



Peace and Justice
Commission

INFORMATION CALENDAR
October 30, 2018

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Peace and Justice Commission
Submitted by: George Lippman, Chairperson, Peace and Justice Commission
Subject: FY 2018-19 Peace and Justice Commission Work Plan

INTRODUCTION

At its September 2018 meeting, the Peace and Justice Commission adopted its FY 2018-2019 Work Plan (Attachment 1).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Peace and Justice Commission has recently communicated to Council about two responsibilities it is prepared to assume, both in support of the Sanctuary City initiative. The attached work plan for FY 2019 incorporates these proposed roles along with the ongoing subcommittee work and mandated advisory responsibilities. The Commission adopted the work plan at its September 17, 2018 meeting.

M/S/C: Bohn/Hariri

Ayes: Maran, R., Lippman, G., Bohn, D., Kenin, W, Watson, R., Chin, A., Hariri, A

Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Pancoast, Z

BACKGROUND

In 2016, the Council adopted direction to Commissions to submit a work plan annually.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no environmental sustainability impacts directly associated with the adoption of the work plan.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

The Commission will re-evaluate the work plan after hearing back from Council on the two Sanctuary City proposals.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Fiscal impacts will depend on the actions recommended and the Council's decisions.

CONTACT PERSON

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Attachment 1: FY 2018-19 Peace and Justice Commission Work Plan

Berkeley Peace and Justice Commission
2018-2019 Annual Work Plan

Mission Statement:

The Peace and Justice Commission advises the Berkeley City Council and the Berkeley Unified School District Board on all matters relating to the City of Berkeley's role in issues of peace and social justice. (BMC Section 3.68.070.A.) Under its mandate, the Commission also helps create citizen awareness around issues of social justice, holds public hearings and community forums, initiates and encourage research programs, develops ways to resolve conflict which do not involve violence, acts as a liaison between community groups organizing around issues of peace and social justice and City government, and assists the Director of Finance in the evaluation of financial institutions for socially responsible investing.

I. Resolutions and communications to Council and the Board of Education.

Address homelessness, racial and gender justice, policing policy (including external BPD relationships such as NCRIC and UASI), protection of Ohlone sacred sites, civil liberties, international peace with justice, and other social issues as they arise throughout the year with proposals and communications as appropriate.

II. Other existing responsibilities and subcommittees.

- a. Continue the established responsibility for Nuclear Free Berkeley Act oversight and waiver process, as proposals are submitted to the Commission by City staff. Continue to collaborate with the international movement against nuclear weapons.
- b. Subcommittee on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

The Subcommittee held a successful forum on the CRPD in 2018, and plans to hold a follow-up forum in 2019.

- c. Socially Responsible Investing and Procurement Subcommittee (SRIP).
 - i. Improve and institutionalize the City's commitment to Socially Responsible investing,

- banking, and procurement.¹ Develop a resolution to propose a mechanism to fulfill the Commission's mandated advisory role.
- ii. Work with the City SRIP committee to strengthen and make effective the SRIP program, especially with regard to Procurement
- iii. Work with the BUSD School Board Policy Committee to establish an effective Sweatfree Berkeley Schools Policy.

III. Proposed expansions of responsibility.

The Commission has proposed two areas in which it could assist the Council in support of its Sanctuary City/City of Refuge declaration. As Berkeley has no Immigrant Rights Commission, Peace and Justice functions in that capacity on a de facto basis.

- a. Regional Sanctuary Community Working Group. The Commission offered to take on coordination with other Sanctuary communities (cities and counties) in a resolution passed July 9, 2018. Council is currently scheduled to discuss this resolution on October 2.
 - b. Sanctuary City Contracting Ordinance — Ban ICE data brokers from city contracting. The Commission reviewed the ordinance referred to it by Council, and responded with suggested language giving the Commission a role in vetting contracts, patterned after its role in the Nuclear Free Berkeley Act. The Commission's letter appeared in a subsequent Council agenda packet as a communication and is pending Council action.
- IV. Cooperate with the school board and the BUSD community on social issues of mutual interest affecting students and youth, with special consideration to the problem of the educational opportunity gap and sexual harassment in the schools, in the context of Title IX. Success of this initiative depends on School Board members fully appointing membership of the Peace and

¹ BMC Section 3.68.070.K: "The [Peace and Justice] Commission shall perform the following functions...K. Assist the Director of Finance in the annual evaluation of financial institutions for qualification of City investments...and advise the City Council on matters relating to the responsible investment of public funds in accordance with the responsible investment policy established by Resolution No. 55,141A-NS.")

Justice Commission (to its statutory number of six BUSD-appointed commissioners from the present two).

The Commission will support the development of the African American Holistic Resource Center.

Background:

CRPD

The Peace & Justice Commission established the Subcommittee on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Subcommittee) in 2014, in order to institutionalize the City of Berkeley's long-standing focus on promoting and protecting the legal rights of persons with disabilities. The City has held a leading position in the field of disability rights for many years, and is well-known nationally and internationally as an unusually fruitful breeding ground for grassroots non-profit organizations working in that field.

Together with representatives from four other City of Berkeley Commissions: the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Disability, the Commission on Mental Health, and the Commission on Aging, the Subcommittee published its Mission Statement; requested the Peace & Justice Commission to ask the City Council to write to the U.S. Senate urging ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (duly done in 2015); and held a public Forum at the Ed Roberts Campus in May 2018.

The Subcommittee is working on plans to hold another public Forum in 2019.

The Honorable Jesse Arreguin, Mayor of the City of Berkeley, welcomed the Forum participants at this successful Subcommittee initiative that extended knowledge and applicability of the international treaty in Berkeley.

Nuclear-Free Berkeley

The Nuclear Free Berkeley Act came into force in 1986 (Chapter 12.90.070 Section 030D). The Peace & Justice Commission established the Subcommittee on The Nuclear Free Berkeley Act (NFBA) to oversee and reinforce compliance with the terms of the Act. The Subcommittee's activities have included:

- recommendation against a waiver for continuation of the Berkeley Public Library's contracts with 3M (2009-2010);
- consideration of a waiver for the City of Berkeley Public Health Division's proposal on medical supplies (2012);
- recommendation of a waiver for the SkyDeck Business Incubator-Accelerator Contract (2012);
- consideration of a waiver for a proposal of the City of Berkeley Public Health Division on medical supplies (2012);

- recommendation (February 7, 2013) to the Regents of the University of California that it phase out responsibility for operating the Nuclear Weapons Laboratories in Livermore and Los Alamos;
- a letter from the City of Berkeley to President Obama in 2014 urging support of a ban on nuclear weapons.

More recently, in light of the Award of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017 to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), whose goal is international adherence to and full implementation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (the Treaty), the Peace and Justice Commission will seek to collaborate further with ICAN on activities of mutual concern. We would note that the California State Senate and the California State Assembly voted affirmatively on a bill in September 2018 to urge U.S. Senate adoption of the Treaty. Strong support comes also from the International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement; NuclearBan.US, The City of Los Angeles, California; the City of Takoma Park, Maryland; Physicians for Social Responsibility; and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, among others.

Indigenous Peoples:

Between December 2015 and January 2016, the Berkeley City Council, upon the recommendation of the Peace and Justice Commission, adopted five important resolutions supporting the treaty rights of indigenous people in Berkeley. The resolutions included: recognition of the Ohlone people as the original inhabitants of Berkeley and the Bay Area, pledging to work in good faith with Ohlone representatives; implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as municipal policy; endorsing the upgrading of the Declaration to a Convention; honoring the Berkeley Shellmound indigenous site; and urging the East Bay Regional Parks District to protect the Ohlone place of origin sacred site.

The resolution on the Berkeley Shellmound mandated that “free, prior, and informed consent of the Ohlone and other indigenous peoples of the region should be integral to any alteration planning for the Berkeley Shellmound site, in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.”

In 2018-2019 the Peace and Justice Commission will support the implementation of these resolutions with particular attention to proposed development of the Berkeley Shellmound site.

Sweatshop-Free Berkeley:

The Sweatshop-free Berkeley Policy now has a zero dollar threshold per supplier per year for textile products purchased by the City. This threshold is an improvement over the previous minimum of \$1,000 purchase per supplier for the Policy to apply. However, the policy is complaint-driven, so the burden is on community members to research the supply chain for each supplier. The SRIP Subcommittee proposes to establish a mechanism for suppliers to show that they are using Sweatshop Free products for City purchases.