



Peace and
Justice
Commission

PEACE & JUSTICE COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, November 10, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.
South Berkeley Senior Center
2939 Ellis St. Berkeley, CA 94703

AGENDA

Mayor Adena Ishii:
Andrea Cassidy

Rashi Kersarwani:
Selim Yasavul

Terry Taplin:
Adam Weisberg

Ben Bartlett:
Carole Marasovic

Igor Tregub:
Deborah Fink

Shoshana O’Keefe:
Nimrod Pitsker Elias

Brent Blackaby:
Robin Mencher

Cecilia Lunaparra:
Luke Taylor

Mark Humbert:
Ilene Lee

BUSD:

Appel- Grace Morizawa

Shanoski- Jeannette McNeil

Chang- Sandy Park- **Vice Chair**

Vasudeo- Majdi Gaith

Babitt- Rev. Dwayne L. Phillips- **Chair**

Clark- Sonali Mascarenhas-Swan

SECTION A. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Land Acknowledgement
3. Announcements
 - Update on the Sanctuary City Immigration Taskforce
4. Review and approval of Agenda. Discussion and possible action.
5. Comments from the Public on non-agenda items. Public Comment is subject to time limits applicable to all speakers as necessary.
6. Review and approval of meeting minutes from previous meeting. Discussion and possible action.
7. Commission Updates & Chairperson’s Report
The Chair reports on PJC activities and informal ad hoc subcommittees.

8. Secretary's Report
What happens after a recommendation is passed by the commission including Council Policy Committees?

SECTION B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Presentation by Kevin Deliban who is the director of TechTonic Justice. TechTonic Justice's website sets out the many ways in which AI is being used to discriminate against low-income people. Discussion and possible action. Public Comment.
2. Meeting Schedule for 2026. Discussion and possible action. Public Comment.

SECTION D. COMMUNICATIONS

SECTION E. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SECTION F. ADJOURNMENT



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

*Rex Brown, Secretary
Peace and Justice Commission
City of Berkeley
2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor
Berkeley, CA 94704*

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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 (Chochen-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.

Learn more about Tectonic Justice

The use of artificial intelligence, or AI, by governments, landlords, employers, and other powerful private interests restricts the opportunities of low-income people in every basic aspect of life: at home, at work, in school, at government offices, and within families. AI technologies derive from a lineage of automation and algorithms that have been in use for decades with established patterns of harm to low-income communities. As such, now is a critical moment to take stock and correct course before AI of any level of technical sophistication becomes entrenched as a legitimate way to make key decisions about the people society marginalizes.

Employing a broad definition of AI, this report represents the first known effort to comprehensively explain and quantify the reach of AI-based decision-making among low-income people in the United States. It establishes that essentially all 92 million low-income people in the U.S. states—everyone whose income is less than 200 percent of the federal poverty line—have some basic aspect of their lives decided by AI.



2026 CITY CALENDAR

JANUARY						
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FEBRUARY						
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NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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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

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