

Peace and Justice
Commission

PEACE & JUSTICE COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA Monday, March 7, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC ADVISORY: THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH VIDEOCONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE

Pursuant to Section 3 of Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, the January 25, 2021 meeting of the Peace and Justice Commission will be conducted exclusively through teleconference and Zoom videoconference. Please be advised that pursuant to the Executive Order and the Shelter-in-Place Order, and to ensure the health and safety of the public by limiting human contact that could spread the COVID-19 virus, there will not be a physical meeting location available.

To access the meeting remotely: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device: Please use this URL

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85300527394>

If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, then use the drop-down menu and click on "rename" to rename yourself to be anonymous. To request to speak, use the "raise hand" icon by rolling over the bottom of the screen.

*To join by phone: Dial **1-669-900-9128** and enter Meeting ID **85300527394**. If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, Press *9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair.*

Please be mindful that all other rules of procedure and decorum will apply for Commission meetings conducted by teleconference or videoconference.

SECTION A. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Roll Call
2. Announcements
3. Comments from the Public (*subject to time limits applicable to all speakers as necessary*)
4. Review and approval of meeting minutes
5. Commission Updates & Chairperson's Report
6. Secretary's Report (including status of passed items from previous meetings)

SECTION B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

7. Elections of Chair and Vice-Chair
8. Discussion and Action on 2022 Work Plan Peace and Justice Commission
9. Climate Change Education Bill
10. Action to Approve letter to BUSD: Integrate climate change into change into California education.


SECTION D. COMMUNICATIONS

11. No communications received.

SECTION E. BACKGROUND INFORMATION
SECTION F. ADJOURNMENT

Attachments:

- A. January Draft Minutes
- B. Meeting Schedule
- C. Peace and Justice Committee Fiscal Year 2022 Work Plan
- D. Draft Facts sheet for Climate Change
- E. BUSD Letter

 Meeting Access: 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 (3) business days before the meeting date.

Communications Disclaimer

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

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 Old City Hall located at 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.

Commission Contact Information

*Okeya Vance-Dozier, Secretary
Peace and Justice Commission
City of Berkeley
2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor
Berkeley, CA 94704
Ovance-dozier@cityofberkeley.info (email)*



Peace and Justice
Commission

**Peace and Justice Commission Meeting
January 4, 2022**

Pursuant to March 17, 2020 Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, this meeting was held electronically.

MINUTES (Draft)

The meeting convened at 7:10 pm with George Lippman (Chair) presiding. Okeya Vance-Dozier, Community Service Specialist, Secretary.

SECTION A. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Roll Call

Present: Morizawa, Rodriguez, Jacquilin, Gussmann, Lippman, Maran, Bohn, Lee, Leon-Maldonado (7:45pm)

Absent: None

Excused: None

Leave of Absence: None

2. Announcements

3. Comments from the Public

Public Attendance: 4

Public Comments: 4

4. Review and approval of meeting minutes

Peace and Justice Commission approved minutes from 12/13/21.

M/S/C: Bohn, Morizawa

Ayes: Morizawa, Rodriguez, Gussmann, Lippman, Maran, Bohn

Noes: None

Abstain: Jacquilin, Lee

Absent: Leon-Maldonado

Excused: None

5. Commission Updates & Chairperson's Report (No Action Taken):

Received update from the City Clerk Mark Numainville, that the letter to BUSD can be sent on behalf of the commission. Election for Chair and Vice-Chair will take place at the February meeting.

6. Secretary's Report (No Action Taken)

SECTION B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

7. Integrate Climate Change into California Education

Integrate climate change into the K-12 curriculum school system within BUSD.

M/S/C: Bohn, Jacquilin

Ayes: Morizawa, Rodriguez, Jacquilin, Gussmann, Lippman, Maran, Bohn, Leon-Maldonado, Lee

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Excused: None

8. Fiscal Year 2022 Peace and Justice Commission Work Plan

No Action taken at this time it will be placed back on the agenda for more discussion.

M/S/C:

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

Excused: None

SECTION C. COMMUNICATIONS

9. No communications received prior to meeting.

SECTION D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

M/S/C: Maran, Morizawa

Ayes: Morizawa, Rodriguez, Jacquilin, Gussmann, Lippman, Maran, Bohn, Leon-Maldonado, Lee

Noes: None

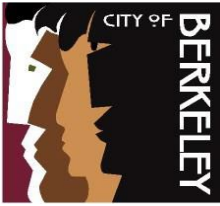
Abstain: None

Absent: None

Excused: None

Respectfully Submitted,

Okeya Vance-Dozier, Secretary
Peace and Justice Commission



Peace and Justice
Commission

Peace and Justice Commission Approved 2022 Meeting Schedule Zoom Webinar Meetings

1. ~~Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 7pm~~
2. ~~Monday, February 7, 2022 at 7pm~~
3. Monday, March 7, 2022 at 7pm
4. Monday, April 4, 2022 at 7pm
5. Monday, May 2, 2022 at 7pm
6. Monday, June 6, 2022 at 7pm
7. Monday, July 18, 2022 at 7pm
8. Tuesday, September 19, 2022 at 7pm
9. Monday, October 3, 2022 at 7pm
10. Monday, November 7, 2022 at 7pm

Appendix 1: Peace and Justice Committee Fiscal Years 2021-2022 Work Plan

Participation in Community Engagement Process to Develop a New Paradigm of Public Safety and Racial Justice

The Commission shall focus its work in Fiscal Years 2021-2022 on contributing to two priority Council initiatives: “Community Engagement Process to Develop a New Paradigm of Public Safety in Berkeley” and “Declare Racism as a Public Health Crisis, a Threat and Safety Issue in the City of Berkeley.”

The Commission brings to bear on this initiative a history of engagement with subjects at the heart of re-imagining public safety, as well as a practice of community engagement. Over the last decade, it has sponsored community roundtables on such issues as “breaking the prison cycle,” sex-trafficking, immigration, and the international human rights framework. Our practice has been to bring together stakeholders concerned with a common issue but with diverse perspectives. Using a social justice lens, Peace and Justice views community concerns that are typically stovepiped in a holistic manner. The search for positive and non-punitive solutions to social problems such as conflict and anti-social behavior, providing healthcare, education, housing, and counseling at the front end rather than policing at the back end, has been fundamental to the Commission dating back to our founding mandate in 1986.

Some elements of the Commission’s participation in the re-imagining process may include:

1. Participating in the Reimagining Public Safety Task Force if invited, or else in a structured relationship with the Task Force.
2. The Commission’s participation recognizes that the Task Force’s charter integrates public safety with the public’s health. This concept is critical not only because safety and health are integrally connected, and because of the emerging awareness that armed police intervention should be minimized in mental and behavioral health incidents. Most importantly, the Commission will help ensure that a consciousness of public health shall include the social and racial determinants of health. This understanding of the interrelatedness of key human needs has long been an integral part of the Commission’s practice.
3. The Commission will pursue an anti-racist approach, recognizing and committing in our proposals to dismantle the institutional and social structures of white supremacy, and committing in our process to, as the Council has stated, “centering the voices of those who are most impacted by our current system of public safety.”
4. The Council recommended on December 15, 2020 that “Berkeley leverage our commissions and community organizations to provide additional input and research to inform the Task Force’s work.” The Peace and Justice Commission is uniquely situated to assist in coordinating work of other civic boards and commissions due to its holistic social justice

approach, its long history of work with multiple commissions, and its practice of public education on social issues.

5. Recognizing the City's priority of work on the Covid-19 pandemic, city management has asked that all commissions' work have a focus on efforts to fight the pandemic. Under the Council's "holistic, anti-racist approach to community safety," the public's health is key to community safety. Racial disparities in pandemic infection rates are gravely concerning from a human rights perspective. According to City statistics, infection rates per 100,000 of City population are over five times as high for the Latinx population as for White people, and for African Americans, twice as high as for White people. The holistic approach demands of us who seek a new paradigm of public safety that we envision an end to racial discrimination in the pandemic.
6. The "Declare Racism as a Public Health Crisis, a Threat and Safety Issue in the City of Berkeley" proposal, passed by Council on January 19, 2021, provides an additional framework and greater depth for Peace and Justice participation in the Council initiative for a new paradigm in public safety.¹

Ongoing Projects

Nuclear-Free Berkeley

The Nuclear Free Berkeley Act came into force in 1986 (Chapter 12.90.070 Section 030D). The Peace & Justice Commission established the Subcommittee on The Nuclear Free Berkeley Act (NFBA) to oversee and reinforce compliance with the terms of the Act. The Subcommittee's activities have included:

- recommendation against a waiver for continuation of the Berkeley Public Library's contracts with 3M (2009-2010);
- consideration of a waiver for the City of Berkeley Public Health Division's proposal on medical supplies (2012);
- recommendation of a waiver for the SkyDeck Business Incubator-Accelerator Contract

¹ The "Declare Racism as a Public Health Crisis, a Threat and Safety Issue in the City of Berkeley" proposal reflects on both the disparate impact of Covid-19 on Black, Latinx, Native American, and Asian American communities, and the heightened understanding of structural and institutionalized racism nationally. The proposal commits the City to eliminate all socioeconomic barriers to health equity. Specifically, it calls for a series of town hall meetings throughout the sessions to address the concerns of people of color and marginalized community members and to strengthen the anti-racist capacity building; establishment of a working group to promote racial equity; the City Manager to explore greater health disparities that have emerged as a result of the COVID-19 crisis; to propose a Health in All Policies Ordinance; mandatory anti-racist training for City employees; a Strategic Plan for Health Equity; an anti-racism dashboard; work with BUSD to study whether "race-based differential access means that some students have less access to educational opportunities."

(2012);

- recommendation (February 7, 2013) to the Regents of the University of California that it phase out responsibility for operating the Nuclear Weapons Laboratories in Livermore and Los Alamos;
- a letter from the City of Berkeley to President Obama in 2014 urging support of a ban on nuclear weapons.

More recently, in light of the Award of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017 to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), whose goal is international adherence to and full implementation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (the Treaty), the Peace and Justice Commission will seek to collaborate further with ICAN on activities of mutual concern. We would note that the California State Senate and the California State Assembly voted affirmatively on a bill in September 2018 to urge U.S. Senate adoption of the Treaty. Strong support comes also from the International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement; Nuclear Ban US; The City of Los Angeles, California; the City of Takoma Park, Maryland; Physicians for Social Responsibility; and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, among others.

Indigenous Peoples

Between December 2015 and January 2016, the Berkeley City Council, upon the recommendation of the Peace and Justice Commission, adopted five important resolutions supporting the treaty rights of indigenous people in Berkeley. The resolutions included: recognition of the Ohlone people as the original inhabitants of Berkeley and the Bay Area, pledging to work in good faith with Ohlone representatives; implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as municipal policy; endorsing the upgrading of the Declaration to a Convention; honoring the Berkeley Shellmound indigenous site; and urging the East Bay Regional Parks District to protect the Ohlone place of origin sacred site.

The resolution on the Berkeley Shellmound mandated that “free, prior, and informed consent of the Ohlone and other indigenous peoples of the region should be integral to any alteration planning for the Berkeley Shellmound site, in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.”

Socially Responsible investment and Procurement Policy (SRIPP) and Sustainable Sweatshop-Free Berkeley

The SRIPP Subcommittee of the Peace and Justice Commission was chartered by resolution of the Berkeley City Council on July 16, 2019. Its immediate charge is to develop a proposed policy to “govern the Commission’s advisory role in socially responsible investing and socially responsible procurement.” Prior to March 2020, the subcommittee held several meetings

including one discussion with City Finance Department staff and used those conversations to craft a draft SRIPP ordinance that is responsive to the City Council's request.

The Sweatshop-Free Berkeley Policy now has a zero-dollar threshold per supplier per year for textile products purchased by the City. This threshold is an improvement over the previous minimum of \$1,000 purchase per supplier for the Policy to apply. However, the policy is complaint-driven, so the burden is on community members to research the supply chain for each supplier. The SRIPP Subcommittee proposes to establish a mechanism for suppliers to show that they are using Sweatshop Free products for City purchases.

The Policy governs textile purchases only. The goal is to identify sweat-free alternatives for technology purchases so tech can be covered as well.

The BUSD, through the School Board Policy Committee, is in the process of establishing a Sweatshop-Free Schools Policy for athletic supplies. The SRIPP Subcommittee and the Commission are supporting the BUSD to ensure the development of an effective policy.

Subcommittee on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The mandate of the Peace & Justice Commission's "Subcommittee on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" (CRPD) expired in 2019. During its five years of operations, the Subcommittee educated broadly about the CRPD via public newsletters, public conferences, and initiatives with educators, non-governmental organizations, and legislators of the City of Berkeley, the State of California, and the U.S. Congress.



Peace and Justice
Commission

To: Berkeley School Board Directors and Superintendent
From: City of Berkeley, Peace and Justice Commission
Submitted by: George Lippman, Chairperson, and Reichi Lee, Commissioner, Peace and Justice Commission
Subject: Support Climate Change Education bill, AB 1939

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution (see below) supporting AB 1939 as introduced by California Assemblywoman Luz Rivas and other state legislators to require climate change education as part of California's K-12 science curriculum.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Minimal impact to staff time.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

At present there is no state-wide mandate that climate change be incorporated in the California educational curriculum. California is falling behind other states and countries that teach about climate change. The Climate Change Education bill, AB 1939, would make climate change education a course requirement for grades 1-6 and a graduation requirement for grades 7-12.

On November 3, 2021, BUSD became one of the first school districts in the country to commit to climate education when its School Board unanimously passed the "BUSD Climate Literacy Resolution No 22-018 Educational Response to the Climate Emergency." Among several commitments, BUSD's Climate Literacy Resolution seeks to graduate students who are well versed in climate change science, issues, and solutions and in environmental and climate justice as a civil rights issue.

AB 1939 is consistent with BUSD's Climate Literacy Resolution. BUSD's support of AB 1939 would send a clear message to the state and the country that climate literacy must become an education priority for 21st century global citizens. Local districts can not do the work alone and must have the full support of all levels of government.

Support Climate Change Education Bill, AB 1939

Attached is a draft fact sheet about the bill. Below is a draft of the Resolution sought. The Peace and Justice Commission has proposed a similar Resolution to the City Council. The bill language can be found [here](#).

Resolution to Support Climate Change Education Bill, AB 1939

WHEREAS, the Peace and Justice Commission advises the City Council and BUSD on all matters relating to the City of Berkeley's role in issues of peace and social justice (Berkeley Municipal Code (BMC) Chapter 3.68.070); and

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2021, BUSD became one of the first school districts in the country to commit to climate education when its School Board unanimously passed the "BUSD Climate Literacy Resolution No 22-018 Educational Response to the Climate Emergency." Among several commitments, BUSD's Climate Literacy Resolution seeks to graduate students who are well versed in climate change science, issues, and solutions and in environmental and climate justice as a civil rights issue; and

WHEREAS, California Assemblywoman Luz Rivas and other state legislators have introduced AB 1939, the Climate Change Education bill, requiring climate change education as part of the K-12 science curriculum;¹ and

WHEREAS, existing California law requires the adopted course of study for grades 1 to 6, inclusive, and the adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, to include certain areas of study, including, among others, English, mathematics, social sciences, science, and visual and performing arts, as specified; and

WHEREAS, AB 1939, with respect to both of the above-referenced adopted courses of study, would require the science area of study to include an emphasis on the causes and effects of climate change. The bill would require that appropriate coursework including this material be offered to pupils as soon as possible, commencing no later than the 2023–24 school year; and

WHEREAS, existing law requires a pupil to complete designated coursework while in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, in order to receive a diploma of graduation from high school. Existing law requires pupils, as part of this requirement, to complete two courses in science, including biological and physical sciences; and

¹ https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB1939.

Support Climate Change Education Bill, AB 1939

WHEREAS, AB 1939, commencing with the class graduating in the 2027–28 school year, would add the requirement that at least one of those science courses include material on the causes and effects of climate change.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Berkeley School Board that the School Board supports the passage of the Climate Change Education bill, AB 1939, by the California legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to California State Assemblymembers Luz Rivas, Lisa Calderon, Chris Ward, Tasha Boerner Horvath, Eduardo Garcia, Isaac Bryan, and Buffy Wicks, and State Senators Nancy Skinner and Dave Cortese, California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin and members of the Berkeley City Council.

Assembly Bill XXXX

Climate Change Education Requirement

Assemblywoman Luz Rivas

SUMMARY

Current efforts to combat climate change do not go far enough.

Inspired by environmental youth activists, like Greta Thunberg, millions of people from around the globe have been protesting for significant policy and societal changes to mitigate the environmental crisis facing our world.

AB XXXX would make climate change a course requirement and graduation requirement so that our future leaders can gain the knowledge they need to create a sustainable future.

BACKGROUND

California has adopted the strictest environmental protection standards, and prides itself as the birthplace of environmentalism.

California sent a delegation to the United Nations' 2021 Climate Change Conference (COP26) to learn of different climate resiliency strategies from other countries. At COP26 California learned that the world is surpassing them in climate change education, and the realization has reinvigorated California's commitment to being a world leader in combatting climate change.

In 2008, SB 908 (Simitian) attempted to add climate change to the list of topics for the State Board of Education to adopt in future science textbooks. SB 908 passed through both houses and Senate Education, Assembly Education, and Assembly Appropriations Committees. However, the bill was subsequently vetoed by then Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and temporarily halted California's goal to ensure every child learns about climate change and its consequences.

In 2010, the California State Board of Education adopted the Education and Environment Initiative Curriculum with the goal of increasing environmental literacy for California's K-12 students. In 2013, California adopted the Next Generation Science Standards to include environmental issues as an option in elementary, middle, and high school education.

More recently, the California Department of Education also embedded equity, inclusion, cultural relevance, and

environmental justice into environmental literacy educational programs.

And yet, the State's attempts to teach about climate change remain optional.

PROBLEM

Education is the first step in combating climate change. Recognizing this, Italy became a world leader by mandating every student, in every grade, receive in classroom education on climate change. Mexico quickly followed and amended their constitution to include climate change as a basic requirement of education. Additionally, New Jersey is the first state in the US to require schools to teach students about climate change.

Unfortunately, California is falling behind other states and countries that teach about climate change. As a result, we are missing critical opportunities to educate those who will be best placed to help deliver the solutions to try and reverse the damages being done by climate change.

SOLUTION

Students who are being educated about the impacts of climate are clearly better prepared to fight for a better future, but not all children are being provided that opportunity to learn. Until climate change becomes a state education priority, there is no guarantee that all students will learn about how to alter climate change outcomes.

AB XXXX prioritizes climate change education by making it a course requirement for grades 1-6 and a graduation requirement for grades 7-12 starting in 2025. This measure sends a clear message that the State stands behind climate change education.

Climate change is undoubtedly threatening our future and we must take advantage of every opportunity to combat it. As students head for college or into the workforce, AB XXXX will empower students to find climate change solutions in everything they do.

CONTACT

Jose Medina, Legislative Aide
916-319-2039 | jose.medina2@asm.ca.gov

SUPPORT



Integrate climate change into California education

WHEREAS, the Peace and Justice Commission advises the City Council and the BUSD on all matters relating to the City of Berkeley's role in issues of peace and social justice (Berkeley Municipal Code (BMC) Chapter 3.68.070); and

WHEREAS, California Assembly Member Luz Rivas and other state legislators have drafted a bill to require climate change education as part of the K-12 science curriculum; and

WHEREAS, the bill would require that the adopted course of study for grades 1-6, inclusive, and the adopted course of study for grades 7-12, inclusive, include an emphasis on the causes and effects of climate change as soon as possible, commencing no later than the 2023-24 school year; and that, commencing with the class graduating in the 2027–28 school year, material on the causes and effects of climate change be included in one or more courses required for high school graduation; and

WHEREAS, young people are leading the fight against climate destruction; as Assembly Member Luz Rivas has stated, “Millennials and Generation Z have already mobilized as key leaders in climate and environmental activism because they know their generations will have to live with the consequences of a changed climate. This legislation will cultivate a new generation of climate policy leaders in California as we educate, help prepare, and give our next generation the tools to shape their futures in the wake of our current climate crisis;”¹ and

WHEREAS, climate will be central to the lives of our youth throughout this century; co-author Lisa Calderon stated, "it is undeniable that climate change is upon us, and the question now is not how to stop it, but how to mitigate its impact. This task falls upon California and its children. Environmental literacy must be taught in our schools so that our children can be prepared for the future;”² and

WHEREAS, Italy and New Zealand have taken the lead on the world stage by requiring every grade in its public school system to study climate change;

¹ <https://a39.asmdc.org/press-releases/20211130-following-united-nations-cop26-climate-change-conference-assemblymembers>

² Ibid.

additionally, New Jersey is leading the charge on climate change education in the United States, as they are the first state in the country to require schools to teach their students about climate change;³ and

WHEREAS, a National Public Radio poll found that 80% of parents in the U.S. supported the teaching of climate change, and 86% of teachers believe climate change should be taught in schools;⁴ and

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2021, the Berkeley Board of Education unanimously passed “BUSD Climate Literacy Resolution No 22-018 Educational Response to the Climate Emergency,” described as a “sweeping directive to graduate students well-versed in climate change science, issues, and solutions.”⁵

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Berkeley Unified School District Board of Education that the BUSD support the 2022 California Assembly climate change education bill.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to California State Assembly Members Luz Rivas, Lisa Calderon, Chris Ward, Tasha Boerner Horvath, Eduardo Garcia, Isaac Bryan, and Buffy Wicks, State Senators Nancy Skinner and Dave Cortese, and members of the Berkeley City Council.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ <https://www.berkeleyschools.net/2021/11/board-of-education-unanimously-passes-busd-climate-literacy-resolution-no-22-018-educational-response-to-the-climate-emergency/>

https://www.berkeleyschools.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/BUSD-Climate-Literacy-Resolution-_FINAL-PASSED-on-11.03.21.pdf