



PARKS, RECREATION, AND WATERFRONT COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, October 8, 2025, 7:00 P.M.
Frances Albrier Community Center - auditorium
2800 Park Street, Berkeley, CA 94702

Agenda

- The Commissions may discuss any items listed on the agenda, but may take action only on items identified as Action.
- Public Comment on agenda items shall be heard at each item (2 minutes per speaker).

1. **Call to Order** (chair).
2. **Roll Call** (Secretary).
3. **City of Berkeley Land Acknowledgement:** ¹
4. **Action: Approval of Agenda.** (chair)
5. **Action: Approval of Minutes** for Wednesday, September 10, 2025 (chair).*
6. **Public Comment** (2 min each).
7. **Chair's Report/Discussion.**
8. **Departmental Overview for New Commission Members:** (Ferris/Erickson).*
9. **Director's Report:** Update on special events, community engagement, capital and maintenance projects, forestry, recreation (Erickson).
10. **Discussion/Action:** Potential November 2026 bond measure for city facilities and parks projects (Councilmember Taplin) (chair).*
11. **Discussion/Action:** Create subcommittee on proposed Waterfront Fees (chair).
12. **Discussion:** Update on Throne portable toilet pilot program in Berkeley (Miller).*
13. **Discussion/Action:** Potential Fitness Court locations in Berkeley (Miller).*
14. **Discussion:** Addressing Litter, Graffiti, and Beautification issues in Berkeley – the Caltrans Clean California Grant Proposal (Miller).*
15. **Information Reports:** Recent PRW Council Reports.*
16. **Future Agenda Items:** 3-on-3 basketball tournament; Public Art in Aquatic Park (Lavorn); Citywide Accessibility Plan; Dog Parks locations.
17. **Communications.**
18. **Next PRW Commission meeting:** Wednesday, November 12, 2025.
19. **Adjournment.**

* document is attached to agenda packet and on the commission website.

** document will be provided at the meeting.

¹ Text of the City of Berkeley Land Acknowledgement: <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/legislative-body-meeting-agendas/SSCOC%20Agenda%20and%20Memorandum%20July%202%2C%202025.pdf>

ADA Disclaimer: This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request disability-related accommodations to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

SB343 Disclaimer: Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at Parks Recreation & Waterfront Department Office at 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA.

Communications Disclaimer: Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City’s electronic records, which are accessible through the City’s website. **Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record.** All communications to the Commission should be received at least 10 days before the meeting date. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the commission or committee for further information.

Commission Information: The agenda packets for the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Waterfront Commission are available for review at www.cityofberkeley.info/commissions; the Berkeley Main Library and the Parks Recreation & Waterfront Department Office at 2180 Milvia Street –3rd Floor, during their normal business hours. If you have questions, call Commission Secretary, Roger Miller at 981-6704 at 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704 or by email at rmiller@berkeleyca.gov

MISSION STATEMENT – PARKS AND WATERFRONT: Reviews and advises the City Council on issues related to all City/public parks, open space, greenery, pools, programs, recreation centers, the Waterfront, and resident camps: their physical conditions, policies, projects, programs, planning efforts, activities, and funding; early childhood education programs; and animal care issues in parks.

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mayor-	District 3 - Ben Nash	District 6 - Liliana Cardile
District 1 - Carrie Rybczynski	District 4 - Mary Muszynski	District 7 - Ysabela Philip
District 2 - Leigh Stewart	District 5 - Allen Samelson	District 8 - Allan Abshez

Current assignments

Subcomm on dogs and parks (07-09-2025)
(Nash; Stewart)
Subcomm on parks impact fee (07-09-2025)
(Abshez; Rybczynski)

Liaison - Civic Center Planning – Erin Diehm
Liaison - Civic Arts in Parks – Carrie Rybczynski

2025 Commission Meeting Dates

Name of Commission: Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission

Commission Secretary: Roger Miller

Location: Frances Albrier Community Center, 2800 Park St

Month	Meeting Day and Date (2 nd Wednesday per month)	Time	Notes
2025			
January	Wednesday, January 8	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
February	Thursday, February 6	8:30am	Special (park site visits)
February	Thursday, February 13	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
March	Wednesday, March 12	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
April	Wednesday, April 9	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
April 10	Thursday, April 10	8:30am	Special (park site visits)
May	Wednesday, May 14	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
June	Wednesday, June 11	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
July	Wednesday, July 9	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
August	No meeting		
September	Wednesday, September 10	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
October	Wednesday, October 8	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
November	Wednesday, November 12	7:00 p.m.	Regular Mtg
December	No Meeting		
2026			
January	<i>Wednesday, January 14</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Regular Mtg</i>

**PARKS, RECREATION AND WATERFRONT COMMISSION
Regular Meeting**

September 10, 2025, 7:00 P.M., Frances Albrier Community Center, 2800 Park St

Minutes - Draft

1. **Call to Order** (Chair). 7:05pm
2. **Roll Call** (Secretary). Present: Diehm; Nash; Stewart; Rybczynski; Absent: Abshez (LOA); Cardile.
3. **Action:** Election of Commissioner Rybczynski as vice-chair: (M/S/C: Diehm/Nash/U): Ayes: Diehm; Nash; Stewart; Rybczynski; Noes: None; Absent: Abshez (LOA); Cardile.
4. **City of Berkeley Land Acknowledgement:**²
5. **Action: Approval of Agenda.** (vice-chair) (M/S/C: Diehm/Rybczynski/U). Ayes: Diehm; Nash; Stewart; Rybczynski; Noes: None; Absent: Abshez (LOA); Cardile.
6. **Action: Approval of Minutes** for Wednesday, July 9, 2025 (vice-chair).* (M/S/C: Rybczynski/Diehm/U). Ayes: Diehm; Nash; Stewart; Rybczynski; Noes: None; Absent: Abshez (LOA); Cardile.
7. **Public Comment** (2 min each). a) Bonnie Borucki, South Berkeley Senior Center; b) Ruth Rogow, South Berkeley Senior Center; c) third speaker, South Berkeley Senior Center; d) Judith Lascher, Senior Center Ceramics; e) Edward Kuczynski, Cal Sailing Club; f) Jim McGrath, Coastal Conservancy grant, 2026 Measure P; g) Phil Allen, Medians condition; h) Paul Kamen, Marina Fees; i) Julia McEvoy, Parking passes for BRCC; j) Gordon Stout, \$100 tickets;
8. **Chair's Report/Discussion.** Commissioners Steward and Nash were welcomed (Rybczynski); Commissioner Diehm was acknowledged for her contribution to the commission for the past eight years.
9. **Director's Report:** Update on special events, community engagement, capital and maintenance projects, forestry, recreation (Erickson). Update was provided.
10. **Discussion/Action:** Potential November 2026 bond measure for city facilities and parks projects (Councilmember Taplin) (vice-chair).* Discussion was held. Public Comment: a) Jim McGrath, history of Measure T1.
11. **Discussion/Action:** Create subcommittee on proposed Waterfront Fees (chair). Item was held over to the next meeting. Public Comment: a) Camille Antinori, Cal Sailing Club; b) Paul Kamen.
12. **Discussion/Action:** Appoint a PRW Commission liaison to the Civic Arts Program (vice-chair). Commission took action to appoint Commissioner Rybczynski to be the liaison to the Civic Arts Program. (M/S/C: Diehm/Nash/U). Ayes: Diehm; Nash; Stewart; Rybczynski; Noes: None; Absent: Abshez (LOA); Cardile.
13. **Information Reports:** Recent PRW Council Reports.*
14. **Future Agenda Items:** 3-on-3 basketball tournament; Public Art in Aquatic Park (Lavvorn); Citywide Accessibility Plan; Dog Parks locations.
15. **Communications.**
16. **Next PRW Commission meeting:** Wednesday, October 8, 2025.

² Text of the City of Berkeley Land Acknowledgement:

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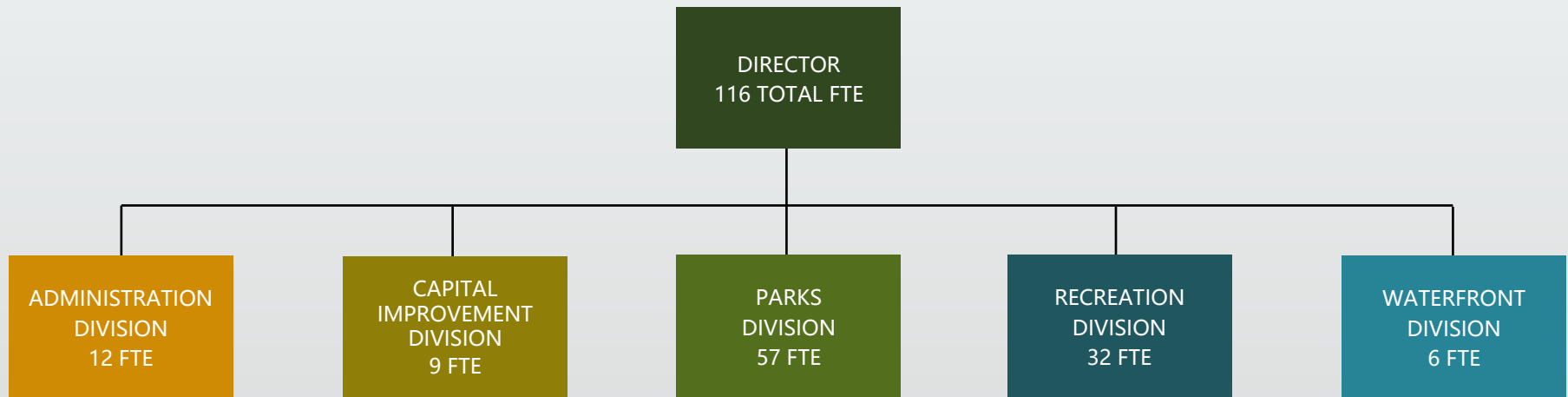
17. Adjournment. 8:30pm.

- * document is attached to agenda packet and on the commission website.
- ** document will be provided at the meeting.
- Commissioners in attendance: 4 of 5 appointed.
- Public in attendance: 14
- Public speakers: 12

***Note:** For any handouts distributed at the meeting, please see the Draft Minutes for September 10, 2025, on the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission webpage at the following link online:
<https://berkeleyca.gov/your-government/boards-commissions/parks-recreation-and-waterfront-commission>

Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Department

FY25: TOTAL FTE 116



Internal



Consent Calendar
September 9, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Terry Taplin

Subject: Recreation and Community Facility Improvement Measures

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the city manager the assessment of potential revenue measures to finance capital improvements for certain recreational and community-serving city facilities that have completed the conceptual or design phase and return to the city council with recommendations for placing such measures on the November 2026 midterm election ballot.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Should the revenue measures under consideration be approved by Berkeley voters in November 2026, the city would establish new dedicated funding streams for the construction of high-priority, design-complete recreational and community-serving projects. These revenues would directly address the city's most pressing unfunded capital needs, allowing shovel-ready projects to proceed without diverting limited General Fund resources or delaying other essential maintenance and operations.

The city currently faces over \$1,000,000,000 in unfunded infrastructure needs along with significant deferred maintenance liabilities across all infrastructure categories. Establishing a voter-approved revenue source would not only close funding gaps for these shovel-ready projects but also free up existing maintenance and operating funds for other critical priorities and reduce long-term fiscal strain.

Proactively funding these projects will:

- Prevent cost escalation from inflation and further facility deterioration
- Reduce emergency repair costs and operational disruptions
- Increase equitable access to modern, safe, and sustainable public facilities
- Demonstrate fiscal stewardship by aligning new revenues with clear, voter-endorsed capital priorities

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By securing a dedicated, reliable revenue stream, the city can shift from a reactive approach to infrastructure investment to a proactive, strategic model that delivers tangible community benefits while measurably reducing the backlog of unfunded capital projects.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley is confronting a stark disconnect between critical capital infrastructure needs and the funding available to address them. The city has over \$1,000,000,000 in unfunded infrastructure needs, which include streets, stormwater systems, municipal facilities and buildings, parks, and the waterfront.

To address some of these infrastructure needs, voters approved Measure FF in 2024, a \$267,000,000 special tax to fund street, sidewalk, and pedestrian path repair, repaving, and reconstruction, safety improvements, and environmental infrastructure.

Previously, voters approved Measure T1 in 2016, a \$100,000,000 bond measure to repair, renovate, replace, or reconstruct the city's aging infrastructure and facilities. This very successful bond program has funded 72 improvement projects to city facilities and parks. These projects include the North Berkeley Senior Center, the South Berkeley Senior Center, the Corporation Yard, the Adult Mental Health Building, the Live Oak Community Center, the Willard Clubhouse, the MLK Jr. Youth Services Center, the African American Holistic Resource Center, University Avenue in the Waterfront, the Berkeley Rose Garden, San Pablo Park, Grove Park, and numerous street improvement projects. The city has diligently reported on T1-funded facility improvements, which can be seen in more detail on the city's website:

<https://berkeleyca.gov/your-government/our-work/bond-revenue-measures/measure-t1>.

Outside of bond measures and grants, the funding for city buildings, parks, infrastructure in the waterfront, and the Transfer Station is limited to the following annual Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) allocations:

- **Parks Tax Fund** - \$2,750,000
- **General Fund** - \$1,500,000
 - \$1,100,000 for Public Works
 - \$400,000 for Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront
- **Zero Waste Fund** - \$1,160,000
- **Marina Fund** - \$350,000

These funding sources are typically used for smaller CIP or major maintenance projects associated with each fund. However, with the imminent completion of the Measure T1 bond

Internal



program, there is no funding for a list of large critical city projects, including city buildings, parks, infrastructure in the waterfront, and the Transfer Station as shown below.

These projects should be prioritized for a 2026 revenue measure(s):

Key City Facilities in Need of Improvements

- Frances Albrier Community Center
 - Conceptual design completed.
 - Built in the 1970s, it suffers from failing Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) and electrical systems, inadequate seismic resilience, outdated programming layouts, and serious accessibility deficiencies that limit its current and future use.
- Maudelle Shirek Building (Old City Hall)
 - Completed in 1909, the building has significant seismic issues that prevent it from being used except for short term uses. This historic structure urgently needs full seismic, systems, and accessibility upgrades and restoration of architectural features.
- Veterans Building
 - This historic structure urgently needs full seismic, systems, and accessibility upgrades and restoration of architectural features.
- King and West Campus Pools
 - Conceptual design completed.
 - These aging aquatic facilities suffer from chronic mechanical failures, leaks, crumbling decks, noncompliant locker rooms, and outdated filtration systems. They do not meet modern accessibility or safety standards and constant temporary repairs fail to address core infrastructure failures.
- Transfer Station
 - Long functionally outdated, the facility struggles with inefficient waste flow, deteriorated structural elements, poor stormwater handling, and operational constraints. Without action, risk of regulatory noncompliance and operational failure continues to grow.
- 1947 Center Street Improvements
 - While Measure T1 will fund the window replacement project, numerous other building elements related to safety issues such as HVAC and elevator replacements are still needed in this crucial city facility.

Internal



Parks and Recreation Capital Projects

- Dreamland Play Structure Replacement at Aquatic Park
 - Conceptual design completed.
- Sea Level Rise / Bike Park at University Avenue at the Berkeley Waterfront
 - Conceptual design completed.
- John Hinkel Park Scout Hut Reconstruction
 - Conceptual design completed.
- Glendale–La Loma Park 2-5 and 5-12 Play Area and ADA Pathway Upgrade
 - Design in progress.
- Cedar Rose Park 2-5 Play Structure Replacement
 - Design completed.
- San Pablo Park Drainage and Irrigation Improvement
- Shorebird Park Play Structure Replacement

Waterfront Capital Projects

- J-Dock Replacement
- South Cove Seawall Replacement
 - Design in progress.

Adeline Corridor Improvements

- Open Space and Street Improvements from Ashby Avenue to the Berkeley Border with Oakland
 - Conceptual design in progress.

Sidewalk 50/50 Program Upgrades

- There is an existing 2-3 year list of 50/50 sidewalk replacements from home owners.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Upgrades

Internal



- The citywide ADA Assessment is complete and needs funding to complete a portion of the work identified.

Stormwater System Capital Improvements

- Potter Watershed Smaller Pressure Pipe and Storage in Aquatic Park Main Lagoon
 - Watershed Master Plan Recommended Tidal Resolution Option.

Many of the projects listed above have been conceptually designed using Measure T1, the General Fund, or the Parks Tax. Without a dedicated revenue source, these projects will remain stalled and physical and programmatic degradation will continue. This delays service delivery, increases long-term costs due to inflation and further deterioration, and erodes equity goals by depriving communities of safe and modern public infrastructure. The longer construction is deferred, the more expensive it becomes, increasing both the fiscal and social burden.

BACKGROUND

Over the past decade, the City of Berkeley has undertaken significant planning and design work for several high-priority recreational and community-serving facilities. These projects have advanced into the design phase through a combination of local ballot measures, state and regional grants, and General Fund allocations - yet remain unfunded for construction.

Key City Facilities in Need of Improvements

- **Frances Albrier Community Center**
 - The Frances Albrier Community Center in San Pablo Park is a key cultural and recreational anchor serving South Berkeley. Originally constructed in the early 1970s, the building suffers from aging mechanical systems, accessibility deficiencies, and layout limitations that no longer meet community program needs. Design funding was provided through a combination of Measure T1 Phase 1 and Phase 2 allocations and smaller contributions from the General Fund and Parks Tax (Measure F). The project has completed schematic design for two options: a renovation-only plan at approximately \$29,000,000 and a more extensive renovation with a new aquatics facility at approximately \$42,000,000. Proposed capital improvements include full HVAC replacement, ADA upgrades, reconfigured community spaces, seismic strengthening, and integration with an adjacent pool facility.
- **Maudelle Shirek Building (Old City Hall)**
 - Constructed in 1909, this designated historic landmark requires full seismic retrofitting, complete building systems replacement, ADA accessibility upgrades, and restoration of historic interior and exterior features. Preliminary assessments

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BERKELEY CITY COUNCILMEMBER
TERRY TAPLÍN
 DISTRICT 2

indicate the likely presence of lead-based paint, asbestos-containing materials, and potential Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), necessitating comprehensive abatement in compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) regulations. This will require specialized contractors and environmental controls, extended construction timelines, and increased direct costs. Each year of delay will add significant escalation costs and risk further deterioration, increasing the scale of required intervention. The total investment is expected to exceed \$100,000,000 depending on the final scope, preservation requirements, and remediation needs.

- **Veterans Building**

- Constructed in 1928, this designated historic landmark requires full seismic retrofitting, complete building systems replacement, ADA accessibility upgrades, and restoration of historic interior and exterior features. This will require specialized contractors and environmental controls, extended construction timelines, and increased direct costs. Each year of delay will add significant escalation costs and risk further deterioration, increasing the scale of required intervention. The total investment is expected to exceed \$100,000,000, depending on the final scope, preservation requirements, and remediation needs.

- **King Pool and West Campus Pools**

- Both King Pool and West Campus Pool are over 60 years old and have reached the end of their useful life. They face chronic mechanical failures, water loss, outdated locker room facilities, and noncompliance with current ADA and aquatic safety standards. King Pool's replacement project (\$16,000,000) has completed the design phase funded largely by Measure T1 Phase 1 and 2 and supplemented by Parks Tax revenues for preliminary studies. West Campus Pool was the subject of earlier feasibility and conceptual planning efforts, but construction funding in the amount of \$16,500,000 has never been secured. Necessary capital improvements for both sites include full pool tank and deck replacement, new filtration and heating systems, modern locker rooms, seismic upgrades, and improved spectator and team facilities.

- **Transfer Station**

- Berkeley's Solid Waste Transfer Station, located in West Berkeley, is decades old and in need of full modernization to meet operational, environmental, and regulatory standards. Preliminary studies have examined replacement or major rehabilitation scenarios, including integration of modern waste diversion facilities. Needed capital improvements include new tipping floor infrastructure, improved traffic circulation, stormwater management upgrades, and modern materials

Internal



recovery equipment. Similar facilities in the region suggest costs could be between \$115,000,000 and \$120,000,000.

- **City Offices at 1947 Center Street**
 - The building is in need of numerous upgrades to structural and seismic elements, HVAC, electrical, and plumbing systems, carpet and flooring, elevators, lighting, and hazardous materials mitigations.

Parks and Recreation Capital Projects

- **Dreamland Play Structure Replacement at Aquatic Park (\$7,500,000)**
 - This would replace the play structure, restroom, open space area, and amenities.
- **Sea Level Rise / Bike Park at University Avenue at the Berkeley Waterfront (\$6,250,000)**
 - This would create a dedicated, professionally designed dirt, jump and skills course facility serving youth and adults; capital needs include grading, surfacing, drainage, and new amenities, as well as nature-based solutions for Sea Level Rise.
- **John Hinkel Park Scout Hut Project (\$3,150,000)**
 - This would renovate the historic structure, incorporating seismic strengthening, roof replacement, and masonry restoration.
- **Glendale-La Loma Park 2-5 and 5-12 Play Area and ADA Pathway Upgrade (\$2,960,000)**
 - This would modernize both age-group playgrounds, replace surfacing, and improve ADA connections throughout the site.
- **Cedar Rose Park 2–5 Play Structure Replacement (\$2,400,000)**
 - This would replace aging, noncompliant play equipment and surfacing with new accessible structures and shade elements.
- **San Pablo Park Drainage and Irrigation Improvement (\$1,560,000)**
 - This would replace outdated irrigation systems, improve turf health, and address stormwater ponding issues that limit year-round field use.
- **Shorebird Park Play Structure Replacement (\$830,000)**
 - This was last replaced over thirty years ago and needs a full replacement.

Waterfront Capital Projects

Internal



- **J-Dock Replacement** (\$12,000,000)
 - The J-Dock system at the Berkeley Marina was installed in 1975 and is long past its useful life, requiring numerous temporary repairs. This project will replace the entire J Dock system with a new concrete dock system with a projected lifespan of 60 years.
- **South Cove Seawall Replacement** (\$5,780,000)
 - The retaining seawall is a badly deteriorated sheet pile wall that retains the shoreline at the boat hoist area at the South Cove sailing docks (340 linear feet).

Adeline Corridor Specific Plan Improvements

- Finalized in 2020, the Adeline Corridor Specific Plan calls for improvements to open space and streets from Berkeley's downtown to the Oakland border. The city has recently secured conceptual design funding for the area from Ashby Avenue to the Oakland border, and construction is estimated to be up to \$50,000,000. The city is seeking additional grant funding to finalize the design for this portion of the plan.

Sidewalk 50/50 Program Upgrades

- There is an existing 2-3 year list of 50/50 sidewalk replacements requested from home owners. A \$2,000,000 allocation from T1 Phase 1 eliminated the waiting list, but this list has grown over the last five years and needs an infusion of funding to complete the work in a timely manner, estimated at \$5,000,000.

ADA Upgrades

- The city has completed a Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan to comply with section 504 of the American with Disabilities Act. The plan has identified hundreds of millions in need of work to city infrastructure. This measure would request up to \$5,000,000 to begin to address these needs.

Stormwater System Capital Improvements

- **Potter Watershed Smaller Pressure Pipe and Storage in Aquatic Park Main Lagoon**
 - The smaller pressure pipe would increase stormwater flow capacity to the Bay by 44%, allowing most runoff from a 10-year storm to bypass Aquatic Park and be discharged directly, while using the lagoon for temporary storage only during the largest events. This would reduce flooding, improve water quality by preventing trash and pollutants from entering the lagoon or Bay, and lessen the frequency of storm overflows into Aquatic Park. Est: \$50,000,000.

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While Measures T1 and Parks Measures F and Y have been instrumental in advancing the design work, they were never intended to cover full construction costs for major facilities. Many of our funds support ongoing maintenance and small-scale capital renewal but cannot absorb multi-million-dollar replacements or modernizations. As a result, these design-complete projects remain unfunded for construction.

Without a dedicated revenue source, these facilities will continue to deteriorate, risking higher eventual replacement costs, service interruptions, and loss of critical community programming space.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

N/A

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The City of Berkeley's recreational, cultural, and community-serving facilities are vital public assets that sustain health, wellness, social cohesion, and equitable access to services. Many of these facilities — including King Pool, the Frances Albrier Community Center, the Maudelle Shirek Building, and others — have completed design work yet remain unfunded for construction. Advancing these projects is essential to prevent further deterioration, escalating repair costs, and lost service capacity.

The city faces a substantial and growing infrastructure funding gap. The Fiscal Year 2025–2029 Capital Improvement Program identifies more than \$241,600,000 in unfunded Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Department projects alone, not including other citywide deferred maintenance liabilities. The Parks Tax (Measure F) is a critical maintenance funding tool, but it cannot absorb the multi-million-dollar capital costs associated with full facility replacements or modernizations. At the same time, the city's structural General Fund deficit limits the availability of discretionary dollars for major capital construction. Without a dedicated revenue measure, these shovel-ready projects will remain stalled and service levels will continue to decline.

Placing a revenue measure before the voters in the November 2026 midterm election would align with the city's project timelines, public engagement needs, and ballot-cycle advantages, allowing for transparent community discussion and a realistic funding path.

This recommendation advances several City of Berkeley Strategic Plan goals:

- **Provide state-of-the-art, well-maintained infrastructure, amenities, and facilities**
 - By securing funding for design-complete projects, the city can deliver modern, accessible, and sustainable facilities that meet current and future community

Internal



needs.

- **Champion and demonstrate social and racial equity**
 - Many of these projects, including the Frances Albrier Community Center and San Pablo Park improvements, directly serve historically underrepresented and underserved neighborhoods, ensuring equitable access to high-quality public spaces and programming.
- **Be a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment**
 - Modernized facilities will be designed to meet or exceed current environmental standards, incorporating energy-efficient systems, water conservation, green infrastructure, and resilient materials while improving public access to parks and waterfront areas that connect residents to the natural environment.

By moving forward with a dedicated funding assessment for these priority projects, the city will not only preserve critical public assets but also demonstrate a proactive, equity-focused, and environmentally responsible approach to infrastructure investment.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Several alternatives to pursuing a dedicated revenue measure have been identified and evaluated:

- **Rely on Existing Funding Sources**
 - The city could continue to fund capital projects through existing revenue streams such as the Parks Tax (Measure F), the General Fund, and one-time grant opportunities. However, these sources are already committed to ongoing maintenance, operations, and smaller-scale improvements. They cannot absorb the multi-million-dollar construction costs of the identified design-complete projects without displacing other critical priorities. This approach would likely delay these projects indefinitely, leading to further deterioration, higher eventual replacement costs, and continued service gaps.
- **Reallocate General Fund Resources**
 - Redirecting significant General Fund dollars to these capital projects would require substantial cuts to core services, including public safety, homelessness programs, and maintenance of existing infrastructure. Given the city's structural General Fund deficit, this alternative is fiscally unsustainable and would not provide a stable or dedicated source of capital funding.
- **Pursue External Grants and Partnerships Only**

Internal



BERKELEY CITY COUNCILMEMBER
TERRY TAPLÍN
 DISTRICT 2

- While the city actively seeks state, federal, and philanthropic grants for capital improvements, these sources are highly competitive, time-limited, and rarely cover full project costs. They are best used as supplemental funding rather than as the sole source for major facility construction. Relying solely on grants would introduce significant uncertainty and delay with no guarantee that projects could move forward.
- **Defer or Reduce Project Scope**
 - Postponing or scaling back projects could reduce short-term costs but would also diminish long-term community benefits, fail to address underlying infrastructure deficiencies, and increase life-cycle costs due to deferred maintenance. In some cases, reduced scopes would compromise program functionality, accessibility, and environmental performance.

While each alternative offers some degree of fiscal relief or reduced complexity, none provide the long-term, dedicated funding necessary to advance multiple high-priority, design-complete projects in a coordinated, timely manner. A voter-approved revenue measure remains the most viable and equitable approach to delivering these critical community assets while protecting the city's broader fiscal health.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Taplin, District 2, 510-981-7120, TTaplin@berkeleyca.gov

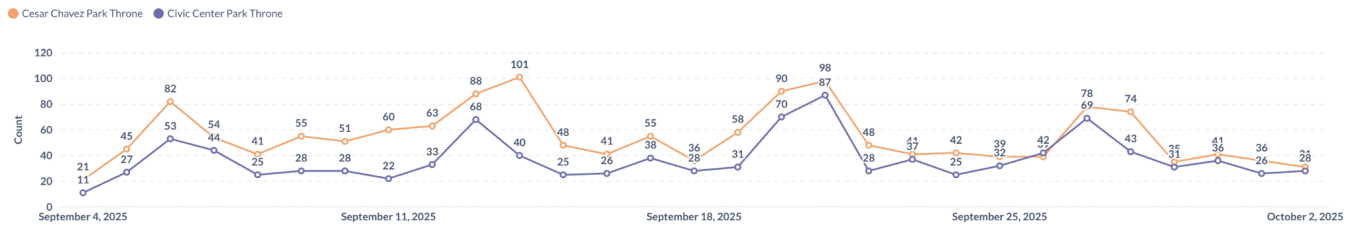
Attachments:

- 1: Civic Center Vision and Implementation Plan Staff Report (2020)
- 2: Maudelle Shirek Building Historic Structure Report (2020)
- 3: Fiscal Years 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan
- 4: Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Department Capital Improvement Project and Minor Maintenance Program Update (2025)
- 5: Status of the Southern Peninsula and the building at 199 Seawall Drive in the Berkeley Waterfront (2024)

The City of Berkeley Throne Data Through 10/2

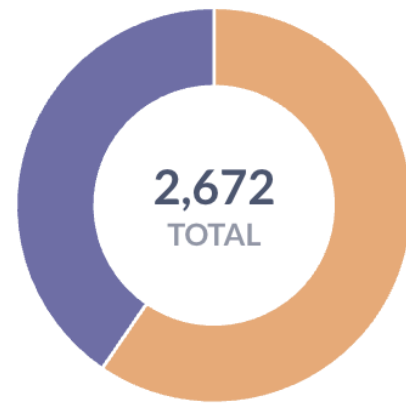
Usage by Day

Consistent high use on Sundays.



Total Usages

- Cesar Chavez Park Throne 59.5%
- Civic Center Park Throne 40.5%



3 unique tap cards have been used

Note on Unique Tap Card Data: Last week, I shared that there were 16 unique tap cards used. Looking back, I realized I had accidentally counted unique uses instead of unique users. The correct number is 3 unique tap cards, which ties to 3 unique users.

Accountability

1 warning issued

0% restricted users

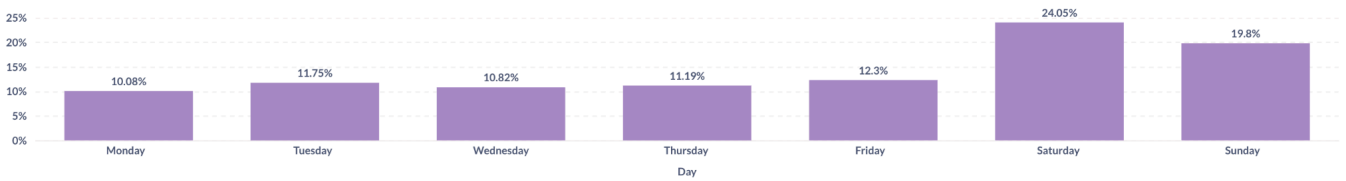
Civic Center Park

4.4/5 Clean Score

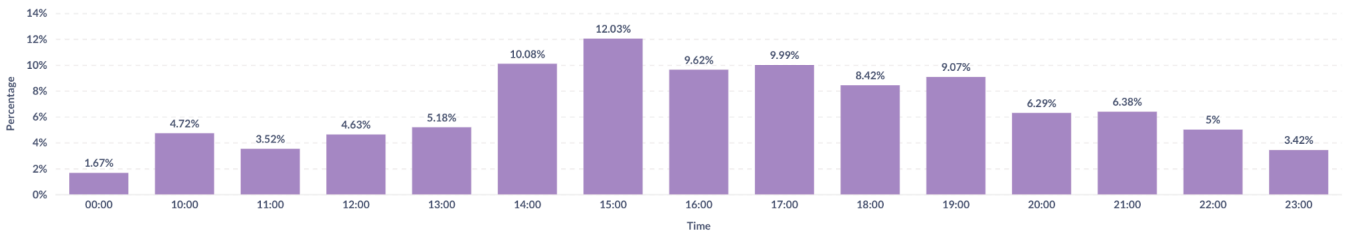
Engagement & Adoption

27% of users have used this Throne 2 or more times

Percent Usage by Day of Week



Percent Usage By Hour of The Day (Note: EDT)



Comments:

- This is awesome! Glad this is available
- I was pleasantly surprised by the cleanliness of this restroom. Good job!
- It's very nice and clean I like the music
- Can I use it more than once
- Little dirty someone left paper towel and receipt on floor with water residue on floor but I cleaned it up to make out nice for the next person
- it was just cool it was talking to me

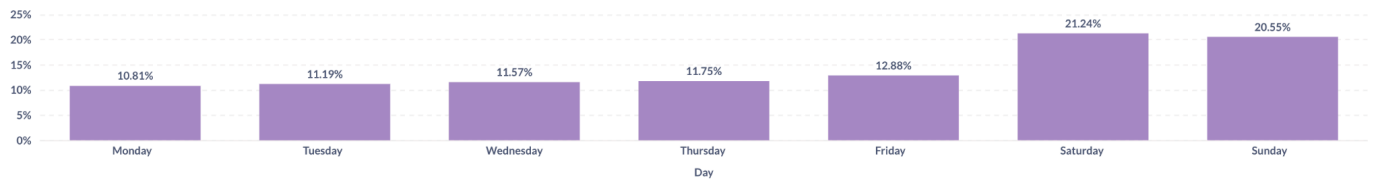
Cesar Chavez Park

4.4/5 Clean Score

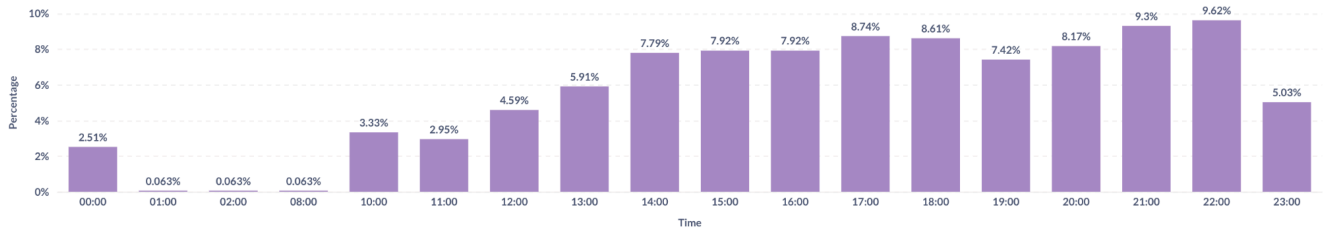
Engagement & Adoption

25% of users have used this Throne 2 or more times

Percent Usage by Day of Week



Percent Usage By Hour of The Day (Note: EDT)



Comments:

- What a great toilet!!! :)
- It's an amazing addition to the Berkeley Marina
- What an amazing resource!!!
- Wonderful, A+ experience. Put one on every corner.
- Hope there's gonna be more of this in public too place
- Like it 👍

Fitness Courts



FITNESS COURT®

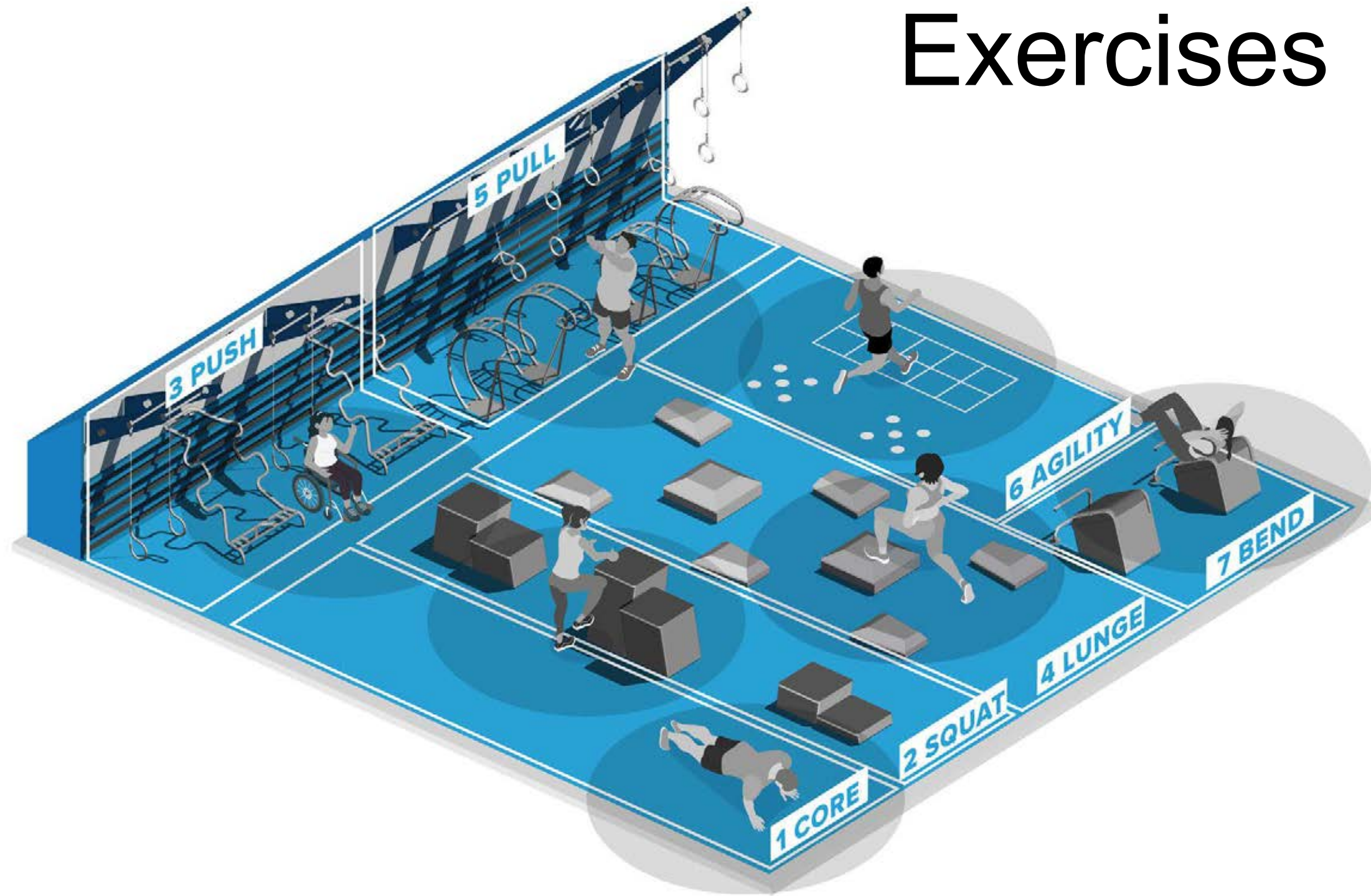


FITNESS COURT®
WORLDS BEST OUTDOOR GYM

Exercises



FUNCTIONAL TRAINING SYSTEM
THOUSANDS OF EXERCISES



7 MINUTE FULL BODY WORKOUTS



History

1979
FITNESS COURT®
INVENTED

1980-2000
CAMPAIGN
EXPANDS

2012
NEW CAMPAIGN &
WORLD CLASS TEAM

2018 - PRESENT
WELCOMING OUR
500TH HEALTHY
COMMUNITY

2030
NFC REACHES 10,000
COMMUNITIES

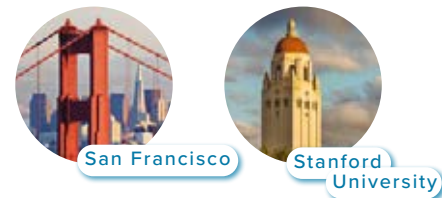
1979

1980

2012

2018

2030



3 COUNTRIES



10,000
FITNESS COURTS®

DESIGN TEAM



MITCH MENAGED
NFC FOUNDER



GADI AMIT
NEW DEAL DESIGN



SAM LUCENTE
HEWLETT PACKARD



MARK LAUREN
SPECIAL FORCES



Accessibility



FITNESS COURT®

ADULTS OF ALL AGES AND ABILITY



I am glad to see movements to improve balance.

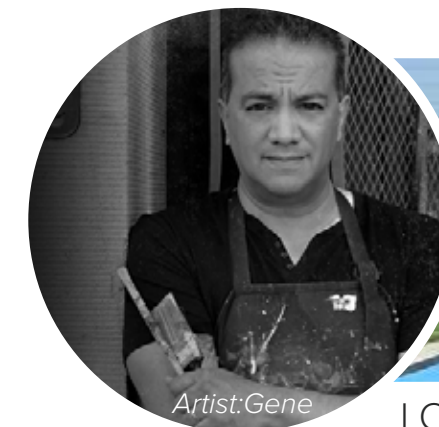
- Carol Claybaker, Senior Resident of Janesville, WI

Public Art

Each Fitness Court® is a one-of-a-kind work of art.



FEATURED ARTIST : 2021 - KEITH HARING



LOCAL ARTIST



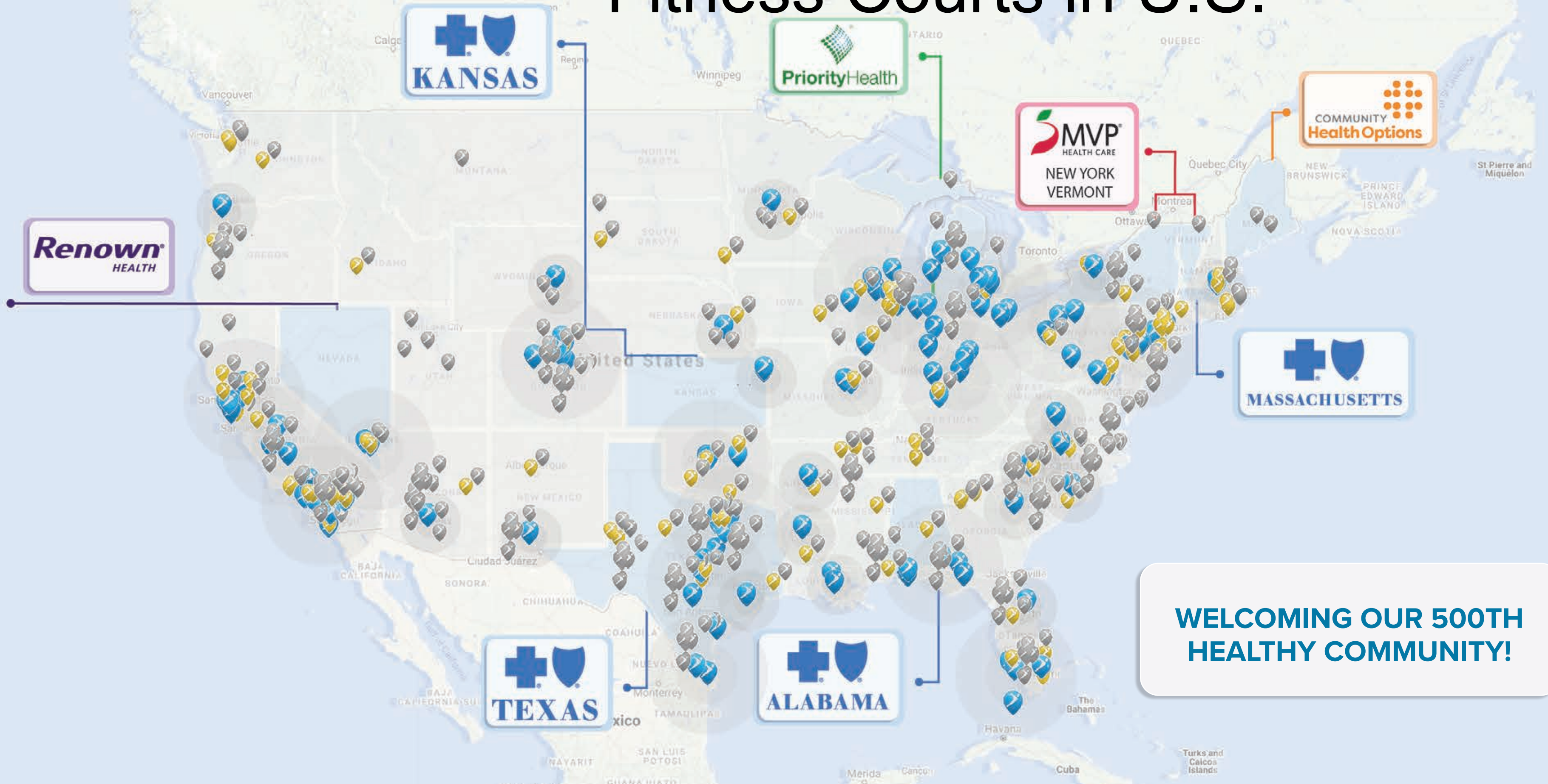
CUSTOM COMMUNITY DESIGNS

App on Phone



FITNESS COURT® APP
CAMPAIGN SERVICES

Fitness Courts in U.S.



**WELCOMING OUR 500TH
HEALTHY COMMUNITY!**

Potential Fitness Courts in Berkeley

per NFC

SITE MAP Berkeley, CA

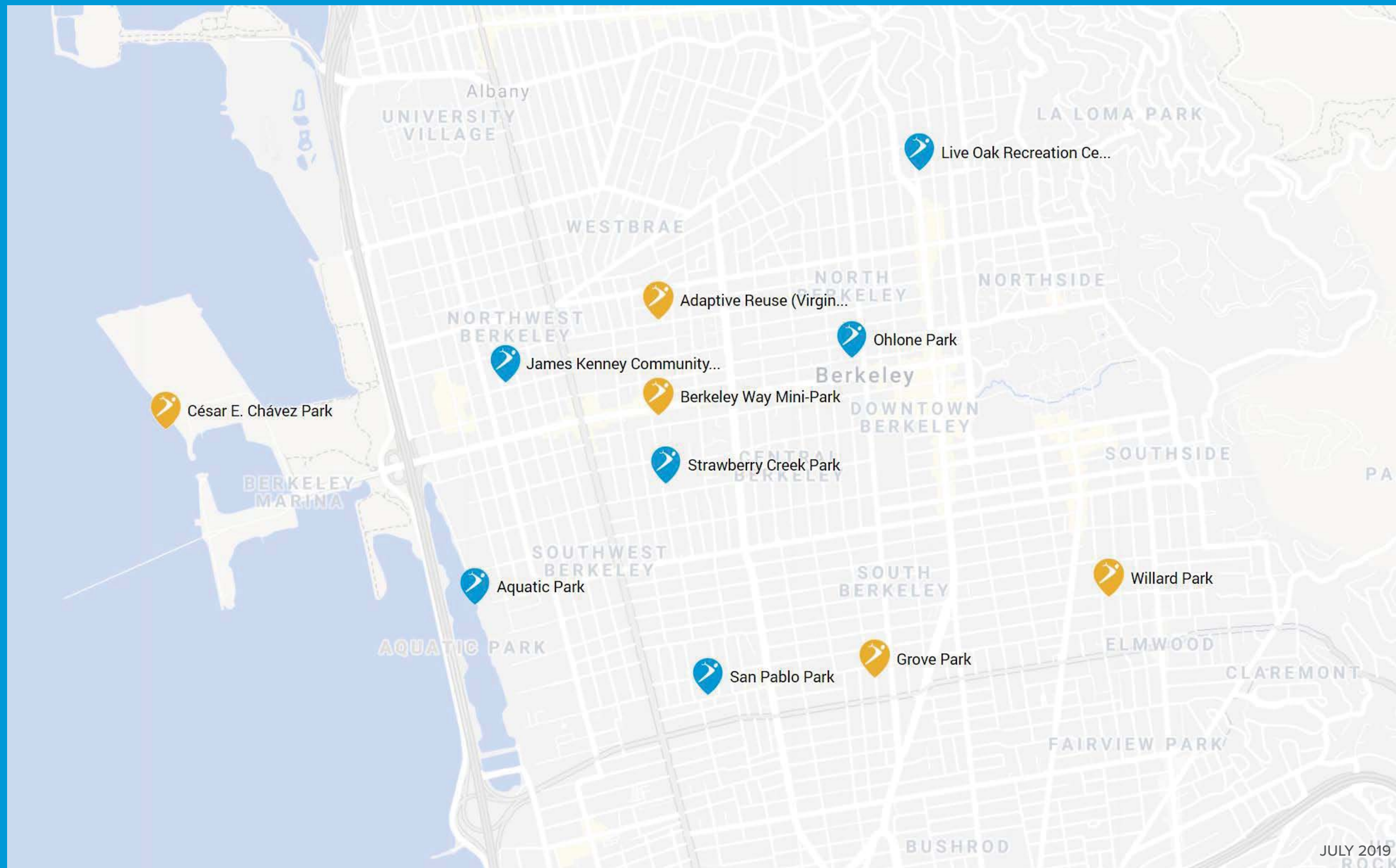


Activity Mapping Phase 1 Recommendations:

- James Kenney Community C...
- Live Oak Recreation Center
- Ohlone Park
- San Pablo Park
- Strawberry Creek Park
- Aquatic Park

Activity Mapping Phase 2 Recommendation:

- César E. Chávez Park
- Willard Park
- Adaptive Reuse (Virginia Gar...
- Berkeley Way Mini-Park
- Grove Park



JULY 2019

● [View Fitness Court video->CLICK](#)



Community Cleanup and Employment Pathway Grants PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Clean CA Program
Summer 2025

Clean CA Program Community Cleanup and Employment Pathway Grant Program Guidelines

Introduction

The Community Cleanup and Employment Pathway (CCEP) Grant Program is a signature initiative under the Clean California Program, administered by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). This grant program is designed to support litter abatement and public space beautification efforts on locally owned public right-of-way while creating workforce development opportunities for individuals facing barriers to employment.

Through competitive grants, the program provides funding to local agencies (including federally recognized tribal governments) to conduct targeted litter cleanup and graffiti removal activities, complemented by educational and engagement efforts that foster community pride and long-term maintenance. The program places strong emphasis on serving disadvantaged and underserved communities (as identified in Section 4.1 of grant application template) and encourages local commitment through participation in the Clean California Community designation pledge¹.

A core component of this program is the creation of employment pathways through partnerships with workforce development organizations or use of existing employment development departments. These partnerships will connect justice-impacted individuals, those experiencing homelessness, at-risk youth, and others with meaningful job training and paid transitional employment opportunities focused on litter abatement, landscaping, and environmental stewardship.

Program Objectives

- **Litter and Graffiti Abatement:** Support sustained litter cleanup and graffiti removal on local right-of-way.
- **Workforce Development:** Create transitional employment and training opportunities for vulnerable populations either through partnerships with workforce development organizations or use of existing employment development departments.
- **Equity and Inclusion:** Prioritize disadvantaged communities and support pathways to community self-sufficiency.
- **Sustainable Community Engagement:** Promote public education and anti-littering campaigns. Take the online Clean California Community designation pledge to ensure sustainability and long-term impact.

By integrating cleanup, workforce development, and community engagement, the CCEP Grant Program seeks to create cleaner, safer, and more equitable public spaces throughout California.

¹ <https://cleanca.com/designation/>

Clean CA Program Community Cleanup and Employment Pathway Grant Program Guidelines

Proposals

Objectives

The grant proposal is the foundation for securing funding under the CCEP Grant Program. The proposal must demonstrate how the applicant will use grant funding to meet the program's core objectives through locally led, community-driven efforts. Proposals should clearly articulate the public benefit of the proposed activities, particularly in disadvantaged or underserved communities.

Applicants are expected to:

- Identify litter abatement and graffiti removal needs in specific areas of local right-of-way.
- Detail a plan for workforce development, including partnerships with workforce organizations and strategies for engaging vulnerable populations.
- Commit to community engagement strategies and educational outreach that promote long-term cleanliness and civic pride.
- Demonstrate **alignment** with the Clean California Community designation pledge. The pledge is not required to apply for or receive funding.
- Provide a sustainable approach to maintaining the public space improvements achieved through the grant.

Each proposal must be comprehensive, feasible, and results-driven, ensuring that awarded funding leads to measurable environmental, social, and economic impacts in the applicant's community.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be submitted by local agencies to their respective Caltrans district coordinators, then evaluated and scored competitively by the Clean CA Program based on the criteria listed below. Applications that score highest across these categories will be prioritized for funding.

1. Community Need and Impact (15 points)

- Demonstrates a clear need for litter abatement and graffiti removal, including information such as description of the history of the area, prior efforts to address the issues and how this grant will make a difference.
- Identifies underserved or disadvantaged areas where the proposal will be implemented.
- Outlines benefits to public health, safety, environmental quality, and community aesthetics.

2. Workforce Development Strategy (15 points)

- Includes a detailed plan for engaging and employing vulnerable populations.

**Clean CA Program
Community Cleanup and Employment Pathway Grant Program Guidelines**

- Establishes partnerships with workforce development organizations (e.g., BCOE Back 2 Work, Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO), Chrysalis or similar) or leverage existing employment departments.
- Provides evidence of transitional employment (as measured by participants who are able to find long-term employment), training, and pathways to long-term job placement.

3. Community Engagement and Education (15 points)

- Describes plans for community input, public education, and volunteer participation.
- Commits to youth education, anti-littering outreach, **or** (encouraged but not mandatory) participation in the Clean California Community designation program.

4. Long-Term Sustainability and Maintenance (15 points)

- Outlines a long-term plan to fund the maintenance of cleaned and beautified spaces.
- Includes partnerships, volunteer programs, or recurring community events in alignment with the Clean CA community designation pledge.
- Describes infrastructure or policy measures to prevent future littering.

5. Clean California Community Designation Pledge (10 points)

- Applicant has taken or plans to take the Clean California Community pledge.
- Demonstrates commitment to meeting at least 10 of the 15 designation criteria.

6. Proposal Feasibility and Readiness (10 points)

- Provides a detailed implementation schedule.
- Demonstrates capacity to manage the proposal, including procurement, reporting, and oversight.

7. Matching Funds and Leveraged Resources (10 points)

- Describes how matching funds (cash or in-kind) will support and expand proposal activities.
- Ensures that match contributions are additive and not part of existing baseline cleanup operations.

8. Disadvantaged or Under-served Community (10 points)

Applicants will be required to include supporting documentation (e.g., CalEnviroScreen map outputs, local demographic data, or letters from community organizations) to demonstrate that the proposed project serves a disadvantaged or under-served community. The following criteria will be recognized as indicators of disadvantaged or under-served communities (see grant proposal template for details):

- Median Household Income
- CalEnviroScreen 4.0
- Free or Reduced-Price School Meals
- Healthy Places Index
- Native American Tribal Lands

**Clean CA Program
Community Cleanup and Employment Pathway Grant Program Guidelines**

Schedule

Milestone	Date
Program Launch & Public Outreach Begins	July 1, 2025
Grant Guidelines Finalized & Published	August 15, 2025
Call for Proposals Opens	September 15, 2025
Proposal Submission Deadline	November 1, 2025
Application Review and Scoring	November–December 2025
Award Notifications Issued	January 15, 2026
Grant Agreements Executed	February–March 2026
Proposal Implementation Period Begins	April 1, 2026
Quarterly Progress Check-In (Reporting Due)	April 2026-April 2027
Proposal Implementation Period Ends	April 1, 2027
Final Reports and Closeout Due	October 31, 2027



Clean CA Community Pledge

I, _____, hereby commit the community of _____, to pursue the criteria of becoming a designated Clean California Community.

Whereas we, the leaders and residents of [Community Name], united by a profound sense of pride and a shared vision for a cleaner, greener community, endeavor to elevate our community to even greater heights,

Whereas we aspire to be heralded as a model of excellence, renowned for our commitment to cleanliness and environmental stewardship,

Whereas the State of California, in its pursuit of a cleaner, greener existence for all, has established the prestigious Clean California Community designation as a testament to communities that exemplify these values,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we solemnly pledge to uphold the principles of the Clean California Community program, dedicating ourselves to fostering a community marked by cleanliness, sustainability, and civic pride.

This pledge is to serve as [Community Name]'s commitment to the principles of the Clean California Community program. Through our collective efforts, we pledge to maintain a clean, green, and vibrant community for the betterment of all residents.

I assert that I am authorized to make this pledge on behalf of our community.

Signed:

Name:

Title:

Date:





Community Designation Checklist

To attain designation, communities must meet at least 10 of these 15 criteria

Agenda Item 14. Clean CA Grant Proposal

✘ Sign the Pledge

Designate a community leader to e-sign thepledge. For a town, this could be a mayor; for an organization it could be the Executive Director, for a school it could be a principal, for a district a supervisor, and so on.

○ Advisory Body

Establish an informal Clean CA committee or some other advisory body. This could also be an existing committee.

✘ Community Input

Get community input through a public meeting, survey, special event, virtual call or another means of gathering feedback from the public on your community's approach.

✘ Litter Assessment

Conduct an initial litter assessment to establish your baseline and identify litter hotspots in your community.

○ Cleanups

Organize community cleanups. We recommend at least 4 each year, big or small.

✘ Measure Progress

Establish metrics and measure regularly to track your clean community's progress. Things to track include # of volunteers, # of cleanups, and pounds of litter removed.

✘ Community Education

Educate the broader public on the impacts and solutions to litter by providing signage, educational programs, or other public awareness & behavior change strategies.

✘ Youth Education

Provide K-12 educational programs to help inform anti-littering behaviors among the youngest generations. Communities can leverage the K-12 Clean CA educational resources to meet this requirement.

✘ Infrastructure

Place anti-littering infrastructure in key locations. This can include trash and recycling bins that are emptied regularly, or utilizing street sweeping to clean as you go.

○ Enforcement

Establish policies, technologies or programs that prevent or deter future littering.

✘ Long-term Planning

Hash out a long-term plan or strategy to ensure the sustainability of your efforts so that your community stays clean.

✘ Greening & Beautification

Complement cleanups by implementing greening and beautification activities - plant trees, gardens or flower beds, or create public art to make your community more vibrant.

○ Collection Drives

Schedule or host collection drives such as "dump days" or "amnesty days" for hard-to-recycle or bulky items like mattresses, e-waste, or household appliances.

✘ Partnerships

Engage local stakeholders and businesses to partner with you and support your campaign. We recommend partnering with at least 3-5 businesses.

○ Cigarette Litter

Provide cigarette litter receptacles to help contain the most widely littered item on Earth.



Agenda Item 15. Recent Council Reports

PARKS, RECREATION AND WATERFRONT COMMISSION

RECENT COUNCIL REPORTS

The following recent PRW council reports can be accessed from the City Council Website by using the following URL's:

September 16, 2025 (regular – 6pm)

10.-Updates to the Measure T1 Project List

URL: <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-09-16%20Item%2010%20Updates%20to%20the%20Measure%20T1%20Project%20List.pdf>

September 30, 2025 (regular – 6pm)

9.-Donation: Memorial Bench at Berkeley Marina in Memory of Michael W. Orton

URL: [https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-09-30%20Item%2009%20Donation%20Memorial%20Bench%20at%20Berkeley%20Marina%20in%20memo-ry%20of%20Michael.pdf](https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-09-30%20Item%2009%20Donation%20Memorial%20Bench%20at%20Berkeley%20Marina%20in%20memory%20of%20Michael.pdf)

October 14, (regular – 6pm)

1.-Contract No. 32400122 Amendment: Buhler Commercial for Willard Park Clubhouse and Restroom Replacement Project

URL: [https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-10-14%20Item%2001%20Contract%20No.%2032400122%20Amendment%20%20Buhler%20Commercial.p-
df](https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-10-14%20Item%2001%20Contract%20No.%2032400122%20Amendment%20%20Buhler%20Commercial.pdf)