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2x2 Committee Agenda
Berkeley City Council Meeting

June 16, 2023
2020 Bonar Street, Room 126
Berkeley, CA 94702
Hybrid Option:
[Zoom Link](#)
Webinar ID: 850 3282 1269
Password: 108213
1:00 - 2:00 PM

Committee Members:

Berkeley Unified School District	Berkeley City Council
Laura Babitt, BUSD Board President, Chair	Councilmember Sophie Hahn
Ana Vasudeo, BUSD Board Vice-President	Councilmember Terry Taplin

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54653. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager, at 981-7000.

The Berkeley Unified School District intends to provide reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If a special accommodation is desired, please call the Superintendent's Office 48 hours prior to the meeting at 510-644-6206

El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Berkeley tiene la intención de proporcionar adaptaciones especiales en conformidad con el Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Ley de Americanos con Discapacidades de 1990). Si usted desea una adaptación especial, por favor comuníquese con el personal de la Oficina del Superintendente 48 horas antes de la reunión al 510-644-6206.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Meeting Agenda for June 16, 2023
3. Approval of Minutes for May 17, 2023 (Attachment 1)
4. Public Comment (15 min)
5. Discussion Items

5.1	BUSD Presentation on Zero Waste Efforts (20 min)
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6. Action Item

6.1	Prioritize Future Agenda Items (10 min)
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7. Next Meeting: September 8, 2023 10:30 - 12:00 pm
8. Adjournment

This is a meeting of the 2x2 Committee of the Berkeley City Council and the Berkeley Unified School District. Since a quorum of the Berkeley City Council may actually be present to discuss matters with the 2x2 Committee, this meeting is being noticed as a special meeting of the Berkeley City Council as well as the 2x2 Committee meeting.

Notification of Non-Discrimination Policy

The Berkeley Unified School District is committed to fostering a positive learning and working environment for its students and employees. Accordingly, BUSD programs, activities and practices shall be free from discrimination based on actual or perceived race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religious creed, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital or parental status, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, disability, medical condition, homelessness or foster status, in its programs and activities. BUSD provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Jasmina Viteskic
Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator
2020 Bonar Street, Room 117
Berkeley, CA 94702
Phone: 510-486-9338
Fax: 510-540-5358
Email: nondiscrimination@berkeley.net

Inquiries may also be referred to the Office for Civil Rights
U.S. Department of Education

50 United Nations Plaza
San Francisco, CA 94102, Mail Room 1200, Room 1545
Telephone: 415-486-5555
FAX: 415-486-5570; TDD: 800-877-8339
Email: ocr.sanfrancisco@ed.gov

Aviso Referente a la Política de No Discriminación

Berkeley Unified School District no discrimina en base a la raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, edad, creencia religiosa, género, orientación sexual, expresión de género, estado marital o parental, abolengo, origen nacional, identificación de grupo étnico, incapacidad/discapacidad, condición médica, estado de persona sin hogar o en crianza temporal, en sus programas y actividades y ofrece el mismo acceso a los Boy Scouts y a otros grupos designados de jóvenes. La discriminación basada en clase protegida incluye acoso sexual, violencia sexual y bullying. Todas las consultas o preocupaciones referentes a la política de no discriminación del BUSD o el presentar una denuncia de discriminación deben ponerse en contacto con:

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Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator
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Berkeley, CA 94702
Teléfono: 510-486-9338
Fax: 510-540-5358
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Office of the City Manager

**Notes of 2x2 Committee Meeting
May 17, 2023**

Called to Order

Meeting commenced at 11:02 am

Approval of Special Meeting Agenda for May 17, 2023

President Laura Babitt moved to approve agenda for meeting. The motion was seconded, and passed.

Roll Call

Director Jennifer Shanoski, BUSD; Councilmember Sophie Hahn, City of Berkeley and President Laura Babitt, BUSD were present. Councilmember Terry Taplin, City of Berkeley was absent. Director Shanoski was the alternate for BUSD Board Member, Director Ana Vasudeo.

Others Present

Matt Meyer, President of Berkeley Federation for Teachers for public comment; Regina Chagolla, Vice President of Berkeley Federation of Teachers for public comment; Ramonda Clarke, City of Berkeley; Anne Cardwell, City of Berkeley; Enikia Ford Morthel, Superintendent BUSD; John Calise, Executive Director of Facilities BUSD; Tom Lent, President of Walk Bike Berkeley for public comment and Jessica Lopez, Executive Assistant BUSD

Approval of Minutes for April 28, 2023

Councilmember Hahn moved to approve minutes of April 28, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded, and passed.

Public Comment

Matt Myers commented about the parking situation at Berkeley High for staff around commuting with their children with different drop off locations and unable to use ebike for this purpose and

lack of available parking for school day. He also expressed support of Director Calise's alternatives and the need for the City's collaboration.

Tom Lent commented about the BUSD survey that was shared with staff members and the need for a TDM survey to evaluate needs for BHS staff.

Liza Lutzker expressed appreciation of new flexible approach. She also commented about the survey to staff and suggested District collaboration with City transportation for more accurate data.

Cielo Rios commented about the need for a survey design to create an unbiased and comprehensive analysis of how staff get to work, the distance they travel and where they live.

Discussion Item – 5.1 Update on Milvia Street Project

Director John Calise presented. The objective of presentation was to review high level findings of the parking study. Director Calise clarified that the internal survey is different from a TDM survey and that the District will bring in a consultant to do a TDM survey and then, engage 2x2 in discussion about possible next steps. The internal survey has been shared with City staff.

Parking study survey has been finalized. There was 40% participation in survey. Out of the respondents 80% drove to work out of necessity; 85% are able to use the staff lot; 5% parked in city or private parking garages; and 14% use surface street parking in the neighborhood.

President Babitt requested clarification of which lot, and if the 220 permits all go to Berkeley High School staff.

Director Calise responded that there are approximately 220 BHS parking permits issued for the 144 spaces, lot on Milvia between Bancroft and Durant. The spaces are first come, first serve with permit.

President Babitt stated that there are zero permits offered to staff by the City.

Director Calise thanked Babitt for clarifying stating that there are no RPP permits issued for anyone who works at BHS.

Director Calise further stated the study showed that if a financial incentive was offered, would driving to work change, 75% said no.

Director Shanoski asked about timeline for TDM survey.

Director Calise advised they anticipated putting out an RFP sometime this summer.

Director of Public Works, Liam Garland advised that the City is still digesting presentation and introduced parking policy team members Gordon Hansen and Hamid Mostowfi.

Gordon Hansen of Public Works advised that the City manages parking via RPP permits for the purpose to protect parking for residents. The area around BHS, Area C, where John's team did the parking survey was established in 1986. BHS is located within Area I, which covers the southside and downtown area. RPP permits are intended for residents only. The City has several other programs that allow different classes of users to be able to park in our different areas. One of those programs is the neighborhood serving Community Facility program or NCF that allows employees of schools, churches and rehab centers to be able to purchase permits for the areas in which the facilities are located. The City also has a program for local merchants that allows them to get permits for certain commercial districts.

Under the current program, facilities apply every year using the same standard process. By using a standard formula, we look at the number of full-time staff, multiply that by 60%, that gives us the top line of parking permits that can be issued at the facility. Off-street parking available to that facility is also taken into account.

Historically BHS and other schools and churches in Area I have been excluded from eligibility for that program due to Area I being quite compacted. The other reason for this is that the City is guided by the Berkeley Municipal Code that staff must consider the degree of impact on parking conditions for residents and merchants in the area where we would consider extending eligibility for these community facility permits. Because of the unique constraints and pressures in Area I, BHS and other facilities have been excluded by administrative regulation in keeping with the direction from the code.

The question is, how do we move forward from here from the city's perspective. These are high level for discussion purposes, not proposals or plans. One idea, we say we will allow Berkeley High School to apply for these permits in Area I. That would be a departure from our past practice and would raise a lot of concern for the City for major impacts on existing permits holders.

Area C borders Berkeley High School. BHS is not actually within the boundaries of Area C where John's team did the parking survey analysis. Area C is a little more tricky and requires additional conversation, it may actually require council action to change the location of RPP area boundaries.

If we wanted to say, allow BHS to apply for community facility permits for Area C. The other piece is changing boundaries of Area I and Area C could disproportionately impact the existing RPP Area I parking, that's located on the periphery of Berkeley High School. Further reducing

opportunities for residents in the downtown area to find Area I parking. Those are two potential ways forward that we can discuss.

President Babitt interjected to allow Q & A on what was heard thus far.

Councilmember Hahn thanked Gordon for helpful information. She further commented that the reason for this conversation is because City Council referred it 2x2 saying we don't think it's optimal to have a parking garage in the middle of the downtown and please help problem solve hand in hand with the district. In that spirit, we need a well-developed plan to go to council.

Councilmember Hahn also stated that Area J and Area E, along with Area C should be looked at. From a regulatory perspective, we would need council action to say Berkeley High is special and we will allow them to apply for permits in these other areas, or we would have to put them in another area.

Councilmember Hahn commented that surveys are helpful but definitive. What is more important even without a study is, putting programs and incentives in place at all our schools, i.e., electric trikes that have a big cargo and enhancing programs BUSD already has in place.

Councilmember Hahn expressed understanding and sympathy of people having complicated lives and being at different stages of life, and some have the need to drive for different reasons and some can take an ebike or other transit. Hahn also stated that they are trying to find solutions and personally thinks getting permits will be part of that solution, and is committed to all of the above.

Director Shanoski appreciated problem solving approach and the City partnering with the school district regarding issue of parking for teachers and staff and concerns about building a parking structure. Further comments about the big issue of subs and part-time teachers parking on city streets and if it would be possible to alleviate some of the city concerns if those folks were prioritized with the city street permits, to minimize the impact on city streets.

Councilmember Hahn clarified that once BUSD has the permits that it is up to District to allocate them.

Director Shanoski confirmed Hahn's statement and advised that she was just voicing it as a possibility and that in collaboration with labor partners, they can figure out how to prioritize the permanent spaces and we use the permits in a more flexible way

Director Calise provided feedback that Berkeley High is the only school with a parking lot. The lottery is done now for subs, part-time and full-time teachers, but the itinerant staff aren't considered in lottery - special ed folks who roam school to school, do not get into that lottery and

are stuck looking for a spot. The reason is to try and maximize lot to make sure every spot is filled for the entire day.

Director Shanoski questioned if those included in the survey, includes the subs and part-time teachers because of the need to understand the impact to all.

Director Calise advised that subs were not included, as they are not part of BHS council.

President Babitt agreed with colleagues regarding being in problem solving mode. Babitt further commented about the fact that people are driving and parking in the neighborhoods from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm every day, and moving their cars every two hours. This is extremely disruptive for the city's educational program. The district needs help eliminating the fact that teachers are moving every two hours and to use the spaces that are already being used in a more efficient way.

Councilmember Hahn asked if the survey taken of Area C that showed 73% of spaces taken, included all the BHS staff, etc., on a school day.

Director Calise responded majority parked in the west in Area C because that's where most spots are available and why the area was studied.

Councilmember Hahn expressed to Deputy City Manager Anne Cardwell that no matter what, the City is going to have to take a look at this. BUSD has not taken action on the alternative plan, etc.; but feels like this needs to get in front of council in some fashion – maybe by writing a discussion item that President Babitt and Councilmember Hahn could write it together with support from Public Works, BUSD, to lay out all these great “ha-has” we have, with imperfect information.

Councilmember Hahn suggested a general outline of a path forward for the City's piece. The city's piece would be to consider a special dispensation for a certain number of permits to be allowed in one, two, or three adjoining areas by a possible ordinance change to see if we can get a certain number of permits in the three outlining areas. The second thing that should be looked at jointly is a robust electric cargo bike program. Teachers and staff can help us understand what would work for them. Maybe there's some grant funding out there for a pilot of a really well thought through program, either loaners; maybe we give some kind of an incentive to purchase one. Let's have a broad dive into an innovative program. The third is to look at what are the transit incentives that BUSD has in place.

ATTACHMENT 1

Director Calise responded that BUSD currently has a cafeteria plan for all staff members who use public transit that they show their receipts and that amount is pre-taxed out of their check.

Councilmember Hahn asked if there is something we can do that is better or a way to design this so that more people take advantage of it. Is there any other thing that we should put in the council's idea box?

President Babitt said that she heard Gordon say that permits are offered at a cost and asked what is the portion that BUSD in the current structure of these neighborhood community service programs would have to pay.

Gordon Hansen responded the NCF permits? Yes, I believe it's \$82 a year.

President Babitt responded \$66 and then \$185? We will need that information.

Director Calise advised that it comes come out of a different fund. The way that the permits are paid for is out of the site funds. The sites are allocated x amount of dollars of general fund dollars to use discretionary. Those permits at the sites are actually paid for by the sites.

Councilmember Hahn would like to explore allocating permits in the three nearby areas, some kind of cargo bike program, reevaluating the effectiveness of the transit incentive and whether that can be enhanced in some way. The possibility that some portion of the vehicle parking need might be handled in some way with a shared cost or something at the new half empty parking facility downtown. Hahn would invite BUSD to present at meeting and having the conversation about BUSD and the City of Berkeley's piece with council.

President Babitt asked where are we landing on the need for additional surveys or the TDM and what are the outcomes we expect a TDM to help offer, giving the framing that we have come up with to solving the immediate problem.

Gordon Hansen first confirmed the permit cost is \$83 year. He further commented BUSD already provides a pretax commute benefit which allows employees to set aside funding from their paycheck to be used for any type of transit that they use. Other options to consider an AC Transit Easy Pass program. It offers bulk discounts typically used by either large institutions. What it does is provide a discounted transit pass for use on transit at a much lower cost to the employer than a normal monthly or yearly pass would be.

Director Babitt responded that it sounds like the results of the TDM would be to basically let us know how to advocate for more of the public transit uses, the funding sources, the discounts or any kind of offerings we could partner with mass transit.

Gordon Hansen responded yes, that's definitely one approach.

Councilmember Hahn responded to Gordon saying that the question is, do we really need to spend money to do a special study; or with your expertise, would we be able to just potentially show a menu of things that could help reduce driving? Or do we need to spend the money on a study?

President Babitt said she thinks the study would help us negotiate with AC transit or BART.

Gordon Hansen responded not necessarily. To the first question, we could start with a list of TDM policies that already exist in Berkeley or that we have studied in the past in a parking pilot the city did about 10 years ago. He further stated that there is value to pursuing some external support given we are not always aware of what new programs or policies might be available so there is some research that could be valuable from a consultant.

Director Babitt thanked Gordon for feedback and asked if anyone else had anything pertinent to the solutions that we are moving towards that they would like to add before we adjourn.

Councilmember Hahn asked if we should take some action for the City team to work with the BUSD team to put an item together, a discussion item to bring before the city council so that the city council can engage in a preliminary discussion of how the city can participate in solving this problem.

Approval of Motion for City Team to Prepare Discussion Item for City Council

Councilmember Hahn moved for a Motion to request that the City team prepare a discussion item for City Council to begin exploring the City's options to help solve the parking garage question.

The motion was seconded and passed

Director Calise asked if there was a timeline. He further advised that per the Board's direction, they are completing the CEQA and it is almost ready to publish. He further indicated that they are supposed to be writing and releasing the RFP for the design build of the garage project in July. He again asked if he can ask for a timeline, so he understands the direction to look for from the Board as to whether or not to postpone, pause, etc.

Director Babitt asked if there is a difference between pause and terminating.

Director Calise responded there is. But what he is asking is, does the 2x2 have a timeline to work with the City or when would this action or discussion be brought to the City?

Councilmember Hahn responded that it is about putting the item together which includes a little bit of background of everything Gordon laid out about our existing rules and explain what it would take to work around them and maybe some pros and cons of the different workarounds.

Director Calise advised that he can make July work and that it is helpful to understand from a planning perspective when we would begin. If we can do it in July, I think it's helpful cause it informs their work and what needed from team.

Councilmember Hahn advised that she is not prepared to give a timeline due to it not yet being an action item. She suggested that by the end of September, she hoped to have had a discussion and an indication of the general direction that council would like to move in.

Director Babitt advised that her concern is money continuing to be spent on this \$27 million parking garage.

Director Calise responded we are but not continuing. The EIR and the bridging documents contracts are already in play and in the finalization stage. The dollars have been encumbered and expensed for that. For those particular contracts, is why he asked if there was a timeframe so not to put staff time and dollars or any public dollars, as far as bond dollars into moving this project to the next phase, until we understand. To not encumber or expense more dollars on this project, he'll need to update the Board. He further stated if this is where we are with project, they are pressing pause since the 2x2 has indicated is a willingness to partner and that it will go before city council for a conversation.

Deputy City Manager Cardwell advised that she will have internal meetings and then update on timing.

President Babitt thanked everyone and advised the next meeting is scheduled for June 16th and advised if any other meeting dates had been finalized.

Deputy City Manager Cardwell advised that Jessica and Ramonda are working on getting those on calendars and double checking that it works for everybody's schedule.

Next Meeting

June 16, 2023 from 1:00pm – 2:30 pm

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:23 pm