analysis
- Department of Community Safety
- Expand Downtown Streets Teams
- Alternatives to Sanctions/Fines

# STATUS OF KEY RPS INITIATIVES



# REIMAGINE

Pilot Units / Staffing	Specialized Care Unit	Redesign
	Community Service Officer Unit	public safety from
Departments / Divisions	Berkeley Department of Transportation	a traditional Police- Centered Model
	Office of Equity	(Police Department
Project Coordination	Reimagining Public Safety Assistant to the City Manager	to one that is focused on the diverse needs of the

diverse needs of the community it serves.

# Specialized Care Unit Overview & Implementation Progress

### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Implement the Specialized Care Unit --Berkeley's first independent crisis response team (See pp. 29-30 of the RPS Status Report).

### **Goals/Outcomes:**

Ensure responsive crisis intervention, promoting community well-being, and enhancing public safety.

Milestone	Status
SCU Design Process (Phase 1)	Complete
Hiring and Training of SCU Staff.	In Progress January 2023 – ongoing
Community Engagement.	In Progress February 2023 – ongoing
Soft launch of SCU with alternative number.	In Progress September 2023
Ongoing Staff Recruitment for 24/7 Operations.	In Progress Fall 2023 – ongoing
Accessibility through 911 and alternative number.	In Progress

RFIMAGINF

# Staffing (CSO and Dispatch Pilot Positions) Overview & Implementation Progress

### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Launch a pilot (2 year) Community Services Officer unit.

### **Goals/Outcomes:**

Evaluate pilot and determine the appropriate location of the CSO unit within a new Public Safety Department.

Milestone	Status
Summer/Fall 2022 BPD Recruitment Cycle.	Complete
Recruiting and Retention Incentive Program <i>Initiated</i> .	Complete
Contract with Citygate for BPD Staffing Assessment <i>Initiated</i> .	Complete
Summer/Fall 2023 Recruitment Cycle.	Complete
Assessing applicants and next steps.	In Progress Fall 2023 – ongoing

# Berkeley Department of Transportation Overview & Implementation Progress

### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Continue BerkDOT Development process.

### **Goals/Outcomes:**

Advance BerkDOT's role in Reimagining Public Safety through the development of alternative enforcement options in traffic safety.

Milestone	Status
Berkeley Department of Transportation (BerkDOT) <i>Development</i> process.	In Progress
Continued preliminary efforts and research.	In Progress Fall 2023 – ongoing



# Office of Equity (DEI Officer) Overview & Implementation Progress

### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Establish an Office of Equity.

### **Goals/Outcomes:**

Execute initiatives in alignment with Berkeley's mission for inclusivity and equity.

Milestone	Status
DEI Officer Hired.	Complete
Onboarding and preliminary planning.	In Progress Fall 2023 – ongoing



# RPS Project Coordinator Overview & Implementation Progress

### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Hire an Assistant to the City Manager to serve as the Reimagining Public Safety Project Coordinator.

### **Goals/Outcomes:**

Ensure dynamic progression and implementation of all endeavors associated with Reimagining Public Safety.

Milestone	Status
Assistant to the City Manager (RPS Coordinator) hired.	Complete
Reimagining Public Safety Coordination Plan created.	Complete
Continued project monitoring, tracking, and reporting.	In Progress Fall 2023 – ongoing

REIMAGINE

Assessments	1
Analysis	

**Dispatch Needs Assessment** 

**Crisis Needs Assessment** 

**BPD** Staffing Assessment

Vision Zero Collision Analysis

Training

Fair and Impartial Policing

Wellness Funds

IMPROVE

Improve the City of Berkeley's public safety system for residents and communities that have experienced the greatest harm from the existing public safety model.

## Dispatch Needs Assessment Overview & Implementation Progress

#### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Assessment to examine existing dispatch capabilities and the City's goals to develop a gap analysis and path forward (See pp. 44-47 of the RPS Status Report).

#### **Goals/Outcomes:**

Enhance the City's Dispatch center:

- to allow for the systematic triage of emergency calls,
- to provide pre-arrival emergency medical instructions to callers, and,
- to create the opportunity to send alternate resources like an alternative mobile health unit (BFD Advanced Medical Unit) or the Specialized Care Unit (SCU).

Milestone	Status
Contract with Federal Engineering Initiated. (Phase 1)	Complete
Federal Engineering Conducts Assessment.	Complete
Contract with vendor for Second Opinion.	In Progress Fall 2023
Second opinion report complete.	In Progress Winter/Spring 2024
Discussion with City project stakeholders of FE's report and the second opinion to determine next steps for the DNA.	To Be Initiated Winter/Spring 2024

## Crisis Needs Assessment Overview & Implementation Progress

### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Analyze 911 call data to assess calls for service that could apply to the Specialized Care Unit and other crisis programs.

### **Goals/Outcomes:**

Enhance effectiveness and optimization of crisis response in Berkeley.

Milestone	Status
Contract with Resource Development Associates established.	Complete
Data collection and systems planning.	In Progress Ongoing – December 2023
Reporting.	To Be Initiated December 2023 – ongoing

## Staffing Assessment Overview & Implementation Progress

#### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Analyze BPD Staffing and Beat Structure (See pg. 41 of the RPS Status Report).

### **Goals/Outcomes:**

Conduct an in-depth study of the Berkeley Police Department to ultimately contribute to:

- Enhanced organizational structure,
- Optimized resource allocation,
- Improved patrol boundaries,
- and other actionable recommendations.

Milestone	Status
Contract with Citygate for Staffing Assessment <i>Initiated</i> .	Complete
Citygate Staffing Assessment data collection.	In Progress August 2023 – ongoing
Stakeholder Interviews and Community Survey.	In Progress October 2023 – November 2023
Review of Organizational Functions and Workload.	In Progress November 2023 – December 2023

## Vision Zero & Collision Analysis Implementation Progress & Next Steps

#### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Hire Vision Zero staffer to conduct collision analysis.

### Goals/Outcomes:

Prioritize Vision Zero action items, including the collision analysis, with an equity-focused, datadriven effort to eliminate traffic deaths and severe injuries on Berkeley's city streets by 2028.

Milestone	Status
Vision Zero Program Coordinator (Associate Planner Hired October 2023).	Complete
The Associate Planner will be supporting with implementation of Vision Zero items, including the collision analysis as described in the Reimagining Public Safety initiative.	<mark>In Progress</mark> January 2024 – onwards

## Fair and Impartial Policing Overview & Implementation Progress

### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Complete the implementation of Fair and Impartial Policing Recommendations.

### **Goals/Outcomes:**

Advance recommendations from the Mayor's Fair and Impartial Policing Taskforce, including specialized training, to enhance Berkeley Police Department's fairness, impartiality, and community trust.

Milestone	Status
Fair and Impartial Policing Recommendations	Complete
Development (Phase I)	Complete
Continued training inclusive of FIP tenets.	In Progress
	July 2022 –
	ongoing
KIND Policing Educational Incentive Initiated.	In Progress
	August 2023
Continued training needs through Fiscal Year	In Progress
2025.	October 2023
	– ongoing

## Wellness Funding Overview & Implementation Progress

### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Continue to support employee health and wellness for Berkeley Police officers.

### **Goals/Outcomes:**

Sustain and enhance the health and wellness of Berkeley Police officers, further boosting workforce effectiveness with ongoing initiatives.

Milestone	Status
FY 2023 Wellness Efforts Include:	
Contracted with a local first responder-specific	
counseling group	Complete
Critical Incident Stress Foundation training	Complete
Gym updates	
<ul> <li>Access to immersive group therapy</li> </ul>	
FY 2024 Wellness Efforts Include:	
O2X Partnership	In Progress
• First Responder Wellness Apps & Resources	
Continued partnerships and efforts towards BPD	In Progress
Wellness Practices for officers.	October 2023 –
	ongoing

Resource Optimization

Grant Assistance

### **Respite from Gender Violence**

Community Investments Youth Peers Mental Health Response

Violence Prevention & Youth Services

**Gun Violence Prevention** 

REINVEST

Increase equitable investment in vulnerable communities and for those who have been historically marginalized.

# Grant Assistance

## **Overview & Implementation Progress**

### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Apply for grants to support Reimagining Public Safety efforts.

### Goals/Outcomes:

Advance the City's mission to reimagine public safety dynamically and ensure initiative sustainability with external funding.

Milestone	Status
Contract with California Consulting, LLC. Initiated.	In Progress Summer – Fall 2023
Continued efforts in grant identification, application, and management.	In Progress Winter 2023 ongoing



## Respite from Gender Violence Overview & Implementation Progress

### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Perform systems analysis concerning respite from gender violence and its intersections with other pertinent crisis response systems.

### **Goals/Outcomes:**

A LANGE AND A DISCONTINUES.

Increase the community's knowledge about respite resources, understand their strengths and challenges, and to identify gaps that can be addressed.

Milestone	Status
Temporary Community Services Specialist II hired.	Complete
Preliminary research to identify resources (local, state, and federal).	In Progress October 2023 – November 2023
Continued research and evaluation. Initial recommendations to be presented at Commission on the Status of Women in Spring 2024.	In Progress Fall 2023 – ongoing



## Youth Peers Mental Health Response Overview & Implementation Progress

### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

In partnership with BUSD, establish a Wellness Center at Berkeley High School and evaluate its impact.

### Goals/Outcomes:

A LANGE AND A DISCONTINUES.

Provide an environment conducive to rejuvenation, connectivity, and well-being for Berkeley students.

Milestone	Status
Mental Health Wellness Coordinator Hired.	Complete
Mental Health Wellness Center grand opening	Complete
and services offered.	
Evaluation #1 due to HHCS.	To Be Initiated
Evaluation #1 due to HHC3.	July 2024



## Violence Prevention & Youth Services Overview & Implementation Progress

#### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Provide community investments to designated CBO's.

### **Goals/Outcomes:**

Enhance community enrichment and youth services, ultimately contributing to violence prevention in Berkeley.

Milestone	Status
Funds allocated to McGee Ave Baptist Church Center Food, Faith, and Justice for Voices against Violence and Berkeley Youth Alternatives for counseling program and Summer Jam Day Camp in FY 2023.	Complete
Continued allocation to CBOs through FY 2024.	In Progress Ongoing – June 2024



## Gun Violence Prevention Overview & Implementation Progress

### **Deliverable/Recommendation:**

Design and implement a Gun Violence Prevention Program in the City of Berkeley.

### Goals/Outcomes:

Address Berkeley shootings by developing evidence-based gun violence prevention strategies, drawing insights from successful programs in mid-sized cities across the nation.

Milestone	Status		
Preliminary recommendation stages of	Complete		
Project Ceasefire. (Phase 1)	Complete		
Completion of GVP Report.	Complete		
Hiring of A to CM – RPS Project	Complete		
Coordinator.			
Preliminary research and stakeholder	In Progress		
engagement for next steps and process	Winter 2024 -		
exploration.	ongoing		



# CONSIDERATIONS AND NEXT STEPS



## **Staffing Vacancies and Attrition**

- Challenge: High turnover for a stable workforce.
- **Proactive Efforts:** Employer of Choice initiative.

## **Regulatory Compliance**

- Challenge: Meeting all-level regulations.
- Proactive Efforts: Ongoing partnership with the City Attorney's Office.

## **Ongoing Funding**

- Challenge: Managing budgets and grant uncertainties.
- **Proactive Efforts:** Effective grants management with RPS allocation.

## Implementation Timeline

- **Challenge:** Navigating the dynamic timeline.
- Proactive Efforts: Strategic project management and assessment time.

# Shared Considerations & Challenges

## Fall 2023

• Continued Phase 2 Analysis and Implementation of priority Reimagining Public Safety initiatives.

## Winter 2023/24

Continued Phase 2 work and engagement.

## Spring 2024

- Second progress update on Reimagining Public Safety.
- Budgetary recommendations to inform FY 25-26.



**Review and discuss the provided status report** from the City Manager with the goal of demonstrating transparency and facilitating informed council discussion towards the advancement of the Reimagining Public Safety initiative in Berkeley.

# Recommended Action

# Comments from City Council





# **Transition to Next Presentation**

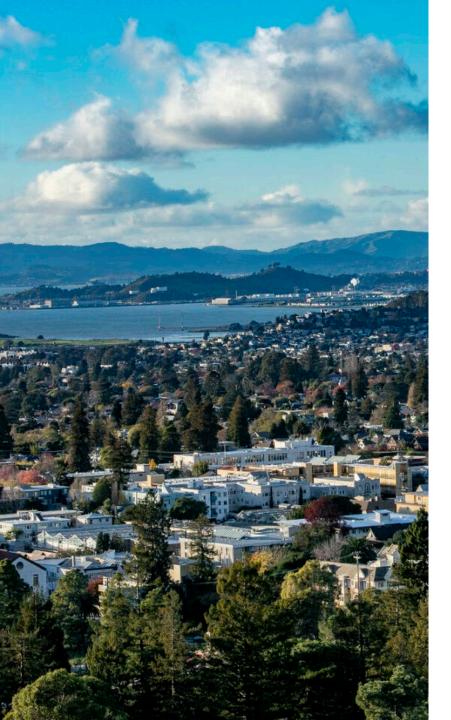
# CITY ?FBERKELEY Reimagining Public Safety



## Gun Violence Intervention & Prevention Update

January 23, 2024





# Overview

- Gun Violence Intervention Background:
  - Context, Timeline, and Goals
- Shooting Trends in Berkeley:
  - Trends and Analysis
- Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention Program Design:
  - > Place-based
  - Custom Notifications
  - Street Outreach
  - Social Services
- Ongoing Work and Next Steps:
  - Next Steps
  - Recommended Action

## Presenters



Carianna "Cari" Arredondo (she/ella/they) Assistant to the City Manager Reimagining Public Safety carredondo@berkeleyca.gov

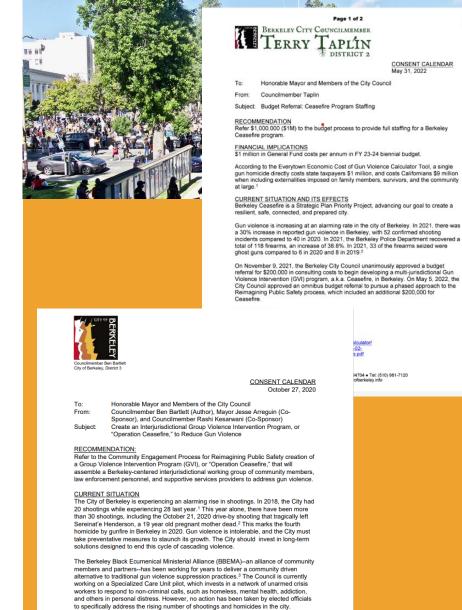


Arlo Malmberg (he/him) Data & Policy Analyst at BPD Strategic Analysis Team <u>amalmberg@berkeleyca.gov</u> Michelle "Shay" Verger (she/ella/they) Data & Policy Analyst at ODPA Master's thesis with BPD on Gun Violence Prevention <u>mverger@berkeleyca.gov</u>

# Background

Intervention and violence interruption have long been a priority initiative of the City, Mayor and Council, the community.

This work is rooted in our goal to create a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city.



As a result, the Council should work with BBEMA and other community partners to create and implement a Group Violence Intervention (GVI) program to further transform public safety, reimagine policing, and directly address the issue of gun violence. Known

https://www.berkeleyside.com/2020/10/03/2020-berkeley-gunfire-map https://www.berkeleyside.com/2020/10/21/woman-wounded-drive-by-shooting-south-berkeley https://www.berkelevside.com/2020/10/24/opinion-clergy-and-community-leaders-call-for-an-end-to-theviolence-that-killed-serenity-henderson

31

CONSENT CALENDAR May 31, 2022

4704 • Tel: (510) 981-7120

# **Gun Violence Prevention Timeline**

### 2020-2023 | Community Process & Research

Council approves Reimagining Public Safety framework for direction and phased approach	Councilmember Recommendation		Gun Violence (GVP) Prelim Initiated	Prevention inary Analysis	GVP Prelimina Report Comp		Comprehensive update on Reimagining and Project update for GVP
May 25, 2022		Summer/Fall 2022		Winter/Spring 2023		August 21, 2023	
May 5, 2022 BPD Launches T Hub	May 31, Transparency	Berkeley Ceasefire Hoc Advisory Sessi (7/13) #2 (9/15) #3	D2 Ad ons #1	ber 28, 2022 Berkeley Cease Hoc Advisory C Sessions #4 (1/2	fire D2 Ad Group		December 5, 2023 he City Manager ng Public Safety

## Goals

Fitting within the broader context and mission of Reimagining Public Safety...

This program addresses shootings in Berkeley, through assembling gun violence prevention approaches based on local data and evidence from midsized-city gun violence prevention programs around the country.



## SHOOTING TRENDS IN BERKELEY

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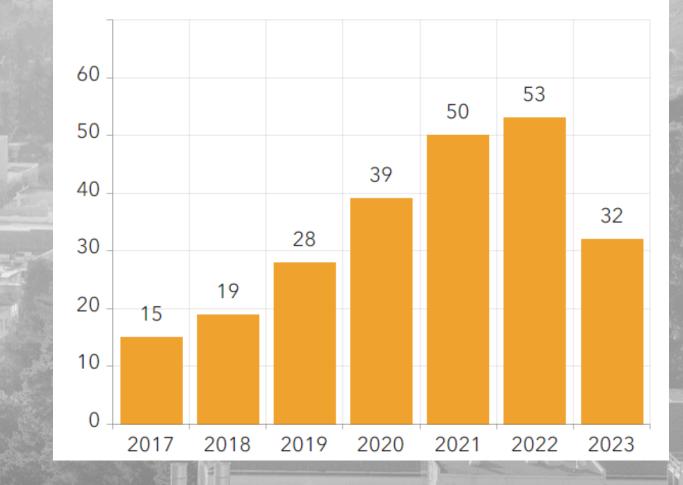
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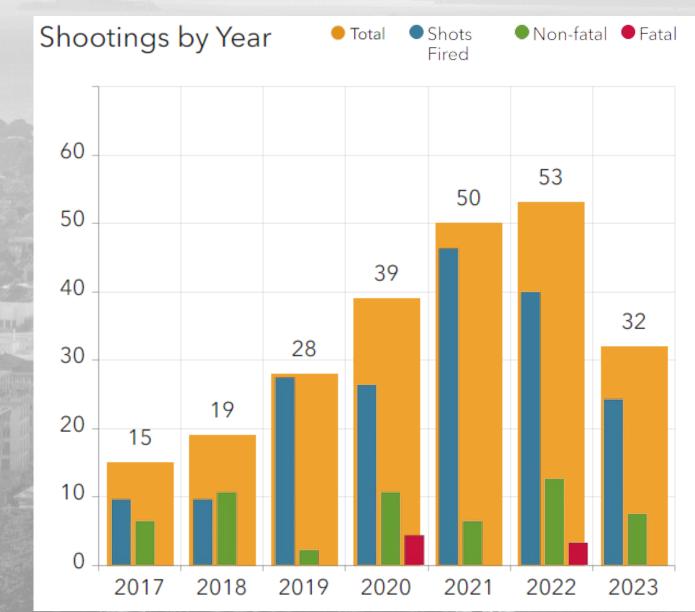
### SHOOTING TRENDS

# Shootings increased steadily through 2022.

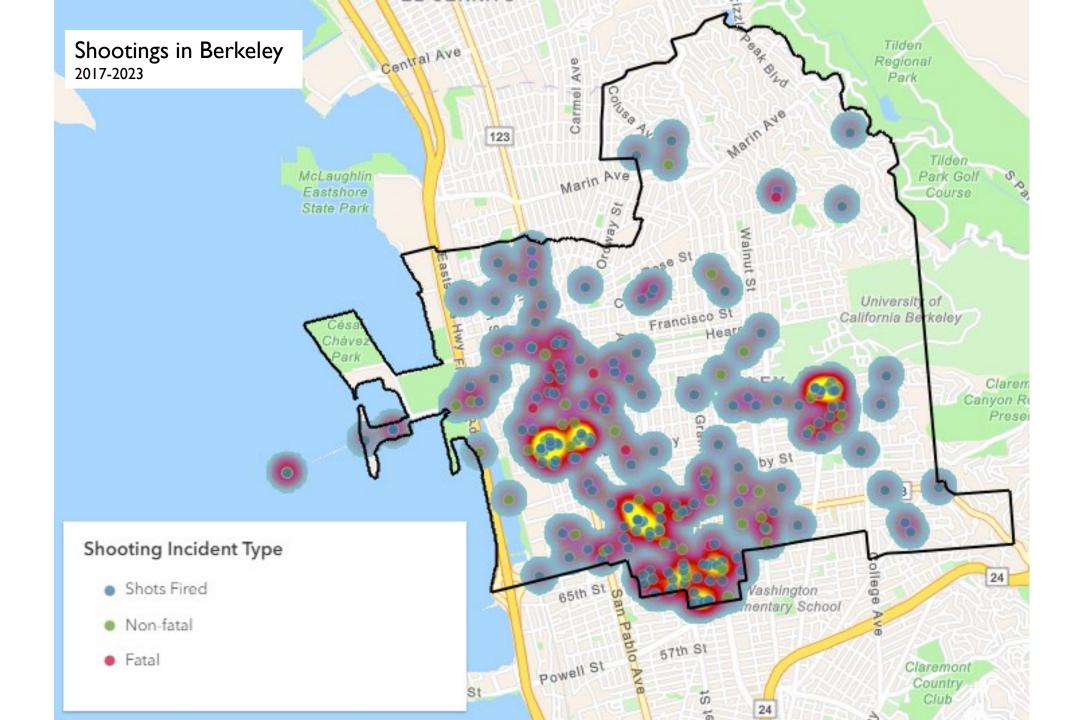
- Black community members are disproportionately impacted by gun violence in Berkeley.
- Shooting victims and suspects are less likely to be teenagers in Berkeley than in the rest of the country.
- Bigger increase in "shots fired" incidents than "non-fatal" or "fatal" shootings

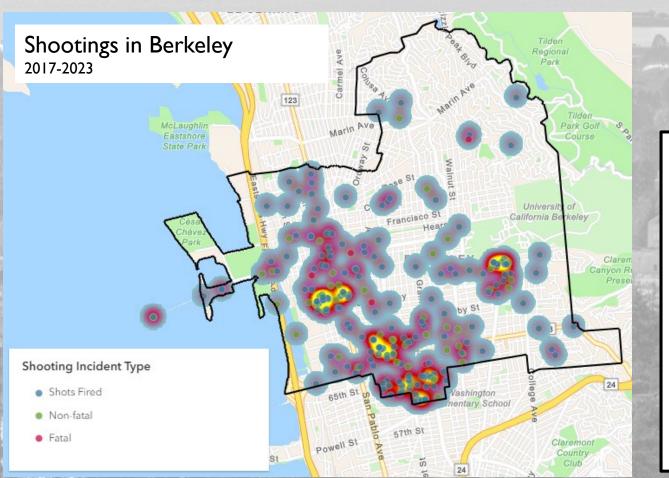
### Shootings by Year







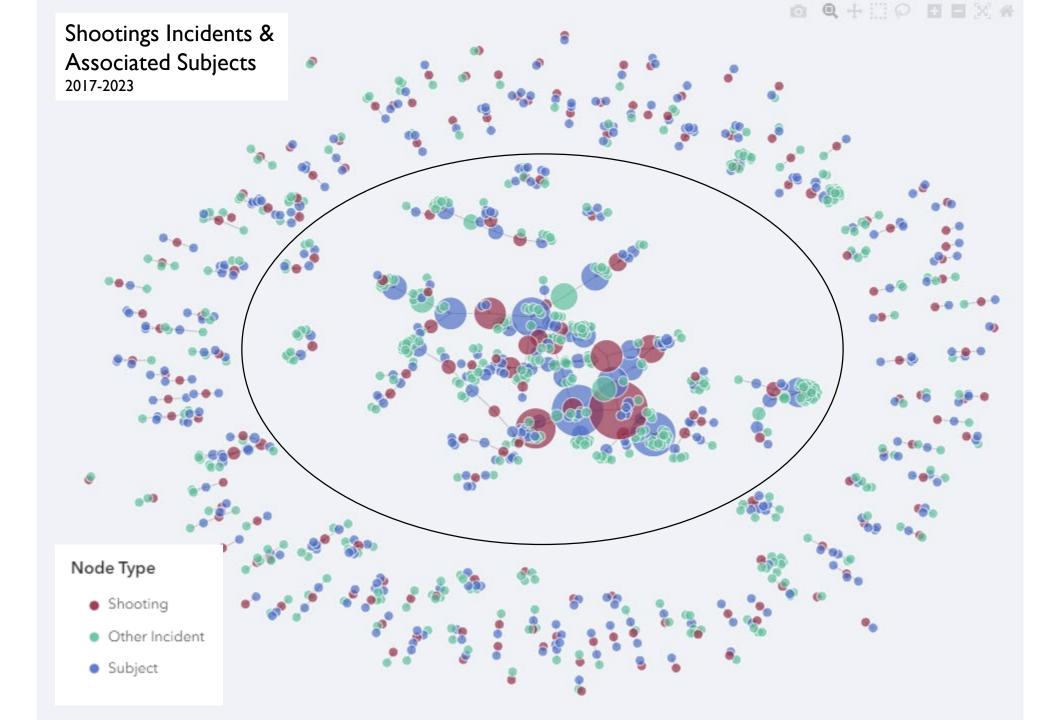


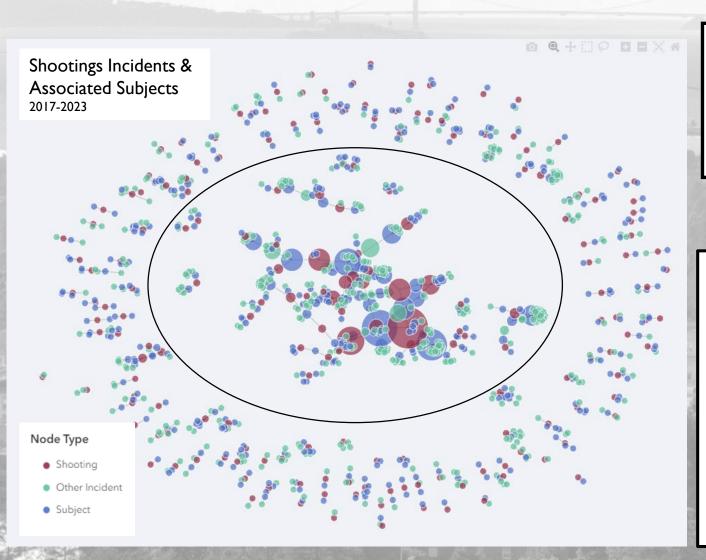


## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

# The geographic distribution of shooting incidents reveals two pattern types.

- A large portion are within close proximity to a multitude of other incidents.
- Others are scattered across the city with no distinguishable sequence.





### SOCIAL NETWORK ANALYSIS

Gun violence in Berkeley occurs both within interconnected networks and in unrelated incidents.

- Person-based interventions are powerful influences on networks.
- Place-based interventions can affect unrelated incidents.

## GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR BERKELEY

"Gun violence is a multifaceted problem requiring a multifaceted response" – Braga and Cook, 2023

### RECOMMENDED PROGRAMS

### **Place Based**

 Problemoriented policing interventions

### Custom Notifications

 Police and CBO deliver deterrence message and offer services

### Street Outreach

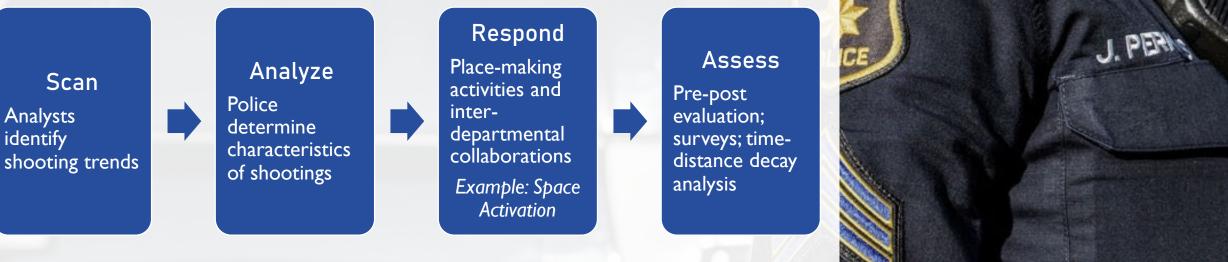
 Diffuse conflict, stop retaliation, and urge nonviolence

### Social Services

 Wrap-around service plan with case management

### PLACE BASED

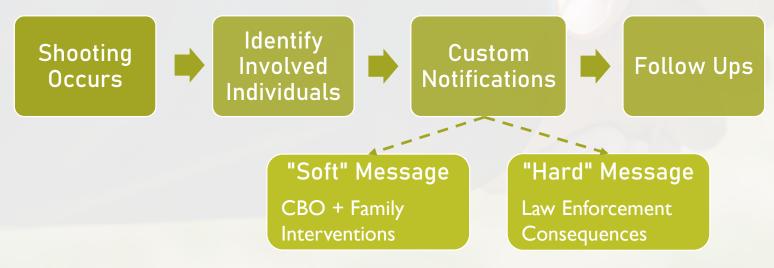
Definition: Problem-oriented policing interventions in areas that are experiencing an increase in shootings.





## **CUSTOM NOTIFICATIONS**

Definition: Police and Community Based Organization (CBO) deliver "hard" and "soft" deterrence messages simultaneously.





## STREET OUTREACH

Definition: Violence interrupters that diffuse conflict, stop retaliation, and urge non-violence. Receive information from police, but do not provide information to police (unidirectional).

#### Street Outreach

- Proactive 1:1 relationship building
- Systematic canvassing

### Crisis Response

- Liaison between emergency responders and community
- Diffuse tension

### **Community Mobilization**

- Organize workshops and recreation activities
- Organize peaceful protests, rallies, or demonstrations



## SOCIAL SERVICES

Definition: Wrap-around service plan with case management.

Identify Individuals Assign Case Manager Connect with Services Regular Follow Ups



## ONGOING WORK & NEXT STEPS

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# Next Steps

## Winter 2023/24

• **Stakeholder Engagement:** Collaboration for Request for Proposals (RFP) design and process

# Spring/Summer 2024

- RFP Process: Community-based organization CBO(s) interviews and selection
- Secondary Progress Report-out: Status, next-steps, and timelines

**Provide comments on the Gun Violence Prevention program model report** for Berkeley with the goal of facilitating informed council discussion.

# Recommended Action



# **Closing Remarks & Thank you**

#### TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE FOR OUR VALENTINES CONCERT: "IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE" with the JOHN DILLARD BAND. *CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS!*

×

Dahlia Grove

HOMEENTSBOUGAUSERYDONSAGE IN STORE COMMUNITY CAFE

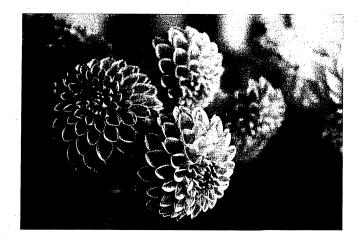
## We are Dahlia Grove...

Dahlia Grove is a nonprofit social enterprise seeking to empower and employ women survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence and sexual exploitation. We do this by providing a two year rent free restorative care home providing resources for healing and recovery. Mostly we provide a community of love and support. Through our social enterprise Dahlia Grove provides premium-quality catering services, handmade giftware and event planning to provide job training and employment for survivors. We are a sister organization to Thistle Farms in Nashville, TN and a part of the National Network of Sister organizations, providing over 500 beds across the nation. Read more about Our Process.

Your donation provides safe housing, healing resources and a job at a living wage to survivors!

#### DONATE TODAY

"I don't know how to say it but I feel like I have been homesick my entire life for a place I didn't even know existed and I feel like I am finally home."



- Survivor

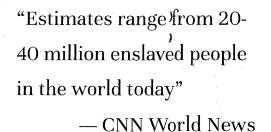
## **Our Story**

Dahlia Grove 2020



What Is Human Trafficking?

"The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation."



\*80% + of all victims are
women, 25% of which are
under 18 years of age."
— RAINN



"The top three nations of origin for victims of human trafficking in 2018 were the USA, Mexico, and the Philippines."

– UNODC.org

## Thank You to Our Major Sponsors

#### Vance-Dozier, Okeya

From:
Sent:
To:
Cc:
Subject:

carole marasovic <daphnesflight@yahoo.com> Wednesday, February 14, 2024 3:05 PM Vance-Dozier, Okeya Radu, Peter Fw: Annotated #12

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Okeya,

The Annotated Agenda from last night's City Council meeting will not be posted until late Thursday. However, the City Clerk agreed to send me #12 from the Annotated Agenda even though it is not yet posted. Please place the following as is in the packet with the section bolded as I have done so that commissioners can review together both the COSOW recommendation and exactly what was passed unanimously by Council last night.

Carole

----- Forwarded Message -----From: Benado, Tony <tbenado@berkeleyca.gov> To: carole marasovic <daphnesflight@yahoo.com> Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 02:43:00 PM PST Subject: Annotated #12

Per your request Carol.

#### Recommendation on Public Safety/Crime Prevention for Women From: Commission on the Status of Women

**Recommendation:** That Council refer to the Council Public Safety Policy Committee to develop plans to implement public safety crime prevention programs to address the current rising crime against women, particularly older women. These plans should include a budget referral to the Council Budget and Finance Committee for consideration in the June budget process.

These plans should include:

1. Developing a plan of safety escorts modeled on the Respect-BART Escorts Program passed by Council in 2003 to address the rash of muggings on Berkeley BART paths (North Berkeley and Ashby). As in that plan, where \$40,500 was approved by Council, the Council Public Safety Policy Committee should identify the current amount of monies needed for funding for this newly developed 2024 plan and Council refer to the June budget process. These safety escorts should be available throughout the entire community of Berkeley upon request. The Council Public Safety Committee should also identify if a RFP need be issued for this purpose;

2. Develop a plan to engage Berkeley community ambassadors working under the Downtown Berkeley Association, Telegraph Business Improvement District and any similar ambassador programs to provide safety escort services upon request through the business districts they serve and nearby residences that can be reached by foot;

3. Explore if the City ride-share funded program, Go-Go Grandparent, should be expanded and in what form to provide ride shares for women concerned about their safety. Consider cost share, if necessary, for some women and working with the ride- share companies to ensure that they watch for the woman to safely reach her door before leaving; Consider the

feasibility of lifting age or disability requirements. Identify a budgetary recommendation to be directed to the Council Budget and Finance Committee.

4. Develop a City-wide community forum targeted towards women with a special emphasis on safety and crime prevention for older, vulnerable women. This meeting should be led by the Berkeley Police Department with participation by other safety-related community resources and moderated by an official proposed by the Council Public Safety Committee. The Committee shall recommend that the forum be hybrid, both Zoom and in person. The Committee shall also discuss how City-wide promotion of this public safety crime prevention forum shall be conducted.

5. Consult with the Berkeley Police Department to provide data and other information identifying geographic locations which are high priority for safety escorts. Consult with Berkeley Police Department to secure other information as to where women are most at safety risk and what hours safety escorts, and other recommendations as stated above, be best utilized. The Berkeley Police Department shall provide this information at a Council Public Safety Committee meeting. **Financial Implications:** See report

Contact: Okeya Vance-Dozier, Commission Secretary, (510) 981-7100

Passed by Berkeley City Council unanimously on 2/24/24 as follows in bold:

Refer to the City Manager to analyze and develop recommendations for public safety crime prevention programs to address the current rising crime against women, particularly older women. Refer the concepts below from the Commission on the Status of Women to the FY 2025-26 ("June 2024") Budget process.

Consider the following concepts:

1. Developing a plan of safety escorts modeled on the Respect-BART Escorts Program passed by Council in 2003 to address the rash of muggings on Berkeley BART paths (North Berkeley and Ashby). As in that plan, where \$40,500 was approved by Council, the City Manager should identify the current amount of monies needed for funding for this newly developed 2024 plan and Council refer to the June budget process. These safety escorts should be available throughout the entire community of Berkeley upon request. The City Manager should also identify if an RFP needs be issued for this purpose;

2. Develop a plan to engage Berkeley community ambassadors working under the Downtown Berkeley Association, Telegraph Business Improvement District and any similar ambassador programs to provide safety escort services upon request through the business districts they serve and nearby residences that can be reached by foot;

3. Explore if the City ride-share funded program, Go-Go Grandparent, should be expanded and in what form to provide ride shares for women concerned about their safety. Consider cost share, if necessary, for some women and working with the ride- share companies to ensure that they watch for the woman to safely reach her door

before leaving; Consider the feasibility of lifting age or disability requirements. Identify a budgetary recommendation to be directed to the Council Budget and Finance Committee.

4. Work with the Commission on the Status of Women and Commission on Aging to organize a Citywide community forum targeted towards women with a special emphasis on safety and crime prevention for older, vulnerable women. This meeting should be led by the Berkeley Police Department with participation by other safety- related community resources.

5. Consult with the Berkeley Police Department to provide data and other information identifying geographic locations which are high priority for safety escorts. Consult with Berkeley Police Department to secure other information as to where women are most at safety risk and what hours safety escorts, and other recommendations as stated above, be best utilized. The Berkeley Police Department shall provide this information at a Council Public Safety Committee meeting.as follows.

**Tony Benado** 

Office Specialist III

City Clerk's Office

(510) 981-6908

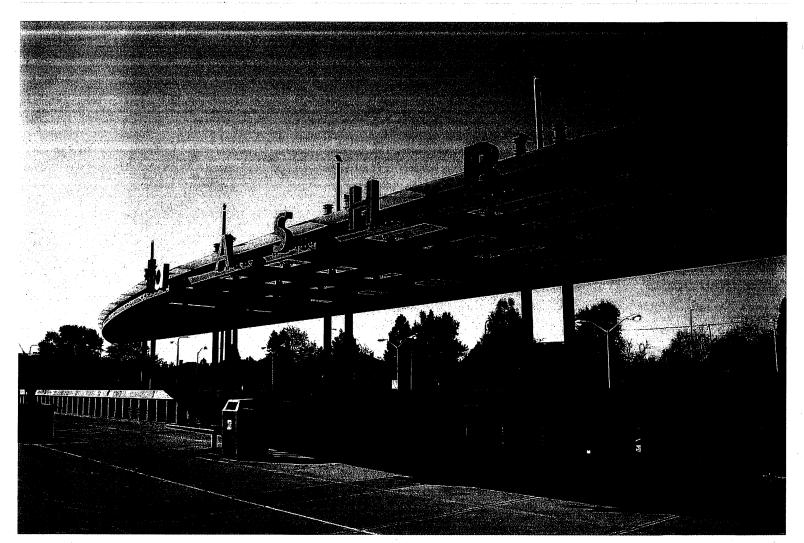
tbenado@berkeleyca.gov

#### CITY

## With robberies on the rise, Berkeley will ponder safety escorts

A Berkeley commission wants to revive a decades-old program in which the city offered safety escorts to deter robberies.

By Alex N. Gecan Feb. 9, 2024, 4:00 p.m.



Councilmember Ben Bartlett has said his constituents have reported violent attacks near the Ashby BART station. Credit: Supriya Yelimeli

With robberies <u>rebounding citywide to pre-pandemic levels</u>, and officials focusing attention on an apparent rise in the targeting of older women, the City Council is slated to consider reviving a decades-old pedestrian escort program.

The Commission on the Status of Women asked the council to have its Public Safety Policy Committee devise a program "to address the current rising crime against women, particularly older women," according to a <u>letter from Carole Marasovic</u>, who chairs the commission.

The request is on the consent calendar for Tuesday's City Council meeting. However the council's policy committees have <u>been put on hold temporarily</u> as it navigates the unexpected resignations of councilmembers <u>Rigel Robinson</u> and <u>Kate Harrison</u>, so it's unclear when the committee might take the idea up.

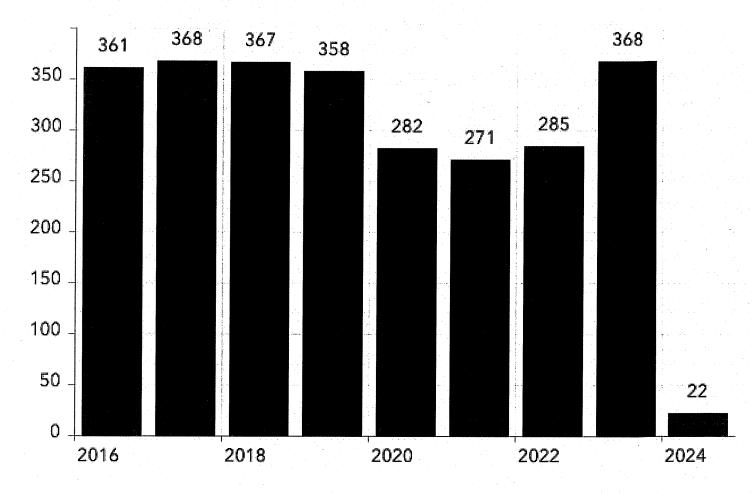
The commission asked for safety escorts similar to a program launched in 2003, in which the city contracted with the Berkeley Boosters Association to provide safety escorts at evening rush hours during the winter months, when commuters often return home after dark. Escorts met commuters at the North Berkeley and Ashby BART stations.

"These escorts should be available throughout the entire community of Berkeley upon request," according to the letter. The commission also asked the council to consider expanding its rideshare voucher program, **Berkeley Rides for Seniors and the Disabled**, which it operates through GoGoGrandparent, and to look into whether **community ambassadors**, such as those who work for the **Downtown Berkeley Association**, could participate.

The proposal comes as robberies citywide have rebounded to pre-pandemic levels following three years of relatively fewer incidents.

From 2016, the first year police began publishing data, through 2019, the last year before pandemic restrictions emptied out city streets, Berkeley averaged approximately one robbery a day, according to police data. Those numbers fell to 282 in 2020, 271 in 2021 and 285 in 2022 before rebounding to 368 last year. The data available in the department's Transparency Portal does not specify victims' ages or genders.

### Crimes by Year



Note: The 2024 bar is not directly comparable to the other full year counts.

This chart shows the number of robberies in Berkeley each year beginning in 2016, according to BPD data. Credit: City of Berkeley

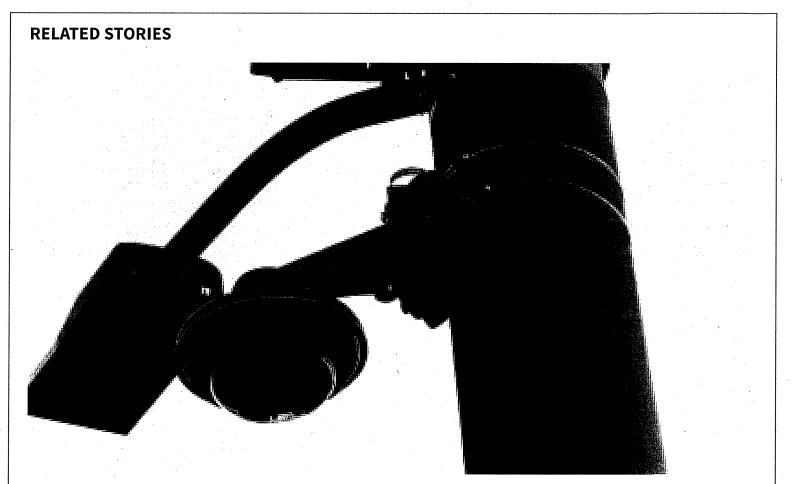
At UC Berkeley, students and university police community service officers run **BearWalk**, a service that provides safety escorts from dusk until 2:30 a.m. on campus and in **several surrounding neighborhoods**. Those who want an escort can call 510-642-9255 or book online **through the RideCell service**.

Councilmembers also cited spiking violent crimes against older women as one of the reasons for <u>building</u> <u>out the Berkeley Police Department's surveillance network</u> with new fixed cameras. At the council's Jan. 30 meeting, Councilmember Mark Humbert recounted a mugging of two women, one of them 80, after which the muggers came back to steal a car belonging to one of the victims on a nearby street.

Councilmember Ben Bartlett said several of his constituents, many over 70, had been the victims of "violent, vicious attacks," especially in the area of Woolsey Street and Shattuck Avenue, close to the Ashby BART station.

The 2003 program cost \$40,500, but the commission suggested that price tag "is obviously outdated as it is a figure from 20 years ago."

The commission's letter also asked for community forums, geared towards women, that would focus on safety and crime prevention, as well as analysis from police to identify "geographic locations which are high priority for safety escorts."



Berkeley picks 6 new locations for surveillance cameras to address crime

#### Vance-Dozier, Okeya

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: carole marasovic <daphnesflight@yahoo.com> Wednesday, February 14, 2024 2:08 PM Vance-Dozier, Okeya Radu, Peter Fw: Update to Legislative Platform

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Okeya,

Please place the following e-mail in the upcoming COSOW meeting packet.

Carole Marasovic

----- Forwarded Message -----From: Taplin, Terry <ttaplin@berkeleyca.gov> To: carole marasovic <daphnesflight@yahoo.com> Cc: Aguilar-Canabal, Diego <daguilarcanabal@berkeleyca.gov> Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 07:01:37 PM PST Subject: Update to Legislative Platform

Hello Carole,

I wanted to let you know that the City's legislative plaftorm for advocacy with the State Legislature has been updated to include "Support for victims of human trafficking and intimate partner violence" along with "Support for workforce re-entry and services for post-carceral community members" under the Public Safety plank.

I just wanted to let you know and to thank you for your vocal advocacy around public safety.

Kind regards,

Councilmember Terry Taplin

Berkeley City Council – District 2 Pronouns: he/him

2180 Milvia St Berkeley, CA 94704 (510) 981-7120

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