

BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**Thursday, April 16, 2026
10:00 AM**

2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704

Teleconference Location – 1619 Edith Street, Berkeley CA 94703

Committee Members:

Mayor Adena Ishii, Councilmembers Rashi Kesarwani and Brent Blackaby

Alternate: Councilmember Igor Tregub

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid model with both in-person and virtual attendance. Attend this meeting remotely using [Zoom](#). To request to speak, use the “raise hand” function in Zoom. To join by phone: Dial **1-669-254-5252** or **1-833-568-8864 (Toll Free)** and enter **Meeting ID: 160 253 3791**. To provide public comment, Press *9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair. To submit a written communication for the Committee’s consideration and inclusion in the public record, email policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov. All Committee meetings are recorded.

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting, however, if you are feeling sick, please do not attend the meeting in person.

Pursuant to the City Council Rules of Procedure and State Law, the presiding officer may remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting. Prior to removing an individual, the presiding officer shall warn the individual that their behavior is disrupting the meeting and that their failure to cease their behavior may result in their removal. The presiding officer may then remove the individual if they do not promptly cease their disruptive behavior. “Disrupting” means engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting and includes, but is not limited to, a failure to comply with reasonable and lawful regulations adopted by a legislative body, or engaging in behavior that constitutes use of force or a true threat of force.

California Government Code Section 84308 (Levine Act) Parties to a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use are required to disclose if they made contributions over \$500 within the prior 12 months to any City employee or officer. Parties and participants with a financial interest are prohibited from making more than \$500 in contributions to a decisionmaker for the 12 months after the final decision is rendered on the proceeding. The above contribution disclosures and restrictions do not apply when the proceeding is competitively bid, or involves a personnel or labor contract. For more information, see Government Code Section 84308.

MINUTES

Roll Call: 10:03 a.m.

Present: Councilmember Blackaby, Councilmember Kesarwani, Mayor Ishii

Minutes for Approval

Draft minutes for the Committee's consideration and approval.

1. Minutes - April 9, 2026

Action: M/S/C (Blackaby/Ishii) to approve the April 9, 2026 minutes.

Vote: All Ayes.

Committee Action Items

The public may comment on each item listed on the agenda for action as the item is taken up. The Chair will determine the number of persons interested in speaking on each item. Up to ten (10) speakers may speak for two minutes. If there are more than ten persons interested in speaking, the Chair may limit the public comment for all speakers to one minute per speaker.

Following review and discussion of the items listed below, the Committee may continue an item to a future committee meeting, or refer the item to the City Council.

2. Overview of FY 2027 – FY 2028 Proposed Budget Balancing Plan

Contact: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager, (510) 981-7000

Action: 13 speakers. Presentation made and discussion held. Item continued to next meeting.

Unscheduled Items

- None

Items for Future Agendas

- None

Adjournment

Action: M/S/C (Blackaby/Kesarwani) to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: All Ayes.

Adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct record of the Budget & Finance Committee meeting held on April 16, 2026.

Keith Nesbit, Assistant City Clerk

Communications

Communications submitted to City Council Policy Committees are on file in the City Clerk Department at 2180 Milvia Street, 1st Floor, Berkeley, CA, and are available upon request by contacting the City Clerk Department at (510) 981-6908 or policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov.