



Councilmember Cheryl Davila
District 2

CONSENT CALENDAR
May 30, 2017

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Davila and Mayor Arreguin
Subject: Budget Referral: Youth Listening Campaign & Citywide Master Plan

RECOMMENDATION

In support of the 2020 Vision process and as part of the larger commitment of the City of Berkeley to its young people, we are proposing a planning process that centers the voices and needs of young people, their families and the people who support them day-in and day-out. The process would include: 1) A Listening Campaign that would include focus groups, surveys and one-on-one interviews to identify the experiences of, perspectives of, needs of and barriers for young people, ages 13-24, in securing and maintaining safety and well-being, achieving their goals and dreams, and having positive and supportive relationships with adults in their lives, including the schools and programs they participate in; 2) Use the results of the Listening Campaign to organize assemblies of young people, their families and the programs and providers they are connected to in order to collectively reflect on the results and identify potential services, programs, resources and policies that could respond to their needs, reduce barriers and harms and broaden what is available to support young people; and 3) Use the outcomes from the assembly process and Listening Campaign to partner with city staff in creating a Youth Master Plan.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

\$30,000 for facilitators, youth incentives, assembly materials and expenses, and staff or consultant time to develop a Youth Master Plan based on the results of the Listening Campaign and the assemblies. The sponsors of this referral and the consultant hired to develop the Youth Master Plan can partner with city staff on identifying additional resources for implementation of the plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Supports an environment of greater safety, well-being, future success and positivity for our young people and therefore for the future of Berkeley. No ecological impact.

BACKGROUND

As outlined in the 2020 Vision report, there are on-going racial inequities in educational outcomes, kindergarten readiness, college readiness and attendance. These inequities

reflect inequities in other health and social outcomes such as access to high-quality educational and afterschool programs, future employment and vulnerability to incarceration. In addition, young people of color in Berkeley, as well as adults, experience a higher number of interactions with police and high rates of incarceration.

The 2020 Vision planning process has created work groups to design and evaluate pilot programs to reduce racial and economic inequities and then replicate successful programs across BUSD. This proposal most closely aligns with and intends to support the proposed but not yet fully active Community Engagement work group.

Councilmember Davila and the Mayor's office intends to partner with the 2020 Vision Executive Committee and Community Engagement work group, as well as Youth Works and other relevant city departments, on the design and implementation of this proposal. It hopes to be a complement to the work being done to improve school-based outcomes toward greater equity and success with a focus on the network of programs, services and resources that can support young people in parallel with school, afterschool, on weekends, during the summer and for issues and experiences that are beyond the scope of school sites.

The reports of escalating racial tension, experience of racial bias and evidence of racial inequalities in Berkeley schools, youth contact with police and long-term outcomes and future prospects suggest the need to listen carefully with open minds and a commitment to equity, care and justice for our young people is urgent. In Richmond, RYSE Center completed a listening campaign with over 500 young people as well as their families, educators and youth providers. The results pointed to many things that young people are experiencing and not getting the support they need or want in response to as well as barriers to their reaching out for support.

The information laid the groundwork for development a Youth Master Plan that includes identifying potential improvements, expansion and additions to public services for youth, strengthening and potential expansion of community-based non-profit organizations serving youth as well as identifying the need for additional programs, resources and services that currently do not exist.

CONTACT PERSON

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RESOURCES:

- [2020 Vision Plan – Phase VI](#)
- [RYSE Listening Campaign Report.](#)