



Cheryl Davila  
Councilmember  
District 2

## REVISED AGENDA MATERIAL

**Meeting Date:** January 21, 2020

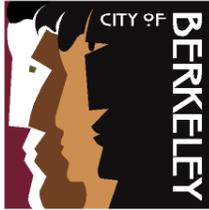
**Item Description:** Short Term Referral to the City Manager: 1. Improve and increase External Community Engagement; 2. Identify the funding resources needed to adequately implement number 1; and 3. Implement and require all City Council items and staff reports include Climate Impacts in addition to Environmental Sustainability

**Submitted by:** Councilmember Cheryl Davila

Updated agenda report and resolution to reflect the actions from December 5, 2019 Council Facilities, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment and Sustainability Committee meeting:

Send the item, as amended, back to the City Council with a Positive Recommendation and to keep the first recommendation, the establishment of a new department, in the committee as a discussion item. Also, the committee took action to amend the recommendations:

1. Short Term Referral to the City Manager: to look at how to improve and increase External Community Engagement – including funding for regular on- going town halls or neighborhood assemblies for external community engagement and collaboration to engage the community and allow for input on new policies and programs which affect “marginalized and front-line communities.”
2. Short Term Referral to the City Manager to report back and identify funding resources and funding needed to adequately implement number 1, including different organizational structure options; and recommendations for funding.
3. Implement and require all City Council items, and staff reports include Climate Impacts in addition to Environmental Sustainability.



Cheryl Davila  
Councilmember  
District 2

CONSENT CALENDAR  
January 21, 2020  
~~December 3, 2019~~

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmembers Cheryl Davila and Ben Bartlett

Subject: Short Term Referral to the City Manager: 1. Improve and increase External Community Engagement; 2. Identify the funding resources needed to adequately implement number 1; and 3. Implement and require all City Council items and staff reports include Climate Impacts in addition to Environmental Sustainability

~~Short Term Referral to the City Manager on how to establish a New Department: Climate Emergency Mobilization Department within 90 day~~

**RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt the following amended actions with a positive recommendation from the Council Facilities, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment and Sustainability (FITES) Committee:

1. Short Term Referral to the City Manager: to look at how to improve and increase External Community Engagement – including funding for regular on- going town halls or neighborhood assemblies for external community engagement and collaboration to engage the community and allow for input on new policies and programs which affect “marginalized and front-line communities.”

~~Short Term Referral to the City Manager on how to establish a New Department: Climate Emergency Mobilization Department within 90 days with the following actions:~~

- ~~1. Establishment of a new department – Create a Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) and transition existing city staff (current Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officers) into the new department. The CEMD is proposed to have oversight authority of existing departments and boards regarding planning and coordination of the City’s response to climate change, including public education and outreach. In addition, the CEMD would measure and track ongoing greenhouse gas emissions and pollutants, develop an annual climate emissions budget and identify grant funding.~~
- ~~2. Short Term Referral to the City Manager to report back and identify funding resources and funding needed to adequately implement number 1, including different organizational structure options; and recommendations for funding.~~
- ~~2. External Community Engagement – Provide a timeline for regular on-going town halls or neighborhood assemblies for external community engagement and collaboration to engage the community and allow for input on new policies and programs which affect “marginalized and front-line communities.” As part of this process, the proposal further recommends that community capacity building in the form of training and education be provided, and that potential pilot projects be considered which could be tested in these communities.~~
- ~~3. Implement and require all City Council items, and staff reports include Climate Impacts in addition to Environmental Sustainability.~~

~~3. A Report from the City Manager within 90 days regarding: The number of positions to adequately implement and operate the CEM department; and recommendations for funding in the upcoming fiscal year budget.~~

### POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

On December 5, 2019, the Facilities, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment, and Sustainability Committee adopted the following action: M/S/C (Harrison/Robinson) to send the item, as amended, back to the City Council with a Positive Recommendation and to keep the first recommendation, the establishment of a new department, in the committee as a discussion item.

Amend the recommendation to read as follows:

1. Short Term Referral to the City Manager: to look at how to improve and increase External Community Engagement – including funding for regular on-going town halls or neighborhood assemblies for external community engagement and collaboration to engage the community and allow for input on new policies and programs which affect “marginalized and front-line communities”.
2. A Report from the City Manager within 90 days regarding: The resources needed to adequately implement these efforts, including different organizational structure options; and recommendations for funding.
3. Recommend that all staff reports address climate change in addition to environmental sustainability.

Vote: All Ayes.

### BACKGROUND

The Berkeley City Council unanimously passed the Climate Emergency Declaration June 12, 2018. Since then, Richmond, Oakland, Hayward, Alameda, El Cerrito, Chico, Fairfax, Healdsburg, Davis, Arcata, Cloverdale, Malibu, Petaluma, San Jose, San Mateo County, Santa Cruz City & County, Sonoma County and Windsor have also passed Climate Emergency Declarations. There are over 48 cities throughout the United States who have declared, as well as over 1,146 governments and 22 countries throughout the world. The declaration is the first step.

As unprecedented winter wildfires are impacting our City with fierce urgency, we must begin to prepare for our future in these times of climate disruption. Without an immediate and drastic change from the status quo, humans will cause irreversible and ever-worsening damage to the Earth’s climate. To act too late, or to be too cautious in our vision and do too little, carries the risk of condemning the City and its residents to an increasingly uninhabitable climate and potentially catastrophic economic losses caused by worsening disasters.

While the wildfires and mudslides demonstrate that the climate emergency threatens everyone, the disasters wrought by an abruptly destabilizing climate have so far most devastatingly impact lower-income communities of color first and worst. Drought, famine, and instability have devastated countries in the Global South. Millions of climate refugees have already left their homes in search of a safe place to live. In the United States, we have seen this after hurricanes Katrina, Sandy, Harvey, Irma and Maria how environmentally and economically vulnerable people have been left to fend for themselves.

The City must therefore aggressively move to reduce and remove greenhouse gas emissions, adapt and restore ecosystems by rapidly adopting legislation to mandate such efforts Citywide and by doing so in such a way that lower-income and frontline communities of color benefit first from mitigation and adaptation funds. The City can thereby create a model for other cities to follow and use its global climate leadership standing to lead the way. By doing so, Berkeleyans can trigger a global mobilization to restore a safe climate, thereby creating the conditions for a future, not of chaos and misery, but of community and dignity.

At the December 5, 2019 meeting of the Facilities, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment and Sustainability (FITES) Council Committee, the committee requested to send this item, as amended, back to the City Council with a Positive Recommendation and to keep the first recommendation “the establishment of a new department” in the FITES committee as a discussion item. Also, the committee took action to amend the recommendations: (1) Short Term Referral to the City Manager: to look at how to improve and increase External Community Engagement – including funding for regular on- going town halls or neighborhood assemblies for external community engagement and collaboration to engage the community and allow for input on new policies and programs which affect “marginalized and front-line communities”. (2) Short Term Referral to the City Manager to report back and identify the resources and funding needed to adequately implement these efforts, including different organizational structure options; and recommendations for funding. (3) Implement and require all City Council reports/items, and staff reports include Climate Impacts in addition to Environmental Sustainability.

#### FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

To be determined.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Berkeley City Council unanimously passed the Climate Emergency Declaration in June 2018, it is important, now more than ever to take the next step to insure that we are prepared and ready for the climate crisis we will face.

#### CONTACT PERSON

Cheryl Davila  
Councilmember District 2  
510.981.7120  
[cdavila@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:cdavila@cityofberkeley.info)

#### ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution
2. Track changes from original Council item

RESOLUTION NO. XXXX

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BERKELEY TO ESTABLISH A  
NEW CITY DEPARTMENT CALLED CLIMATE EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, The Berkeley City Council unanimously passed the Climate Emergency Declaration  
on June 12, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the cities of Richmond, Oakland, Hayward, Alameda, El Cerrito, Chico, Fairfax,  
Healdsburg, Davis, Arcata, Cloverdale, Malibu, Petaluma, San Jose, San Mateo County, Santa

Cruz City & County, Sonoma County and Windsor have also passed Climate Emergency Declarations; and

WHEREAS, There are over 48 cities throughout the United States who have declared, as well as over 1,146 governments and 22 countries throughout the world. The declaration is the first step; and

WHEREAS, The Climate Emergency Declaration was the first step, and creating the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department is the next step; and

WHEREAS, As unprecedented winter wildfires and ensuing mudslides destroyed parts of our City and region, a climate emergency mobilization of our City has never been more fiercely urgent; and

WHEREAS, Such an effort must end to the maximum extent technically feasible city-wide greenhouse gas emissions in every sector by 2025 and begin a large-scale effort to safely and justly remove carbon from the atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, Without an immediate and drastic change from the status quo, humans will cause irreversible and ever-worsening damage to the Earth's climate; and

WHEREAS, To act too late, or to be too cautious in our vision and do too little, carries the risk of condemning the City and its residents to an increasingly uninhabitable climate and potentially catastrophic economic losses caused by worsening disasters; and

WHEREAS, abnormal wildfires, tornadoes, mudslides and other demonstrate that the climate emergency threatens everyone, the disasters wrought by an abruptly destabilizing climate have so far most devastatingly impacted lower-income communities of color first and worst. Drought, famine, and instability have devastated countries in the Global South; and

WHEREAS, Millions of climate refugees have already left their homes in search of a safe place to live. In the United States, we have seen after Hurricanes Katrina, Sandy, Harvey, Irma and Maria how environmentally and economically vulnerable have been generally left to fend for themselves; and

WHEREAS, The City must therefore aggressively move to reduce and remove greenhouse gas emissions and adapt and restore ecosystems by rapidly adopting legislation to mandate such efforts Citywide and by doing so in such a way that lower-income and frontline communities of color benefit first from mitigation and adaptation funds. The City can thereby create a model for other cities to follow and use its global climate leadership standing to lead the way. By doing so, Berkeleyan can trigger a global mobilization to restore a safe climate, thereby creating the conditions for a future, not of chaos and misery, but of community and dignity; and

At the December 5, 2019 meeting of the Facilities, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment and Sustainability (FITES) Council Committee, the committee requested to send this item, as amended, back to the City Council with a Positive Recommendation and to keep the first recommendation "the establishment of a new department" in the FITES committee as a discussion item. Also, the committee took action to amend the recommendations: (1) Short Term Referral to the City Manager: to look at how to improve and increase External Community Engagement – including funding for regular on- going town halls or neighborhood assemblies for external community engagement and collaboration to engage the community and allow for input on new policies and programs which affect "marginalized and front-line communities". (2) Short Term Referral to the City Manager to report back and identify the resources and funding needed to adequately implement these efforts, including different organizational structure options; and recommendations for funding. (3) Implement and require all City Council

reports/items, and staff reports include Climate Impacts in addition to Environmental Sustainability.

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Berkeley City Council directs a Short Term Referral to the City Manager on how to establish a New Department: Climate Emergency Mobilization Department within 90 days with the following actions:

Adopt the following amended actions with a positive recommendation from the Council Facilities, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment and Sustainability (FITES) Committee:  
1. Short Term Referral to the City Manager: to look at how to improve and increase External Community Engagement – including funding for regular on- going town halls or neighborhood assemblies for external community engagement and collaboration to engage the community and allow for input on new policies and programs which affect “marginalized and front-line communities.”

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~~1. *Establishment of a new department* – Create a Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) and transition existing city staff (current Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officers) into the new department. The CEMD is proposed to have oversight authority of existing departments and boards regarding planning and coordination of the City’s response to climate change, including public education and outreach. In addition, the CEMD would measure and track ongoing greenhouse gas emissions and pollutants, develop an annual climate emissions budget and identify grant funding.~~  
~~2. Short Term Referral to the City Manager to report back and identify funding resources and funding needed to adequately implement number 1, including different organizational structure options; and recommendations for funding.~~

~~2. *External Community Engagement* – Provide a timeline for regular on-going town halls or neighborhood assemblies for external community engagement and collaboration to engage the community and allow for input on new policies and programs which affect “marginalized and front-line communities.” As part of this process, the proposal further recommends that community capacity building in the form of training and education be provided, and that potential pilot projects be considered which could be tested in these communities.~~

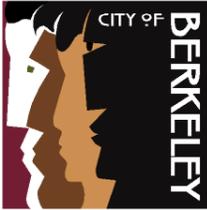
~~3. Implement and require all City Council items, and staff reports include Climate Impacts in addition to Environmental Sustainability.~~

~~3. *A Report from the City Manager within 90 days regarding:* The number of positions to adequately implement and operate the CEM department; and recommendations for funding in the upcoming fiscal year budget.~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council directs the City Planning Department to report back on opportunities for radical greenhouse gas emissions reductions and carbon drawdown and removal opportunities through the City’s General Plan and Community Plan Updates, including on metrics which can prioritize climate-adaptive land use planning.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council directs the City Manager or Designee to report back on opportunities and funding to address climate emergencies and mitigation through existing hazard mitigation programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council direct the City Clerk to work with the City Manager to include greenhouse gas impact statements and greenhouse gas removal or reduction statements in all relevant Council motions, much as it currently includes fiscal impact statements.



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**RECOMMENDATION**

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