

# **SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS 3**

## **BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

**DATE OF MEETING: TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2023**

**TIME: 6:00 P.M.**

*The agenda packet for this meeting was distributed/posted on June 29, 2023. Communications in this supplement were received after 12pm on July 10, 2023. This communication packet was distributed/posted on July 13, 2023.*

### **Consent Calendar**

*Each item in this supplement follows the corresponding item on the City Council Agenda for this date.*

**Item #7: Contract: Insight Housing (formerly Berkeley Food and Housing Project) to operate interim housing at the Super 8**

166. Steve Lipson

**Item #28: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds and Co-Sponsorship of the Cesar Chavez Dolores Huerta Tribute Site Curriculum Project**

167. Beatriz Leyva-Cutler and Santiago Casal

**Item #29: Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company and the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean**

168. Tsukuru Fors  
169. Phoebe Thomas Sorgen  
170. David McGuire  
171. Torrance Carroll  
172. Bindu Desai  
173. Eva Frye  
174. Yuka Saito  
175. Laura Feldman  
176. Linda Roman  
177. Liz Taylor

178. Jacqueline Cabasso, on behalf of Western States Legal Foundation
179. Eri Tomita
180. Heiko Hasegawa
181. Desiree McGill

## Action Calendar – New Business

### **Item #30: Zoning Ordinance Amendments to Title 23 of the Berkeley municipal Code to Conform to State Law, and Make Non-Substantive Technical Edits**

182. Presentation, submitted by Planning and Development

## Action Calendar – New Business

### **Item #31: Staff Shortages: City Services Constrained by Staff Retention Challenges and Delayed Hiring**

183. Presentation, submitted by the Auditor
184. Presentation, submitted by the City Manager

### **Item #32: Referral Response: Affordable Housing Preference Policy for Rental Housing Created Through the Below Market Rate and Housing Trust Fund Programs**

185. Derethia DuVal

### **Item #33: Adoption – Civic Center Phase II – Design Concept**

186. Linda Currie
187. Beth Lamont
188. Diane Ross-Leech
189. Kelly Hammargren
190. Tom Kelly
191. Kathleen Giustino
192. Erin Diehm
193. Andra Mitchell
194. Jack Kurzweil

## Action Calendar

### **Item #35: De-Prioritizing the enforcement of laws imposing criminal penalties for Entheogenic/Psychedelic plants and fungi for personal use**

195. Isabelle Gaston

### **Miscellaneous Communications**

196. Mr. Eid

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Steven Lipson <stevenlipson634@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 6:23 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** Rental of Super 8 Motel

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Councilperson,

How much is the city actually budgeting for this move? Does our cost stop at the \$1,000,000 for rental? How much are we budgeting for repairs during and after the rental? My guess is that our total housing cost, not including social services, will be at least \$75,000/room per year. Is this the best, most efficient use of city funds?

Or is the proposal to just rent the Super 8 and not budget all the costs other than the direct rental?

Please spend our revenue wisely.

Thanks and best regards,

Steve Lipson  
634 Woodmont Avenue  
Berkeley  
(510) 280-5334

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Beatriz Leyva-Cutler <beatrizleyvac@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 2:52 PM  
**To:** All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office; Santiago Casal  
**Cc:** Latinos Unidos de Berkeley  
**Subject:** Item 23 and 28 Tonight's Meeting  
**Attachments:** 2023-07-11 Item 28 Relinquishment of Council Office-1.pdf; 2023-07-11 Item 23 Relinquishment of Council Office.pdf

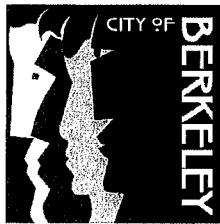
**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Arreguin and City Councilmembers, in advance Santiago Casal and I want to thank you for your ongoing support in recognizing the Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta Tribute Site via the resolutions before you tonight.

We would like to thank in advance the city council members that have already agreed to contribute via their discretionary funds: Harrison, Rigel, Taplin and the Mayor and would like to encourage 100% support of the city council in this legacy resolution and contribution to this important legacy project. Your endorsement for the work of Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta and the site that will live on beyond any of us. This tribute site will bring people to Berkeley; and also be a special place for those here in Berkeley especially our students.

**Gracias,** Santiago and I look forward to thanking you via tonight's Zoom meeting.

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler and Santiago Casal



Kate Harrison  
Councilmember, District 4

**CONSENT CALENDAR**  
July 11, 2023

**TO:** Honorable Members of the City Council  
**FROM:** Councilmember Harrison, Mayor Arreguin, and Councilmember Hahn  
**SUBJECT:** Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds and Co-Sponsorship of the César Chávez Dolores Huerta Tribute Site Curriculum Project

**RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt a resolution approving an expenditure of D13 funds and cosponsorship of the César Chávez/Dolores Huerta Tribute Site Curriculum Project, with \$250 relinquished to the City's general fund for this purpose each from Mayor Arreguin's and Councilmember Harrison's discretionary Council Office Budget Funds, and from any other Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

**BACKGROUND**

The current statewide curricula that covers the life and work of labor and environmental organizers, César Chávez and Dolores Huerta, does not adequately cover their rich legacies nor their direct impact on Berkeley. However, new lesson plans developed as part of the "César Chávez Dolores Huerta Tribute Site Curriculum Project" will include both in-class and experiential learning at the tribute site on the waterfront at Berkeley's César Chávez Park. The founders of the curriculum project, Santiago Casal and Beatriz Levy-Cutler, aim to "...honor the equitable relationship, work and words of César and Dolores and others in the farmworker struggle. The synergy of their partnership is what made them highly effective."

Casal and Levy-Cutler plan to apply for the Berkeley Public Schools Fund grant, LEARNING for Equity, which provides \$1,000 - \$15,000 grants to projects focused on addressing systemic oppression through strategic, justice-oriented programming. This funding would allow complete curriculum implementation across Berkeley schools by Spring 2024. The funds provided by Council discretionary budgets, will help provide supplemental compensation for teacher leaders who will utilize summer 2023 to develop prototypes and recruit grade-level teacher consultants. It is in the public interest to donate to this project which serves the fundamental municipal purpose of education.

**FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION**

No General Fund impact. \$250 is available from Mayor Arreguin and Councilmember Harrison's office accounts.

Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds and Co-Sponsorship of the Cesar Chavez Dolores Huerta Tribute Site Curriculum Project

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

July 11, 2023

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

Not applicable.

**CONTACT PERSON**

Councilmember Kate Harrison, (510) 981-7140

Mayor Jesse Arreguín, (510) 981-7100

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution Granting Office Funds for a Municipal Purpose

**RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.**

**CITY SPONSORSHIP OF THE CESAR CHAVEZ DOLORES HUERTA  
TRIBUTE SITE CURRICULUM FOR BERKELEY STUDENTS**

WHEREAS, César Chávez and Dolores Huerta were civil and human rights activists, labor leaders, and environmental justice organizers who dedicated their lives to the earth, to agriculture, and to the farmworkers; and

WHEREAS, the synergy of their partnership and combined legacy uplifts workers across the world; and

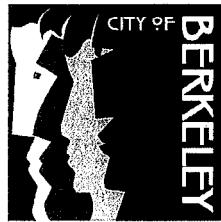
WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley re-named Berkeley's Waterfront Park as César Chávez Park in 1996 and the City of Berkeley supported the creation of a solar calendar at the Park as a tribute to these two social and environmental justice warriors; and

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta is, to this day, a long-standing community advocate and promotes the educational importance of land stewardship; and

WHEREAS, the Chávez/Huerta curriculum will expose students in Berkeley's public schools to the importance of service to the community and to four virtues located in the four directions of the Chávez/Huerta Tribute Site: Hope (East), Determination (South), Courage (West), and Tolerance/Non-Violence (North); and

WHEREAS, the children and students of Berkeley now more than ever need and want to inherit a planet that is safe and sustainable.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by Mayor Arreguín and Councilmember Harrison from their Office budgets of up to \$250 each and from their office budgets of an amount to be determined by other Councilmembers, shall be granted to the Chávez/Huerta Tribute Site Curriculum Project to serve a municipal public purpose.



Office of the Mayor

CONSENT CALENDAR  
July 11, 2023

To: Members of the City Council  
 From: Mayor Jesse Arreguín and Councilmember Sophie Hahn  
 Subject: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds for Chavez/Huerta Tribute Site

**RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of up to \$5,000 from Mayor Arreguín, and any other Councilmembers, to the Kala Art Institute, the fiscal sponsor for the Chavez/Huerta Tribute Site, with funds relinquished from the City's General Fund for the purpose of hiring of grounds keepers and providing the resources needed for the maintenance of the Chavez/Huerta Tribute Site, from the discretionary Council Office Budgets of Mayor Arreguín and any other Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

**BACKGROUND**

The Chavez/Huerta Tribute Site<sup>1</sup>, located at Cesar Chavez Park along Spinnaker Way, is centered around a lush green space overlooking the Bay Area. Instead of a single statue or monument for the farmworker and labor organizer by which the park is named after, the site has intentionally developed a comprehensive urban solar/lunar calendar, along with a quartet of stones engraved with four virtues of the Farmworkers Movement: Determination, Courage, Hope, and Tolerance. The site draws from design concepts in art, astronomy, and architecture found at ancient and indigenous sky observatory sites from around the world. The site seeks to promote an understanding of the Rhythm of the Seasons, the work, life, and values of Cesar E. Chavez and Dolores Huerta, provide an outdoor classroom to study science, math, and culture, and create a space for reflection and peace along the Berkeley shoreline. The site also contains a virtual tour, which can be activated using your mobile device, and a physical, self-explanatory sign to assist visitors with utilizing the solar calendar and position of stones to understand its relationship to solstice and equinox.

A sum of \$5,000 is being sought by the caretakers of the Chavez/Huerta Tribute Site to go towards fees associated with employing gardeners, hauling soil, conducting stone replacement, composting goods, grounds maintenance, upgrading signage, and paying the Kala Art Institute a fiscal agent fee.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://chavezpark.org/cesar-chavez-memorial-solar-calendar/>

Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds for Chavez/Huerta Tribute Site CONSENT CALENDAR  
July 11, 2023

We are proposing that City Councilmembers make individual grants of up to \$1,000 to the Kala Art Institute to help with the upkeep of the Chavez Huerta Tribute site, with work in the next fiscal year to begin in October 2023.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

No General Fund impact; up to \$5,000 available from Mayor Arreguín's Office Budget discretionary accounts.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS**

There are no environmental impacts associated with the recommendations in this report.

**CONTACT PERSON**

Mayor Jesse Arreguín, 510-981-7100

Anthony Rodriguez, Senior Legislative Assistant

**Attachments:**

1: Resolution for Council Expenditures

**RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.**

**AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDUTURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE  
EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS FOR FUNDING  
TOWARDS THE MAINTENANCE OF THE CHAVEZ/HUERTA TRIBUTE SITE, A  
PUBLIC SERVICE FOR A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC PURPOSE**

WHEREAS, Mayor Arreguín has surplus funds in his office expenditure account; and

WHEREAS, a California non-profit tax-exempt corporation, the Kala Art Institute, seeks funds in the amount of \$5,000 to provide maintenance and upkeep for the Chavez/Huerta Tribute Site located at the Cesar Chavez Park along Spinnaker Way; and

WHEREAS, the provision of such services would fulfill the following municipal public purpose of bringing communities across the City, including but not limited to Latine, immigrant, astronomy lovers, historians, youth, and civic communities, together to honor the virtues and contribution of Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta, and others involved in the Farmworkers Movement.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by the Mayor and Councilmembers from their Council Office Budget of up to \$5,000 per office shall be granted to the Kala Art Institute to fund the following services bringing communities across the City, including, but not limited to, Latine, immigrant, astronomy lovers, historians, youth, and civic communities, together to honor the virtues and contribution of Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta, and others involved in the Farmworkers Movement.

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Tsukuru Fors <forfuturefukushima@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 12:41 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** In support of the Resolution (Consent Item #29) Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company and the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

My name is Tsukuru Fors. I am an anti-nuclear/human rights activist based in Los Angeles, California. I grew up in Hiroshima, Japan, and am a graduate of a high school where 350 young lives were brutally taken on August 6, 1945. Spending my formative years surrounded by people who were directly affected by the intergenerational traumas of the atrocity has prompted me to advocate for all victims of nuclear disasters globally in the past and present.

I have been made aware of the recent efforts to discredit a resolution championed by councilmember Kate Harrison to oppose TEPCO/the government of Japan's plan of dumping radioactive wastewater from the crippled Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. In the letter that was addressed to city council members to discourage them from voting yes on the resolution, the recent approval issued by the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) was cited. I felt the need to respond to that.

I am not going to debate the validity of the IAEA report/approval here. Rather, once again I would like to cite the findings published by a board of five experts commissioned by the Pacific Islands Forum. The findings point out that TEPCO has neither done enough due-diligence nor provided enough data to ascertain the safety of the proposed plan.

Among the critical failings with TEPCO's "safety" claim, two things stand out to me. One is their lack of analysis with regards to the transboundary issues. Wastewater released by Japan is not going to stay in and around Japan; therefore, the concerns of neighboring nations such as South Korea, the Philippines, China, and the Pacific Island nations should be seriously considered in the decision-making process. Moreover, the potential risks are not limited to the Asia-Pacific region. A 2012 study found evidence that bluefin tuna had transported radionuclides from Fukushima across the Pacific to California.

The other is the matter of bioaccumulation and bioconcentration. Radionuclides such as Tritium and Strontium 90 can pass various levels of the food chain and be "bio-accumulated." The higher up the food chain, the higher the level of the contamination. In fish like Cod that are relatively high up in the food chain, the concentration can be 2,000-6,000 times higher than the level naturally found in the water. TEPCO's claim does not take into consideration the potential impact of OBT (Organically Bound Tritium) on a human body, either; once it enters the body, OBT can replace water in soft tissues, causing damage to DNA and cell mutations. Because of these failings, experts like Robert H. Richmond, director of the Kewalo Marine Laboratory at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and who is among the board of experts commissioned by the Pacific Islands Forum, are calling the plan "ill-advised" and premature.

Lastly, I would like to appeal to the moral and ethical responsibility that we have, as citizens of the United States, to the people of the Pacific Island nations and future generations worldwide. The question that I want us to ask ourselves is this: should we be treating the oceans as a dumping ground? Haven't the world's oceans been polluted and stressed enough? The people of the Pacific Island nations have been victimized for decades by the nuclear ambitions of more "powerful" nations. For Japan to release wastewater from the damaged

Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant is a gross disregard for their livelihood and ocean way of life. For us, citizens of the United States, not to oppose such a plan is to be complicit in the act of nuclear colonialism.

I was born and raised in Japan but immigrated to the United States of America. I have raised my child here and enjoyed the beaches and the ocean as a resident of California. It is my obligation to do everything in my power to protect the environment and leave it as clean as possible for future generations. I am pleading to you, honorable members of the Berkeley City Council, to act on your conscience and to do your part in being good stewards of our planet.

Sincerely,

Tsukuru Fors

References:

Over 70 percent of Fukushima Waste Water Fails Discharge Limits and Needs More Treatment, Says China's Nuclear Watchdog

[https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3226667/over-70-cent-fukushima-waste-water-fails-discharge-limits-and-needs-more-treatment-says-chinas?fbclid=IwAR3u\\_SqwpBdGgGB-DN8Pm10YYV0d6BVqS0Mm\\_ls5oc30nEFG3Qx9Z5q5GbU](https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3226667/over-70-cent-fukushima-waste-water-fails-discharge-limits-and-needs-more-treatment-says-chinas?fbclid=IwAR3u_SqwpBdGgGB-DN8Pm10YYV0d6BVqS0Mm_ls5oc30nEFG3Qx9Z5q5GbU)

IAEA rubber-stamped release of radioactive Fukushima water without finishing sample analysis

[https://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english\\_edition/e\\_international/1099039.html?fbclid=IwAR3hGihHMmD4wO48ceMW-oiX6lGuQgS1Fa2PULKQ7jfy7\\_kxKx8J28SUhM](https://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english_edition/e_international/1099039.html?fbclid=IwAR3hGihHMmD4wO48ceMW-oiX6lGuQgS1Fa2PULKQ7jfy7_kxKx8J28SUhM)

Statement: Pacific Islands Forum Secretary General Henry Puna on the Fukushima Treated Waste Water

<https://www.forumsec.org/2023/06/26/statement-pacific-islands-forum-secretary-general-henry-puna-on-the-fukushima-treated-nuclear-wastewater/?fbclid=IwAR2ptXiL-kqfTGI7I45n56BukfWjox4xATj3tBRvctvlznLgoQUlfPMpFUo>

**Benado, Tony**

**From:** Phoebe Thomas Sorgen <phoebeso@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 1:01 PM  
**To:** All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office; City Clerk  
**Cc:** Kesarwani, Rashi; Taplin, Terry; Bartlett, Ben; Harrison, Kate; Hahn, Sophie; Wengraf, Susan; Robinson, Rigel; Humbert, Mark  
**Subject:** adopt Res to stop tons of Fukushima radioactive H2O into ocean Tue by Consent please  
**Importance:** High

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Arreguin and members of the Berkeley City Council:

We urge you to adopt the Resolution on consent tomorrow night towards stopping the dangerous release of 1.3 million tons (and counting) of radioactive water from Fukushima into the Pacific. The dangers are proven by hard science, but you need not read the peer-reviewed studies and the pleas from the Pacific Island Forum's independent, international team of scientists, from the government of Korea, etc. It is common sense that releasing that huge amount of nuclear waste water into the ocean, on top of other releases, cannot be in the interest of public health or the Pacific flora/fauna. Keeping it on site is best, and using it to make concrete as recommended by the interdisciplinary experts mentioned above.

As you know, the nuclear industry is extremely powerful and hires skilled marketing professionals, as well as funding biased "think tanks", to maximize profits. Do not be confused by the Breakthrough Institute's profit-driven misstatements of fact. Even the IAEA has been bought out, with promoting nuclear energy being the major part of its mission.

If you have any reservations, about passing the Resolution by consent, please be sure to read this:

<https://streaklinks.com/BkvpGgU3975kGGiwLgvHe0SZ/>  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eRgiRjbUupdDsBdRZmgkLq9ZobWfLv-Cz4K4hzrl4x4%2Fedit>

The Nuclear Free Berkeley Act was adopted by a huge majority of voters. We're still proud of this heritage of defending Life on Earth. The risk hasn't lessened, quite the contrary. May Berkeley's common sense pro-peace and pro-life traditions continue!

Sincerely,

Phoebe Anne Thomas Sorgen (she/they), co-founder Fukushima Response Bay Area

The beautiful land I am grateful to inhabit was the territory of xučyun (Huchiun [Hooch-yoon]), ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo [Cho-chen-yo]-speaking Ohlone [Oh-low-nee] people, ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County. This land is of great importance to Ohlone people. We who care may pay a tax deductible Shuumi Land

Tax:

<https://sogoreate-landtrust.org/donate-update-draft/>

I honor the original inhabitants, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, the Ohlone people who reside here and beyond, and all ancestors and descendants of slavery and attempted genocide. Colonists' descendants still benefit from the occupation of stolen lands and other exploitation. The U.S.'s tragic history is heart-breaking and shameful. Rematriation and extensive reparations are long overdue.

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** David McGuire <sharkfilms@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 5:20 PM  
**To:** Harrison, Kate; All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office; City Clerk  
**Cc:** Contact@berkeleybeacon.com; Dana Ngo  
**Subject:** SUPPORT Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company and the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean.

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Councilwoman Harrison, Mr. Mayor and Berkeley City Council,

As a Berkeley resident and director of an ocean health non profit- Shark Stewards a project of The Earth Island Institute, we support your resolution to oppose the Tokyo Electric Power Company proposal to release contaminated wastewater from Fukushima.

Despite opposition of The Pacific Island Forum scientists, Japanese citizens and neighboring governments, the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) intends to move ahead in discharging thousands of tons of radioactive wastewater into the ocean in coming weeks.

Along with other citizens and non profits we are sharing our voice on behalf of the ocean and ocean health opposing this release.

In care and protection of our ocean, South Korea, other Pacific Islands nations, hundreds of institutions, global NGOs, and thousands of fishers have all risen to the responsibility of creating educational awareness, alternative solutions, and political resolutions to this pivotal decision, as this precedent-setting event approaches over the horizon.

We encourage you to reject the letter sent by industry advocate Breakthru Institute with their specious argument lumping ocean non profits as No Nuke groups, and obfuscating risk of exposure.

We are representing public and environmental health interests, and Tesco's "dilution and dumping solution" instead of available treatment technologies.

Although currents may take 3 or more years to reach us, migratory marine megafauna such as bluefin tuna take less than a year.

Untreated Beta emitting molecules such as tritium pose an internal exposure risk to vertebrates, and potentially impact more than human health, but also coral reefs and Pacific marine life.

Breakthru's statement that "The risk to Berkeley "residents and businesses" is, quite literally, zero," is in direct conflict with the City of Berkeley's global championship of the rights of people and the environment. By adopting the proposed resolution, the California Berkeley City Council can demonstrate its unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship and justice and send a powerful message to decision-makers at all levels.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter. I trust that you will consider the scientific evidence, environmental implications, and the concerns of the global community when casting your vote.

Please feel free to contact me if there is any additional information or support I can provide.

David McGuire, MPH  
 Director, Shark Stewards

Shark Stewards is a project of The Earth Island Institute

**Benado, Tony**

**From:** Torrance Carroll <torrancecarroll@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 4:48 PM  
**To:** All Council; City Clerk; Berkeley Mayor's Office; Taplin, Terry; Bartlett, Ben; Harrison, Kate; Hahn, Sophie; Wengraf, Susan; Robinson, Rigel; Humbert, Mark; Kesarwani, Rashi  
**Subject:** Urgent Support Needed: Resolution Opposing Fukushima Wastewater Discharge

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Jesse Arreguin, Kate Harrison, Rashi Kesarwani, Terry Taplin, Ben Bartlett, Sophie Hahn, Susan Wengraf, Rigel Robinson and Mark Humbert,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for Councilmember Kate Harrison's decision to include the Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company and the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean on tomorrow's agenda at the California Berkeley City Council.

As a concerned citizen who respects and honors representatives sensitive to the needs of our planet, we must act in solidarity with our friends in this crucial matter. Recently, Tokyo Electric Power Company announced its intention to move forward with discharging radioactive wastewater into the ocean in the coming weeks. This development has prompted various groups worldwide to unite and voice their concerns regarding the protection of our oceans.

In caring for and safeguarding our marine ecosystems, countries like Korea, Pacific Islands nations, numerous institutions, global NGOs, and thousands of fishers have assumed the responsibility of creating educational awareness, exploring alternative solutions, and seeking political resolutions. It is against this backdrop that the California Berkeley City Council will be voting on the Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company and the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean.

I urge you to attentively listen to the stories, data, and experiences shared during the Council meeting, as they may shape a better future for our oceans. The Ocean Health Cooperative, among other organizations, will present valuable information that can contribute to informed decision-making.

In light of the gravity of the situation, I recommend that the California Berkeley City Council adopts the Resolution opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) and the government of Japan's plan to discharge wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean. Furthermore, I suggest that copies of this resolution be sent to Secretary Blinken, Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Alex Padilla, and Representative Barbara Lee, in order to raise awareness and garner support at the federal level.

It is crucial to consider the background surrounding this issue. Radioactive contamination from the Fukushima disaster reached California's shores in 2015, and on April 13, 2021, the government of Japan announced TEPCO's plan to release additional wastewater from the Fukushima Plant as soon as Spring of 2023. This proposed discharge raises alarming concerns about the health of our planet and the well-being of future generations. Insufficient due diligence has been conducted to ensure the safety of this action, and numerous experts have argued that TEPCO and the government of Japan are proceeding without a proper understanding of the potential risks involved.

While TEPCO and the government of Japan assert that the wastewater has been treated and poses no environmental or health risks, scientific evidence contradicts their claims. Many marine biologists, marine pollution experts, and scientists have highlighted significant shortcomings in the due diligence process, particularly regarding the "Advanced Liquid Processing System" (ALPS), the filtration system employed at the Fukushima site. This system is incapable of removing all radioactive materials before the release.

Furthermore, in April 2021, three independent human rights experts appointed by the United Nations Human Rights Council expressed their concerns about the impact of the Fukushima Daiichi wastewater dumping on millions of lives and livelihoods in the Pacific region. They emphasized the considerable risks posed to environmental and human rights globally.

It is important to note that on March 6, 2023, the city of West Hollywood passed a resolution opposing TEPCO and the government of Japan's planned discharge of wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. By joining the City of West Hollywood and tens of thousands of concerned citizens worldwide, the City of Berkeley can reaffirm its position as a global environmental leader, committed to protecting our planet's natural resources.

In conclusion, I implore you to support Councilmember Kate Harrison's initiative and take a stand against the planned discharge of wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean. By adopting the proposed resolution, the California Berkeley City Council can demonstrate its unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship and send a powerful message to decision-makers at all levels.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter. I trust that you will consider the scientific evidence, environmental implications, and the concerns of the global community when casting your vote. Please let me know if there is any additional information or support I can provide.

Yours sincerely,

Torrance Carroll  
20 S 2nd St. Unit 227  
San Jose, CA 95113  
torrancecarroll@gmail.com

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Bindu Desai <btdesai@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 8:46 AM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company and the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean  
**Attachments:** BTI Letter to Berkeley City Council-1.pdf

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor/ Council Member,

I recommend that you:

**Adopt a Resolution opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) and the government of Japan's plan to discharge wastewater from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean and send copies of this resolution to Secretary Blinken, Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Alex Padilla, and Representative Barbara Lee. Am attaching a 3 page letter to you from Seaver Wang, PhD. Earth and Ocean Sciences Co-Director, Climate and Energy of **The Breakthrough Institute** [seaver@thebreakthrough.org](mailto:seaver@thebreakthrough.org) which explains the issue in detail.**

In anticipation of your support,

Bindu T Desai MD



July 06, 2023

**To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council**

**From: Dr. Seaver Wang and colleagues at the Breakthrough Institute**

**Subject: We Strongly Oppose Councilmember Harrison's Symbolic and Non-Scientific Proposed Resolution Criticizing the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.**

Any visitor walking along Berkeley's sunny streets will read the same message posted in front of house after house, in window after window: "In this house we believe science is real." With Berkeley hosting one of the nation's proudest public universities and a prestigious National Laboratory, this communal respect for the scientific method and for critical analysis should surprise nobody.

As such, we find it highly disappointing that Councilmember Kate Harrison has recently proposed a new resolution calling for the city of Berkeley to formally oppose Japan's planned discharge of objectively harmless wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.

Councilmember Harrison's resolution grossly overstates the negligible risks posed by the release of treated water from the Fukushima facility. If the average person were to drink 2 liters of water per day directly from the planned Fukushima releases (following desalination) for a full year at the planned upper limit concentration of 40,500 picocuries/liter (1500 bequerels/L)<sup>1</sup>, their total added dose of radiation would be 0.0197 millisieverts (Sv)<sup>2</sup>, the equivalent of less than one-fifth the dose of a medical chest X-ray (0.1 mSv)<sup>3</sup>, and approximately the added radiation exposure from a single 5-hour coast-to-coast airline flight (0.02 mSv).<sup>4</sup> The planned Fukushima release is already around just one-seventh of the World Health Organization's threshold for tritium in drinking water.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> International Atomic Energy Agency. "IAEA Review of Safety Related Aspects of Handling ALPS-Treated Water at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station: Report 5: Review Mission to NRA." 2023.

<sup>2</sup> 730.5 liters × 1500 Bq/L × 1.8E-11 Sv/Bq (dose coefficient for tritium, in Sv/Bq, from *Radiological Aspects*. World Health Organization, 2022. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK579448/>)

<sup>3</sup> Harvard Health. "Radiation Risk from Medical Imaging," September 22, 2010. <https://www.health.harvard.edu/cancer/radiation-risk-from-medical-imaging>.

<sup>4</sup> Friedberg, W; Copeland K (2011). "Ionizing Radiation in Earth's Atmosphere and in Space Near Earth" Civil Aerospace Medical Institute, Federal Aviation Administration, DOT/FAA/AM- 11/9.

<sup>5</sup> "Is Fukushima Wastewater Release Safe? What the Science Says." Nature 618, no. 7967 (June 22, 2023): 894–95. <https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-023-02057-y>.



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Dilution of the Fukushima release by a little over a factor of two would put the release well below the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's threshold for tritium in water of 20,000 pCi/L. Needless to say, the vast Pacific Ocean is approximately 700,000,000,000 times larger in volume than all the stored wastewater at Fukushima, which would in any event only be released gradually over the span of decades. Scientific measurements will struggle to detect any signal from the released water relative to naturally-occurring background radiation in seawater even within a few tens of kilometers of the release. In their final report reviewing the safety of water treated at the Fukushima power plant, the International Atomic Energy Agency determined that the planned release will "have a negligible radiological impact" and is "consistent with relevant international safety standards."<sup>6</sup> My colleagues and I at the Breakthrough Institute would be happy to drink the treated water, if provided, at a future City Council meeting to publicly demonstrate that the water is entirely safe.

By the time any water molecules from the coast of Japan reach the coast of California, a oceanic circulation process requiring around 2-3 years,<sup>7</sup> no scientific instrument on Earth will be able to distinguish any remaining additional radioactivity from the release. Clearly, Councilmember Kate Harrison's claim that the release "could impact millions of lives and livelihoods in the Pacific region" and "imposes considerable risks to environmental and human rights across the globe" amounts to nothing but sheer political theater. The risk to Berkeley "residents and businesses" is, quite literally, zero.

We further note that many of the experts and organizations that Councilmember Harrison has chosen to quote represent explicitly anti-nuclear advocacy groups, including Greenpeace International, Friends of the Earth, and No Nukes Action. These single-mindedly traditionalist activist organizations have remained ideologically opposed to the promise of clean nuclear energy for helping societies worldwide act against climate change. Their critique of the planned Fukushima release is primarily intended to stigmatize nuclear energy. Councilmember Harrison's draft resolution meanwhile ignores a vast array of scientifically rigorous and open-minded researchers, more forward-thinking advocates, and institutions that support clean nuclear power as a critical tool alongside wind, solar, batteries, and other low-carbon energy sources in decarbonizing the global energy system.<sup>8</sup>

In response to Councilmember Harrison's invocation of social justice, we assert that anti-nuclear misinformation represents the far larger and more real injustice faced by Japanese, Asian, and Pacific

<sup>6</sup> International Atomic Energy Agency. "IAEA Finds Japan's Plans to Release Treated Water into the Sea at Fukushima Consistent with International Safety Standards." July 4, 2023. <https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/pressreleases/iaea-finds-japans-plans-to-release-treated-water-into-the-sea-at-fukushima-consistent-with-international-safety-standards>.

<sup>7</sup> "Ocean Surface Currents | Manoa.Hawaii.Edu/ExploringOurFluidEarth." Accessed July 2, 2023. <https://manoa.hawaii.edu/exploringourfluidearth/physical/atmospheric-effects/ocean-surface-currents>.

<sup>8</sup> Build Nuclear Now. "Build Nuclear Now." Accessed July 2, 2023. <https://www.buildnuclearnow.org>.



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peoples because of the exaggerated discourse on the Fukushima water release issue. Anti-nuclear activists, playing to radiation-related historical traumas and vastly inflating the public health and environmental risks posed by the release, have inflicted and continue to inflict undue anxiety upon communities across the Asia-Pacific, while threatening economic harm to the peoples of Fukushima, Miyagi, and Ibaraki Prefectures in Japan. These organizations would celebrate the shutdown of nuclear power stations across Asia, even if this prolongs the continued operation of fossil fuel power plants that contribute to climate change and would directly sicken more Japanese, Korean, or Taiwanese people from air pollution.

We strongly urge the other members of the Berkeley City Council to reject Councilmember Harrison's empty resolution in the most forceful terms. And we rebuke Councilmember Harrison for occupying the city's public agenda with a resolution that is at best political grandstanding, and at worst environmentally counterproductive and harmful to social justice.

Sincerely yours,

**Seaver Wang, PhD. Earth and Ocean Sciences  
Co-Director, Climate and Energy  
The Breakthrough Institute  
[seaver@thebreakthrough.org](mailto:seaver@thebreakthrough.org)**

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**[info@thebreakthrough.org](mailto:info@thebreakthrough.org)  
[www.thebreakthrough.org](http://www.thebreakthrough.org)**

**Benado, Tony**

**From:** Eva Frye <eva@twohandsbrands.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 8:37 AM  
**To:** All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office; City Clerk; Kesarwani, Rashi; Taplin, Terry; Bartlett, Ben; Harrison, Kate; Hahn, Sophie; Wengraf, Susan; Robinson, Rigel; Humbert, Mark; Phoebe Thomas Sorgen; Dana Ngo; david mcguire; Mico Malecki; Chizu Hamada; J. George Lippman; gmorizawa@yahoo.com morizawa  
**Subject:** Support for Kate Harrison's Fukushima Opposition

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Dear Mayor Arreguin and members of the Berkeley City Council:

I am writing to express my strong support for councilmember Kate Harrison's Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) and the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean on today's agenda at Berkeley City Council.

#### **Untrustworthy players**

As we know, the Fukushima incident was preventable, but happened due to bad decisions and poor leadership (all you have to do is google "was Fukushima preventable" to see the multitud of evidence). Sadly, in more than a decade since, TEPCO has still not changed. In the 18 months that the expert panel has reviewed TEPCO's data, they've been disturbed by the poor data collection methods, data that don't line up with science, and obfuscation by the authorities.

Unfortunately, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) both promotes nuclear energy, and is its own watchdog. An inherent conflict of interests. Also, about 10% of the IAEA's operating budget comes from Japan (and did in 2021, see page 131). So the IAEA cannot be trusted to be unbiased in this case.

#### **Outdated safety standards**

As we have worked directly with the third panel party of experts, they keep hammering this home: the safety standards are not in line with the latest science. The IAEA's safety standards for tritium don't make a distinction between men and women, there is one estimate for generic "adults" which shows its safety standards are also discriminatory against women, AND the most recent data and research they cite is from 2004, nearly twenty years ago. Yet we know that women and children are more sensitive to the effects of radiation. US drinking water's standard limit was set without detailed assessment of what it would take to protect the embryo or the fetus, especially in the first trimester.

#### **Common sense, safer alternatives**

The scientific community agrees—we cannot keep dumping waste in our environment. Especially when, in TEPCO's case, the waste can be made into cement, safely stored, and actually used for ongoing construction on-site. We must follow the Precautionary Principle. This is such a no brainer, it hurts.

Many parts of the US and California look to Berkeley as a shining example of how to push past outdated view, laws, and science, as Berkeley shepherds in progressive laws and policies that the rest of California follows.

I trust that you'll vote to uphold public and environmental health and safety in this case.

Here is more reference material from the expert panel.

Thank you for your time, and important work.

Eva

**Eva Frye**  
Founder  
Peep our new reel!  
twohandsbrands.com



**Benado, Tony**

**From:** Yuka Saito <sensory.awareness.japan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 1:25 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** Opposition to the Release of Contaminated Water from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Arreguin and members of the Berkeley City Council,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the proposed release of contaminated water from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant into the Pacific Ocean. As a concerned citizen of Berkeley, I believe it is crucial for our city to take a stand against this decision and protect the health and environment of our coastal waters.

The Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, as you are aware, experienced a catastrophic meltdown following the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. The resulting contamination of water in the plant's storage tanks has posed an ongoing challenge for the Japanese government. However, I firmly believe that releasing this contaminated water into the ocean will have severe health and environmental consequences, not only for Japan but also for coastal regions as far away as California.

First and foremost, the release of contaminated water into the ocean poses significant health risks to marine life and human populations. Radioactive isotopes such as tritium, cesium, and strontium are known to accumulate in seafood, which could eventually find its way into our food chain. Studies have shown that exposure to these isotopes can lead to various health issues, including an increased risk of cancer, genetic mutations, and developmental abnormalities.

Furthermore, the marine ecosystem in the California coastal waters, which is already vulnerable to numerous environmental threats, would be significantly impacted by the release of contaminated water. The potential ecological damage cannot be underestimated, as radioactive isotopes could harm marine organisms, disrupt the delicate balance of ecosystems, and have far-reaching consequences for the health of our oceans.

Safer alternatives exist, including safe storage and radioactive decay, bioremediation, and use of treated water to make concrete for special applications (the latter option has been proposed by the Independent Expert Panel to the Pacific Islands Forum. Their paper is available at <https://cafethorium.whoi.edu/concrete-option/>).

As a city known for its commitment to environmental stewardship and public health, I urge the Berkeley City Council to take a principled stance against the release of contaminated water from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant. I kindly request that the Council pass a resolution or issue a statement expressing our opposition to this proposal. I believe it is our moral obligation to protect the well-being of our coastal waters, marine life, and the health of our community.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I trust that you will carefully consider the potential risks and ramifications of releasing contaminated water from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant. Your decisive action would not only safeguard our environment but also set an example for other communities to follow.

Yours sincerely,

Yuka Saito

**Benado, Tony**

---

**From:** Laura Feldman <feldman.le@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 12:23 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** Re: Opposition to TEPCOs plan to dump radioactive wastewater into the Pacific ocean

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Arreguin and City Council members,

I live in Portland, Oregon, downriver from the Hanford Nuclear Weapons site, and I know that dumping Fukushima wastes into the Pacific for the next 30 plus years would be a tragic mistake.

Please support this resolution  
To oppose this plan.

The ocean is life.

Respectfully,  
Laura Feldman

**Benado, Tony**

---

**From:** Linda <iroman@mindspring.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 2:55 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** Waste water from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to urge you to oppose Japan's discharge of 1.3 million tons of radioactive waste into the Pacific Ocean. It is absolutely false that such a "dump" poses no risk to public health, human, animal and vegetal. It is also untrue that the resultant radioactivity will not reach our coast. Much of the detritus from the tsunami and implosion of the power plant landed along the California coast. The same will happen if the huge amount of toxic water is dumped.

I hope you will adopt the Resolution on Consent tomorrow night toward stopping this dangerous release. I hope you will not be swayed by the Breakthrough Institute's bogus science on this question. This plan by the Japanese Government puts the Nuclear Free Berkeley Act in jeopardy.

Thank you for your attention to this very serious situation.

Sincerely,

Linda Roman,

734 Walker Avenue, Oakland, CA, iroman@mindspring.com

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Liz Taylor <liz@doermarine.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 3:08 PM  
**To:** All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office; City Clerk  
**Subject:** support for resolution

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon

I'm writing to support a vote FOR *the Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company and the government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean* that the council is considering at today's meeting.

We now know that dilution is not the solution to pollution. Rather, releasing this water will fundamentally change ocean chemistry, both locally and across the Pacific as waste water is carried via currents. Following the tsunami and initial disaster, radioactivity was detected in the flesh of tuna caught in California waters. Large fishes bio-accumulate things like PCBs, mercury, and radiation making their way back to humans when consumed. We already have a number of precautionary warnings on fish/shellfish consumption – it seems madness to dump this water, laden with persistent radioactive isotopes, into our food web.

I'd like to encourage more collaboration between our excellent scientific minds at CAL and those in Japan to find enduring solutions to cleaning up water contaminated by human activities around the world. Water, and fresh drinking water in particular, is a finite resource. Why not put all best efforts into developing methods to separate and sequester contaminates from water such that it can be returned to the environment without causing damage to wildlife and human health?

Thanks for your time and attention

Liz Taylor  
Alameda CA

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Jacqueline Cabasso <wslf@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 3:23 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Cc:** Elgstrand, Stefan; Arreguin, Jesse L.  
**Subject:** IN SUPPORT OF Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company and the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean  
**Attachments:** WSLF letter to Berkeley City Council.docx

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**Western States Legal Foundation**  
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Oakland, CA 94612  
(510) 839-5877 • [www.wslfweb.org](http://www.wslfweb.org)

---

July 11, 2023

**Dear Mayor Arreguin and members of the Berkeley City Council,**

Western States Legal Foundation, based in Oakland, is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization established in 1982 to provide legal support for nonviolent protesters challenging the construction of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. While our efforts over the years have focused primarily on advocacy for the elimination of nuclear weapons, we remain firmly opposed to nuclear power for many reasons. The ongoing dire situation at Fukushima Daiichi is one of them.

**We write in support of Council member Kate Harrison's "Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company and the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean."<sup>[i]</sup>**

The Japanese Government and TEPCO (Tokyo Electric Power Company) are planning to discharge over 1.3 million tons of treated water from the Advanced Liquid Processing System stored in tanks on the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant site into the Pacific Ocean for more than 40 years, starting as soon as this summer. As a result, dangerous radionuclides could flow across the ocean to Russia, Alaska, Canada, Hawaii, and the U.S. West Coast.

There is no precedent in Japan or any other country for a "disposal method" such as "treating" a large amount of radioactively contaminated water generated from contact with molten fuel debris at a nuclear reactor after a severe accident. There is no previous experience in diluting such water with an even more enormous amount of seawater, then systematically releasing it into the ocean over several decades. This treated water will contain more than 60 radionuclides, including carbon-14, cesium-137 and strontium-90, which the Advanced Liquid Processing System cannot altogether remove.

Intentionally discharging radioactive water into the ocean is contrary to the intent of the London Convention and London Protocol, to which Japan is a party.<sup>[iii]</sup> Such a discharge also violates the human rights of people not only in Japan but also in many other countries that share the Pacific Ocean. UN Special Rapporteurs have expressed concern that this decision could threaten human health and the environment.<sup>[iii]</sup>

The Pacific Islands Forum, a regional bloc of 18 island nations, has raised concerns about the release of the radioactively contaminated water, including its impact on fisheries. **Just today**, at a meeting held in the Cook Islands between Pacific Island leaders and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Rafael Grossi, Cook Islands Prime Minister Mark Brown told the participants that the Pacific's nuclear testing legacy continues to affect its people and ocean, eight decades on.<sup>[iv]</sup> The dumping of massive quantities of radioactive water into the ocean would add insult to injury.

In December 2022, the U.S. National Association of Marine Laboratories, an association of over 100 laboratories, issued a Position Paper titled, “Scientific opposition to Japan’s planned release of over 1.3 million tons of radioactively contaminated water from the Fukushima-Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant disaster into the Pacific Ocean.” The statement begins:

“The National Association of Marine Laboratories (NAML), an organization of more than 100 member laboratories, opposes Japan’s plans to begin releasing over 1.3 million tons of radioactively contaminated water from the Fukushima-Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean commencing in 2023. This opposition is based on the fact that there is a lack of adequate and accurate scientific data supporting Japan’s assertion of safety. Furthermore, there is an abundance of data demonstrating serious concerns about releasing radioactively contaminated water.”

The statement concludes with a rational, scientifically responsible recommendation:

“We urge the Government of Japan to stop pursuing their planned and precedent-setting release of the radioactively contaminated water into the Pacific Ocean and to work with the broader scientific community to pursue other approaches that protect ocean life; human health; and those communities who depend on ecologically, economically, and culturally valuable marine resources.”<sup>[v]</sup>

We agree with this recommendation and urge the Berkeley City Council to go on record against Japan’s planned release of radioactively contaminated water into the Pacific Ocean.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Jacqueline Cabasso, Executive Director, Western States Legal Foundation**

Sent from Mail for Windows

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<sup>[ii]</sup> [2023-07-11 Item 29 Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric.pdf \(berkeleyca.gov\)](#)

**Western States Legal Foundation**

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---

July 11, 2023

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**We write in support of Council member Kate Harrison's "Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company and the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean."<sup>1</sup>**

The Japanese Government and TEPCO (Tokyo Electric Power Company) are planning to discharge over 1.3 million tons of treated water from the Advanced Liquid Processing System stored in tanks on the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant site into the Pacific Ocean for more than 40 years, starting as soon as this summer. As a result, dangerous radionuclides could flow across the ocean to Russia, Alaska, Canada, Hawaii, and the U.S. West Coast.

There is no precedent in Japan or any other country for a "disposal method" such as "treating" a large amount of radioactively contaminated water generated from contact with molten fuel debris at a nuclear reactor after a severe accident. There is no previous experience in diluting such water with an even more enormous amount of seawater, then systematically releasing it into the ocean over several decades. This treated water will contain more than 60 radionuclides, including carbon-14, cesium-137 and strontium-90, which the Advanced Liquid Processing System cannot altogether remove.

Intentionally discharging radioactive water into the ocean is contrary to the intent of the London Convention and London Protocol, to which Japan is a party.<sup>2</sup> Such a discharge also violates the human rights of people not only in Japan but also in many other countries that share the Pacific Ocean. UN Special Rapporteurs have expressed concern that this decision could threaten human health and the environment.<sup>3</sup>

The Pacific Islands Forum, a regional bloc of 18 island nations, has raised concerns about the release of the radioactively contaminated water, including its impact on fisheries. **Just today**, at a meeting held in the Cook Islands between Pacific Island leaders and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Rafael Grossi, Cook Islands Prime Minister Mark

Brown told the participants that the Pacific's nuclear testing legacy continues to affect its people and ocean, eight decades on.<sup>4</sup> The dumping of massive quantities of radioactive water into the ocean would add insult to injury.

In December 2022, the U.S. National Association of Marine Laboratories, an association of over 100 laboratories, issued a Position Paper titled, "Scientific opposition to Japan's planned release of over 1.3 million tons of radioactively contaminated water from the Fukushima-Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant disaster into the Pacific Ocean." The statement begins:

"The National Association of Marine Laboratories (NAML), an organization of more than 100 member laboratories, opposes Japan's plans to begin releasing over 1.3 million tons of radioactively contaminated water from the Fukushima-Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean commencing in 2023. This opposition is based on the fact that there is a lack of adequate and accurate scientific data supporting Japan's assertion of safety. Furthermore, there is an abundance of data demonstrating serious concerns about releasing radioactively contaminated water."

The statement concludes with a rational, scientifically responsible recommendation:

"We urge the Government of Japan to stop pursuing their planned and precedent-setting release of the radioactively contaminated water into the Pacific Ocean and to work with the broader scientific community to pursue other approaches that protect ocean life; human health; and those communities who depend on ecologically, economically, and culturally valuable marine resources."<sup>5</sup>

We agree with this recommendation and urge the Berkeley City Council to go on record against Japan's planned release of radioactively contaminated water into the Pacific Ocean.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Jacqueline Cabasso, Executive Director, Western States Legal Foundation**

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<sup>1</sup> [2023-07-11 Item 29 Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric.pdf \(berkeleyca.gov\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Ocean Dumping: International Treaties | US EPA](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Japan: UN experts 'deeply disappointed' by decision to discharge Fukushima water | UN News](#)

<sup>4</sup> [UN nuclear watchdog briefs Pacific Islands amid Fukushima water discharge concern \(msn.com\)](#)

<sup>5</sup> [2022-12 Position Paper: Release of Radioactively Contaminated Water into the Ocean \(naml.org\)](#)

**Benado, Tony**

**From:** Cross Pollinators <cross.pollinators@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 8:21 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** Opposition to the Release of Contaminated Water from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Arreguin and members of the Berkeley City Council,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the proposed release of contaminated water from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant into the Pacific Ocean. As a concerned citizen of Berkeley, I believe it is crucial for our city to take a stand against this decision and protect the health and environment of our coastal waters.

The Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, as you are aware, experienced a catastrophic meltdown following the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. The resulting contamination of water in the plant's storage tanks has posed an ongoing challenge for the Japanese government. However, I firmly believe that releasing this contaminated water into the ocean will have severe health and environmental consequences, not only for Japan but also for coastal regions as far away as California.

First and foremost, the release of contaminated water into the ocean poses significant health risks to marine life and human populations. Radioactive isotopes such as tritium, cesium, and strontium are known to accumulate in seafood, which could eventually find its way into our food chain. Studies have shown that exposure to these isotopes can lead to various health issues, including an increased risk of cancer, genetic mutations, and developmental abnormalities.

Furthermore, the marine ecosystem in the California coastal waters, which is already vulnerable to numerous environmental threats, would be significantly impacted by the release of contaminated water. The potential ecological damage cannot be underestimated, as radioactive isotopes could harm marine organisms, disrupt the delicate balance of ecosystems, and have far-reaching consequences for the health of our oceans.

Safer alternatives exist, including safe storage and radioactive decay, bioremediation, and use of treated water to make concrete for special applications (the latter option has been proposed by the Independent Expert Panel to the Pacific Islands Forum. Their paper is available at <https://cafethorium.whoi.edu/concrete-option/>).

As a city known for its commitment to environmental stewardship and public health, I urge the Berkeley City Council to take a principled stance against the release of contaminated water from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant. I kindly request that the Council pass a resolution or issue a statement expressing our opposition to this proposal. I believe it is our moral obligation to protect the well-being of our coastal waters, marine life, and the health of our community.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I trust that you will carefully consider the potential risks and ramifications of releasing contaminated water from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant. Your decisive action would not only safeguard our environment but also set an example for other communities to follow.

Yours sincerely,

Eri Tomita

A former resident of Berkeley and a current resident of Osaka, Japan

Eri Suzuki Tomita 富田（鈴木）栄里 *Cross Pollinator*

[cross.pollinators@gmail.com](mailto:cross.pollinators@gmail.com)

<https://www.crosspollinators.org/ia/>

☆ Tokyo Urban Permaculture 東京アーバンパーマカルチャー Advisor team <http://www.tokyourbanpermaculture.com/>

☆ Edible Media 代表 <http://edible-media.com/>

☆ Edible Schoolyard Japan エディブルスクールヤードジャパン チーフアンバサダー <http://www.edibleschoolyard-japan.org/>

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Hasegawa Reiko <soundofjade@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 11:00 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** Opposition to the Release of Contaminated Water from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Reiko Hasegawa  
6424 Regent st  
Oakland, CA 94618

7/11/2023

Berkeley City Council  
2180 Milvia Street  
Berkeley, CA 94704

Dear Mayor Arreguin and members of the Berkeley City Council,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the proposed release of contaminated water from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant into the Pacific Ocean. As a concerned citizen of Berkeley, I believe it is crucial for our city to take a stand against this decision and protect the health and environment of our coastal waters.

The Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, as you are aware, experienced a catastrophic meltdown following the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. The resulting contamination of water in the plant's storage tanks has posed an ongoing challenge for the Japanese government. However, I firmly believe that releasing this contaminated water into the ocean will have severe health and environmental consequences, not only for Japan but also for coastal regions as far away as California.

First and foremost, the release of contaminated water into the ocean poses significant health risks to marine life and human populations. Radioactive isotopes such as tritium, cesium, and strontium are known to accumulate in seafood, which could eventually find its way into our food chain. Studies have shown that exposure to these isotopes can lead to various health issues, including an increased risk of cancer, genetic mutations, and developmental abnormalities.

Furthermore, the marine ecosystem in the California coastal waters, which is already vulnerable to numerous environmental threats, would be significantly impacted by the release of contaminated water. The potential ecological damage cannot be underestimated, as radioactive isotopes could harm marine organisms, disrupt the delicate balance of ecosystems, and have far-reaching consequences for the health of our oceans.

Safer alternatives exist, including safe storage and radioactive decay, bioremediation, and use of treated water to make concrete for special applications (the latter option has been proposed by the Independent Expert Panel to the Pacific Islands Forum. Their paper is available at <https://cafethorium.whoi.edu/concrete-option/>).

As a city known for its commitment to environmental stewardship and public health, I urge the Berkeley City Council to take a principled stance against the release of contaminated water from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant. I kindly request that the Council pass a resolution or issue a statement expressing our opposition to this proposal. I believe it is our moral obligation to protect the well-being of our coastal waters, marine life, and the health of our community.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I trust that you will carefully consider the potential risks and ramifications of releasing contaminated water from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant. Your decisive action would not only safeguard our environment but also set an example for other communities to follow.

Yours sincerely,

Reiko Hasegawa

Sent from my iPhone

**Benado, Tony**

**From:** Dezz <earthtodezz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 4:52 PM  
**To:** All Council; Berkeley Mayor's Office; City Clerk  
**Subject:** Protecting Our Ocean and Local Water

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Jesse Arreguin, Kate Harrison, Rashi Kesarwani, Terry Taplin, Ben Bartlett, Sophie Hahn, Susan Wengraf, Rigel Robinson, and Mark Humbert,

I hope you're all doing well. I'm reaching out to express my enthusiastic support for Councilmember Kate Harrison's decision to include the Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company and the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean on today's agenda at the California Berkeley City Council.

As a concerned citizen who deeply values representatives who prioritize our planet's well-being, I believe it's crucial for us to stand united on this important matter. Tokyo Electric Power Company recently made public its intention to release radioactive wastewater into the ocean in the coming weeks. This announcement has sparked global concern and mobilized various groups worldwide to voice their apprehensions regarding the preservation of our precious oceans.

Numerous countries, such as Korea and Pacific Islands nations, along with countless institutions, global NGOs, and dedicated fishers, have taken it upon themselves to raise awareness, explore alternative solutions, and pursue political avenues to safeguard our marine ecosystems. Against this backdrop, the California Berkeley City Council will soon vote on the Resolution Opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company and the Government of Japan's Planned Discharge of Wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean.

I implore each of you to attentively listen to the stories, data, and experiences that will be shared during the Council meeting, as they hold the potential to shape a brighter future for our oceans. The Ocean Health Cooperative, among other esteemed organizations, will provide valuable insights that can contribute to informed decision-making.

Considering the gravity of the situation, I wholeheartedly recommend that the California Berkeley City Council embraces the Resolution opposing Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) and the government of Japan's proposed release of wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean. Furthermore, I propose that copies of this resolution be sent to Secretary Blinken, Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Alex Padilla, and Representative Barbara Lee to raise awareness and garner support at the federal level.

It is of utmost importance to consider the context surrounding this issue. Back in 2015, radioactive contamination from the Fukushima disaster reached California's shores, and on April 13, 2021, the government of Japan announced TEPCO's plan to discharge additional wastewater from the Fukushima Plant as early as Spring of 2023. This planned release raises serious concerns about the health of our planet and the well-being of future generations. Insufficient due diligence has been undertaken to ensure the safety of this action, and numerous experts argue that TEPCO and the government of Japan are proceeding without a comprehensive understanding of the potential risks involved.

While TEPCO and the government of Japan maintain that the wastewater has been adequately treated and poses no environmental or health risks, scientific evidence contradicts their claims. Marine biologists, marine pollution experts, and scientists have highlighted significant deficiencies in the due diligence process, particularly regarding the effectiveness of the "Advanced Liquid Processing System" (ALPS), the filtration system employed at the Fukushima site. Regrettably, this system falls short in its ability to remove all radioactive materials before releasing the wastewater.

Furthermore, in April 2021, three independent human rights experts appointed by the United Nations Human Rights Council expressed their concerns about the impact of the Fukushima Daiichi wastewater dumping on millions of lives and livelihoods in the Pacific region. They emphasized the substantial risks this poses to global environmental and human rights.

It's worth mentioning that on March 6, 2023, the city of West Hollywood passed a resolution opposing TEPCO and the government of Japan's intended discharge of wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. By aligning with the City of West Hollywood and joining the ranks of tens of thousands of concerned citizens worldwide, the City of Berkeley can reassert its position as a leading global environmental advocate, fully committed to preserving our planet's invaluable resources.

In conclusion, I implore each of you to support Councilmember Kate Harrison's initiative and take a firm stance against the planned discharge of wastewater from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean. By adopting the proposed resolution, the California Berkeley City Council can showcase its unwavering dedication to environmental stewardship and send a resounding message to decision-makers at all levels.

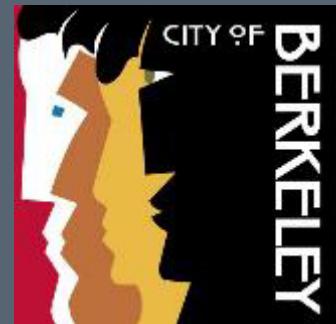
Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter. I trust that you will conscientiously weigh the scientific evidence, environmental implications, and concerns of the global community when casting your vote. Please do not hesitate to reach out if there's any additional information or support I can provide.

Yours sincerely,

Desiree McGill

# State Law and Technical Edits

Zoning Ordinance amendments to conform to State law relating to special needs housing, employment housing and parking; and non-substantive technical corrections



# Agenda

---

1. State Laws
2. Technical edits
3. Recommendation

# State Law – Updates

## State Laws related to housing

- Household
- AB139 & AB2399 – Emergency Shelter

- AB101 – Low Barrier Navigation Center
- SB2 & SB745 – Transitional and Supportive Housing
- Lanterman Act – Residential Care

- Employee Housing Act
- SB234 – Supportive Child Care Family Home

**Glossary Definitions**

**Allowed Use Tables**

**Specific Use Requirements**

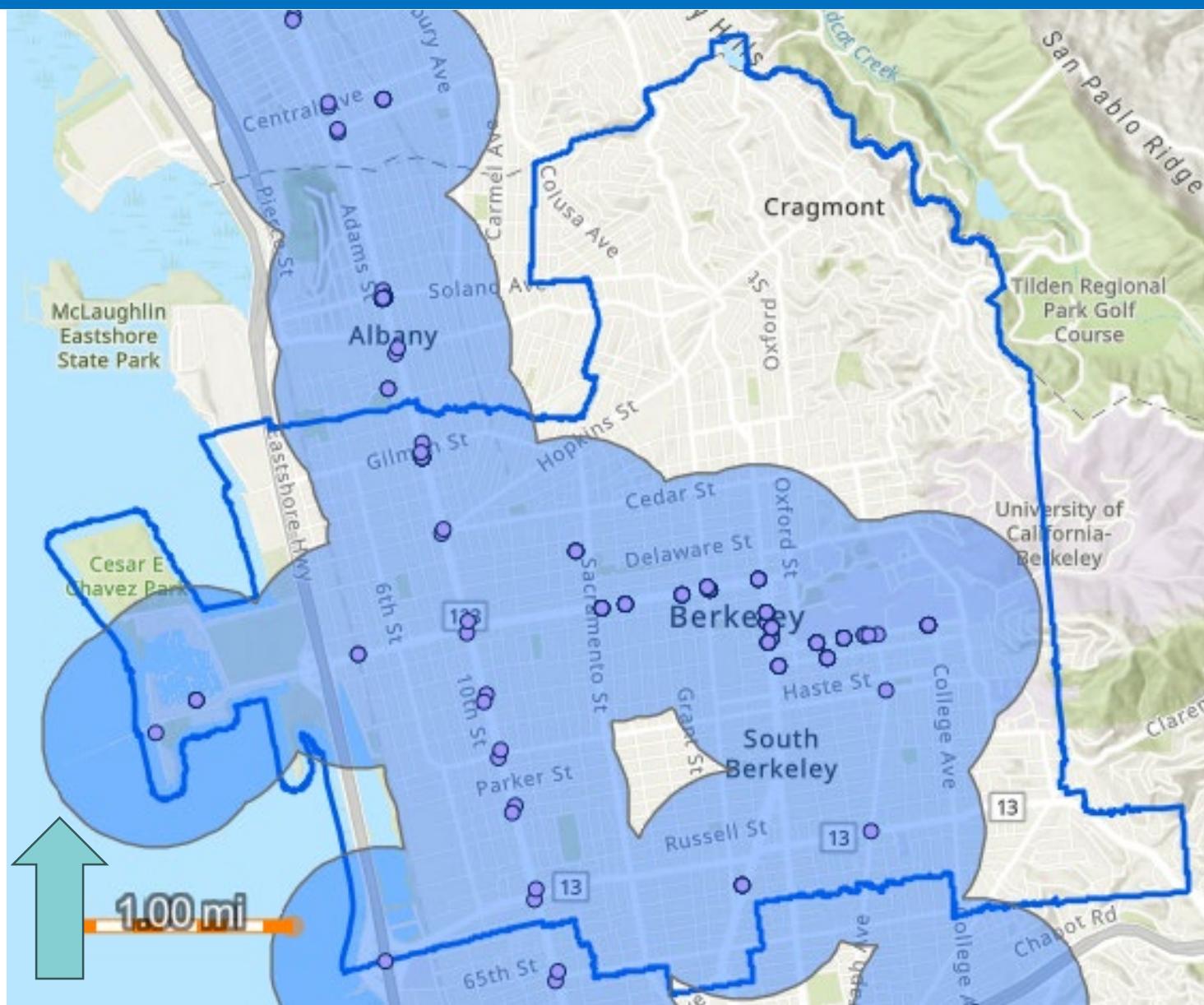
# AB2097 – Minimum parking requirements

Prohibits the City from imposing a minimum off-street automobile parking requirement on most development projects in any zoning district located within ½ mile of a high-quality transit stop.

## Summary of Proposed Changes

- Update required parking applicability to exclude new uses or enlargement or intensification of existing uses, located within ½ mile of a high quality transit stop

# AB2097



## Legend

CoB\_Boundary



CoBMask



CA HQ Transit Stops



Half mile buffer high quality transit stop - BufferedFeatures



# Non-Substantive Technical Edits

**Technical edits are related to the City's effort to replace and update the Berkeley Municipal Code**

**Public, Staff and Zoning Officer**



**Text Errors and Text Omissions**



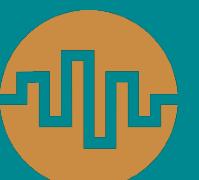
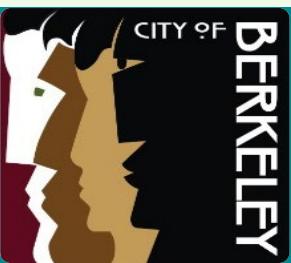
**Staff Review**



**Proposed Zoning Amendments**

# Staff Shortages: City Services Constrained by Staff Retention Challenges and Delayed Hiring

Berkeley City Council Meeting  
July 11, 2023



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# Staff Shortages: City Services Constrained by Staff Retention Challenges and Delayed Hiring

## Overview

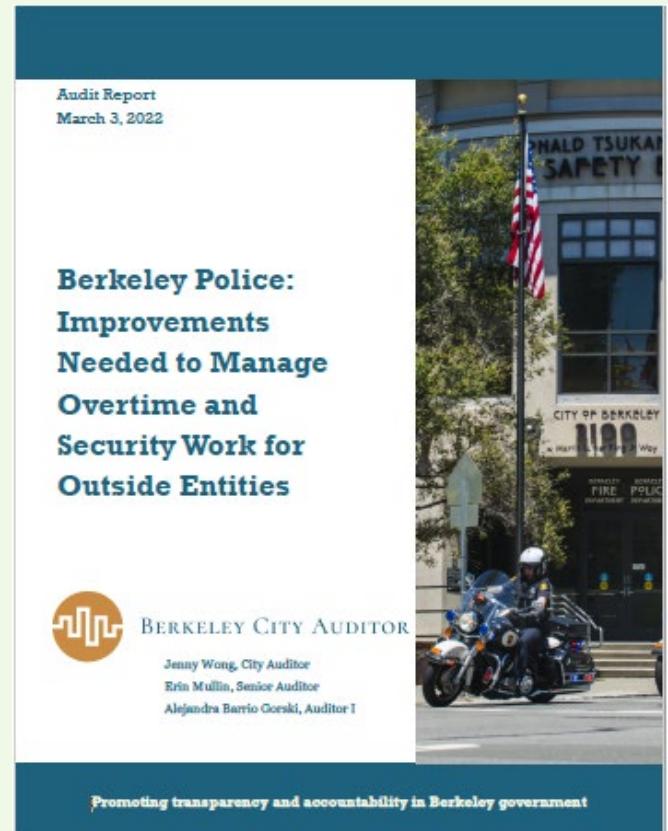
- Why we did this audit
- Objectives
- Findings
- Recommendations
- Management response



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# Why we did this audit:

- Staff shortages and employee retention issues in past audits.
- City staffing challenges impact almost everyone who lives in, works in, or visits Berkeley.
- Retaining employees is important in light of outside factors: increased retirements, Great Resignation.



An audit of police overtime found issues with vacancies in the Police department.



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# Objectives, Scope, Methodology:

## Objectives:

1. How do staff shortages affect city services?
2. What is the state of employee satisfaction?
3. What internal factors affect the City's ability to fill vacancies?
4. How does telework affect the City's ability to retain employees?
5. How does the City use data to address staff shortages?

**Scope:** Audit period of FY 2018 – FY 2022

## Methodology:

- Analyzed available employee data
- Satisfaction survey (current employees)
- Exit survey (former employees)
- Interviewed all department directors
- Met with union representatives
- Reviewed best practices, data from other cities

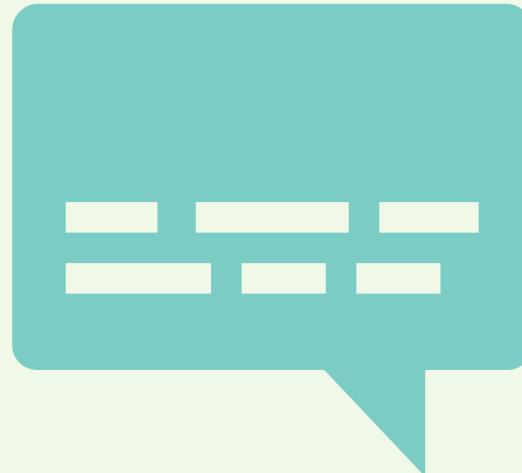


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## High Response Rate for Employee Surveys:

Satisfaction survey of **2,094 active** employees: **771 responses (37%)**

Exit survey of **495 former** employees: **142 responses (29%)**



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# What we found:

## **Finding 1: Staff shortages constrained city services.**

Finding 2: Some surveyed employees reported dissatisfaction and many have contemplated leaving.

Finding 3: Instability in Human Resources delayed hiring and impacted internal services.

Finding 4: Telework can benefit the City but the current policy is limited.

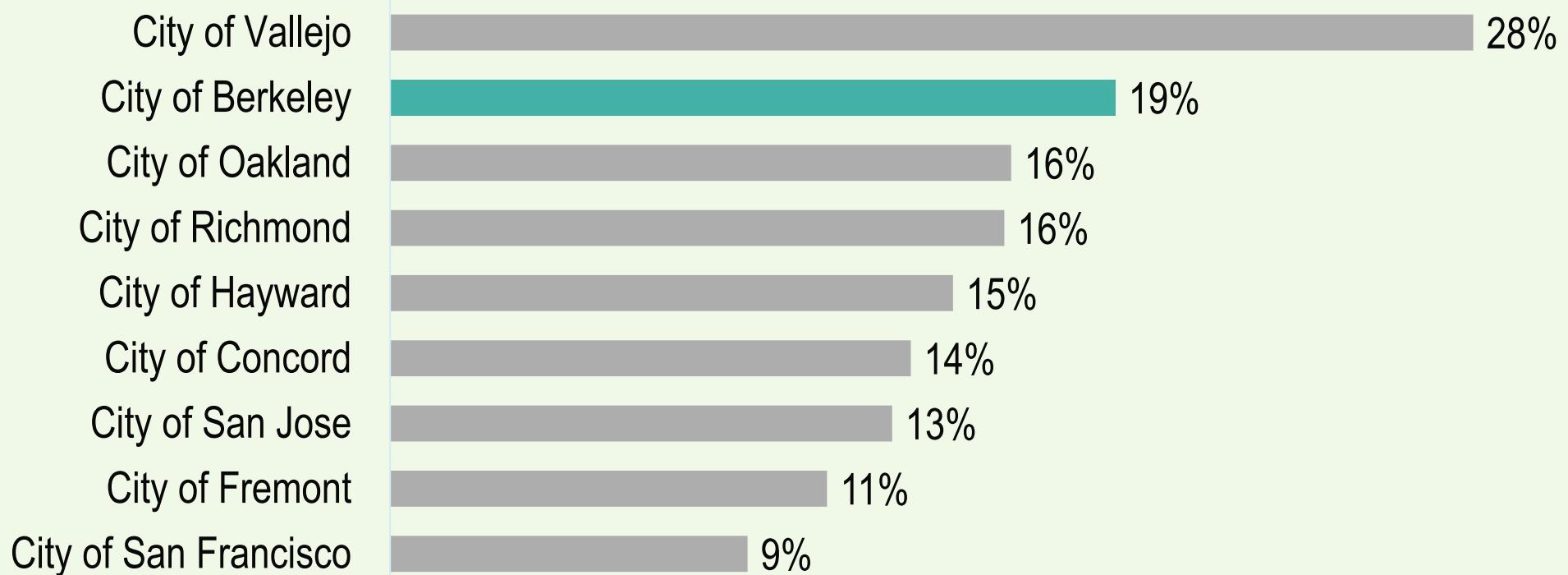
Finding 5: The City lacked reliable data to address staff shortages.



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# Berkeley's high vacancy rate reflected staff shortages.

Berkeley had the second highest vacancy rate compared to other Bay Area cities in 2022.



Source: City of Berkeley, City of San Francisco Human Resources, City of Oakland Human Resources. See page 7 of the report for more details.



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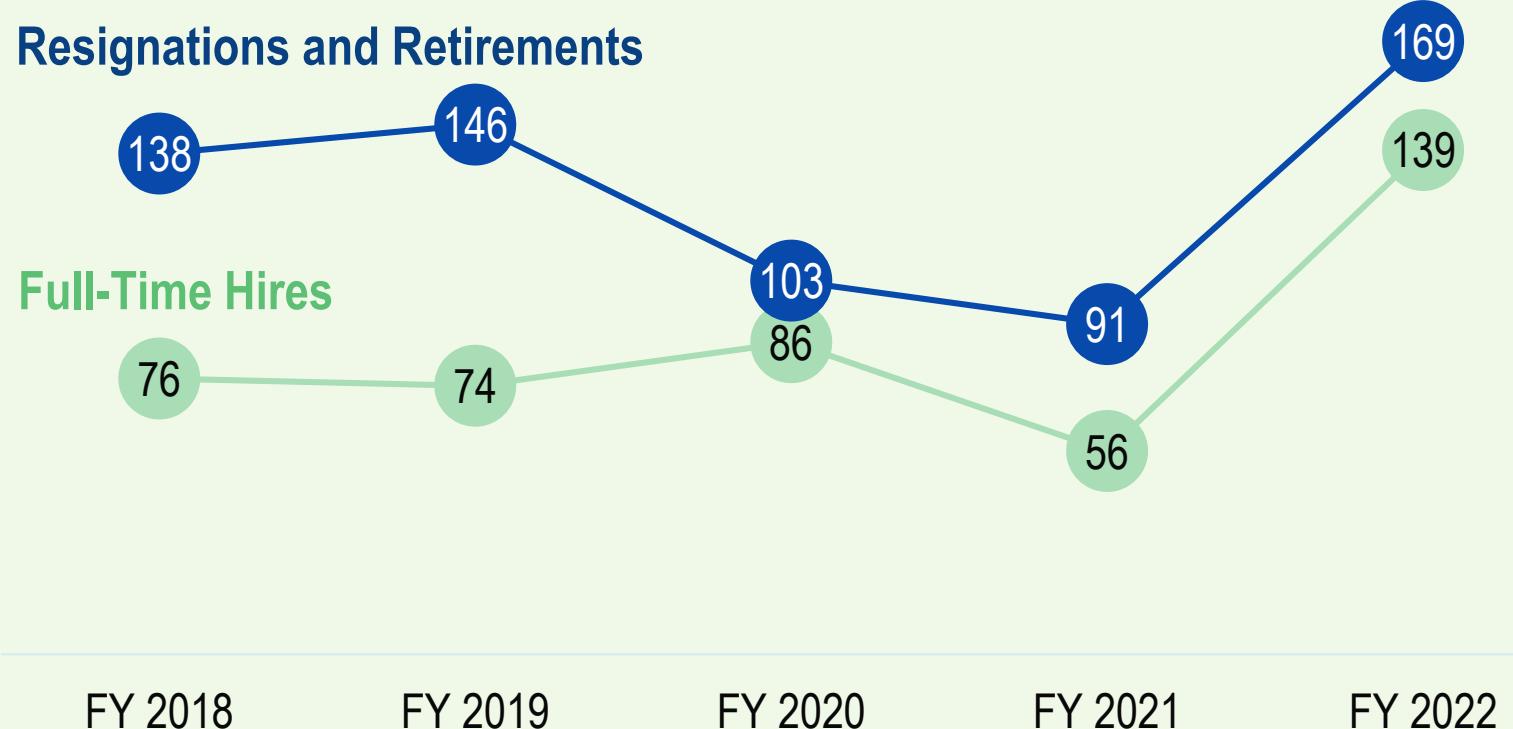
# Berkeley's high vacancy rate reflected staff shortages.

The City did not hire enough employees to address the gap between voluntary separations (resignations and retirements), and new hires.

\*Update: Hiring has exceeded separations every month since January 2023

**Resignations and retirements outpaced full-time hires during the audit period.**

## Resignations and Retirements



Source: ERMA, FUND\$, and NEOGOV. See page 8 of the report for more details.



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**Staff shortages impaired services to the community and the City lacked a clear retention strategy.**



### **Staff shortages impacted city services.**

- Reduced services or hours of operation at clinics and senior centers.
- Temporary closures of some fire stations and increases in mandatory overtime.
- Increased risk of overpayments, missed payments, or fraud.



### **The City also lacked a clear and data-driven retention strategy during the audit period.**

- Lack of clarity around strategy to reach strategic plan goal to attract and retain a talented and diverse city government workforce.
- No analysis of staffing levels for successful operations and services.



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# What we found:

Finding 1: Staff shortages constrained city services.

**Finding 2: Some surveyed employees reported dissatisfaction and many have contemplated leaving.**

Finding 3: Instability in Human Resources delayed hiring and impacted internal services.

Finding 4: Telework can benefit the City but the current policy is limited.

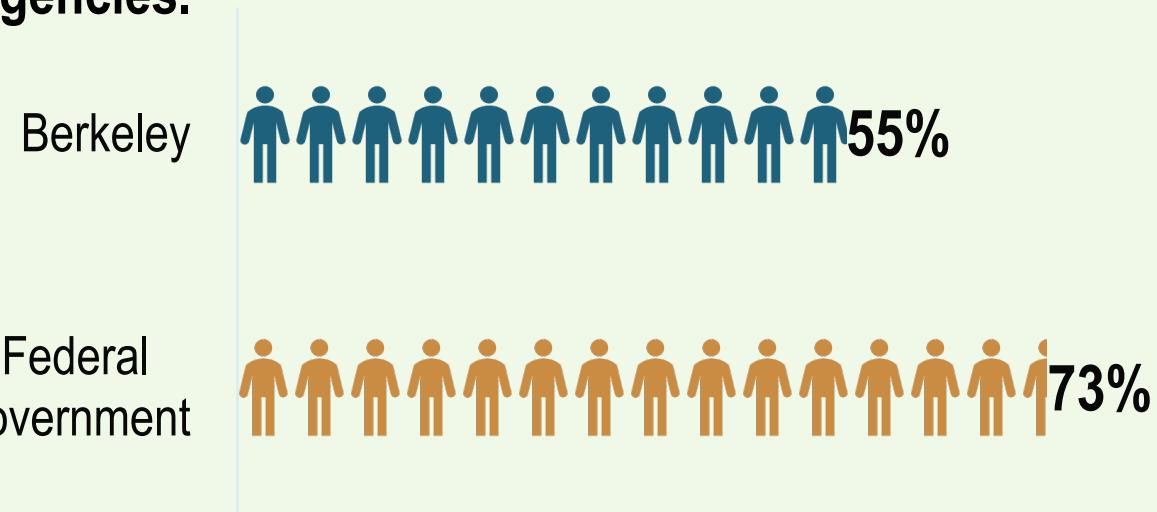
Finding 5: The City lacked reliable data to address staff shortages.



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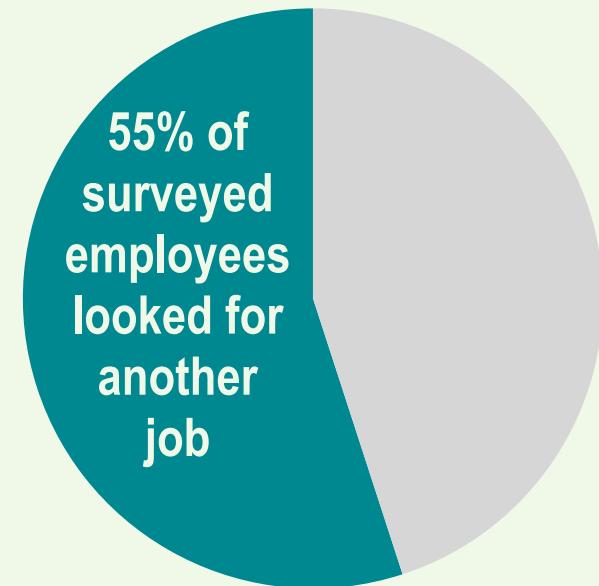
## Some City of Berkeley employees reported low job satisfaction and over half have contemplated leaving.

Surveyed City of Berkeley employees reported lower job satisfaction than federal government employees in similar-sized agencies.



Source: 2022 City of Berkeley employee satisfaction survey and 2022 federal employee viewpoint survey. See page 12 of the report for more details.

Over half of surveyed employees reported looking for another job in the prior year.



Source: 2022 satisfaction survey. See page 12 of the report for more details.



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# Employee dissatisfaction made it harder for the City to retain staff.



## Current employees:

- Workloads
- Professional development opportunities
- Pay
- Communication and support from city leadership



## Former employees:

- Organizational culture problems
- Poor work environment
- Retirement
- Poor relationship with supervisor



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# What we found:

Finding 1: Staff shortages constrained city services.

Finding 2: Some surveyed employees reported dissatisfaction and many have contemplated leaving.

**Finding 3: Instability in Human Resources delayed hiring and impacted internal services.**

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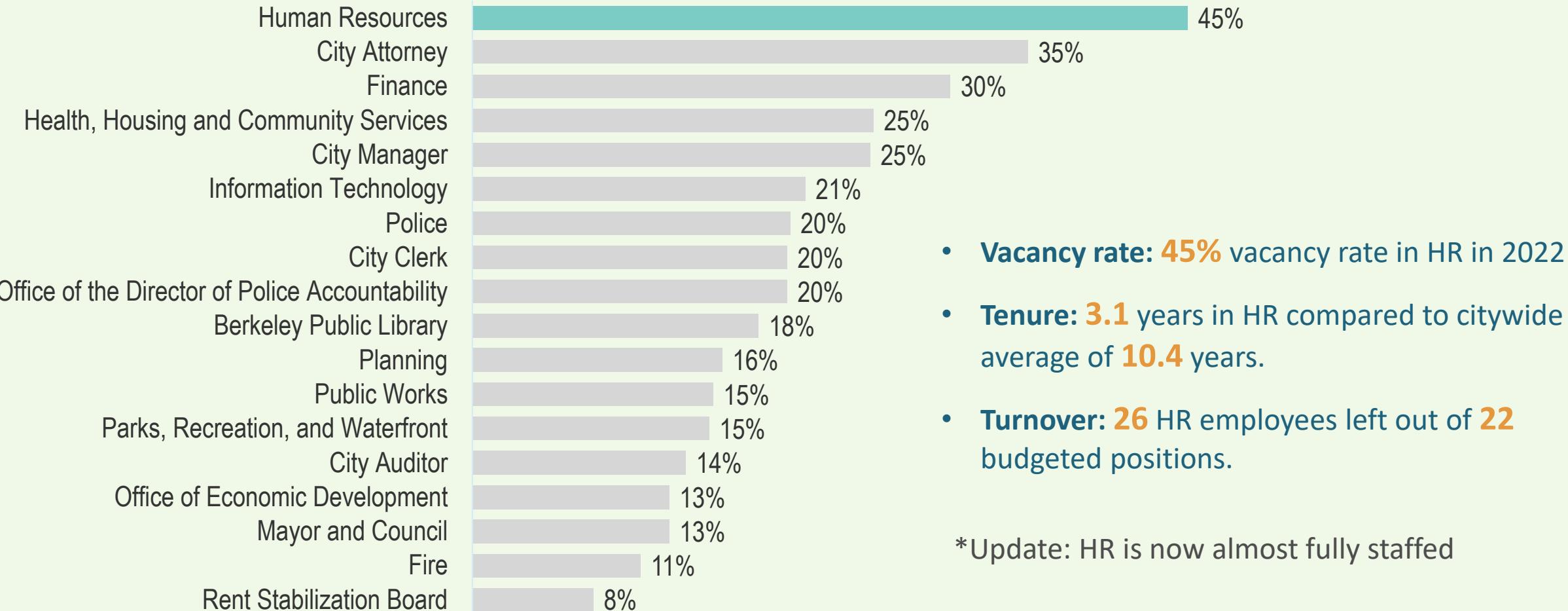
Finding 5: The City lacked reliable data to address staff shortages.



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# There was instability in the HR department during the audit period.

Human Resources had the City's highest vacancy rate in October 2022.



Source: Department directors. See page 25 of the report for more details.



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## Instability in HR contributed to challenges in the City.

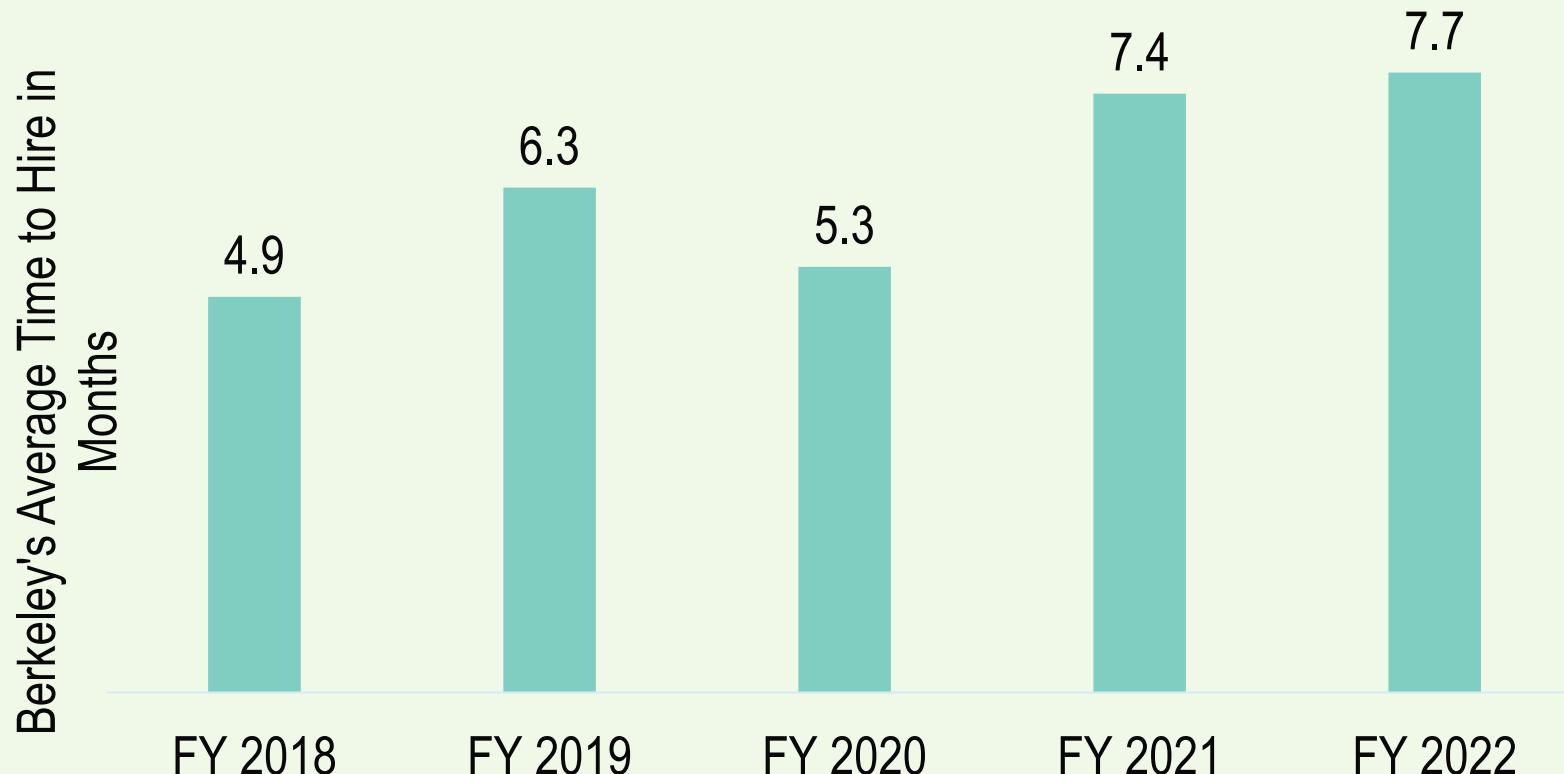
- **Training compliance:** City has been out of compliance since at least **2022**.
- **Performance evaluations:** **67%** of surveyed employees reported that they did not receive a performance evaluation in the year prior.
- **Exit surveys:** **75%** of surveyed former employees said they did not receive an exit survey upon leaving their position.



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

**The average time to hire increased by almost three months.**

**The average time to hire increased since fiscal year 2018.**

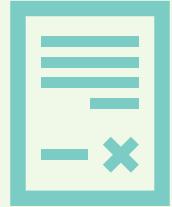


Source: NEOGOV. See page 24 of the report for more details.



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

## Ineffective procedures may have contributed to challenges with hiring and internal services.



- HR did not generally use modern hiring processes during the audit period, and the management approval process was inefficient.



- HR did not provide hiring managers with trainings on the hiring process.



- Some employees reported inadequate onboarding.



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# What we found:

Finding 1: Staff shortages constrained city services.

Finding 2: Some surveyed employees reported dissatisfaction and many have contemplated leaving.

Finding 3: Instability in Human Resources delayed hiring and impacted internal services.

**Finding 4: Telework can benefit the City but the current policy is limited.**

Finding 5: The City lacked reliable data to address staff shortages.

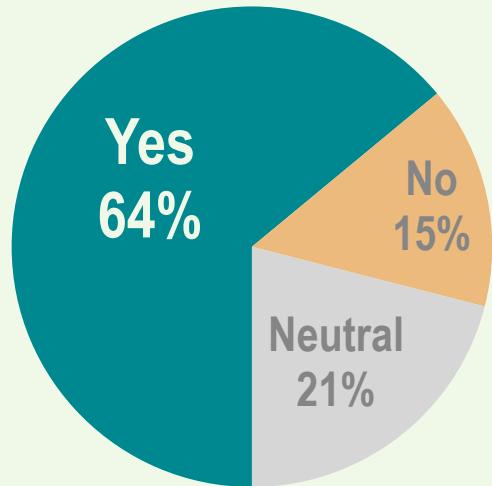


BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# Most surveyed city employees reported being satisfied with telework.

**Sixty-four percent of teleworking employees we surveyed were satisfied with their experience.**

I am satisfied with my teleworking experience.



Source: 2022 satisfaction survey. See page 29 of the report for more details.

Surveyed employees reported some positive impacts of telework:

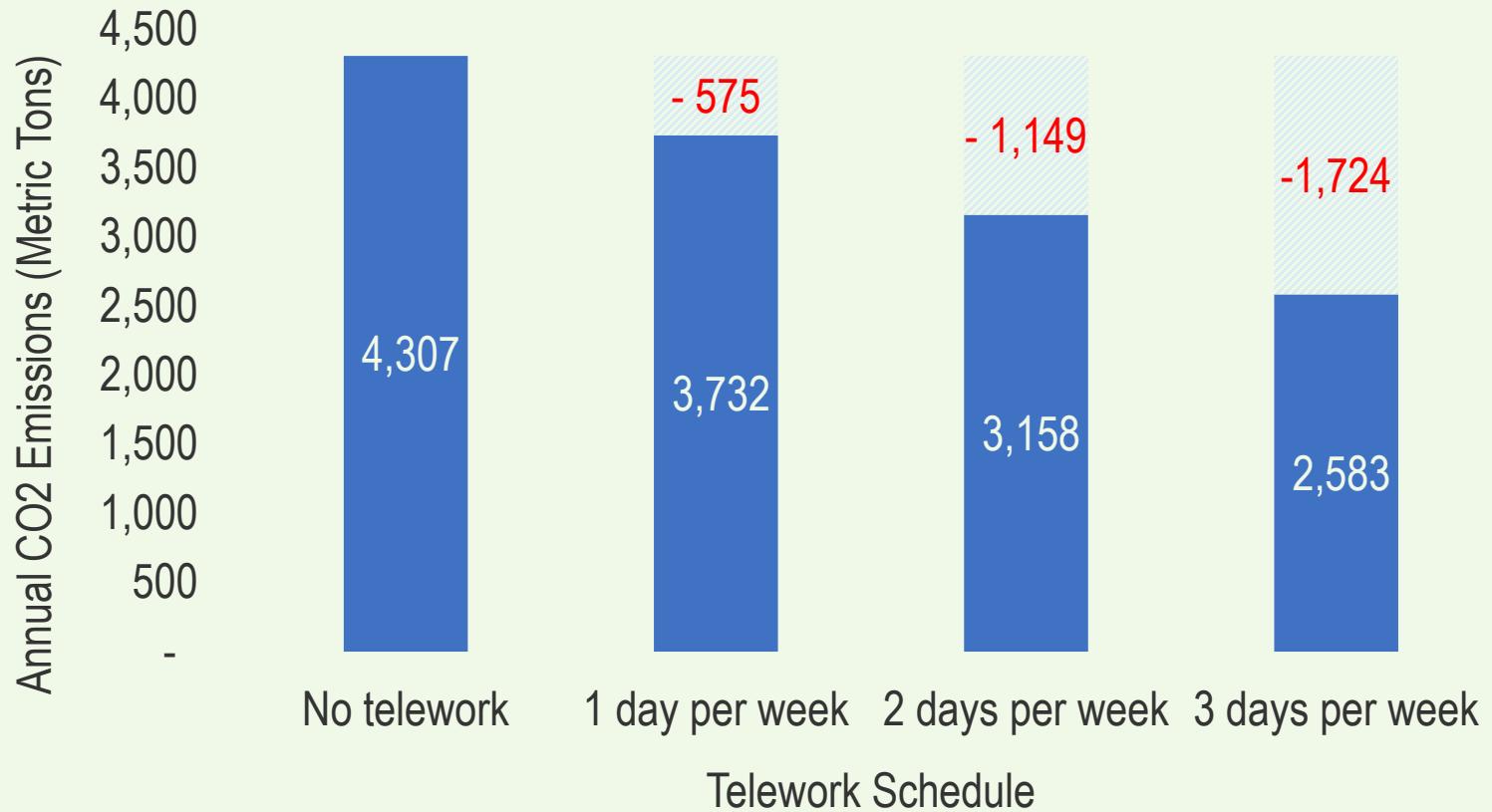
- Decreased commute time
- Improved job satisfaction
- Improved work-life balance
- Improved workplace safety



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

**Telework may have additional benefits to the City.**

**Telework can reduce the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> produced by employee commutes.**



Source: Berkeley City Auditor analysis. See page 32 of the report for more details.



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# The telework policy is not comprehensive and lacks accountability elements.

**The City of Berkeley does not have a comprehensive telework policy.**

Elements of a Comprehensive Policy	State of California	Alameda County	City and County of San Francisco	City of Berkeley
The policy requires employees to be available for contact while teleworking.	✓	✓	✓	✓
The policy states that employees must comply with health and safety requirements at their telework site.	✓	✓	✓	✓
The policy has specific eligibility guidance.	✓	✓	✓	✗
The policy has clear communication guidelines and expectations.	✓	✓	✗	✗
There is an accountability element for unresponsive employees.	✓	✓	✓	✗
There are clear instructions for requesting equipment.	✓	✓	✓	✗
There are training resources and requirements.	✓	✓	✓	✗
Supervisors must provide justification for denying telework requests.	✓	✓	✗	✗

Source: State of California telework guide, Alameda County telework policy, City and County of San Francisco's teleworking policy, City of Berkeley telework policy. See page 35 of the report for more details.



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# What we found:

Finding 1: Staff shortages constrained city services.

Finding 2: Some surveyed employees reported dissatisfaction and many have contemplated leaving.

Finding 3: Instability in Human Resources delayed hiring and impacted internal services.

Finding 4: Telework can benefit the City but the current policy is limited.

**Finding 5: The City lacked reliable data to address staff shortages.**



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

The City did not have reliable data on trends in retention, employee satisfaction, or diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA).

## Key Retention Data Was Unreliable

Data	Definition	Status
Vacancy rate	Percent of total positions that are vacant.	Unreliable
Turnover rate	Percent of employees to leave an organization during a given time period.	Unreliable

Source: Auditor conclusion. See page 36 of the report for more details.

- The City did not have reliable retention data.
- The City did not consistently send out exit surveys or collect satisfaction data.
- Berkeley has not reported sufficient data to track progress towards its diverse workforce goal and DEIA trends.



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# Recommendations

We recommend that the City:

- Establish retention goals, conduct an analysis of staff needed for city services and consider staff capacity around new legislation.
- Take steps to address employee satisfaction and improve the recruiting and hiring process.
- Expand the telework policy to align with best practices.
- Regularly collect data on employee satisfaction and on diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.



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# Management Response

City management and Human Resources agreed with our audit findings, conclusions, and recommendations, and provided an action plan to address our recommendations.

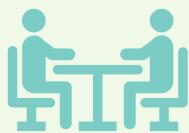


BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

## Examples of management progress on addressing staff shortages:



- Hired twice as many new employees as the number who left the City in 2023.



- Filled vacancies and increased staff capacity in HR.



- Currently developing new trainings and hiring procedures.



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*We would like to thank city management and Human Resources for their cooperation with this audit.*

*We would also like to thank the employees and department directors who provided their perspectives through survey responses and interviews.*



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR



# **City Manager's Comments on Audit Report**

***“Staff Shortages:  
City Services Constrained by Staff Retention  
Challenges and Delayed Hiring”***

July 11, 2023



# CONTEXT - EMPLOYEE RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

- Employee recruitment and retention have always been high priorities for the City.
- We are emerging from a global pandemic, which has had significant impacts on the way we work.
- Public agencies around us are also grappling with maintaining a stable workforce in a highly competitive labor market.
- We are in an environment where recruitment and retention efforts must be the City's top priority.
- To that end - on December 13, 2022, the City Manager provided a report on the Staffing Crisis.
- This report analyzed data from 2020-2022 and focused on the impacts of hiring as a result of the global pandemic and the Great Resignation.

# CONTEXT - EMPLOYEE RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

- The City Manager initiated a comprehensive effort last September
- The goal: Become an Employer of Choice
- A thorough workplace assessment produced a “Roadmap”
- An actionable plan of projects and tasks pointed on enhancing work culture and effectively attracting talent



**Cathy Capriola** (She/Her) • 1st  
Retired City Manager / Management Consultant  
4d •

So proud of the "Employer of Choice Roadmap" our MRG Team (me, [Craig Whittom](#), Marcie Scott) did in collaboration with the City of Berkeley. An actionable plan that Berkeley is driving forward with strike teams, new communication, and rolling prioritized initiatives. Great work [Dee Williams-Ridley](#), [LaTanya Bellow](#), [Anne Cardwell](#), and the project manager [Tasha Tervalon!](#)



**Mary Egan** • 1st  
CEO and Managing Partner of MRG, LLC (formerly Municipal Resource Group).  
4d •

This EMPLOYER OF CHOICE “Roadmap” Case Study for the [City of Berkeley](#) signifies a pro-active shift from the typical model of organizational assessment. The “Roadmap” delivery arranges data & tasks to streamline resources and mobilize change. Diagnostic assessments yielded recommended activities now arranged to focus on strike teams and actions. Read more on MRG's LinkedIn page.

#localgov #localgovernment #hiring #recruitment  
#employeeretention #workplaceculture  
#successionplanning #upskilling

# CONTEXT - EMPLOYEE RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

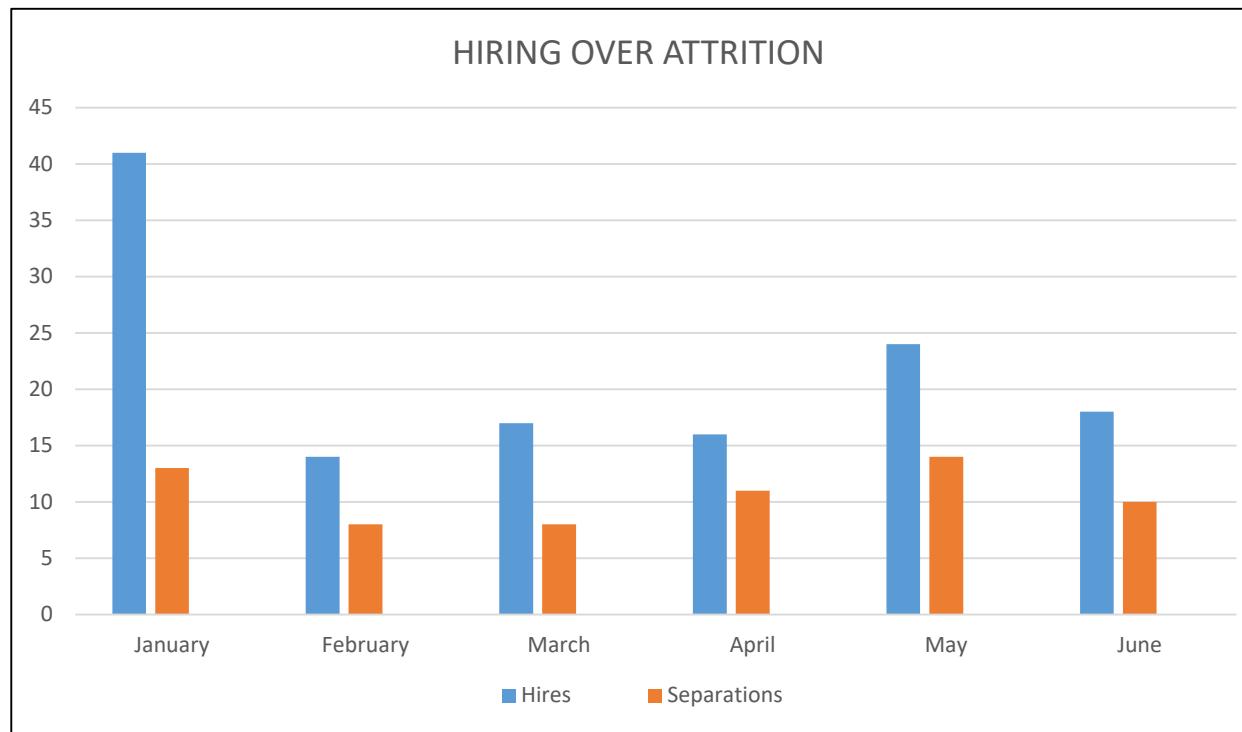
- In early 2023, the final roadmap for the Employer of Choice Initiative (EOCI) was presented to the City Council



- With the Council's full support - the City has already taken several key steps:
  - Allocating additional staff to Human Resources to support recruitment efforts
  - Making intentional efforts to enhance internal and external communications (e.g., increased presence on key social media sites, RFP for recruitment & marketing agency)
  - Reviewing and updating antiquated business processes

# CONTEXT - EMPLOYEE RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

- The City is seeing the positive results of these initial efforts – an average **2:1 ratio of hiring over attrition** thus far in 2023.



- The recently-released findings of the City Auditor affirm the goals already established by EOCl and align well with efforts already underway.

# SUMMARY EOCI & AUDIT

- The audit lays out 25 audit findings and recommendations related to the City's staffing shortages based on information gathered between 2018-2022.
- Fortunately, the majority of the 25 findings/recommendations align well with the 49 recommendations outlined on the EOCI roadmap:

Audit Recommendations	Number of Recommendations
Recommendations aligned w/ EOCI & already underway	14
Aligned w/ EOCI but not yet underway	7
Other	4

- Recommendations that are already underway and/or clearly aligned with the EOCI Roadmap will take priority in terms of resources and timing – many of these efforts will take significant time & resources.
- Reports to City Council will be structured to eliminate redundancy and thus EOCI & Audit Findings will be combined and reported out jointly.
- The following slides provide a more detailed side-by-side comparison of all the recommendations...

Audit Recommendations	EOCI Recommendations
1.1 – Better manage retention	1.12 - Workforce analysis report
1.2 – Staffing analysis	N/A
2.1 – Job descriptions	1.14 - Update key job classifications
2.2 – Council referrals/staff capacity	2.8 - Focus priorities & initiatives by Council
2.3 - Status of projects to Council	N/A
2.4 - Improve pathways for promotion	4.2 - Learning academies & specialized training
2.5 - Annual performance evaluation	2.4 - Performance evaluation and feedback
2.6 - Comprehensive training program	4.1 - Training strategy & plan for learning culture
2.7 – Complete/Report mandatory trainings	4.1 - Training strategy & plan for learning culture
2.8 – Update on hard to fill positions	1.2 - Streamline recruitment – strike team
2.9 – Reassess pay for hard to fill positions	N/A
2.10 – Employee communications	3.1 - Invest in internal communication
3.1 – Prioritize recruitment & hiring needs	1.3 - Act as business partners with departments
3.2 - Assess the approval process for hiring	1.2 - Streamline recruitment – strike team
3.3 – Recruitment & social media	1.6 - Utilize social media

Audit Recommendations	EOCI Recommendations
3.4 – NeoGov procedures & training	1.13 – Training/User guides For ERMA & NEOGOV
3.5 – Improve onboarding process	2.1 - Overhaul onboarding program
4.1 - Identify ways of reducing unused space in city buildings	N/A
4.2 - Improve the telework policy	4.6 -Develop hybrid management training
5.1 - Clean up personnel data in ERMA	1.11 - HR performance metrics & reporting
5.2 - Develop procedures for entering and managing personnel data in ERMA	1.13 – Training/User guides For ERMA & NEOGOV
5.3 – Produce HR reports – vacancies/hiring	1.12 - Workforce analysis report - annual
5.4 - Conduct exit surveys or interviews	2.5 - Upgrade exit interview process
5.5 - Collect data on employee satisfaction	3.5 - Link to new DEI Program
5.6 - Produce Year End Workforce Reports on demographic workforce trends at least annually	1.12 - Workforce analysis report - annual

# STAFF ENGAGEMENT & INPUT





# LOOKING FORWARD

- The findings of the audit are supporting the commitment of the City's current EOCl efforts.
- The EOCl Roadmap has many key destinations along the way to becoming an Employer of Choice.
- We welcome the additional insights offered by the audit, which help to affirm we have crafted an effective itinerary for this journey.
- Key to our continued success along the way will be maintaining the **Employer of Choice Initiative** as the organization's top priority.



## In Closing...

- Thank you to the City Auditor, City Council and City Employees
- It will take continued support, trust and patience to effectively navigate these changes together
- For the latest on EOCl efforts: [June 2023 City of Berkeley Employer of Choice Newsletter.pdf](#)

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Derethia DuVal <derethia@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 5:51 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** Affordable Housing Preference Policy

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Berkeley City Council Members and the Honorable Mayor Arreguin

I am writing this comment as a long time South Berkeley homeowner. Since my family has lived in Berkeley we have seen the our neighborhood change from a lovable working class neighborhood to an area so upscale as the homes are over a million dollars, that the neighborhood has no more children. Because working people with children can't afford it. We are pained to be in the middle of the mass displacement of the working class, low income, moderate income and Black and other people of color being ejected from their home and out of Berkeley because of NO affordable options. Between 2005 and 2019 Black Berkeley residents decreased by 21%, a higher rate than other ethnic and low income groups. Given the over 75 year history of the Black community living in Berkeley it hurts my heart to loose long many time neighbors and friends. With over 55% of rented households are rent burdened by 2019 statistics and 74% of Black Berkeley residents are renters. What has happen to our town?

The Affordable Housing Preference Policy is a viable strategy to interrupt the unprecedeted mass displacement of Black, Brown, working class, low wage and very low income citizens. The policy will center and prioritize the needs of Berkeley's most vulnerable and displaced community members. The Berkeley I moved into over 35 years ago was a City that practiced and professed to believe housing was a human right and its citizens deserved a City that respected their humanity not being treated as a commodity.

With Respect  
Dr. Derethia DuVal

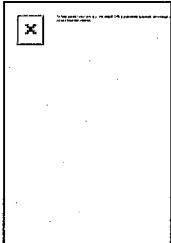
Sent from my iPad

## **Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Linda Currie <info@transitionberkeley.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 1:13 PM  
**To:** All Council; Manager, C; Berkeley Mayor's Office  
**Subject:** Restore Strawberry Creek! Item #33 - Civic Center Phase II - Design Concept Adoption  
**Attachments:** Item #3-Restore Strawberry Crk-TransitionBerkeley(2023-7-9).docx.pdf

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.



July 10, 2023

**Re: Restore Strawberry Creek! Item #33 - Civic Center Phase II - Design Concept Adoption**

Dear Honorable Mayor & City Council Members,

Our organization has been working to restore habitat by planting pollinator gardens in Berkeley Parks including Strawberry Creek Park. From our work in the park, we have witnessed first hand how **the daylighted section of Strawberry Creek brings about so much vibrancy and life to the park and community**. Children gleefully flock to it, while parents relax and picnic nearby. Birds flutter about splashing in the creek, while iridescent dragonflies hover before dipping down for a drink.

The successful daylighting of the creek in Strawberry Creek Park decades ago did not happen without concerns. City officials were apprehensive about the project (ex. feasibility, cost, flooding, safety issues, trash, crime etc)(1), but somehow the community vision prevailed. **Visit the park and creek today and you'll be stunned by its natural beauty and popularity.**

Daylighting creeks can offer transformational change to urban areas (2) and is a direct way to connect with nature, supports biodiversity, honors indigenous land and rights of nature (3), offers educational opportunities, can bring in revitalization and revenue, to name a few of the many benefits.

On July 11, 2023 you will have the opportunity to consider the approval of the **Civic Center Plan**.

**The daylighting of Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park is one of the most important elements of the Plan** that we are asking you to fully support.

**We ask that the proposed Design for the creek not assume any limitations on the location and flow of the creek at this early stage in the planning process.** The Civic Center Design Concept describes the daylighting of the Creek with an "alternate scenario" using the term "partial flow creek bed".

**A full planning and design study would give you a better sense of what's possible and would be more likely to secure funding.**

Therefore, Transition Berkeley asks you to change the description of the "alternate design", from just a "partial flow" to **supporting a full flow restoration of Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park**. We believe it can be done while still supporting the other important park uses and activities.

We've experienced the success of daylighting the creek in Strawberry Creek Park and know that many other cities have enjoyed the benefits of daylighting creeks in their downtown urban settings (2).

**Let's stay open to the possibility of daylighting the creek in Civic Center Park**, while allowing full planning and design studies to proceed.

Warm regards,

Members of the Board

**Transition Berkeley**

Email: [info@TransitionBerkeley.org](mailto:info@TransitionBerkeley.org)

(1) Creek Daylighting FAQ, SF Public Utilities Commission, Case Study, Strawberry Creek Park, Berkeley

(2) How 'Daylighting' Buried Waterways Is Revitalizing Cities Across America, Smithsonian Magazine, March 15 2023, author Jim Morrison

(3) What are the Rights of Nature? Global Alliance of Rights of Nature



Bringing community together to build a more equitable, regenerative, and self-reliant future for Berkeley. [www.transitionberkeley.org](http://www.transitionberkeley.org)

July 10, 2023

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**Transition Berkeley**  
Email: [info@TransitionBerkeley.org](mailto:info@TransitionBerkeley.org)

(1) [Creek Daylighting FAQ](#), SF Public Utilities Commission, Case Study, Strawberry Creek Park, Berkeley

(2) [How 'Daylighting' Buried Waterways Is Revitalizing Cities Across America](#), Smithsonian Magazine, March 15 2023, author Jim Morrison

(3) [What are the Rights of Nature?](#) Global Alliance of Rights of Nature

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Beth Lamont <bethlamont1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 12:39 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** Item #33 - Adoption - Civic Center Phase II - Design Concept

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

To the Berkeley City Council:

Please support a \*full flow restoration\* of Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park. It can be done while still supporting other identified park uses and activities. And it would be a significant, beautiful, educational asset for the city including both residents and visitors.

Sincerely,  
Beth Lamont  
2253 Glen Avenue  
Berkeley, CA

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Diane Ross-Leech <dianeleech@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 8:28 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Cc:** Diane Ross-Leech  
**Subject:** Item #33 - Adoption - Civic Center Phase II - Design Concept

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Please support a **full flow restoration** of Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park. It can be done while still supporting other identified park uses and activities.

Thank you,

Diane Ross-Leech  
Berkeley Resident  
1644 Addison Street

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** kelly hammargren <kellyhammargren@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 11:33 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** Civic Center Plan

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor and Council,

I've spent considerable time out in our city parks over the last few weeks and this is what I heard from children and their parents. First of all Strawberry Creek Park was the most popular and most highly utilized of the parks visited. Children love the creek. Their parents told me how their children want to come to the creek to play. And play they did.

I was surprised with the number of people from neighboring cities who visit Berkeley City Parks and again, visitors from other cities, chose Strawberry Creek in much higher numbers. Besides the creek and play area, the cafe was a big draw for visitors.

My experience of observing and listening matched the reports, studies and articles, I found online under the search "community impact of daylighting creeks". Daylighting creeks has an enormously positive impact on attracting people, especially families with children. More than that daylighting creeks brings economic benefits, restores habitat and ecosystems, and is listed under actions for resilient cities,

Please support the alternative design and change the "partial flow" to support a full flow restoration of Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park.

kelly hammargren

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Tom Kelly <tkelly@kyotousa.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 4:46 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Cc:** Garland, Liam; Susi Marzuola; Melendez, Nancy; Kapfer, Elmar; Hollander, Eleanor  
**Subject:** Support comments for daylighting Strawberry Creek  
**Attachments:** RSC Online Petition (7.10.23).pdf

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Arreguin and Members of the City Council,

Volunteers at Restore Strawberry Creek! polled Berkeley residents and park users and found overwhelming enthusiasm for daylighting Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park. Please take a moment to review the responses and comments to see just how excited people are about opening up the creek in the heart of the City.

And as a reminder, Restore Strawberry Creek! is actively seeking the funding necessary to make the daylighting a reality and ask for a simple, but formal, acknowledgement that the Plan would allow for a “full flow” restoration of Strawberry Creek. As we have demonstrated in previous correspondence, a full flow restoration would allow for many, if not most, activities considered in the Plan. Describing the daylighted creek as a “partial flow” restoration as the Plan now states, could hamper our ability to attract state funding.

Sincerely,

Tom Kelly  
Restore Strawberry Creek!

## ONLINE PETITION

**Restore Strawberry Creek!** has conducted outreach to identify support for daylighting Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park via online and paper petitions. Below are the results for the online petition. Results for paper petition are reported separately.

247 paper signatures

45 online

**292 TOTAL** signatures

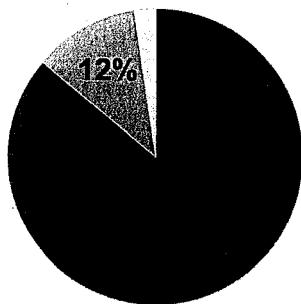
The online petition can be viewed at this URL: <https://forms.gle/AyrFundnK1fpVJAU8>

The 4 questions and their results (n=45):

- **Are you a Berkeley resident?**
  - Results: 86% Yes, 12% No, but visit Berkeley parks, 2% other
- **Do you support restoring Strawberry creek in Civic Center Park downtown?**
  - Results: 100% Yes!
- **Do you think young people should have access to creeks and nature in our cities?**
  - Results: 100% Yes, absolutely!
- **Why do you support daylighting Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park?**
  - See below for list

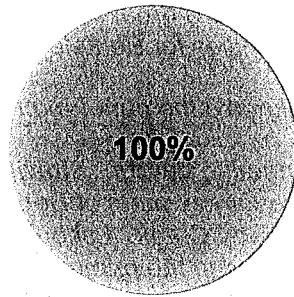
### Are you a Berkeley resident?

Yes! I live in Berkeley    No (but I live in the area and enjoy Berkeley's parks)    No (all other)



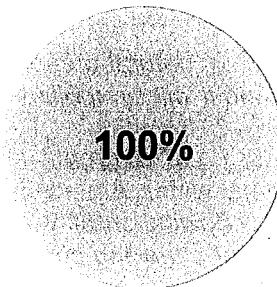
### Do you support restoring Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park?

Yes! (Please tell us why, below)



### Do you think young people should have access to creeks and nature in our cities?

Yes, absolutely!



## WRITTEN COMMENT

*"I love nature, daylighting the creek would be a great asset for the downtown" – Kelly*

*"Daylighting other areas of the Creek (Strawberry Creek Park) has been very successful, beautifying and enlivening the Park and restoring natural habitat to that area. The same could be possible with Civic Center Park." – Bonnie*

*"To increase the health of our watershed, give all people access to a beautiful creek, and increase biodiversity" – Chase*

*"As stewards, we should have a relationship to our water and watersheds. this could create many more opportunities!" – William*

*"Strawberry Creek Park is our favorite Berkeley park. We like to watch the creek play over the rocks and we love to see children enjoying it. So we'd love to see the same creek appear in Downtown Berkeley." – Nancy*

*"It will create biodiversity, attract visitors and children and honor indigenous people." – Sylvia*

*"Biodiversity, open space, habitat." – Tom and Jane*

*"Creeks should not have been buried to begin with. Our ecosystems have been severely impacted and efforts to restore full creek flow on the surface are honestly imperative. Creeks draw everyone to their side as it is in the DNA of homo sapiens to respond positively to the flow of water." – Elizabeth*

*"A creek buried underground does not support the habitat that would thrive around it were it opened to the sky. Things die when they enter the dark/dead zone." – Kathleen*

*"It would be a great amenity to city residents, encourage people to appreciate creeks and offer opportunities for Berkeley High and other young people to get involved." – Dale*

*"It will make the park (and the city) more enjoyable and beautiful." – Jeff*

*"We need to daylight Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park. The creek was the primary water source for key parts of Berkeley. The history and development of Berkeley is closely linked with Strawberry Creek. It should no longer be hidden. It should rightfully be daylighted and celebrated in the primary civic heart of our city." – Mukul*

*"Enhances the downtown area, provides green space for people to enjoy, provides habitat for wildlife." – Margot*

*"An environmentally and culturally positive action that will bring joy and delight to our community." – Miranda*

*"The open, flowing creek will add a cool, natural presence that makes the park an exceptional place people will want to come to. And it will symbolize our City's ecological values." – Stephen*

*"Daylighting the creek in Civic Center Park will greatly improve our ability to physically reconnect with what is essential in all of our lives: water. A place in the center of Berkeley where we can enjoy watching and listening to a fully flowing creek will greatly enhance our sense of well-being both as individuals, and as members of a thriving community. Just think of the many species of*

*birds and butterflies that will be flying near the flowing creek. Families and folks of all ages and experiences will benefit. Such joy!" – Sally*

*"It will add some beautiful space to an otherwise increasingly anti-human environment" – Bernard*

*"The daylit parts of the creek in the UC campus look great and immensely adds to the quality of campus experience. I think if we could daylight creeks all the way to the bay, it would look great and immensely add to the quality of life in Berkeley." – Alan*

*"It would enhance the park tremendously" – Sheila*

*"Will increase species diversity and science education." – Irene*

*"It's a shame it was buried in the first place! Let's restore Berkeley's natural beauty, and provide a resource for people and wildlife alike." – Molly*

*"Creeks are beautiful, they support life, and may help prevent building and flooding problems in the long run." – Mary Lynn*

*"There is no better design for a city than to allow its natural waterways. As Berkeley packs in more residents, we also need a bit of real nature." – Carolyn*

*"For environmental restoration and climate change resilience; for a vibrant community center, which celebrates nature and well-being; for economic resilience, bringing a much-needed anchor and draw to the downtown core; to provide a place where all people, of any age or demographic, can come together and enjoy nature and art and history around our diverse local and regional cultures." – Juliet*

*"As development continues there are so few places where students and residents can enjoy what nature offers. This is particularly true in Berkeley where things are so built up." – Mary*

*"The natural flow of Strawberry Creek through Civic Center Park would be a welcome addition to the small park and provide an opportunity for Berkeley High School students to study a creek very close by." – Helga*

*"For beauty, for health, for biodiversity, for education, for restoration of the natural environment." – Summer*

*"It would be beneficial for all." – Pierre*

*"Nature" – Mike*

*"It will reinvigorate the park and connect the urban environment to nature." – Sas*

*"It's the right thing to do; preserving the past is a good thing." – Michael*

*"It's increasingly important for cities to preserve elements of nature for the benefit of their inhabitants. Research has demonstrated unequivocally that humans need contact with our natural world for both physical, mental, and emotional health. Flowing water supports a diversity of birds and beneficial insects and is a soothing element in a park." – Charlene*

*"It would make the area more inviting." – Imtiaz*

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Kathleen Giustino <kathleeng@a1suninc.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 10:39 AM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** Full Flow Restoration of Strawberry Creek

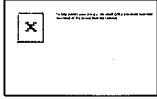
**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

I have contacted my City Council multiple times to fully support the restoration of Strawberry Creek and all water flowing from the Berkeley Hills to the Bay. Clean water being filtered by sunlight will make humans, fish and other wildlife migrating down the corridors healthier and, hopefully, happier. Full flow restoration makes sense. Do this work completely and well.

Thank you,

Kathleen Giustino  
2015 Yolo Avenue

Kathleen Giustino  
CFO, A1 Sun, Inc.



kathleeng@a1suninc.com  
office: (510) 526-5715 ext 6  
http://www.a1suninc.com



**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Erin Diehm <erindiehm@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 3:37 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Cc:** City Clerk; Garland, Liam; Susi Marzuola; Hollander, Eleanor  
**Subject:** 247 petition signatures supporting full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek - Council July 11 Item #33  
**Attachments:** Strawberry Creek Paper Petition Responses 1-247.pdf

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and Berkeley Councilmembers,

The support for daylighting Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park is strong. Please see the attached 247 signatures asking the Berkeley City Council to:

"support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park"

Limiting the creek to just a "partial flow" could interfere with grant opportunities. We ask that language be added in the Motion tonight to allow for a full exploration of restoring the creek, to include a potential "full flow design". Please help us identify a design that can support the many important current (and future) uses of the park while also adding the magic and appeal of a real, natural creek.

Youth love the idea of the creek! And so do parents!

---

**COMMENTS from YOUTH**

"Great creek to hang around! Got lots of friends that also like it." – Ezekiel (13 yrs old)

"I'm young and I like creeks." – Jennica

"[11 yrs old]" – Bonnie (11 yrs old)

"I like the creek" – Quinny (11 yrs old)

"I like the creek" – Crosby (9 yrs old)

"I [heart] creek" – Elijah (9 yrs old)

"(8 year)" – Marci (8 yrs old)

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**ADDITIONAL SELECTED COMMENTS**

*"This would greatly improve the quality of life of people who could visit the park and will be amazing for the environment"* – Ana Clara

*"My children love the creek"* – Becca

*"I love Strawberry Creek and think Berkeley would be much nicer to restore it in Civic Center"* – Tobias

*"Creeks are cool, nature is healing! Let's get them everywhere! [heart]"* – Cassandra

*"I think it's a good idea to open another creek. Hope to see that."* – Rubee

*"As a bay swimmer I believe daylighting our creeks is critical for the health of our bay ecosystem"* – Helen

*"Free the creek!!"* – Shaila

*"Kids love the creek!"* – Tom

*"Strawberry Creek is one of my child's favorite place"* – Riley

*"The creek is beautiful and deserves to see the light of day!"* – Zachary

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## **REMAINING COMMENTS**

*"Great place"* – Rhonda

*"More green space open to the public"* – Gabriella

*"Love creeks!"* – Bianca

*"Creeks are cool! [heart]"* – Melanie

*"Creeks and nature the best"* – Nicholas

*"More creeks ya'll!"* – Craig

*"All for nature"* – Anana

*"That would be fantastic"* – Po Shu

*"Please daylight Strawberry Creek!"* – George

*"I like creeks!"* – Billy

*"Support native habitats"* – Derek

*"Rivers transform green spaces and make them inviting"* – Citlalli

*"Berkeley can benefit from more open spaces."* – Elli

*"It's a cool and good idea."* – Sandhya

"Let's make it happen." – Luis

"Hook it up." – Josh

"I heart & adore creeks!" – Emma

"I grew up with creeks." – Jacob

"Thanks" – Hand

"Thank you!!" – Gary

":)" – Betsy

"Thanks" – Priyan

"Thanks!" – Kathleen

"[heart] creeks!" – Mackenzie

":)" – Kyle

"Restore the creek!!" – Ikram

"Good idea" – Allan

"Restore the creek" – Damont

"Free the creek" – Teresa

"Free the creek" – Tania

"I love this creek!" – Sahil

"Love the creek" – Neevaj

"Creek life!" – Shivani

"free the creek!" – Tianna

"Keep the creek!" – Kesha

"Love the creek [heart]" – Tina

"More creek!" – Jayme

"[heart] creek!" – Vanessa

"Love creek" – David

"the creek is the best!" – Kesha

"Love nature!" – Emily

*"Save the creek"* – Fizza

*"keep the creek"* – Etsegenet

*"I wholeheartedly support!"* – Kira

*"Would love to have a study done!"* – Cyrina

*"Sounds beautiful :)"* – Angela

*"Sounds great"* – Vladimirov

*"We need creeks & parks!"* – Bri

*"love creeks!"* – Namita

*"[heart]"* – Oliver

*"Creek!"* – Pei

*"Yeah!"* – Yida

*"Restore nature!!"* – Olivia

*"Berkeley proud"* – Travis

*"We love the creek!"* – Ben

*"more park, less road is good"* – Tvetene

*"Yess!"* – Erin

*"Please restore the nature"* – Jonathan

*"Please do"* – Genie

*"All for removing parking & expanding green space"* – Alice

*"Es muy interazante [unintel] proyecto"* – George

*"I think all the creek should be restored"* – Ruby

*"Nature is beautiful :)"* – Rohan

*"Good luck!"* – Sheenath

*"Good luck!"* – Mamasai

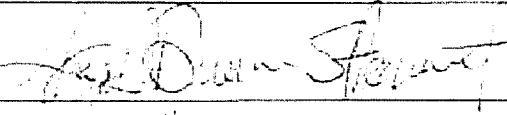
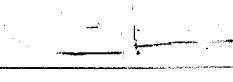
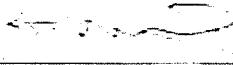
*"Best of luck!!"* – Mallika

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Thank you for your service.

Best regards,  
Erin

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

<b>Background And Summary</b>	Strawberry Creek in Strawberry Creek Park used to be under ground in a concrete culvert (tunnel). Removing the culvert and restoring the creek to its natural state above ground open to air and light is called daylighting. On July 11, City Council will be voting on the Civic Center Plan including whether or not to fully explore daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park. There is State of California grant money available for daylighting creeks through The Urban Creeks Restoration and Flood Control Act of 1984.	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Linda Johnson		
Jeffrey Johnson		
Strawberry Creek		
Dawn Johnson		
Jeffrey Johnson		
Jeffrey Johnson		
Linda Johnson		
Strawberry Creek		
Strawberry Creek		
Strawberry Creek		

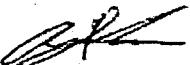
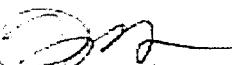
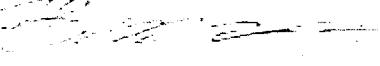
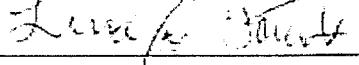
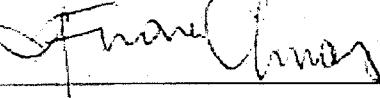
Location of Signature Gathering

Strawberry Park

Date

7-30-2025 - 7-3-2025

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Ana Clara Muñoz		This would greatly improve the quality of life for people who could visit the park + live nearby (artie environment)
Rhonda Guess		Great place
Rachel Oakley		
Catell Stiles		More green space open to the public
Marissa Pogador		
Bianca Villas		Love creeks
August Beck		
Linda Gault		
Maria Sitter		
Fiona Chuiay		

Location of Signature Gathering: Strawberry Creek Park

Date

7/12/13

~~7/12/13~~  
6/13/13 8/7/13

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

3

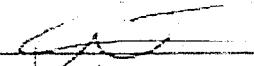
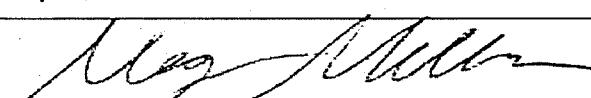
<b>Background And Summary</b>	Strawberry Creek in Strawberry Creek Park used to be under ground in a concrete culvert (tunnel). Removing the culvert and restoring the creek to its natural state above ground open to air and light is called daylighting. On July 11, City Council will be voting on the Civic Center Plan including whether or not to fully explore daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park. There is State of California grant money available for daylighting creeks through The Urban Creeks Restoration and Flood Control Act of 1984.	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Melanie Bunggaya		
Shireh Khansari		
Naomi Callender-Secta	Naomi	
Stephen Allen	Stephen Allen	
Eduar Flores		
Melanie Bunggaya	Melanie	Creeks are cool!!
MEETIE CHEN		
Mandy Lin	Mandy	
JEFFREY TAN	Jeffrey	
Nicholas Lim	Nicholas	Creeks and nature the best

Location of Signature Gathering  
Strawberry Creek Park

Date 7/12/23  
7/12/23

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

4

<b>Background And Summary</b>	Strawberry Creek in Strawberry Creek Park used to be under ground in a concrete culvert (tunnel). Removing the culvert and restoring the creek to its natural state above ground open to air and light is called daylighting. On July 11, City Council will be voting on the Civic Center Plan including whether or not to fully explore daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park. There is State of California grant money available for daylighting creeks through The Urban Creeks Restoration and Flood Control Act of 1984.	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Capie Denys		MICHAEL CREEK YALL
W. Ben S. SSTE		
Frances Heller		an old park
Wesley Wink		
Jennica Johnson	Jennica Johnson	I'm young and I like creeks
Becca Schonberg		My children love the creek
Tobias Roszani		I love strawberry creek and think Beccas idea is more nice to restore it in a new
Ezekiel [REDACTED]	EL-13	Great creek to hang around! Got lots of friends that also like it.
Megan Millage		
Po Shu Way		That would be fantastics.

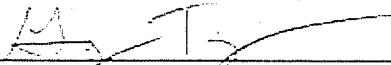
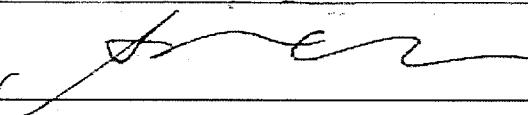
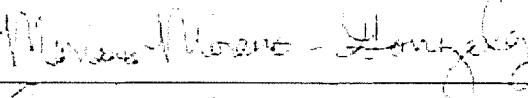
Location of Signature Gathering:

Strawberry Creek Park

Date 7/2/13

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

5

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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
George Togun		Please daylight Strawberry Creek
John S. Luttrell		
Toto & Lee		
Billy Alvarado		Save the creek!
Gerck Goss		Support daylighting
Leona Goss		
Asako Urano-Kellogg		
Stanley H.		
Mariana Moreno-Gonzalez		
Gearna Teller		

Location of Signature Gathering

Strawberry Creek Park

Date 7/2/23

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

6

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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Bonnie Graf	bonnie graf	( " jeans )
Joel Shepard	Joel Shepard	
Rick Tieu	Rick Tieu	
Laura Martella	Laura Martella	nice park after flood water
O'Hallie Centres-Sanchez	O'Hallie Centres-Sanchez	rivers transform green spaces and makes them inviting
Emily Berger	Emily Berger	
Darren Shultz	Darren Shultz	
Quinn Lopez	Quinn Lopez	
Alex Kurnin	Alex Kurnin	
Ella Kurnin	Ella Kurnin	Berkeley can benefit from more open spaces

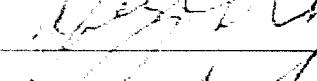
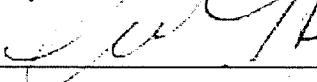
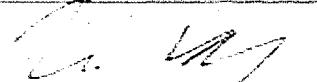
Location of Signature Gathering

Strawberry Creek Park

Date 7/3/23  
7/2/23

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

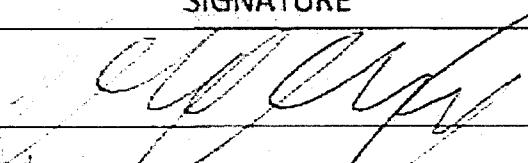
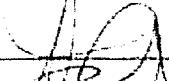
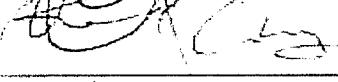
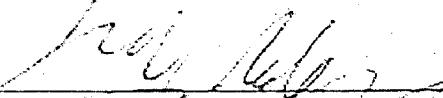
7

<b>Background And Summary</b>	Strawberry Creek in Strawberry Creek Park used to be under ground in a concrete culvert (tunnel). Removing the culvert and restoring the creek to its natural state above ground open to air and light is called daylighting. On July 11, City Council will be voting on the Civic Center Plan including whether or not to fully explore daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park. There is State of California grant money available for daylighting creeks through The Urban Creeks Restoration and Flood Control Act of 1984.	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Cheleste Gonzalez		Creeks are cool, nature is healing! Let's get them everywhere!
Sandhya Rajpal		It's cool and good job.
Rubee Smith		I think it's a wonderful idea to daylight another creek. We hope to see that.
John Wheeler		
Luis Burrujan		lets make it happen.
Daylight Passion		
Nick Ranschaff		
J.H. Ranschaff		
Josh Hug		Hug it up.
Sandra Voss		

Location of Signature Gathering: Strawberry Creek Park

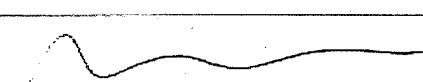
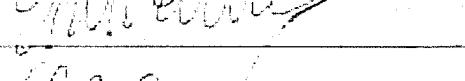
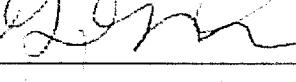
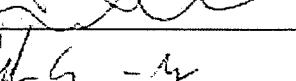
Date 7/13/07  
7/21/07

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Joey Maxey		
Michele Marshall		
Dennis Goranson		
MATRA MALIK		
Jasjit Ahluwalia		
Jennifer Hirsch		
Ramel W-		
Steve Buff		
Neena Goldman		

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

9

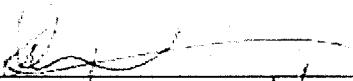
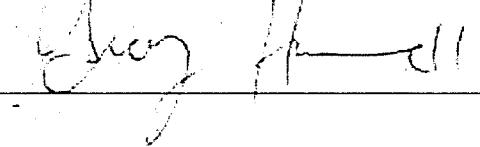
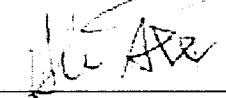
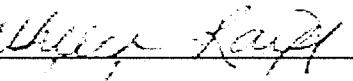
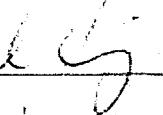
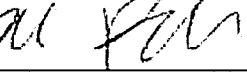
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Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Abra		
Sasha		
Lor		
Emma Wit		I Heart strawberry Creek!
Ashley Gomez		
Aaron Hough		
Caren Malm		
HELEN SCHNEIDER		as a long time resident I believe anything that we can do to protect the health of our local ecosystem
Jacob Cynamon-Murphy		I grew up with creeks.
NICOLE MILLER		

Location of Signature Gathering: Re: Flood

Date: 7/24/12

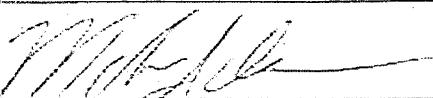
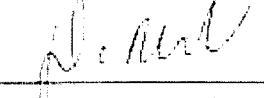
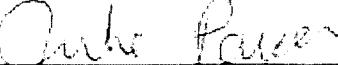
# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

10

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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Hank Greger		Thanks
Cathy Svarda		
Gary Howell		Thank you!
Patricia ...		
TEYAN PYGEMAN		Thanks
Beth ALEXANDER		
Kathleen Farff		Thanks!
Andrea Gorham		
Daniel Schreyer		
Mackenzie Halter		@ creeks!

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

11

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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Taylor Edwards		
Mattie Shear		
Ruth Gandy-Taylor		
Thomas W. Edwards		Rebuild the park!!
Yona Kwon Fischel		
Madigan Thomas		
Alma F. Edwards		Rebuild the park
Daphne Edwards		Rebuild the park
Julie Parker		
Mattie Mount		

Location of Signature Gathering

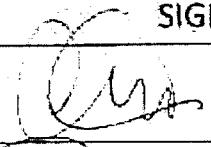
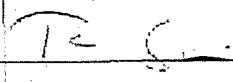
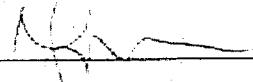
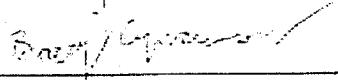
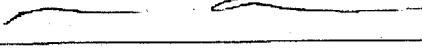
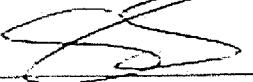
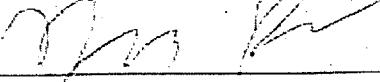
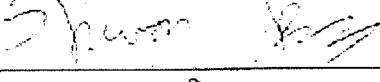
Live Oak

San Pedro

Date 11/1/2013

71-1725

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

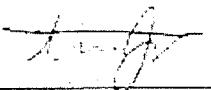
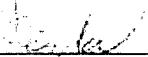
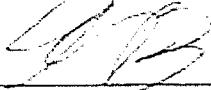
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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Torissa Clark		
Tessa Rodriguez		Free the creek
Tania Schmitz		Free the creek
Natalie Gobetay		
Brianna Cynamon		
Joshua Cynamon		
Sarah Shultz		Free the creek!!
Suzi		I love this creek!
Melissa		Love the creek
Lynn		Creek life!

Location of Signature Gathering: Strawberry Creek Park

Date: 7/5/23

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

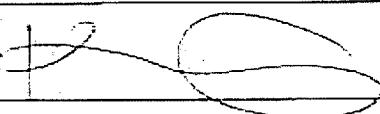
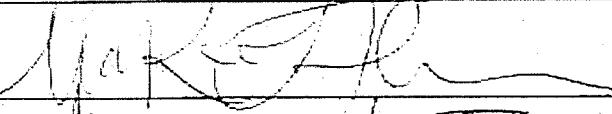
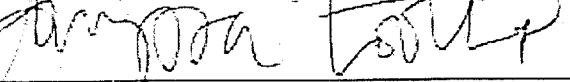
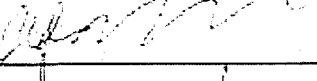
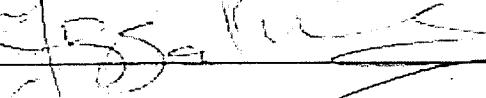
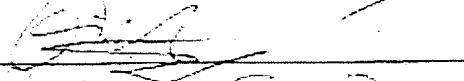
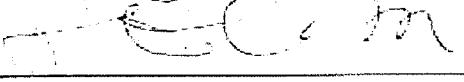
13

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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Tamara Johnson		free the creek!
Ronnie Sandoval		
Kathy Zornes		keep the creek!
Tim Stewart		Love me creek!
Tom Gardner		kick like the creek!
Jayne Davis		More creek!
Vanessa Davis		8 Creek!
Quinn H		Take the park
Isaac		
David		Love Creek

Location of Signature Gathering: Strawberry Creek Park

Date: 7/4/03

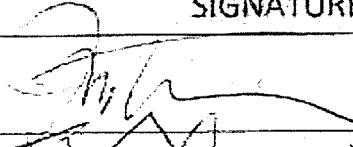
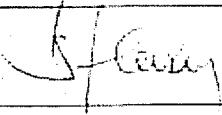
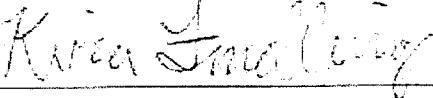
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<b>ACTION</b>	Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
H. Loughlin		The creek is the best
Crossy S.		I like the park
Emily Cunningham		Love nature!
Elspeth		I like creek
Marcie Holmes		
Anya Tucci		
Madeline McAllister		
Fran Kinney		Save the creek
Eugenie Belbera		Keep the creek
Julia Hoffman		

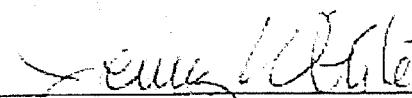
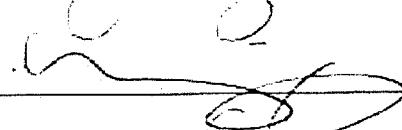
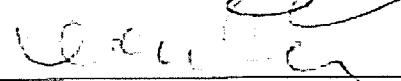
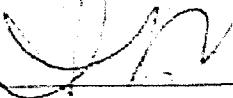
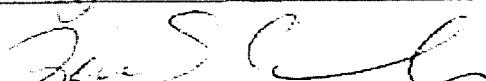
Location of Signature Gathering

SF Park  
LunchDate 7/4/13  
7/6/13

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

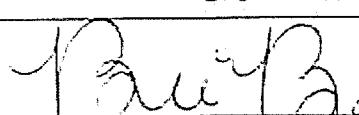
<b>Background And Summary</b>	Strawberry Creek in Strawberry Creek Park used to be under ground in a concrete culvert (tunnel). Removing the culvert and restoring the creek to its natural state above ground open to air and light is called daylighting. On July 11, City Council will be voting on the Civic Center Plan including whether or not to fully explore daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park. There is State of California grant money available for daylighting creeks through The Urban Creeks Restoration and Flood Control Act of 1984.	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Jeremy Tinker		
Lex		
Simone Harvey		
John S. Tinker		
Roxana	6	
Natalia Luna		
Megan Mankoff		
Kira Findling		I wholeheartedly support!
Jung Li		
Yiwei Shuai		

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

<b>Background And Summary</b>	Strawberry Creek in Strawberry Creek Park used to be under ground in a concrete culvert (tunnel). Removing the culvert and restoring the creek to its natural state above ground open to air and light is called daylighting. On July 11, City Council will be voting on the Civic Center Plan including whether or not to fully explore daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park. There is State of California grant money available for daylighting creeks through The Urban Creeks Restoration and Flood Control Act of 1984.	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Jeremy White		
Riley Wise		Strawberry creek is one of my child's favorite place
Liam Collier		
Jordan Spain		
Cyrina King		would love to see a study done!
Angela Pinkerton		sounds beautiful!
Marenza Wise		soooooo great
KEVIN NISHINAGA		
Justine Salazar		
Lore Edwards		

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

17

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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
BRI BRAMANTI		WE NEED CREEKS & PARKS!
Maryita Grapin		LOVE CREEKS!
Eva Murphy		
Ashley Parker		
Elizabeth Harlan		
Dawn Crystal		
Sophia Marie Phillips		
Oliver Hwang		✓
Wei Fu		Creek!
Pauline Lai		YES PLEASE!

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

<b>Background And Summary</b>	Strawberry Creek in Strawberry Creek Park used to be under ground in a concrete culvert (tunnel). Removing the culvert and restoring the creek to its natural state above ground open to air and light is called daylighting. On July 11, City Council will be voting on the Civic Center Plan including whether or not to fully explore daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park. There is State of California grant money available for daylighting creeks through The Urban Creeks Restoration and Flood Control Act of 1984.	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Chris Dillon	Chris Dillon	for Sibley naturalization
Torres Basa	L. R.	Berkeley flood
Joel Auerwein	Joel Auerwein	
Eric Ho	Eric Ho	
Ben Parker	Ben Parker	We love the creek!
Legan Thomas	Legan Thomas	
Kirk Abrahamsen	Kirk Abrahamsen	
Manisha Thapa	Manisha Thapa	
Suhbaa Pradhan	Suhbaa Pradhan	
Trevor Carlson	Trevor Carlson	more park, less road is good

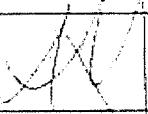
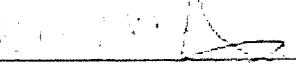
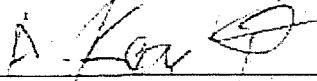
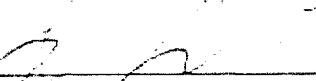
Location of Signature Gathering

Live Date  
Sun, Sat 11/3

Date 7/5/12

7/5/12

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Alex M		
Samantha Garcia		
Craig Brown		
JESS KIRK		
Carleen Eastman		
Eric Nichols		Yes
John Johnson		
Karen Bustos		
Frank Williams		
Alice		

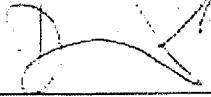
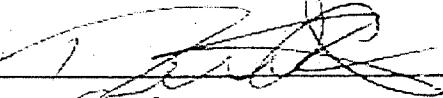
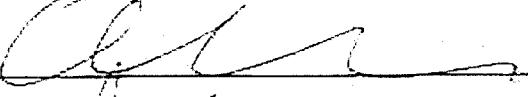
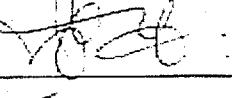
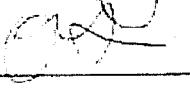
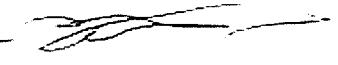
Location of Signature Gathering

Strawberry Creek Park

Date 7-2-2023

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

20

<b>Background And Summary</b>	Strawberry Creek in Strawberry Creek Park used to be under ground in a concrete culvert (tunnel). Removing the culvert and restoring the creek to its natural state above ground open to air and light is called daylighting. On July 11, City Council will be voting on the Civic Center Plan including whether or not to fully explore daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park. There is State of California grant money available for daylighting creeks through The Urban Creeks Restoration and Flood Control Act of 1984.	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Mark Befford		
Daina Chiu		
Kathy		
Devante Alvarado		
Anna Gardner		
Bethan Dawit		
Troy Scott		
Richard W.L.		
Cherie Johnson		
John Seward		

## DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

<b>Background And Summary</b>	Strawberry Creek in Strawberry Creek Park used to be under ground in a concrete culvert (tunnel). Removing the culvert and restoring the creek to its natural state above ground open to air and light is called daylighting. On July 11, City Council will be voting on the Civic Center Plan including whether or not to fully explore daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park. There is State of California grant money available for daylighting creeks through The Urban Creeks Restoration and Flood Control Act of 1984.	
<b>ACTION</b>	Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Jonathan Georg		Please restore the natural
Maria		CS, yes!
Hattie Lili		
Cameron Barker		
Teresa Trinh		
Adriana Hernandez Alvarado		
Genie Salasquelii		Please do
ANOU DAL CANTO		
Alley Wells		
Samantha Johnson		The creek is beautiful and I want to see it light up at night.

Location of Signature Gathering

Strawberry Creek Park

Date 7/3/2023

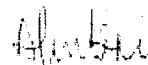
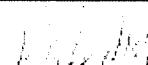
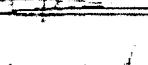
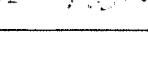
# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

22

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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Tyler Held	Tyler Held	
Lauren Her	lisa	
Ana Nos		
Charmel Moore	Charmel Moore	
Fabrina Berge	Fabrina Berge	
Amanda Carroll	Amanda Carroll	
Leah Duhank	Leah Duhank	
Jennifer James	Jennifer James	
Apple Tronje	Apple Tronje	
Erinelle Piel	Erinelle Piel	

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

**23**

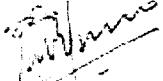
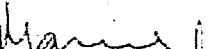
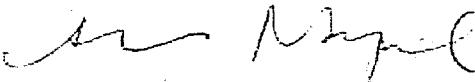
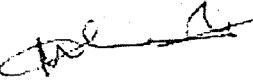
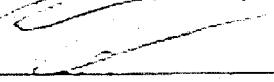
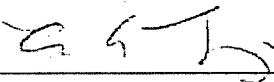
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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Alice Hsu		All for reworking park w/ - capacity green space
Angela Hsu		Economic, Environmental and Social Prosperity
Philip		
Karen Hsu		
Roger Williams		Return water to creek should be restored
Robert Black		Nature is beautiful
Zenith		
Alfredo Martinez		
Karen Hsu		
Kurt Bigle		

Location of Signature Gathering

Date

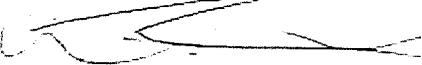
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24

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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
SHEENAKH PANDITRAO		Good Luck!
Minali Panditrao		Good Luck!
Puneet Panditrao		
Anne Nagpal		
JAINIKA ARTORA		
MALLIKA CHAWLA		Best of Luck!!
ROHIT NAGPAL		Good Luck!!
Terry Belzeman		
Leslie Tongeck		
Joseph Ynistrza		

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

25

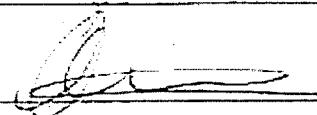
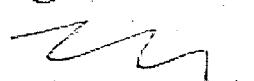
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<b>ACTION</b>	Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Nina W.		
Adrey Franklin		
Ally Lollar		
Nitsan Antman		

Location of Signature Gathering

Date

# DAYLIGHT STRAWBERRY CREEK in CIVIC CENTER PARK

26

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<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Ask City Council to support a full exploration of daylighting Strawberry Creek in the Civic Center Park</b>	
Print NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENT
Andy Patel		
Tanya Brown		
Kevin Che		

**Benado, Tony**

---

**From:** Andra Mitchell <andra.mitchell.email@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 11:19 AM  
**To:** All Council  
**Subject:** Item #33-Adoption-Civic Center Phase II - Design Concept

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

"Please support a full flow restoration of Strawberry Creek in Civic Center Park. It can be done while still supporting other identified park uses and activities."

Sent from my iPad

**Benado, Tony**

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**From:** Jack Kurzweil <jack.kurzweil@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 5:46 PM  
**To:** All Council  
**Cc:** Wong, Jenny  
**Subject:** Two things: Auditors Report and Civic Center Park

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Arreguin and Berkeley City Council Members,

First, Berkeley Auditor Jenny Wong has produced a first rate report on issues around Berkeley City Staff and the implementation and non - completion of mandated recommendations.

I hope that the Mayor and Council will become more pro-active in holding the City Manager to an implementation and reporting schedule.

Second, in response to the consultant report on Civic Center Park, I need to, once again, convey my disappointment and distress.

1. The Report simply does not engage the costs of renovation of either the Maudelle Shirek Old City Hall or the Veterans Building. It has been reasonably established that these costs could run upward of \$80 million.

Is the City Council, given all the other infrastructure issues in Berkeley, prepared to go ahead with this proposed expenditure?

2. The Report simply does not make an argument for building a new City Council Chamber in the Civic Center. It does not even pretend to do a "cost/benefit" analysis as to why it is necessary or appropriate to move the Council meeting from their current location in the BUSD facility.

3. There is a proposal for daylighting a portion of Strawberry Creek through the Park, but no assessment of either the current condition of the culvert OR the effect of splitting the park in two by virtue of the daylighting.

In short, there are all sorts of recommendations but these recommendations are indifferent to costs and vague in presumed benefits.

My view is that Civic Center Park is "underused" except for special occasions because of its location and surroundings. But that's a different discussion.

The consultant report is profoundly dishonest and disingenuous. Please scrap it.

Jack Kurzweil  
1737 Allston Way

**Benado, Tony**

---

**From:** Isabelle Gaston <isabelle.gaston@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 9:02 AM  
**To:** All Council; City Clerk; City Attorney's Office  
**Subject:** Item 35 and Psilocybin: A suicide attempt following psilocybin ingestion in a patient with no prior psychiatric history

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor and Council,

Psilocybin is not an FDA-approved substance. Therefore, there is no Safety or Efficacy profile of the drug.

However, suicidal ideation and suicidal attempts have been reported in the literature. Including this report from June 2023.

There are many other serious safety signals associated with psilocybin that have been reported in the literature as well. Are you going to warn people with epilepsy or who are on antidepressants not to use it? How about those with heart disease? If you don't, you might be liable.

You are embarking on a very dangerous path if you deprioritize the enforcement of laws for psilocybin. Several of you are attorneys and should know better. None of you have any medical training to speak of.

How many more psychiatrically unstable people do we need walking our streets?

Isabelle Gaston

JUL 11 2023

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From Eid;

**OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
CITY OF BERKELEY**

Yes Mayor we applied as soon as Dionne Early posted the space few month ago, but beside that we have applied for the lease in August 2020 when you offered the space as a lease pending a license, next day after that Liam Garland called me at 9 AM, telling me he was getting the place ready for us, and he will have Dionne Early prepare the paperwork next day you called me, and seemed upset about Dionne Early objection, Liam Garland called me as well and asked to meet Dionne and sweet talk her, I talked to her on the phone several times, expressing the urgency of our situation as our current building was in the process of being demolished, , we had several talks on the phone, the last time when she came by our old location at 2556 Telegraph avenunue, again I had hard time convincinng her of the uregency of our situation, we then had very large inventory, as well as dozens of display cabinets and fixtures, in fact while Dionne Early were talking the demolition workers began demolishing the roof, above our head and big chunks of the roof fell all around us, I stood up quickly and held Dionne by her hand and both of us as well as my employees ran out of the store to street.....That was very. scary and dangerous situation, I believe that the developer Aaran Keifer told the demolishers to start to tear the building down even though he knew we were still inside, we lost over ten thousands dollars of damage products, including Televisions and other electronics merchandise.....Aran Kiefer talk to you couple of times, but his action on our final days at 2556 Telegraph was wrong.....As far as the application we have excellent credit and we have been in business over 50 years as I established the business on May 1973 while I was full time graduate student at U C Berkeley Nuclear Engineering department, by 1978 when I finished my PHD, Eids Television annual gross sales exceeded 12 million dollars, I did continue my academic life by teaching at Cal for several years and over one decade at National University in Cupertino, now it is located in San Jose.....Thank you mayor Arreguin for responding I look forward for your call, and perhaps meeting with you in person.any day next week,

Eid Telephone 510 848 5000.

Hi Eid - my apologies for the delay. I have been out of town. I am waiting for an update from the Public Works Department on the vacant space in the Telegraph Channing Mall. My understanding is that you applied correct? If so I want to find out the status of your application. I am hoping to get an answer by tomorrow at which time I will call you. Thank you

Thank you for your response.

On Fri, Mar 10, 2023 at 2:14 PM Early, Dionne <[DEarly@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:DEarly@cityofberkeley.info)> wrote:

The application has been received. Review of the applications begins late next week.

Thank you for applying!

Sent from Mail for Windows

j.j. Phillips <jennyhanniver@hotmail.com>

Sep 1, 2020,

From: j.j. Phillips

Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 9:48 PM

To: mayor@cityofberkeley.info<mayor@cityofberkeley.info>

Subject: Eid's TV

Dear Mayor Arreguin,

I moved to Berkeley in 1973 to attend the University of California and I've been here ever since because I love this city and wouldn't want to live anywhere else.. Eid, who owns Eid's TV opened his electronics business on North Shattuck around that same time, almost 50 years ago, and he's been in business in Berkeley ever since.

As you know, Eid's is now located on Telegraph just below Dwight Way, and I understand that the old arcade that houses his store is going to be demolished and replaced by a modern building (a damned shame) so Eid is compelled to find another place for his business or close up shop for good if he can't find a suitable place in central Berkeley to relocate. I understand that retail space was found where Eid could move his store, and the deal was all but consummated when a problem arose.

Eid's is a Berkeley institution and it would be a damned shame if he were driven out of business in his beloved city because of some capricious reason. Berkeley is changing in many ways to keep up with the zeitgeist of the 21st century and that is entirely understandable. But if this city gave in to crass commercialism and took back the hand it had already extended to help a business that's been in Berkeley for almost 50 years, that would not be the Berkeley I came to know and love and care about.

I entreat you to enable Eid to move his business to the new location that had been previously decided on.

Yours truly,

Jane Phillips

1501 Blake Street, No. 317

j.j. Phillips <jennyhanniver@hotmail.com>

Hello, Eid,

You don't know me but I pass by your store frequently, on my way to and from the dispensary down the street. I also hear you when you call KGO to speak to Pat Thurston, John Rothmann, and the other hosts -- I also hear you when you call Michael Krasny on Forum and Minds Over Matter. I always enjoy your calls --

you invariably have some very interesting and important things to say. I was saddened to hear about the troubles you're having with your store. It's a shame that the city is going to tear down that unique old building and force you out, but I was encouraged when the other day you said that another place had been found where you could move your business. But then you called John's show tonight and said that someone had blocked the move, even though everybody else had approved it, and you asked people to contact Jesse Arreguin to protest, so I sent him the email below and I hope the reasons why are evident in the email.

I sincerely hope that whatever the problem is, it will be surmounted so that you can move your store and stay in business here in Berkeley as long as you want.

Yours truly,

Jane Phillips