



## PARKS, RECREATION, AND WATERFRONT COMMISSION

### Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 9, 2025, 7:00 P.M.  
Frances Albrier Community Center - auditorium  
2800 Park Street, Berkeley, CA 94702

### Agenda

- The Commissions may discuss any items listed on the agenda, but may take action only on items identified as Action.
- Public Comment on agenda items shall be heard at each item (2 minutes per speaker).

1. **Call to Order** (Chair).
2. **Roll Call** (Secretary).
3. **Land Acknowledgement:** The City of Berkeley recognizes that the community we live in was built on the territory of xučyun (Huchiun (Hooch-yoon)), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (Cho-chen-yo)-speaking Ohlone (Oh-low-nee) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County. This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band. As we begin our meeting tonight, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay. We recognize that Berkeley's residents have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley's incorporation in 1878. As stewards of the laws regulating the City of Berkeley, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land, but also recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today. The City of Berkeley will continue to build relationships with the Lisjan Tribe and to create meaningful actions that uphold the intention of this land acknowledgement.
4. **Action: Approval of Agenda** (Abshez).
5. **Action: Approval of Minutes** for Thursday, March 12, 2025 (Abshez).\*
6. **Public Comment** (2 min each).
7. **Chair's Report.** (Abshez).
8. **Director's Report:** Update on special events, community engagement, capital and maintenance projects, forestry, and recreation (Ferris).
9. **Presentation:** Youth Sports Fields Programs (Ferris).
10. **Discussion/Action:** PRW Commission Tour of City Parks on Thursday, April 10, 2025, 8:30am (Ferris).
11. **Discussion/Action:** Alternative Housing Options for People Experiencing Homelessness Item for April 15 from Councilmember O'Keefe (Abshez).\* See link at: <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/legislative-body-meeting-attachments/Item%202022%20-%20Alternative%20Housing%20Options%20REVISED.pdf>
12. **Discussion:** Update on Doubletree Hotel (Ferris).
13. **Discussion/Action:** Commission review of outline for Cesar Chavez Park Conceptual Plan process (Abshez).\*
14. **Discussion/Action:** Update on Commission efforts to support the City's consideration of adopting a Parks Impact Fee (Abshez).
15. **Information Reports:** Recent PRW Council Reports.\*
16. **Future Agenda Items:** Update on Waterfront Specific Plan; Public Art in Aquatic Park (Lavvorn); Citywide Accessibility Plan; Locations for Dog Parks; Dog subcommittee.
17. **Communications.** a) N. Friedman, 2025-03-24; b) D. Lee, 2025-03-15.
18. **Next PRW Commission meeting:** Wednesday, May 14, 2025.
19. **Adjournment.**

\*document is attached to agenda packet and on the commission website.

\*\*document will be provided at the meeting.

**ADA Disclaimer:** This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request disability-related accommodations 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.

**SB343 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 Parks Recreation & Waterfront Department Office at 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA.

**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.** All communications to the Commission should be received at least 10 days before the meeting date. 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 commission or committee for further information.

**Commission Information:** The agenda packets for the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Waterfront Commission are available for review at [www.cityofberkeley.info/commissions](http://www.cityofberkeley.info/commissions); the Berkeley Main Library and the Parks Recreation & Waterfront Department Office at 2180 Milvia Street –3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, during their normal business hours. If you have questions, call Commission Secretary, Roger Miller at 981-6704 at 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704 or by email at [rmiller@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:rmiller@cityofberkeley.info).

**MISSION STATEMENT – PARKS AND WATERFRONT:** Reviews and advises the City Council on issues related to all City/public parks, open space, greenery, pools, programs, recreation centers, the Waterfront, and resident camps: their physical conditions, policies, projects, programs, planning efforts, activities, and funding; early childhood education programs; and animal care issues in parks.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS**

<b>Mayor-</b>	<b>District 3 -</b>	<b>District 6 -</b> Liliana Cardile
<b>District 1 -</b> Carrie Rybczynski	<b>District 4 -</b> Erin Diehm	<b>District 7 -</b> Alyssa Hurtado
<b>District 2 -</b> Claudia Kawczynska	<b>District 5 -</b> Brennan Cox	<b>District 8 -</b> Allan Abshez

**Current assignments**

Subcomm on dogs and parks (06-12-2024)

Liaison - Civic Center Planning – Erin Diehm  
Liaison - Civic Arts in Parks – Brennan Cox

## 2025 Commission Meeting Dates

Name of Commission: Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission

Commission Secretary: Roger Miller

Location: Frances Albrier Community Center, 2800 Park St

Month	Meeting Day and Date (2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday per month)	Time	Notes
<b>2025</b>			
<b>January</b>	Wednesday, January 8	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
<b>February</b>	<b>Thursday, February 6</b>	8:30am	Special (park site visits)
<b>February</b>	<b>Thursday, February 13</b>	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
<b>March</b>	Wednesday, March 12	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
<b>April</b>	Wednesday, April 9	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
<b>April 10</b>	<b>Thursday, April 10</b>	8:30am	Special (park site visits)
<b>May</b>	Wednesday, May 14	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
<b>June</b>	Wednesday, June 11	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
<b>July</b>	Wednesday, July 9	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
<b>August</b>	No meeting		
<b>September</b>	Wednesday, September 10	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
<b>October</b>	Wednesday, October 8	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
<b>November</b>	Wednesday, November 12	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
<b>December</b>	No Meeting		
<b>2026</b>			
<b>January</b>	<i>Wednesday, January 14</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Regular Mtg</i>

**PARKS, RECREATION AND WATERFRONT COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, March 12, 2025, 7:00 P.M., Frances Albrier Community Center, 2800 Park St

**Minutes - Draft**

The Commissions may discuss any items listed on the agenda, but may take action only on items identified as Action.

1. **Call to Order** (Chair): pm
2. **Roll Call** (Secretary): Present: Abshez; Cox; Diehm; Hurtado; Kawczynska; Rybczynski; Absent: Cardile.
3. **Land Acknowledgement.**
4. **Action: Approval of Agenda** and move items 8 and 9 to before Chairs Report (Chair). (M/S/C: Kawczynska/ Rybczynski/ U): Abshez; Cox; Diehm; Hurtado; Kawczynska; Rybczynski; Noes: none; Absent: Cardile.
5. **Action: Approval of Minutes** for February 13, 2025 (Chair).\* (M/S/C: Cox/Kawczynska/ U): Abshez; Cox; Diehm; Hurtado; Kawczynska; Rybczynski; Noes: none; Absent: Cardile.
6. **Public Comment:** a) Tom Colton, East Dock; b) Jonathan Luskin, East Dock, c) Ellen Simms, East Dock; d) Gordon Stout; Broken Dock, e) Andrew Sullivan, East Dock, f) Julie Allen, Marina Dock, g) Paul Kamen, Berther Parking Permits; h) Cathleen Fogel, Closure of Pier at South Cove; i) Adam St. SaintPrix, Pier/Ferry Plan; j) Cheong Tseng, Berkeley Marina Dock, k) David Hermele, Dock/Access, l) Dom Cabrera, Berkeley Marina Recreation Access Plans, etc., m) Kirk Van Moon, East Pier Closure, n) Tinne Aerts, Third Dock, o) Laural Hermes, waste pickup; p) Martin Nicolaus, Chavez Park; q) Jim McGrath, docks maintenance; r) Noah Sudarsky, Dock Closure; s) Bill Fife, new swimmer.
7. **Chair's Report.** (Abshez). This item became items 8 and 9 below.
8. **Presentation:** Recognition of Youthworks staff and program (Ferris). Presentation was made by YouthWorks and Resolution was read.
9. **Presentation:** Recognition of Donor for Solano-Peralta Park Renovation (Ferris). Presentation was made.
10. **Director's Report:** Update on special events, community engagement, capital and maintenance projects, forestry, and recreation. Presentation was made. Nelson Lam provided information about the plan to repair the East Dock and the ADA Gangway at the Middle Dock.
11. **Discussion/Action:** PRW Commission Workplan on Parks Impact Fee (Abshez). Presentation was made.
12. **Discussion/Action:** Request the Council to direct the City Manager to create the Cesar Chavez Park Vision Committee for the Conceptual Plan process (Abshez). Discussion was held. Public Comment: a) Paul Kamen, b) Kelly Hammargren, c) Jim McGrath. The Commission took action to send a report to Council requesting that Council direct the City Manager to begin the formation of a committee for the Cesar Chavez Park Vision Concept with direction from the PRW Commission for the following: a) the names of potential committee members, b) the types and frequency of committee meetings, c) the committee will present to the PRW Commission often and prior to the committee presenting to Council with their final recommendations. M/S/C (Cox/Hurtado) Ayes: Abshez; Cox; Hurtado; Kawczynska; Rybczynski; Noes: none; Abstain: Diehm.
13. **Presentation/Discussion:** Update on Pier-Ferry Project and Parking Study (McNulty).\* Presentation was provided. Public Comment: a) Tom Yamaguchi, b) Paul Kamen, c)



Chris Stratton, d) Tom Coltman, e) Ellen Braithwaite, f) Gordon Stout, g) Ellen Simms, h) Andrew Talbot, i) Jim McGrath, parking study.

**14. Information Reports\*:** Recent PRW Council Reports.

**15. Future Agenda Items:** Update on Waterfront Specific Plan; Public Art in Aquatic Park (Lavvorn); Citywide Accessibility Plan; Locations for Dog Parks; Dog subcommittee.

**16. Communications.** a) G Stout, 3-7-2025; b) N Sudarsky, 3-6-25; c) R Ofsevit, 3-7-2025.

**17. Next PRW Commission meeting:** Wednesday, April 9, 2025.

**18. Adjournment:** 11:00pm.

\* document is attached to agenda packet and on the commission website.

\*\* document will be provided at the meeting.

- Commissioners in attendance: 6 of 7 appointed.
- Public in attendance: 35
- Public speakers: 31

**\*Note:** For any handouts distributed at the meeting, please see the Draft Minutes for March 12, 2025, on the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission webpage at the following link online:

<https://berkeleyca.gov/your-government/boards-commissions/parks-recreation-and-waterfront-commission>

## Summary

At the City Council's November 18, 2024 Special Meeting to provide feedback and direction on how to proceed with the Waterfront Specific Plan process, the City Council directed that a nature and recreation-based conceptual vision for César Chávez Park be prepared through a public outreach process stewarded by the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission for incorporation into the Waterfront Specific Plan.

The goal of the process is for the Commission to prepare, for the City Council's review and consideration, a community-driven nature and recreation-based conceptual vision ("basis of design") for César Chávez Park in its larger context (Berkeley Marina, McLaughlin Eastshore State Park State Seashore) that:

- Reflects the voices of and serves all Berkeleyans.
- Addresses climate change and the extinction crisis.
- Is worthy of its extraordinary site and achievable.
- Can be used as a "basis of design" for the renewal of César Chávez Park.

## Proposed Process

Over a 2-3 month period, the Berkeley Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission will conduct 4 community input workshops. A volunteer team, jointly appointed by Councilmembers Kersarwani and Taplin, of Berkeley-based park leaders with experience in contemporary park-making issues such as equitable access, engaging youth, human health, climate change, urban biodiversity, sustainable design, operations and maintenance would be appointed to assist to inspire and engage participants and assist the process.

The ReVisioning Team would be and convened by former Berkeley Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commissioner, Michael Boland, who is a Berkeley resident and recently retired as the Chief Park Officer of the Presidio Trust.

On weekends prior to each of the four workshops, Parks Department Staff, the Commission, Revisioning Team, and members of the public would tour of César Chávez Park, with opportunities for on-site public input provided.

To ensure that there is broad participation from across the Berkeley community, each workshop will be held in a different neighborhood:

- Southwest Berkeley (Francis Albrier Community Center)
- Northwest Berkeley (James Kenney Community Center)
- Southeast Berkeley (Willard Clubhouse Recreation Center)
- Northeast Berkeley (Live Oak Community Center)

Each site visit and workshop would be documented by a hired facilitator/scribe.

## Item 13: CÉSAR CHÁVEZ PARK VISIONING PROCESS OUTLINE

At the initial workshop, an overview of the process, its scope and its schedule would be provided. This would be followed by a 'listening session' where background and input from stakeholder groups and interested members of the public would be received to orient and educate the Commission and the ReVisioning Team. The ReVisioning Team would then make a brief presentation regarding themes in contemporary park making, such as equitable access, engaging youth, human health, climate change, urban biodiversity, sustainable design, operations and maintenance.

The "basis of design" would then be evolved by the Commission in three subsequent workshops (and a final session), which would have the following components:

- The ReVisioning Team would present to the Commission and the public ideas arising from the prior site visits and sessions as the ideas are evolved.
- Public feedback and comment regarding would be received by the ReVisioning Team and the Commission.
- The Commission would provide feedback and direction at the conclusion of each workshop to guide the next session and the evolving "basis of design."
- All public input received at the four workshops will be compiled and posted on the internet along with a video recording of each workshop.
- Between each workshop, the ReVisioning Team would meet internally to discuss the prior session and prepare ideas for and discussion at the next site visit and workshop.

Input from all four workshops will be compiled into a draft "basis of design" that will be presented at a concluding public hearing held by the Commission. At the conclusion of the hearing the Commission will then provide final direction for the "basis of design" to be forwarded to the City Council for its review and final action.

**PARKS, RECREATION AND WATERFRONT COMMISSION**

**RECENT COUNCIL REPORTS**

The following recent PRW council reports can be accessed from the City Council Website by using the following URL's:

**March 25, 2025 (regular)**

6.-Contracts: On-Call Landscape Architectural Services for Capital Improvement Projects

URL: <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-03-25%20Item%2006%20Contracts%20On-Call%20Landscape%20Architectural.pdf>

7.-Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Tom Bates Regional Sports Complex Restroom and Community Space Project

URL: <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-03-25%20Item%2007%20Adopt%20a%20Mitigated%20Negative%20Declaration.pdf>

**April 15, 2025 (regular)**

9.-Purchase Order with Multiquip Inc. for a Portable Emergency Power Generator for Berkeley Tuolumne Family Camp

URL: <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-04-15%20Item%2009%20Purchase%20Order%20with%20Multiquip%20Inc.pdf>

**Miller, Roger**

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**From:** N. Friedman <ppdogt12@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 24, 2025 10:01 AM  
**To:** Miller, Roger  
**Subject:** Fwd: Cesar Chavez ad hoc (?)or

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

Cesar Chavez ad hoc (or) ...

PRW Commission,

My concerns are about this "new" plan for improving the largest Park in Berkeley. Yes, this park has been overlooked by the City Council for years - except to attempt to monetize the area! Much money was spent on "experts" to advise the Council on ways to achieve that dubious goal.

Now, this current commission wants to bring in MORE experts, as volunteers?? The many, many, Public meetings brought in *many* ideas about the Tax Payers desires for improvements at CCP. This is Berkeley, where there is an "expert" in every neighborhood! Why not look at some of the thoughts already collected?

There are many species of Animals that live in and around the Park. Why does the Commission not involve The Manager of the Animal Care facility? That will be the City department most affected by whatever ends up happening. **The Animal Care** Department was actually folded into PRWC by the Council a few years ago. An expert, and a City employee!  
Naomi Friedman treasurer, CCCOLA citizens for cesar chavez off leash area

PLEASE add to packet for commission before April meeting. Thank You!

**Miller, Roger**

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**From:** Domond Lee <leedomond@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 15, 2025 12:46 PM  
**To:** Miller, Roger; Blackaby, Brent; Manager, C; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office; Berkeley City Council Policy Committee; marinainbox; recreation@news.berkeleyca.gov; Lancelot, Taylor; Lam, Nelson  
**Subject:** Urgent Request: Repair and Reopen East Dock at Berkeley Marina

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

Dear Council Member of the Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Commission,

I am writing to request for the repair and reopening of the East Dock at the Berkeley Marina's South Sailing Basin. This dock is a vital public resource by providing access to the water for hundreds of community members who rely on it for recreation, exercise, and connection to the Bay.

The East Dock plays a key role in supporting a vibrant and active waterfront. It enables a diverse range of water sports and outdoor activities, fostering both individual well-being and a sense of community. Its current closure is a significant loss to the community, and I urge you to please prioritize its repair as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance for your support efforts to restore this essential public amenity. I appreciate your time and attention to this matter.

Best regards,

Domond Lee  
(510)384-3674  
[leedomond@gmail.com](mailto:leedomond@gmail.com)

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