



**SOPHIE HAHN**  
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CONSENT CALENDAR

October 15, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Councilmembers Sophie Hahn and Rigel Robinson  
Subject: Berkeley City Club Conservancy Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds to General Fund and Grant of Such Funds

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$500 per Councilmember, including \$250 from Councilmember Hahn, to the Berkeley City Club Conservancy, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, to preserve the landmark Julia Morgan Berkeley City Club building and to celebrate its upcoming centennial in 2030, with funds relinquished to the City's general fund for this purpose from the discretionary Council office budget of Councilmember Hahn, and any other Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

BACKGROUND

The Berkeley City Club Conservancy is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the historic Berkeley City Club building and to promoting the legacy of Julia Morgan, its extraordinary architect.

Built in 1930 to honor the need for a women's activity center, the Berkeley Women's City Club became a center for social, cultural, recreational, and family activities in the East Bay. At the height of its legacy as a social club, the club had 4,000 female members. Thousands of children learned to swim at the club at a time when there were few community pools. In 1963, the club opened its doors to both men and women and was renamed the Berkeley City Club, which continues to thrive as a hub for social activity in Berkeley.

Julia Morgan, the architect of Berkeley Women's City Club, was born in 1872 in San Francisco. She graduated as the only woman in her engineering class from UC Berkeley, and then studied architecture at Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. In 1904, Morgan obtained a license to practice architecture in California and went on to design more than 700 buildings. In 1929, ground was broken to build the Berkeley Women's City Club, which was constructed in 11 months and fully funded by Berkeley women.

Today, the Berkeley City Club is endangered. If the building is not restored, it will not see another century of community service. The all-volunteer Berkeley City Club Conservancy is dedicated to preserving this beloved Berkeley and California historical asset.

On Sunday, October 27, 2019, from 11:00am to 4:00pm, the Berkeley City Club Conservancy will host a Chocolate & Coffee Faire to inaugurate a 10-year, \$10 million fundraising effort to

preserve the Berkeley City Club building and to celebrate its upcoming centennial in 2030. More information can be found at <https://berkeleycityclubconservancy.org/chocolate-coffee-faire/>.

FISCAL IMPACTS

A total of up to \$4,500 from Councilmembers' discretionary budgets.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

This item is consistent with the City's vision on sustainability.

CONTACT: Sophie Hahn, District 5: (510) 981-7150

ATTACHMENTS:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION #####-N.S.

AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM  
THE OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS  
FOR A GRANT TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC PURPOSE

WHEREAS, the Berkeley City Club Conservancy is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the historic Berkeley City Club building and to promoting the legacy of its architect Julia Morgan; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Women's City Club was built in 1930, and fully funded by Berkeley women, to honor the need for a women's activity center, and has served for nearly a century as a center for social, cultural, recreational, and family activities in the East Bay; and

WHEREAS, Julia Morgan, the architect of Berkeley Women's City Club, graduated as the only woman in her engineering class from UC Berkeley, obtained a license to practice architecture in California and went on to design more than 700 buildings, and became the first woman to receive the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Gold Medal, considered the profession's highest honor; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley City Club will be endangered if is not restored; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley City Club Conservancy will inaugurate a 10-year, \$10 million fundraising effort to preserve the Berkeley City Club building and to celebrate its centennial in 2030, on Sunday, October 27, 2019; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by Councilmember Hahn of \$250 and any funds, up to \$500 per Council Office Budget, from the Mayor and other Councilmembers shall be granted to the Berkeley City Club Conservancy to fund the preservation of the Julia Morgan Berkeley City Club building and to celebrate its upcoming centennial.

