



2022 General Plan Annual Progress Report

City of Berkeley

Submitted March 31, 2023

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INTRODUCTION

Government Code Section 65400(a)(2) requires planning agencies to provide an annual report to their legislative body, the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on the status of their General Plan and progress in its implementation. The report must detail the progress in meeting the jurisdiction’s share of the regional housing need and address efforts by the local agency towards removing governmental constraints to the maintenance, improvement, and development of housing.

The purpose for the Annual Progress Report is to: 1) assess how the General Plan is being implemented in accordance with adopted goals, policies and implementation measures; 2) identify any necessary adjustments or modifications to the General Plan as a means to improve local implementation; 3) provide a clear correlation between land use decisions that have been made during the 12-month reporting period and the goals, policies, and implementation measures contained in the General Plan; and 4) provide information regarding local agency progress in meeting its share of the regional housing need.

The current City of Berkeley General Plan was originally adopted on **December 18, 2001 and April 23, 2002**. The General Plan contains the seven State-required elements which are Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Conservation, Open Space, Noise and Safety. The State allows the combining of elements or the addition of new elements as long as the required seven elements are present in some fashion. The Berkeley General Plan contains the following 9 elements:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Land Use | 6. Environmental Management |
| 2. Transportation | 7. Economic Development & Employment |
| 3. Housing | 8. Urban Design & Preservation |
| 4. Disaster Preparedness & Safety | 9. Citizen Participation |
| 5. Open Space & Recreation | |

Local governments are required to keep their General Plans current and internally consistent. There is no specific requirement that a local government update its General Plan on any particular timeline, with the exception of the Housing Element, which is required to be updated as prescribed by State law. The Berkeley Housing Element was last updated and adopted by the City Council on January 18, 2023 and certified by HCD on February 28, 2023 for the 2023-2031 planning period.

The City of Berkeley continues to actively implement the policies of the General Plan including the goals, policies and programs of the Housing Element. The following represents the progress the City has made towards implementing the General Plan and Housing Element during the **Calendar Year (CY) 2022** reporting period, which looks at the 2015-2023 5th Cycle Housing Element that was certified as that was the Housing Element in effect during the CY 2022.

The information to follow is organized to correspond with the elements of the Berkeley General Plan.

LAND USE ELEMENT

AMENDMENTS

State Law limits the number of times each mandatory element of the General Plan, such as the Land Use Element, can be amended to a maximum of four times per calendar year.

The Land Use Element of the Berkeley General Plan was amended once during CY 2022: Resolution No. 70,400-N.S.

PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING THE GOALS AND GUIDING POLICIES OF THE LAND USE ELEMENT

- **Ashby and North Berkeley BART Station Planning**

Planning is underway to re-imagine the Ashby and North Berkeley BART stations as vibrant places that include housing, open space and community amenities. Both sites are owned by the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART). In June 2022, the City Council approved of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), a Joint Vision and Priorities document, and new zoning that is consistent with State Law (Assembly Bill 2923) for the Ashby and North Berkeley BART station areas. The City and BART continue to work together on the next steps of the planning process, including initiating a public process to develop Objective Design Standards and working with the selected development team for the North Berkeley BART station area; and approving a new agreement that resolve remaining issues for Ashby BART in order to enable issuance of a solicitation for potential development teams.

- **Density Bonus Projects**

In CY 2022, the majority of projects greater than 5 units were approved using State Density Bonus provisions. The following Density Bonus projects were either approved, under construction, or completed this past year.

- 1201 San Pablo

Construct a six-story, mixed-use building on a vacant lot, with 66 units (including 5 VLI units), 1,680 square feet of commercial space, 2,514 square feet of usable open space, and 17 to 28 ground-level parking spaces.

- 1601 Oxford

Construct an affordable housing development with approximately 36,000 square-feet of floor area within a 5-story building consisting of 34 age-restricted Below Market Rate units for seniors, 1 managers unit, and 2 units for use by All Souls Episcopal Parish staff.

- 1950 Addison

Demolish an existing 24,182 square foot, two-story office building and construct an approximately 103,808 square foot, seven-story multifamily development with 107 dwelling units (a mix of studio, one, two, and three bedroom units) and ground floor level parking for 68 vehicles and 75 bicycles.

- 2000 Dwight
Demolish six existing non-residential buildings, and construct a six-story, 113-unit, Community Care Facility for seniors with 40 parking spaces in a subterranean garage.
- 2000 University
Demolish one existing commercial and one mixed-use structure containing two dwelling units and construct a new, 8-story mixed-use building with 82 dwelling units and 1,415 square feet of ground floor commercial space.
- 2001 Ashby
86 dwelling units, ranging in affordability, one manager's dwelling unit, approximately 1,963 square feet of ground floor commercial space.
- 2012 Berkeley
Mixed-Use Development (142 units - affordable housing; transitional dorms; temporary housing; and supportive services).
- 2018 Blake
Construct a six-story, multi-family residential building with dwelling 12 units (including 2 Low-Income units).
- 2099 Martin Luther King Jr.
Demolish an existing one-story 3,595 square foot auto service building and construct a 62,419 square-foot, seven-story, 69' tall mixed-used building with 72 dwelling units (including 5 dwellings available to very low-income households) and 2,448 square feet of ground floor retail space. The project would provide 12 parking spaces and secure storage for 65 bicycles within a grade level garage.
- 2435 Haste
Demolish an existing multi-family dwelling (8 units) and construct an eight-story, residential building with 37 units (including affordable replacement units) and 935 square feet of usable open space.
- 2527 San Pablo
Mixed-Use Development (62 dwelling units, including one manager's dwelling unit, approximately 1,000 square feet of ground floor commercial space, a community room, bicycle and vehicle parking).
- 2590 Bancroft
Demolish an existing two-story commercial building and construct an eight-story, mixed-use building with 87 dwelling units (including 5 VLI units), 4,345 square feet of commercial space, 2,566 square feet of usable open space, 40 long-term bicycle parking spaces and zero vehicular parking spaces.

- 2701 Shattuck
Construct a 5-story, 60'-tall, 27,980-squarefoot, mixed-use building with 57 dwelling units (including 5 VLI and 3 live/work units), 14 automobile parking spaces, and secure storage for 44 bicycles.

- 2352 Shattuck
Demolish two existing commercial buildings; 2) split the lot into two; and 3) construct two, eight-story, mixed-use buildings with a total of 204 units (including 14 Very Low-Income units), 12,154 square feet of commercial space.

- 2440 Shattuck
Demolish one existing commercial building and construct an eight-story, mixed-use building with 40 dwelling units and 2,160 square feet of ground floor commercial space.

- **Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)**
During the CY 2022 reporting period, the City issued building permits for 112 ADUs and issued 72 certificates of occupancy for ADUs.

TRANSPORTATION

AMENDMENTS

The Transportation Element was not amended during CY 2022.

PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING THE GOALS AND GUIDING POLICIES OF THE TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT

- **Street Rehabilitation Program:** The City continues to utilize this program to achieve goals beyond simply improving the asphalt quality for automobiles. In 2022, under a “Complete Streets” approach, the City rehabilitated 8.53 lane miles of roadway, implemented ADA improvements such as updating curb ramps and repairing sidewalks, and constructed bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements such as refuge islands, high-visibility crosswalk markings, quick-build traffic circles, and speed tables.

- **Citywide Demand-Responsive Parking Meter Pricing and SmartSpace Pilot Parking Program:** At the end of 2022, 95% of the City’s parking meters are managed under the goBerkeley program, which uses demand-responsive pricing and longer time limits to create more parking options and availability. In fall 2022, the City also launched the SmartSpace pilot program, which is studying ways to reduce excess greenhouse gas emissions from visitors frequently re-parking in residential permit areas to avoid posted two-hour time limits. The pilot includes new long-term paid parking for visitors in a residential permit area immediately south of UC Berkeley campus and new parking permits for employees of local neighborhood businesses. The pilot will be evaluated in 2023.

- **9th Street Pathway Project:** Now open as the 9th Street Greenway, this shared use pathway project connects the 9th Street bike boulevard to the Emeryville Greenway. It includes a new pedestrian and bicycle crossing on the east side of the signalized intersection of Ashby Avenue/State Route 13 with 9th Street. Project components include 0.2 miles of new off-street pathway, high-visibility crosswalk markings, new pedestrian and bicycle signals to cross Ashby Avenue, and night lighting. As of the end of 2022, construction was complete.
- **Sacramento Street / North Berkeley BART Complete Streets Project:** This project provides safety improvements at intersections and along the Virginia Street bicycle boulevard in the vicinity of the North Berkeley station of the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) rail system. Project components along Sacramento Street include the installation of a new traffic signal and channelizing islands at the intersection with the Virginia Street bicycle boulevard, the provision of bike signals at the Virginia Street and Delaware Street intersections, the addition of left-turn signals at University Avenue to protect pedestrians from left-turning vehicles, and the construction of sidewalk curb extensions (sidewalk bulbouts) at the intersections with University Avenue and Addison Street. The project also includes new pavement markings along Virginia Street next to the BART station. The project was completed in 2022.
- **Addison Bike Boulevard:** This project constructs the City's first new bicycle boulevard in over a decade. The segment completed in 2022 extends for 0.6 miles, connecting the California Street bicycle boulevard to the heavily used Milvia bicycle boulevard in downtown Berkeley. Project components include bicycle boulevard roadway markings, solar-powered LED night lighting, and a raised median and rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB) to assist pedestrians and bicyclists to cross busy Martin Luther King Jr. Way. As of the end of 2022, the work on this segment of Addison was complete, including the raised median with the RRFBs. The City applied for and received funding from the California Active Transportation Program (ATP) grant program Cycle 6 to complete the remaining segments of the Addison Street Bicycle Boulevard from Sacramento Street to Aquatic Park and from Milvia Street to the UC Berkeley Campus. When complete, this route will provide the only continuous east-west bikeway connecting the UC Berkeley Campus with Downtown Berkeley, West Berkeley, and the Bay Trail along the San Francisco Bay Shoreline.
- **Milvia Bikeway Project:** This project upgrades the existing Milvia bicycle boulevard to a protected bikeway through the heart of downtown Berkeley between Hearst Avenue and Blake Street. The impetus for this project was that Milvia through downtown Berkeley was both the most heavily biked street in the City and the one with the highest number of bicyclists being hit by motor vehicles. Project components include new Class IV bike lanes protected by concrete curbs, pavement markings, and bike signals and concrete islands to protect bicyclists and pedestrians at signalized intersections. As of the end of 2022, construction was complete on this project.
- **Telegraph Corridor Study:** In 2021, the City acquired a grant from the Alameda County Transportation Commission to conduct a study and perform preliminary engineering for major transit and bikeway improvements along Telegraph Avenue from Dwight Way to the Oakland border. Project components may include new bus-only lanes and a Class IV protected bikeway. The City kicked off the study

process, collecting and analyzing existing conditions data and conducting the first phase of public engagement and concept design by the end of 2022.

- **Southside Complete Streets:** This project will improve conditions for people walking, biking, riding transit, driving, and delivering goods and services in Berkeley’s Southside neighborhood along Telegraph Avenue, Bancroft Way, Fulton Street, and Dana Street. In February of 2022 the Berkeley City Council approved conceptual designs for each of the four corridors. By the end of 2022 the City completed detailed engineering design on three of the four corridors (Bancroft Way, Fulton Street, Dana Street), and requested allocation of construction funds to be able to begin construction of transportation improvements in 2023.
- **South Adeline Complete Streets:** This project will improve conditions for people walking, biking, riding transit, driving, and delivering goods and services along Berkeley’s Adeline Street corridor from the Ashby BART station to the Berkeley/Oakland border. In 2022 the City advertised for a consultant contract for the currently-funded conceptual design, public engagement, and environmental phase, interviewed consultants, and picked a consultant with to negotiate scope, schedule, and budget prior to City Council award of contract in 2023.
- **Ohlone Greenway Modernization Project:** The goals of the Ohlone Greenway Safety Improvements Project are to upgrade a portion of the existing multi-use pathway, from Virginia Gardens to the south to Santa Fe Avenue to the north, to better accommodate the needs of all users and improve safety, especially at roadway intersections and during non-daylight hours. Upgrades will be focused on the following: Improving safety of pathway/roadway intersections, widening the pathway where feasible to better separate users of different speeds (e.g. pedestrians and bikes), improved connection at pathway gap on Peralta Avenue, enhanced pathway lighting to improve safety and security, landscaping work to improve lighting and safety. The project initiated conceptual design and public engagement in 2022.
- **Martin Luther King Jr Way Vision Zero Quick Build:** This project implements elements of one of the high-priority pedestrian crossing safety corridors from the 2021 Berkeley Pedestrian Plan, prioritized according to the 2020 Vision Zero Action Plan. The project consists of the installation of median refuge islands, hardened centerlines, solar-powered Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs), crosswalk lighting, roadway signage, detectable warning surfaces, roadway striping, pavement markings, red curb painting, pavement rehabilitation, and concrete curb ramp construction. The project completed detailed engineering design and advertised for construction bids in late 2022.
- **Sacramento Street Vision Zero Quick Build:** This project implements elements of one of the high-priority pedestrian crossing safety corridors from the 2021 Berkeley Pedestrian Plan, prioritized according to the 2020 Vision Zero Action Plan. The project consists of the installation of median refuge islands, hardened centerlines, solar-powered Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs), crosswalk lighting, roadway signage, detectable warning surfaces, roadway striping, pavement markings, red curb painting, pavement rehabilitation, and concrete curb ramp construction. The project initiated detailed engineering design in late 2022.

- **Vision Zero Program:** The Vision Zero program uses Engineering, Education, and Enforcement strategies to try to achieve the Berkeley City Council adopted goal of eliminating severe injury and fatal traffic crashes by 2028. During 2022 the program continued work on major grant-funded capital Vision Zero and Complete Streets projects listed above, convened a Vision Zero Coordinating Committee for the first time, and continued work on developing Rapid Response communications and Quick Build traffic safety implementation programs.

HOUSING

AMENDMENTS

The Berkeley Housing Element was last updated and certified by HCD on February 28, 2023, for the 2023-2031 planning period. CY 2022 falls into the 2015-2023 planning period; the Housing Element was not amended during CY 2022.

PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING THE GOALS AND GUIDING POLICIES OF THE HOUSING ELEMENT

Pursuant to Government Code Section 65400, the City Council is required to prepare an annual report on the status and progress in implementing the City’s Housing Element using forms and definitions adopted by HCD. The completed forms for CY 2022 are attached as **Exhibit A** to this report.

As shown in Table 1, the City of Berkeley’s RHNA for the applicable planning period is 2,959 residential units, broken down by income category. HCD regulations require that excess units in one income category cannot be used to reduce the unaccommodated need from the other categories.

Table 1: Regional Housing Needs Allocation 2015- 2023

2014-2023	Income Category
532	Very Low Income
442	Low Income
584	Moderate Income
1401	Above Moderate Income
2959	Total

In 2022, the City issued building permits for 887 dwelling units, including 741 above moderate-income units, 58 low-income deed restricted units, and 88 very low-income deed-restricted units. There is currently an unmet remaining need of 867 units, as shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Berkeley’s Progress in Meeting Regional Housing Needs

Income Category	Total RHNA (2015- 2023)	Net Units Created (2015- 2022)	Balance Remaining	Percent of RHNA Achieved
Very Low Income	532	397	135	75%

Low Income	442	188	254	43%
Moderate Income	584	106	478	18%
Above Moderate Income	1,401	3,940	0	281%
Total	2,959	4,631	867	157%

As required by state law, the City must zone land to accommodate the RHNA and develop programs and policies that promote an environment where housing construction is encouraged at all income levels.

Additionally, in 2022, the City implemented the following notable goals and guiding principles from the Housing Element:

- **Rapid Rehousing Rental Assistance:** Provided assistance to 170 households.
- **Shelter and Care Housing Vouchers:** Provided Shelter+Care vouchers to 290 new households.

For a list of Housing Element Implementation, please refer to Table D of the Housing Element APR, which was submitted separately to OPR.

Housing Element Update 2023-2031

In CY 2022, the City finalized efforts to update the Housing Element. The Housing Element Update will serve as the City of Berkeley’s housing plan for the next 8 years (2023-2031). The Housing Element Update process provided an important opportunity for Berkeley’s residents and community members to come together on assessing housing needs, identifying policy and resource priorities, and finding solutions to implement a wide range of housing choices. The plan contains goals, policies, and programs that will guide the City’s decision-making around the development and rehabilitation of housing.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & SAFETY

AMENDMENTS

The Disaster Preparedness and Safety Element was not amended during CY 2022.

PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING THE GOALS AND GUIDING POLICIES OF THE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND SAFETY ELEMENT

- **COVID-19 Response and Recovery**
 From the beginning of 2020, the City has been working to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. On May 3, the City shifted ongoing COVID coordination to be led by departments, demobilizing the City’s longest Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activation to date. COVID response work continued throughout 2022, led by the new COVID-19 Response Unit in the Department of Health, Housing and Community Services. Alongside the City’s continued work to combat COVID throughout 2022, staff also continued work to recoup funds for response costs through the FEMA Public Assistance program.

- **Additional Emergency Response Coordination**

In addition to the EOC Activation for COVID-19 response described above, the City provided a coordinated response to multiple emergency situations in 2022:

- **Tonga Tsunami:** On January 15, a volcanic eruption in Tonga created a tsunami that impacted the west coast. Berkeley responders quickly evacuated “berthers” (people dwelling on boats in the Berkeley Marina) from their boats, as well as community members from the water’s edge. The Emergency Operations Center coordinated with the Red Cross to provide canteening services for displaced community members during the tsunami. Luckily, tsunami heights were minimal and Berkeley did not receive damage or injuries. Berkeley’s quick action to evacuate for this “Advisory” level tsunami followed State guidance and was lauded by State officials. This response decision was enabled by coordinated planning in 2021 among the Office of Emergency Services, Police Department, and the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront department to develop a draft Tsunami Advisory Response Plan.
- **Heat Dome:** In early September, all-time high temperatures were recorded in communities throughout the Bay Area. In response to this extreme heat event, Berkeley activated cooling centers – one at Old City Hall targeted at unsheltered community members, as well as at City libraries and a senior center.
- **Severe Storms:** From December 26 and into 2023, a parade of storms impacted the Bay Area. Berkeley experienced flooding, downed trees, and power outages. This storm event received State and federal Disaster Declarations due to the level of impact. In Berkeley, Departments including Public Works, Parks, Recreation & Waterfront, Fire, Police, and the City Attorney’s Office coordinated closely in the field and in the Emergency Operations Center to keep storm drains clear, reduce hazards from downed trees, distribute sandbags, respond to emergency calls, and communicate to residents.
- **Berkeley Ready:**
As the population became vaccinated and COVID restrictions eased, staff relaunched many community-facing efforts of the Berkeley Ready program. This included in-person Berkeley Ready programming in the community – at large in-person events such as Solano Stroll and the Harvest Festival, at smaller recreation events, in neighborhoods and at places of worship. Staff reconnected with identified Community Resilience Centers and Apartment Resilience Centers, providing presentations on disaster preparedness, as well as receiving feedback about program structure and potential improvements.
- **Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP):**
Berkeley is developing a CWPP to identify the risks that Berkeley faces from wildfires, and to establish goals and plan projects to reduce those risks. The CWPP will provide a roadmap to mitigate the risks posed by wildfires including goals for improving wildfire response, community preparedness, fuel management, infrastructure, ignition reduction, home hardening, and more. Input from the public and other stakeholders helps to inform priorities. In 2022, staff gathered data and public input to prioritize and propose projects to be shared in the first draft plan.

- **Outdoor Warning System Coordination:**
Throughout 2022, the City coordinated with the Outdoor Warning System vendor and community partners to establish locations for 15 siren installations to ensure broad coverage citywide. Staff and partners also pushed forward on the complex project permitting process, which necessitated approvals from both the City and the Division of the State Architect. City staff began development of protocols for system usage, meeting with surrounding jurisdictions to jointly understand and align practices for system testing and activation.
- **Alert & Warning System Training:**
City Fire and Police staff were trained in use of alert and warning systems for fire evacuation. Training integrated response protocols for multiple systems that are part of Berkeley’s alert and warning “toolbox.” Systems included AC Alert, the Alameda County mass notification system, as well as Zonehaven, the online evacuation management platform.
- **Mass Care & Shelter:**
Staff re-launched the City’s mass care and shelter training program work in 2022. This work included connections with mass care partners like the American Red Cross, as well as site surveys of City facilities that could serve as disaster shelters. Staff from the City’s Recreation and Aging Divisions received training in shelter fundamentals. Additionally, staff coordinated to establish additional shelter capacity for unhoused community members during inclement weather at the North Berkeley Senior Center.
- **Wildfire Evacuation Exercise:**
Berkeley partnered with the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to develop and implement a wildfire evacuation and response exercise. The scenario involved a fire on the Lab campus under extreme weather conditions. This scenario considered protection of hazardous materials on the Lab campus, evacuation within and out of the Lab, and the downstream impacts to the City at large from such an event.
- **General Plan Policy Work:**
Staff ensured that the Housing Element’s Draft EIR, as well as the Element itself, carefully considered natural hazards affecting Berkeley and the potential increased impacts associated with additional development. In addition, staff laid the groundwork for compliance with new State laws related to evacuation, including SB99, which requires identification residential developments that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes.

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION

AMENDMENTS

The Parks and Open Space Element was not amended during CY 2022.

PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING THE GOALS AND GUIDING POLICIES OF THE OPEN SPACE & RECREATION ELEMENT

- **Waterfront Specific Plan**

The Waterfront Specific Plan Project is a four-year planning project to provide a path for achieving a financially self-sustainable, publicly owned marina that preserves and enhances infrastructure to support current and future community needs, while adapting to climate change and promoting environmental stewardship. The public process for this project involves multiple small focus group meetings and large public community meetings to gather public feedback. Staff convened 14 small focus group meetings and 1 large community meeting in 2022; with multiple additional focus groups and meetings held and planned in 2023.

- **Funding**

Parks, Recreation and Waterfront (PRW) capital funding is made up of Recurring Capital from the Parks Tax, General Fund, Marina Fund and the Camps Fund; and one-time funding sources like insurance and FEMA. Below are descriptions of these some of these funding sources.

- Park Tax/ Measure F: The Parks Tax increase approved by Berkeley voters in 2014 has increased parks tax yearly capital by \$750,000, from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000, since FY2016. Additionally, Measure F provides a yearly \$450,000 for minor maintenance projects.
- Measure T1: In 2016 voters approved a \$100 million-dollar bond measure to repair and improve existing city facilities and infrastructure. The City completed \$41 million in Phase 1 projects this year, and is also now implementing Phase II of the bond program in city wide improvements. Approximately half of this funding is going towards improvements in city parks, camps and waterfront.
- Camps Fund/Insurance/FEMA: This year, the City completed the reconstruction of Berkeley Tuolumne Camp. The City's resident camp was destroyed by the Rim Fire in 2013, and was successfully rebuilt with more than \$50M in funding from insurance, FEMA, donations, and City funds. The Camp re-opened to the public in the summer of 2022, in time for the Camp's 100th anniversary.

- **Recently Completed Capital Improvements Park Projects (last 2 years)**

2022

- Camps: Tuolumne Camp Construction (Insurance, FEMA, General Fund, Donations)
- Camps: Cazadero Camp Dormitory Rebuild (Insurance)
- Parks: John Hinkel Amphitheater, Picnic, and 2-12 Play Structure (T1, Parks Tax)
- Pools: King Pool Tile and Plaster (T1, General Fund)
- Pools: West Campus Tile and Plaster (General Fund)
- Pools: West Campus Pool Filters (4) Replacement (General Fund)
- Waterfront: Marina Streets Replacement-University, Marina, Spinnaker (T1, Measure BB, Measure B, Marina Fund)
- Parks: King Park 2-5 and 5-12 Play Structures (Insurance, Parks Tax)

- Parks: Aquatic Park Tide Tube – Sediment Removal (T1)
- Parks: Skate Park Fence Replacement (Parks Tax)

2021

- City Wide Restroom Feasibility Study (T1)
- Park Building: Live Oak Community Center Renovation (T1, Parks Tax)
- Parks: Aquatic Park Tide Tube Out (Phase 1A)
- Parks: James Kenney 2-5, 5-12 Play Structures (Grant/Parks Tax)
- Parks: King Park 2-5, 5-12 Play Structure Improvements (Parks Tax/ Insurance)
- Parks: Rose Garden Pergola, Pathways and ADA Project- Phase 2 (T1, Parks Tax)
- Parks: Rose Garden Tennis Court Renovation (T1, Parks Tax)
- Parks: San Pablo Park 2-5, 5-12 Play Structures (T1, Parks Tax)
- Parks: San Pablo Park Tennis Court Renovation (T1p1, Parks Tax)
- Parks: Santa Fe ROW - 4 blocks - Conceptual Design (Parks Tax)
- Parks: Willard Clubhouse and Restroom Replacement - Conceptual Design (T1p1)
- Waterfront: Bike Lockers (20) (Grants, General Funds, Marina Fund)
- Waterfront: Finger Dock Replacement - Phase 3 (General Fund, Marina Fund)
- Waterfront: Municipal Pier Structural Assessment/Ferry Feasibility Study (T1, Marina Fund, WETA)

- **Berkeley Volunteer Programs**

The City of Berkeley has a combination of year-round, monthly or even daily opportunities to volunteer within our department. Below is a brief description of a handful of different opportunities available to Berkeley residents.

- Pollinator Gardens: In 2022, the City worked with volunteer groups to install new pollinator gardens in 4 City parks, with an effort to create a pollinator corridor with our 11 total pollinator gardens. Additional locations are in planning phase to continue this effort.
- Shoreline Cleanup: The City hosts individuals, families and groups on the third Saturday of each month for small cleanups that meet at the Shorebird Park Nature Center at the Berkeley Waterfront. These events feature a service learning presentation/ safety talk on the impact of trash and plastics in our oceans and waterways, and how we can help. The City also organizes larger groups for the annual Coastal Cleanup Day.
- Compost Days: The City expanded free compost pickup opportunities for residents, who can now pick up compost year-round at the Berkeley Waterfront. The compost originally comes from the green waste that is collected in the City of Berkeley, which is then brought to a processing plant in the Central Valley where it is converted into a highly aerobic, microbial compost.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

AMENDMENTS

The Environmental Management Element was not amended during CY 2022.

PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING THE GOALS AND GUIDING POLICIES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT

- **Regional Networks**

The City participates, often taking leadership roles, in several local and regional environmental management groups including:

- Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN)
- Resilient Cities Network (R-Cities)
- Green Cities California (GCC)
- California Building Decarbonization Coalition
- Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition (LGSEC)
- Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN)
- Bay Area Climate Adaptation Network (BayCAN)
- StopWaste Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Bay Area Electric Vehicle Coordinating Council and Steering Committee
- Ride and Drive Clean
- The Berkeley Lab Community Advisory Group (CAG)

- **Grants/In-Kind Services**

- **American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE):** The City, in partnership with StopWaste and BayREN, received an award from ACEEE for their [Energy Equity for Renters Initiative](#). This award provided technical assistance on opportunities for protecting tenants from rent/utility increases or displacement when building owners perform energy efficiency and electrification upgrades in multifamily buildings. The work supported the equity-focused [Berkeley Existing Buildings Electrification Strategy](#). ACEEE also provided compensation to the community partners that supported the work: Northern California Land Trust (NCLT), Ecology Center, Green the Church, and the Berkeley Tenants Union.
- **Building Electrification Institute (BEI):** The City is receiving free technical assistance from BEI, to pilot strategies to scale up the electrification of building heating and cooling systems. In 2022 BEI helped efforts to pursue a pilot neighborhood decommissioning project and advancing discussions with local stakeholders on workforce development and a just transition. BEI is supported by the Urban Sustainability Directors Network and the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance.
- **High Road Training Partnership (H RTP):** The City of Berkeley is participating as a partner in a grant from the State of California to help ensure that decarbonizing buildings will generate high quality careers as well as other economic and health

benefits for local residents in the Bay Area, particularly disadvantaged communities. Led by Rising Sun Center for Opportunity, this project will prepare the emerging building decarbonization industry and workforce to meet demand in the San Francisco Bay Area region while prioritizing equity, job quality, and job access for local residents.

- **Department of Energy/Berkeley Lab:** The City of Berkeley was granted free technical assistance to support the development of a Building Performance Standard (BPS) from the Department of Energy (through Berkeley Lab). This analysis evaluated the greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions from existing buildings expected with different types of performance standards, to inform and guide policy decisions.
- **East Bay Community Energy (EBCE):** An additional EBCE grant of \$10,000 for Commercial Kitchen Electrification for North and South Berkeley Senior Centers was awarded in 2022 to supplement the \$49,000 grant from 2021. These grants provide funding to replace each Senior Center’s gas range with a new six-burner electric induction cooktop. They are also being used to replace the original kitchen steam tables, which use natural gas-heated hot water and electric resistance heaters to keep food warm, with new dry well induction food warming tables, thereby reducing electric load and eliminating this need for hot water, saving both gas and water costs.
- **California Resilience Challenge (CRC):** Communities along the San Francisco Bay shoreline are preparing for rising sea levels along their respective waterfronts. However, rising sea levels also threaten to cause flooding from below by lifting groundwater tables. The City supported the proposal of, and is participating in the Project Management Team for, the CRC grant with Aquatic Science Center to support research that will help Bay Area communities better understand and plan for the effect of sea level rise on groundwater tables and critical infrastructure.
- **Climate Equity Fund Pilot Projects**

In 2021, Berkeley City Council established a Pilot Climate Equity Action Fund, with an initial budget of \$600,000, to promote building and transportation electrification for low-income residents. During 2022, the City developed a structure for Climate Equity Fund Pilot Programs to ensure that all community members can transition to a fossil fuel-free future and benefit from clean and affordable energy, healthy, safe and comfortable homes, and a carbon neutral transportation system that supports walking, biking and public transportation. The City released a Request for Proposals, resulting in contracts with 5 organizations in 2022 to deliver the Climate Equity Fund Pilots in three program areas: Program Area #1: Resilient Home Retrofits (3 contracts; \$250,000), Program Area #2: Electric Mobility Access Pilot (1 contract, \$250,000), and Program Area #3: Community Access to Resilience Measures and Electrification Engagement Pilot (1 contract, \$100,000). Work on all of these program areas is ongoing, through 2024, and involves significant community outreach, engagement, and co-creation.

- **Green Business Program**

The City supports sustainable business practices and partners with the Alameda County Green Business Program to offer support to local businesses that want to improve their environmental practices. The program offers free assistance to businesses to help them reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve energy efficiency, conserve water, and divert solid waste from the landfill.

- **Sustainability Outreach**

- **Berkeley Climate Action Coalition (BCAC):** The City and local non-profit the Ecology Center co-convene the Berkeley Climate Action Coalition (BCAC), a network of local organizations and community members joining together to help implement the City of Berkeley's Climate Action Plan
- **Outreach on clean energy and resilience:** The City highlights renewable energy, energy efficiency and electrification strategies in outreach efforts. Berkeley City Council opted to make the East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) Renewable 100 (100% solar and wind) electricity service the default for residential and commercial/industrial accounts in Berkeley in 2022. The City, in conjunction with StopWaste, promoted workshops about induction cooking, and the BayREN Single Family and Multifamily programs to help homeowners and multifamily property owners access resources and incentives for energy and water saving upgrades to increase savings and resilience, improve indoor air quality and comfort, and decarbonize buildings. The City has increased access to rooftop solar and back-up batteries by streamlining permitting and inspection (nationally recognized with a SolSmart Gold designation in 2018), and by participating in group purchasing bulk discount programs through the seasonal Bay Area SunShares and the EBCE Resilient Home programs. Both SunShares and EBCE Resilient Home provides time-limited group discounts, vetted providers, community workshops, and a streamlined process to remove barriers to solar adoption.
- **Outreach on clean transportation:** Staff conducts outreach on the climate, health and financial benefits of electric transportation, focusing on incentives and special programs for income-qualified drivers. The City continues to partner with other non-profits and municipalities through the Ride & Drive Clean collaborative to host multiple online electric vehicle 101 workshops and virtual electric car and eBike showcases, as well as promote financial incentive workshops in English and Spanish. The City hosted an in-person Ride Electric at the Harvest Festival event in October 2022 which showcased electric micromobility (e-bikes and electric scooters) and electric vehicles.
- **Conference/Workshop presentations:** In addition to community-facing outreach, the staff from Berkeley's Office of Energy and Sustainable Development spoke at virtual conferences/workshops in 2022. These speaking engagements included a BayREN Forum, Air and Waste Management Association (AWMA) Conference, ESGX Live,

presentations at Department of Energy, and Berkeley Lab, and International Code Council (ICC)-LA workshops, and others.

- **Vision 2050**

Mayor Arreguin launched [Vision 2050](#), an initiative to encourage long-term planning to meet the serious challenges to our infrastructure, including climate change, inequality, population increases, and obsolescence. The Vision 2050 Task Force was formed in Spring 2018 and included over 40 Berkeley community members with technical expertise and in-depth knowledge. The Task Force released its final report in May 2020 and have convened a Steering Committee that includes City staff as well as community members to lead implementation, which met throughout 2022.

- **Greenhouse Gas Inventory**

In 2022, the City reported to City Council that based on the best currently available data total community-wide GHG emissions in 2020 decreased 31% from the 2000 baseline, and decreased 7% from 2019.

- **100% Renewable Energy for Municipal Buildings**

Municipal buildings use 100% renewable electricity from East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) as of 2021.

- **Race to Zero**

On May 11, 2021, Berkeley City Council adopted a resolution committing the City of Berkeley to the C40 Cities Race to Zero Campaign, and on November 30, 2021 established a 2030 emission reduction target that reflects Berkeley's fair share of the 50% global reduction in CO_{2e} by committing to reduce emissions 60.5% from 2018 levels by 2030.

- **Commitment to 100% Renewable Energy**

On June 29, 2021, City Council adopted a resolution to upgrade all current and new Berkeley residential and commercial customer accounts from Bright Choice (86% Greenhouse Gas-free including substantial hydroelectric and nuclear) to Renewable 100 (100% renewable energy from California solar and wind) for their default electricity service plan, excluding residential customers in low-income assistance programs. These changes became effective in March 2022 for residential customers and October 2022 for commercial/industrial customers.

- **Covenant of Mayors**

The City of Berkeley in maintained compliance in the Global Covenant of Mayors in 2022.

- **Solar + Storage at Critical Municipal Facilities**

The City is working with EBCE to assess the potential for resilient solar + storage systems at critical municipal facilities throughout Alameda County. The City of Berkeley submitted a list of potential critical facilities for consideration. EBCE and partners have conducted a full technical analysis of location and sizing potential for the sites, and is launching a procurement process on behalf of four cities including Berkeley, that will reduce the cost and complexity of potential

system deployment. EBCE released a full Request for Bids for vendors to bid on the various projects in 2022. The City will have the opportunity to participate in the procurement and implementation of solar + storage. This project will improve resilience by providing clean renewable back-up power for critical facilities when the grid is down and will reduce reliance on polluting diesel generators.

- **Water consumption** in Berkeley declined by 27% between 2000-2019, and declined by 1% between 2018-2019 as reported in 2022.
- **Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELO)**
The City of Berkeley continued to enforce the California Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELO), regulating the water use of new (500 sq ft or more) or rehabilitated (2,500 sq ft or more) landscapes in projects applying for zoning or buildings permits. In 2022, 16 projects, with a total of 32,714 sq ft of landscaping, were completed in Berkeley that were subject to WELO.
- **Trees Make Life Better Program**
The City of Berkeley’s Department of Parks, Recreation and Waterfront sought and received state grants, including an Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Grant for \$500,000, with a City match of \$125,000, awarded February 2022 – in addition to another grant that was awarded in 2020. These grants will fund tree planting in neighborhoods that have lower levels of tree canopy density. These neighborhoods are also those which have been historically disinvested in, including through redlining. The grants fund tree planting in neighborhoods that have lower levels of tree canopy density. Both grants will cover staff costs, trees, planting materials, marketing, watering, and concrete cuts if needed. With funds from the above grant awards, the City has developed the Trees Make Life Better Program to inform residents of the potential for new street trees. The City anticipates that approximately 1,200 - 1,800 new street trees will be planted with these funds. So far, over 500 trees have been planted in west Berkeley. Additionally, the grant will provide for the planting and watering of 250 trees in Aquatic Park, 50 in San Pablo Park, and 50 on University Avenue between Frontage and Marina Boulevard.
- **Farmer’s Markets**
The Ecology Center Farmers’ Markets are open-air marketplaces where California farmers bring fresh, locally-grown produce and farm-processed foods to sell directly to consumers. Our markets feature fruits, vegetables, nuts, baked goods, jams and preserves, juices, olive oils, meat, cheese, prepared foods, nursery plants, and flowers. The markets are committed to supporting small-scale farmers who practice sustainable agriculture, and always accept WIC and EBT.

To support customers with disabilities, the Ecology Center offers an *Accessibility Fast Pass* to skip the lines at the farmers’ markets.

- **Building Energy Usage Reductions**
As reported in 2022, overall greenhouse gas emissions from Berkeley’s building sector are 29% below the 2000 baseline. Total community-wide electricity usage decreased 8% while total

communitywide natural gas usage decreased by 7% from 2018 to 2019. Since 2000, total community-wide natural gas usage in buildings in Berkeley has decreased by 22%.

- **Berkeley Existing Buildings Electrification Strategy**

The City in 2021 completed a comprehensive strategy on how to equitably electrify all its existing buildings as soon as possible. The report, which took over two years to complete, involved a robust targeted community engagement process that focused on marginalized communities. The strategy includes short- and long-term strategies, a proposed timeline, and a set of “equity guardrails” which provide a minimum set of equity standards that must be met in order for any of the proposed policies to be advanced. The strategy was adopted by City Council on November 20, 2021, and implementation continued in 2022.

- **Municipal Building Retrofits**

- Several municipal buildings underwent energy efficiency and electrification retrofits in 2022 including:

- **Heat Pump Water Heaters** – Through a PG&E direct install grant program, old gas water heaters were removed from all Branch and Main Libraries, and the Corporation Yard, and replaced with new all-electric heat pump water heaters.

- **Lighting Upgrades** – Using PG&E’s on-bill financing program, several Fire Stations received energy saving lighting upgrades in 2022, and additional buildings are scheduled for 2023.

- **Building Emissions Saving Ordinance**

The City of Berkeley adopted the Building Emissions Saving Ordinance (BESO) in 2015 to accelerate energy and emissions savings in Berkeley’s existing buildings. Since its adoption over 3,300 BESO assessments were completed and more than 200 medium and large buildings have been regularly tracking and reporting their energy use. However, BESO has relied on voluntary uptake of the assessment recommendations and to achieve Berkeley’s climate action goals.

In 2022, the BESO program extended the annual energy benchmarking requirement to buildings between 15,000 and 25,000 sq. ft. Benchmarking is the process of tracking a building’s energy use to see how it compares to similar properties and to understand how it is performing over time. The benchmarking expansion was part of the BESO amendments adopted by Berkeley City Council in December 2020 to streamline requirements for medium sized buildings.

- **East Bay Community Energy (EBCE)**

The City participates on the Joint Powers Agency Board of Directors for the community choice aggregation (CCA) program in Alameda County called the East Bay Community Energy Authority (EBCE). Authorized by California law in 2002, CCA enables cities and county governments to pool the electricity demand within their jurisdictions in order to procure or generate electrical power supplies on behalf of the residents and businesses in their communities. EBCE began providing electrical account holders with electricity services beginning in 2018. In 2019, the City opted up its municipal accounts to receive 100% carbon-free electricity, reducing municipal greenhouse gas emissions by more than 50%. Starting in March 2021, the City’s electrical power for municipal

buildings were generated from 100% renewable sources. On June 29, 2021, Berkeley City Council adopted a resolution to upgrade all current and new Berkeley residential and commercial customer accounts to Renewable 100 (100% renewable energy from California solar and wind) for their default electricity service plan, excluding residential customers in low-income assistance programs. These changes became effective in March 2022 for residential customers and in October 2022 for commercial/industrial customers.

- **Natural Gas Prohibition**

In July 2019, the City Council adopted the first ordinance in the nation to prohibit the use of natural gas in newly constructed buildings. The Natural Gas Prohibition became effective on January 1, 2020, and applies to new building applications for land use permits or zoning certificates. New buildings subject to the prohibition use highly efficient heat pumps, for water heating and for heat and air conditioning, and electrical appliances such as induction ranges. This policy supports State and City efforts to decarbonize buildings, removing not only the GHGs produced by the combustion of natural gas (methane) within buildings, but new methane pipeline connections as well, and the leakage associated with this potent, and persistent, GHG.

- **2019 Electric-Favored Energy Reach Code**

In December 2019, Berkeley City Council adopted local amendments to the California Energy Code. This electric-favored “reach code,” approved by the California Energy Commission in February 2020, requires newly constructed buildings to include solar PV systems and feature either all-electric systems or mixed-fuel construction that exceeds the efficiency requirements of the Energy Code and includes electric-readiness. The reach code and prohibition work in tandem to support building electrification and its health, safety, and climate benefits. All new construction projects applying for building permits in 2022 were subject to these requirements.

- **Electric Mobility Roadmap**

Implementation of Berkeley’s first Electric Mobility Roadmap (Roadmap), adopted in July 2020, continued in 2022. The Roadmap supports clean transportation, including walking, biking, public transportation, and a wide range of electric vehicles, with a focus on equitable and affordable access. The Roadmap identifies strategies and actions to achieve these four goals:

- Ensure Equity in Access to Electric Mobility. *Maximize electric mobility benefits in underserved communities*
- Improve Alternatives to Driving. *Shift trips to walking, cycling, and shared electric modes*
- Achieve Zero Net Carbon Emissions. *Eliminate emissions from private vehicles*
- Demonstrate City Leadership. *Lead by example and guide the electric mobility transition*

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & EMPLOYMENT

AMENDMENTS

The Economic Development and Employment Element was not amended during CY 2022.

PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING THE GOALS AND GUIDING POLICIES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT ELEMENT

- **IKE Kiosks – Second Round of Locations Approved**

In 2019, the City initiated a project with Visit Berkeley, and IKE Smart City to establish new digital interactive, wayfinding kiosks called IKE (Interactive Kiosk Experience) in Berkeley’s commercial districts. In December of 2022, the second round of kiosk locations were approved by city council, bringing the total to 31. Designed to help visitors and residents navigate the city, the partnership brings state-of-the-art technology and support for local businesses to the public at no cost and satisfies the goals of improving wayfinding and signage in the Downtown Berkeley Streets & Open Space Improvement Plan (SOSIP).

- **Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)** The City of Berkeley’s Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) is federally funded by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and provides access to capital for businesses that don’t qualify for traditional commercial loans. All current RLF recipients (8 active loans) were offered a pause in monthly payments due to the pandemic (payments are anticipated to resume in early 2023).

- **COVID-19 Resiliency Loan Program (RLP)**

Recognizing the enormous negative impact of COVID-19 on businesses’ finances. In July of 2020, The City was awarded a \$814,000 federal CARES Act grant to provide additional funding to existing businesses. Using the grant, OED launched the COVID-19 Resiliency Loan Program (RLP) for Berkeley businesses that are at least two years old and have less than 50 employees. This program streamlines the approval of 0%-1% interest loans for businesses in need of working capital, to provide additional assistance and support for Berkeley’s entrepreneurs. To date, 11 loans have been executed (totaling \$520,000) and the program is now serviced by Working Solutions a certified Community Development Financial Institution (approved by council in March of 2022). In addition, a \$60,000 contract with Working Solutions was executed with ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds to provide technical assistance and small business support to Berkeley’s RLP participants.

- **Increased % for Art on City Projects**

In May of 2022, the city adopted an amendment to the Public Art Funding for Municipal Capital Improvement Projects ordinance to provide for the allocation of one and three quarters percent (1.75%) of the estimated cost of construction associated with eligible municipal capital improvement projects, to be used for art and cultural enrichment of public buildings, parks, streets, and other public spaces in the City of Berkeley. This achieves parity with the % for art private developers pay for projects in Berkeley.

- **Berkeley Arts Work Projects (BWAP)**

The Berkeley Art Works Projects grant program provided economic opportunities for Berkeley artists struggling during an economically challenging time and bolster Berkeley's cultural and economic vitality with public art projects for the community. Grants ranged from the micro (\$500) to \$10,000 for larger projects. The program challenged grantees to respond to one of the

following themes through their project: Public health & wellbeing, Economic recovery & resilience, Community connection & belonging. To date, Berkeley Art Works Projects grant program has provided funding for dozens of artists, performers, and community members to create temporary public art projects throughout Berkeley that bolster collective resilience and recovery from the effects of COVID-19. These projects were installed throughout the city in 2021 and 2022 and were funded with approximately \$125,000 of ARPA funds. The BWAP projects will be unveiled on a rolling basis over the next year as well.

- **Berkeley Arts Relief Grant Program**

Funded by American Rescue Plan Act dollars (ARPA), Berkeley Arts Recovery Grants (BARG) for Organizations & Festivals provided one-time grants to all qualifying Berkeley-based nonprofit and fiscally sponsored arts organizations and festivals. BARG grants are being used to mitigate arts organizations' economic losses from COVID-19, implement COVID-19 prevention tactics, and procure consulting and marketing services to support organizations' future financial sustainability. In February and March 2022, 74 grant awards were dispersed totaling \$1,532,345, with individual awards ranging from \$3,000 to \$33,000, and an average grant award amount of \$20,734 per organization.

- **Grants for artists and cultural practitioners**

Also funded through ARPA, in May 2022, the Center for Cultural Innovation administered the Berkeley Arts Recovery Grants (BARG) for Artists & Cultural Practitioners on behalf of the City. This grant program distributed \$276,250 to 114 Berkeley-based artists, culture bearers, cultural practitioners, makers, specialized arts workers, and teaching artists. Awards ranged from \$1,250 to \$8,000 each and were prioritized to individuals from marginalized communities, as well as those with the highest percentage of income lost from arts and culture related-professions.

- **Business Outreach and Technical Assistance**

In calendar year 2022, the Office of Economic Development (OED) conducted the following outreach and technical assistance activities:

- Fielded thousands of direct business inquiries by phone & email
- Issued [OED newsletters](#) with relevant information and opportunities for businesses
- Partnered with the Berkeley Chamber to organize Berkeley Business District Network (BBDN) Forums for the business community at large to gain information, ask questions and share resources related to pandemic recovery and ongoing commercial district management.
- The Office of Economic Development (OED) also deployed federal funding from the CARES Act and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to support local economic recovery.

Including:

- **Funding for tourism and hospitality industry marketing and advertising:** In January 2022, \$500,000 of ARPA funds were provided to Visit Berkeley, the city's destination marketing organization (DMO) to support the hard-hit tourism and hospitality industries. With these funds, Visit Berkeley initiated the "Make Berkeley Your Bay Area Basecamp" digital advertising campaign, which featured

ads in the AAA Northern California Digital TourBook, as well as on AAA.com, Expedia.com and Hotels.com. Additionally, from May – September 2022, Visit Berkeley participated in an advertising campaign with Visit California and Expedia called “What If You Could” featuring banner ads on Expedia.com and hotels.com that targets California and West Coast travelers looking to stay in Northern California and brings them to a dedicated landing page to book Berkeley lodging. With the remaining ARPA funds, Visit Berkeley also plans to craft additional promotions and marketing for the Berkeley Bucks e-gift card program, which enables purchases at local merchants throughout Berkeley. As a result – TOT tax collections for CY2022 came in higher than budgeted, an positive indication of economic recovery from the pandemic.

- **Equity-focused programming for the innovation sector**

Berkeley Ventures, Berkeley Values was launched in 2019 to align the growth of Berkeley’s innovation sector with the community values of diversity, equity and inclusion. Remaining ARPA funds, in the amount of \$20,000 was spent in 2022 on activities that engage Berkeley startup founders, funders, and STEM industry professionals to build a local economy that benefits our entire community. Programs being explored include: STEM CareerX Day tours for Berkeley High School students at local startups and innovation companies, developing a community of practice for Berkeley investors focused on implementing diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) best practices, and a crowdfunding pitch competition for first-time, early stage, or underrepresented minority founders who would otherwise be lacking access to capital.

- **Business success planning for worker owned cooperatives**

Beginning in 2018, OED partnered with Project Equity to meet the local demand for business succession planning; and provide technical assistance to Berkeley’s businesses wishing to transition to employee ownership. Remaining ARPA funds, in the amount of \$40,000 have been deployed towards a multi-year engagement with Project Equity. The funds will enable Project Equity to stay as an on-call advisor to businesses in Berkeley that want to transition to worker ownership. Project Equity’s work will also implement strategies to measure business retention risk in Berkeley on an ongoing basis.

- **Outdoor Commerce**

Berkeley’s City Council authorized a [“Path to Permanence”](#) ordinance in June 2021 to permanently permit outdoor dining and commerce and commerce in the public right of way, which the Office of Economic Development was instrumental in coordinating. OED also provided technical assistance to interested businesses, and [developed a grant program](#) for outdoor commerce applicants. As of December 2022, there are **40** installations of outdoor commerce in Berkeley. In 2023, with the ending of the state of emergency, Berkeley’s outdoor commerce participants will begin to contribute outdoor commerce use fees to the city’s parking fund.

- **#BerkeleyHolidays Gift Guide & Fair, Berkeley Bucks Marketing Campaign – Local Shopping**

A partnership between OED, the Berkeley Chamber, Visit Berkeley and business districts citywide, the #BerkeleyHolidays Gift Guide, local scrip Berkeley Bucks, and marketing campaign

promoted safe local shopping during the holiday season and featured an in-person holiday fair in December of 2022.

- **Discovered in Berkeley – Local Business Marketing and advertising**

The #DiscoveredinBerkeley business marketing campaign was launched in 2019 to, “inspire pride among Berkeley residents and business owners alike about the amazing commercial activity happening in the neighborhoods where they live and work, encourage local shopping, raise awareness of the business services offered by the City’s Office of Economic Development and enhance Berkeley’s reputation as a good place to do business.” In May 2022, \$12,500 of ARPA funding was allocated to Cityside, the publisher of the local independent online news publication, Berkeleyside, to support the creation of sponsored stories, banner ads, and graphics for social media and the DiscoveredinBerkeley.com website highlighting exceptional businesses in Berkeley. Remaining ARPA funds, in the amount of \$37,500 was spent in 2022 on events, social media, and additional media channels that will greater increase local businesses’ sales, visibility in the region, reputation, and community pride. In 2022, the City continued its marketing initiatives to highlight businesses in several districts, around a number of relevant and seasonal themes. The ‘Discovered in Berkeley’ local marketing campaign featured a thoughtful roster of unique local-serving storefront businesses and the business districts in which they reside, by highlighting Berkeley businesses that fall into the categories of “Food Forward,” “The Upcycle,” “Dare to Share”, and “Local Love.”

- **Business Improvement Districts**

The City facilitates five business improvement districts (BIDs) in the Downtown, Telegraph, Elmwood, North Shattuck, and Solano commercial districts that generate funds through a self-assessment to help promote and maintain their districts. There is also a city-wide Tourism BID which is funded by the self-assessment of Berkeley’s hotels and motels and directly supports Visit Berkeley, the City’s Convention and Visitor’s Bureau. Over the past year, the City has continued to provide technical assistance to each of the BIDs, with particular focus on bolstering the wider Berkeley Business District Network (BBDN) (an organization which all commercial districts participate in), increasing the frequency of meetings to allow for improved communication and sharing across district networks. Establishment of two new parking business improvement districts are underway in the Lorin and Gilman districts.

URBAN DESIGN AND PRESERVATION

AMENDMENTS

The Urban Design and Preservation Element was not amended during CY 2022.

PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING THE GOALS AND GUIDING POLICIES OF THE URBAN DESIGN & PRESERVATION ELEMENT

The City continues to review projects on a case-by-case basis for conformance with the principles, policies and implementation measures of the Urban Design and Preservation Element to ensure that they are

designed to enhance the livability of Berkeley and encourage a high level of quality design while encouraging well designed sustainability measures.

Preservation

- In CY 2022, four properties were designated as City Landmarks and added to the local register:
 - 2523 Piedmont Ave.
 - 1940 Hearst Ave.
 - 2113 Kittredge St.
 - 2119 Marin Ave.
- In June 2022, the Landmarks Preservation Commission presented a budget request to City Council to commission a City-wide Historic Context Statement. Funds were not allocated and the LPC will return with a similar request in 2023.
- The Landmarks Preservation Ordinance (LPO) was maintained in 2022 with no changes, revisions or updates.
- The established process for identifying and designating historically or culturally important buildings, sites, and areas is open to all and remains so. As a result, four properties were studied and ultimately designated as locally significant.
- The existing referral process prior to demolition continues with seven referrals in 2022; no ordinance changes occurred in 2022.
- The City maintains a relationship with the school district on matters of cultural resource management.

Urban Design

Coordinated Sign Design Program - This program was created to allow a streamlined sign review process for development projects, projects with multiple signs, and projects with multiple tenants. It will also insure consistent design, quality and display of signs while still allowing that streamlined process.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

AMENDMENTS

The Citizen Participation Element was not amended during CY 2022.

PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING THE GOALS AND GUIDING POLICIES OF THE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Land Use Planning Commissions and Bodies

Citizen participation takes place in the arena of policy-making and advisory citizen bodies, such as the Berkeley City Council, the Planning Commission, and the Zoning Adjustments Board. In accordance with the [Health Officer's Stay at Home Order](#) the majority of public meetings were held remotely through video hosting platforms in 2022, although City staff also conducted outreach through web-based email subscriptions and engaged in meaningful participatory efforts through in-person outdoor events and online surveys.

Despite challenges presented by the pandemic, the following commissions held over 100 public meetings where projects and land use policies were discussed:

- Zoning Adjustments Board
- Planning Commission
- Landmarks Preservation Commission
- Design Review Committee