



**TRANSPORTATION and INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
Thursday, February 19th, 2026, 6:15 pm**

**North Berkeley Senior Center
Aspen Room
1901 Hearst Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94709**

A. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to order

6:21 pm: Commission Chair Zaro called the meeting to order.

6:21 pm: Four members of the public present.

2. Roll call

6:21 pm:

Commissioners Present: Barry Fike, Naveen Gattu, Arsh Singh Hothi, Liza Lutzker, Julia Moss, Holly Scheider, Ren Zaro

Granted Leave: Adrian Leung, Kim Walton

Staff Present: Terrance Davis, Mark Helmbrecht, Noah Budnick, Eric Anderson, Dani Dynes, Scott Artis, Jennifer Sajor, Roger Miller (Parks, Recreation, Waterfront), Nelson Lam (Parks, Recreation, Waterfront)

3. Public comment on items not on the agenda

6:22 pm: 2 public comments

4. Approval of minutes from the January 15th, 2026, meeting

6:24 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Moss / Gattu) to approve the minutes from the January 15th, 2025, commission meeting.

6:24 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Fike, Gattu, Hothi, Lutzker, Moss, Scheider, Zaro

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Excused: Adrian Leung, Kim Walton

Recused: None

6:24 pm: Motion passed 7-0-0-0-2-0

5. Approval and Order of Agenda

6:24 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Lutzker / Gattu) to approve the meeting agenda.

6:24 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Fike, Gattu, Hothi, Lutzker, Moss, Scheider, Zaro

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Excused: Adrian Leung, Kim Walton

Recused: None

6:24 pm: Motion passed 7-0-0-0-2-0

6. Update on administration and staff

6:25 pm: Transportation Manager Mark Helmbrecht provided staffing updates: A Supervising Transportation Engineer has been hired; staff are working with the consultant on the Bike Plan update, the document needs to be finalized before releasing to the public and staff are working to provide as much time as possible for public review; Caltrans continues to host regional coordination meetings on the 580 truck regulation changes, which may result in a possible increase in truck vehicle traffic on Ashby Avenue and a possible reduction in truck traffic on Telegraph Avenue.

6:28 pm: Commissioners asked a clarifying question on the following topic: Are there any updates on the hiring process for Measure FF staff?

Commissioners commented on the lack of and need for prioritizing mobility access in construction zones.

7. Announcements

6:45 pm: No announcements.

B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Chair and Vice Chair elections

6:45 pm

Commissioners acted on the nominations made at the November 20, 2025, commission meeting to elect a chair and vice chair.

No Commissioner clarifying questions or comments.

6:45 pm: No public comments.

6:46 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Hothi / Zaro) to elect Commissioner Adrian Leung as Vice Chair.

6:46 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Fike, Gattu, Hothi, Lutzker, Moss, Scheider, Zaro

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Excused: Adrian Leung, Kim Walton

Recused: None

6:46 pm: Motion passed 7-0-0-0-2-0

6:46 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Hothi / Moss) to elect Commissioner Ren Zaro as Chair.

6:46 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Fike, Gattu, Hothi, Lutzker, Moss, Scheider, Zaro

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Excused: Adrian Leung, Kim Walton

Recused: None

6:46 pm: Motion passed 7-0-0-0-2-0

2. Grant Application: FY 2026-2027 Transportation Development Act Article 3 Fund Allocation

6:47 pm: Staff presented the City's fund allocation request to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Transportation Development Act Article 3 program for the Pedestrian Plan update for up to \$350,000. Staff asked that the Commission, in its capacity as the City of Berkeley Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), adopt a motion to support the City Manager and Department of Public Works' recommendation to the Berkeley City Council for authorization to submit this fund allocation request.

6:54 pm: Commissioners asked the following clarifying questions: What is the timeline in terms of public engagement; what does it mean to say "no" to the Complete Streets checklist requirement?

6:55 pm: One public comment.

6:56 pm: Commissioner Lutzker suggested to include the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) from the start of the plan's update process.

6:58 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Lutzker / Gattu) to support the City Manager and the Department of Public Works' recommendation to the Berkeley City Council for authorization to submit a fund allocation request to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Transportation Development Act Article 3 program for the Pedestrian Plan update for up to \$350,000 in the Commission's capacity as the City of Berkeley Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC).

6:59 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Fike, Gattu, Hothi, Lutzker, Moss, Scheider, Zaro

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Excused: Adrian Leung, Kim Walton

Recused: None

6:59 pm: Motion passed 7-0-0-0-2-0

3. Informational Presentation on 2026 Potential Infrastructure Bond Measure

7:01 pm: Public Works Director Davis and staff from the Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Department gave a presentation on Berkeley's infrastructure needs and community priorities. They reviewed the city's needs, past investments, current conditions and a draft project list. Staff solicited public feedback on the City's proposed infrastructure project list for a potential \$300-million general obligation bond.

7:27 pm: Commissioner Hothi left.

7:41 pm: Commissioners asked the following clarifying questions: Is there a long-term cost savings to use synthetic grass; would a two-thirds majority vote be required to pass the bond; how much federal funding will be leveraged; what is the strategy for maintaining and obtaining federal funding; how is the Adeline Streetscape Project progressing, how is the Aquatic Park project progressing; how much funding is from the developer; if the City Council and other City offices move to the Old City Hall and 2180 Milvia Street is being renovated, how will the space at 2180 Milvia Street be used; what is the rationale behind doing renovations now as opposed to waiting until the City has all of the funding necessary to completely refurbish Old City Hall; what will happen to the current occupants of the Veterans Building and Old City Hall if those buildings get fixed;

are there ventures being lined up for the Veterans' Building (e.g. a movie theater) or will it operate by induced demand?

7:55 pm: Three public comments.

7:59 pm: Commissioners asked follow-up questions: Will some of Measure FF funds go into 50/50 sidewalk repair program; will there be enough staff to manage more 50/50 funding; what is happening with the BUSD building swap near Grove Park; how much of the need for larger fire stations is driven by the Berkeley Fire Department purchasing larger trucks; does the Berkeley Fire Department need larger trucks; how long does a bathroom build last; are the bike paths included in the Aquatic Park projects and could they be improved; could one of the 4-6 new dog parks have specific times for service dogs?

Commissioners made the following comments: Creating a space for a service dog park would be valuable; there is an existing lack of bicycle parking at all Berkeley parks; stormwater remediation funding is needed for paving projects; concerns expressed over possible difficulty to secure a two-thirds majority vote; a suggestion was made to wait to place a bond measure on the ballot until after Measure FF projects start to materialize; it would be alarming to close the West Campus Pool; emergency dispatch is vital, especially for dispatching the precise equipment needed to respond to each emergency; creating more space for more ambulances is an excellent strategy; a better understanding of the costs incurred in building restrooms is needed; Codornices Park has a restroom in the Rose Garden, so another restroom might not be needed; the financial implications of closing the West Campus Pool and building a new pool are unclear; installing a new porta potty at Cesar Chavez Park is useful; the fire apparatus and dispatching process was questioned; the question of the best ballot timing was agreed upon, including adding an arts funding proposal on the ballot; T1 projects need to be seen in action; more well-maintained public restrooms and more biking facilities are needed; a suggestion to repair Frances Albrier Center was made; a discussion with BUSD is essential and encouraged to negotiate land uses.

8:28 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Gattu / Lutzker) to extend the meeting to 8:55pm.

8:29 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Fike, Gattu, Lutzker, Moss, Zaro

Noes: Scheider

Abstain: None

Absent: Hothi

Excused: Adrian Leung, Kim Walton

Recused: None

8:29 pm: Motion passed 5-1-0-1-2-0

4. Informational Presentation on Shared Micromobility Update

8:29 pm: Public Works Transportation Division staff presented on the two shared micromobility programs managed by the City: the Shared Electric Micromobility Permit Program (SEMPP) and the Bay Wheels bike share program. Staff provided an update on each program's operations and current initiatives and projects. Specifically, staff discussed permittee compliance and scooter parking improvements under the SEMPP. Bay Wheels bike share program updates focused on bike share station expansion efforts.

8:29 pm: Three members of the public present.

8:37 pm: Two members of the public present.

8:50 pm: Commissioners asked a clarifying question: What is the total number of bikes?

8:51 pm: Two public comments.

8:53 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Gattu / Lutzker) to extend the meeting to 9:05pm.

8:53 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Fike, Gattu, Lutzker, Moss, Zaro

Noes: Scheider

Abstain: None

Absent:., Hothi

Excused: Adrian Leung, Kim Walton

Recused: None

8:53 pm: Motion passed 5-1-0-1-2-0

8:54 pm: Commissioner Scheider left.

8:54 pm: Commissioners asked clarifying questions: Why is bicycle use so much lower than scooters; what is the status of the City Council Policy Committee on Facilities, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment & Sustainability recommendation regarding sidewalk obstructions, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility, etc., how does the process work?

Commissioners made the following comments: Congratulations to the Transportation Division on implementing scooter and bike parking in daylighting areas and for expanding bike share to northwest Berkeley; scooter parking remains a challenge; illegal motor vehicle parking poses a greater problem; commendation was made on the new parking zones and enforcement; Telegraph

Avenue and Haste Street should be considered for parking zone; an improved notice for Bay Wheels dock removal was suggested.

9:04 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Lutzker / Zaro) to extend the meeting to 9:08pm.

9:04 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Fike, Gattu, Lutzker, Moss, Zaro

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Scheider, Hothi

Excused: Adrian Leung, Kim Walton

Recused: None

9:04 pm: Motion passed 5-0-0-2-2-0

C. INFORMATION ITEMS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Temporary Ad Hoc Committee verbal reports, assignments, creation or dissolution

9:04 pm: Commissioner Gattu reported that the Five-Year Street Rehabilitation Plan Temporary Ad Hoc Committee met with staff for a project update.

Commissioners asked the following clarifying questions: How is staff envisioning paving under Measure FF and the regular paving program; will staff reach out to the Commission's Vision Zero subcommittee regarding the Vision Zero Action Plan update?

D. COMMUNICATIONS

9:06 pm: No communications.

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

9:06 pm: None

F. ADJOURNMENT

9:07 pm Action: It was Moved / Seconded (Fike / Lutzker) to adjourn the meeting.

9:07 pm: Vote:

Ayes: Fike, Gattu, Lutzker, Moss, Zaro

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Scheider, Hothi

Excused: Adrian Leung, Kim Walton

Recused: None

9:07 pm: Motion passed 5-0-0-2-2-0

Transportation and Infrastructure Commission
Thursday, January 15, 2026

The next meeting of the Transportation and Infrastructure Commission is scheduled for Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 6:15 pm, at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave, Berkeley, CA 94709.

Administrative Procedures from the City of Berkeley Commissioners' & Board Members' Manual, 2025 Edition, pages 62-63 regarding minutes:

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

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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