



TRANSPORTATION and INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

Thursday, April 17th, 2025, 6:15 pm

North Berkeley Senior Center
1901 Hearst Avenue
Berkeley, CA, 94709

A. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to order

6:15 pm: Chair Zaro called the meeting to order.

2. Roll call

6:16 pm:

Commissioners Present: Arsh Singh Hothi, Adrian Leung, Liza Lutzker, Julia Moss,
Karen Parolek, Ren Zaro

Excused: Holly Scheider, Kim Walton

Staff Present: Wahid Amiri, Ron Nevels, Noah Budnick, Charmine Solla
(consultant)

6:16 pm: Four members of the public present.

3. Public comment on items not on the agenda

6:16 pm: One public comment.

6:16 pm: Six members of the public present.

4. Approval of minutes from the February 20, 2025 and March 27, 2025 meetings

6:19 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Moss / Hothi) to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2025 commission meeting.

6:19 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Hothi, Leung, Lutzker, Moss, Parolek, Zaro

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Excused: Schieder, Walton

Recused: None

6:19 pm Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

6:20 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Lutzker / Leung) to approve the minutes from the March 27, 2025 commission meeting.

6:20 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Hothi, Leung, Lutzker, Moss, Parolek, Zaro

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Excused: Schieder, Walton

Recused: None

6:20 pm Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

5. Approval and Order of Agenda

6:21 pm: No changes.

6. Update on administration and staff

6:22 pm: Deputy Director Wahid Amiri provided updates and answered Commissioner questions about Transportation Division staff vacancy rates; employee retention being a key priority; new Parking Services Manager starting in mid-May; good progress on the Transportation Manager recruitment.

6:27 pm: Four members of the public present.

Deputy Director Amiri provided updates and answered Commissioner questions about Engineering Division staff vacancy rates, recruiting to hire a Supervising Civil Engineer for streets, sidewalks and stormwater, an Associate Civil Engineer for development and permitting, two Engineering Inspectors – one for sewers and one for development and permitting – one Junior Public Works Engineer for sewers and one Chief of Party for surveying.

Commissioners asked follow-up questions and commented on the following topics: Transportation project updates; traffic calming data collection, grant application status for Adeline, bids received for South Berkeley bike and bus; Ohlone Greenway safety improvement project progress, including requesting additional funding, reaching 95-percent design and being bid-ready; Measure FF updates, including staffing, planning and budget and RFQ plans for an on-call consultant; employee retention, at which point Commissioners acknowledged the stemming frustration from ambivalence of work demands and offered their support.

7. Announcements

6:38 pm: Commissioner Parolek announced that this is her last meeting; students voted to approve the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Clipper BayPass, which will cover 27 public transit agencies across the region; there will be a Kiddical Mass ride on Saturday, April 19, 2025; there will be a pop-up bike boulevard on 9th Street between Dwight and Channing on Saturday, April 19, 2025; Saturday, April 19, 2025 is admitted day for Cal students, and Telegraph for People will be tabling about safe streets on the Southside.

B. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

1. Daniel Ellsberg street naming recommendation – Action requested

6:45 pm: Staff presented a request from the Western States Legal Foundation to rename Kittredge Street, between Milvia and Fulton streets, in honor of Daniel Ellsberg.

6:47 pm: Three public comments.

6:54 pm: Commissioners asked staff questions and commented on the street renaming, including: renaming one block versus three blocks and why a ceremonial name change is suggested over an actual street name change.

7:19 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Lutzker / Hothi) to install three ceremonial street name signs on Kittredge at Milvia, Shattuck and Fulton in consultation with community members about the specific locations at each intersection.

7:21 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Hothi, Leung, Lutzker, Moss, Parolek, Zaro

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Excused: Schieder, Walton

Recused: None

7:21 pm Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

2. Commission work plan

7:24 pm: Commissioners and Public Works staff Commissioners and staff discussed the Commission's 2025 work plan.

7:24 pm: One member of the public present.

7:26 pm: One public comment.

7:30 pm: Commissioners and staff discussed the following topics: the upcoming Sewer Master Plan and Stormwater Management Plan; scheduling educational session on sewers and other Public Works' work; creating a Public Utilities subcommittee; Vision 2050 update initiated by new mayor, the limited success of combining the Transportation and Public Works commissions; frustrations surrounding construction, need for more enforcement, pedestrian and ADA access, the poor quality of repaving after projects completion and Council's role in addressing and resolving these concerns; limited Public Works inspectors and existing policies that need to be adhered to; creating a construction oversight subcommittee; prioritizing the Watershed Management Plan through the subcommittee, investigating the need for a paving policy subcommittee in light of the Measure FF oversight committee; revisiting necessity of the Vision Zero subcommittee; adding Measure FF oversight committee to the work plan; ensure current construction impact mitigation policies are adhered to, resources are available to enforce, and make policy changes as needed.

8:26 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Leung / Hothi) to adopt the Commission's 2025 work plan.

8:26 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Hothi, Leung, Lutzker, Moss, Parolek, Zaro

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Excused: Schieder, Walton

Recused: None

8:27 pm Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

C. INFORMATION ITEMS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

8:27 pm: Commissioner Lutzker reported that the ad hoc Bike Plan Update subcommittee met and are working with staff to adjust timing of their review and the commission's review in advance of City Council review this fall.

D. COMMUNICATIONS

8:29 pm: None.

8:29 pm: No members of the public present.

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

8:30 pm: Commissioner's suggested the following topics for future meeting agenda items: presentation on Public Works' and its organizational chart; sewer update; Vision Zero update.

F. ADJOURNMENT

8:31 pm: Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Parolek / Lutzker) to adjourn the meeting.

8:31 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Hothi, Leung, Lutzker, Moss, Parolek, Zaro

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Excused: Schieder, Walton

Recused: None

8:32 pm Motion passed 6-0-0-0-2-0

The next meeting of the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission is scheduled for Thursday, May 15th, 2025 at 6:15 pm, at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave, Berkeley, CA 94709.

Transportation and Infrastructure Commission
Thursday, April 17th, 2025

Administrative Procedures

From the City of Berkeley Commissioners' Manual, 2019 Edition, page 70 regarding minutes:

Although the Brown Act does not require minutes, except for closed sessions, the Commissioners' Manual does require minutes of commission meetings but not for subcommittee meetings. When required, minutes are limited to action minutes only. Minutes are unofficial until approved by the commission. The minutes are converted to PDF and posted on the City's website.

The secretary shall keep an accurate record of the commission's proceedings and transactions. The secretary shall provide action minutes similar to those provided to the Council by the City Clerk. Action minutes list the date, time, and place of the meetings; the staff in attendance; the commissioners present and absent; and a clear and concise description of final actions taken. Approved motions are indicated by "moved, seconded, and carried" and include a breakdown of the vote. The vote breakdown includes the commissioners voting yes, no, abstain, absent, recused, and reason for recusal. Reasons for making a motion, debate, content of public comments, and audience reaction are not to be included.

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Peace and Justice Commission

ACTION CALENDAR
October 1, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Peace and Justice Commission
Submitted by: Grace Morizawa, Chair, Peace and Justice Commission
Subject: Resolution Name a City of Berkeley Major Street in Honor of Daniel Ellsberg

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution that the City of Berkeley Council name a Berkeley major street in honor Daniel Ellsberg to serve as an ongoing reminder of Berkeley’s commitment to peace.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

June 23, 2024, U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) unanimously adopted a resolution, co-sponsored by Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin, “The Imperative of Dialogue in a Time of Acute Nuclear Dangers,” calling on “member cities to take action at the municipal level to raise public awareness of the growing dangers of wars among nuclear-armed states, the humanitarian and financial impacts of nuclear weapons, and the urgent need for good faith U.S. leadership in negotiating the global elimination of nuclear weapons.

At its regular meeting February 6, 2023, the Peace and Justice Commission adopted the following recommendation proposing City Council name a major street in honor of Daniel Ellsberg.

M/S/C: McNeil, Taylor
Ayes: Bohn, Jacquelin, Lippman, McNeil, Mencher, Morizawa, Taylor
Noes: Elias
Abstain: N/A
Absent: Guarino

Name a City of Berkeley Major Street in Honor of Daniel Ellsberg

ACTION CALENDAR
October 1, 2024

BACKGROUND

Daniel Ellsberg over many years advocated disarmament and spoke against nuclear weapons. He was an outstanding educator and activist on some of the most important issues facing the Earth for decades and supported, encouraged and inspired whistleblowers, journalists and activists all over the world. And in recognition of his contribution and significant leadership the City of Berkeley declared the week of April 24-30, 2023 Daniel Ellsberg Week.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

No environmental effects.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

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

Berkeley has long been a national leader in speaking out for peace and justice, both locally and globally. Berkeley has repeatedly set a precedent for taking principled stances and recognizing those working for peace.

Naming a street in honor Daniel Ellsberg, who has been recognized by the City of Berkeley and known to the world as a leader of peace and spokesperson for nuclear nonproliferation will serve as an ongoing reminder to Berkeley's youth and all residents of the great moral value of whistleblowers, standing up for one's beliefs, and working for a permanent end to nuclear weapons and nuclear war.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager takes no position on the content and recommendations of the Commission's Report. If the City Council wishes to pursue this renaming, the item must be referred to the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission for a recommendation pursuant to the Naming Policy in the City Council Rules of Procedure.

CONTACT PERSON

Okeya Vance-Dozier, Peace and Justice Commission Secretary, City Manager's Office
510-529-5376

Attachments:

1: Resolution

Name a City of Berkeley Major Street in Honor of Daniel Ellsberg

ACTION CALENDAR
October 1, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

RESOLUTION TO NAME A CITY OF BERKELEY MAJOR STREET
IN HONOR OF DANIEL ELLSBERG

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

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has long been a national leader in speaking out for peace and justice, both locally and globally. Berkeley has repeatedly set a precedent for taking principled stances and recognizing those working for peace; and

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2024, U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) unanimously adopted a resolution, co-sponsored by Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin, "The Imperative of Dialogue in a Time of Acute Nuclear Dangers," calling on "member cities to take action at the municipal level to raise public awareness of the growing dangers of wars among nuclear-armed states, the humanitarian and financial impacts of nuclear weapons, and the urgent need for good faith U.S. leadership in negotiating the global elimination of nuclear weapons;"ⁱ and

WHEREAS, the USCM "calls on the Administration and Congress to reconsider further investments in nuclear weapons and find ways that our finite federal resources can better meet human needs, support safe and resilient cities, and increase investment in international diplomacy, humanitarian assistance and development, and international cooperation to address the climate crisis;"ⁱⁱ and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has long been a member of Mayors for Peace, the original sponsor of the above resolution;ⁱⁱⁱ and

WHEREAS, Daniel Ellsberg risked life in prison to reveal the Pentagon Papers including 7,000 government pages of deceptions by successive presidents who exceeded their authority, bypassed Congress, and misled the American people and the rest of the world; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ellsberg's actions contributed to ending the war in Vietnam, and to discouraging further war-making, including by informing the public of the inner workings of the U.S. government;^{iv} and

WHEREAS, Daniel Ellsberg was an outstanding educator and activist on some of the most important issues facing the Earth for decades and supported, encouraged and inspired whistleblowers, journalists and activists all over the world;^v and

Name a City of Berkeley Major Street in Honor of Daniel Ellsberg

ACTION CALENDAR
October 1, 2024

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley declared the week of April 24-30, 2023 Daniel Ellsberg Week; and

WHEREAS, naming a major Berkeley street in honor of Daniel Ellsberg will serve as an ongoing reminder to Berkeley's youth and all residents of the great moral value of whistleblowers, standing up for one's beliefs, and working for a permanent end to nuclear weapons and nuclear war.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Berkeley that Berkeley shall name a major city street in honor and recognition of Daniel Ellsberg, his moral courage and as a legacy for peace.

ⁱ "The Imperative of Dialogue in a Time of Acute Nuclear Dangers," June 2024, U.S. Conference of Mayors, https://legacy.usmayors.org/resolutions/92nd_Conference/proposed-review-list-full-print-committee-individual.php?resid=a0FKY000000sZ8x2AE

ⁱⁱ USCM

ⁱⁱⁱ USCM

^{iv} City of Berkeley Proclamation in Honor of Daniel Ellsberg, April, 24, 2023.

^v City of Berkeley