



**BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL HEALTH, LIFE ENRICHMENT, EQUITY &  
COMMUNITY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, December 11, 2023  
10:00 AM**

2180 Milvia Street, 6th Floor - Redwood Room

**Committee Members:**

Councilmembers Ben Bartlett, Sophie Hahn, and Mark Humbert  
Alternate: Councilmember Terry Taplin

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid model with both in-person attendance and virtual participation. If you are feeling sick, please do not attend the meeting in person.

Remote participation by the public is available through Zoom. To access the meeting remotely using the internet: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device: Use URL - <https://cityofberkeley-info.zoomgov.com/j/1612187768>. To request to speak, use the “raise hand” icon on the screen. To join by phone: Dial **1-669-254-5252** or **1-833-568-8864 (Toll Free)** and Enter Meeting ID: **161 218 7768**. If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, press \*9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair. Please be mindful that the meeting will be recorded.

To submit a written communication for the Committee’s consideration and inclusion in the public record, email [policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov).

Written communications submitted by mail or e-mail to the Health, Life Enrichment, Equity, & Community Committee by 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the Committee meeting will be distributed to the members of the Committee in advance of the meeting and retained as part of the official record.

Pursuant to the City Council Rules of Procedure and State Law, the presiding officer may remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting. Prior to removing an individual, the presiding officer shall warn the individual that their behavior is disrupting the meeting and that their failure to cease their behavior may result in their removal. The presiding officer may then remove the individual if they do not promptly cease their disruptive behavior. “Disrupting” means engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting and includes, but is not limited to, a failure to comply with reasonable and lawful regulations adopted by a legislative body, or engaging in behavior that constitutes use of force or a true threat of force.

# MINUTES

**Roll Call:** 10:04 a.m.

**Present:** Hahn, Humbert

**Absent:** Bartlett

Councilmember Bartlett present at 10:11 a.m.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters:** 2 speakers

## Minutes for Approval

*Draft minutes for the Committee's consideration and approval.*

### 1. Minutes – November 13, 2023

**Action:** M/S/C (Humbert/Bartlett) to approve the November 13, 2023 minutes.

**Vote:** All Ayes.

## Committee Action Items

*The public may comment on each item listed on the agenda for action as the item is taken up. The Chair will determine the number of persons interested in speaking on each item. Up to ten (10) speakers may speak for two minutes. If there are more than ten persons interested in speaking, the Chair may limit the public comment for all speakers to one minute per speaker.*

*Following review and discussion of the items listed below, the Committee may continue an item to a future committee meeting, or refer the item to the City Council.*

### 2. Referral: Use of Sidewalks for Recreation, Such as Chess

**From:** Councilmember Robinson (Author), Councilmember Harrison (Author)

**Referred:** November 27, 2023

**Due:** May 27, 2024

**Recommendation:** Refer to the City Manager to evaluate and return to City Council with recommendations and legislative alternatives for making use of tables, chairs, and other relevant objects that can be easily moved to be allowed without a permit application for non-disruptive recreational uses in the public right-of-way. Such recreational uses may include activities such as playing chess at movable tables and chairs. Consideration should be given to ensure that such use of tables and chairs does not unduly obstruct public sidewalks.

**Financial Implications:** See report

Contact: Rigel Robinson, Councilmember, District 7, (510) 981-7170

**Action:** See action for Item 3.

## Committee Action Items

### 3. **Supporting the Installation of Permanent Chess/Games Tables on Telegraph Avenue and Proposing Resolution of Concerns at 2454 Telegraph Avenue** **From: Councilmember Hahn (Author)**

**Referred: November 27, 2023**

**Due: May 27, 2024**

**Recommendation:** 1. Refer to the Budget Process \$50,000 to support the installation of public chess/game tables on Telegraph Avenue, including at or near the intersection of Telegraph and Haste Streets.

2. Refer to the City Manager to explore the potential development of a parklet at or near the Telegraph/Haste intersection, potentially near the South/West corner (beyond the yellow loading area on Haste Street) and other potential locations for a parklet that could accommodate chess/game tables and the volume of community participation this activity generates.

3. Refer to the City Manager the development of a city-wide chess and game facilities program to integrate permanent chess/game nodes into park, curtilage, and/or sidewalk areas throughout Berkeley in a manner that encourages broad participation in and enjoyment of games and supports the building of community around these activities. Consider appropriate locations for nodes, installation of City-owned facilities, rules and regulations for use, and maintenance.

4. Direct the City Manager to pause imposition of additional fees, if any, and enter into negotiations with the property owner at 2454 Telegraph Avenue to achieve an agreement that would result in upgrades and improvements to the building exterior/facade, create a landscaped perimeter around the exposed entry area, improve maintenance, and/or similar terms, in exchange for a reduction/waiver of accumulated fees.

**Financial Implications:** See report

Contact: Sophie Hahn, Councilmember, District 5, (510) 981-7150

**Action:** 4 speakers. M/S/C (Hahn/Bartlett) to send Item 2 and Item 3 to the City Council as revised with a positive recommendation. Proposed revisions include consideration of: financing of improvements; negotiations with property owner(s); rules relating to the public right-of-way; and support of city-wide program(s).

**Vote:** All Ayes.

## Unscheduled Items

*These items are not scheduled for discussion or action at this meeting. The Committee may schedule these items to the Action Calendar of a future Committee meeting.*

**4. Referral for Development of Request for Proposal (RFP) to Support Berkeley-Based Non-Profit Food Assistance Providers Serving Food Insecure Households**

**From: Councilmember Kesarwani (Author), Councilmember Humbert (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember Wengraf (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember Taplin (Co-Sponsor)**

**Referred: November 13, 2023**

**Due: May 13, 2024**

**Recommendation:** Refer to the City Manager to develop and fund a Request for Proposal (RFP) process to support Berkeley-based non-profit food assistance providers serving food insecure households. Funds are intended for (but not limited to) the following needs:

- Expansion of capacity to serve more people experiencing food insecurity, such as one-time purchase of equipment;
- Hiring of additional staff to serve more people; and/or
- Other emerging needs to be determined.

Refer \$200,000 annually in funding to the biennial FY 2024-25 to FY 2025-26 budget process to fund qualified proposals resulting from the RFP.

**Financial Implications:** See report

Contact: Rashi Kesarwani, Councilmember, District 1, (510) 981-7110

**5. Healthy Checkout Amendment**

**From: Councilmember Bartlett (Author), Councilmember Harrison (Co-Sponsor)**

**Referred: November 13, 2023**

**Due: May 13, 2024**

**Recommendation:** 1. Adopt an amendment to the Healthy Checkout Ordinance (9.82) requiring stores 2,500 square feet and under in size to sell more nutritious food and beverage options in their checkout areas.

2. Refer to the City Manager to determine funding and staffing needs to implement and enforce the expansion of the ordinance and sources of funding to support this program.

**Financial Implications:** See report

Contact: Ben Bartlett, Councilmember, District 3, (510) 981-7130

## Items for Future Agendas

- None

## Adjournment

**Action:** M/S/C (Bartlett/Hahn) to adjourn the meeting

**Vote:** All Ayes.

Adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct record of the Health, Life Enrichment, Equity, & Community Committee meeting held on December 11, 2023.

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Wendy Sorensen, Assistant City Clerk

## Communications

*Communications submitted to City Council Policy Committees are on file in the City Clerk Department at 2180 Milvia Street, 1st Floor, Berkeley, CA, and are available upon request by contacting the City Clerk Department at (510) 981-6908 or [policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov).*