



**Commission on Disability  
AGENDA  
Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, June 7, 2023 6:00 PM**

**In-Person Location: 1326 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA  
94702 (Willow Room at the Corporation Yard)**

**Commissioner Pugh participating from: 1806 Addison  
St., Berkeley, CA 94703**

**Commissioner Fischer participating from: 1888  
Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94703**

**A. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

- 1) Call to Order by Acting Chair Walsh**
- 2) Land Acknowledgement Statement: *The City of Berkeley recognizes that the community we live in was built on the territory of xučyun (Huchiun (Hooch-yoon)), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (Cho-chen-yo)-speaking Ohlone (Oh-***

*low-nee) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County. This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band. As we begin our meeting tonight, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay. We recognize that Berkeley's residents have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley's incorporation in 1878. As stewards of the laws regulating the City of Berkeley, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land, but also recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today. The City of Berkeley will continue to build relationships with the Lisjan Tribe and to create meaningful actions that uphold the intention of this land acknowledgement.*

- 3) **Roll Call by Secretary**
- 4) **Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda.  
(Up to 3 minutes per speaker)**
- 5) **Approval of Draft Minutes for February 1, 2023\***
- 6) **Approval and Order of Agenda\***

- 7) **Staff updates: (a) intro/contact info of new CoD secretary and (b) reminder about chat function when Commissioners meet via Zoom.**

## **B. ACTION ITEMS**

**The public may speak about any agenda item, and members of the public will have an opportunity to speak prior to any voting regarding an agenda item. (Comments may be limited to 3 minutes per speaker)**

### **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Introduction of new commissioners ( discussion)
2. Nominations and vote for Chair and Vice Chair (action)
3. Review Commission on Disability work Plan (discussion) Include work plan in packet
4. Open discussion on creating an effective, representative Commission on Disability with logistical practices and communication policies that comply with both the ADA and the Brown Act.
5. Civic Center - Super Sub Cmte Briefing An overview of the design concept for Civic Center Park, the Veterans Memorial Building and the Maudelle Shirek

Building (“Old City Hall”) was provided. A the final report will be headed to council in June 2023. ( see packet pdf of the project) informational/discussion

**The public may speak at the beginning of any item.  
(Comments may be limited to 3 minutes per speaker)**

**C. Announcements**

**D. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Agenda Posted: (1) on the bulletin board at Old City Hall at 2134 MLK Jr. Way, (2) at 1326 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA 94702 (Willow Room at the Corporation Yard), (3) on the City of Berkeley website, and (4) the two addresses listed as remote sites toward the top of this agenda.**

**\* Indicates written material included in packet.**

**\*\* Indicates material to be delivered at meeting.**


**\*\*\* Indicates material previously mailed.**

**A complete agenda packet is available for public review on the web at:**

**[https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/Commissions/Commission Commission on Disability Homepage.aspx](https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/Commissions/Commission%20on%20Disability%20Homepage.aspx)**

Available also at the main library, and Public Works, Engineering Division, 1947 Center Street, 4th Floor.

### **ADA Disclaimer**

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***person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee.***

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***Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission or committee for further information.***

**Commission Secretary: Thomas Gregory, ADA  
Program Coordinator, 1947 Center St., 4th Floor,  
Berkeley, CA, 94704, Telephone (510) 981-6418, Fax:  
(510) 981-7060 TDD: (510) 981-6347.**

**Email: [tgregory@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:tgregory@cityofberkeley.info)**

**Email: [ada@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:ada@cityofberkeley.info)**



**Commission on Disability**  
**DRAFT Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, February 1, 2023 6:00 PM**

***Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) and the state declared emergency, this meeting of the Commission on Disability will be conducted exclusively through teleconference and Zoom videoconference. The COVID-19 state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and presents imminent risks to the health of attendees. Therefore, no physical meeting location will be available.***

***Public Works Engineering is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.***

***Topic: Commission on Disability - Regular Meeting***

***Time: Feb 1, 2023 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)***

***Join Zoom Meeting***

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83792234648?pwd=d1BSZWNRSTAzSkY2WldPaXFwY1FPdz09>

**Meeting ID: 837 9223 4648**

**Passcode: 053118**

**One tap mobile**

**+16694449171,,83792234648# US**

**+16699009128,,83792234648# US (San Jose)**

**Dial by your location**

**+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)**

**833 928 4610 US Toll-free**

**877 853 5247 US Toll-free**

**888 788 0099 US Toll-free**

**833 548 0276 US Toll-free**

**833 548 0282 US Toll-free**

**833 928 4608 US Toll-free**

**833 928 4609 US Toll-free**

**Meeting ID: 837 9223 4648**

**Find your local number:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kb6AtN6BsD>

**To access the meeting remotely using the internet: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device using**



***the link listed on the agenda. If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, then use the dropdown menu and click on "rename" to rename yourself to be anonymous. To request to speak, use the "raise hand" icon on the screen.***

***To join by phone: Dial 1-669-900-9128 and enter the Meeting ID on the agenda. If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, press \*9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair.***

## **A. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

**Land Acknowledgement Recognizing Berkeley as the Ancestral, Unceded Home of the Ohlone People**

- 1) Call to Order by Chair Freeman at 6:02 p.m.**
- 2) Roll Call by Secretary - Freeman: present, Walsh: present**
- 3) Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda. (Up to 3 minutes per speaker) 5**
- 4) Draft Minutes for January 11, 2023 Approved  
Freeman: Aye, Walsh: Aye**
- 5) Draft Minutes for January 18, 2023 Approved  
Freeman: Aye, Walsh: Aye**
- 6) Staff Update:**
  - Chat – Only to be used as a disability accommodation tool**

- 7) **Approval and Order of Agenda – COD decided to move item # 6 to 3**

## **B. ACTION ITEMS**

**The public may speak at the beginning of any item.  
(Comments may be limited to 3 minutes per speaker)**

- **Future COD Meetings Times –  
COD to vote on future meeting times to occur  
starting at 3:00 p.m.**

**Item: Tabled until more Commissioners are  
appointed to the COD (as requested by Vice  
Chair Walsh)**

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

- 1. Voicemail Accessibility – Tom Ray from I.T attended  
to answer questions.**
- 2. Commission on Disability to appointment a  
representative to attend and speak on behalf of the  
COD at the Special City Council Meeting on The  
Hopkins Corridor Reconfiguration Project.**

**Motion to send Chair Michai Freeman to represent and speak on behalf of the COD at the City Council Special Meeting on The Hopkins Corridor Reconfiguration Project and why the COD opposes.**

**Chair Freeman Motion: Aye: Freeman, Aye: Walsh**

**3. Discussion on Pathways Center demand letter whether to sign on as a Commission.**

**Motion to highlight to City Council the needs and the demands as stated in the Pathways Demand Letter accompanied by the Commission on Disability's recommendations.**

**Chair Freeman Motion: Aye: Freeman, Aye: Walsh**

**1 member of the public gave comment**

**4. Return to In-person Commission Meetings starting March 1, 2023**

**COD Secretary and Disability Access Consultants (DAC) discussed reasonable accommodations and City Clerk's Memo to Commissioners – titled Update Re: In-Person Meetings, dated 1-19-23.**

**1 member of the public gave comment**

- 5. Inclusive Disaster Registry – Continued (Walsh) – COD requests future attendance from Disaster Preparedness staff to discuss this item.**

**Vice Chair Walsh shared that Michelle Blackwell has left Easy Does It.**

- 6. IKE Smart Kiosks (Walsh) – COD requests future attendance from Office of Economic Development to discuss this item**

**Item to be further discussed and continued**

**The public may speak at the beginning of any item. (Comments may be limited to 3 minutes per speaker)**

**C. Announcements**

**D. INFORMATION ITEMS AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**E. COMMUNICATIONS**

- Update – Return to In-Person Meetings\* (Memo from Mark Numainville – City Clerk)**

**1. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (from adopted work plan, referrals, etc.)**

**F. ADJOURNMENT: at 8:55 p.m.**

**Agenda Posted: TBD**

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**Commission Secretary: Andrew Brozyna, Deputy  
Director of Public Works, 1947 Center St., 4th Floor,  
Berkeley, CA, 94704, Telephone (510) 981-6396, Fax:  
(510) 981-7060 TDD: (510) 981-6347.  
Email: [abrozyna@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:abrozyna@cityofberkeley.info)  
Email: [ada@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:ada@cityofberkeley.info)**



Commission on Disability

INFORMATION CALENDAR

October 11, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Commission on Disability

Submitted by: Michai Freeman Chairperson, Commission on Disability

Subject: Commission on Disability Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Work Plan

INTRODUCTION

The Commission on Disability is submitting the fiscal year 2022-2023 Work Plan.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS**Commission on Disability ▪ Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Workplan****1. COVID Management and Recovery**

Track developments and impacts from the Covid-19 pandemic, including but not limited to: disproportionate health impacts for people disabilities; consequences for health care providers; disruptions in disability supports (e.g. reduction in small businesses providing necessary products and services); increase in Berkeley residents with long-term disabilities due to post-Covid complications; and reduction in city budgets for services and infrastructure improvements (e.g. sidewalk repair efforts). Engage relevant city departments, request presentations and gather community feedback. Ensure equitable and accessible opportunities to participate in city efforts, programs, meetings and initiatives.

**2. Improved Transportation and Mobility**

Continue efforts related to the “navigable cities” framework for safe, accessible pedestrian pathways and other transportation infrastructure, including appropriate street layouts in redesigned transportation corridors. Also ensure universal accessibility of relevant applications, kiosks, ride-sharing services, Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), bikes and scooters (including shared mobility), and “emerging technology” such as automated vehicles (ATVs). Address public transportation concerns and safety, including budgets and onboard safety related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Ensure equitable and accessible opportunities to participate in city efforts, programs, meetings and initiatives.

**3. Public Input and Public Outreach for COD**

Implement communication channels with other city Commissions; pursue “cross-membership” with other commissions, where COD members request to be appointed to other commissions with vacancies; prioritize commissions whose coverage affects



people with disabilities (e.g. peace & justice, zero waste, planning, homelessness, etc.). Raise awareness of COD within the disability community and relevant stakeholders (e.g. neighborhood and business associations) and invite community members and stakeholders to attend COD meetings. Outreach should include opportunities for community members to request accessibility modifications, including for remote meetings (e.g. captioning on Zoom). Develop a consistent process and timeframe for community engagement. Ensure equitable and accessible opportunities to participate in city efforts, programs, meetings and initiatives.

#### **4. Engagement and Advisory Role for City Processes**

Increase outreach and requests for timely presentations and information from City of Berkeley staff and other relevant officials (e.g. at the county or regional levels). Utilize the Commission on Disability as a public forum and oversight body, especially in the face of unprecedented challenges during the continuing Covid-19 pandemic and recovery therefrom. Utilize COD as an advisory & monitoring body to increase accessibility & accountability in city efforts and other areas of influence. Partner with other commissions; advocate for new sub-committees and cross-membership for relevant goals. Commissioners commit to actively and regularly engage with appointing Council members. Ensure that COD review city policies to avoid direct decisions by Council, City Manager, and other city entities without disability input. Ensure equitable and accessible opportunities to participate in city efforts, programs, meetings and initiatives.

#### **5. Accessible and Affordable Housing**

Explore the expansion and improved availability of accessible housing for people with disabilities, including going beyond baseline ADA access requirements in new construction (e.g. adding automatic door openers, units with roll-in showers and other universal access features, etc.). Recognize a likely slowdown in new construction and increase efforts at encouraging accessibility retrofits of existing buildings, whether single-family homes or multi-unit apartments/condominiums. Address affordability as a key factor for housing, especially given the disconnect between affordability and accessibility (given newer buildings are more accessible but also tend to have higher rents). Partner with senior community and advocates for mutual areas of interest. Ensure equitable and accessible opportunities to participate in city efforts, programs, meetings and initiatives.

#### **6. Homeless people with Disabilities**

Support Berkeley's population of homeless residents with disabilities. Collaborate with local service providers to address disability-related needs, such as access to healthcare or repairs of medical equipment (wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, etc.). Address timely issues, such as pandemic safety, extreme heat events and air quality (including wildfire smoke). Access to electricity and energy resources. Advocate for permanent accessible housing, including creative solutions (e.g. tiny homes). Ensure equitable and accessible opportunities to participate in city efforts, programs, meetings and initiatives.

## **7. Emergency/Disaster Preparedness**

Receive information and ongoing updates, participate and make recommendations as appropriate about Berkeley's BEACON and CERT programs. Address increasing frequency of Red Flag Warning events, wildfire danger, Public Safety Power Shutoffs, poor air quality days, and extreme heat vents. Maintain oversight and efforts around earthquake safety. Increase training opportunities for disability awareness & management, including FAST trainings. Advertise disaster resources for PWDs (e.g. information, backup supplies, organizations and designated accessible shelters), including lists of trained staff and volunteers. Ensure equitable and accessible opportunities to participate in city efforts, programs, meetings and initiatives.

## **8. Student Life and Disability Awareness**

Improve communication and collaboration with Berkeley's many students with disabilities, providing community engagement and leadership opportunities and supports for independent living. Address all populations including students with disabilities in elementary through high school, Berkeley City College, UC Berkeley, and private entities. Advocate for city-supported services and resources for youth, young adults and other students w/ disabilities. Increase affordability of and access to education, training, recreation and life resources (e.g. housing and transportation) for students. Ensure equitable and accessible opportunities to participate in city efforts, programs, meetings and initiatives.

## **9. Accessibility in City Events, Meetings, Communications & Information Technology**

Work with city staff, commissions, and other relevant partners to guarantee inclusion and accessibility of events, meetings and communications. Guarantee access to multiple media, taking into account a diversity of disabilities and the overall digital divide (i.e. disproportionate access to Information Technology and related services); this can include printed (paper) communications and information items, as well as those items in accessible (e.g. Braille or large-print) format. Ensure that all meetings and events are accessible through the Internet for those who cannot attend; this is especially important considering health and wellness in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and its ongoing effects. Emphasize plain language and multiple media in city resources and initiatives to reach the widest audience possible. Utilize free media (i.e. city websites, newspapers, PSAs, Berkeley TV, social media, etc.) and partnerships (e.g. with nonprofits, community organizations, and faith-based organizations) to engage as many people as possible. Ensure equitable and accessible opportunities to participate in city efforts, programs, meetings and initiatives.

The Commission on Disability Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Work Plan supports the Strategic Plan goal to champion and demonstrate social and racial equity.

BACKGROUND

The Work Plan was approved by the Commission on August 3, 2022 (Vote: Ayes: Freeman, Walsh. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Singer. Motion/Second: Freeman/Walsh)

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no identifiable environmental effects, climate impacts, or sustainability opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Unknown.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Unknown.

CONTACT PERSON

Andrew Brozyna, Deputy Director of Public Works, (510) 981-6396

## E. DEVELOPMENT OF A WORK PLAN

In 2016, the City Council took formal action directing all commissions, except Board of Library Trustees (BOLT), Design Review, and Zoning Adjustments Board (ZAB), to submit an annual work plan at the start of each fiscal year to the Council in the form of an Information Report. A commission work plan should contain the commission's mission statement, goals, resources, activities, outputs, and desired outcomes. This planning document specifies how and when the commission plans to accomplish its objectives (by specifying outcomes) during the fiscal year. Goal statements explain the nature and scope of the work to be performed and the time needed to accomplish the goal.

Designing yearly work plans or goal statements may be done in conjunction with the development of the relevant departmental work plan so that the work of the department and the commission will complement each other throughout the year.

When developing a work plan, commissions should take special care to ensure that they remain within the subject area purview of their enabling legislation.



# Berkeley Civic Center

## Design Concept Report Preview

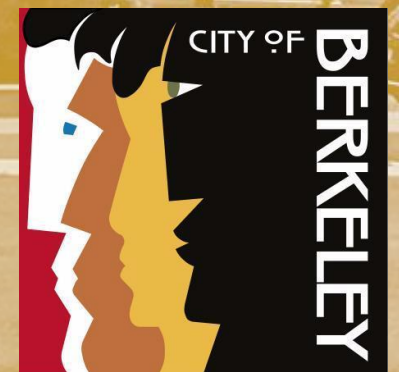
May 16, 2023

SIEGEL & STRAIN Architects

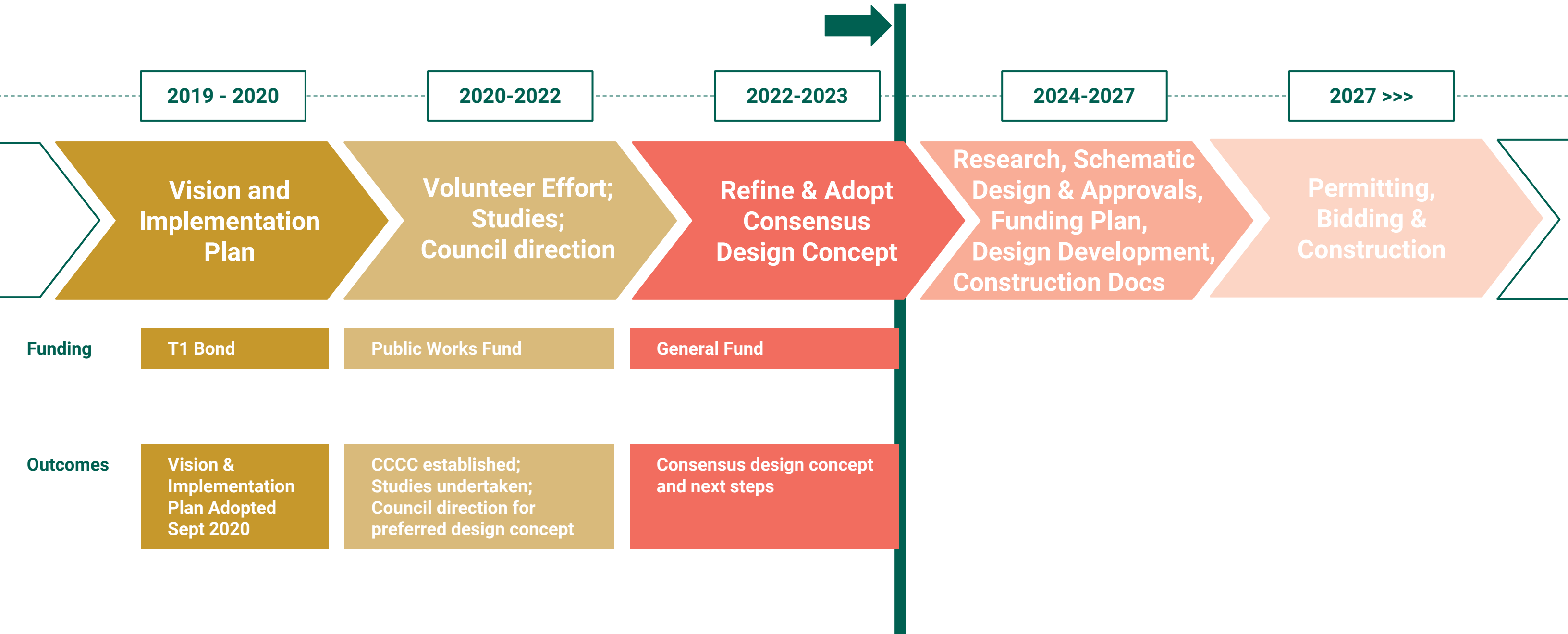
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EQUITY  
COMMUNITY  
BUILDERS



# Overall Project Schedule

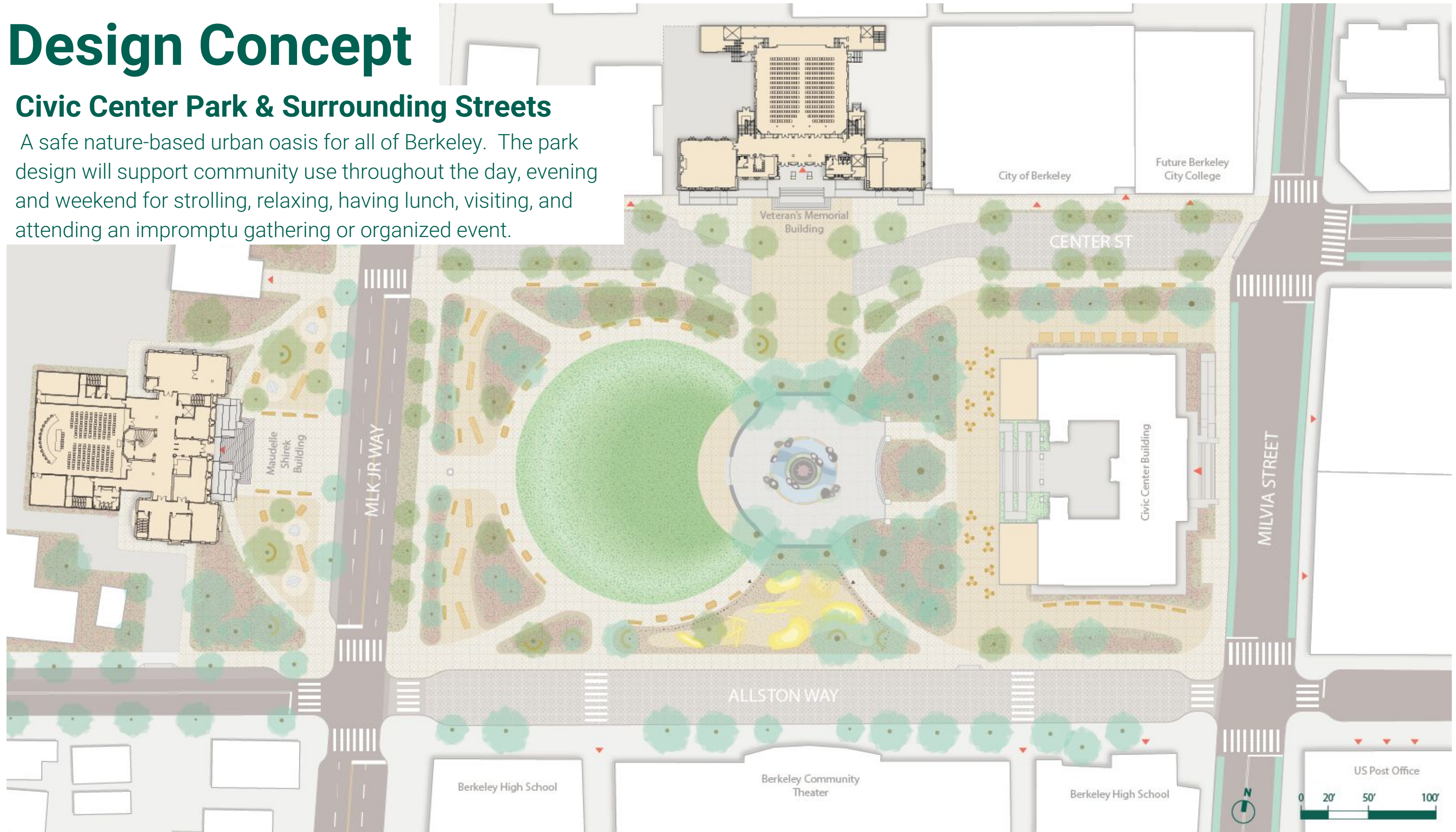




# Design Concept

## Civic Center Park & Surrounding Streets

A safe nature-based urban oasis for all of Berkeley. The park design will support community use throughout the day, evening and weekend for strolling, relaxing, having lunch, visiting, and attending an impromptu gathering or organized event.

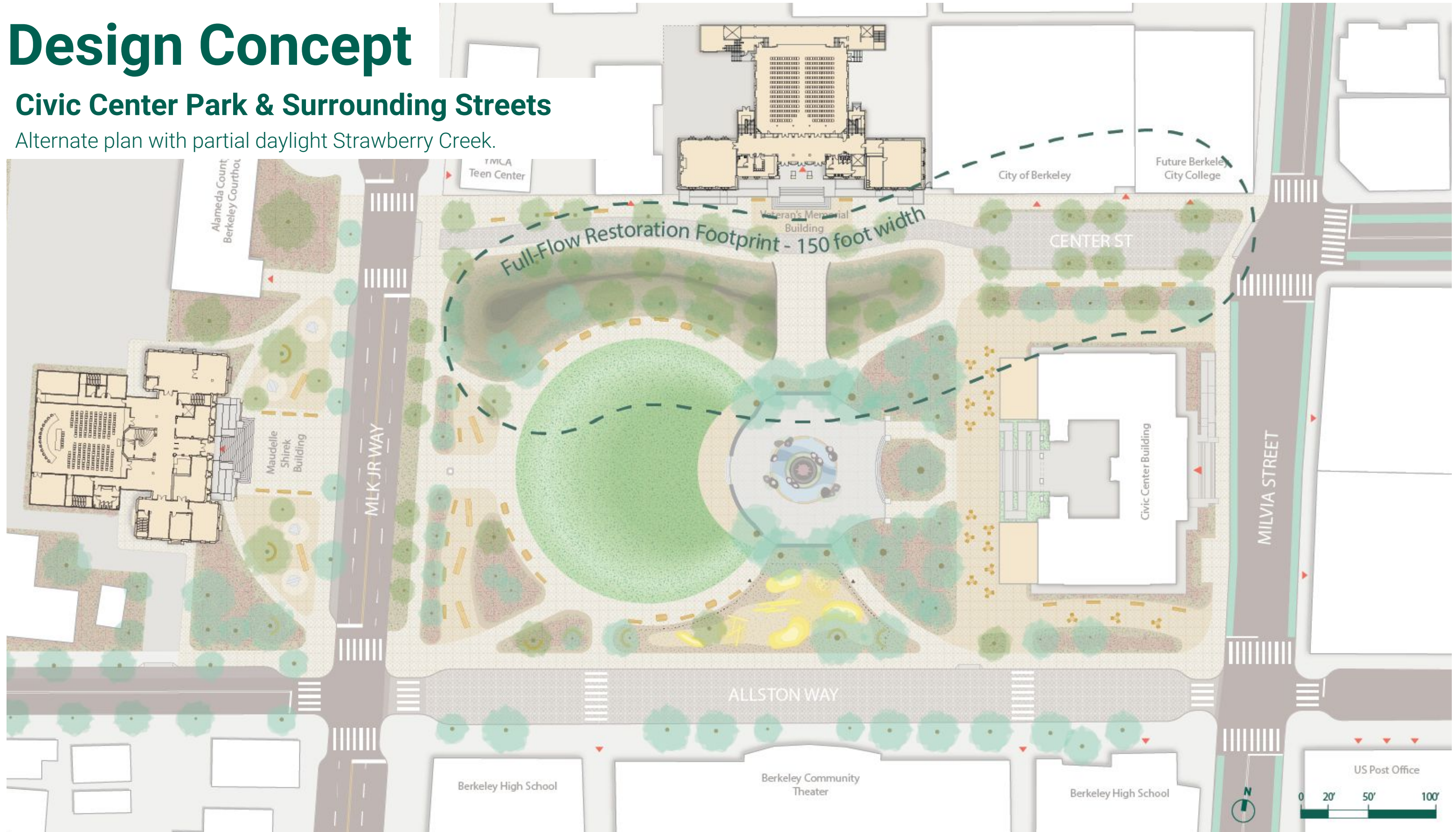




# Design Concept

## Civic Center Park & Surrounding Streets

Alternate plan with partial daylight Strawberry Creek.

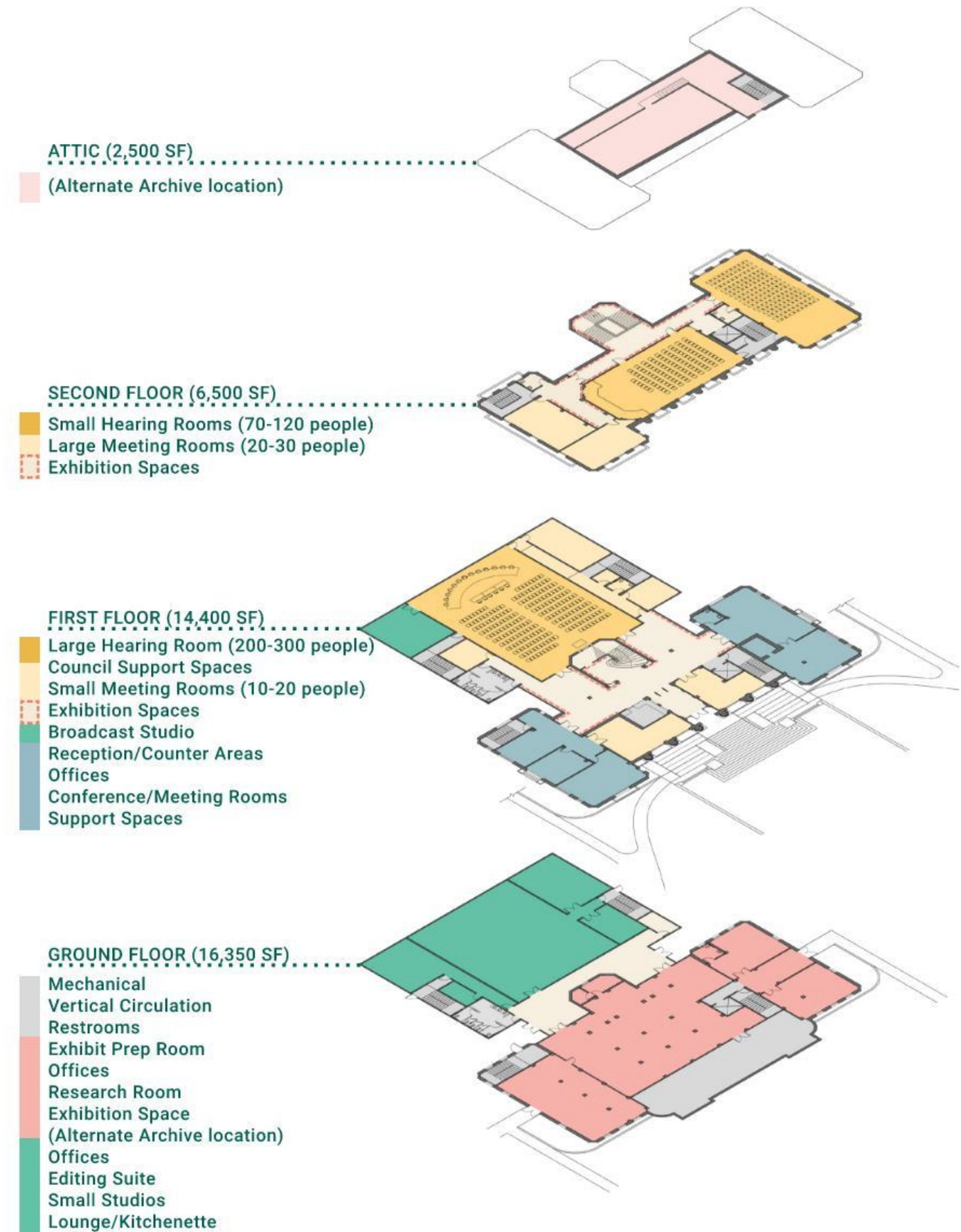




# Design Concept

## Maudelle Shirek Building

Seat of Berkeley's democracy with flexible meeting spaces and supportive and vision-aligned city services and educational uses.

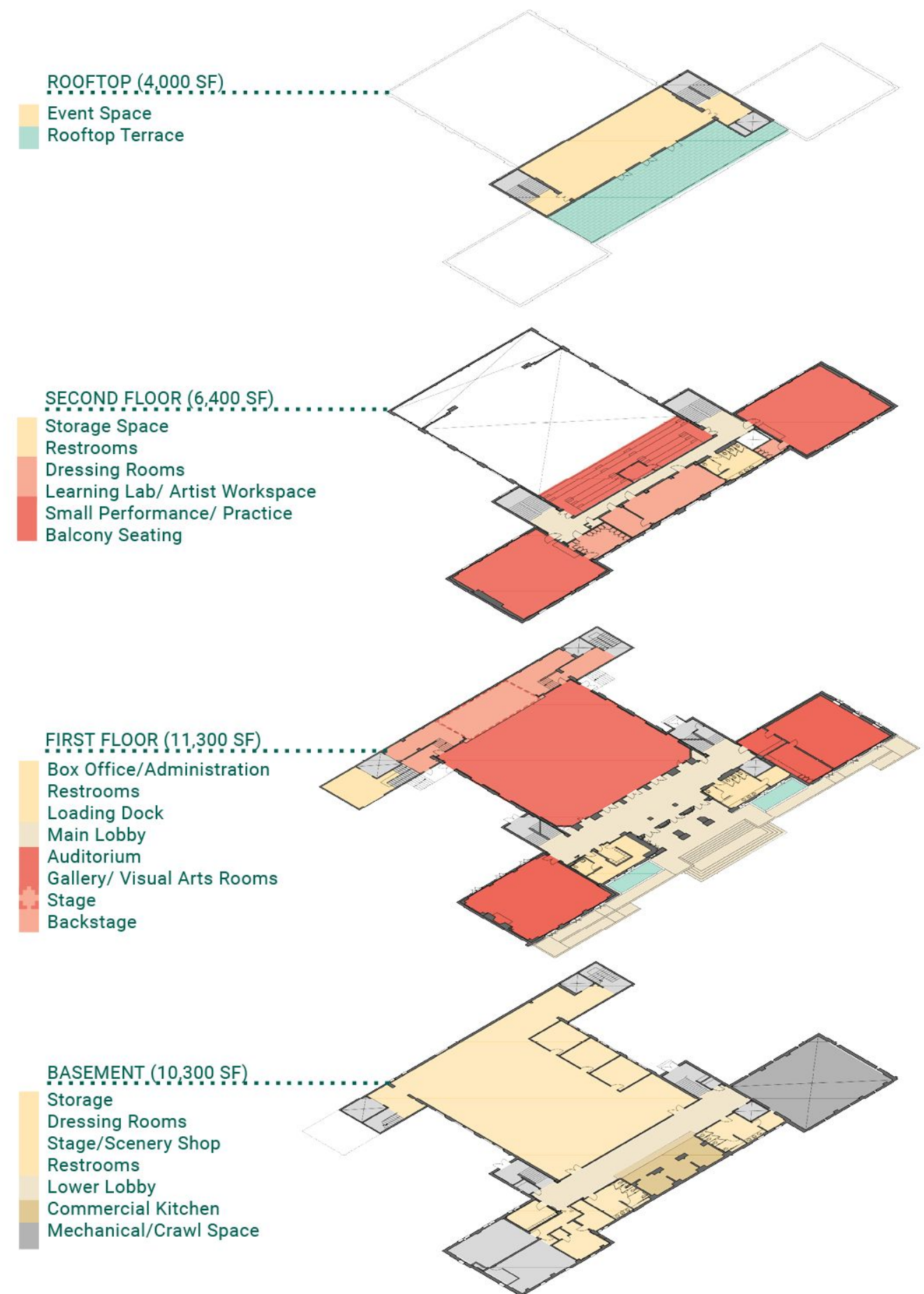




# Design Concept

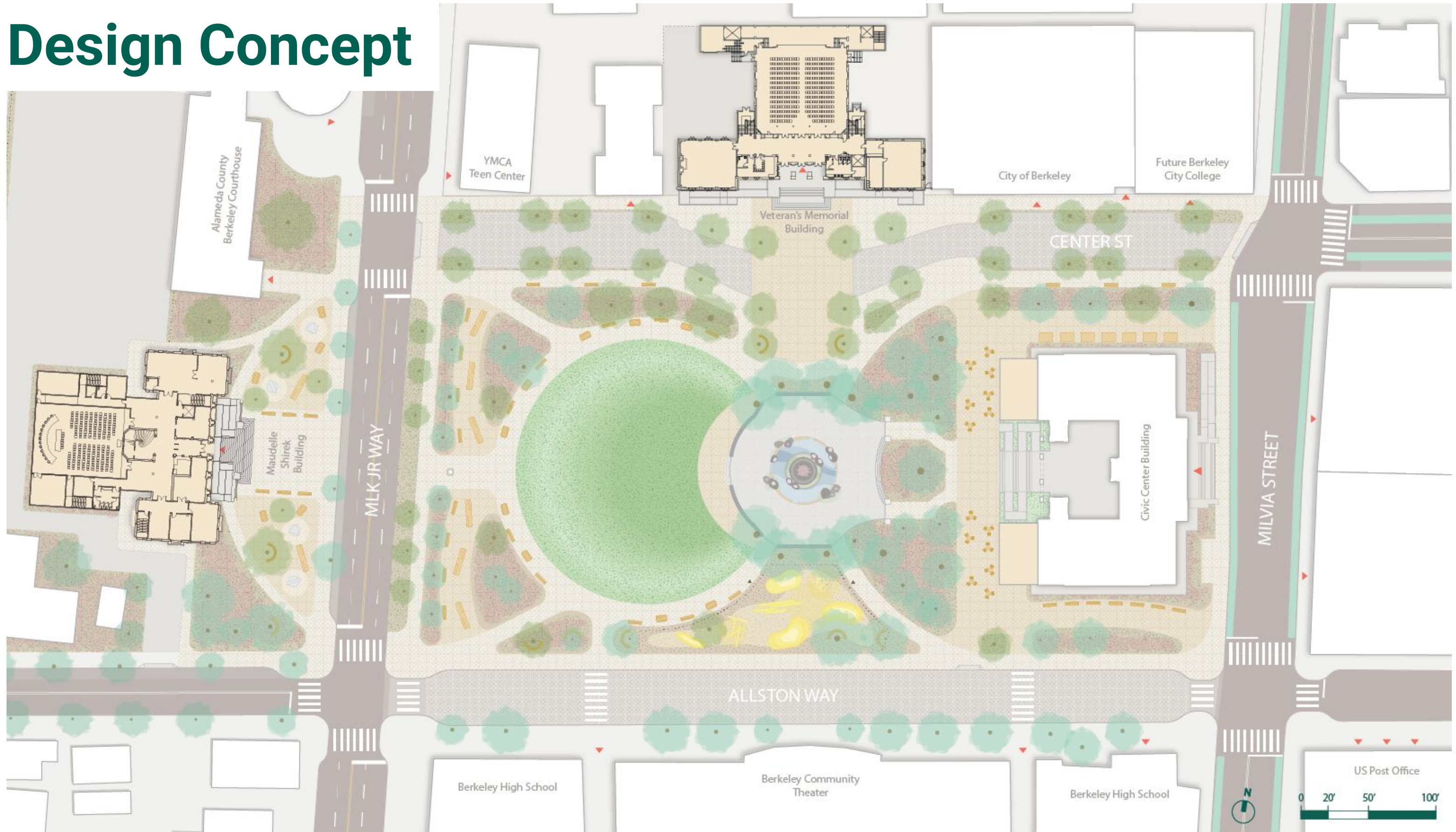
## Veterans Memorial Building

A Community Arts Center, run by the city, with performance venues, teaching and exhibit space, accessible by all in the community.





# Design Concept





# Preliminary Cost Ranges

## Construction Costs

Preliminary construction cost ranges provided in this report are based on the March 2023 Draft Berkeley Civic Center Design Concept Report, the 2021 Civic Center Buildings Study by Tipping Structural Engineers, and guidance from the City of Berkeley Public Works Department. See Appendix A for a full list of exclusions.

	Low (x \$1,000)	High (x \$1,000)
<b>Maudelle Shirek Building - 27,500 GSF Existing + 15,000 GSF Addition</b>	<b>\$ 51,200</b>	<b>\$ 62,600</b>
Seismic Retrofit - Damage Control+ to near Immediate Occupancy	\$ 13,400	\$ 16,400
Envelope & Systems (Electrification, Accessibility, upgrades, finishes)	\$ 15,500	\$ 18,900
Two-story addition on West side	\$ 19,000	\$ 23,200
PVs at new addition, panels & infrastructure	\$ 600	\$ 800
Site Improvement & Utilities	\$ 2,700	\$ 3,300
<b>Veterans Memorial Building - 28,000 GSF Existing + 5,950 GSF Addition</b>	<b>\$ 26,300</b>	<b>\$ 36,900</b>
Seismic Retrofit - Building Performance Objective for New Buildings	\$ 6,300	\$ 7,700
Envelope & Systems (Electrification, Accessibility, upgrades, finishes)	\$ 15,800	\$ 19,400
New Addition at Stage	\$ 2,900	\$ 3,500
Roof Terrace (in high range only)	(excluded)	\$ 4,600
PVs at new addition, panels & infrastructure	\$ 500	\$ 700
Site Improvement & Utilities	\$ 800	\$ 1,000
<b>Martin Luther King Jr. Civic Center Park &amp; Streets</b>	<b>\$ 16,470</b>	<b>\$ 20,130</b>
Paths/paving, planting/irrigation, new trees/tree protection, utilities	\$ 14,670	\$ 17,930
Site Improvements to 2180 Milvia entry, VMB entry, restrooms	\$ 1,800	\$ 2,200
<b>ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS</b>	<b>\$ 93,970</b>	<b>\$119,630</b>
+ Construction Contingency (10%)	\$ 9,783	\$ 11,957
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS</b>	<b>\$103,753</b>	<b>\$131,587</b>
<b>DRAFT ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS</b>	<b>\$101,000</b>	<b>\$129,000</b>

## Other City Costs

Leading up to and during construction, the City will incur costs related to technical studies, existing conditions, design, planning approvals, permitting and management, to name a few. These costs will be further refined in future efforts as more is defined about review process, design requirements and parameters, funding and financing, and timeline.

	Low (x \$1,000)	High (x \$1,000)
Other City Costs (estimated at 20% of construction costs)	\$ 21,523	\$ 26,305
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS + OTHER CITY COSTS</b>	<b>\$125,276</b>	<b>\$157,892</b>

## Operations & Maintenance Costs

Utilizing the 2023 annual Operations & Maintenance budget from the 1947 Center Street building, a \$/SF annual cost was determined for O&M at the common and occupied spaces in city-owned buildings. That was applied to the areas of the Maudelle Shirek and Veterans Memorial Building to arrive at the following annual Operations & Maintenance budgets:

<b>Maudelle Shirek Building</b>	<b>\$1,234,389</b>
Occupied Space -	\$1,167,936
Common Space -	\$ 66,453
<b>Veterans Memorial Building</b>	<b>\$1,069,860</b>
Occupied Space -	\$1,012,900
Common Space -	\$ 56,690



# Funding Strategies

With an approved design concept, this project would move into its next phase of additional recommended studies, environmental reviews, and initiating specific design projects. This work is estimated to cost ~\$10 million and take 2-3 years.

A variety of funding sources could contribute to the City's approach to funding. The first approach would involve many different sources of funding all leading to one large project, phased in over the course of years. The following funding sources might contribute to the project:

- **Congressionally Directed Spending Requests** (aka earmarks). These are typically in the range of \$750,000-\$1.5 million. The City has submitted a request to our federal legislators for this project and should learn in the fall whether the earmark is successful. If so, funding would commence in calendar year 2024. There is no match requirement.
- **Federal Infrastructure Funding.** staff and consultants have not yet been able to find a category within the current funding stream that is a strong fit for this project, but that may change as future opportunities arise. Grant match requirements vary.
- **FEMA/Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Grants.** These grants require a cost/benefit calculation that makes the BPON+ standard more likely to qualify for a grant. For that reason, the Veteran's Building is more likely to benefit. Grants require a 25% match.
- **Sustainability/Resiliency Grants:** the state and federal government offer grants that might help fund the electric conversion, green infrastructure, permeable paving, etc. Grant match requirements vary.
- **Urban Greening Grant/Coastal Conservancy Grant:** these grants may fund a feasibility study of daylighting the creek. Grant match requirements vary.
- **City Funding.** The City's General Fund, a future tax measure, or Certificate of Participation could contribute to the project. In addition, traffic safety and stormwater elements of the project might get contributions from Measure BB, Gas Tax, and/or the City's Storm Fund.
- **Foundations and/or Private Individuals.** Given the Civic Center's history and importance, private foundations and individuals might be a component to the overall funding strategy.
- **Bonding Capacity/Debt Service** - Using early construction costs estimates, and the general fund as collateral, assuming the Maudelle Shirek Building has a project cost of ~\$54M, the annual debt service would be ~\$3,900,000/year (30 year amortization). A ~\$71M project cost would have debt service of ~\$4,900,000/year. For the Veterans Memorial Building, a project cost of ~\$34M would have annual debt service of ~\$2,400,000 and a project cost of ~\$41M would have annual debt service of ~\$2,900,000. There would be a reduction in annual debt service of approximately \$50,000/year if both projects were financed together.

An alternative, more opportunistic approach would be to identify specific project components that would be good fits for available grants, and when successful in gaining grants, move those elements forward, e.g., the project's raised sidewalks and bulbouts. This approach would likely take more time, involve more project cost overall (less efficiencies of scale), but might be more realistic.

Regardless, this project will be significantly more attractive for funding with an adopted design concept. Recognizing that strong plans need funding, and funding is attracted to strong plans, and staff are excited to work with City Council on moving this project forward.



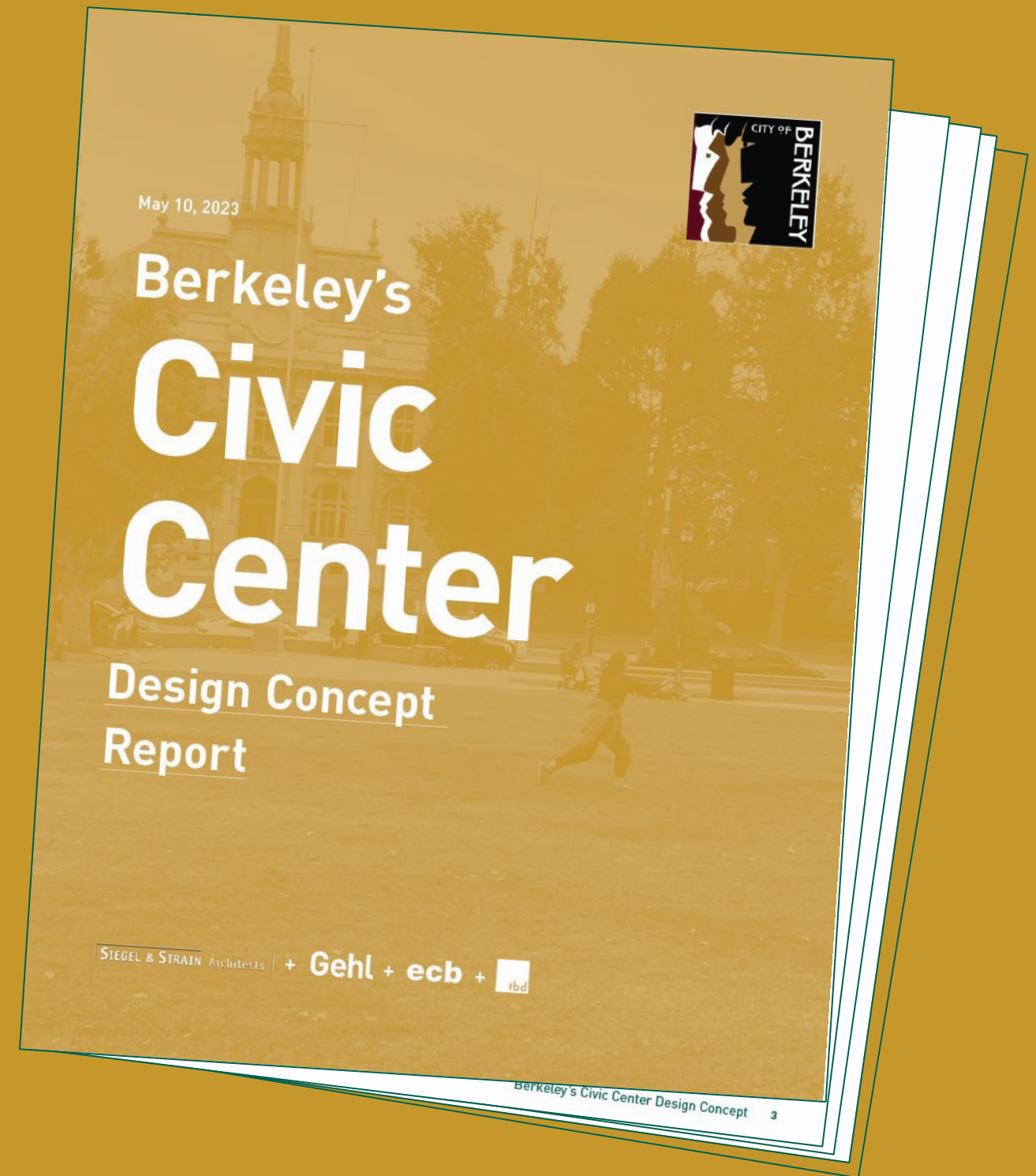
# A Design Concept for Berkeley's Civic Center



Bay Area Book Festival - May 7, 2023, Berkeley Civic Center

Civic Center will be the heart of Berkeley's community. Civic Center will be the prime space for civic life, culture, and the arts. It will reflect the city's diverse identities, celebrating its history and contributing to shaping its future. A place of shared resources and a platform for free expression accessible to all, the Civic Center aims to manifest the city's values, advance social justice, and demonstrate the power of true public space.

*From Berkeley Civic Center Vision & Implementation Plan dated July 10, 2020 and adopted by Berkeley City Council on September 22, 2020*



Helen Walsh <branach@comcast.net>



To:

- Gregory, Thomas  
Mon 5/22/2023 1:19 PM

Can you please add this email to the June 2023 agenda packet.  
Thank you. Helen Walsh

iSent from the Event Horizon

Begin forwarded message:



**From:** "Hollander, Eleanor" <EHollander@cityofberkeley.info>  
**Date:** May 22, 2023 at 12:16:31 PM PDT  
**To:** Helen Walsh <Branach@comcast.net>  
**Cc:** Civic Center <civiccenter@cityofberkeley.info>, "Gregory, Thomas" <TGregory@cityofberkeley.info>, "Brozyna, Andrew" <ABrozyna@cityofberkeley.info>  
**Subject: RE: Thank you & Civic Center Design Concept Presentation for Commission packet(s)**

Hi Helen,  
 Please forgive the delay in response. Please find my answers below. I am copying both Andrew and the new secretary to the Commission on Disability, Thomas Gregory. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your co-commissioners on subsequent phases of this project.

Best,  
 Eleanor

(on Behalf of the Civic Center team)

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Q: Is there a specific presentation that goes over the accessibility plan or inclusion design in the plan?

This project, like all City projects, will be designed and built to meet or exceed ADA standards. If there is some specific way that the Commission on Disability, or you individually, think that this particular project should go above and beyond controlling standards, please don't hesitate to continue to engage in subsequent design and study phases of this project and be sure to let the [project team](#) know.

Q: What accessibility or inclusive design input was provided by disability art organizations or disability community that the team will be planning in the budget?

Again, the description of the outreach conducted to date on this project (and all related materials) are posted on this webpage: <https://berkeleyca.gov/your-government/our-work/capital-projects/civic-center-vision-plan-project> -- this includes the super sub committee of the commissions structure, which I sincerely hope the Commission on Disability will continue to participate in (as there are many more yet-to-be determined phases and budgeting exercises for this project) in our future.

**From:** Helen Walsh <branach@comcast.net>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2023 4:00 PM

**To:** Hollander, Eleanor <EHollander@cityofberkeley.info>

**Cc:** Civic Center <civiccenter@cityofberkeley.info>

**Subject:** Re: Thank you & Civic Center Design Concept Presentation for Commission packet(s)

**WARNING:** This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Eleanor,

It would assist me in order to direct the discussion.

I am not the designer or planner so I will not have answers for commissioner's.

Is there a specific presentation that goes over the accessibility plan or inclusion design in the plan?  
What accessibility or inclusive design input was provided by disability art organizations or disability community that the team will be planning in the budget?

Thank you

Helen Walsh

iSent from the Event Horizon

On May 16, 2023, at 3:31 PM, Hollander, Eleanor <EHollander@cityofberkeley.info> wrote:

Dear Helen, Lisa, Steve, Erin and Adrian,

Thank you all so much for joining us this morning for the Civic Center Super Sub Committee briefing. Attached is the full color presentation to supplement the black and white hard copy we passed out in the meeting. As we discussed, you are welcome to use the attached in your respective upcoming commission meetings as desired. Thanks again for your dedicated service to this project.

All Best,

Eleanor (on behalf of the Civic Center team)

--

Eleanor Hollander, AICP

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<230516-Berkeley Civic Center Phase II\_CC-SCC-preview-sm.pdf>

Thu 5/25/2023 3:54 PM

Please include this in our commission packet. Thank you  
Helen Walsh

On May 25, 2023, at 2:22 PM, Gregory, Thomas  
<TGregory@berkeleyca.gov> wrote:

Hi Commissioners,

I wanted to offer some info regarding voting. All of the info below can be found in the Commissioners' Manual; however, I realize that 80% of you are new to the Commission and only received the manual a short while ago, and I didn't want anyone to be confused about voting processes during their first CoD meeting.

**Motions**: before a Commission may vote on anything, a motion must be made. Any Commissioner may make a motion, and no non-Commissioners may do so. To make a motion, one can simply say, "I move to have the Commission do such-n-such," with such-n-such being whatever the moving Commissioner wants the full Commission to do. For example, "I move to nominate Commissioner Joe Shmeaux as Vice-Chair." When making motions, please use the clearest language possible so as to help ensure that everyone (non-voting public members in attendance as well as the Commissioners present) understands exactly what you

are wanting the full Commission to do. Until a motion is seconded, the motion-maker can unilaterally withdraw or revise the motion.

**Seconding**: before a Commission may vote on a motion, that motion must be seconded by another Commissioner. Seconding just means that you support the motion that was made. One may second a motion by simply saying, "I second that motion." Once a motion has been seconded, the motion-maker cannot withdraw or revise the motion without the consent of the Commissioner who seconded the motion.

**Debate**: once a motion has been made and seconded, it's time to debate the motion. The presiding Commissioner (typically the Chair) should state the motion aloud once again (just so everyone is reminded about what's about to be debated), and then all Commissioners are free to debate the issue. The debate can take any manner or form that's acceptable to the presiding Commissioner.

Once the Commission has finished debating, it's time to actually vote. If at any time during the above processes any recommendations or clarifications or info is desired from the secretary (me), I will be available to do my best to provide whatever info is sought.

**Voting**: voting can take different forms. Whichever form is followed, the secretary should state the motion aloud once last time before conducting the vote.

- "No objection" method. The secretary says, "All in favor, say 'aye.'" Then Commissioners say "aye" or don't say it. Then the secretary says, "All opposed, say 'nay.'" Then Commissioners say "nay" or don't say it. If the secretary hears no nays, he will say, "Hearing no objections, the motion passes." (Important note: if a Commissioner said "nay" and I somehow didn't hear it, please immediately interrupt me and point out that you said "nay"!"). If the secretary hears any "nays" then he will clarify orally who voted and how they voted and whether or not the motion passed.
- Roll call method. The secretary reads the names of Commissioners one by one, always using the same order (I intend to go by seniority...longest-serving Commissioner first: Helen, Rena, Kathi, Mina, Bonnie). When your name is called, you vote yay or nay or else abstain. You also have the option of saying "pass," which means I'll come back to you after I've cycled through the veteran-through-newbie cycle and then you can be last to vote (unless someone after you also passes, which means they'd be the last to vote). After everyone has voted, the secretary

announces the results of the vote and whether the motion has passed.

Re any given vote, a roll call vote is required if any Commissioner says that they want one. If no Commissioner says that they want a roll call vote then a "no objection" vote is sufficient.

I plan to always go with a "no objection" approach unless/until (a) the Chair, during the development of the agenda, indicates a preference for a roll call vote or (b) any Commissioner, during the meeting, indicates a preference for a roll call vote.

Although not required, the manual recommends a roll call vote when electing officers (i.e., the Chair and Vice-Chair). My personal recommendation is that a roll call vote be held if any Commissioner is voting remotely. But, again, I'll be using the "no objection" method unless/until a Commissioner indicates that they desire a roll call vote.

And lastly (long email, I know!), a motion only passes if a quorum of Commissioners vote "aye." So, for example, let's say three Commissioners attend a meeting. Three is currently our quorum, and so the meeting can proceed as scheduled. There's a vote and, of the three Commissioners present, two vote in favor of the motion and the third Commissioner abstains (i.e., does not vote one way or the other). Even though 67% of Commissioners present voted yes and 0% of Commissioners present voted no, the motion still failed to

pass because a quorum of Commissioners did not vote in favor of it.

Best,  
Thomas

P.S. Because Commissioners (of any City commission) are not able to change the requirements in the Commissioners' Manual and also because the contents of the manual (other than the sections about reasonable accommodation) do not pertain specifically to disability-related access, rights, or privileges that would likely impact Berkeleyites, I do not consider the info above to be within the subject matter jurisdiction of CoD. As a result, I do not think it would break any rules if a Commissioner were to reply-all to this message. That said, the safest and best practice is for a Commissioner to refrain from sending an email message to a quorum (or more) of Commissioners. Since a quorum is currently 3, that means a Commissioner would be well served by never cc-ing more than one other Commissioner on email messages...following this approach is safe no matter the context.

**Thomas Gregory / ADA Program Coordinator**  
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