

**BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, May 16, 2023
9:00 AM**

2180 Milvia Street, 6th Floor – Redwood Room

Committee Members:

Mayor Jesse Arreguin, Councilmembers Rashi Kesarwani and Kate Harrison
Alternate: Councilmember Sophie Hahn

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid model with both in-person attendance and virtual participation. For in-person attendees, face coverings or masks that cover both the nose and the mouth are encouraged. 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/1615029400>. If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, then use the drop down 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 **1-669-254-5252** or **1-833-568-8864 (Toll Free)** and Enter Meeting ID: **161 502 9400**. If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, press *9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair.

To submit a written communication for the Committee's consideration and inclusion in the public record, email policycommittee@berkeleyca.gov.

Written communications submitted by mail or e-mail to the Budget & Finance 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.

Roll Call: 9:08 a.m.

Present: Harrison, Arreguin

Absent: Kesarwani

Councilmember Kesarwani present at 9:11 a.m.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters – 0 speakers.

Minutes for Approval

Draft minutes for the Committee's consideration and approval.

- 1. Minutes – May 4, 2023 (special)**
Action: M/S/C (Harrison/Arreguin) to approve the minutes of 5/4/23).
Vote: Ayes – Harrison, Arreguin; Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent – Kesarwani.

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. FY 2024 Mid-Biennial Budget Update (Item contains supplemental material)**
From: City Manager
Recommendation: Receive a presentation on the FY 2024 Mid-Biennial Budget Update and provide direction.
Financial Implications: See report
Contact: Sharon Friedrichsen, Budget Manager, (510) 981-7000
Action: 7 speakers. Presentation made and discussion held. The Committee requested information and provided general recommendations to staff.
- 3. Measure P FY 24 Mid-Biennial Update (Item contains supplemental material)**
From: City Manager
Recommendation: Receive a presentation on recommended changes to the Measure P program budget for FY 2024 and provide direction.
Financial Implications: See report
Contact: Peter Radu, City Manager's Office, (510) 981-7000
Action: 3 speakers. Presentation made and discussion held. The Committee provided general recommendations to staff.

Committee Action Items

4. Russell Street Residence Update

From: City Manager

Recommendation: Receive a presentation on funding options to support the requisition of the Russell Streets Residence and provide direction to staff.

Financial Implications: See report

Contact: Lisa Warhuus, Health, Housing, and Community Services, (510) 981-5400

Action: 2 speakers. Presentation made and discussion held. M/S/C

(Arreguin/Harrison) to support the recommendation of HHCS and the Homeless Services Panel of Experts to allocate \$4.5 million for the acquisition of Russell House.

Vote: All Ayes.

5a. Recommendation for RV Lot and Waste Management on Streets for RVs

From: Homeless Services Panel of Experts

Referred: April 11, 2023

Due: September 26, 2023

Recommendation: The Homeless Services Panel of Experts recommends to Council that they refer to staff to expedite all efforts to identify a location for another RV lot(s) to take the place of the now closed SPARK lot at 742 Grayson and that the new lot identified require mandatory safety inspections and fire extinguishers to be provided. The Homeless Services Panel of Experts further recommends that Council refer to staff to develop a waste management plan to be implemented for RVs currently on the streets.

Financial Implications: See report

Contact: Josh Jacobs, Commission Secretary, (510) 981-5400

5b. Companion Report to Recommendation for RV Lot and Waste Management on Streets for RVs

From: City Manager

Referred: April 11, 2023

Due: September 26, 2023

Recommendation: Refer the Homeless Services Panel of Experts' recommendation to identify and expedite a new safe RV parking location/program and develop a waste management plan for RVs on the streets to the Budget and Finance Policy Committee for consideration alongside all other homeless services priorities in the budget process.

Financial Implications: See report

Contact: Peter Radu, City Manager's Office, (510) 981-7000

Action: Item continued to the next Committee meeting.

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.

- 6. Additional Allocation of Measure P Funding to “Step Up Housing” Project**
From: Councilmember Bartlett (Author), Councilmember Wengraf (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember Kesarwani (Co-Sponsor)
Referred: August 3, 2022
Due: May 31, 2023
Recommendation: Adopt a resolution allocating an additional \$114,660 per year for 10 years, from Measure P transfer tax receipts to support the increased costs for the lease and operation of a new permanent supportive housing project for the unhoused at the Step-Up Housing Project at 1367 University Avenue. In addition, refer to the next meeting of the Budget and Finance Policy Committee to confirm the availability of requested funding.
On August 3, 2022, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 70,491-N.S. as amended and referred to the Budget & Finance Committee to consider future General Fund needs for this project and confirm availability of funds for the operating budget.
Financial Implications: See report
Contact: Ben Bartlett, Councilmember, District 3, (510) 981-7130
Action: Deadline extended to June 30, 2023 at the request of the Author.
- 7a. Referral of two health educator positions to the COB FY 2024 budget process**
From: Peace and Justice Commission
Referred: April 11, 2023
Due: September 26, 2023
Recommendation: Refer to the budget process a request for estimated \$150,000 annually, beginning in FY 2024 or as early as the AAO #2 process in spring 2023, for staffing, materials, and supplies to be able to more broadly and flexibly conduct health education, prevention, and outreach to reduce health disparities, as proposed by the Peace and Justice Commission.
Financial Implications: See report
Contact: Okeya Vance-Dozier, Commission Secretary, (510) 981-7100
- 7b. Companion Report: Referral of two health educator positions to the COB FY 2024 budget process**
From: City Manager
Referred: April 11, 2023
Due: September 26, 2023
Recommendation: Refer to the Peace and Justice Commission’s request for \$150,000 annually for staffing, materials, and supplies for health education and outreach to the Budget and Finance Policy Committee for further deliberation.
Financial Implications: None
Contact: Peter Radu, City Manager's Office, (510) 981-7000

Unscheduled Items

8. Investment Report Update - Investment Policies of Other Jurisdictions

From: City Manager

Contact: Henry Oyekanmi, Finance, (510) 981-7300

9. COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance; Presentation from the Eviction Defense Center

From: City Manager

Contact: Lisa Warhuus, Health, Housing, and Community Services, (510) 981-5400

10. Accept the Risk Analysis for Long-Term Debt (Bonding Capacity) Report provided by Government Finance Officers Association (Item contains

supplemental material)

From: City Manager

Referred: April 26, 2022

Due: May 31, 2023

Recommendation: Accept the report titled 'Risk-Based Analysis and Stress Test of Long-Term Debt Affordability' as provided by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This report is based on their research and development of a risk-modeling tool to address issuing long-term debt related to City of Berkeley Vision 2050.

On April 26, 2022, the City Council referred this item to the City Manager and Budget & Finance Committee to return to Council with recommendations or analysis on as many of the following items as possible by October 2022, if feasible. 1)

Consideration of reserves policies for operational funds other than the General Fund; 2) Potential reduction of the maximum indebtedness rate from 15% of assessed property value down to 4-8% range; 3) A new policy to not incur indebtedness when interest rates go above 5% or a different specific threshold; 4) Tools for increased transparency for taxpayers; 5) Updated report and discussion of pension and healthcare costs; 6) Refer the full Report to the Budget & Finance Committee for consideration.

Financial Implications: None

Contact: Henry Oyekanmi, Finance, (510) 981-7300

Action: Deadline extended to June 30, 2023 at the request of the City Manager.

Items for Future Agendas

- None

Adjournment

Action: M/S/C (Arreguin/Kesarwani) to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: All Ayes.

Adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct record of the Budget & Finance Committee meeting held on May 16, 2023.

Mark Numainville, 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.