



**POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2025
6:30 P.M.**

Board Members

Joshua Cayetano (Chair)	Leah Wilson (Vice-Chair)
Kitty Calavita	Juliet Leftwich
Randy Wells	Macharia Edmonds
Joshua Buswell-Charkow	

MEETING LOCATION

Office of the Director of Police Accountability
1900 Addison Street, Floor 3
Berkeley, CA 94704

PUBLIC NOTICE

To access the meeting remotely: join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device using this URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89174589069>. If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, use the drop-down menu and click on “rename” to rename yourself to be anonymous. To request to speak, use the “raise hand” icon on the screen. To join by phone: Dial **1 669 900 6833** and enter Meeting ID **891 7458 9069**. If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, press *9 and wait to be recognized.

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.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Present: Board Member Leah Wilson (Vice Chair)
Board Member Buswell-Charkow
Board Member Kitty Calavita
Board Member Macharia Edmonds
Board Member Juliet Leftwich
Board Member Randy Wells

Absent: Board Member Joshua Cayetano¹ (Chair).

ODPA Staff: Hansel Aguilar, Director of Police Accountability
Syed Mehdi, Data Analyst
Jose Murillo, Policy Analyst
Daniel Weinberg, Investigative Clerk

BPD Staff: Jen Tate, Deputy Chief
Lt. Coats

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda.

Moved/Second (Leftwich/Calavita) Motion carried.

Ayes: Buswell-Charkow, Calavita, Edmonds, Leftwich, Wells, and Wilson.

Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Cayetano.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

3 Physically Present Speakers

0 Virtually Present Speakers

¹ Chair Cayetano was granted a Leave of Absence for the 9/17 PAB Regular Meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Minutes for the Regular Meeting of September 3, 2025

Motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of September 3, 2025.

Moved/Second (Leftwich/Wilson) Motion carried.

Ayes: Buswell-Charkow, Calavita, Edmonds, Leftwich, Wells, and Wilson.

Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Cayetano.

5. ODPa STAFF REPORT

Director Aguilar reported on Hispanic Heritage Month² and announced that the City will host an event³ on September 30, 2025, in which ODPa will participate. He reported that ODPa's recent submission⁴ to Council will appear on the September 30 agenda. He also recapped his participation at a Latino/x/e/a Social Work⁵ Conference, where he discussed civilian oversight, de-escalation, and co-responder models. Finally, he reminded the PAB members of the upcoming NACOLE Annual Conference⁶ on October 26–30 and confirmed that training funds are available to support Board attendance.

6. CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Vice Chair Wilson requested that a future agenda include a discussion on the status of the Specialized Care Unit (SCU), noting concern that responsibility had shifted⁷ from the City to the County. She suggested it may be helpful to wait until the County's approach becomes clearer before scheduling the item and asked that staff coordinate with the community member to determine timing. She also recommended inviting a representative from the County crisis response team to participate when the discussion is held.

² National Museum of the American Latino, Hispanic Heritage Month: <https://latino.si.edu/learn/teaching-and-learning-resources/hispanic-heritage-month-resources/hispanic-heritage-month>

³ National Hispanic Heritage Month Event: <https://berkeleyca.gov/community-recreation/events/national-hispanic-heritage-month-event>

⁴ Rules & Agendas Committee September 15, 2025 Meeting Minutes: [https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/legislative-body-meeting-minutes/09-15 Minutes - Agenda Committee.pdf](https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/legislative-body-meeting-minutes/09-15%20Minutes%20-%20Agenda%20Committee.pdf)

⁵ LSWO National Latinx Social Work Conference: <https://www.lswo2025.com/>

⁶ 2025 Annual NACOLE Conference: https://www.nacole.org/2025_annual_conference

⁷ Berkeleyside, After years of unmet goals, Berkeley hands behavioral crisis response to county: <https://www.berkeleyside.org/2025/04/25/after-years-of-unmet-goals-berkeley-hands-behavioral-crisis-response-to-county>

7. CHIEF OF POLICE'S REPORT

The Deputy Chief reported on two recent incidents near local schools. On September 8, officers responded to a shooting⁸ near King and Ashby; the incident was not directed at the nearby school and remains under investigation. On September 16, a vehicle struck⁹ three pedestrians in a hit-and-run near Emerson Elementary School. The Deputy Chief also provided staffing updates, noting 152 sworn officers with five in the academy. Finally, the Deputy Chief announced that BPD will likely host a community meeting during the week of October 13 to discuss surveillance camera technologies.

8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

The PAB's subcommittees reported on their activities since the last PAB meeting on September 3, 2025.

9. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- a. Discussion and action on the presentation of ODPa Policy Reviews
 - i. 2024-PR-0003 - Computer Voice Stress Analyzers (CVSA) (20 Minutes)

Motion for the Director to share the CVSA materials presented to the PAB on September 17 with the BPD, and to convey that the Board generally supports ceasing use of CVSA technology while seeking to finalize its position collaboratively with the BPD.

Moved/Second (Wilson/Leftwich) Motion carried.

Ayes: Buswell-Charkow, Calavita, Edmonds, Leftwich, Wells, and Wilson.

Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Cayetano.

- ii. 2024-PR-0004 - Artificial Intelligence (AI) Assisted Report Writing (20 Minutes)

Motion for ODPa staff to monitor developments in AI related to police report writing and report back to the PAB on any significant updates, including legislative changes such as SB 524¹⁰, District Attorney guidance, and information from the BPD.

Moved/Second (Leftwich/Calavita) Motion carried.

Ayes: Buswell-Charkow, Calavita, Edmonds, Leftwich, Wells, and Wilson.

Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Cayetano

- b. Discussion and action on a potential future police radio encryption at the Berkeley Police Department (ODPA)

⁸ Berkeley Scanner, Berkeley police: Shooting was not aimed at Malcolm X school:
<https://www.berkeleyscanner.com/2025/09/09/shootings/berkeley-police-gunfire-malcolm-x-elementary-school/>

⁹ Berkeleyside, Berkeley hit-and-run suspect held on suspicion of attempted murder:
<https://www.berkeleyside.org/2025/09/17/berkeley-elmwood-crash-attempted-murder>

¹⁰ SB 524 Law enforcement agencies: artificial intelligence:
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB524

No Action taken.

- c. Discussion and action on a proposal from Councilmember Taplin for City Council to refer to the City Manager initiation of the Surveillance Technology Ordinance (BMC 2.99) process for the Berkeley Police Department to explore acquiring and using Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), including Drones as First Responders (ODPA) – (15 Minutes)

Motion to request that ODPa formally ask the UC Berkeley Criminal Law and Justice Center (CLJC) to partner with the office in conducting a review of drones and other Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) technologies, in anticipation of potential Council action under the Surveillance Technology Ordinance.

Moved/Second (Leftwich/Calavita) Motion carried.

Ayes: Buswell-Charkow, Calavita, Edmonds, Leftwich, Wells, and Wilson.

Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Cayetano

- d. Discussion and action on the potential cancellation or rescheduling of the PAB's October 8th, 2025 Regular Meeting (ODPA) – (10 Minutes)

No Action taken, ODPa staff will poll PAB members to determine availability.

- e. Discussion and action to assign a delegate for the 2025 NACOLE Annual Conference Elections (ODPA) – (5 Minutes)

Motion to delegate Chair Cayetano for the 2025 NACOLE Annual Conference Elections.

Moved/Second (Wilson/Wells) Motion carried.

Ayes: Buswell-Charkow, Calavita, Edmonds, Leftwich, Wells, and Wilson.

Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Cayetano

10. PUBLIC COMMENT (TBD)

4 Physically Present Speakers

1 Virtually Present Speaker

11. CLOSED SESSION

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Pursuant to the Court's order in *Berkeley Police Association v. City of Berkeley, et al.*, Alameda County Superior Court Case No. 2002-057569, the Board will recess into closed session to discuss and act on the following matter(s):

- a. Case Updates and Recommendations Regarding Complaints Received by the ODPAs

Director Aguilar provides case updates to the PAB.

END OF CLOSED SESSION

12. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS (1 MINUTE)

Vice Chair Wilson announces the closed session actions. No actions are taken by the PAB.

13. ADJOURNMENT (1 MINUTE)

Motion to adjourn. Moved/Second (Leftwich/Wells) The meeting was adjourned at 8:34PM by unanimous consent.

Minutes Approved On: 11/05/2025

Hansel A. Aguilar, Commission Secretary:

