



ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE COMMISSION DRAFT MINUTES March 25, 2026

OPENING ITEMS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Sarah Ranney, *District 1*, Councilmember Kesarwani

Alison LaBonte (Vice Chair), *District 2*, Councilmember Taplin

Brianna McGuire (Chair), *District 3*, Councilmember Bartlett

Daniel Tahara, *District 4*, Councilmember Tregub

Yasmin Mahmoudian, *District 5*, Councilmember O'Keefe

vacant, *District 6*, Councilmember Blackaby

Misha Kesselman, *District 7*, Councilmember Lunaparra

Kera Binns, *District 8*, Councilmember Humbert

Gwendy Brown, *Mayor*, Mayor Ishii

Mabel Athanasiou, *Youth Commissioner*

Shanza Syed, *Youth Commissioner*

The meeting was called to order at 6:03

Commissioners Present: Ranney, LaBonte, Tahara, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Binns, Brown, Athanasiou, Syed

Commissioner Leave of Absence: None

Commissioner Absent: McGuire

Staff: Sarah Moore, Rebecca Milliken

2. Land Acknowledgement

3. Public comment (Non-Agenda Items):

0 member(s) of the Public

0 comment(s)

4. Approval of Minutes: Approval of Minutes from last meeting (February 25, 2026)

Motion/second to approve the February 25, 2026 Minutes (Binns, Kesselman). The motion carried: 9-0-0-1; **Ayes:** Ranney, LaBonte, Tahara, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Binns, Brown, Athanasiou, Syed. **Noes:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** McGuire.

5. Update from Chair (Alison LaBonte)

6. Update from Staff (Sarah Moore, Rebecca Milliken)

DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

- 7. Discussion:** Consider the draft Building Decarbonization Ad Hoc Committee communication to Council regarding the inclusion of building electrification in relation to the potential City of Berkeley \$300M General Obligation Bond for the November 2026 Ballot and municipal capital projects. [Public Comments: 0]

Motion/second to approve the substantive content of the report to Council, regarding the inclusion of building electrification in relation to the potential City of Berkeley \$300M General Obligation Bond for the November 2026 Ballot and municipal capital projects, as revised at the March 25, 2026 meeting, with additional minor edits to ensure consistency and clarity throughout (Ranney, Binns). The motion carried: 9-0-0-1; **Ayes:** Ranney, La Bonte, Tahara, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Binns, Brown, Athanasiou, Syed. **Noes:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** McGuire.

COMMITTEE UPDATES & REPORTS

- 8. Workplan Ad Hoc Committee Updates** [Public Comments: 0]
- a. Building Decarbonization (Ranney, McGuire, Tahara, Binns)
 - b. Community Outreach (Ranney, Binns, Athanasiou)
 - c. Climate Emergency Preparedness (Ranney, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Brown, Syed)
 - d. Data (LaBonte, McGuire, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Syed)
- 9. Commission Liaison Reports** [Public Comments: 0]
- a. Planning Commission (Alison LaBonte)
 - b. Transportation and Infrastructure Commission (Yasmin Mahmoudian)
 - c. Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission (Gwendy Brown)
 - d. Zero Waste Commission (Mabel Athanasiou)
 - e. Disaster and Fire Safety Commission (vacant)
 - f. Housing Advisory Commission (Kera Binns)
 - g. Council Policy Subcommittees (Brianna McGuire)
 - h. Measure FF (Misha Kesselman)

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- 10. Potential Items for Future Agenda** [Public Comments: 0]
- a. Reach Codes (Spring)
 - b. [General Plan](#): Disaster Preparedness & Safety Element, Environmental Justice Element, and climate metrics update (May/June)
 - c. Transfer Station
 - d. Vision 2050+
 - e. Cesar Chavez Landfill
 - f. Efforts to develop and support relationships with Indigenous community
 - g. Bicycle Boulevards
 - h. Sun Day 2026 planning

COMMUNICATIONS

11. Public Communications

12. Commissioner Announcements

ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second to adjourn at 7:36 pm (Tahara, Kesselman). The motion carried: 9-0-0-1;
Ayes: Ranney, La Bonte, Tahara, Mahmoudian, Kesselman, Binns, Brown, Athanasiou, Syed. **Noes:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** McGuire.

Minutes Approved:

Sarah Moore, Berkeley Environment & Climate Commission Secretary