



BERKELEY CITY COUNCILMEMBER
TERRY TAPLÍN
DISTRICT 2

CONSENT CALENDAR
October 28, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Terry Taplin

Subject: Budget Referral Funding South Cove Seawall Design Project

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the 1st Amendment to the FY25 Annual Appropriation Ordinance (AAO1) process \$250,000 for the funding of the South Cove Seawall Design Project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

\$250,000 and staff time.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley has conducted two infrastructure condition assessments of the sheet pile seawall at the South Cove Sailing Basin in 1999 and 2021. The 1999 assessment recommended that the seawall be replaced due to flaking rust and rotting deteriorations. The 2021 assessment further urged the need to replace it as a high priority. In the event that the seawall fails, the city and community will lose access to part or all of the recreation activities that happen in the South Cove Sailing Basin.

The Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Department received \$250,000 from the FY25 Capital Improvement Program General Fund to support this project. Of that \$250,000, \$239,849 is encumbered in a task order with a specialized waterfront design consultant team to begin the investigation on replacement methods, review draft permitting applications, and strategize environmental review based on replacement methods.

The replacement method will inform the level of environmental clearance, which will determine the permit requirements necessary for final design. To get the project shovel-ready, complete final design, and obtain all necessary building and environmental permits and CEQA approval, an additional \$250,000 is necessary. Once complete, the work produced by this \$500,000 of funding will provide the information needed to seek construction grant opportunities.

BACKGROUND

The seawall was built in the 1960s to create a launchable space and to protect the essential infrastructure serving the recreational boating and open water swimming communities, including sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, and programs run by two non-profit organizations, Cal Adventures and the Cal Sailing Club. The essential infrastructure includes the drive aisle, two boat hoists, and three gangway abutments serving the middle and west floating docks and the Bay Trail.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

Preventing the loss of access to the recreation activities in the South Cove Sailing Basin impacts our environmental sustainability goals and our ability to ensure equitable resource access.

CONTACT PERSON

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