



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 21, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Timothy Burroughs, Director, Planning and Community Development

Subject: Referral Response: Expanding community engagement within work to address Climate Impacts

RECOMMENDATION

1. Refer to the City Manager to continually advance engagement around community-driven, equitable climate solutions, and to seek external resources to enable increased community engagement of impacted communities around equitable climate solutions; and
2. Refer to the Agenda Committee a revision to the Council Rules of Procedures to update the Environmental Sustainability section of City Council items and staff reports as "*Environmental Sustainability and Climate Impacts*."

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

There are no fiscal impacts for the first recommendation to continue engagement around equitable climate solutions and to seek external funding. The Office of Energy and Sustainable Development will continue to center equity within existing programs, using existing staff resources.

The second recommendation to update to City Council reports to include consideration of climate impacts would require additional time from existing staff to develop guidelines and provide training for all Departments on how to analyze and respond to the revised *Environmental Sustainability and Climate Impacts* section. These tasks would need to be integrated into staff's current work plan and would impact other projects.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

This referral response builds on the momentum of the Climate Emergency Declaration, adopted by the City Council on June 12, 2018, by augmenting current efforts to reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions, raise awareness of climate impacts, and help the community adapt to a changing climate.

The Office of Energy and Sustainable Development is committed to equitable community engagement and policies. Recent and current activities include:

- In 2018 Berkeley received a grant to host a training on **Equitable Community-driven Climate Solutions with Movement Strategies** that focused on the continuum of Community Engagement, through collaboration and shared decision-making between local government staff and the community, with the aim of co-creating equitable climate preparedness solutions. See Attachment 3 for Continuum of Community Engagement adapted from King County, Washington and the International Association of Public Participation.
- Berkeley was chosen as one of eight leading cities to receive free technical assistance valued at more than \$50,000, with an additional \$2,000 for community engagement stipends through the **Building Electrification Initiative**. That effort analyzed opportunities and barriers to building electrification with an equity analysis, including spatial analysis of social vulnerabilities and environmental risk factors, and interviews with organizations serving low-income communities, limited English-speakers, people of color, and people with disabilities. Current work includes research on ways to support both affordable housing and building electrification strategies, local workforce development, and economic inclusion for marginalized communities. This work is being used to supplement the Existing Building Electrification Strategy.
- In 2018 Council provided funding for consultants to develop a **Berkeley Existing Building Electrification Strategy** which will provide recommendations for the highest value short- and long-term strategies to electrify all of Berkeley's existing buildings, in an equitable way, as soon as possible. Staff included requirements for equity expertise and deliverables as part of the Request for Proposals and in the scope of work. The consultant team developing the Strategy consists of Rincon Associates, Rocky Mountain Institute and the Ecology Center, with the latter serving as the lead on equity. The team is evaluating policy options that address all buildings in Berkeley in an inclusive approach that advances equity and prioritizes multiple benefit solutions to improve health, comfort and affordability.
- The **Electric Mobility Roadmap** included the Greenlining Institute as a paid strategic equity advisor throughout its development. Community organizations who work with underserved communities, including low-income populations, communities of color, and people with disabilities, were interviewed as part of the early needs assessment phase, and became partners in the development of draft strategies and actions, and implementation. This work led to "Equity in Access to Electric Mobility" being one of the four goals of the Roadmap with recommendations that includes collaboration on an equity pilot project and workforce development to support opportunities for people with barriers to employment.

Although communities of color, renters, seniors, students, people with disabilities, and low-income residents are disproportionately impacted by climate change, they are often marginalized in the development of climate solutions. These impacted communities may face multiple competing priorities and other barriers, such as language and lack of access to resources, which can limit their ability to meaningfully participate in creating and implementing climate solutions. Community-driven engagement aims to strengthen the capacity of individuals and organizations to self-advocate and identify needs, priorities and solutions. It also emphasizes meaningful participation in the decision-making process of policies and programs.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, staff developed a scope of work and budget for enhancing community capacity for engagement. A draft Scope of Work and a 2-year budget of \$236,000 was developed to support dedicated staffing for the Berkeley Climate Action Coalition (BCAC), co-convened by the Ecology Center and the City of Berkeley Office of Energy & Sustainable Development, to coordinate an engagement plan (see Attachment 2). However, given the uncertainty surrounding the local economy, impacts on the City's budget, and safety implications of in-person community engagement due to COVID-19, staff is not recommending allocating funding for this proposal at this time.

In lieu of a funding request to enhance the work of BCAC, staff will continue to apply an equity lens to policy development and implementation and support a wide range of community engagement efforts with existing staff resources. Staff will seek additional resources and apply for external grant funding to more deeply engage with communities most negatively affected by increasingly frequent climate-related events, such as extreme heat, exposure to wildfire smoke, public safety power shutoffs, and flooding, and by the health and economic impacts of COVID-19. OESD staff will also leverage partnerships with East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) and the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) to enhance outreach on issues such as electricity rate changes and programs targeted to reduce energy costs for low-income community members.

Meaningful engagement is also critical to the creation of community-driven solutions that are a core principle for the equity programs being recommended through the Electric Mobility Roadmap, and other programs for building electrification as recommended in the Existing Building Electrification Strategy. Due to the unknown future prospects of public gatherings, it is challenging to effectively engage with frontline communities in traditional ways (e.g., in-person convenings and workshops). Remote or virtual engagement can heighten the digital divide and may only be available to those who are not dealing with urgent health and economic challenges. To overcome these challenges, staff will explore innovative, safe and accessible engagement strategies to reach impacted communities while limits on public gatherings persist, and will plan for opportunities for innovative, safe in-person community engagement when that approach can safely resume.

Environmental Sustainability and Climate Impacts Section of Council Reports

A revision to the current “Environmental Sustainability” section of City Council reports to include “*Environmental Sustainability and Climate Impacts*” would enhance efforts started in 2014, when the current “Environmental Sustainability” section was added to Council report templates. The “Environmental Sustainability” section was implemented through the development of guidelines, instructional materials, staff training throughout the City, and a six-month period of review of all Council reports by staff in the Office of Energy & Sustainable Development. These guidelines and training are now integrated into Council Report Writing Training provided to staff by the City Clerk’s Office. Staff would want to update and augment that training to ensure that a newly revised Council report template is effective and meaningful.

Equity-focused, climate-driven community engagement and increasing consideration of climate impacts in Council reports supports a number of Strategic Plan goals, including: creating a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city; championing and demonstrating social and racial equity; and being a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment.

BACKGROUND

On January 21, 2020, City Council approved a referral sponsored by Councilmembers Davila and Bartlett, which referred to the City Manager:

- To look at how to improve and increase External Community Engagement – including funding for regular on-going town halls or neighborhood assemblies for external community engagement, and collaboration to engage the community and allow for input on new policies and programs which affect marginalized and front-line communities.
- To report back and identify funding resources and funding needed to adequately implement the increased engagement efforts, including different organizational structure options, and to make recommendations for funding.
- To require that all City Council items and staff reports include Climate Impacts in addition to Environmental Sustainability.

Since 2012, BCAC has been the City’s main vehicle for climate engagement. Its membership of nearly 1,000 people includes residents, nonprofits, neighborhood groups, faith-based organizations, schools, businesses, and UC Berkeley. From 2012-2016, BCAC received funding from the San Francisco Foundation and the City of Berkeley that supported quarterly convenings and workshops on a variety of topics such as climate change and health, intergenerational climate change, clean transportation and energy, and climate justice. Over the years, BCAC has supported a variety of volunteer-led working groups on topics including land use, water, transportation, community choice energy, electrification, and environmental health, and BCAC

continues to play an active role in large public events such as the annual Ride Electric event and 2019 East Bay Electrification Expo.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The development of community-driven equitable climate solutions is critical to the success of the Climate Action Plan and the City's Resilience Strategy, and responds to the Climate Emergency Declaration. The engagement of marginalized and frontline communities advances the goals of climate mitigation and adaptation, as well as resilience by advancing racial equity and accelerating access to reliable and clean energy and transportation.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Engagement with marginalized communities addresses historical and structural racism and economic inequality. This work requires an approach that allows community members to explore how climate change impacts them and to collaborate in the creation of solutions to meet their needs. Deep and authentic community engagement is best accomplished through in-person meetings and events. Until such events can resume, staff are working to engage with stakeholders from impacted communities through virtual means, with a focus on equity and inclusion.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

City Council could choose to fund all or part of the attached Scope of Work to create non-virtual community engagement strategies while limits on public gatherings persist, and move to interactive, in-person events when they are deemed safe. By partnering with trusted external organizations like BCAC and the Ecology Center, the City could build on existing community relationships, strengthen capacity of community members and organizations to engage on climate issues, and leverage outreach efforts.

CONTACT PERSON

Billi Romain, Sustainability Manager, Planning Department – Office of Energy & Sustainable Development, (510) 981-7432

Attachments:

- 1 Original Referral Report from January 21, 2020:
- 2 Ecology Center Berkeley Climate Action Coalition Draft Scope of Work
- 3 Continuum of Community Engagement



Cheryl Davila
Councilmember
District 2

REVISED AGENDA MATERIAL

Meeting Date: January 21, 2020

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

Submitted by: Councilmember Cheryl Davila

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

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

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

2. Short Term Referral to the City Manager to report back and identify funding resources and funding needed to adequately implement number 1, including different organizational structure options; and recommendations for funding.

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



Cheryl Davila
Councilmember
District 2

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

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmembers Cheryl Davila and Ben Bartlett

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

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

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

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

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

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

POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

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

Amend the recommendation to read as follows:

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

Vote: All Ayes.

BACKGROUND

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

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

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

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

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

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

To be determined.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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

CONTACT PERSON

Cheryl Davila
Councilmember District 2
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ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution
2. Track changes from original Council item

RESOLUTION NO. XXXX

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

~~1. *Establishment of a new department* – Create a Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) and transition existing city staff (current Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officers) into the new department. The CEMD is proposed to have oversight authority of existing departments and boards regarding planning and coordination of the City’s response to climate change, including public education and outreach. In addition, the CEMD would measure and track ongoing greenhouse gas emissions and pollutants, develop an annual climate emissions budget and identify grant funding.~~

~~2. Short Term Referral to the City Manager to report back and identify funding resources and funding needed to adequately implement number 1, including different organizational structure options; and recommendations for funding.~~

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

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

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

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

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

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



Cheryl Davila
Councilmember
District 2

REVISED AGENDA MATERIAL

Meeting Date: January 21, 2020

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Submitted by: Councilmember Cheryl Davila

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CONSENT CALENDAR
January 21, 2020
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From: Councilmember Cheryl Davila and Ben Bartlett

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

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

To be determined.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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

CONTACT PERSON

Cheryl Davila
Councilmember District 2
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ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution
2. [Track changes from original Council item](#)

RESOLUTION NO. XXXX

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

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

WHEREAS, the cities of Richmond, Oakland, Hayward, Alameda, El Cerrito, Chico, Fairfax, Healdsburg, Davis, Arcata, Cloverdale, Malibu, Petaluma, San Jose, San Mateo County, Santa Cruz City & County, Sonoma County and Windsor have also passed Climate Emergency Declarations; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. Establishment of a new department – Create a Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) and transition existing city staff (current Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officers) into the new department. The CEMD is proposed to have oversight authority of existing departments and boards regarding planning and coordination of the City’s response to climate change, including public education and outreach. In addition, the

~~CEMD would measure and track ongoing greenhouse gas emissions and pollutants, develop an annual climate emissions budget and identify grant funding.~~

~~2. Short Term Referral to the City Manager to report back and identify funding resources and funding needed to adequately implement number 1, including different organizational structure options; and recommendations for funding.~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Ecology Center Community Engagement Proposed Scope of Work for the Berkeley Climate Action Coalition

Program Summary: The success of the City of Berkeley's Climate Action Plan, Resilience Strategy, and response to the Climate Emergency Declaration is dependent on input from and engagement with Berkeley's most vulnerable and climate-impacted communities. Citywide interventions must work for all, and without adequate feedback, the City's responses to the climate threat can exacerbate impacts on the communities least able to bear them. These communities are often the most negatively affected by pollution and climate change impacts, yet rarely have a voice in how to create policies to mitigate and adapt to such adversities. The Ecology Center co-convenes the Berkeley Climate Action Coalition along with the Office of Energy and Sustainable Development, and has long-standing relationships with a diverse array of community organizations.

This program seeks to strengthen the capacity of individuals and organizations from vulnerable, impacted, underserved and low-income communities to identify their own needs, priorities and solutions and to self-advocate for appropriate outcomes within a climate action framework. Equitable outreach is collaborative in nature, and aims to:

- Support leadership development of people from impacted communities to engage on issues of concern related to climate action resilience.
- Create opportunities for community members to explore how climate change impacts them and to generate solution to meet their needs.
- Ensure community members understand City processes and decision points.
- Support partners to be able to engage in City processes in an ongoing fashion.
- Ensure resources for culturally appropriate meeting spaces, facilitation, food, childcare, and translation necessary to achieve these goals.

Target Population: People of color, renters, seniors, students, people with disabilities, low-income residents, and other "harder-to-reach" communities most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and/or historically excluded in the development of climate change and resiliency solutions.

Draft Scope of Work:

- Ongoing community engagement (minimum of 20 activities per year) on topics of concern (see below) that may include meetings with key stakeholders and community organizations' staff members; outreach at facilities serving frontline communities such as senior centers, or onsite at local agencies; and topic-specific working groups.

- At least two public convenings or town hall meetings per year that utilize hands-on, interactive learning components.
 - Public meetings will include, as needed, culturally appropriate meeting spaces, facilitation, food, childcare, and translation
 - Public meetings will be planned in partnership with community organizations serving frontline communities

Engagement and outreach will focus on the intersection of climate **topics of concern** to frontline communities and City climate initiatives:

- Changes in electricity rates from Time of Use (TOU), potential opt-up to more expensive East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) electricity product, and any other potential rate increases and savings opportunities
- Preparing for climate-related heat and smoke events
- Energy assurance during Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events
- Access to clean, electric mobility options
- Incentive programs for income-qualified residents
- Building electrification: 1) understanding barriers and promoting health benefits and incentive programs; 2) creation of a proposed Resilient Homes Equity Pilot Program for building electrification and efficiency to complement the transfer tax rebate program for low-income home owners and/or renters

Timeline: The program will be delivered over a two-year period as follows:

- 1-3 months: relationship, coalition and capacity building
- 3-6 months: identifying priorities, program planning and coordination
- 6-24 months: program implementation

Provider: The Ecology Center, a 50-year-old Berkeley organization, deeply rooted in the community, is ideally situated to deliver this outreach program. The Ecology Center, which co-convenes the Berkeley Climate Action Coalition (BCAC) with the City, has long-standing relationships with a variety of local climate organizations. Additionally, through its farmers' markets and food access programs (i.e. Farmers' Market EBT and Market Match), and successful soda tax campaign, the Ecology Center has developed strong alliances with health and human services organizations serving many of Berkeley's frontline communities. Partnering with these organizations is critical as

adverse health impacts are often associated with climate change, and health issues can be an entry point for meaningful engagement.

Proposed Ecology Center Budget: \$236,000 over 2 years, (\$118,000 per year)

Annual Breakdown:

- \$75,000 1 FTE Lead Staff (including taxes and benefits)
- \$10,000: Support for partnering community organizations to build capacity to co-host convenings
- \$10,000: Public meeting resources such as childcare, translation, food, etc.
- \$23,000: Administrative overhead

CONTINUUM OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement is often depicted as a continuum increasing in the level of engagement and partnership from left to right, as shown in the figure below. Within any given planning process, various strategies for community engagement may be employed at different points in time.

INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	SHARED LEADERSHIP	COMMUNITY-DRIVEN
Local government initiates an effort, coordinates with departments, and uses a variety of channels to inform the community to take action	Local government gathers information from the community to inform local government-led interventions	Local government engages community members to shape government priorities and plans	Community and local government share in decision-making to co-create solutions together	Community initiates and directs strategy and action with participation and technical assistance from local government
CHARACTERISTICS OF ENGAGEMENT				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily one-way channel of communication One interaction Term-limited to project Addresses immediate need of local government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily one-way channel of communication One to multiple interactions Short to medium-term Shapes and informs local government programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-way channel of communication Multiple interactions Medium- to long-term Advancement of solutions to complex problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-way channel of communication Multiple interactions Medium- to long-term Advancement of solutions to complex problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-way channel of communication Multiple interactions Medium to long-term Advancement of solutions to complex problems
STRATEGIES				
Media releases, brochures, pamphlets, outreach to population groups, translated information, new and social media	Focus groups, interviews, community surveys, public hearings, public comment periods	Forums, advisory boards, stakeholder involvement, coalitions, policy development and advocacy, including legislative briefings, and testimony, workshops, community-wide events	Co-led community meetings, advisory boards, coalitions, and partnerships, policy development and advocacy, including legislative briefings and testimony	Community-led planning efforts, community-hosted forums, collaborative partnerships, coalitions, policy development and advocacy including legislative briefings and testimony

Adapted from King County, Washington and IAP2

A community-driven equitable climate preparedness planning process involves collaboration and shared decision-making between local government staff and the community with the aim of co-creating an equitable climate preparedness plan. In terms of the levels of engagement continuum depicted above, this approach most aligns with shared leadership and community-driven, where there is an emphasis on a shared decision-making and co-ownership over the development of the plan.

