AGENDA
The Commissions may discuss any items listed on the agenda, but may take action only on items identified as Action.

Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order (Chair).
2. Roll Call (Secretary).
3. Announcements (Chair)
4. Approval of Agenda (Chair).
5. Approval Minutes for April 12, 2017 *(Chair).
6. Public Comment.
7. Director’s Report
   a) Director’s Office ** (Scott Ferris): Parks CIP Project List; Special Events.
   b) Parks Division (Susan Ferrera): Project Updates; Special Events.
   c) Waterfront Division (Alexandra Endress): Project Update; Special Events.

Action
8. Annual Waiver of Marina Berth Fees for Non-Profits providing community service (The Pegasus Project)* (Miller)
   Action: Review and affirm compliance with Resolution No. 66,544, and recommend Council approval of an annual waiver of Marina Berth Fees for the current allotment of slips for The Pegasus Project.

Discussion
9. Update from subcommittee on parks capital projects *(McGrath).

Action
10. T1 Infrastructure Bond Program, timeline, and community input (chair).
   Action: Discussion and possible action regarding recommendation to Council.

Discussion
11. Animal Care Commission recommendation of January 2017 to limit the number of dogs per person at Cesar Chavez Park to eight dogs ** (Kawczynska).
12. Update from subcommittee on planning (McKay).
13. Update from subcommittee on volunteers (Lee).

Information Items
14. Recent Council Reports *
15. UC Berkeley Student planning projects in the Rose Garden (Sue)
16. Communications *:
   • Gangs in Berkeley: Police break silence, Berkeleyside, 2017-04-08 (E. Raguso)
   • Memo - Parks & Waterfront Comm: Meas T1 Infrastru Bond: Next Steps, (T. Burroughs)
17. Adjournment
   * document is attached to agenda packet and on the commission website.
   ** document will be provided at the meeting.
ADA Disclaimer: This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request disability-related accommodations to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6342 (V) or 981-6345 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

SB343 Disclaimer: Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at Parks Recreation & Waterfront Department Office at 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA.

Communications Disclaimer: Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City’s electronic records, which are accessible through the City’s website. Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record. All communications to the Commission should be received at least 10 days before the meeting date. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the commission or committee for further information.

Commission Information: The agenda packets for the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Waterfront Commission are available for review at www.cityofberkeley.info/commissions; the Berkeley Main Library and the Parks Recreation & Waterfront Department Office at 2180 Milvia Street –3rd Floor, during their normal business hours. If you have questions, call Commission Secretary, Roger Miller at 981-6704 at 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704 or by email at rmiller@cityofberkeley.info.

MISSION STATEMENT – PARKS AND WATERFRONT: The Parks and Waterfront Commission shall be an advisory board and shall review the policies, projects, programs, planning efforts, activities, funding, and the physical condition of parks, pools, camps, recreation centers, the Marina, and public greenery, and shall advise the City Council on these matters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMISSION MEMBERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mayor –</td>
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<tr>
<td>District 1 -</td>
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<tr>
<td>District 2 -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# 2017 Commission Meeting Dates

Name of Commission: Parks and Waterfront Commission  
Commission Secretary: Roger Miller  
Location: Frances Albrier Community Center, 2800 Park St

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Meeting Day and Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 11</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 8</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 8</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 12</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Wednesday, May 10</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Wednesday, June 14</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Wednesday, July 12</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Wednesday, September 13</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Wednesday, October 11</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 8</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Regular Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>No Meeting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Parks and Waterfront Commission Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 8, 2017, 7:00pm, Frances Albrier Community Center, 2800 Park St., Berkeley

MINUTES – DRAFT

The Commissions may discuss any items listed on the agenda, but may take action only on items identified as Action.

Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order (Chair).
2. Roll Call (Secretary).
3. Announcements (Chair):
   - T1 workshop dates: Albrier Center (03-18-17); Live Ctr (03-25-17); and South Branch Library (04-08) (McKay).
   - Current Art Wall Exhibit at Berkeley Yacht Club (Kamen).
4. Approval of Agenda (Chair). M/S/C to approve the agenda (McGrath/Kamen): Ayes: Ares, Brostrom, Diehm, Kamen, Kawczynska, McGrath, McKay; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Lee.
5. Approval Minutes for March 8, 2017 * (Chair). M/S/C to approve the minutes (McGrath/Kamen): Ayes: Ares, Brostrom, Diehm, Kamen, Kawczynska, McGrath, McKay; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Lee.
6. Public Comment. Naomi Friedman, Cesar Chavez Park; Ron Letourneau, drones at Cesar Chavez Park; Diana Brown, Berkeley Racing and Canoe Center; Emma Regev, Berkeley Racing and Canoe Center.
7. Director’s Report
d) Director’s Office ** (Roger Miller): Parks CIP Project List; Upcoming Special Events and Community Meetings (see Parks website).
   e) Waterfront Division (Alexandra Endress): Projects Update; Special Events: Richmond Boat Show; Shoreline Cleanup on 4/22; Occup Rpt; Bay Festival (cancelled due to weather).
8. Election of officers – Vice-Chair (chair). M/S/C to approve elect Paul Kamen as the Vice Chair of the Parks and Waterfront commission: (McGrath/Kawczynska): Ayes: Ares, Brostrom, Diehm, Kamen, Kawczynska, McGrath, McKay; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Lee.
9. Annual Waiver of Marina Berth Fees for Non-Profits providing community service * (Miller)
   Action: After presentations from Mary McDonald of the Berkeley Racing and Canoe Center and A.K. from the Cal Sailing Club, it was M/S/C to review and affirm compliance with Resolution No. 66,544, and recommend Council approval of an annual waiver of Marina Berth Fees for the current allotment of slips for the following two non-profits because of their community service: Berkeley Racing Canoe Club and the Cal Sailing Club, and The Pegasus Project. (McGrath/Kawczynska): Ayes: Ares, Brostrom, Diehm, Kawczynska, McGrath; Noes: None; Abstain: Kamen; McKay; Absent: Lee.
Discussion
10. Update from subcommittee on parks capital projects (McGrath). Add $2.8 M from Ferris list to upgrade playgrounds and replace 4-5 block bathrooms (McKay); Public Works would like to do a joint recommendations with the Parks and Waterfront Commission (McGrath); Complete University Ave at Marina in Phase One (McGrath); Look at including Aquatic Park (re-flooding) in Phase One (McGrath); University Ave will be a permanent improvement even given sea-level rise (Kamen).

Action
11. T1 Infrastructure Bond Program, timeline, and community input * (chair).
Action: Discussion and possible action regarding recommendation to Council. Goal is to have a joint recommendation from both PW and PRW commission (McKay); PW will focus on streets for $6M (McGrath); Outline of report to include (McKay): Planning & oversight; programming; specific planning for specific projects; accountability; reference to all adopted city plans; bond oversight and needs assessment; BUSD lease negotiations; should not be a bidding war (Parks vs PW projects); Additional ask of $5M for parks projects in Phase One; Willard Clubhouse Expansion (phase 1 – planning; phase 2 – construction); Kenney Ctr Expansion (phase 1 – planning; phase 2 – construction); Aquatic Park to include stakeholders (McGrath); Landmarks issues (McGrath); Green Infrastructure and using funds for the Watershed Plan implementation (McKay); McGrath does not support Gilman Fields parking lot nor James Kenney Ctr renovation concept; It is the sense of the commission to support the staff T1 list, plus move University Ave at Marina to Phase one (McKay).

Discussion
12. Update from subcommittee on planning (McKay). No update.

Information Items
14. Recent Council Reports *
15. Upcoming agenda items: Commission Workplan (Kawczynska)
16. Communications *:
   • Letters (2) from Animal Care Commission;
   • T1 bond program emails and communications (41).
17. Adjournment
   * document is attached to agenda packet and on the commission website.
   ** document will be provided at the meeting
19.
Recreation Division

Upcoming Special Events and Community Meetings

Come join the community and enjoy outside special events and community meetings in your neighborhood.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>City Council Workshop - PRW Capital Projects</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Old City Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>Berkeley Bay Festival (Cancelled)</td>
<td>11am -4 pm</td>
<td>Shorebird Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>T1 Bond Measure Community Meeting (#3)</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>South Berkeley Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>Youth Commission</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>MLK Youth Services Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Parks &amp; Waterfront Commission</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Frances Albrier Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Spring Egg Hunt Extravaganza</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Willard Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 22</td>
<td>Earth Day - Shoreline Clean Up</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Shorebird Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 24</td>
<td>Children, Youth &amp; Recreation Commission</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Frances Albrier Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 27</td>
<td>JPA Meeting</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Civic Center Building, Redwood</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Conference Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>Strawberry Creek Community All Crew Day</td>
<td>9 am -2pm</td>
<td>Strawberry Creek Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>Skate Park Grand Reopening</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Harrison Skate Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>Parks and Waterfront Commission</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Frances Albrier Community Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Rose Garden/Mother’s Day Grand Reopening</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Rose Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>Children, Youth &amp; Recreation Commission</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Frances Albrier Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 24</td>
<td>JPA Meeting</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Civic Center Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 3</td>
<td>James Kenney Grand Reopening Ceremony</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>James Kenney Recreation Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 3</td>
<td>Bill &amp; Celina Rose 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>San Pablo Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>Parks &amp; Waterfront Commission</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Frances Albrier Community Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 17</td>
<td>James Kenney Park Grand Reopening</td>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>James Kenney Recreation Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 26</td>
<td>Children, Youth &amp; Recreation Commission</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Frances Albrier Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 28</td>
<td>Community Picnic</td>
<td>9 am-3pm</td>
<td>Grove Street Park</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Tentative
TO: PARKS AND WATERFRONT COMMISSION

FROM: PARKS AND WATERFRONT COMMISSION SUBCOMMITTEE FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDED ACTION ON T1 PHASE 1 PROJECTS

DATE: MAY 5, 2017

INTRODUCTION

After a series of subcommittee meetings, the T1 Subcommittee on Parks Capital Projects has reached a consensus on a recommendation for projects that we think should be funded under T1 Phase 1. We reached this recommendation after listening carefully to the public and other Commission commentary, that identified restrooms in parks and play equipment as high priorities, and after a series of discussions with city staff and our colleagues on the Public Works Commission.

Our goal is to develop a joint recommendation and written report with the Public Works Commission, and that these recommendations, if adopted by the full Commission, will find a home in that recommendation. We discussed the condition of existing restrooms and play structures, and recommend replacement of substandard restrooms and play structures. We also recommend new restrooms be added to parks over one acre unless there is a restroom in reasonable proximity. Here are our recommendations, with a brief summary of our reasoning.

I. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE PARKS AND WATERFRONT COMMISSION SUPPORT THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN PARKS IN THE CITY MANAGER’S MEMORANDUM OF DECEMBER 22, 2016

All of the projects identified are high priority projects that have been discussed by the full PWC over the past two years and can be constructed during the first phase of T1 bonds. We concur with the recommendation of the Public Works Commission that the proposed green infrastructures projects have not been well integrated into the street and park network, although we are hopeful that the projects can be demonstrated to serve multiple purposes and be funded during Phase 1.

II. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE COUNCIL ADD ADDITIONAL HIGH PRIORITY PARKS PROJECTS

A. RESTROOMS

a) Replace all five existing concrete block restrooms with improved and expanded facilities. The restrooms at Strawberry, Cedar Rose, Aquatic, Willard, and Codornices Parks are small, do not meet ADA requirements, and are generally in poor condition. While the facilities are sturdy, they don’t all have secure doors or provide privacy. It may be that upgrading of the Willard facility will result in a suitable restroom, and we know that there is a restroom available to Codornices visitors by going through the tunnel to Rose Garden. We believe that a project to replace all of the restrooms could be completed under a single contract at a cost of about $1.25 million.

b) In keeping with the desires of the Council, we think that all parks over 1 acre should have an accessible restroom if feasible. After reviewing those parks without restrooms, we recommend adding a new restroom to both Ohlone and James Kenney parks at a cost of $1.6 million. While
there is a restroom at James Kenney, it is not open on the weekends, and park use is high. We also recognize that finding a suitable location for a restroom at Ohlone Park that is acceptable to the community may be difficult, but we think public health and human dignity are compelling reasons to recommend a restroom.

c) Support the recommendation for a restroom and storage facility at the ballfields at Gilman. This is part of the staff recommendation, but we want to highlight that project as part of our overall recommendation for restrooms in parks over one acre in size.

B. INCLUDE UNIVERSITY AVENUE CONSTRUCTION IN PHASE 1

We recommend that additional funds be allocate for construction of the University Avenue project during Phase 1 beyond planning and design. The conceptual design developed in 2016 identified a number of designs that would allow a two or three lane replacement road to be built without having the road located above the old piers piles that create bumps in the road. There is ample room for a realigned road that will not disturb the State Park or wetlands, and there is sufficient land available to make the road resilient to sea level rise.

An improved roadway is important to recreational users, and to the existing hotel, which provides annual fees to the City and the Marina fund in excess of $4 million. An improved roadway is also important to the redevelopment or re-leasing of the H’s Lordships site. The leases in the marina, in turn, provide the necessary funds for public access improvements throughout the marina and Cesar Chavez. Staff estimates the cost of construction would be $2.25 million, for a total cost of $2.6.

C. INCLUDE FUNDING FOR PLAY STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT

We discussed the condition of play structures with parks staff. According to public comment and staff, some play structures are not in good condition, and we think that safe and engaging play structures are a priority element of city parks. Therefore, we recommend that the Council include funding to replace play structures, and to make sure the new play structures appeal to a wide range of age groups and ability levels. It is also essential that there is geographic distribution of these structures so that a safe play structure is available within a reasonable walking distance. Based on staff’s analysis and geographic distribution, a final selection of parks will be presented in the report to Council. Those structures include those at George Florence (2), Cedar Rose (1), Glendale La Loma (1), Dorothy Bolte (1), Codornices (1), Grizzly Peak (2) at an estimated cost of $1.83 M.

III. ADDITIONAL PLANNING AND COORDINATION IS NEEDED

BACKGROUND

In order to develop projects for Phases 2 and 3 of T1, and possible funding beyond T1, it is essential to update the existing Marina Master Plan which was adopted in 2003, and does not consider alternative land uses at the H’s Lordships site, or accommodation of a ferry in the marina.

Since the term planning can mean different things to different people, it is also important to define our terms carefully. The Council resolution providing direction for the T1 effort called for a Program Plan
“...to address aging infrastructure beyond the $100 million infrastructure bond.” Parks staff has prepared an inventory of existing unfunded infrastructure, presented to the City Council on February 28, 2017, that identifies about $125 million in needed park infrastructure projects. That inventory largely serves as a Program Plan as the Council has defined it.

However, a simple inventory of unfunded infrastructure is not sufficient to identify the long-term capital needs of the parks. Some additional planning, which we are calling a Needs Assessment, should be completed that looks beyond the immediate needs of existing facilities to consider changing demographics and recreational patterns. Projects identified in Phase 1 are clear cut needs that can be implemented immediately. Going forward, the Commission recommends that the City develop an assessment of current program needs in existing facilities to accompany facilities assessment, so that funds for future phases of T1 – Phases 2 + 3, can be effectively applied. If T1 funds cannot be applied to such evaluation, then we recommend that other resources be allocated.

An additional kind of planning is also needed, Project-level Program Planning. It is anticipated that a project-level program plan will be developed for all building renovation or development projects. The program plan will include a list and description of all the elements that will be included in the scope of the building project.

Project-level program planning looks at factors such as the anticipated number of people using the facility, recreation programs that occur in the building, and other building uses such as community meeting and gathering functions. Other building elements are spatially quantified including special and typical uses such as theater, gym, child development, etc. and restrooms, locker rooms, storage, etc. The space requirements for each activity and its associated furnishings and equipment, are determined and allotted space in the building. Most often a large variety of uses can be accommodated by flexible spaces. The product of this exercise is called a project-level program plan.

The project-level program plan is used to develop a project budget. Each item in the project-level program plan is assigned a cost and the total establishes the project budget. Once the total is known, priorities are identified and the plan can be adjusted to fit available or anticipated funding. Expansion for future needs should be identified during the project-level program planning phase.

Finally, in order to develop meaningful project-level program plans for the projects being considered, the uses and potential uses at the existing community centers need to be considered. The City has three community center buildings located in San Pablo, Live Oak and James Kenney Parks. The Commission is recommending that an additional facility such as an expanded Willard Clubhouse or future fourth Willard area center be developed to serve the southeast quadrant of the City. As the City grows and the demographics change it is anticipated that additional, renovated facilities will be needed. With the application of T1 funds in Phase 1 community center projects, the City will be in the process of planning for renovation at all of the centers. In order for the community centers to be considered at a system, Community center planning needs to be undertaken, and it needs to be used to help refine the design for the first project at Live Oak Community Center.

RECOMMENDATION

A. COMMUNITY CENTER PLANNING. The Commission recommends that as the planning and design for renovation of the centers moves forward, the City engage in an overview planning
process to review the programming and operations (both existing and anticipated future needs) of the centers as a group to ensure equitable services at centers throughout the City. Special programs and areas of focus can be logically planned and complementary operations can be developed. Community input and buy-in will provide support for additional funding that is required. If T1 funds cannot be applied to such evaluation, then we recommend that other resources be allocated.

B. TIDE TUBES REPLACEMENT PROJECT – The Aquatic Park Tide Tubes Replacement – Planning and Design Project as described in the Staff Recommendation is valued at $250,000. The Commission supports this project, but because the anticipated planning and design process is extremely complex with multiple stakeholders, and complicated permitting, we recommend that the amount be increased to $350,000.

C. BERKELEY PIER/MARINA MASTERPLAN UPDATE - We support the studies for repairing and or replacing the Berkeley pier. Complementary to this effort, we recommend that additional planning work should be done to incorporate other expected change to the overall Marina area including a possible consideration of a location for a future ferry as part of rebuilding the pier, the re-leasing of the HS Lordships site, and other Marina improvements. This planning should happen in the context of an update to the 2003 Marina Plan. The Marina Fund is the logical funder of this effort.

D. COORDINATE EFFORTS WITH BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT. Since many recreational facilities that the community wants to use and improve are on property owned by the BUSD, we recommend that the Council direct the staff to negotiate lease or ownership agreements for shared use of those resources.

E. RECOGNIZE OTHER CITY PLANS. All T1 funded projects should comply with goals and guidelines of all plans adopted by the City. These plans include (but are not limited to) ADA Access Plan, Bike and Pedestrian Plan, Climate Action Plan, Creeks Ordinance, Resiliency Plan, Waterfront Master Plan, Watershed Plan.

F. OVERSIGHT. We recommend that the Council establish by ordinance an oversight program for bond implementation based on the oversight efforts of the Berkeley Unified School District for Measure AA, passed in 2000.
PARKS AND WATERFRONT COMMISSION
RECENT COUNCIL REPORTS

The following council reports are available for review at the Parks Recreation & Waterfront Department administrative desk, 2180 Milvia Street, 3rd floor, or can be accessed from the City Council Website by using the following URL’s:

May 16, 2017 – Regular
URL: http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/Clerk/City_Council/2017/05_May/Documents/5-16-2017_Item_14_Contract_No_10217_Amendment.aspx

15. Amendments to Contracts No. 9041, 9042, and 9068: On-Call Geotechnical and Engineering Testing Services
URL: http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/Clerk/City_Council/2017/05_May/Documents/5-16-2017_Item_15_Amendments_to_Contracts.aspx

16. Agreement for the City to Provide Sports Officials for Berkeley Unified School District Afterschool Sports Programs
URL: http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/Clerk/City_Council/2017/05_May/Documents/5-16-2017_Item_16_Agreement_for_the_City_to_Provide.aspx

50. Selected Recreation Program & Facility Rental Fee Increases
URL: http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/Clerk/City_Council/2017/05_May/Documents/5-16-2017_Item_50_Selected_Recreation_Program.aspx

May 16, 2017 - Special
1. Update and Next Steps on Implementation of the Measure T1 Infrastructure Bond
URL: http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/Clerk/City_Council/2017/05_May/Documents/5-16-2017_WS_Item_01_Measure_T1_Infrastructure_Bond.aspx

2. Update on Public Works Capital Improvement Projects: Recent and Planned Projects and Ongoing Needs
URL: http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/Clerk/City_Council/2017/05_May/Documents/5-16-2017_WS_Item_02_Update_on_Public_Works_Capital_Improvement_Projects.aspx

May 2, 2017 - Regular Meeting
1. Proposed FY 2018 and FY 2019 Budget
URL: http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/Clerk/City_Council/2017/05_May/Documents/2017-05-02_WS_Item_01_Proposed_FY_2018_and_FY_2019_Budget.aspx

Presentation

April 25, 2017 - Regular Meeting
29. Dog Owner Education, Cesar Chavez Park
URL: http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/Clerk/City_Council/2017/04_Apr/Documents/2017-04-25_Item_29_Dog_Owner.aspx

April 25, 2017 - Special Meeting (Worksession)
1. Community Agency Funding FY 2018 & 2019
URL: http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/Clerk/City_Council/2017/04_Apr/Documents/2017-04-25_WS_Item_01_Community_Agency.aspx

Presentation
URL: http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/Clerk/City_Council/2017/04_Apr/Documents/2017-04-25_WS_Item_01_Community_Agency_-_Pres.aspx
Gangs in Berkeley: Police break silence

By Emilie Raguso April 8, 2017, 10 a.m.

Gang-related graffiti has previously been a common sight near Strawberry Creek Park, particularly on the Berkeley Youth Alternatives building, as shown here. Photo: Emilie Raguso
This week, for the first time ever, Berkeley police officers were given carte blanche to speak without filters at a public meeting about gang activity in town and what can be done to help those who are drawn to it.

Monday night, BPD gang experts Sgt. Patty Delaluna and Officer Matt McGee offered insight into the main gangs in Berkeley, the history of local gangs, dynamics that have sparked recent violence, and more. The meeting was organized by the Berkeley Safe Neighborhoods Committee (BSNC), which has monthly sessions at BPD on public safety subjects such as shootings in Berkeley, drinking at Cal, youth violence and more.

About 20 local residents attended the meeting, and pledged to take information back to their neighborhoods after officers answered questions about the topic at hand. Councilwoman Cheryl Davila, who showed up late, remarked that nearly no one in the room had come to her violence prevention meeting a few days earlier, and said that's where the community's efforts should be.

“It just kind of saddens me to hear this kind of talk because, in a way, it sounds racist, discriminatory,” she said. “I'm just speaking the truth right now, from what I just heard.” Her comments echoed disagreements that have cropped up repeatedly in online forums like Nextdoor, where residents worried about crime have clashed with those who say such discussions inflame racial tensions and promote stereotypes and profiling.

Others in the room Monday said their hope is to find ways to curtail criminal behavior, not demonize a particular demographic group. Some residents spoke about city
programs and summer jobs available to youth, and said they want to increase them. Officers emphasized efforts they have made to build relationships and connect at-risk youth and their families to resources — which Berkeley does have — and said the success stories have stuck with them over the years. The failures have made an impact, too.

“Those of us who are really entrenched in the work, we just want to save these kids. We want to stop it,” said Sgt. Delaluna after the meeting. “There was a kid I knew since he was 4 years old, and I watched him bleed out. That just devastates me. It’s not what we want to see, but we know this is the outcome of this type of lifestyle. That’s why we made it our life’s work to stop this behavior.”

Delaluna has been credited by many in the police department for her decades-long effort to understand Berkeley gangs, particularly the ones with Hispanic ties. She used to work on the project with another officer, Stephanie Polizziani, who left BPD for Benicia PD last year. Both have qualified as experts to testify in court about Berkeley gang activity. Delaluna has spoken privately about gangs to other agencies in law enforcement
and educational settings, but this past week was her first session for the general public. On the eve of her retirement, expected later this year, Police Chief Andy Greenwood said Delaluna would be irreplaceable, and described her commitment and legacy as “tremendous.” Many at the meeting expressed appreciation for the department’s apparent transparency.

“I’ve been involved for a long time in the city, and you let a whole lot of new information out,” former Berkeley Mayor Shirley Dean, who runs the BSNC group, told Delaluna. “Other chiefs … denied there were gangs in Berkeley. We are now coming to the realization that there are gangs in Berkeley, and they go back many years.”

Police said, to keep it in perspective, most of the crime in Berkeley isn’t gang-related. At the same time, they agreed that reducing gang activity would lead to less crime. No hard numbers were presented at the meeting but, at a BSNC meeting last fall, a Berkeley homicide sergeant said at least nine of the year’s 25 shootings, to that point, were believed to be gang-related. And the vast majority of the known shooters were adults. Part of the issue is that BPD does not track gang members, or gang-related crime, in a comprehensive manner.

In fact, BPD has said little about gangs for years. In late 2013, when BPD acknowledged that Strawberry Creek Park was “occasionally frequented by Berkeley-based gang members,” it was the department’s first public reference to gangs in quite some time. Several months later, BPD identified two men police said threw glass bottles at an officer as West Side Berkeley gang members. In recent months, the tide may have begun to shift, as police have noted gang ties in court papers related to more than one arrest. But the department typically withholds gang names so, it says, to give them less legitimacy. In spite of that stance, Chief Greenwood, who himself has declined recently to name gangs in public, made no move to limit Monday’s detailed discussion.

Delaluna said she believes it’s important for people to know the names of the gangs to understand the dynamics in their neighborhoods.

“If you name a gang, it actually gives power to the community,” she said. “You name the gang and you educate the community.” She said after the meeting: “It’s like abuse in a family. If you don’t talk about it, you can’t do anything about it.”

Gangs? In Berkeley?
Delaluna got her start in Berkeley in the 90s working first for the city running programs in San Pablo Park. After several years, she became a police officer, and was one of just two Spanish-speaking officers at the time, she said. Early on, she began learning about a gang called West Side Berkeley, or WSB, that hung out at Strawberry Creek and James Kenney parks. She learned it was a Norteño gang tied to the Nuestra Familia prison gang. Norteño, or “Northerner,” gangs are known to do the street work for the prison gang, she said. Its members have been linked to serious violent crimes including murder attempts, robberies and assaults. The most serious case in Berkeley in recent years is that of WSB member Krishna Ferreira, who is facing charges in a 2013 homicide outside Bing’s Liquors that authorities say was gang-related.

Delaluna said WSB goes back to the late 70s, when it began simply as a club, which is not uncommon. In the 80s, she said, some of its members began smoking marijuana and getting involved with criminal activity. Discussion among members followed, and the group’s criminal element ended up keeping the name, she said. In addition to the parks, gang members also hung out on the U.S. Post Office steps downtown wearing the color red to “show their colors.”

Gang membership, she noted, is not a crime. But committing crimes for the benefit of a gang is illegal. Delaluna said the department has been able to do a lot of work — using stay-away orders and gang enhancements to push for stricter sentencing — to discourage WSB members from committing crimes in Berkeley. If a gang member was a minor, the officers would hold him — to get him away from the gang — until his parents could come. When she’s met with parents, Delaluna said she walks them through her research to give them a better understanding of what their child might be involved with.

WSB graffiti — which sometimes includes the Roman numeral XIV, or X4, a reference to the “N” (the 14th letter of the alphabet) in Norteño — has been a frequent sight, even in recent years, on the west side of town. Delaluna described efforts working with neighbors around Strawberry Creek Park, which had numerous shootings and apparent gang activity nearby, to educate them and clean up the area to make it more family-friendly. Those efforts have largely worked, Delaluna said. Over the years, she estimates she’s counted perhaps 300 WSB members and associates. There may be 40-50 who are still “somewhat active,” but most have left Berkeley, she said.
West Side Berkeley, or WSB, gang graffiti appears in a variety of places on the west side of town. This was spotted in January 2014 on Sixth Street north of Allston Way. Photo: Emilie Raguso

Berkeley has in the past also seen some Southerner, or Sureño, gang members who claim the letter 13 (XIII) and are allied with the Mexican Mafia prison gang, she said. Some have gone by “BST” or “Berkeley South Trece,” but there has been little activity from them in recent times. Delaluna said, back in the 90s, a Sureño student stabbed and killed a Norteño one, but the Norteño prevalence at Berkeley High essentially knocked out the competition. In more recent times, some local residents have said they are part of the Border Brothers, or “BB,” a Hispanic gang in Oakland that’s separate from the Norteños and Sureños. But they haven’t been very active in Berkeley, either.

Delaluna and Officer McGee explained how the landscape of Berkeley gangs has changed significantly over the years. In the past, gangs were largely made up of a single racial group; now there are “hybrid” gangs with members of different races. Territory, down to the block, used to be a huge issue — and Oakland still uses maps to track gang activity — but the situation in Berkeley has become more fluid, the officers said. That’s not to say the neighborhood doesn’t matter: Berkeley gangs still claim the South and West parts of town. But gang members are much less likely to be “posting up on the block” in large groups the way they used to in the 90s and early 2000s, Delaluna said. And, today, social media is playing a greater and greater role in gang disputes and in how people actually identify as members of those groups.

“In the past it was the turf area,” Officer McGee said. “That’s really not so much the case anymore. It’s more about who you’re communicating with and following on social media, and who the groups are that you align with.”
Social media plays key role in “beef” online

Several incidents of violence police have linked to Berkeley gang members in recent years have been sparked or exacerbated by posts on social media. An Instagram photo disrespecting Jermaine Davis, just after he was shot to death in Berkeley in 2013, may have contributed to a “rampage of violence” that left a little girl dead in Oakland, and a slew of other victims. Davis was identified as a leader in West Berkeley’s Waterfront — or H20 — gang, though some who knew him said he had gotten his life in order shortly before his death and was trying to get younger family members on track. That same year, disrespectful social media posts may have led to the incarceration of four other men with Waterfront ties on allegations of a “murder plot” in Oakland.

When Waterfront members get incarcerated, Delaluna said, they affiliate with the Kumi, or Kumi 415, prison gang. The Black Guerrilla Family, founded in San Quentin prison in 1966, also has members in Berkeley; the father of the man sentenced to death for the revenge killing above — Darnell Williams Jr. — was a BGF member when his son was growing up. Officer Polizziani, testifying in court in 2014 on a Berkeley murder case, noted that WSB is somewhat unique because it shares territory with Waterfront, which has been active in the neighborhood around Eighth and Camelia streets in West Berkeley.
In 2015, the “new generation” of Waterfront members, who call themselves “Babas,” took to social media to burn a picture of 14-year-old Davon Ellis after he was killed in Oakland, Delaluna said. That prompted a wave of online beefing, and drew numerous Oakland students into Berkeley to push back. In those events, which authorities have called “wildings,” more than 100 youth turned up repeatedly to Berkeley streets, resulting in injuries, confiscated weapons and arrests. The first wilding actually took place in 2014, Delaluna said, and she eventually learned that dueling school football teams were responsible for much of the brouhaha. She went on to work with the Oakland Unified School District to identify involved Oakland students and meet with their parents to nip some of that activity in the bud.

“The last thing I want to see is kids go this route. I want them to be successful and change the world in a positive way,” she said. “I’m always willing to give a kid a chance, but if that kid is hurting another kid, then I don’t have a choice. There are consequences to that.”

**Gang research crosses city lines**

Speaking of Oakland, Delaluna said a lot of the gang members BPD contacts in Berkeley actually live in Oakland. And some of the shootings that happen in Oakland are done by “Berkeley gangsters.” So she ends up spending a fair amount of time working with Oakland on those cases, she said. Any given month, she estimated, 50-100 gang members are contacted by police in Berkeley, but many of those could be from other cities. She said hard numbers are elusive because the department doesn’t track them. Delaluna’s gang research has been an ancillary duty when she can find time outside her main assignment as a patrol supervisor.

After the 2015 wildings, Delaluna said, she realized through her digging that some members of the Babas were actually the children of Waterfront members. Initially, police considered the Babas more of a “disruptive group,” not a gang, but research made it clear to her that its members had access to weapons and criminal aspirations. The gang has also identified as “B.O.H,” or “Bros Over Hoes,” Delaluna said. Members of the group started out with crimes such as prowling, trespassing and burglary, and moved on to more serious ones like robbery. They range from about 17 or 18 to their early 20s at this point. There may be 20 members of the group. But, again, it’s hard to know for sure.

“They have many who will say they are but, in reality, they just claim [gang membership on social media],” Delaluna said. “But they don’t really do anything but get high.”
In November 2015, Delaluna heard rumors that indicated a rift had occurred where older gang members were requiring youth to “choose sides” between South and West Berkeley. That’s when 16-year-old Sultan Bey, now deceased, was left in critical condition with major head trauma after being stomped by a group of other teens. His mother told the media at that time that he was told to choose a side, but refused. “He was asked to choose a side to be on and he was like, ‘I’m not choosing a side because I’m not in this. I don’t know what you want me to do but I’m friends with everybody,’” his mother told ABC 7.

After that, Delaluna said a number of South Berkeley youth began calling themselves “Ls,” and making an “L” sign to identify with each other. In response, Babas were posting photographs where they would make the “L” sign upside down to show disrespect. Disses went back and forth on social media, but alliances remained fluid, with various people “bouncing back and forth” between both groups from one day to the next. One day, about a year ago, Delaluna said she came across a diss video posted online. She told patrol she had a feeling there could be retribution. The next day, three teens were shot in a car on Parker Street, though they all survived. One of the young men who was shot, Aaron Meredith, has been identified as a Baba and was recently charged in connection with two shootings in South Berkeley in December.
Delaluna said the “Ls” name could reference the phrase “Take no losses,” and may also pay homage to a friend of theirs who was killed: “Long Live Larry.” Before the Ls, the 5 Finga Mafia was active in South Berkeley and North Oakland starting in perhaps 2013. Local gang members once called their territory “2800 Krakk Street” because they claimed San Pablo Park, she said, at 2800 Park St. “Way back in the day, they used to deal crack at this park,” Delaluna said. “They eventually morphed into the 5 Finga Mafia and originally claimed it was their rap label, but they and other gangs now refer to them always as 5 Finga Mafia. They are aligned with NSO or North Side Oakland and several will also not only claim 5 Finga but Campbell Village Gangsters or CVG, an Oakland gang.”

Delaluna said the Ls are Berkeley’s “youngest generation of kids” who associate themselves with gang life. But she said they are “not necessarily the hardened or brazen gangsters … they just rap about it.” Unlike other groups, Ls generally use their music to promote South Berkeley rather than criticize other neighborhoods. She said members of the Ls overlap with the rap collective “MBK,” or “My Brother’s Keeper,” though Ls who have appeared in MBK videos are not out causing violence. Some have been targeted, she said. And some in the background of the videos, according to Delaluna, “do live the violent life of gangs and closely associate with the 5 Finga Mafia.” (In addition, three members of the Ls are facing gun charges after a fight in March.)
For those whose heads are spinning, she said Monday night, it’s only natural given the complexity of the dynamics and relationships. It’s taken her an entire career to amass the knowledge she’s acquired.

“Grasping gang names, alliances and such is really quite complicated and can be fluid depending on the generation,” she said. “The reality of it is, identifying a gang is much more complicated than just a one-time stop on the street or types of clothing or tattoos. It’s an evolved process that takes time.”

Police: “Everybody’s a rapper and every rapper wants to be a gangster”

From her research, Delaluna said, Berkeley youth aren’t drawn so much to gangs anymore out of a need for protection, or because of poverty. It’s simply become the most appealing social group for some. She said the Bay Area is a national hub for underground hip hop, and some youth have been talented and lucky enough to get rich just by posting their music on sites like YouTube and SoundCloud. Many of the youth are trying to make it big by rapping about gangster life.

“Everybody’s a rapper and every rapper wants to be a gangster,” she said. “Most of them are not actually getting in trouble with the cops. They graduate high school with decent grades. But they’re rappers. And they rap that lifestyle, and they get caught up in that. And then what you have is, behind them, friends they grew up with that are kind of marginalized flashing guns.”
Added McGee: “I don’t get the sense that they’re breaking the law for a means of money or capitalism or anything like that. I get the sense that they’re doing it for the likes on social media…. I don’t see them ‘paying taxes’ [to a prison gang], at least the group that I deal with…. This is the direct threats on social media: going after one person in particular for the actions that they’ve done on social media.”

McGee spends the bulk of his shift at BPD as the school resource officer at Berkeley High. The city used to have officers at the middle schools, too, but that program fell apart due to lack of funding. Last year, the department sought funding to put a school resource officer at Berkeley Technology Academy (BTA), but the School Board opposed the plan. Some school officials have said putting police in schools will traumatize youth and result in criminalization at an earlier age. The police department’s position — with support from the school superintendent and former BTA principal — has been that creating a strong relationship between an officer and at-risk students is actually better for youth in the long run.

Sgt. Spencer Fomby, who worked in South Berkeley as a beat officer and was on the Drug Task Force before it was disbanded, said intervention and building relationships with those in the streets is a big part of the work BPD has done. Fomby said he’s been
heartened to see youth who heard him speak at twilite basketball come up to him and let him know they’re now in college, now have jobs. But other times, the end result is not so good, and a shooting or prison is the outcome. Over the years, he said, he’s seen a wide range of family dynamics.

“There are extremes. We have families that raise their kids to be gang members. It is shocking,” Fomby said. “And all the way up to kids whose family lived in Hercules, lived with both parents, a great family, and they’re coming to me like, ‘My kid is in the street, he wants to be a gang member. He lives in the suburbs, but he’s coming here to Berkeley to participate in gangs. Help us save our kid.’”

Police responded to numerous youth fights that drew scores of youth into Berkeley from Oakland in 2014 and 2015. Photo: Siciliana Trevino

McGee said he regularly meets with, and texts, parents of students to try to build that bridge home to make sure youth are where they’re supposed to be, particularly when problems arise. But parents often say they feel hopeless when they get his calls.
“They’re appreciative. They’re responsive,” he said. “But you’re dealing with a 14-, 15-, 16-year-old. They’re so far along already. And unfortunately we’ve got them now at this stage and, we’re trying, but sometimes that gang, that group that they’re associating with, has already got them.”

McGee, who majored in social work at UC Berkeley and was in juvenile probation for years before getting hired at BPD, said he strives to avoid labeling — known to have a negative impacts on youth — but will go to parents if he has evidence and facts to make his case. Some parents, who have histories of their own with law enforcement, have told him they want a better life for their children. But they’ve told McGee their attempts to keep their kids out of trouble have fallen short.

**Racial inequity makes crime conversations perilous**

BPD’s relationship with BUSD has been challenged over the years. There have been repeated conversations about collaboration, but it’s unclear whether progress has been made. There have been disputes about what information can legally be shared between the institutions. In 2011, then-Police Chief Michael Meehan said the school district had made it clear it wouldn’t call BPD if there was a robbery on campus. The national political dialogue about race has added another layer of complexity. Delaluna recalled a meeting with school officials, shortly after the 2014 Black Lives Matter protests in Berkeley, where police tried to bring up the Babas, a black gang, and hit a roadblock.

“Nobody wanted to hear it. We said, we’re bringing this up because that’s where the problem is right now. It’s not by choice. We don’t look for the race,” she said. Delaluna said BPD focused on West Side Berkeley (a Hispanic gang) when it was causing problems, and another group, the 510 Clown Mob (a hybrid gang that’s mostly white) when it was making trouble downtown. “And, when it was the Babas, we needed to deal with them. It’s such a hard discussion for the school and the city to have.”

The remarks about racism and discrimination, by Councilwoman Davila, reflected that position. Attendee Laura Menard — a longtime South Berkeley public safety advocate who helped bring about Monday’s meeting — said at the meeting that she finds the unwillingness in Berkeley to discuss crime, its causes and solutions, deeply disturbing. And she said that puts too many kids, who are raised to underestimate the risks of gangs and criminal behavior, in danger.

“I find it immoral and outrageous that we’re not naming the problem and shaming the problem more directly as a society — because we have kids that don’t understand the level of threat that they can be on the perimeters of. And they can be the one that becomes the victim,” Menard said. “We’re not going to be, as a society, taking
responsibility for the fact that there’s a lot of young people and adults with guns prepared to get into beefs over stuff that’s nothing. Nothing.”

She mentioned two young Berkeley High grads killed last summer when they were caught in the crossfire at a birthday party at a downtown Oakland club. Days earlier, another Berkeley High grad was killed in an Oakland shooting that her mother said was aimed at someone else. In 2014, a young woman with a bright future who had just graduated from Berkeley Technology Academy was killed in Oakland during a shooting in a Wendy’s parking lot; her boyfriend was also shot but reportedly survived.

Menard said it’s youth like those, brought up in Berkeley to dismiss potential danger signs in the interest of the city’s entrenched social justice philosophy, that she is most concerned about. Menard has pushed hard for “school-linked probation services,” in place in other counties like Contra Costa, to keep a closer eye from an earlier age on youth who’ve run into problems. The idea, she said, is to track attendance, grades and behavior in a more robust way to produce more meaningful results. Menard describes the approach as progressive. She also noted local efforts that have worked in the past to use city code enforcement to target problem properties, where criminals gather, to break up those hotspots.

Students acted out a scene about a robbery over a pair of shoes as part of a 2013 anti-gun-violence assembly at Berkeley High. Photo: Emilie Raguso
She and Delaluna said other cities have effectively used a technique known as “call-ins” to have intensive sit-downs with the community members causing the most violence: to lay out their options in a room alongside pastors, attorneys, law enforcement, community organizations and more, and get them to cease and desist their crimes, or else. Berkeley hasn’t taken that approach. Meeting attendees said it could be useful in Berkeley, and that they’d like to see “scared straight” talks, youth employment, a bigger budget for youth recreation programs, and more.

The city has no single resource for those seeking programs for disadvantaged youth. But meeting attendees brought up Berkeley Youth Alternatives (BYA) and the Young Adult Project (YAP) as two reliable options. YAP is run out of the MLK Jr. Youth Services Center, at 1730 Oregon St. by Grove Park, and has a popular boxing program, and twilite basketball, along with many other options described as “meaningful recreation experiences that include tutoring, violence prevention, and leadership development components for teens and young adults.” In late February, the city announced its summer job program for youth (paying $10.50 an hour), and held several free resume workshops last month.

Several attendees said neighborhood watch groups, and modern technology, continue to be an effective way to share information with each other and with police. But that’s not always enough. Sherri Kaiser spoke on behalf of residents around San Pablo Park who were concerned about repeated gunfire in the neighborhood — and a fatal shooting — that began last year and continued into 2017. She said the situation was exacerbated by the silence from BPD: “It was very distressing. Not just that it was going on, but that we didn’t know what was going on.”

She said Monday’s meeting helped fill in some of those gaps, but hoped more information about how to identify gangs could be made available. Delaluna suggested simple Google searches, for terms like gang names and “gangs in Berkeley,” along with academic classes and books, as ways to learn more. And the officers said that, while gangs are an issue, a broader perspective may be useful on a daily basis for those with safety concerns.

“We all agree that the crime here in Berkeley is not 100% gang-related,” said Officer Brandon Smith, area coordinator in Northeast Berkeley. “So let’s look for suspicious activity, criminal behavior. Don’t seek out the gangs per se.”

Perhaps it’s someone riding up and down the block on a bike who appears to be acting as a lookout. Or maybe you see people “looking into cars more carefully than you would when you’re on a walk,” he said. Getting several calls from the same neighborhood night after night is likely to produce results.
Delaluna concurred: “It’s knowing your neighbors. It really is knowing your community and your beat cop.”

The Berkeley Safe Neighborhoods Committee is an umbrella organization for neighborhood watch groups around the city. It meets monthly at BPD and has a Facebook page. Have a public safety concern in your neighborhood? BPD has four area coordinators assigned to help with neighborhood issues.

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West Side Berkeley gang
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Please keep our community civil. Comments should remain on topic and be respectful.

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- Frako Loden
  Thank you, Emilie Raguso, for a very informative article.

- laura
  Awesome reporting Emily. I am stepping away from 2 decades of community work, too much abuse from the crime fragility crowd and too little progress from the city/school officials. I hope others with heart, dedication and courage step up.

- MaestroMike
  LOL!

- laura
  2800 Krakk refers to 2800 Sacramento St @Oregon not Park St, they use Bob’s liquor as a backdrop, also they go back further than 2013.

  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MJeCU6vSQhY

- laura
  Explain what is funny to you.

- lspanker
  About 20 local residents attended the meeting, and pledged to take information back to their neighborhoods after officers answered questions about the topic at hand. Councilwoman Cheryl Davila, who showed up late, remarked that nearly no one in the room had come to her violence prevention meeting a few days earlier, and said that’s where the community’s efforts should be.

  “It just kind of saddens me to hear this kind of talk because, in a way, it sounds racist, discriminatory,” she said.

  Hmm, maybe that’s the reason nobody came to Davila’s “violence prevention” meeting. Who wants to bother with someone who dismisses all their legitimate concerns as “racist” and “discriminatory”?

- lspanker
  And your solution is what again? Laura offers substance and does the legwork to back up her position on the subject. What have you done?

- NTEL
If gang affiliation and “representing” is done on social media and violence between gang members is resulting from “disrespectful” social media comments — and — if Facebook, youtube and other social media companies are being proactive to shut down or police things like live streamed suicides (or assaults), revenge porn, or bullying, then why can’t the same be done for gang related problems?

Great reporting Emilie.

Small typo in a paragraph above the B.O.H. vid. “Members of the group started out with crimes such as prowling, trespassing and burglary, and moved on to more serious ones like robbery”. I’d guess “serious” should be “serious”.

- Elizabeth
  Let’s work toward the realization that this is truly a bipartisan issue, not to be co-opted by the radical political correctness faction. This crucial issue is sensitive, yes, but as it relates to child development (all children) the solutions discussed by Delaluna and Menard make ultimate sense. And thanks to Emilie for this stellar reporting. I’m hoping for follow-up articles from time to time.

- WindoWest
  Wonderful work Emilie. What would we do without you? Watching these self-hating, pro-crime videos is hard but necessary for the community to understand the twisted gang mentality. If anybody is racist, it’s these misguided youths whose minds and mouths are full of nigga this and nigga that. Their lack of self-respect is disgusting. The school district better get busy training these kids for jobs in the trades so they can make an honest buck and stop this gimme gimme violent track that leads to prison or an early death.

- Concernedresidentofearth
  Let’s see… pretend to be a leader by approving a measure supporting the impeachment of Trump, or be a real leader by ending the self destructive dead ends swallowing low income African American boys and young men in Berkeley and surrounding areas.

  Trade schools at Berkeley High, PLEASE, with graduates moving right into construction at local sites. PLEASE!!! How long can we pretend that they are going to go to college? That making art is a salve? C’mon. Try the obvious! Let’s lead and show the way, how these young men can take over the construction jobs vacated by aliens heading home. This is a perfect time an opportunity, when the federal government is hostile to illegal immigrants, rather than accommodating. Let’s make lemonade from all these lemons.

- Mookie_Wilson_Mets
  DaVila is pretty much useless. I can’t wait for the next election. A non-op and quick to pull the race card
• **Ken M**
  
  I cannot express how happy I am that our elected city representatives spend so much time and effort trying to make sure that this vibrant culture remains strongly represented in Berkeley.

• **raisethebar**
  
  I am solidly behind BHS offering training in the trades, but will this solve the problem? Are these kids joining gangs because their grades are not good enough for a prestigious university? Are they joining gangs because they have not been offered the training to be a great plumber or electrician and a job?

  The BHS criminal life meets a different set of needs. It offers social status, danger, adrenaline, quick money at times without having to get up early and get dressed and work all day. It offers a sense of belonging. It offers the flexibility to get high at any time of the day or night — which a lot of jobs don’t offer.

  Construction work is hard, and goes on all day. It does not fit well with smoking weed or using meth. The immigrants who are, at the moment, remodeling and painting the houses and tending the gardens in my neighborhood have a different set of goals from young criminals at BHS: they are trying to support their families with honest work (even if they, themselves, are here illegally). They get all dusty and dirty and sweaty from long, long hours of hard work, and they take this in their stride.

  I’m not bashing your trade school idea which I think is great — but on its own I don’t think it will solve the problem. The drug/gang path is a lifestyle choice which meets — or pretends to meet — a complex set of needs.

• **Concernedresidentofearth**
  
  Maybe so, but doing what we are doing now isn’t working so well, is it?

  From what I’ve deduced, she lives in a neighborhood that is rendered hazardous by the people described in this article. I’m guessing she sees this daily, and knows personally many people whose kids are sucked down into this. Or even has known the boys themselves. She’s pointed out numerous articles in various publications that I’ve read that have rung true from my own observations.

  Double down on what’s failing – sure, maybe that will work. Some century.

• **raisethebar**
  
  When I sent my kids to BHS, I had absolutely NO IDEA what I was sending them in to, even though I have lived in Berkeley for decades. Not only should Berkeley parents be provided accurate and comprehensive information, but so should kids starting at BHS. The school should educate the freshmen and explain to them the names of the gangs operating in the school and ways to identify gang members, the recruitment methods,
how best to respond to recruitment, what to do if beaten up by a gang, what to do if threatened by a gang member who has a gun, etc. These are hard questions. I’d be interested in what the police and what Laura recommend … there is intense fear of reporting these crimes at BHS because kids think it might increase their chances of getting shot.

• sylvie
Exceptional reporting, Emilie; thank you! I sincerely hope that BPD continues Sergeant DelaLuna’s substantive work and begins tracking gang activity. Sincere thanks, Sergeant DelaLuna for your service. This meeting and article represent a significant step forward for Berkeley. We need to make every effort to get our youth on track to worthwhile lives, because the alternatives are injury or loss of freedom. And our neighborhoods deserve safety.

• thereareberkeleyaustrians
I tend to agree with this. Multiple generations without a working male presence in the house, and multiple generations on the dole, is apparent in Kindergarten. I don’t think there is anything BUSD can do to overcome the problems that stem from that type of upbringing. BDM!

• laura
Shame on ignorance.

• jim butler
A great article. I think part of the takeaway message is positive:

“From her research, Delaluna said, Berkeley youth aren’t drawn so much to gangs anymore out of a need for protection, or because of poverty. It’s simply become the most appealing social group for some.”

I think the first two problems (need for protection and poverty) are devastating and extremely difficult to solve. If I were to choose one problem… It would be the one we have: Finding more appealing social groups for youth.

What can be done for that??

• WindoWest
Well that’s interesting. It’s a weird sort of party.

• WindoWest
There needs to be a culture shift, you are right. As long as the rappers get rich, the kids will see that as a path to the money. Unfortunately it only works for a few.

• raisethebar
Money can be made in drugs before kids even leave middle school in Berkeley. Kids who make money dealing at BHS are not some lucky few with rare talent. They are just ordinary kids with no special skills other than knowing the basics of dealing. No need to wait to get rich as a rapper, though that would be a very nice, thick icing on the cake.
When kids get into drugs, they need money right away — even just for a weed habit, and even if they are only 12 years old. They are not waiting for a successful rap career to start earning.

- Edward

Exactly. You have laughed out loud. More is expected of those who wish to be considered civically (or civilly) active.

- Big Brother

clearly not a minority problem

- WindoWest

Good question. Maybe some shock therapy, like negative first and then positive. Trips to prisons followed by a picnic in the park and some good food and talk. Maybe ghosts of Union soldiers need to take them one by one through the battlefields of the Civil War in the aftermath of Vicksburg, Shiloh, Cold harbor, The Wilderness, Gettysburg so they can see first hand how hundreds of thousands of men – mostly white – suffered and died to defeat the Confederacy and free the slaves. God only knows what we can do to kick some sense into them.

- WindoWest

Good points.

- Friend of Freya

Young men need something challenging to be involved in, that can test their mettle. In traditional societies (indigenous) this may have meant, going on a visionquest, or hunting their first lion or elephant. Older men would lead the younger men into manhood through such rites of passage. The problem in many areas now is that older men have nothing to offer — in fact, in some inner city subcultures, they have less than nothing to offer, as the older men are washups, in prison, on drugs — complete failures.

Collectively we need to re-envision activites with MEANING for young men that can interest them and lead them into manhood in a healthy way. Without older men leading the way, young men find their challenges and rites of passage into manhood through criminal activity, as in the “Lord of the Flies.” “Commit a robbery, burglary, etc you’re a man” – and everyone loses when crime is what makes a youth a man.

In order to lead young people in healthy directions, we also have to be able to recognize what’s unhealthy, and that’s a big problem in liberal environments where nice polite liberals don’t want to admit that the behaviors some kids are engaged in is anti-social, if not overtly criminal, and is taking them down a path to self-destruction.
• **Friend of Freya**
  Prohibiting foul language on campus might be a good idea.

• **Jane Superstar**
  Can those of you who were at the meeting speak to the tone of Cheryl Davila’s comments? Also, how “late” was she to the meeting? Hours late, or just a few minutes late.

• **emraguso**
  Perhaps 35 minutes. And she left several minutes after making her remarks. She wasn’t there for the majority of it, from what I recall.

• **Jane Superstar**
  If Davila left several minutes after making her remarks, I think that is definitely worth making clear in the article. She probably couldn’t make the whole meeting for the same reason that most of us couldn’t make *her* meeting—because we are all busy working full-time jobs, cooking our families dinner, and so on. Not because of racism. I had hoped to go to both meetings, but I just couldn’t swing it.

• **Jane Superstar**
  Also, even the most concerned citizen may not have time to go to two of these meetings in one week. Her comment really disrespects her constituents. (Yes, I voted for her.)

• **Pietro Gambadilegno**
  Don’t you live in Detroit? Have you ever met Laura? Why should we believe you, when you are a BAMN troll?

• **Pietro Gambadilegno**
  Did they think their lives mattered back when Obama was president?

• **Pietro Gambadilegno**
  If repeating the word “RACISM” did any good, Berkeley would not have any problems at all.

• **Concernedresidentofearth**
  Kids of color aren’t throw away kids.

There are many African American boys throwing themselves away, despite sitting in classrooms with peers who are interested in being there. They are throwing their opportunities away, They are doing it to themselves.

• **Razdzl**
  Ignorance is bliss.

• **Concernedresidentofearth**
  Yeah, gang problems started last November 9th.

• **Concernedresidentofearth**
  Yes, loving it! Sure there is lots of blame to go around for abysmal AA test scores by 3rd grade, but you know what? Despite the blame to go around, there’s only one thing that is going to fix it now. The students and their parents. It’s the nature of our society. You can only do so much. After years of failed experiments (and Vision 2020 isn’t going to
change a thing) tell me what you suggest? We are always up for another round of
something. What’s the next something? And when that fails, what is your second
choice something (assuming these somethings are anything but individual, personal
change)?

• emraguso
  I did exchange emails with someone awhile back but I don’t think we spoke. Those
  stories can be hard to report and confirm. (Speaking generally, only.)

• laura
  Two years?? that makes you a newcomer dude. You have NOT contributed anything but
  your hostility towards your neighbors.

• raisethebar
  African American boys do not throw themselves away all on their own. No one is
  isolated like that. There are complex forces at play. Every human being wants to be
  happy and wants to connect with others. These boys are making choices that they think
  will have the greatest chance of doing that. We need to look much deeper than “they
  are doing it themselves.” We need to focus on prevention — and the only way to
  prevent behavior that seems self-destructive and illogical is to understand it. If you
  look at the toddler pictures of some of these gang members who are shooting people
  and being shot, they were beautiful little boys, full of life and full of love. They were
  not scheming to figure out how to fail by the time they got into kindergarten.

• laura
  Your account does not add up. First off, BHS has never made a discipline issue of gang
  association and you saying so does not make it so. Second, SF Unified does not enroll
  kids unless the home district releases them.

• Razdzl
  Nope. Because obama doesn’t represent them their race maybe but not them. And I
  was referring to the bigotry of Americas current president. Not his race.
  — if we want a solution to the gang problem in the city of berkeley we need to get to the
  core of the problem stop pulling the wool over our eyes with our so called progressive
  reputation.

• laura
  Shoe, what shoe? obviously from your own admission you are a newcomer with little if
  any actual knowledge, just spewing racist remarks.

• Razdzl
  I agree they are throwing their lives away, no disagreement there- the question is why?
  And I’d like to wager that most high school students don’t want to be in class no matter
  their race. I’m talking about feeling welcome and included. Why? Why are they
  “throwing their lives away?” And the quote “throw away kids” comes from a former
  BUSD board member.
you are right throw them all in jail or let them kill eachother. My suggestion is to stop ignoring the root cause of the issue. Racism in America, our county was founded on it. It's deeeeeeppply imbedded and the only thing that will work is trying different solutions and a great start would be to address he elephant in the room.

- **Concernedresidentofearth**
  Maybe its time to ask them? I personally liked school classes and always studied extra stuff for fun, even in high school. So I really can’t weigh in on why others don’t.

If I were to guess, there was a need for an oppositional culture and posture in response to racism in the past, and now it is self perpetuating. Cultures get stuck.

- **PorcelinaGrout**
  “This week, for the first time ever, Berkeley police officers were given carte blanche to speak without filters at a public meeting....”

Wait. Isn’t Berkeley the birthplace of the free speech movement? But we don’t extend free speech to those who have expert information about crime in Berkeley? Hey everybody, can we please have council members and school board directors who truly believe in free speech?

I am not a fan of the Berkeley Safe Neighborhoods Committee, which burdens my neighborhood mailing list with incessant whining about frat parties and whatnot. But I do appreciate them for shining a light on this topic and I appreciate you, Emilie Raguso, and Berkeleyside. There is hope!!

- **Studebaker Hawk**
  …And she left early because she had to get her new car battery before the auto parts store closed. Some of your other comments here are very insightful and really refreshing, seriously. But lame excuses don’t help anything.

- **Studebaker Hawk**
  Ooohhhh, an internet tough guy.

- **DarkStarCrashes**
  “there was a need for an oppositional culture and posture in response to racism in the past, and now it is self perpetuating. Cultures get stuck”

  Yes, very well said.

- **DarkStarCrashes**
  Are you a troll or are you real?

- **Anybody But Jesse**
  Emilie,

  Another journalistic tour de force! I hope the Pulitzer people read this. Before they do, could you give this sentence a quick edit?
She also noted local efforts that have worked in the past to use city code enforcement to target problem properties where criminals gather the break up those hotspots.

"Couldn’t parse it."

- **Anybody But Jesse**
  I agree with you except for the part in which you dismiss others’ concerns as incessant whining.

- **Anybody But Jesse**
  Wow.

When I look at the depth of information shared and the compassion expressed and applied by these officers, I am appalled at Davila’s race card hit and run. Who the eff does she think she is? Another low information ideologue, like those on Nextdoor…. no wonder no one came to her lame event.

- **Anybody But Jesse**
  Well you got the government you deserve. She was an obviously awful choice.

- **Anybody But Jesse**
  Judging from one of the videos they are interested in academic swag (Cal). Just not in doing the work it takes to get there.

- **Anybody But Jesse**
  My kid loves being in class, has great relationships with her teachers and classmates of all backgrounds.

  if you read the article, you will have seen how the SRO works to engage the at risk kids and steer them away from trouble. So you should be asking yourself why Judy Appel and Ty Alper refused to accept funding to add a second SRO. “Never” was their quote.

- **Anybody But Jesse**
  Have you ever heard that from another ethnic group? “If you are not X then You cannot speak on X’s experience” ? I haven’t.

  It’s also a logical fallacy and discredits your argument.

- **Anybody But Jesse**
  You seriously believe that Berkeley has been denying the history of racism? Wow.

  Meanwhile more than half the article is about Latino gangs so clearly there are forces in play beyond the AA experience

- **Anybody But Jesse**
  Recall election for her and the Mayor.

- **Concernedresidentofearth**
  What is a PTA kid?

- **Razdzl**
SRO when you “track” kids who are at high risk? What does SRO mean? And I don't know you but you said you have a daughter that loves berkeley high. We are talking about males here. Although I know females who went to berkeley high that went in to th sex trade when they were 15. There is always individual experience. -There has to be a legitimate reason for the “never” answer. If not keep bringing it up. We are all for solutions to a problem and first I think it’s important to add that the schools are built (like the entire country) on racism. It’s not gone and it will only go away when people admit to it, and dismantle thy system.

- Razdzl
  Nope.
- Sherry
  This is a wonderfully comprehensive piece, the result of much research, interviews, attending meetings, and just excellent writing. Thank you, Emilie, and I second the idea of this being Pulitzer-worthy. In fact, I looked up how articles can be considered. Stories written in 2017 can be entered this December and there’s a short window for submissions. Here’s more detail: http://www.pulitzer.org/page/how-enter. Hope you do submit!
- laura
  Just like a tagger with a can of spray paint.
- WindoWest
  That doesn’t sound like a balanced curriculum.
  Children should be studying civilizations much further back in history than the life-span of their teachers.
- Concernedresidentofearth
  Give an explanation to which you would say “Yup”.
- Concernedresidentofearth
  Describe a black person’s high school experience. The lack of specifics in your comments is notable.
- Concernedresidentofearth
  What’s the elephant in the room?

I never said to throw them in jail.

I would, however, like to see the AA male who shot at me at near point blank range at a Berkeley park jailed (he missed).

- WindoWest
  It’s doubtful that these “kids” make those connections. That’s your analysis. Other motives and needs drive them because these same behaviors continued throughout Obama’s presidency.
- Pietro Gambadilegno
City of Berkeley will remove graffiti if you report them on this web page:
http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/CrmRequestIntake.aspx?
requestTypeHandle_IN=REQUEST-TYPE-GRAFFITI
Please do report graffiti every time you see them.

If a few people turn in these reports promptly, as soon as they see graffiti, they can
clean up a whole neighborhood. Taggers become discouraged if they see their graffiti
are removed immediately.

• Pietro Gambadilegno
  ”if you are not black you cannot even begin to speak on a black persons high school
  experience.”

You yourself just said:
  “And I’d like to wager that most high school students don’t want to be in class no matter
  their race.”
so there you are, speaking about the high school experiences of people whose race is
different from yours.

• Pietro Gambadilegno
  It is amazing that anyone can say Berkeley is ignoring racism. Racism is a constant
  theme in Berkeley and in Berkeley schools.

• Pietro Gambadilegno
  If it talks like a duck – and just keeps saying the same Quack, Quack, Quack over and
  over again – it is not going to get anywhere.

• Pietro Gambadilegno
  He was lumped in as a possible gang member “based on his company…” In other
  words, they thought he might be a gang member because a lot of his friends were gang
  members.

That is not racism. That is just common sense.

• Pietro Gambadilegno
  “I was referring to the bigotry of Americas current president. Not his race.”

Is Obama a bigot and a racist?

• Pietro Gambadilegno
  Car trouble might explain why she got there late. It doesn't explain why she left after
  just a few minutes.

• Pietro Gambadilegno
  That is about the dumbest comment I have ever seen.

• MaestroMike
  Says the guy who throws out the term “BAMN troll.”

• MaestroMike
bwahahaha. Says the guy who probably avoids West Berkeley at all cost cause he thinks it’s dangerous.

- **Pietro Gambadilegno**
  I actually did confuse you with someone else who lives in Detroit, is a member of BAMN, and makes trollish comments on Berkeleyside. That was an honest error – very different from your making up a childish taunt.

- **Pietro Gambadilegno**
  once again, you are just making it up.

- **Concernedresidentofearth**
  Would love to have our kids learn more about the people that wrote the constitution that has endured for 228 years. A long time as nations go. Lots of flaws to learn about in there too.

- **Concernedresidentofearth**
  Well, Americans are fine spending perhaps 5% of their political energy on recognizing and combatting racism. So you will have a very long wait. Best to do something other than depend on the forbearance of strangers. A word of advice, free.

- **Jane Superstar**
  Berkeley High does have a class called Pop Culture: Focus on Hip Hop Studies. Here is the description from page 56 of the Berkeley High School course catalog (link below): “This course offers students the opportunity to actively engage in the performance of this art form, while learning its development in relation to other historical events and issues….Students will gain knowledge on how to use digital production software to create their own projects.” [http://bhs.berkeleyschools.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/BHS_Catalog_17-18.pdf](http://bhs.berkeleyschools.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/BHS_Catalog_17-18.pdf)

- **Jane Superstar**
  Berkeley High also has an African-American Studies Department. Also from page 56 of the course catalog: “The African American Studies Department, the only one of its kind in the United States, is a unique learning environment within Berkeley High School… The humanities-based courses take students on a journey through Africa’s glorious past, the Trans-Atlantic slave trade, and the African American dynamics as an integral part of the development of our nation through history, literature, language, dance, drama, and spoken word.”

Do any B-side readers know if these courses are actively offered? (I have no knowledge beyond what I am reading on the BHS website.)

- **Jane Superstar**
  I think we could all benefit from that class!

- **Jane Superstar**
  At what part of the school day is the trauma experienced? Is it during recess? After-school? In class? If this could be documented, perhaps we could get better, more trained supervision at those times. It seems that we should at least be able to protect
these kids while they are at school, especially the K-5 schools. Can we show up at BUSD school board meetings and demand they keep all kids safe while at school?

- **laura**
  and much much more. Honestly Rachel understanding of the schools is dated and biased.

- **raisethebar**
  Both Hip Hop Studies and African-American studies were happening last year ... I assume they still are.

- **D’Anquetil**
  i reported nortenos gang tagging about a year ago via that website and it is still there though

- **Razdzl**
  exactly.

- **Razdzl**
  Racism.

- **Razdzl**
  Oh jeez. I rest my case.

- **Razdzl**
  Exactly another plot and plan by the system to keep the black man angry. That was a stupid idea too. It still doesn't say anything to the racism that is happening today.

- **Razdzl**
  I'm saying recognize it dimantle it and the problem will go away.

- **Razdzl**
  I'm getting off Berkeleyside for my own good but I will be fighting for change because all children deserve a fair chance in life.

- **raisethebar**
  I should have been more clear ... I don't mean I had no idea there would be gangs and crime at BHS — but I'd imagined BHS might be more like a stepped up King which has some fights on the playground, a bit of dealing on the playground, a few kids high in class. I did not realize that BHS welcomes violent criminals from other cities and then shelters them from the consequences of their actions. I was previously unaware of the degree of dealing in the classrooms, or that behavioral problems can be so bad in some classrooms that essentially no learning at all takes place. BHS is nothing like a stepped up King. Also, the principal at King is an outstanding and honest person, a school leader not a politician. I was startled by the way the administration at BHS reflexively lies when asked for help in areas that do not align with their political agenda. The BHS administration's instance on politics and image before safety and learning was shocking to me.

- **Anybody But Jesse**
  You are wrong, again!

- **suckatash**
Not. Shocked. At. All.
• suckatash
  Wow. Two whole years. You really know the area. I’ve been here for 17. Care to walk the hood with me tonight? I’ll show you some things.
• Pietro Gambadilegno
  I have never had that problem. If it were me, and if they didn’t respond within a couple of weeks, I would report it again. It is possible that they could occasionally miss a report.
• MaestroMike
  Wow. That means you were here when I was a student at Cal. Congrats to you.
• Pietro Gambadilegno
  But you just say it over and over again, and you don’t advance any practical ideas about how to dismantle it.
• Pietro Gambadilegno
  It is the definition of racism to say that someone whose friends are gang members may also be a gang member? That statement is crazy.
• MaestroMike
  Yup. it’s called mistreating someone for assuming they hold supposed negative characteristics of a larger group. You get an A for today.
• Concernedresidentofearth
  Tell me more about what is going on in elementary school. We have several kids in one elementary school and never hear a peep from the SGC, PTA, our kids, the principal, or from the teachers about this. Where and when is this violence taking place?
• Concernedresidentofearth
  When I bought property in West Berkeley in 2001, it was quite a bit different than today. In the few years after then, people started fixing up the old houses and sprucing up gardens and putting down stakes and showing that they cared for civility on their street. It’s much safer now than 16 years ago.
• Don Aks
  Doubling down on your ignorant & arrogant creds, Mikey.. I grew up on 7th St during the 80’s crack wars, and the first house I bought in the early 90’s was only a block above San Pablo. And that was about the time you were .. in Kindergarten? I hope your students are better at the listen-and-learn thing, because your skills suck. (acutally I hope they don’t listen to you because I suspect you teach them dogmatic crap).

  Oh, and the black H20 gang was no secret then either, mostly south of University. North of University was owned by the Latino gangs. Shootings in both neighborhoods, pretty regular.
• raisethebar
  BHS students, as far as I can tell, almost never face any consequences from the school for this kind of behavior. This goes for all races. Affluent white kids deal Adderall in
the classrooms. They don’t need to walk up to Walgreens, though maybe the ones you saw felt like a slice of pizza and some fresh air. The story with those kids may be that they wanted a variety of drugs they would not have been able to afford so they convinced their parents to get them an Adderall (meth) or Xanax prescription which they can dip into when they want to and sell some of so they can also get some weed and party drugs for variety.

• *emraguso*

Sorry, it should say, “to break up those hotspots,” and perhaps some commas could help. Thanks to all who appreciated the story, and those who asked about things I didn’t consider. I would love to be able to continue learning about the subject and writing more in a deeper way.

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April 21, 2017

To: The Parks & Waterfront and Public Works Commissions

From: Timothy Burroughs, Assistant to the City Manager
       Phil Harrington, Director, Department of Public Works
       Scott Ferris, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation & Waterfront

Subject: Measure T1 Infrastructure Bond: Next Steps and Timeline for Preparing a Phase I Recommendation for City Council

Thank you for your collaboration to date on designing and participating in the three Measure T1 public workshops. Your input leading up to the workshops and your presence at the events was extremely valuable. Thanks also for the numerous additional hours you have spent at commission and sub-committee meetings working to gather and provide input on Phase I of Measure T1 implementation.

The purpose of this memo is to provide a high-level summary of the Measure T1 public input process to date, identify the next steps and timeline for the Public Works and Parks & Waterfront Commissions to develop a recommendation to City Council, and to communicate some suggested changes to City staff’s initial recommendation for how to allocate Phase I Measure T1 funds. This memo also outlines steps that the City will take to provide transparent financial oversight of Measure T1 funds and ongoing monitoring and reporting of program implementation.

Summary of the Public Input Process for Phase I Measure T1 Funds

The purpose of the public process is to gather community and commission input on projects proposed for Phase I of Measure T1 implementation. City Council will consider community and commission input when providing direction to staff on how to allocate Phase I funds.

Since January 2017, City staff has participated in over 20 commission and commission sub-committee meetings to provide background on the Measure T1 General Obligation bond and to invite and encourage commission and community-member input. Staff and the Public Works and Parks & Waterfront Commissions also held three public workshops.

Approximately 78 community members attended the March 18 workshop, focused on improving parks and City facilities; approximately 34 community members attended the March 25 workshop, focused on improving streets and stormwater infrastructure; and
approximately 25 community members attended the April 8 workshop, focused on gathering additional public input on Phase I.

The input gathered at the workshops, as well as input City staff received from community members over email and input submitted by other commissions, was distributed to the Public Works and Parks & Waterfront Commissions after the third workshop. Every comment we received is documented.

Some of the themes that emerged from public comment to date include:

- Climate action: Integrate implementation of the Climate Action Plan into Measure T1 implementation by increasing energy and water efficiency and renewable energy use, reducing reliance on fossil fuels, reducing solid waste, and minimizing environmental impact to the Bay and other natural resources
- Watershed Management Plan: Integrate implementation of the Watershed Management Plan into Measure T1 implementation
- Bicycle infrastructure: Measure T1 implementation should help to advance the Bicycle Plan by integrating bicycle infrastructure into street improvements
- Improved streets and sidewalks: Improve safety by accelerating street and sidewalk repair and use bond funding for street improvements that go beyond surface sealing, such as street reconstruction, overlays, and green infrastructure projects
- Improved storm drains: Accelerate improvements to storm drains to reduce flooding
- Improved play equipment and restrooms in parks: Upgrade outdated play equipment and restrooms in parks
- Disaster preparedness and safety: Integrate seismic improvements and disaster preparedness and recovery elements into infrastructure upgrades
- Seniors and disabled: Integrate improvements that meet the needs of seniors and those who are disabled
- Equity: Use an equity lens when investing Measure T1 dollars; T1 funds should be invested in projects that help to address historic and existing social and racial inequities
- Landmarks: Measure T1 is an opportunity to improve many of Berkeley's landmarks
- Leveraged funds: Seek additional grants and other sources of funding to leverage with Measure T1 funds. Also consider opportunities to leverage T1 funding to create affordable housing and advance equity goals
- Long-term infrastructure planning: Develop a “program plan” that identifies a long-term, integrated strategy for making infrastructure improvements beyond Phase I of Measure T1 implementation
- Resilience: Invest in multi-benefit improvements when upgrading facilities, streets, parks and the stormwater system
- Transparency and accountability: The City must transparently monitor and report on Measure T1 implementation progress
These themes are consistent with the City’s intent to allocate Measure T1 funds in a manner that creates multiple benefits for our community and advances sustainability, equity, preparedness, and fiscal responsibility.

**Revised Recommendation for Infrastructure Improvements in Phase I**

City staff looks forward to input from the Public Works and Parks & Waterfront Commissions to inform staff’s recommendation to City Council for Phase I of Measure T1 funds.

Based on input from commissioners from multiple commissions as well as other members of the community, one important and needed revision to staff’s initial recommendation for Phase I Measure T1 streets projects is to allocate bond funds only to street improvement projects that go beyond applying a surface seal to the street. Street improvement projects included in staff's December 22, 2016 recommendation that would be surface seal projects are:

- Hearst St., from Milvia St. to Henry St.
- Portions of Hopkins St., from San Pablo Ave. to The Alameda:
  - San Pablo Ave. to Gilman St.
  - Josephine St. to The Alameda

These street sections will still benefit from resurfacing in fiscal years 2018 – 2021, but surface seal improvements would not be funded by Measure T1.

Hopkins St., from Monterey Ave. to McGee Ave. and from Carlotta Ave. to Josephine St. were initially identified as needing a surface seal. But upon further field visits by staff, these sections were identified as needing an overlay due to significant deterioration.

Based on these revisions, the full list of street improvement projects that staff recommends for Phase I is the following:

- 2nd St., from Delaware St. to Addison St.
- Adeline St., from Derby St. to Ashby Ave.
- Bancroft Way, from Milvia St. to Shattuck Ave.
- Hopkins St., from Gilman St. to Josephine St.
- Monterey Ave., from The Alameda to Hopkins St.
- Ward St., from San Pablo Ave. to Acton St.

The revised recommendation is consistent with priorities identified in the City’s 5-year Paving Plan.

Staff expects that the Public Works and Parks & Waterfront Commissions may recommend additional changes to the list of streets, parks, facilities, and stormwater
projects included in the December memo. We look forward to reviewing commission input and working together to develop a joint recommendation to City Council.

**Next Steps for Preparing a Phase I Recommendation for City Council**

Outlined below is a timeline and next steps for preparing a joint Public Works and Parks & Waterfront Commission recommendation for Phase I of Measure T1 implementation for City Council.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/12/17</td>
<td>Parks &amp; Waterfront Commission met to develop its input on joint</td>
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<td>recommendation for City Council</td>
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<td>5/4/17</td>
<td>Public Works Commission meets to finalize its input on joint</td>
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<td>recommendation for City Council</td>
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<td>recommendation to City Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/16/17</td>
<td>City staff provides an update to City Council at a Council Work Session on the results of the Phase I public input process</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/25/17</td>
<td>Joint recommendation from the Public Works and Parks &amp; Waterfront Commissions and staff are due to the City Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/27/17</td>
<td>City Council considers the commission and staff recommendation and provides direction to staff on allocation of Phase I Measure T1 funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After 6/27/17</td>
<td>Commissions and staff begin to design the public input process for Phases II and III, develop an infrastructure program plan, issue Phase I bonds, and begin Phase I capital improvements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summary of Financial Oversight and Monitoring and Reporting on T1 Implementation**

The City will provide transparent and detailed financial oversight of Measure T1 funds and ongoing monitoring and reporting of program implementation. Staff will identify and track key program implementation milestones as well as program performance metrics.

Measure T1 requires annual reports on program implementation to City Council. Staff will provide, at minimum, bi-annual reports to City Council.

With assistance from the City’s bond counsel, financial advisor, and Finance Department, staff bi-annual reports to City Council will include detailed descriptions of Measure T1 expenditures and leveraged funds, progress on T1-funded projects, and next steps. Bi-annual reports to City Council will also be transmitted to the Public Works and Parks & Waterfront Commissions.
Staff will also provide regularly updated Measure T1 implementation information via the City’s website and quarterly news releases on the City’s homepage and social media.

Reporting on bond expenditures will also be included in the City’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), which is required by state law.

Thank you for your continued input and support as we move closer to providing Council with a recommendation so we can begin to activate T1 funds and improve our infrastructure and facilities.

If you have questions about Measure T1 implementation and next steps, please contact Timothy Burroughs, Assistant to the City Manager, at tburroughs@cityofberkeley.info.
Date: May 2, 2017

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Subject: Status Update on Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Reconstruction and Recreation Program Scholarships

The purpose of this memo is to brief Council on the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp reconstruction, and in particular, the City’s ongoing negotiation with insurance and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the primary funders of the reconstruction of Berkeley Tuolumne Camp (BTC). In addition, this memo provides information about camp and recreation program scholarships and outreach efforts.

Staff estimates the total cost to rebuild Berkeley Tuolumne Camp to be $54 million and that insurance and FEMA grant funds will pay $50.7 million of these costs. Staff is negotiating with insurance and FEMA over scope and coverage to maximize this funding. FEMA grant funding is dependent on City contribution of its local cost share. On April 4, 2017, Council approved an allocation of $3.3 million from the General Fund Catastrophic Reserve to fund the City’s share of costs to reconstruct BTC. Current timelines show reconstruction of BTC will begin in FY 19 and be complete in FY 21.

BACKGROUND

BERKELEY TUOLUMNE FAMILY CAMP AND THE CALIFORNIA RIM FIRE

Since the 1920s, the City of Berkeley has operated the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp (BTC) in the Stanislaus National Forest through a special use permit with the United States Forest Service (USFS). In August, 2013, the California Rim Fire destroyed most of the structures at BTC. The fire was declared a federal disaster, which means the rebuilding of BTC qualifies for Public Assistance Grant funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
Prior to the fire, BTC served about 4,000 campers per year. Primarily operated as a family camp, BTC also offered teen leadership programs, adult hiking camps, and private group rental opportunities. Berkeley Tuolumne Camp was the primary source of revenue for the City’s Camps Enterprise Fund (Fund 330), which funds all Berkeley camp programming. Revenues from BTC supported the operation, maintenance, capital improvements and scholarships for other City camp programs, including the locally operated Berkeley Day Camp.

**INSURANCE**

The structures at Berkeley Tuolumne Camp are covered by the City’s property insurance policy. Insurance is the first and primary means of cost recovery. The City’s insurance will cover the replacement cost of the destroyed structures, with new materials of like kind and quality, inclusive of increased costs due to local or state ordinance or law. The insurance policy includes coverage of architects and engineer’s fees and the reconstruction of BTC to meet modern code. Some coverage for debris removal and demolition is also covered, although the extent of tree removal coverage is in negotiation. Insurance typically does not cover the cost of City staff time.

Insurance coverage and limits applicable to the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Reconstruction Project (Project) are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1: Insurance Coverage and Limits Applicable to Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Project**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage Description</th>
<th>Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Occurrence Limit</td>
<td>$1,000,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coverage limit to restore BTC to pre-fire condition with like materials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Interruption Loss of income due to the fire</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code Upgrades Increased cost of construction due to building codes, ordinance or law</td>
<td>$25,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims Preparation Expenses</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 The insurance adjuster’s current estimate to complete debris removal and the design, permitting, and construction of BTC to pre-fire condition with like materials without reference to current building code requirements is approximately $6,600,000.
FEMA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDING

The California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) administers the FEMA Public Assistance grant program. FEMA/CalOES considers the Project cost the total of eligible costs less insurance payments (referred to as the “FEMA Project”). FEMA will reimburse the City 75% and CalOES will reimburse 18.75% of the total FEMA Project. The City is obliged to pay the remaining 6.25% as a local cost share. In addition, the City must comply with all federal and state regulations regarding grant funding, which requires development and implementation of multiple project-specific procedures and policies, such as procurement, accounting, contract and document management. FEMA/CalOES does pay for City staff costs directly attributable to the eligible reconstruction project.

COST RECOVERY

FEMA Public Assistance Grant funding requires the City to recover as much of the Project costs as possible from its insurer. The insurance policy’s exclusions and limits mean that additional funds are necessary to fully cover the Project. The remaining eligible costs after application of all insurance proceeds is the “FEMA Project”.

In general, both insurance and FEMA/CalOES consider costs eligible if they are directly associated with the emergency actions required due to the Rim Fire, or with restoring BTC to its pre-fire condition. Re-vegetation is generally not covered by either insurance or FEMA/CalOES, with some exceptions.

Any changes to the pre-fire (‘as-was’) condition are considered “improvements”. Cost recovery for improvements depends on their justification.

- **Code/Ordinance**: Improvements required by state or local code or ordinance in place and enforced at the time of the fire are eligible for reimbursement by both FEMA/CalOES and insurance. Improvements required by federal code or law may be eligible for reimbursement by FEMA/CalOES, but may not be covered by insurance.
- **Hazard Mitigation**: Improvements that mitigate future hazard damage, such as flood proofing, may be eligible for reimbursement by FEMA through a Hazard Mitigation grant. If the improvement is also required by code it is categorized as a Code/Ordinance improvement, not a hazard mitigation.
- **Value Engineering**: Value engineering during detailed design may lead to changes to the pre-fire facility. FEMA generally supports value engineering and may classify these costs as eligible with enough documentation.
- **Programmatic**: The City may opt to improve pre-fire structures or construct new structures as part of the Project. Costs for this category of improvement are not recoverable from insurance, and are excluded from the “FEMA Project”.
CURRENT STATUS

BERKELEY TUOLUMNE CAMP RECONSTRUCTION
PROJECT SCHEDULE AND COSTS

Conceptual design for the Project is complete. Public scoping, the first step of National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance was completed in October, 2015. City staff are working closely with the USFS to complete NEPA, which is required prior to finalizing the Special Use Permit for BTC. The City will complete CEQA compliance and obtain all permits required prior to the reconstruction of BTC. Detailed design is anticipated to begin in the fall of 2017 and construction of BTC to begin in spring, 2019.

**Figure 1: BTC Project Schedule**

<table>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debris Removal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concept Design</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NEPA / CEQA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Detail Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>Permits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertise / Award</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construct</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total estimated cost of the BTC reconstruction Project is just over $54,000,000 as shown in Table 2 below.
Table 2: Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Est. Reconstruction Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Costs</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debris Removal and Cleanup</td>
<td>$998,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design &amp; Permitting</td>
<td>$10,067,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction &amp; Closeout</td>
<td>$42,948,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Total</td>
<td>$54,014,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Insurance, CAL OES and FEMA Reimbursements</td>
<td>-$50,713,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Berkeley Cost Share</td>
<td>$3,301,797</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is estimated that approximately $50,700,000 of this total will be paid for by insurance and FEMA Public Assistance Grant funding. Grant funding is dependent on City contribution of its local cost share. On April 4, 2017, Council approved allocation of $3,300,000 from the City’s Catastrophic Reserve to fund the reconstruction of BTC.

The City cost share estimate of $3.3 million is based on assumptions regarding future insurance proceeds and the eligibility of project elements for Public Assistance Grant funding. Additional proceeds from insurance or donations to the City for the Project may result in a lower City cost share.

COST RECOVERY - INSURANCE

The City has received $7,214,904 from insurance to date. Table 3 provides a summary of what these payments cover.

Table 3: Insurance Payments to Date

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Interruption</th>
<th>$500,000*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff Property</td>
<td>$72,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debris Removal</td>
<td>$260,886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit Fees</td>
<td>$135,582</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>$650,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Cost Estimate</td>
<td>$5,121,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>$474,101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*Insurance payment for business interruption losses capped at $500,000 due to policy limits, see Table 1*

The $500,000 business interruption payment has been used to replenish the balance of the Camps fund. The remainder of the insurance payments are only being spent on costs directly associated with BTC reconstruction.

With the exception of the business interruption payment, insurance payments are based on a cost estimate for reconstruction made by the insurance company. This cost estimate does not include extra costs for upgrades required by code, ordinances, etc. and is called the ‘as was’ cost estimate. An accurate ‘as-was’ cost estimate and associated payment is a critical element of City cost recovery. A cost estimate for increased construction costs due to the enforcement of state and local laws, codes and ordinances has not been made but reimbursement for such costs are capped at $25,000,000.

**COST RECOVERY – FEMA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDING**

Public Assistance Grants require coordination with insurance funds in order to avoid duplication of benefits. Therefore significant payments from FEMA/CalOES are not expected until later phases of the Project, after insurance negotiations and the Project design have advanced. FEMA may advance funds based on assumed insurance payments in some circumstances. Given that there are coverage limits and that insurance negotiations are ongoing, it is critical the City comply with all Public Assistance Grant funding procedures throughout the Project. FEMA/CalOES is currently the only identified funding source for hazardous tree removals at BTC.

Unlike insurance, FEMA/CalOES will reimburse the City for direct administrative staff costs attributable to the eligible Project. The City has implemented supplementary payroll record keeping for the BTC Project in order to sufficiently document and recover costs associated with staff time spent on the Project.

An audit of the City’s ability to manage the Public Assistance Grant was completed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in June, 2016. The audit provided specific recommendations for improvements to City procedures to comply with Grant requirements. City staff are working closely with FEMA and CalOES grant managers to ensure all BTC Project activities are compliant with the Public Assistance Grant requirements.

**COST RECOVERY NEGOTIATIONS**

City staff is currently meeting monthly with insurance representatives, FEMA and CalOES and as-needed with the US Forest Service. Recent or ongoing developments in these negotiations include:
Insurance has agreed to cover the cost of a new City Project Manager for the BTC reconstruction. Although typically insurance will not reimburse City staff time, given the size and complexity of the Project insurers agreed to reimburse the City for the BTC-directed salary and benefits of a Capital Improvement Program Manager position. This position was filled in January, 2017.

The City will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a specialist consultant to provide an independent review of the insurance ‘as-was’ cost estimate. An accurate cost estimate is critical to City negotiations and budget.

An independent estimate for the increased cost of construction due to code, law and ordinance compliance will be made. Most of the changes proposed from the pre-fire condition are due to code and ordinance requirements, so it is expected the increased costs will be significant and may approach the City’s policy limit of $25 million for these increased costs. This estimate will inform City decisions regarding insurance negotiations as well as Project design.

The City is negotiating with insurers to make additional up-front payments to support cash flow as the Project progresses. Insurance is currently reviewing a payment request which will provide reimbursement for incurred debris removal and planning costs as well as projected future costs for the City Program Manager position.

NEXT STEPS FOR BERKELEY TUOLUMNE CAMP RECONSTRUCTION

The Project schedule shown in Figure 1 requires the completion of several key steps in the next six – nine months, including:

- Competitive solicitation and award of contracts for the completion of insurance as-was and reconstruction cost estimates and detailed Project design.
- Amending the Planning Contract to include design transition, permit applications, and additional technical reports requested by USFS.
- Public Review of NEPA and CEQA Project documentation.
- Continued close coordination with USFS, insurance, and state and federal FEMA grant administrators to maximize City cost recovery.

BERKELEY TUOLUMNE CAMP ATTENDANCE COST

During the April 4, 2017 Council Worksession describing Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Capital Improvement Projects, several Council members requested information regarding the cost of attending Berkeley Tuolumne Camp. BTC is the home of many programs, including: Berkeley Tuolumne Family Camp, 50+ Camp, Fish Camp, Teen Leadership Weekend, Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) BEARS Program Weekend, a Very Special Family Camp Weekend, and private group rentals. Including all of these programs, a total of 4,275 campers attended BTC in 2013.

The cost of attending Berkeley Tuolumne Camp for these various programs is summarized in Table 4.
Table 4: Cost of Berkeley Tuolumne Camp for Residents (2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Camp</td>
<td>$331 / day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price for a family of four: 2 adults, 1 youth and 1 child</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50+ Camp</td>
<td>$44.40 / day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price for a single adult</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish Camp</td>
<td>$204 / day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price for a family of four: 2 adults, 1 youth and 1 child</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Leadership Weekend</td>
<td>$12.50 / day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price for a single teen age 13-17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berkeley Unified School District BEARS Program Weekend</td>
<td>$131 / Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price for a family of four: 2 adults, 1 youth and 1 child</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counselor in Training Camp</td>
<td>$19.13 / day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price for a single teen age 14-15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Very Special Family Camp Weekend</td>
<td>$121 / day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price for a family of four: 2 adults, 1 youth and 1 child</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Depending on the specific programming, this cost generally includes:

- Lodging;
- All meals and accommodation of dietary restrictions (vegan, lactose or gluten free, etc.). Every meal included hot entrée and salad bar (lunch and dinner). Coffee, hot chocolate, cereal, fruit and sandwiches available at any time;
- Swimming with certified lifeguards;
- Materials and instruction in arts and crafts for all ages (ceramics, tie-dye, sculpture, lanyard making, etc.), including artist in residence program;
- Guided hikes and archery;
- Childcare provided at various times throughout the day for ages 2 through 12+;
- Access to all facilities including sauna, library, nature center, fish kitchen;
- Special Events: special theme days with themed meals and activities, talent show, bingo night with prizes, staff show, campfire and s’mores, etc.

CAMP AND RECREATION SCHOLARSHIPS AND REDUCED FEE PROGRAMING

At the April 4, 2017 Council Worksession, Council and the public also expressed interest in the City’s Camp and Recreation scholarship programs and outreach efforts.

The City awards scholarships to every applicant who meets the eligibility requirements, which include Berkeley residency. Income eligibility is based on the Federal Low Income
guidelines\(^2\), and fee reduction is generally a 50% reduction in fees, though 100% fee waivers are also available.

**Berkeley Tuolumne Camp (2013)**

The City supported access to Berkeley Tuolumne Camp for low income residents through direct scholarships and reduced cost (subsidized) special programs.

In 2013, $13,006 was provided in direct scholarships to 81 campers at Berkeley Family Camp. Additionally, the "reduced fee" programming offered at Berkeley Tuolumne Camp in 2013 included Teen Leadership Program Weekend, Very Special Family Camp Weekend, and Berkeley Unified School District BEARS Program. A total of 207 at-risk or disabled youth were served at these programs. In 2013, the Friends of Berkeley Tuolumne Camp donated $6,213 to partly fund the BUSD BEARS Program.

**Echo Lake Camp (2016)**

Since the closure of BTC, Family Camp and “reduced fee” Camp programming has occurred at Echo Lake Camp. In 2016, Echo Lake Camp provided a total of $8,015 in direct scholarships to an estimated 35 Camp attendees. The “reduced fee” programming offered at Echo Lake Camp in 2016 included Family Camp, Youth Camp, Counselors in Training programs, Teen Leadership and Pre-K Weekends. The total cost of these programs was $20,105, and a total of 146 low income or at-risk teens, youth, children and adults attended. In 2016, the Berkeley Echo Lake Camp Association (BELCA) donated $4,665 to offset City expenses for these reduced fee programs.

**Berkeley Day Camp (2016)**

In 2016 the City provided 65 full scholarships, 9 half scholarships, and 2 Counselor in Training scholarships to Berkeley Day Camp attendees. The total cost of these scholarships was $12,133.

**Other Recreation Program Scholarships (2016)**

In addition to Camps Fund scholarships at Echo Lake and Berkeley Day Camps, the City Recreation Division provides a significant number of scholarships to other programs operated out of the General Fund within the City. In 2016, the City awarded more than 800 scholarships totaling $84,852 in scholarship funds to participants in Arts Discovery, Explorers Camp, Sports & Games Camp, Swim Lessons, Therapeutic Recreation, Skate Camp, Tennis, Youth Baseball, and Marine Biology Programs.

\(^2\) In 2016, the Federal Low Income Guidelines at a Gross Income of below $48,750 for a family of four (HUD, Updated 4/8/15)
May 2, 2017
Re: Status Update on Berkeley Tuolumne Camp Reconstruction and Recreation Program Scholarships

In 2016, 54% of the program participants in Live Oak’s Sports & Games Program, James Kenney’s Explorer’s Camp, and Frances Albrier’s Arts Discovery Camp programs attended under a full or partial scholarship.

OUTREACH

Outreach for Camp and Recreation programming includes:

- Description of Camp and Recreation programming in the summer activity guide sent to all Berkeley residents;
- Activity Guide and camp flyers provided to all BUSD school children;
- Online advertising;
- Visits by the Camp Manager and other staff to present at community meetings and teen leadership meetings on the Teen Leadership Program opportunities;
- Print advertising: Parent’s Press, Berkeley Time, brochures and flyers, etc.; and
- Staff participated in school, career and summer activity fairs (e.g. Rosa Parks Elementary Summer Resource Fair, BUSD Career Day).

cc: Jovan Grogan, Deputy City Manager
    Ann-Marie Hogan, City Auditor
    Scott Ferris, Director, Parks, Recreation & Waterfront
    Christina Erickson, Deputy Director, Parks, Recreation & Waterfront
    Mark Numainville, City Clerk
    Matthai Chakko, Assistant to the City Manager / Public Information Officer
To Parks and Waterfront Commissioners:

Over the next 60 days the PRW Department is celebrating the completion of 5 construction projects.

- Saturday, May 6, 12 noon – Skate Board Park Safety and Technical Improvements
- Saturday, May 13 11 AM- Rose Garden Phase 1 / Mother’s Day Celebration
- Saturday, June 17 1:00 PM- James Kenney and Bahia Seismic, Siding, window upgrades
- Wednesday June 28 (Time TBA)- Grove Park Tennis and Basketball Courts/ Community Picnic

We would welcome your attendance at all or some of these events.

Thanks

Roger Miller
Secretary, Parks and Waterfront Commission