



Parks and Waterfront Commission

CONSENT CALENDAR  
March 22, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Parks and Waterfront Commission  
Submitted by: Gordon Wozniak, Chair, Parks and Waterfront Commission  
Subject: Letter of Support for Infrastructure Improvement Projects in the Berkeley Waterfront from the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission to State Senate Budget Chair Skinner and Assembly Budget Chair Ting

RECOMMENDATION

Send the attached Letter of Support for Infrastructure Improvement Projects in the Berkeley Waterfront from the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission to State Senate Budget Chair Skinner and Assembly Budget Chair Ting.

BACKGROUND

At a regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, the commission took action to request Council send the attached Letter of Support (Attachment 1) (M/S/C: Kawczynska/Cox/U): Ayes: Birnbach; Capitelli; Cox; Diehm; Floyd, Kawczynska; Landoni; Srioudom; Wozniak; Noes: None; Abstain: None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Berkeley Waterfront has \$15 million in key improvement projects that are in need of immediate funding.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

No negative impact and consistent with City standards.

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager concurs with the recommendation contained in this report.

CONTACT PERSON

Gordon Wozniak, Chairperson, Parks and Waterfront Commission, 510-666-0662

Attachments:

1. Letter of Support – Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission – to the State

Attachment 1



City of Berkeley  
Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission

Date: Feb. 16, 2022

**Re: Support for Infrastructure Improvements to the Berkeley Marina**

To Whom It May Concern:

The Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission voted unanimously at its meeting on Feb. 16, 2022, to express its support for the City of Berkeley's funding request for Infrastructure Improvements at the Berkeley Marina. (See list in Attachment 2).

The Berkeley Waterfront is a beloved recreational area offering a 1,000-slip Marina, more than 100 acres of open space and seven miles of trails that delight dog owners, birdwatchers, sailors, windsurfers, bicyclists, kite flyers, and anyone seeking to enjoy fresh air and expansive views of the bay.

Over the last fifteen years, despite investing \$40 million in capital improvement projects at the Marina, there remains \$130 million in unfunded infrastructure needs.

To help the Marina recover from the Covid financial impact, it needs revenue-generating infrastructure investments. All projects in the \$15 million City request to the State are directly related to revenue, except for the perimeter path at Cesar Chavez Park. An improved main channel that is passable at low tide and new berthing slips, with sizes attractive to the current market, will improve occupancy rates and annual revenues by ~\$0.5M.

Looking ahead, and to ensure fiscal sustainability, the City has engaged in a long-range planning effort, the Berkeley Marina Area Specific Plan (BMASP), which will inform future development and provide alternative visions for a sustainable waterfront area. To protect the environmental jewel that is the waterfront and State land granted, a robust CEQA process shall be performed for all projects.

We respectfully request State support for these highest-priority capital improvement projects. If in the next budget cycle, additional funds are available, there are several priority projects that would improve fishing and recreational access to the Bay, but are non-revenue generating.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working in partnership to ensure the vitality and longevity of the Berkeley Marina for decades to come.

Respectfully,

Gordon Wozniak, Chair, Berkeley Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission

## Attachment 2

The Berkeley City Council's request to State Senator Nancy Skinner for \$15 million of investment in the following critical needs at the Berkeley Marina:

### 1. Dredging Main Channel - \$6,000,000

Both the northern and southern entrances to the main Berkeley Marina need to be dredged. They were last partially dredged in 1989 by the Federal Emergency Management Agency after the Loma Prieta earthquake, to allow for large ferry use. Currently, there are several spots where large boats cannot enter or exit during low tide.

### 2. Dock Piling Replacement - \$1,300,000

The Berkeley Marina has approximately 500 pilings. Approximately 50 percent are the original wood pilings, many of which have failed or are near failure. The City has identified \$1.2 million in City funding to replace the worst pilings, but is in need of additional funding to replace the remaining wood pilings.

### 3. Finger Dock Replacement - \$850,000

Various small docks next to each slip that are adjacent to each boat need to be replaced in docks K, L, M, N and O. While the main docks are in decent shape, many of the finger docks are failing.

### 4. J Dock Replacement - \$4,500,000

These docks are the oldest remaining unimproved docks since the initial construction in the 1960s. These docks will be converted from small boat slips to slips for medium and larger boats, which should generate more revenue.

### 5. J and K Parking Lot - \$1,150,000

This parking lot is adjacent to the marina office, commercial fishing dock (K), a marina restaurant and the bait shop and has totally failed and needs complete replacement. This parking lot is the busiest marina parking lot and serves multiple public uses in the Berkeley waterfront.

### 6. Cesar Chavez Perimeter Path - \$1,000,000

This failing one-mile pathway needs to be widened to meet Bay Trail standards and there are several locations that do not meet current ADA standards.

### 7. Marina Office Piling Replacement - \$200,000

The twenty wood pilings which hold up the marina office/public restroom and related platform are near failure and need immediate replacement.

