



**CITY / UC / STUDENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING**

BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

***Committee Members (10):* ✓=Present**

Representing	Committee Member
Council District 4	Councilmember Igor Tregub ✓
Council District 6	Councilmember Brent Blackaby ✓
Council District 7	Councilmember Cecilia Lunaparra ✓
Council District 8	Councilmember Mark Humbert ✓
Mayor (Alternate)	Mayor Adena Ishii
UC Berkeley	Alfred Day, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Support and Belonging ✓
UC Berkeley	Ruben Lizardo, Director, Local Government and Community Relations ✓
ASUC Undergraduate	Saanvi Arora, External Affairs Vice President, ASUC
ASUC Undergraduate (Meeting Chair)	Ren Fitzgerald, Local Government Relations Director, ASUC ✓
Graduate Assembly	Sandra Oseguera, External Affairs Vice President, Graduate Assembly ✓
Graduate Assembly	Jose Aguilar, EAVP Liaison, Office of the External Affairs Vice President, Graduate Assembly ✓

AGENDA

1. Roll Call – 1:26 PM

2. Approval of Minutes from the Sept 11, 2024 Meeting

a. **M/S/C Tregub/Lunaparra** to approve minutes of Sept 11, 2024 as written.

b. Vote:

Ayes: Tregub, Blackaby, Lunaparra, Humbert, Day, Lizardo, Fitzgerald, Oseguera, Aguilar

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Arora

3. North Building at the Berkeley Innovation Zone (Attachment 2)

a. Kyle Gibson, Director of Communications, UC Berkeley presented the project on behalf of the Campus.

b. General comments, questions, and discussion points from the Committee centered around:

- The projected construction timeline for this building as well as related projects (e.g., the South Building);
- The city-campus interface design and infrastructure opportunities and challenges presented by the project, including the loss of commercial storefront spaces on the north side of the building; the pocket park and possible uses for it; sidewalk and streetscape infrastructure.
- The relative proportion of space used for campus/academic purposes vs. private/startup incubator uses;
- The impacts on the City in terms of revenues and revenue opportunity costs (including challenges getting startups to obtain business licenses, impacts of lost property/business tax revenue for the City and alternative ways to generate mutual benefits for the Campus and City) balanced against the opportunity this project and others like it have to make Berkeley a destination for the innovation economy.

c. This was a discussion-only item and so no action was taken by the Committee.

4. Campus and City coordinated response to federal Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

- a. Chair Fitzgerald introduced this item, which was meant to generate discussion and coordination on shared responses/communication to ICE enforcement issues
 - b. General committee comments, questions and discussion centered around:
 - The Campus “chain of command” for ICE-related incidents (coordinating with Campus Counsel and Office of the President);
 - The tradeoff between rapid communication and intelligence-sharing between Campus and City leadership balanced against the time it can sometimes take to verify whether reports on social media can be verified as true;
 - The potential role of the Academic Senate in information-sharing about Campus policies across the Campus;
 - Coordination between UCPD and BPD in the event of threats vs. judicial warrants for arrests;
 - The work that the Campus and City are doing to work with various leadership channels (Supervisor Bas, Mayor Ishii) to strengthen response and support for those affected by ICE policies;
 - The steps Campus has taken to give support to students impacted by federal immigration policies/actions.
 - c. This was a discussion-only item and so no action was taken by the Committee.
5. Public Comment
- a. Thirteen members of the public were present for the meeting.
 - b. One member of the public provided public comment.
6. Oxford for All Council referral
- a. Igor Tregub, Councilmember for District 4 and principal author of the item, presented an overview of the item, which was referred to the full Council with a positive recommendation by FITES Policy Committee.
 - b. General committee comments, questions and discussion centered around:
 - Comments about how unsafe the current streetscape Oxford and Fulton from Bancroft to Hearst, and how speeding cars have caused injury to those on foot/bicycle;
 - The role of LRDP funding, including \$800,000 in funding already allocated for Oxford Complete Streets, in supporting this kind of infrastructure/streetscape improvement work;
 - The location of the quick-build bike lane (East side of the street was favored) and the presumed positive impact that bike lane

improvements will have in mitigating bicyclists/scooter riders who use the sidewalk because the actual roadway is too dangerous;

- c. Councilmember Humbert indicated he would like to Co-Sponsor the item.
 - d. This was a discussion-only item and so no action was taken by the Committee.
7. Discussion and possible recommendation on Complete Street treatments around Campus
- a. Cecilia Lunaparra, Councilmember for District 7, presented on the item, expressing her desire to work with the committee to see which streets at the campus/city interface should be prioritized for complete streets treatment.
 - b. Those streets listed by committee members included:
 - Telegraph from Dwight to Bancroft, and the push to make this a car-free zone (Telegraph for People);
 - Closing as much of Center from Oxford to Shattuck as possible;
 - The College and Bancroft intersection, which was stated to be confusing/problematic for vehicles and pedestrians;
 - Durant and Telegraph and the loading zones there not being honored by vehicles who use those spaces for parking; desire expressed by one committee member to see more City parking enforcement there.
 - c. Discussion around making the use of LRDP funding a standing item on the 4x6 agenda, with planning for the use of those funds over multiple years, for the purposes of centering and expanding upon this type of discussion.
 - d. This was a discussion-only item and so no action was taken by the Committee.
8. Use of LRDP Settlement funds
- a. Brent Blackaby, Councilmember for District 6, expressed anticipation for the forthcoming funding to improve the streetscape of the northside neighborhood, especially the Euclid commercial corridor;
 - b. This was a discussion-only item and so no action was taken by the Committee.
9. Future Meetings and Agenda Items:
- Next Meeting Date: TBD.
 - Next Meeting Facilitator: Cecilia Lunaparra, District 7 Councilmember, agreed to serve as next Chair.

- Potential topics for future meetings:
 - Councilmember Igor Tregub indicated a possible item about the use of scooters/bicycles on sidewalks
 - Director of Local Government and Community Relations Ruben Lizardo suggested that the City present on possible development projects at the City/Campus interface, in the same vein as the Campus presentations on such development
 - Use of LRDP Settlement funds

10. Adjournment

- a. **M/S/C Lunaparra/Humbert** to adjourn the meeting at 3:01 PM (approved by consensus).