

# DISASTER AND FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION

## REGULAR MEETING

December 3, 2025

7:00 PM

Fire Department Division of Training Classroom – 997 Cedar Street

Mayor's Appointee- Andy Katz

District 1 – Michael Wilson  
District 2 – Weldon Bradstreet  
District 3 – Todd Darling  
District 4 – Robert Kinosian

District 5 – Shirley Dean  
District 6 – Greg Murphy\*  
District 7 – Taj Herzer-Baptiste  
District 8 – Theo Gordon\*\*

## AGENDA

### Preliminary Matters

#### Public Present

#### Approval of the Agenda

*Discussion –*

*Agenda approved as amended by Acclamation or Vote?*

#### Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters

*Public speakers:*

1. Chairperson's Report
2. Fire Department Staff Report

**REGULAR AGENDA MATTERS** *All Regular Agenda Matters are for discussion and possible action.*

- 3. Action/Discussion:** Minutes of October 29, 2025

**Recommendation:** Approve the draft minutes of the October 29, 2025 Regular meeting.

**Written Material:** DFSC 10/29/25 Regular Meeting Minutes

**4. Action/Discussion:** Create 2026 DFSC Meeting Calendar (Staff)

**Recommendation:** Confirm 2026 DFSC Meeting Dates

**Written Material:** COB Religious Holiday Schedule

Motion to Approve:

Second:

Vote: Ayes:

Nays:

Abstain:

#### 5. Work Group Reports

Receive reporting on recent activities by the following work groups:

- Plan & Budget Oversight
- Neighborhood Fire Resiliency
- Safe Passages
  - Evacuation Time Study Communication w/ staff
- Community Outreach
- Street Trauma Prevention Program

#### 6. Future Agenda Items and Next Steps

- 

## Adjournment

**Motion to Adjourn:**

**Second:**

**Approved by acclamation at TIME**

*This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to Keith May, [kmay@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:kmay@berkeleyca.gov) 510-981-5508.*

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*do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission, or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission, or committee for further information.*

*Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at Berkeley Fire Department located at 2100 Martin Luther King Jr. Way Berkeley, CA.*

COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION:

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

~~~~~  
I hereby certify that the agenda for this regular/special meeting of the Berkeley City's Disaster and Fire Safety Commission was posted at the front of the Division of Training, 997 Cedar Street, as well as on the City's website, three days prior to the scheduled Commission meeting.

SECRETARY SIGNATURE

*Keith May*      11/24/2025

## DFSC Staff Report

December 3, 2025

### 1. Measure FF Monthly Report

a. Budget Overview –

- b. Quarter 1 (July, August, September) report due in **November**  
Quarter 2 (October, November, December) report due in February  
Quarter 3 (January, February, March) report due in May  
Quarter 4 (April, May, June) End of Year Report due in October

i. Program Review

- **WUI Interns** – The Interns provide Berkeley Fire Department with a trained, mobile and mission-specific workforce that is principally assigned to monitor vegetative hazardous fuel on or near structures, collect data, and identify reduction activities
  - **Updates:** The interns are focused on scheduled inspections, reinspection's, and mesh, which has picked up since the program has been expanded to the whole VHFHSZ.
- **Safe Passage** -The Fire Department has contracted with a vendor to help the City of Berkeley meet the requirements outlined in SB 99, AB 747, and AB 1409, provide City with professional services in the areas of traffic and evacuation modeling and planning, given various evacuation and/or emergency response scenarios as determined by the City.
  - **Update:** No new updates
- **Wildfire Prevention / Mitigation – Vegetation Management Inspections** –
  - **Updates:** No new Updates.

### 2. Measure GG Monthly Report

a. Budget Overview – No new update

- b. Quarter 1 (July, August, September) report due in **November**  
Quarter 2 (October, November, December) report due in February  
Quarter 3 (January, February, March) report due in May  
Quarter 4 (April, May, June) End of Year Report due in October

3. Fire Facilities Master Plan (FMP): Berkeley Fire Department stations are undersized, in poor condition and in need of remodels or replacement. The Department initiated a long-term replacement planning process to better understand infrastructure needs. This process will

provide the City leaders of today and tomorrow with actionable information ahead of future infrastructure bond measures. (Measure FF has funded the study only)

a. **Update:**

4. Department Activities

- a. **Wildland-Urban Interface:** The WUI division met with members from the state Board of Forestry, who are evaluating the statewide practices for defensible space. Berkeley has arguably the most progressive evidence-based standards for homeowners to protect their structures to reduce the risk of loss during a wildfire and slow the transition of a wildfire into an urban configuration. These changes are also designed to maintain both liability and insurability of a significant portion of our residents. We walked through examples of properties that are taking steps to meet the new Berkeley code that goes into effect next year and demonstrated the community action that is occurring.
- b. **Fire HQ:** Staff to report on a formal update in January and a possible tour.
- c. **Fire Mechanic:** Job offer extended with a start date of early January.
- d. **Deputy Fire Marshal Promotional Exam:** Application period closed, MQ screening in process.
- e. **Assistant Chief and Battalion Fire Chief Promotional Exam:** Exam will be the late first quarter of 2026.

5. Call Volume Report

| Fire Department Report by California Incident Type                                                                             |       |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--|
| October                                                                                                                        |       |  |
| <b>Fires – including Encampment Fires</b><br>(structures, mobile properties, vegetation, rubbish, equipment, cooking, chimney, | 41    |  |
| <b>Explosion - no fire</b><br>(overpressure ruptures, explosions)                                                              | 0     |  |
| <b>Rescue &amp; EMS</b> (medical assist, vehicle accident                                                                      | 1,015 |  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |              |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <b>Hazardous Condition</b> - no fire<br>(combustible spills/leaks,<br>chemical release, radioactive<br>condition, electrical wiring<br>problem, biological hazard,<br>potential accident w/<br>building/aircraft/vehicles) | 84           |  |
| <b>Service Calls</b> (person in<br>distress, water issue,<br>smoke/odor problem, animal<br>issue, public assist, cover<br>assignment/standby)                                                                              | 77           |  |
| <b>Good Intent</b> (canceled en-<br>route, wrong location,<br>nothing found, steam<br>mistaken for smoke)                                                                                                                  | 103          |  |
| <b>False Alarm Calls</b> (malicious,<br>malfunction, unintentional,<br>biohazard scare)                                                                                                                                    | 256          |  |
| <b>Severe WX</b> (lightening, wind<br>storms)                                                                                                                                                                              | 1            |  |
| <b>Special Incidents</b> (citizen<br>complaints)                                                                                                                                                                           | 2            |  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>1,579</b> |  |

**Apparatus Count**

|  |              |  |
|--|--------------|--|
|  | <b>3,522</b> |  |
|--|--------------|--|

**DFSC Action Tracker**

| Date of DFSC Action     | Description                                                                                                                                                        | Status                                 |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>October 29, 2025</b> | Direct staff to modify and revise the Draft Update to the Bike Plan dated July 29, 2025, to take into consideration recommendations from the DFSC noted in Report  | Scheduled for 1/27/2026 Agenda         |
| <b>3/26/2025</b>        | Remove the 1-year pre-transfer eligibility restriction of the transfer tax rebate for wildfire hardening from BMC 7.52.060, to encourage early mitigation efforts. | Passed on Consent Calendar 10/28/2025. |

# WILDLAND FIRE MITIGATION MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 2025  
Prepared by the SPP Division



## Program Data - Cumulative 2024-2025 (+/- current month)



### Grizzly Peak Project Clean-up

The Grizzly Peak Project Phases 1-3 is complete and reflects the full extent of work achievable with the initial grant. The remaining phases are on hold and will resume as soon as additional funding is secured.

**8.09** Miles Completed  
**727.9** TONS Vegetation Removed



### Resident Assistance Program

**8 (+0)** Applications  
**12 (+0)** Properties Completed  
**\$18,415 (+0)** Total Spent



### FireWise Application Status

**18** FireWise Communities  
**3** Pending / In-Progress



### Home Hardening Mesh Program

Pick-ups and deliveries are provided bi-weekly.

**357 (+25)** Applications  
**142 (+4)** Pickups  
**145 (+19)** Deliveries



### Eucalyptus Understory Program

**51 (+0)** Applications  
**32 (+1)** Properties Completed  
**\$164,648 (+\$7,950)** Total Spent



### Chipper Day Program

City wide vegetation pick-up.

**2,100 (+94)** Pickups  
**52 (+2)** Weeks Completed  
**6,169.5 (+180)** Cubic yards removed

## Defensible Space Inspections YTD (+/- current month)

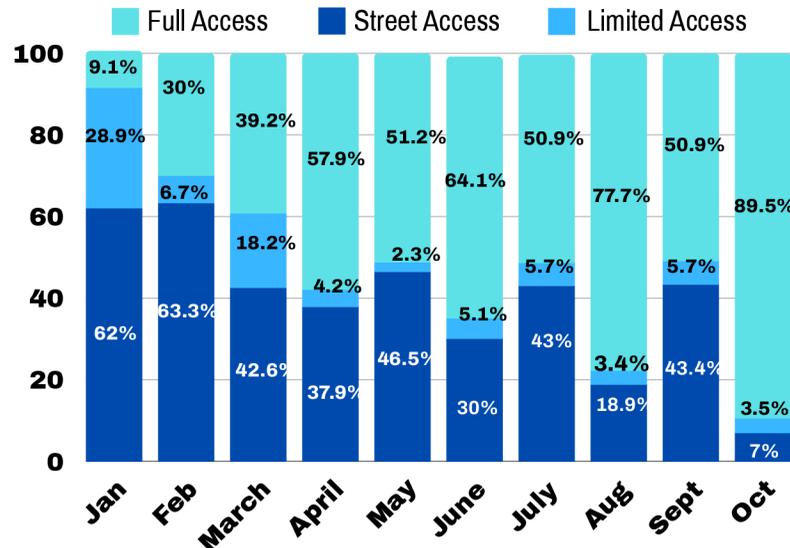
|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>1,223 (+57)</b> | Inspections         |
| <b>46 (+1)</b>     | Re-Inspections      |
| <b>1,575 (+93)</b> | Violations          |
| <b>726 (+52)</b>   | Discoveries         |
| <b>852 (+63)</b>   | Resolved Violations |
| <b>12 (+1)</b>     | Total Citations     |
| <b>243 (+2)</b>    | Resolved Items      |
| <b>6 (+0)</b>      | Inspectors          |

## Right of Entry Agreement Program

**89.5%** of our total inspections this month were full access.

**8,713** Invitations Sent  
**515** RoE's Currently Granted

## Inspection Access %



## Announcements

### WUI Vegetation Code Workgroup

The group is focused on refining and strengthening the vegetation management section of the Fire Code to enhance wildfire prevention and public safety in Berkeley's very high fire hazard zones.

## EMBER Initiative Timeline

### Effective Mitigations for Berkeley's Ember Resilience (EMBER)

- Introduced EMBER- January 2025
- First Reading of the Ordinance- March 2025
- Council Meeting to Adopt the Resolution- April 15, 2025
- Public Hearing to Adopt the Code- June 17, 2025
- Education Campaign May – December 2025
- Increased Services and Support July 2025
- Enforcement by Inspection January 1, 2026
- Reduced Risk of Loss Zone 4 2026

**FY2026 Measure GG**  
**Quarter 1 Report**

| Program                   | Original Budget     | Actuals            |                   | Q1 Total          | % Budget Available | Available Budget    |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
|                           |                     | Q1 July-Sept. 2025 | Q2 Oct.-Dec. 2025 |                   |                    |                     |
| Disaster Prep             | \$ 1,257,269        | \$ 178,470         | \$ -              | \$ 178,470        | 86%                | \$ 1,078,800        |
| FRALS                     | \$ 540,159          | \$ 20,000          | \$ -              | \$ 20,000         | 96%                | \$ 520,159          |
| Minimum Staffing          | \$ 3,138,589        | \$ 7,620           | \$ -              | \$ 7,620          | 100%               | \$ 3,130,969        |
| Radio Interoperability    | \$ 669,251          | \$ 635,651         | \$ -              | \$ 635,651        | 5%                 | \$ 33,599           |
| Training                  | \$ 374,048          | \$ 77,137          | \$ -              | \$ 77,137         | 79%                | \$ 296,911          |
| Community Outreach - HHCS | \$ 309,953          | \$ 46,925          | \$ -              | \$ 46,925         | 85%                | \$ 263,027          |
| <b>Totals</b>             | <b>\$ 6,289,268</b> | <b>\$ 965,803</b>  | <b>\$ -</b>       | <b>\$ 965,803</b> | <b>85%</b>         | <b>\$ 5,323,465</b> |

| PROGRAM/VENDOR                            | AMOUNT            | FY26 BUDGET         | % USED        | NOTES                                   |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Administration</b>                     | <b>993,153</b>    | <b>2,878,245</b>    | <b>34.51%</b> |                                         |
|                                           |                   | 2,084,435.19        |               |                                         |
| COOKE & ASSOCIATES                        | 59,990            |                     |               | Background Checks                       |
| EBMUD                                     | 1,130             |                     |               | Fire HQ Utility                         |
| ELS ARCHITECTURE                          | 20,124            |                     |               | New fire headquarters design/management |
| <b>SALARIES &amp; BENEFITS</b>            | <b>194,267</b>    | <b>793,810.00</b>   |               | <b>Salary &amp; Benefits</b>            |
| RAVEN & ANVILL LLC DBA SAVANNA R NAGORSKI | 6,340             |                     |               | Critical Call Data work                 |
| SMITH & WALTERS                           | 686,341           |                     |               | Fire Headquarters Expenses              |
| SWIFTHAWK CONSULTING LLC                  | 21,871            |                     |               | Project Management                      |
| WATERS MOVING & STORAGE                   | 1,345             |                     |               | Moving                                  |
| WELLS FARGO BANK N.A.                     | 1,746             |                     |               | Equipment                               |
| <b>Dispatch</b>                           | <b>107,544</b>    | <b>328,564</b>      | <b>32.73%</b> |                                         |
| MISSION CRITICAL                          | 21,877            |                     |               | Phase 2 Dispatch needs Analysis         |
| <b>SALARIES &amp; BENEFITS</b>            | <b>85,666.85</b>  | <b>328,564.30</b>   |               | <b>Salary &amp; Benefits</b>            |
| <b>EMS</b>                                | <b>652,669</b>    | <b>3,508,593</b>    | <b>18.60%</b> |                                         |
| BOUND TREE MEDICAL LLC                    | 1,541.34          |                     |               | Equipment                               |
| CONFERENCE EXPENSES                       | 378               |                     |               | Professional development                |
| GRAINGER INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY                | 2,644.30          |                     |               | Supplies                                |
| INT SVC - VEHICLE REPLACEMENTS            | 42,730            |                     |               | Vehicle Replacement Fund                |
| INT SVC - VEHICLE FUEL/MAINT              | 775               |                     |               | Vehicle Fuel and Maintenance            |
| LAURA KOKINDA                             | 22,100.00         |                     |               | Pre-Employment Evaluations              |
| ORKIN EXTERMINATING                       | 800.00            |                     |               | Exterminator                            |
| PYRAMID FILMS CORP                        | 222.43            |                     |               | CPR Cards and Training Courses          |
| <b>SALARIES &amp; BENEFITS</b>            | <b>579,573.03</b> | <b>3,150,704.00</b> |               | <b>Salary &amp; Benefits</b>            |
| STATE BOARD of EQUALIZATION               | 96.35             |                     |               | Tax                                     |
| WELLS FARGO                               | 1,808.98          |                     |               | Equipment                               |
| <b>Operations</b>                         | <b>171,824</b>    | <b>372,817</b>      | <b>46.09%</b> |                                         |
| GOMEX, FELICIA                            | 118,335           |                     |               | Worksite Wellness                       |
| O2X HUMAN PERFORMANCE                     | 3,182             |                     |               | Employee Health and Wellness            |
| <b>SALARIES &amp; BENEFITS</b>            | <b>41,634.32</b>  | <b>288,072.42</b>   |               | <b>Salaries and Benefits</b>            |
| TECH ELECTRIC                             | 6,924             |                     |               | Ring Down Equipment                     |
| WELLS FARGO                               | 1,749             |                     |               | Equipment                               |
| <b>Paramedics Tax</b>                     |                   |                     |               | No expenses yet                         |
| <b>Training</b>                           | <b>147,599</b>    | <b>400,260</b>      | <b>36.88%</b> |                                         |
| CAL EMA                                   | 176               |                     |               | Board Certificates                      |
| DELL MARKETING LP                         | 1,111             |                     |               | Equipment                               |
| INT SVC - VEHICLE REPLACEMENTS            | 3,680             |                     |               | Vehicle Replacement Fund                |
| INT SVC - VEHICLE FUEL/MAINT              | 774               |                     |               | Vehicle Fuel and Maintenance            |
| L.N. CURTIS & SONS                        | 139,000           |                     |               | Tech Rescue Equipment                   |
| <b>SALARIES &amp; BENEFITS</b>            |                   | <b>186,260.00</b>   |               | <b>Salaries and Benefits</b>            |
| STATE FIRE TRAINING                       | 1,425             |                     |               | Training                                |
| UNITED SITE SERVICE                       | 1,433             |                     |               | Portable Potties                        |
| <b>WUI/FP</b>                             | <b>954,478</b>    | <b>2,838,393</b>    | <b>33.63%</b> |                                         |
| ALLIANCE GRAPHICS                         | 2,146             |                     |               | Materials/Printing                      |
| BAY AREA TREE SPECIALIST                  | 3,360             |                     |               | Hazardous Vegetation Treatment          |
| BRENDAN D DEVLIN                          | 22,120            |                     |               | Chipper Day Program Mgmt                |
| BUTLERS UNIFORM                           | 3,203             |                     |               | Uniforms                                |
| DATA TICKET                               | 264               |                     |               | Materials/Printing                      |
| EAST BAY NURSERY                          | 2,257             |                     |               | Supplies                                |
| FIRE ASIDE                                | 278               |                     |               | Defensible Space Inspection Software    |
| FORSTER & KROEGER LANDSCAPE               | 98,900            |                     |               | Chipper Day Program Mgmt                |
| GENASYS INC                               | 5,810             |                     |               | Outdoor Alerting System                 |
| GRAINGER                                  | 231               |                     |               | Supplies                                |
| HILLSIDE ASSOCIATION                      | 50,000            |                     |               | Vegetation Removal and Restoration      |
| INT SVC - VEHICLE REPLACEMENTS            | 12,988            |                     |               | Vehicle Replacement Fund                |
| INT SVC - VEHICLE FUEL/MAINT              | 393               |                     |               | Vehicle Fuel and Maintenance            |
| KLD ASSOCIATES                            | 56,096            |                     |               | Professional Services in Evacuation     |
| MISSION CRITICAL                          | 23,163            |                     |               | Professional Services Assessment PSAP   |
| <b>SALARIES &amp; BENEFITS</b>            | <b>591,445.49</b> | <b>1,466,595.32</b> |               | <b>Salary &amp; Benefits</b>            |
| SOLANO AVENUE                             | 225               |                     |               | OES Space at Solano Avenue Stroll       |
| Transfer Station Chipper Day Program      | 12,952            |                     |               | Chipper Day Program                     |
| VERIZON WIRELESS                          | 1,566             |                     |               | Phone Service                           |
| WELLS FARGO                               | 1,660             |                     |               | Equipment                               |
| WILDFIRE DEFENSE MESH                     | 30,954            |                     |               | Equipment                               |
| WILDLAND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT              | 34,467            |                     |               | Review threat of Wildfire               |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                        | <b>3,027,268</b>  | <b>10,326,873</b>   | <b>29.31%</b> |                                         |

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## REGULAR MEETING

October 29, 2025

7:00 PM

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Mayor's Appointee- Andy Katz

District 1 – Michael Wilson  
District 2 – Weldon Bradstreet  
District 3 – Todd Darling  
District 4 – Robert Kinosian

District 5 – Shirley Dean  
District 6 – Greg Murphy\*  
District 7 – Taj Herzer-Baptiste  
District 8 – Theo Gordon\*\*

## AGENDA

### Preliminary Matters Call to Order

*Meeting called to order at 7:04pm*

*Present: Katz, Wilson, Bradstreet, Kinosian, Murphy, Herzer-Baptiste, Gordon*

*Absent: Dean*

*LOA: Darling*

**Public Present: 6**

### Approval of the Agenda

*Agenda approved by Acclamation*

### Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters

*1 Public speaker*

1. Chairperson's Report -- **striking item 4 from agenda**
2. Fire Department Staff Report

**REGULAR AGENDA MATTERS** *All Regular Agenda Matters are for discussion and possible action.*

- 3. Action/Discussion:** Minutes of September 17, 2025  
**Recommendation:** Approve the draft minutes of the September 17, 2025, Regular meeting.  
**Written Material:** DFSC 9/17/25 Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Bradstreet requested that the minutes be corrected to reflect that he abstained from the vote on Item 3. (Minutes marked him as absent).

*Motion to approve as amended: Herzer-Baptiste*  
*Second: Bradstreet*  
*Vote: Ayes: Katz, Wilson, Kinosian, Murphy, Gordon; Nays: 0; Abstain: 0*

- ~~**4. Action/Discussion:** Adding Permanent Vegetation Removal in Fire Zone Zero as eligible for the transfer tax rebate for wildfire hardening. (Murphy)~~  
~~**Recommendation:** Amend Ordinance 7.52.5060 to add eligibility for the TRR for permanent vegetation removal within 5' of the perimeter of properties in high-risk fire zones as required in the EMBER ordinance for Fire Zones 3 and 4 consisting of heavy woody vegetation of established shrubs, brush, or woody plants exceeding two feet in height or width that cannot be removed with standard hand tools (hand pruners, loppers, or hand saws).~~  
~~**Written Material:** Permanent Vegetation Removal Draft~~

Removed from the agenda by Commission Chair Murphy

- 5. Action/Discussion:** Draft Update to the Bike Plan (Wilson)  
**Recommendation:** Direct staff to modify and revise the Draft Update to the Bike Plan dated July 29, 2025, to accommodate recommendations presented to Council from the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission (TIC) on Sept. 18, 2025, and to take into consideration additional recommendations from the DFSC noted in the attached document.  
**Written Material:** Draft Update to the Bike Plan  
Draft Update to the Bike Plan - Substitute Motion

#### 4 Public speakers

Motion to approve: Gordon

Second: Herzer-Baptiste

**Substitute Motion: Murphy**

Recommendation: Direct staff to modify and revise the Draft Update to the Bike Plan dated July 29, 2025, to take into consideration recommendations from the DFSC as noted in the attached substitute recommendation. (Murphy)

Motion to approve substitute motion as amended: Kinoshian

Second: Bradstreet

Vote: Ayes: Katz, Wilson, Kinoshian, Murphy, Gordon, Herzer-Baptiste.

Nays: 0;

Abstain: 0

#### 6. Work Group Reports

Receive reporting on recent activities by the following work groups:

- Plan & Budget Oversight
- Neighborhood Fire Resiliency
- Safe Passages
  - Evacuation Time Study Communication w/ staff
- Community Outreach
- Street Trauma Prevention Program

#### 7. Future Agenda Items and Next Steps

- 2026 DFSC Meeting Calendar – Commission secretary to provide list of 2026 City holidays into the next packet once received

*Motion to approve as amended: Gordon*

*Second: Wilson*

*Approved by Acclamation*

### **Adjournment: 9:04pm**

*This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to Keith May, [kmay@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:kmay@berkeleyca.gov) 510-981-5508.*

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COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION:

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I hereby certify that the agenda for this regular/special meeting of the Berkeley City's Disaster and Fire Safety Commission was posted at the front of the Division of Training, 997 Cedar Street, as well as on the City's website, three days prior to the scheduled Commission meeting.

SECRETARY SIGNATURE

*Keith May*      11/4/2025

DRAFT



## 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                                       | 2026 Date(s)             |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Shinto       | New Year                                      | 1/1/2026 thru 1/3/2026   |
| Hindu        | Makara Sankranti                              | 1/14/2026                |
| Cultural     | Chinese New Year (Eve, Day, Lantern Festival) | 2/16, 2/17, 3/3          |
| Islam        | Ramadan (Eve & First Night)                   | 2/17/2026 thru 2/18/2026 |
| Hindu        | Holi                                          | 3/3/2026                 |
| Islam        | Eid al-Fitr                                   | 3/19/2026 thru 3/20/2026 |
| Cultural     | Nowruz*                                       | 3/21/2026                |
| Jewish       | Passover Nights 1 & 2 (7*, 8*)                | 4/1 - 4/2 (4/8, 4/9)     |
| Christian    | Good Friday                                   | 4/3/2026                 |
| Christian    | Easter Sunday                                 | 4/5/2026                 |
| Jewish       | Shavuot*                                      | 5/21/2026 thru 5/23/2026 |
| Islam        | Eid al-Adha                                   | 5/26/2026 thru 5/27/2026 |
| Buddhist     | Vesak                                         | 5/31/2026                |
| Shinto       | Obon Ceremony*                                | 8/13/2026 thru 8/15/2026 |
| Jewish       | Rosh Hashanah                                 | 9/11/2026 thru 9/13/2026 |
| Jewish       | Yom Kippur                                    | 9/20/2026 thru 9/21/2026 |
| Jewish       | Sukkot (1st Day)*                             | 9/25/2026 thru 9/26/2026 |
| Jewish       | Shmini Atzeret/ Simchat Torah*                | 10/2/2026 thru 10/4/2026 |
| Hindu        | Dussehra                                      | 10/20/2026               |
| Hindu        | Diwali                                        | 11/8/2026                |
| Baha'i Faith | Birth of Bab                                  | 11/10/2026               |
| Baha'i Faith | Birth of Baha'u'llah                          | 11/11/2026               |
| Jewish       | Chanukah (1st night)                          | 12/4/2026                |
| Christian    | Christmas                                     | 12/25/2026               |
| Cultural     | Kwanzaa                                       | 12/26/2026 thru 1/1/2027 |
| Jewish       | Shabbat (Friday sunset to Saturday sunset)*   | Weekly                   |

\* Meetings not prohibited, but avoid scheduling meetings if possible



# 2026 CITY CALENDAR

| JANUARY |     |      |     |      |     |     |
|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Sun     | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
|         |     |      |     | 1    | 2   | 3   |
| 4       | 5   | 6    | 7   | 8    | 9   | 10  |
| 11      | 12  | 13   | 14  | 15   | 16  | 17  |
| 18      | 19  | 20   | 21  | 22   | 23  | 24  |
| 25      | 26  | 27   | 28  | 29   | 30  | 31  |

| FEBRUARY |     |      |     |      |     |     |
|----------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Sun      | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
| 1        | 2   | 3    | 4   | 5    | 6   | 7   |
| 8        | 9   | 10   | 11  | 12   | 13  | 14  |
| 15       | 16  | 17   | 18  | 19   | 20  | 21  |
| 22       | 23  | 24   | 25  | 26   | 27  | 28  |
|          |     |      |     |      |     |     |

| MARCH |     |      |     |      |     |     |
|-------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Sun   | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
| 1     | 2   | 3    | 4   | 5    | 6   | 7   |
| 8     | 9   | 10   | 11  | 12   | 13  | 14  |
| 15    | 16  | 17   | 18  | 19   | 20  | 21  |
| 22    | 23  | 24   | 25  | 26   | 27  | 28  |
| 29    | 30  | 31   |     |      |     |     |

| APRIL |     |      |     |      |     |     |
|-------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Sun   | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
|       |     |      | 1   | 2    | 3   | 4   |
| 5     | 6   | 7    | 8   | 9    | 10  | 11  |
| 12    | 13  | 14   | 15  | 16   | 17  | 18  |
| 19    | 20  | 21   | 22  | 23   | 24  | 25  |
| 26    | 27  | 28   | 29  | 30   |     |     |

| MAY |     |      |     |      |     |     |
|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
|     |     |      |     |      | 1   | 2   |
| 3   | 4   | 5    | 6   | 7    | 8   | 9   |
| 10  | 11  | 12   | 13  | 14   | 15  | 16  |
| 17  | 18  | 19   | 20  | 21   | 22  | 23  |
| 24  | 25  | 26   | 27  | 28   | 29  | 30  |
| 31  |     |      |     |      |     |     |

| JUNE |     |      |     |      |     |     |
|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Sun  | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
|      | 1   | 2    | 3   | 4    | 5   | 6   |
| 7    | 8   | 9    | 10  | 11   | 12  | 13  |
| 14   | 15  | 16   | 17  | 18   | 19  | 20  |
| 21   | 22  | 23   | 24  | 25   | 26  | 27  |
| 28   | 29  | 30   |     |      |     |     |

| JULY |     |      |     |       |     |     |
|------|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| Sun  | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|      |     |      | 1   | 2     | 3   | 4   |
| 5    | 6   | 7    | 8   | 9     | 10  | 11  |
| 12   | 13  | 14   | 15  | 16    | 17  | 18  |
| 19   | 20  | 21   | 22  | 23    | 24  | 25  |
| 26   | 27  | 28   | 29  | 30    | 31  |     |

| AUGUST |     |      |     |       |     |     |
|--------|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| Sun    | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|        |     |      |     |       |     | 1   |
| 2      | 3   | 4    | 5   | 6     | 7   | 8   |
| 9      | 10  | 11   | 12  | 13    | 14  | 15  |
| 16     | 17  | 18   | 19  | 20    | 21  | 22  |
| 23     | 24  | 25   | 26  | 27    | 28  | 29  |
| 30     | 31  |      |     |       |     |     |

| SEPTEMBER |     |      |     |       |     |     |
|-----------|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| Sun       | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|           |     | 1    | 2   | 3     | 4   | 5   |
| 6         | 7   | 8    | 9   | 10    | 11  | 12  |
| 13        | 14  | 15   | 16  | 17    | 18  | 19  |
| 20        | 21  | 22   | 23  | 24    | 25  | 26  |
| 27        | 28  | 29   | 30  |       |     |     |

| OCTOBER |     |      |     |      |     |     |
|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Sun     | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
|         |     |      |     | 1    | 2   | 3   |
| 4       | 5   | 6    | 7   | 8    | 9   | 10  |
| 11      | 12  | 13   | 14  | 15   | 16  | 17  |
| 18      | 19  | 20   | 21  | 22   | 23  | 24  |
| 25      | 26  | 27   | 28  | 29   | 30  | 31  |

| NOVEMBER |     |      |     |      |     |     |
|----------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Sun      | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
| 1        | 2   | 3    | 4   | 5    | 6   | 7   |
| 8        | 9   | 10   | 11  | 12   | 13  | 14  |
| 15       | 16  | 17   | 18  | 19   | 20  | 21  |
| 22       | 23  | 24   | 25  | 26   | 27  | 28  |
| 29       | 30  |      |     |      |     |     |

| DECEMBER |     |      |     |      |     |     |
|----------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Sun      | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
|          |     | 1    | 2   | 3    | 4   | 5   |
| 6        | 7   | 8    | 9   | 10   | 11  | 12  |
| 13       | 14  | 15   | 16  | 17   | 18  | 19  |
| 20       | 21  | 22   | 23  | 24   | 25  | 26  |
| 27       | 28  | 29   | 30  | 31   |     |     |

## CITY OF BERKELEY RECOGNIZED HOLIDAYS / OBSERVANCES

- 1/1 New Year's Day
- 1/19 Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
- 2/12 Lincoln's Birthday
- 2/16 Washington's Birthday
- 3/31 Cesar Chavez Day - Obs 3/30
- 5/19 Malcolm X's Birthday - Obs 5/18
- 5/25 Memorial Day

- 6/19 Juneteenth
- 7/4 Independence Day - Obs 7/3
- 9/7 Labor Day
- 10/12 Indigenous Peoples' Day
- 11/11 Veterans Day
- 11/26-27 Thanksgiving Day/Day After
- 12/25 Christmas Day

- Pay Day
- Observed Holidays
- Voluntary Time Off (VTO) Days
- New Employee Orientation



# STREET TRAUMA PREVENTION PROGRAM STATUS REPORT

Prepared for: Disaster and Fire Safety Commission  
Prepared by: STPP Program Staff



December 2025

# OVERVIEW

Berkeley faces a growing public safety challenge: ensuring safer streets while sustaining timely emergency response. The Street Trauma Prevention Program (STPP) was established to bring together data, agencies, and community priorities to reconcile these two equally important community values. A Program Manager was hired in March 2025 to lead the program development.

STPP is broadly conceived to ensure that Berkeley does not have to choose between safer streets or emergency response — it’s ensuring the City can have both. STPP aims to implement a data-driven approach to enable infrastructure and emergency response to work hand in hand.

# PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report was prepared for the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission (DFSC) with an overview of STPP progress from March through November 2025. Table 1 is organized by duty statement activity, and a status is provided for each.

**Table 1: STATUS BY DUTY**

|                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>STRATEGIC PLANNING AND DESIGN</b>                                                                                                                         | <b>Collaborative Design and Innovation</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>Status</b>   |
|                                                                                                                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with Public Works-Transportation to develop methodologies for assessing traffic calming measures’ impact on pedestrian/cyclist safety and emergency response times.</li> </ul>                            | Ongoing         |
|                                                                                                                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the developed methodology throughout the roadway design process to communicate potential safety and response-time impacts of new designs.</li> </ul>                                                              | To be Initiated |
|                                                                                                                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with city planners, stakeholders, non-profits, and academic institutions to create transportation designs that enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety without compromising emergency response times.</li> </ul> | Ongoing         |
|                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Fire Apparatus Design</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>Status</b>   |
|                                                                                                                                                              | Work with the department’s Apparatus Maintenance Officer to evaluate and refine fire apparatus specifications, ensuring optimal maneuverability and efficiency.                                                                                              | To be Initiated |
|                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Advanced Traffic Management</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Status</b>   |
| Assist in the design, implementation, and communication of traffic management systems, including adaptive signal control and connected vehicle technologies. | In Progress                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                 |

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                     |                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>PUBLIC EDUCATION</b> | <b>Public Education Support</b>                                                                                                                                     | <b>Status</b>   |
|                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with the Fire Department PIO to promote STPP safety messages and practices to community audiences.</li> </ul>   | Ongoing         |
|                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate community members about the Fire Department’s purpose for being involved in the street redesign process</li> </ul> | To be Initiated |
|                         | <b>Stakeholder Training</b>                                                                                                                                         | <b>Status</b>   |
|                         | Conduct STPP awareness training for city staff and key stakeholders to increase awareness of street trauma prevention programs.                                     | To be Initiated |

|                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>DATA ANALYSIS AND COMPLIANCE</b> | <b>Data Analysis</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Status</b> |
|                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyze existing (or from newly collected) data on fire department incidents, trends, and high-risk zones; collect and analyze fire department response time and route data.</li> </ul> | Ongoing       |
|                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Track and categorize critical patient interventions, transports, and cardiac arrest statistics.</li> </ul>                                                                              | Ongoing       |
|                                     | <b>Compliance and Enforcement</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Status</b> |
|                                     | Collaborate with law enforcement to analyze and enhance understanding of enforcement barriers and develop strategies to increase compliance with traffic laws that may support efforts to eliminate street trauma.               | In Progress   |

|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                      |               |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>LEADERSHIP AND STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION</b> | <b>Community Leadership</b>                                                                                                                                          | <b>Status</b> |
|                                                 | Represent the BFD in community networks, enhancing relationships with groups and stakeholders to support the STPP alongside citywide safety and response strategies. | In Progress   |
|                                                 | <b>Strategic Partnerships</b>                                                                                                                                        | <b>Status</b> |
|                                                 | Build and maintain partnerships to further citywide safety and emergency response strategies.                                                                        | In Progress   |

## ACTIVITIES (From Duty Statement)

### STRATEGIC PLANNING AND DESIGN

#### Collaborative Design and Innovation

Collaborate with Public Works-Transportation to develop methodologies for assessing traffic calming measures' impact on pedestrian/cyclist safety and emergency response times.

Status: **Ongoing: Under Internal BFD Review**

This accomplishment fulfills a key STPP duty-statement activity. It also frames BFD as a leader and partner in street trauma prevention, strengthening interdepartmental coordination, and provides a framework for reviewing traffic-calming projects.

STPP developed a joint BFD and PW methodology to evaluate the impact of traffic-calming measures on both street safety and emergency response. The methodology aims at operationalizing the current review process, establishing a phase-based process that integrates operational, safety, and engineering perspectives, ensuring that compliance and emergency response considerations are embedded throughout project planning, testing, and implementation. Each phase includes departmental and joint BFD and PW roles.

The goal of developing a joint methodology is to create a portfolio of best practices and designs that can deliver both safer streets and rapid emergency response. Other goals include institutionalizing a tool to guide design assessments, aligning expectations across departments, improving transparency, and streamlining communications of findings.

There is a formal Fire–Public Works design review process that outlines required checkpoints—from conceptual design through final approval—to ensure all street-design projects meet regulatory standards, resolve interdepartmental comments, and protect emergency access. The STPP methodology does not replace this process; it operationalizes and strengthens it. The formal design-review process provides an administrative and regulatory structure. At the same time, the STPP methodology adds the technical, real-world testing cycle—pre-test planning, field testing, validation, and monitoring—that ensures designs function safely for emergency response in practice. Together, they form an integrated workflow: PW leads the design stages, and STPP provides empirical evidence and operational insight that feed into those stages, ensuring decisions are both compliant and practitioner-informed.

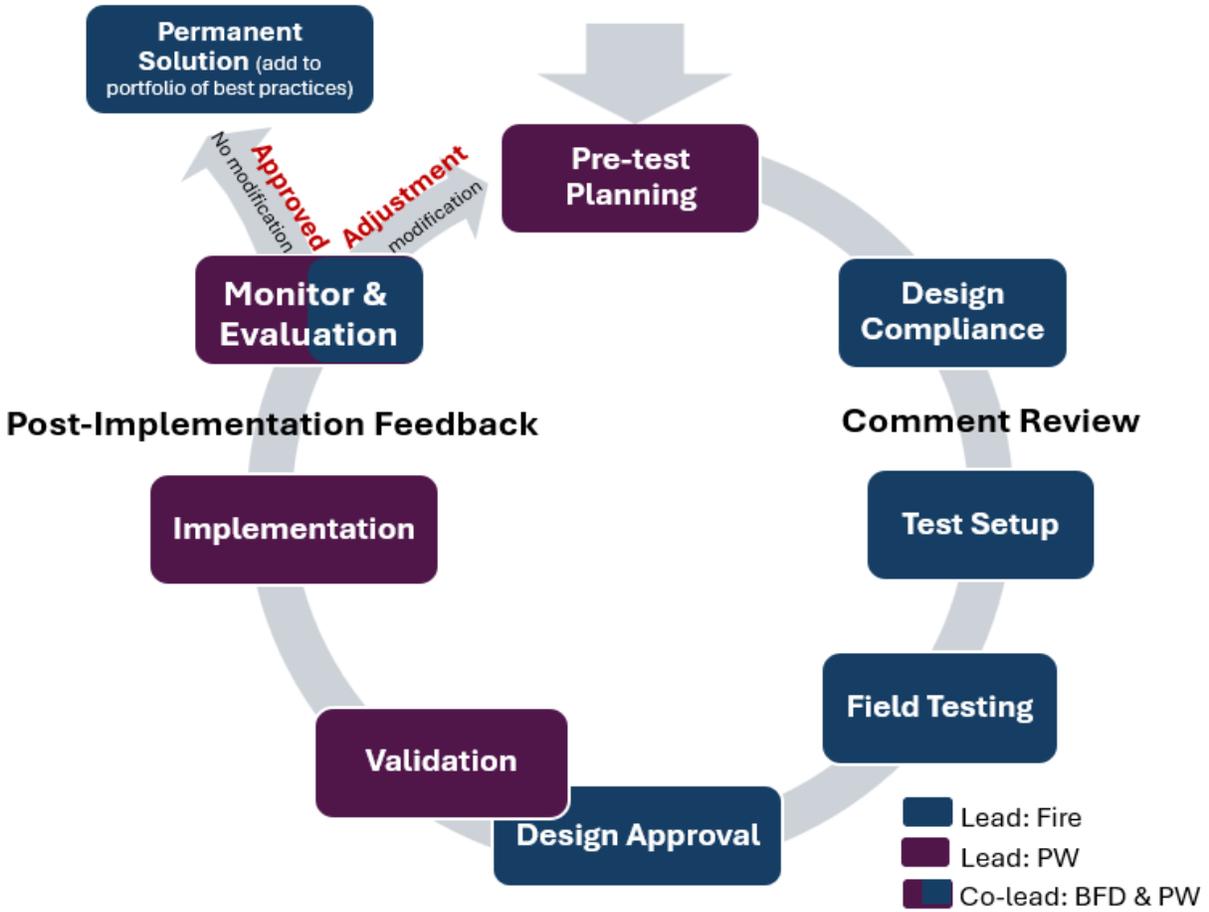


FIGURE 1: DRAFT METHODOLOGY CYCLE AND STAGES (UNDER REVIEW)

## STRATEGIC PLANNING AND DESIGN

### Collaborative Design and Innovation

Engage with city planners, stakeholders, non-profits, and academic institutions to create transportation designs that enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety without compromising emergency response times.

**Status:** Ongoing

### ENGAGE WITH CITY PLANNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

On September 10, 2025, BFD, in collaboration with PW, conducted a joint assessment to evaluate the City of Emeryville’s speed-cushion designs and the impact on emergency response apparatus. The test determines whether these designs were feasible in Berkeley. Two cushion types were evaluated: (1) a design with wheel gaps and a center median located on Powell Street west of Frontage Road, and (2) a design with a narrow center section and no wheel gaps at 53rd and Horton Streets. Testing involved one fire engine and one ambulance, each performing multiple

passes in both directions per location (eight total per vehicle). During the field testing, the team observed maneuverability, slowing vehicles, and driver feedback.

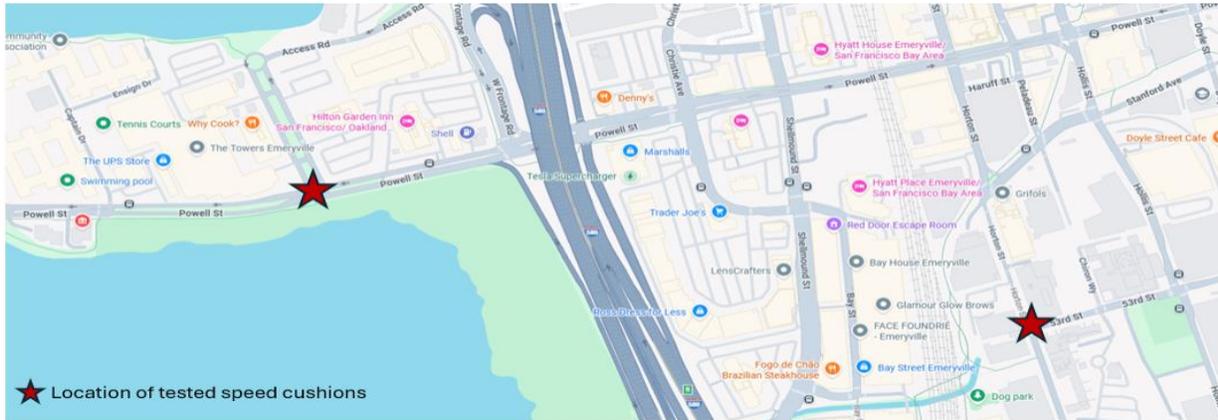
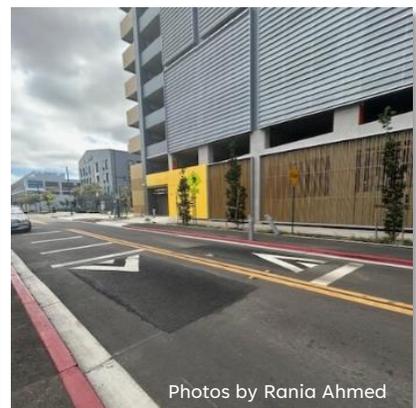


FIGURE 2: LOCATION OF SPEED CUSHION TESTS IN EMERYVILLE

Findings indicated that the driver’s skill and familiarity influenced performance. For example, at the Powell Street site, the engine initially experienced an average 6-second delay per crossing, which improved to 4.4 seconds as the driver adapted in subsequent passes. The ambulance’s delay decreased from 2.6 to 2.2 seconds after several passes. The 53rd Street design without wheel gaps caused negligible delays and allowed drivers to maintain driving at emergency speed with minimal steering correction or the need to slow down and then accelerate.

The assessment reinforced that while traffic-calming devices contribute to safer streets, design details must account for emergency vehicle maneuverability and driver skills. These outcomes demonstrate a learning curve that can mitigate delays. A conventional one-size-fits-all design may not achieve both safety and operational efficiency.

This activity concludes the role of BFD in the process of testing speed cushion designs by providing operational expertise, real-world testing, and practitioner insight to ensure street-safety solutions protect pedestrians while preserving the Department’s ability to deliver timely emergency response, consistent with the STPP mission.



Photos by Rania Ahmed

Left: Testing an ambulance driving through design #1: speed cushion with gaps (cutouts)  
Middle: Testing a fire engine driving through a speed cushion with gaps  
Right: An Emeryville design #2 of a speed cushion with a narrow center and no gaps

## ENGAGE WITH REGIONAL AND LOCAL ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

These opportunities bridge academic to practice by positioning STPP as a real-world case study within academic curricula by engaging undergraduate and graduate level students. It also expands STPP's role to train the next generation of planners and policy advocates to integrate prevention and emergency response considerations into safe street designs and decisions.

### **SF State University (Transportation Planning)**

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The STP Program Manager is exploring collaborative research and capstone project opportunities through the Urban Studies Program (Transportation domain) at SFSU on various topics related to street safety and emergency response.

### **UC Davis (Educational Curriculum)**

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Exploring building partnerships with academic institutions such as UC Davis to help create educational and training curricula for the community, city staff, and key stakeholders.

### **Local Graduate Programs (Civic Engagement on Policy Issues)**

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Submitted proposals to Mills at Northeastern and UC Berkeley to engage graduate students in the spring of 2026.

### **Case Study Research Project: UC Berkeley**

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Early, at program launch, the STP Program Manager (May 2025) and other Fire Dept officials, including the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Marshal, participated in Professor Zach Lamb's grant-funded research project at UC Berkeley, which examined national case studies in Austin, Baltimore, Berkeley, and Nashville. STPP was presented in Prof Lamb's webinar, "*Safety vs. Safety: Understanding and Overcoming Conflicts between Street Safety and Fire and Emergency Response*," as a prevention-focused solution inspired by the fire service's long-standing prevention model.

The STP Program Manager participated in a semi-structured interview with Professor Lamb. The interview covered key themes, including the relationship between the Berkeley Fire Department and the City's Transportation Division in implementing street safety interventions, the origins, purpose, and goals of STPP, and the initial priorities shaping its direction.

This early engagement of STPP with academic institutions positions the program and BFD as proactive leaders and partners to advance both street safety and emergency response, despite perceived conflicts.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION

- Coordinate with the Fire Department PIO to promote STPP safety messages and practices to community audiences.

**Status:** Ongoing

- Educate community members about the Fire Department's purpose for being involved in the street redesign process.

**Status:** Ongoing

The City of Berkeley's communication protocol requires any information campaign to include a call to action for the community. Staff are re-evaluating how to deliver this work as outlined in the duty statement. With that in mind, promoting STPP safety messages and practices begins with a review of existing safety campaigns—across Vision Zero and other street-safety initiatives—to identify approaches that inform STPP strategies that are effective, culturally responsive, and adaptable to Berkeley's context.

STPP's goal of reviewing and supporting city-wide messaging is to ensure that Berkeley's safety messages are unified and consistent. Early collaboration with the Vision Zero team is intended to clearly define the focus of each program while aligning our shared safety principles and priorities. STPP will expand this effort to engage other city safety initiatives as the program evolves and opportunities for messaging alignment emerge.

## DATA ANALYSIS AND COMPLIANCE

### Data Analysis

- Analyze existing (or from newly collected) data on fire department incidents, trends, and high-risk zones; collect and analyze fire department response time and route data.
- Track and categorize critical patient interventions, transports, and cardiac arrest statistics.

**Status:** Ongoing

The STP Program Manager is analyzing five-year BFD incident trends between 2020 and 2024. During the data analysis process, staff identified data challenges and opportunities across different systems and documented previous data processes and methodologies to facilitate improved data collection and analysis. Additionally, we are envisioning a longer-term framework for a unified data ecosystem and a mechanism that can translate internal fire incident-level data into route-level data actionable by traffic engineers and planners.

The STP Program Manager is working with the VZ Coordinator and the Associate Transportation Engineer to explore ways to use Fire/EMS data to inform prioritizing safety improvements without compromising emergency response and access, and to identify which data sets and formats can be operationalized for engineering purposes. For example, nationwide and locally, PW and VZ typically use SWITRS collision data from TIMS (UC Berkeley) and Police Traffic Collision

data. STPP is adopting a new approach to incorporate Fire Dept data into the process to better understand where efforts can be focused, without interfering with the commonly used emergency routes or compromising response times.

## ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (Not in Duty Statement)

### PEER LEARNING

As the nation's first program, the closest model to learn from is Vision Zero. To build on the learning from Vision Zero efforts, STPP is creating a peer learning space to exchange lessons learned, explore areas of collaboration, and introduce STPP to other jurisdictions. We have connected so far with VZ leaders from the cities of Santa Monica, Santa Cruz, and Alameda City. We aim to expand this peer learning network to set the model for other Fire Departments to lead similar efforts. An overview of the learning from the Santa Monica and City of Alameda models is below.

#### Santa Monica Vision Zero

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STPP engaged with Santa Monica's (SaMo) lead from the Department of Transportation (DoT). A key takeaway was designing a targeted citywide messaging campaign that effectively communicates safety practices to the public. SaMo also demonstrated a unique data review process and methodology centered on interagency collaboration, where departments meet quarterly to review incident-level data, correct discrepancies or inconsistent reporting, address misclassifications, and validate data internally before publishing. The data review process brings together Police, Fire, Transportation, City Attorney, and the PIO, with police data serving as the primary data source.

While the Fire Department was not the lead in SaMo, its inclusion in safety planning proved critical to strengthening collision prevention. The lessons drawn from the SaMo model are both technical and relational, illustrating how robust data practices and cross-departmental coordination can guide safety strategies, recognizing that infrastructure alone cannot prevent street trauma.

**Learning from the SaMo model** highlights the importance of establishing a review process in Berkeley, ensuring that incident data is actionable for prevention. It also underscores the need to establish a unified data ecosystem that not only supports decision-making but also accurately tells the department's story as a partner in safety planning and prevention.

#### Alameda City Vision Zero

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Leads from the City of Alameda and STPP discussed the internal implementation process that reviews severe/fatal crashes, conducts site walk-throughs, and follows a citywide crash-communications protocol.

Alameda city focuses messaging on specific, under-recognized risks (e.g., sun-glare collisions in fall mornings) and uses *light-touch engagement* (e.g., quizzes, back-to-school reminders), while acknowledging constrained police staffing. A key data insight: important causal details often reside in narrative police reports rather than in structured data fields, highlighting a need to improve documentation of untraditional contributing factors that are not captured or shared in

the data. Alameda is also working on finalizing a speed-hump policy next, which STPP will explore.

**Learning from Alameda City:** The team shared the incident communication process and protocol they use to inform the community about incidents. Alameda’s protocol balances topic sensitivity, community understanding of contributing factors, and the need to reinforce prevention-focused messaging. By examining Alameda’s communication workflow, STPP can adapt relevant elements to develop a Berkeley-specific approach that reinforces cross-departmental alignment and supports the broader effort to establish unified, consistent safety messaging.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND NETWORKING

### UC Davis Active Transportation Symposium

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In October 2025, the STP Program Manager participated in the UC Davis Active Transportation Symposium that generated collaboration opportunities with academic institutions, regional jurisdictions, state agencies, and national technical assistance networks.

The Program Manager also participated in the Active Transportation Planning & Design Foundations, a full-day training course at UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies, prior to the symposium. This professional development opportunity strengthened the Program Manager’s knowledge of bicycle/pedestrian planning, design standards, and data-driven approaches used by cities and state agencies. Participating in both the training and symposium positions STPP to refine its framework, support future funding efforts, and strengthen its mission in street trauma prevention.

There was a general appreciation for BFD’s representation at an active transportation symposium and a willingness to bring the STPP model to other jurisdictions and to establish opportunities for collaboration.

## NEXT STEPS

The next steps emerge from STPP progress and ongoing efforts and are not presented as a work plan, but rather in the spirit of transparency about where the program’s attention is expected to be next:

- Finalize and communicate the methodology.
- Establish data collection and governance protocols.
- Evaluate and develop a public education plan.
- Expand and execute partnerships to strengthen BFD leadership in street trauma prevention.
- Explore innovative opportunities and emerging technologies that may enhance street safety, street-trauma prevention, data integration, and emergency response efficiency.

## CONCLUSION

Between March and November of 2025, the program developed a raft design review methodology, established consistent coordination and collaboration with PW and the Vision Zero team,

conducted field testing of speed cushions, facilitated peer learning exchange, engaged with academic institutions, and identified data challenges and opportunities.

These activities reflect steady progress in developing structured and institutionalized methods and collaborations that position BFD as a proactive leader in prevention, complementing its core mission of response and consistent with the duties listed in the duty statement.

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**Shanalee Gallagher**

**Principal Program Manager**

(415) 850-2122

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

Please forward the following to the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission

Thanks

Alfred Twu

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Dear Commissioners,

Recently I heard that Berkeley Juneteenth and the Telegraph Ave holiday fair have had to relocate due to a new fire department requirement for wider emergency lanes at events, requiring 26 feet of width. This is wider than what other cities require, and has resulted in events being moved to places with fewer visitors.

Looking at what other cities require for street fairs, 20 feet is the standard, with San Francisco allowing 14 feet, since they have many neighborhoods with narrow streets. The extra 6 feet is significant - 20 feet is two lanes, while 26 feet requires 3 lanes, which Telegraph does not have.

It would make sense for Berkeley to go with the 20 foot standard.

Thank you,

Alfred

References:

San Francisco requires a "emergency access lane of not less than 14 feet width" - see page 2 of <https://www.sfmta.com/media/36926/download?inline>

Oakland requires "twenty (20) feet of continuous clearance throughout the closure to allow police and fire vehicles to access in case of emergency." See page 2 of <https://www.oaklandca.gov/files/assets/city/v/1/econ-workforce-dev/documents/special-events/flex-street-administrative-license-requirements-11.17.23-clean-fnl.pdf>

San Jose also requires 20 feet - see page 2 of <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/118099/638755824675330000>

Hayward also requires 20 feet - see "Site Plan Map" section at <https://www.hayward-a.gov/discover/special-events/planning-guide>

Los Angeles also requires 20 feet - see Page 2 of [https://issuu.com/lafd/docs/special\\_event\\_general\\_requirements?e=17034503/63516832](https://issuu.com/lafd/docs/special_event_general_requirements?e=17034503/63516832)