



Office of the City Manager

March 27, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: *Dee* Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Re: Housing Element and General Plan Annual Progress Reports

SUMMARY

On March 25, 2024, the City submitted the 2023 Housing Element Annual Progress Report (APR) (Attachment 1) and General Plan APR (Attachment 2) to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR). This memorandum provides a high-level summary of both reports.¹

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to Government Code (GC) §65400, the Housing Element APR and General Plan APR must be submitted to HCD and OPR annually by April 1 and must cover the previous calendar year. The purpose of the APR is to inform the State and the public on the status and progress of implementing the City's General Plan and 2023-2031 Housing Element (6th Cycle), and to provide the opportunity to identify necessary adjustments to improve local implementation.

The City has been submitting Housing Element APRs to HCD and OPR on an annual basis since 2004. Following submittal each year, HCD may request corrections to the APR forms. Please refer to the APR Data Dashboard for the most up to date information: <https://www.hcd.ca.gov/planning-and-community-development/housing-open-data-tools/housing-element-implementation-and-apr-dashboard>

2023 GENERAL PLAN AND HOUSING ELEMENT ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORTS

The General Plan APR informs OPR of statewide trends in land use development, policy, and implementation. OPR also uses the APR to track local jurisdictions' progress on their General Plans.

¹ The data included in this memorandum reflect the most current unit counts, which have been updated since the APR was last submitted in March 2023.

The Housing Element APR updates HCD on each jurisdiction’s progress in meeting their share of Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) goals as determined by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG).

The Housing Element APR requirements are established by legislation and continue to expand. In addition to historic requirements to track overall housing unit production and affordability, local jurisdictions are now obligated to include detailed information such as project addresses, permit numbers, dates of completed application submittals, entitlements issued, building permits issued, and building permits finalized between January 1 and December 31 of a given year. Affordability levels, housing tenure (ownership and rentals), and streamlining applications are also recorded.

Most recently, to conform with AB 1743 (2022), SB 6 (2022), and AB 2011 (2022), HCD updated the filing forms to include new reporting requirements:

1. **Table A** - Added a requirement to report on whether housing developments reported on the APR were subject to either a ministerial or a discretionary approval process (AB 1743).
2. **Tables A and A2** - Added a requirement to report on any housing development that utilized SB 6 and AB 2011 streamlining provisions.
3. **Summary Tab** - Added additional information to the Summary tab, which is populated from data entered on Tables A, A2, C, and D.

2023 Housing Element APR Data Summary

The 2023 Housing Element APR is provided as Attachment 1 and data highlights are summarized below.

Completed Housing Applications Received

In 2023, the City received 25 complete housing development applications, with a total of 2,224 proposed units, 900 more units than were proposed in 2022 (see Table 1). Of the 2,224 units proposed in 2023, 1,256 units have received entitlements. The remaining 968 units are still in review.

Table 1: Housing Development Applications (2022-2023)

	2022	2023
Total Housing Development Applications Submitted	26	25
Number of Proposed Units in All Applications Received	1,324	2,224
Total Housing Units that Have Received Entitlements	474	1,256

Entitlements Granted

In 2023 another 2,093 units were entitled. In comparison, 271 units were entitled in 2022. Both the units that were entitled or issued building permits came from applications received in 2023 and in prior years, and include a range of unit types (see Table 2).

Table 2: Units by Structure Type (2023)

Structure Type	Entitled	Permitted	Completed
Single Family, Attached	0	0	0
Single Family, Detached (multiple on one lot)	5	10	14
2 to 4 Unit	7	15	14
5+ Units	1,986	311	597
ADU	95	95	91
Mobile Home	0	0	0
Total Units	2,093	431	716

Building Permits Issued

In 2023, the City saw a decrease in total units issued building permits, with 431 total units compared to 2022’s 887 units (see Table 3 below).

Table 3: Building Permits Issued by Income Category (2022-2023)

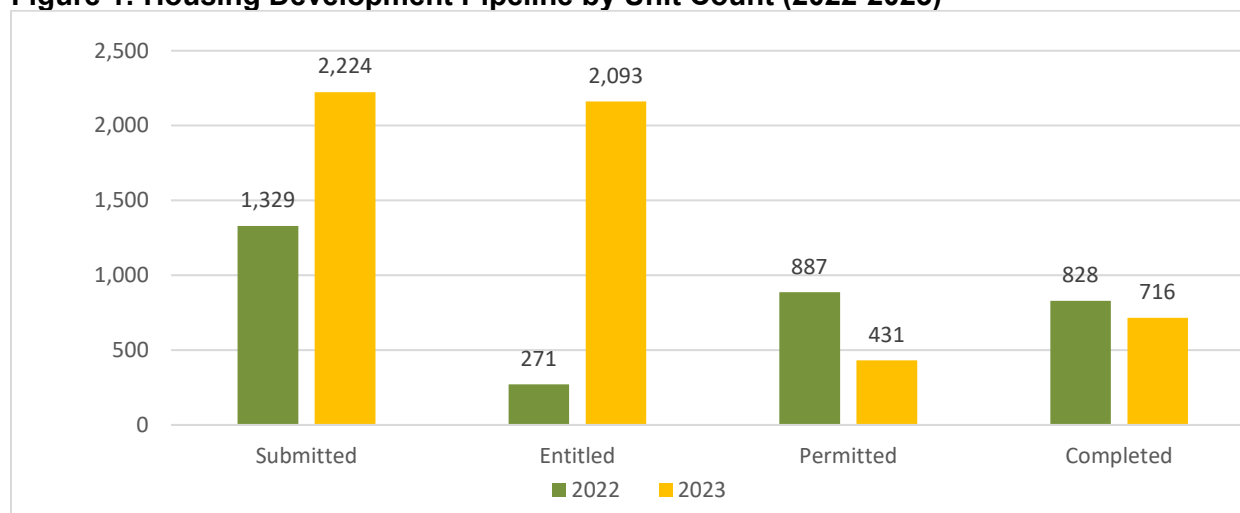
Income Level		2022	2023
Very Low	Deed Restricted	88	57
	Non-Deed Restricted	0	0
Low	Deed Restricted	58	32
	Non-Deed Restricted	0	0
Moderate	Deed Restricted	0	29
	Non-Deed Restricted	0	0
Above Moderate		741	313
Total Units		887	431

Completed Projects

The City also saw a slight decrease in total units completed (issued Certificates of Occupancy), totaling 716 units, compared to 828 in 2022.

Figure 1 below shows the change in submitted, entitled, permitted, and completed projects by unit count between 2022 and 2023.

Figure 1: Housing Development Pipeline by Unit Count (2022-2023)



6th Cycle RHNA Progress

The 6th Cycle RHNA extends from 2023 to 2031, making this the first year that permitted units will be counting towards a new RHNA allocation (see Table 4 below).

Table 4: Regional Housing Needs Allocation Progress, Permitted Units Issued by Affordability

Income Level	RHNA Allocation	Projection Period (June 30-2022-1/30/23) ²	2023 Permitted Units	Total Units to Date	Total Remaining RHNA by Income Level
Very Low	2,446	25	57	81	2,365
Low	1,408	25	32	57	1,351
Moderate	1,416	0	29	29	1,387
Above Moderate	3,664	442	313	756	2,908
Total	8,934	492	431	923	8,011

2023 General Plan APR Summary

The 2023 General Plan APR is provided as Attachment 2 and highlights are summarized below.

Ashby and North Berkeley BART Station Planning. In June 2023, BART signed a two-year Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA) with the development team North Berkeley Housing Partners (NBHP) to begin planning for new homes and amenities surrounding the North Berkeley Station. In December 2023, Berkeley City Council

² Units permitted since the start of the 6th cycle RHNA projection period (June 30, 2022) is also displayed on Table B, and is auto-filled in the APR form by HCD.

approved Objective Design Standards for the North Berkeley BART Station. In February 2024, NBHP submitted a ministerial application under AB 2011. According to the application, which is currently under review by City staff, the project proposes 739 units with over 50% of the homes at affordable rent levels. The project includes improvements to the Ohlone Greenway, over 6,000 SF of community-serving ground floor uses, street and public realm upgrades, and over 48,000 SF of publicly accessible open space.

Density Bonus Projects. In 2023, 90% of the 22 approved projects greater than five units were approved using State Density Bonus provisions.

SB 35. The City of Berkeley approved four SB 35 projects in 2023, totaling 284 new units, 245 of which will be below market rate.

ADUs. During the 2023 reporting period, the City issued building permits for 95 ADUs and issued 91 certificates of occupancy for ADUs. This is a decrease in building permits issued compared to the 2022 reporting period, when 112 ADUs were issued building permits. However, it is an increase in units that received certificates of occupancy, with 91 receiving certificates, compared to 72 in 2022.

On February 24, 2024, the Association of Bay Area Governments shared that, following discussions with HCD regarding ADU affordability assumptions and Annual Progress Reports, it was determined that jurisdictions should utilize actual or anticipated affordability of ADUs. However, it was determined that if this information is not available—as is the case in the City of Berkeley—jurisdictions may utilize ADU affordability assumptions from ABAG’s ADU affordability methodology for the Annual Progress Reports covering calendar year 2023 and 2024. This methodology, which was used to project ADU affordability in the 6th Cycle Housing Element Update, sets affordability levels at: 30% very low income, 30% low income, 30% moderate income and 10% above moderate income. Using this affordability methodology, Table 5 shows the number of ADU units that were entitled, permitted, and completed in 2023.

Table 5: ADU Units by Affordability (2023)

	Entitled	Permitted	Completed
Very Low	28	28	27
Low	28	28	27
Moderate	28	28	27
Above Moderate	12	12	10
Total	96	96	91

For subsequent APRs using ABAG’s affordability methodology, jurisdictions will need to use more recent data. ABAG is exploring an opt-in, regional survey that will help with this requirement; staff are participating in that effort and hope to utilize it to determine more accurate affordability levels for the City of Berkeley.

AUDITING BERKELEY'S RHNA NUMBERS

Discrepancies are inherent to the annual APR process. Permits may be resubmitted and reissued, which can result in a change in the number of units or double-counting of units. When asked by staff about how to report reissued building permits, HCD responded that reporting each reissuance is permissible as long as it is noted as a reissuance in the report.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue working on implementing the programs and policies identified in the 6th cycle Housing Element, which runs from 2023 to 2031. The certified Housing Element can be found on the City's website at: <https://berkeleyca.gov/construction-development/land-use-development/general-plan-and-area-plans/housing-element-update>. Staff will also continue working on improving the consistency and accuracy by which housing data is tracked.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2023 Housing Element APR
2. 2023 General Plan APR

cc: LaTanya Bellow, Deputy City Manager
Anne Cardwell, Deputy City Manager
Jenny Wong, City Auditor
Farimah Brown, City Attorney
Mark Numainville, City Clerk
Matthai Chakko, Assistant to the City Manager
Jordan Klein, Planning and Development Director

ATTACHMENT 1

Jurisdiction	Berkeley	
Reporting Year	2023	(Jan. 1 - Dec. 31)
Housing Element Planning Period	6th Cycle	01/31/2023 - 01/31/2031

Building Permits Issued by Affordability Summary		
Income Level	Current Year	
Very Low	Deed Restricted	57
	Non-Deed Restricted	0
Low	Deed Restricted	32
	Non-Deed Restricted	0
Moderate	Deed Restricted	29
	Non-Deed Restricted	0
Above Moderate		313
Total Units		431

Note: Units serving extremely low-income households are included in the very low-income permitted units totals

Units by Structure Type	Entitled	Permitted	Completed
Single-family Attached	0	0	0
Single-family Detached	5	10	14
2 to 4 units per structure	7	15	14
5+ units per structure	1986	311	597
Accessory Dwelling Unit	95	95	91
Mobile/Manufactured Home	0	0	0
Total	2093	431	716

Infill Housing Developments and Infill Units Permitted	# of Projects	Units
Indicated as Infill	53	272
Not Indicated as Infill	0	0

Housing Applications Summary	
Total Housing Applications Submitted:	25
Number of Proposed Units in All Applications Received:	2,224
Total Housing Units Approved:	1,256
Total Housing Units Disapproved:	0

Use of SB 35 Streamlining Provisions - Applications	
Number of SB 35 Streamlining Applications	0
Number of SB 35 Streamlining Applications Approved	0

Units Constructed - SB 35 Streamlining Permits			
Income	Rental	Ownership	Total
Very Low	0	0	0
Low	0	0	0
Moderate	0	0	0
Above Moderate	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

Streamlining Provisions Used - Permitted Units	# of Projects	Units
SB 9 (2021) - Duplex in SF Zone	0	0
SB 9 (2021) - Residential Lot Split	0	0
AB 2011 (2022)	0	0
SB 6 (2022)	0	0
SB 35 (2017)	0	0

Ministerial and Discretionary Applications	# of Applications	Units
Ministerial	0	0
Discretionary	25	2224

Density Bonus Applications and Units Permitted	
Number of Applications Submitted Requesting a Density Bonus	16
Number of Units in Applications Submitted Requesting a Density Bonus	2206
Number of Projects Permitted with a Density Bonus	4
Number of Units in Projects Permitted with a Density Bonus	220

Housing Element Programs Implemented and Sites Rezoned	Count
Programs Implemented	75
Sites Rezoned to Accommodate the RHNA	0

Jurisdiction	Berkeley	
Reporting Year	2023	(Jan. 1 - Dec. 31)
Planning Period	6th Cycle	01/31/2023 - 01/31/2031

**ANNUAL ELEMENT PROGRESS REPORT
Housing Element Implementation**

Note: "+" indicates an optional field
Cells in grey contain auto-calculation formulas

**Table A
Housing Development Applications Submitted**

Project Identifier					Unit Types		Date Application Submitted	Proposed Units - Affordability by Household Incomes							Total Approved Units by Project	Total Disapproved Units by Project	Streamlining	Density Bonus Law Applications		Application Status	Project Type	Notes			
1					2	3	4	5							6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13		
Prior APN*	Current APN	Street Address	Project Name*	Local Jurisdiction Tracking ID	Unit Category (SFA,SFD,2 to 4,5+,ADU,MH)	Tenure R=Renter O=Owner	Date Application Submitted (see instructions)	Very Low-Income Deed Restricted	Very Low-Income Non Deed Restricted	Low-Income Deed Restricted	Low-Income Non Deed Restricted	Moderate-Income Deed Restricted	Moderate-Income Non Deed Restricted	Above Moderate-Income	Total PROPOSED Units by Project	Total APPROVED Units by project	Total DISAPPROVED Units by Project	Please select streamlining provision/s the application was submitted pursuant to.	Did the housing development application seek incentives or concessions pursuant to Government Code section 65915?	Were incentives or concessions requested pursuant to Government Code section 65915 approved?	Please indicate the status of the application.	Is the project considered a ministerial project or discretionary project?	Notes*		
Summary Row: Start Data Entry Below								215	0	4	0	0	0	2005	2224	2224	0								
	056 200402000	2147 San Pablo Ave		ZP2022-0113	5+	R	1/5/2023	12						116	128	128		NONE	Yes	Yes	Approved	Discretionary	Entitled 9/25/23		
	057 202301501	2109 Milvia		PLN2023-0001	5+	R	1/10/2023	11						94	105	105		NONE	Yes	Yes	Approved	Discretionary			
	063 295504001	705 Euclid Ave		ZP2022-0104	SFD	O	1/19/2023							1	1	1		NONE	No	No	Approved	Discretionary	5/24/2023		
	052 157408100	3031 Telegraph Ave		ZP2022-0126	5+	R	1/23/2023							17	17	17		NONE	Yes	Yes	Approved	Discretionary	USE PERMIT MODIFICATION TO ADD 17 UNITS; Approved 5/31/23		
	056 200300100	1598 University Ave		ZP2022-0099	5+	R	1/23/2023	21						186	207	207		NONE	Yes	Yes	Approved	Discretionary	Entitled 6/2/23		
	055 187602101	2538 Durant Ave		ZP2022-0097	5+	R	1/30/2023	6						77	83	83		NONE	Yes	Yes	Approved	Discretionary	Entitled 5/24/23 - 4 ELI		
	052 157602701	3030 Telegraph		ZP2022-0170	5+	R	2/24/2023	7		1				136	144	144		NONE	Yes	Yes	Approved	Discretionary	Entitled on June 30, 2023		
	055 187802200	2480 Bancroft Way		ZP2022-0148	5+	R	3/10/2023	2						26	28	28		NONE	Yes	Yes	Approved	Discretionary	9/25/2023		
	057 203100101	2128 Oxford St		ZP2022-0135	5+	R	3/17/2023	47						438	485	485		NONE	Yes	Yes	Pending	Discretionary			
	055 182201304	2015 Blake St		ZP2022-0178	5+	R	3/30/2023	23						183	206	206		NONE	Yes	Yes	Approved	Discretionary	UP MOD; 9/25/23		
	057 203000800	2115 Kittredge St		ZP2022-0144	5+	R	3/31/2023	22						199	221	221		NONE	Yes	Yes	Approved	Discretionary	Entitled on Feb 6, 2024		
	056 200900700	2208 Roosevelt Ave		ZP2023-0059	2 to 4	R	5/6/2023							1	1	1		NONE	No	No	Approved	Discretionary	9/25/2023		
	054 171400501	2712 Telegraph Ave		ZP2022-0179	5+	R	6/7/2023	4						36	40	40		NONE	Yes	Yes	Approved	Discretionary	11/1/2023		
	054 180201400	1515 Derby St		ZP2023-0045	2 to 4	R	6/13/2023							1	1	1		NONE	No	No	Approved	Discretionary	Entitled 11/17/23		
	056 196301508	2221 Fifth St		ZP2022-0106	2 to 4	R	6/15/2023							3	3	3		NONE	No	No	Pending	Discretionary			
	055 189001000	2127-2159 Dwight		ZP2023-0057	5+	R	8/9/2023	7						59	66	66		NONE	Yes	Yes	Approved	Discretionary	Entitled on January 31, 2024		
	055 189001000	2411 Sixth St		ZP2023-0101	SFD	O	8/11/2023							1	1	1		NONE	No	No	Approved	Discretionary	Entitled 11/1/23		
	053 167700800	2800 M L King Jr Way		ZP2023-0098	2 to 4	R	9/14/2023							1	1	1		NONE	No	No	Approved	Discretionary	1/31/2024		
	055 188600100	2300 Ellsworth St		ZP2023-0024	5+	R	9/21/2023	7		2				60	69	69		NONE	Yes	Yes	Pending	Discretionary	Demo 12 units		
	059 232601200	805 Jones St		ZP2022-0162	2 to 4	R	9/28/2023							6	6	6		NONE	No	No	Approved	Discretionary	11/17/2023		
	055 183901901	2587 Telegraph Ave		ZP2023-0068	5+	R	10/13/2023	6						46	52	52		NONE	Yes	Yes	Pending	Discretionary			
	054 178501700	2601 San Pablo Ave		ZP2022-0171	5+	R	11/17/2023	26		1				196	223	223		NONE	Yes	Yes	Pending	Discretionary	Demo 4 units - Providing 23 BMR units, plus 4 replacement units - 2 ELI, 1 VLI, 1 LI		
	055 189600300	2420 Shattuck Ave		ZP2022-0149	5+	R	12/1/2023	14						118	132	132		NONE	Yes	Yes	Pending	Discretionary			
	052 151603200	1340 Haskell St		ZP2023-0113	2 to 4	R	12/11/2023							2	2	2		NONE	No	No	Pending	Discretionary			
	052 151603100	1330 Haskell St		ZP2023-0112	2 to 4	R	12/11/2023							2	2	2		NONE	No	No	Pending	Discretionary			

Jurisdiction	Berkeley	
Reporting Year	2023	(Jan. 1 - Dec. 31)
Planning Period	6th Cycle	01/31/2023 - 01/31/2031

ANNUAL ELEMENT PROGRESS REPORT Housing Element Implementation

This table is auto-populated once you enter your jurisdiction name and current year data. Past year information comes from previous APRs.
Please contact HCD if your data is different than the material supplied here

Table B Regional Housing Needs Allocation Progress Permitted Units Issued by Affordability														
Income Level		1 RHNA Allocation by Income Level	Projection Period - 06/30/2022- 01/30/2023	2								3 Total Units to Date (all years)	4 Total Remaining RHNA by Income Level	
				2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030			2031
Very Low	Deed Restricted	2,446	25	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	82	2,364
	Non-Deed Restricted		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Low	Deed Restricted	1,408	25	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57	1,351
	Non-Deed Restricted		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Moderate	Deed Restricted	1,416	-	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	1,387
	Non-Deed Restricted		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Above Moderate		3,664	442	313	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	755	2,909
Total RHNA		8,934												
Total Units			492	431	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	923	8,011
Progress toward extremely low-income housing need, as determined pursuant to Government Code 65583(a)(1).														
		5 Extremely low-income Need		6								7 Total Units Remaining		
				2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		2031	
Extremely Low-Income Units*		1,223		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,223

*Extremely low-income housing need determined pursuant to Government Code 65583(a)(1). Value in Section 5 is default value, assumed to be half of the very low-income RHNA. May be overwritten.

Please Note: Table B does not currently contain data from Table F or Table F2 for prior years. You may login to the APR system to see Table B that contains this data.

Note: units serving extremely low-income households are included in the very low-income RHNA progress and must be reported as very low-income units in section 7 of Table A2. They must also be reported in the extremely low-income category (section 13) in Table A2 to be counted as progress toward meeting the extremely low-income housing need determined pursuant to Government Code 65583(a)(1).

Please note: For the last year of the 5th cycle, Table B will only include units that were permitted during the portion of the year that was in the 5th cycle. For the first year of the 6th cycle, Table B will only include units that were permitted since the start of the planning period. Projection Period units are in a separate column.

Please note: The APR form can only display data for one planning period. To view progress for a different planning period, you may login to HCD's online APR system, or contact HCD staff at apr@hcd.ca.gov.

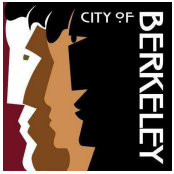
VLI Deed Restricted
VLI Non Deed Restricted

**ANNUAL ELEMENT PROGRESS REPORT
Housing Element Implementation**

Jurisdiction	Berkeley		
Reporting Year	2023	(Jan. 1 - Dec. 31)	
Table D			
Program Implementation Status pursuant to GC Section 65583			
Housing Programs Progress Report			
Describe progress of all programs including local efforts to remove governmental constraints to the maintenance, improvement, and development of housing as identified in the housing element.			
1	2	3	4
Name of Program	Objective	Timeframe in H.E	Status of Program Implementation
Affordable Housing Berkeley	Complete Strategic Plan for Affordable Housing Berkeley Inc.	Dec-23	ABH has developed its strategic plan which the Board Members approved in October 2023. The focus is geared towards small housing purchase of up to seven building units. ABH anticipates the searching for potential properties in 2024.
Housing Choice Vouchers	Continue to assist up to 2,000 households during the 2023-2031 period through: Moderate Rehabilitation SRO Program – 98 units Housing Choice Vouchers – 1,500 households (and growing) Project-Based Vouchers – 400 households Emergency Housing Vouchers – 51 households Mainstream Voucher Program – 91 households VASH – 40 households	2031	BHA hired a consultant to assist in purging the old waitlist and start pulling applicants from the new (2022) waitlist. In 2023 BHA awarded 59 Project Based Vouchers (PBV) to three new and existing projects in Berkeley. These projects will serve seniors, homeless, veterans, individual fleeing domestic violence and those in 20% census tract. The BHA currently administers the following programs: Moderate Rehabilitation SRO Program - 98 certificates Housing Choice Vouchers - 1,557 vouchers Project-Based Vouchers - 392 vouchers Emergency Housing Vouchers - 51 vouchers Mainstream Voucher Program - 121 vouchers VASH - 40 vouchers
Citywide Affordable Housing Requirements	Amend Berkeley Municipal Code (BMC) Chapter 23.38, updating the Citywide Affordable Housing Requirements (AHR) in the Zoning Ordinance. Adopt a Resolution addressing regulations for a voucher program and establishing an in-lieu fee pursuant to BMC Section 23.328.020(A)(2).	Jun-23	City Council adopted Ordinance 7,853-N.S. (2/28/22) and Resolution No. 70,698-N.S. (2/14/22)
	Conduct a follow-up residential financial feasibility study to inform modifications to the City's affordable housing fees and continue to ensure a realistic development environment. (See also Program 35 -Affordable Housing Overlay and Southside Local Density Bonus)	Dec-25	Consultant hired via competitive solicitation process and economic feasibility analysis initiated in July 2023. HCS staff anticipate bringing item for Council consideration in summer 2024.
Housing Trust Fund	Homekey 2 project completion Homekey 3 RFP process (target selection and funding of project) Housing Trust Fund Program funding awards for pipeline projects Small Sites Program North Berkeley project completion to preserve and renovate 13 units (1685 Solano Ave)	Dec-23	The Homekey 2 project - Golden Bear Homes - is fully occupied. The owner completed the accessibility rehab, and is planning to install a modular unit in calendar year 2024 that will add services and community space to the project. The renovation of the Solano Avenue Cooperative project at 1685 Solano Ave was completed in 2023.
	BART - See also Program 28 - BART Station Area Planning: Predevelopment funding award	Feb-23	City Council approved a total of \$2M in predevelopment funds for the North Berkeley BART affordable housing developers at their December 13, 2022 meeting (with Resolution 70,643) and at their July 25, 2023 meeting (with Resolution 70,991).
	Project completion for funded affordable projects: Maudelle Miller Shirek Community (2001 Ashby) and Blake Apartments (2527 San Pablo) Issue Housing Trust Fund RFP BART - See also Program 28 - BART Station Area Planning: Initial development funding award	Dec-24 Dec-25	Both projects are under construction, with expected completion and lease up in calendar year 2024. HCS staff anticipate issuing a Housing Trust Fund RFP in 2024 or 2025.
Preservation of At-Risk Housing	During the 2023-2031 period, continue to implement the City's affordable housing policies and administer the Housing Trust Fund and Small Sites Programs that subsidize both new affordable housing development and rehabilitation of existing projects to preserve and extend their affordability. Annually monitor status of the at-risk project with the goal of preserving the 92 at risk units. Ensure tenants are properly noticed by the property owners should a Notice of Intent to opt out of low income use is filed. Notices must be filed three years, one year, and six months in advance of conversion. Pursue acquisition of the affordable units through Affordable Housing Berkeley should conversion to market rate housing	During the 2023-2031 period	HCS staff continue to implement the Housing Trust Fund and Small Sites Programs.
Fair Housing Outreach and Enforcement	Continue to provide fair housing services to residents, landlords, and housing professionals. Increase outreach and education to Homeowners Associations.	During the 2023-2031 period	Eden Council for Hope and Opportunity (ECHO) provided Fair Housing services to 70 Berkeley residents in 2023. These services included Fair Housing counseling, educational trainings and workshops, outreach events, and audits.
	Conduct nine education/training workshops for tenant-focused CBOs and property owner associations. Provide 70 Fair Housing Counseling sessions on fair housing information, respond to information alleging potential discrimination, and provide basic information on State and Federal fair housing laws to tenants and landlords. Conduct 22 outreach events to inform Berkeley residents of their rights. Conduct 10 tenant/landlord mediation sessions to resolve disputes and/or legal problems.	Annually	ECHO conducted 10 group education workshops to assist service providers and their clients to recognize illegal housing discrimination in its various forms. ECHO provided 56 clients with Fair Housing counseling services. ECHO's Counselors respond to all inquiries and complaints regarding illegal housing discrimination based on race, sex, national origin, marital status, familial status, physical and mental disability, religion, source of income, sexual orientation, and all other arbitrary forms of discrimination as defined in state and federal fair housing law. All fair housing calls are responded to by ECHO's staff within a twenty-four hour period, whenever feasible. ECHO conducts outreach events to inform Berkeley residents of their fair housing rights. In 2023, ECHO faced some impediments to conducting outreach events due to the inability of the Counselor to conduct in-person events. In order to address this impediment, the Housing Counselor and Fair Housing Coordinator are working to increase Zoom-based Fair Housing trainings to the residents of Berkeley and begin in-person outreach efforts. ECHO offers mediation or attempted conciliation of housing disputes, which consist of telephone or face-to-face efforts on behalf of the disputing parties to resolve the dispute. As with the outreach events, in 2023 ECHO served fewer people than their target. Moving forward, ECHO will increase efforts to host and outreach via Zoom-based webinars to residents of Berkeley regarding Fair Housing topics.
	Conduct an Equity Study to target program marketing	Dec-25	Not started.
Rent Stabilization and Tenant Protection	Continue to enforce the Rent Stabilization Ordinance. Maintain rent stabilization on approximately 21,000 units and monitoring the effect of the Ellis Act. Pursue new affordable housing to replenish units removed due to Ellis.	Ongoing	Throughout 2023, the Berkeley Rent Board continued its ongoing work to enforce the Rent Stabilization Ordinance. This included registering 19,793 rent-controlled units and over 5,000 additional tenant-occupied residential units with eviction protections. The Rent Board also provided citywide outreach to ensure that tenants were aware of their rights and the expiration of COVID-19-related state and county eviction protections and Berkeley's local eviction moratorium. The Rent Board also kept a close eye on all eviction notices, including those for the Ellis Act. In 2023, Rent Board staff reviewed 469 eviction notices submitted, one of which was an Ellis Act Eviction. By doing so, the Rent Board ensured that tenants were not unlawfully evicted from their homes. To further assist tenants, property owners, and other rental property stakeholders, the Rent Board housing counselors provided information on the Rent Stabilization Ordinance and related housing laws. In 2023, housing counselors logged 2,021 client cases and responded to 3,043 phone calls. They also responded to approximately 500 client emails per month, providing valuable insight and assistance to anyone who reached out. In addition to its ongoing work to enforce the Rent Stabilization Ordinance, the Rent Board also reviewed and provided input on proposed revisions to Berkeley's Demolition Ordinance. The board recommended that Berkeley require one-for-one replacement of demolished residential units with replacement affordable housing units, ensuring that the city's housing supply remained stable and accessible to all.
Rental Housing Safety	The City is currently working on expanding the proactive inspections program, with the goal of inspecting every building during a 5-year cycle as part of the Rental Housing Safety Program.	Ongoing	This work is ongoing.
	Complete the Housing Inspector Manual. Hire five additional staff, including two inspectors and one administrative staff person, and two additional inspectors	Dec-22 Dec-23	Completed in March 2022 and reissued in June 2023. New inspectors and administrative staff people were hired, but due to turnover, recruitments are underway for inspectors.
Tenant Survey	Rewrite and adopt the Berkeley Housing Code	Dec-23	The rewritten Berkeley Housing Code was adopted in January 2023.
Housing Preference Policies	Conduct Tenant Survey Provide summary of data to the Rent Stabilization Board	Dec-23	Survey Completed in 2023 and Final results presented to Rent Board on September 21, 2023.
Rental Assistance	The City will adopt a housing preference policy. The City plans to conduct outreach on an ongoing basis, coordinate preferences with the Alameda County Housing Portal for applications, and collect data and monitor annually to assess impact.	Dec-23	The City will adopt a housing preference policy. The City plans to conduct outreach on an ongoing basis, coordinate preferences with the Alameda County Housing Portal for applications, and collect data and monitor annually to assess impact.
Workforce Housing	Provide rental assistance to 50-75 new households (or 400-600 new households over eight years)	Annually	84 households received rental assistance. This includes, HRC RRR, HRC shallow subsidy, and STAIR rapid rehousing programs.
Homeless Services	Enlist construction of 110 affordable units, with a preference for Berkeley Unified School District employees. Establish programs and services with the goal of assisting: • Increase capacity for housing the homeless by 43 beds/persons at Golden Bear Inn • Increase capacity for housing the homeless by 43 beds/persons at the Rodeway • Serve an average of 15-25 unsheltered persons the drop-in center daily • Maintain transitional housing for 12 transition aged youth at 3404 King Street • Maintain capacity for housing persons experiencing homelessness by 27 beds/households at the Berkeley Inn	Jun-23 Dec-22	The BUSD Workforce Housing project received its planning approvals in March 2023. 68 Households were served at Rodeway Inn. 51 Households were served at Berkeley Inn. 43 Households were served at Golden Bear Inn. The transitional housing program at 3404 King Street was under construction for most of 2023. During this time period, one household was served. Drop-in Centers in Berkeley serve more than 25 unsheltered persons daily.
Housing for Homeless Persons with Disabilities	Approve and assist in the construction of a 119-unit very low-income housing project.	Dec-23	Supportive Housing in People's Park is on hold pending resolution of a lawsuit currently with the state supreme court. The original nonprofit developer stepped away from the project, so the UC will need to select a new partner to develop the permanent supportive housing.
Shelter Plus Care	Enroll 10 new clients as vouchers become available due to existing clients exiting the program	Annually	Shelter Plus Care successfully enrolled 5 new referrals in 2023.
Home Modification for Accessibility and Safety	Assist home modifications for approximately 13 homes (a total of 104 homes over the 2023-2031 period)	Annually	In the calendar year 2023, Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley successfully completed nine housing rehabilitation projects, while Rebuilding Together East Bay-North completed 15 housing rehabilitation projects. Additionally, the Center for Independent Living accomplished seven housing projects aimed at enhancing accessibility through ADA improvements. The City of Berkeley's Senior and/or Disabled Rehabilitation Loan Program did not complete any projects during this reporting period. Total projects served was 31.

<p>Accessible Housing</p>	<p>Develop and amend the Zoning Ordinance to adopt Objective Design Standards for residential and mixed-use developments to facilitate first floor residential and live/work uses that encourages accessible design in higher density districts (e.g. R3, R-4, and commercial districts).</p> <p>Promote residential units to be developed with universal design and visitability principles in future PBV Master Contracts or exemptions for requiring a modified unit to be returned to its original state upon vacating the unit.</p> <p>As part of BHA's MTW application addressed in Affordable Housing Berkeley, the fiscal flexibilities include the ability to spend up to \$500 per unit to help landlords pay for unit modifications. This benefit cannot be combined with the CL program addressed in Home Modification for Accessibility and Safety.</p>	<p>Dec-25</p>	<p>In February 2023, the City issued a Request for Proposals for consultant to develop and prepare zoning amendments focused on the City's high-density, mixed-used corridors. This work is anticipated to be completed in December 2026.</p>
<p>Senior/Disabled Home Improvement Loan</p>	<p>Provide two interest-free loans up to \$100,000 for a total of 16 loans over eight years.</p>	<p>Annually</p>	<p>In the calendar year of 2023, the City initiated the issuance of two loans aimed at safeguarding housing through its Senior and Disabled (Home) Rehabilitation Loan Program (SDRLP). Presently, the SDRLP is in the process of enrolling six new applicants seeking loans, while simultaneously managing five active projects aimed at enhancing housing conditions for seniors and individuals with disabilities within the Berkeley community.</p>
<p>Housing Condition Standards</p>	<p>Adopt and commence implementation of a Building and Safety Amnesty Program for Unpermitted Dwelling Units.</p> <p>Under BHA's Housing Quality Standards Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct an Annual Inspection approximately 9 months after the initial inspection, and every 9-10 months thereafter. Written notice of the inspection is mailed to the tenant and landlord approximately 2 weeks prior to the scheduled inspection. A person 18 or older must be present to grant the inspector permission to enter the unit. Minor repairs to be conducted on the spot if a maintenance person is available in order to avoid the need for a reinspection. If all deficiencies noted at the inspection are not repaired and confirmed by the scheduled reinspection date, rental subsidies will be withheld effective the first day of the month following the failed inspection. Payments will resume effective upon confirmation of all required repairs. 	<p>Dec-24</p>	<p>The MTW Supplemental plans also include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-inspection within 90 days of a participant occupying the unit. HQS inspection standards will not be altered and participants will be able to request an interim inspection. Biennial inspections. This means annual inspections that pass on their first attempt will skip a year before the next annual HQS inspection, and annual inspections that fail on their first attempt will have an annual HQS the following year. Landlords and program participants continue to be able to request a Special Inspection at any time, whether the unit passes or fails the first attempt of the most recent HQS inspection. BHA reserves the right to accept inspections performed by another entity (city, housing developers in conformity with HOME or LIHTC rules) in lieu of conducting an annual inspection, but at this time will continue to schedule annual inspections to be conducted by BHA's contract inspector. Written notice of the inspection is mailed to the tenant and landlord approximately 2 weeks prior to the scheduled inspection. A person 18 or older must be present to grant the inspector permission to enter the unit. Minor repairs to be conducted on the spot if a maintenance person is available in order to avoid the need for a reinspection. If all deficiencies noted at the inspection are not repaired and confirmed by the scheduled reinspection date, rental subsidies will be withheld effective the first day of the month following the failed inspection. Payments will resume effective upon confirmation of all required repairs.
<p>Livable Neighborhoods</p>	<p>Fund and complete Quick Build pedestrian improvements on Martin Luther King Jr Way (South) Dwight to Adeline and Sacramento Street from Dwight to Southern City Limits. (Pedestrian Plan and Vision Zero)</p> <p>Add 2 new Community Gardens that give priority to low SES students and residents that live in apartments</p> <p>Work collaboratively with BUSD to authorize joint registration forscholarships to City Recreation Programs.</p> <p>Develop and provide 6 Low SES 11th grade Berkeley students with the opportunity to learn career skills through project-based internships. Effort will include development of outreach network, communication with BUSD, and training opportunities.</p> <p>Return to Council for review and adoption of the 5-Year Street Maintenance and Rehabilitation Plan.</p> <p>Finalize construction of the Southside Complete Streets project</p> <p>Plant 200 trees in the right of way for South and West Berkeley Residents through the City's Make Life Better program, established to inform residents of free tree planting and watering opportunities.</p> <p>Fund and complete the design phase of a permanent pedestrian, bicycle, and transit improvement strategy on Adeline from Ashby to Southern City Limits. (Pedestrian Plan and Vision Zero, Capital Intensive Project, Adeline Corridor Specific Plan)</p> <p>Fund and complete a permanent pedestrian, bicycle, and transit improvement strategy on San Pablo from University to Dwight. (Pedestrian Plan and Vision Zero, Capital Intensive Project)</p>	<p>Dec-24</p>	<p>Quick Build pedestrian improvements on Martin Luther King Jr Way (South) Dwight to Adeline and Sacramento Street from Dwight to Southern City Limits are funded and will be completed in 2024/2025.</p> <p>Grove Park - under construction, completion by April 2024.</p> <p>Berkeley Mini-Park - in design, construction completion in 2025.</p> <p>Completed in 2024.</p> <p>Completed in 2023.</p>
<p>Livable Neighborhoods</p>	<p>Report to City Council on the progress of the City's Vision Zero Action Plan</p> <p>Bring updated BeST Plan to City Council for approval</p> <p>Bring updated Vision Zero Action Plan to City Council for approval</p> <p>Bring updated Pedestrian and Bicycle Plans to City Council for approval</p>	<p>Jan-24</p> <p>Dec-24</p> <p>Jun-25</p> <p>Dec-27</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Every two years</p> <p>Every three years</p> <p>Every five years</p>	<p>Latest 5-year repaving plan was adopted by the Berkeley City Council in November 2023.</p> <p>Southside Complete Streets Project will be complete in 2024/2025.</p> <p>Completion expected in December 2024.</p> <p>Preliminary Engineering (public engagement, conceptual design, environmental clearance, City Council approval) are funded by grants from Alameda County Transportation Commission. Preliminary engineering should be complete by end of 2026. Detailed engineering design and construction phases are unfunded as of February 2024.</p> <p>Being implemented by Alameda County Transportation Commission San Pablo Avenue Corridor Projects. Anticipated completion in 2026/2027.</p> <p>Delayed due to staff capacity issues. Annual reports were provided in 2021 and 2022 but not 2023. City Manager's Officer is currently consolidating the Vision Zero Program and Reimagining Public Safety update process.</p> <p>Delayed due to staff capacity issues. Projected to be completed in 2025/2026, aligned with next OBAG call for funding.</p> <p>Delayed due to staff capacity issues. Projected to be completed in 2024/2025</p> <p>Updated Pedestrian Plan adopted in 2020. Updated Bicycle Plan to be adopted in 2024/2025. Bike Plan delayed due to staff capacity issues.</p>
<p>Lead-Poisoning Prevention</p>	<p>Continue to assist approximately 12 households (or more, as needed) during the 2023-2031 period by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct an Environmental Investigation (EI) for presence of lead when peeling lead paint has been identified or if/when a child has elevated blood lead levels. Proactive inspections will be conducted in high-risk areas citywide, which include a visual assessment and notifications to homeowners and landlords. The average inspection process from start to finish should take approximately 30 days to complete. Environmental Investigation timeframes – if blood lead level is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.5 – 14.4 mcg/dL. Perform EI within four weeks of PHN referral. 14.5-19.4 mcg/dL. Perform EI within two weeks of PHN referral 19.5-44.4 mcg/dL. Perform EI within one week of PHN referral 44.5-69.4 mcg/dL. Perform EI within 48 hours of PHN referral Greater than 69.4 mcg/dL. Perform EI within 24 hours of PHN referral 	<p>Annually</p>	<p>Due to persistent PHN vacancies we could not meet the minimum staffing requirement to be able to apply for the new 3 year CLPPP cycle of funding with the state. For this current fiscal year (FY24) we currently are not funded by the state to provide the PHN case management under CLPPP. When we have re-established PHN staffing to support this work, the state indicated we can then reapply. Any elevated blood lead level cases in Berkeley would need to be followed up by a state PHN consultant.</p>
<p>Seismic Safety and Preparedness Programs</p>	<p>Earthquake Brace and Bolt program: Annually, the City's goal is to help at least 50 homeowners complete seismic retrofits and obtain rebates.</p> <p>Seismic Retrofit Transfer Tax Rebate Program: Continue to issue building permit seismic upgrades and facilitate transfer tax rebates for qualifying properties.</p> <p>Provide Retrofit Grants to 50-60 property owners.</p> <p>Soft Story Program: Facilitate the compliance of the remaining soft story buildings, including newly added buildings since 2018. Newly added buildings may be subject to extended deadlines and additional buildings may be added to the inventory as needed.</p> <p>Unreinforced Masonry Ordinance: By December 2025, facilitate the retrofit of the remaining four unreinforced masonry (URM) building. Of the approximately 600 buildings originally included in the City's URM inventory, roughly 99 percent have been seismically retrofitted, demolished or demonstrated to have adequate reinforcement.</p>	<p>Annually</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Dec-24</p> <p>Dec-25</p>	<p>As of January 4, 2024, 549 grants have been provided to Berkeley residents under the Earthquake Brace and Bolt Program since 2016, totaling more than \$1.6M. In Spring of 2023, the California Earthquake Authority also launched a pilot Earthquake Soft Story (ESS) Program, which provides grant funding to single-family soft story homes with living spaces over a garage. As of January 4, 2024, 24 Berkeley property owners had approved ESS applications submitted and 6 had applied for permits.</p> <p>During 2023, 148 transfer tax rebates were disbursed, totaling more than \$1.2M</p> <p>As of February 21, 2024, over \$3M of grant funding has been disbursed to Berkeley property owners and 95 buildings have been strengthened under the Retrofit Grants Program.</p> <p>As of February 1, 2024, out of 369 soft-story buildings, 282 buildings (containing approximately 3,150 units) have complied with the soft story program requirements, and 25 soft story buildings (containing ~208 dwelling units) must still come into compliance with mandatory retrofit requirements. Of the remaining 25 buildings, four owners have obtained building permits, 12 have applied for permits and 9 have yet to apply.</p> <p>Unreinforced Masonry Ordinance: By December 2025, facilitate the retrofit of the remaining four unreinforced masonry (URM) building. Of the approximately 600 buildings originally included in the City's URM inventory, roughly 99 percent have been seismically retrofitted, demolished or demonstrated to have adequate reinforcement. As of February 1, 2024, four buildings remain on the city's URM list and are required to retrofit in order to avoid further penalties. Two of the four building owners have retrofit permits issued or ready to issue, and two have expired permit applications.</p>
<p>Berkeley Pilot Climate Equity Fund</p>	<p>Commence program implementation, with the goal of retrofitting 12 low and moderate income units.</p> <p>Depending on program effectiveness, pursue additional funding to continue program.</p>	<p>Jun-23</p>	<p>In 2023, three contractors worked to develop processes, applications, and scopes of work for approximately 30 income-qualified units. Implementation is in progress with anticipated completion by 2025.</p>
<p>Berkeley Existing Buildings Electrification (BEBE) Strategy</p>	<p>Complete Energy Equity for Renters Technical Assistance program with ACEEE and receive its research results. This is one implementation of BEBES that is tied to housing preservation. Within two years of receiving research results, develop programs and policies that promote energy efficiency while protecting tenants from displacement.</p> <p>Explore funding opportunities for equity programs, including integration of electrification measures into housing protection and preservation programs, such as the City's Senior and Disabled Home Loan Program or Section 8 housing voucher program.</p>	<p>Dec-23</p> <p>Dec-25</p>	<p>The ACEEE Energy Equity for Renters Toolkit was published in November 2022.</p> <p>The City continues to look for opportunities to develop programs and policies that provide meaningful renter protections, and is coordinating with other jurisdictions and regional organizations to find potential opportunities.</p> <p>The City continues to look for funding opportunities for equity programs. In 2023 a grant of \$53,000 was successfully awarded towards one of the Climate Equity Fund Resilient Retrofit Home projects.</p>
<p>Building Emissions Saving Ordinance (BESO)</p>	<p>Amend ordinance to update requirements for building upgrades</p> <p>On average, around 400 buildings complete BESO assessments each year.</p>	<p>Dec-25</p> <p>Annually</p>	<p>Following a thoughtful engagement process throughout 2023 including with a technical advisory committee, realtors, the Rent Board, and the Environment and Energy Commission, proposed amendments to BESO are scheduled to go to Council in 2024. The proposed amendments would require small residential buildings to complete resilience upgrades when sold.</p> <p>In 2023, 383 buildings completed a BESO assessment.</p>
<p>BayREN Single-Family Homes and Multi-Family Homes Programs</p>	<p>Continue to assist in recruiting participants to BayREN's rebate programs through BESO and other outreach, with the goal of assisting at least 75 single-family homes and 125 multi-family dwelling units annually in receiving BayREN incentives for qualifying renovations (or 600 single-family homes and 1,000 multi-family dwelling units over eight years).</p>	<p>Annually</p>	<p>Staff continues to promote regional and statewide rebate programs, including BayREN Home+ and TECH Clean California, through BESO and other outreach. In 2023, Berkeley residents received 406 Home Energy Score rebates, 225 homeowners received Home+ rebates totaling \$208,305, 71 multifamily units upgraded through BAMBE, and the estimated annual savings was 259,000 kWh and 5,416 therms.</p>
<p>Priority Development Areas (PDAs), Commercial and Transit Corridors</p>	<p>Complete Telegraph PDA/Southside Plan Area zoning map amendments and up-zoning</p> <p>Develop and adopt the San Pablo PDA Specific Plan. Conduct analysis, public and stakeholder engagement, and policy options, including zoning and General Plan amendments</p>	<p>Dec-24</p> <p>Dec-25</p>	<p>In December 2023, the City Council adopted zoning changes that increase residential development potential in the Southside Plan Area (Program 27-Priority Development Areas, Commercial and Transit Corridors; Program 33-Zoning Code Amendment: Residential)</p> <p>In April 2023, MTC and ABAG awarded the consulting team a contract to assist the City of Berkeley with the development of the specific plan. The consultant team and City staff have conducted various forms of community outreach including four stakeholder interviews, three small group meetings, one pop-up tabling event, one intercept survey and one large community open house. Approximately 62 attendees participated in the community open house and engaged with the project team on specific plan topics related to transportation, housing, safety, commercial activity and land use policies.</p>

	Update Land Use, Safety, and Environmental Justice Elements of the General Plan to increase new housing opportunities by at least 2000 units on commercial and transit corridors, particularly in the highest resource and higher income neighborhoods, to achieve consistency among all transit and commercial corridors, and revise the City's zoning map and certification standards to be consistent. The City commits to initiate this work within one year of development of the Housing Element.	Dec-26	The City issued an RFP for the City of Berkeley's Environmental Justice Element, Safety Element Update, and Equitable Climate and Resilience Metrics (Specification No. 24-11641-C). In accordance with the terms of the OPR APGP grant that is funding the work, this project will be done by January 2026. The City also plans to issue an RFP for the City of Berkeley Corridor Upzoning project in the spring of 2024.
BART Station Area Planning	<p>June 2022, the City adopted zoning and associated General Plan amendments consistent with AB 2923; adopted City – BART Joint Vision and Priorities for Transit-Oriented Development at the Ashby and North Berkeley BART Station Areas and certified EIR on these documents. The goal for development for both stations is by 2031.</p> <p>As stipulated in the June 2022 City and BART MOA, the next milestones include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 2022 – Complete Developer Request for Qualification (RFQ) and City of Berkeley Notice of Affordable Housing Funding (NOFA) • November 2022, Right-Of-Way Redesign Options for Adeline Street at Ashby BART Station to City Council • December 2022, Developer selection for the North Berkeley BART station area. • February 2023, City Affordable Housing Funding (Predevelopment Funding Award) • April 2023, Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA) execution with North Berkeley BART selected developer team. • June 2023, An amended Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Ashby BART Station. The amended MOA will include a refined timeline for the developer solicitation process. Structure of the developer solicitation process and project requirements and community benefits are currently in process of being negotiated between the City and BART. • August 2023, City and BART issue a solicitation for developer selection for Ashby BART. • December 2023, Development and adoption of Objective Design Standards for North Berkeley BART. • December 2027, Entitlement for development project(s) at North Berkeley BART. 	2022-2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right-Of-Way Redesign Options for Adeline Street at Ashby BART Station to City Council • Complete - December 1, 2022, Developer selection for the North Berkeley BART station area. • Complete - July 25, 2023, City Affordable Housing Funding (Predevelopment Funding Award) • Complete, Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA) execution with North Berkeley BART selected developer team. • Complete - June 30, 2022, An amended Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Ashby BART Station. The amended MOA will include a refined timeline for the developer solicitation process. Structure of the developer solicitation process and project requirements and community benefits are currently in process of being negotiated between the City and BART. • Complete - December 12, 2023, Development and adoption of Objective Design Standards for North Berkeley BART. • In Progress, Entitlement for development project(s) at North Berkeley BART. City staff anticipate the project application will be submitted by the end of January 2024, with the goal of the project being entitled by the end of June 2024. • Anticipated by Fall of 2024, City and BART issue a solicitation for developer selection for Ashby BART.
Middle Housing	Amend Zoning code to allow multi-unit development on one lot in the lower density districts: R-1, R-1A, R-2, R-2A, and MU-R districts. Consider amending the Demolition Ordinance to provide a by-right pathway for demolition of single-family homes for projects that add density and are not tenant-occupied within the past five years and in which Ellis Act eviction did not occur within the preceding five years. This policy will be referred for consideration to the 4x4 Committee of the City Council and Rent Board. Further, explore the effect on local and state laws relating to the demolition of historic resources.	Dec-23	Planning Commission will review these recommendations in February 2023. City Council is expected to consider these changes in Spring 2024.
Accessory Dwelling Units	Provide contact info for dedicated ADU planner on the City's ADU webpage.	Jun-23	The City plan's to make this information available on the City webpage by February 28, 2024.
	Amend the City's local ADU ordinance based on revised statutory requirements.	Dec-23	The City's local ADU ordinance was amended to comply with state law and took effect on November 9, 2023.
	Assess if ADU production is on the trajectory to meet RHNA assumptions. If not, by January 2026, the City will initiate additional efforts needed (including, but not limited to, rezoning or pre-approved building plans) to incentivize ADUs, to be completed by January 2028.	Dec-25	No update
Annually, Update ADU webpage to ensure information addresses questions raised by applicants Annually. Provide update on ADU permit progress to Planning Commission and City Council Throughout the 2023-2031 period: Coordinate ADU policies with the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and Fire Department Standards of Coverage assessment.	Annually/ 2023-2031		The City updated the ADU webpage with revised FAQ information in November 2023. The Land Use Planning Team met with the Fire Department and Office of Emergency Services to discuss upcoming housing projects on November 7, 2023.
Zoning Code Amendment: Special Needs Housing	Review and adopt new zoning provisions and definitions to align land use standards with State law requirements for special needs housing.	Dec-23	On July 11, 2023 City Council adopted Zoning Ordinance Amendments to Title 23 to align land use standards with state law requirements for special needs housing. The Zoning Ordinance amendments reflect requirements related to: Emergency Shelters (AB 139 & AB 2339), Low Barrier Navigation Center (AB101), Supportive Housing (AB 2162), Employee Housing Act, Landfarmer Developmental Disabilities Service Act, Supportive Child Care Family Home Expansion (SB 234), Minimum Parking Requirements (AB 2097) and conformed City's definition of "household" to align with state law.
By-Right Approval on Reused Sites for Affordable Housing	Amend the Zoning Code to provide by-right approval of projects with 20 percent lower income units on opportunistic sites that are reused from the previous Housing Element cycles. In the meantime, the city applies the law in a manner that supersedes local zoning. Create an additional GIS layer in the public facing Community Map portal to identify all Sites Inventory sites, with a color to identify the reused opportunity sites that must be approved by-right for 20 percent lower income units. As projects are entitled, permitted, and constructed, the GIS layer must be updated, by unit count and affordability categories.	Dec-23	A new GIS layer in the public facing Community Map portal has been created. It identifies all Site Inventory Sites and allows viewers to see Site Inventory Category of selected parcels.
Zoning Code Amendment: Residential	By June 2024, as part of the Multi-Unit Residential Objective Standards project, minimum densities will be applied to all residential and mixed-use developments with five or more units.	Jun-24	Objective Design Standards are part of the zoning amendments to encourage "middle housing" that will be heard by the Berkeley City Council in June 2024.
	Develop and amend the Zoning Ordinance to adopt Objective Design Standards for residential and mixed use developments in order to reduce reliance on the use permit process and non-detrimnt findings for larger (e.g. 10+ units) housing projects in higher density districts (e.g. R-3, R-4, and commercial districts), and commercial living situations, such as live/work units.	Dec-25	In February 2023, the City issued a Request for Proposals for consultant to develop and prepare zoning amendments focused on the City's high-density, mixed-used corridors. This work is anticipated to be completed in December 2026.
Permit Processing	Functionality will be added to the permit tracking software and the Planning Department website to provide on-demand reporting of project status, which will include up to date completeness, CEQA and other actions.	Jun-23	Zoning Permit application information is up-to-date with project status and maintained on a rolling basis. On-demand reporting added to ACA for "Zoning Permits – Open Appeal Period" (April, 2023)
	The City will conduct a needs assessment, develop an RFP for the Planning and Building permit and records management systems, and hire a consultant to implement a software upgrade.	Jun-24	The City is actively working with the consultant, ThirdWave, to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment, aimed at guiding the development of an RFP to upgrade the Planning and Building permit and records management system.
	As part of the Objective Design Standards effort (Program 33 - Zoning Code Amendment: Residential), City staff will also develop Zoning Ordinance amendments to reduce reliance on the use permit process and non-detrimnt findings, and increase the thresholds for discretionary review of residential and mixed-use residential projects for City Council consideration.	Dec-25	In February 2023, the City issued a Request for Proposals for consultant to develop and prepare zoning amendments focused on the City's high-density, mixed-used corridors. This work is anticipated to be completed in December 2026.
	The City will implement the updated permit tracking software and continually maintain permit statuses and monitor project progress.	Dec-27	The City is preparing a Request for Proposals for consultants to implement a new permit tracking software.
Affordable Housing Overlay and Southside Local Density Bonus	Adopt a local density bonus program in the Southside, concurrent with the Zoning Ordinance amendments proposed for the Southside in Program 27 - Priority Development Areas (PDAs), Commercial and Transit Corridors.	Dec-24	Planning Commission has provided initial feedback on this issue and will consider revisions, pending the completion of consultant's work on affordable housing fees and project feasibility.
	Adopt an Affordable Housing Overlay Density Bonus, concurrent with the residential financial feasibility study (Program 3 - Citywide Affordable Housing Requirements), Residential Objective Design Standards (Program 33 - Zoning Code Amendment: Residential), and the General Plan Land Use Element Update	Dec-25	Planning Commission has provided initial feedback on this issue. Staff to return to Planning Commission later in 2024.
Adequate Sites for RHNA and Monitoring	Within 3 months of a certified Housing Element, the City will publish an inventory of the available sites for residential development and provide it to prospective residential developers.	2023-2026	The City published an inventory of the available sites for residential development on the Community GIS Portal: https://berkeley.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=2c7dfab164e159f4fd28a52f51c6&showLayers=Berkeley%20Parcels;Base%20Data;Planning%20and%20Building The City also published an accompanying Sites Inventory guide on their Housing Element webpage: https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/HEU_Sites%20Inventory_Tables-webpage.pdf
	Assess the 3-year development progress of entitled and pipeline sites, and implement a formal evaluation procedure pursuant to Government Code Section 65863 to monitor the development of vacant and nonvacant sites in the sites inventory and ensure that adequate sites are available to meet the remaining RHNA by income category. Should resulting development capacity be below assumed potential, the City will identify and complete additional efforts by January 2028, including but not limited to rezoning or streamlined processes, to accommodate the shortfall of sites to meet the RHNA. Assess the progress and effectiveness of AFFH actions identified in Table 5.6. Summary of AFFH Actions. Should progress on the AFFH metrics be below the rate assumed, the City will identify and make adjustments, as appropriate, by January 2028.	Jan-26	No update
Replacement Housing/Demolition Ordinance	Update the Zoning Code to address the replacement requirements in a revised Demolition Ordinance.	Dec-23	Held a public hearing at the February 17, 2023 Planning Commission meeting to update the Demolition Ordinance. City Council scheduled to hear item on February 27, 2024.



2023 General Plan Annual Progress Report

City of Berkeley

Submitted April 1, 2024

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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. 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) 2023** reporting period, which looks at the 2023-2031 6th Cycle Housing Element that was certified as that was the Housing Element in effect during the CY 2023.

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 2023: Resolution 7,890–N.S (Southside).

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 2023, BART signed a two-year Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA) with the development team, North Berkeley Housing Partners (NBHP) to begin planning for new homes and amenities surrounding the North Berkeley Station. In December 2023, Berkeley City Council approved Objective Design Standards for the North Berkeley BART Station. According to the application which is under review by City staff, the project proposes 739 units with over 50% of the homes at affordable rent levels. The project includes improvements to the Ohlone Greenway and over 6,000 SF of community-serving ground floor uses as well as street and public realm upgrades, and over 48,000 SF of publicly accessible open space.

- **Density Bonus Projects**

In CY 2023, 90% 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.

- 1598 University Ave

Demolish a non-residential structure and construct a 127,492 square-foot, eight-story (89 feet-2 inches) mixed-use residential building containing 207 dwelling units (21 Very Low-Income) and 5,943 square foot commercial space, with 39 automobile parking spaces and 92 bicycle parking spaces, utilizing State Density Bonus.

- 1717 University Ave

Demolish an existing 3,039 square-foot, one story commercial building and a 680 square-foot single family dwelling with a detached garage; and construct a 18,193 square-foot, five-story, 57'-8" tall, mixed-use building with 28 dwellings (including 3 Below Market Rate units), 1,837 square feet of commercial floor area (food service with incidental service of beer and wine), and automobile covered parking lot and 40 bicycle parking spaces.

- 1752 Shattuck Ave
Demolish an existing 2,998 square-foot, one story commercial building and construct a 47,137 square-foot, seven-story mixed-use building containing 68 dwelling units and 1,210 square feet of commercial floor area. Project utilizes State Density Bonus.
- 1773 Oxford St
Demolish a six-unit multifamily building and construct a five-story, 21,048 square-foot multifamily building with 24 units (three Very-Low Income), utilizing State Density Bonus.
- 1820 San Pablo Ave
Density Bonus project to demolish the existing commercial building, retain and restore the existing façade and construct a five-story, 42,831-square-foot, 44-unit (including four Very Low-Income units) mixed-use building, with 6,840 square feet of ground floor commercial space.
- 2023 Shattuck Ave
Construct a 24,178 square-foot, seven-story, 73'5" tall, mixed-use building with 48 dwelling units (including 4 units available to very-low-income households) and 1,250 square feet of ground floor commercial space. The project would provide no vehicle parking; it would provide secure storage for 34 bicycles.
- 2028 Bancroft Way
Relocate an existing three-story x-unit residential building to 1940 Haste Street and construct a 33,539 square foot, six-story, 65' tall, residential building with 37 dwellings (including 2 Below Market Rate units) and a landscaped courtyard.
- 2065 Kittredge St – Approved in 2022, Appealed, Dismissed on January 31, 2023
Demolish portions of existing city landmark commercial buildings and construct an eight-story, mixed-use building at 2065 Kittredge street with 187 dwelling units (including four live/work units and nine very low-income units), 4,993 square feet commercial space and 43 parking spaces.
- 2067 University Ave
Demolish an existing 4,862 square foot, one-story commercial building and construct a 31,977 square foot, seven-story mixed-use building with 50 dwelling units, 1,500 square feet of commercial space on the ground floor, and 48 bicycle parking spaces.
- 2147 San Pablo Ave
Demolish a one-story automotive commercial building and construct a new 58,000 square foot six-story (70 feet) mixed-use building with approximately 1,873 square feet of commercial area and 128 Group Living Accommodation (GLA) units (12 Very Low-Income units), and 23 ground-floor parking spaces, utilizing State Density Bonus.

- 2190 Shattuck Ave
Modify the project originally approved under #ZP2016-0117, to construct a 25-story (268 feet, 6 inches), 397,212-square-foot mixed-use building with up to 326 dwelling units (including up to 32 Very Low-Income Density Bonus qualifying units), approximately 7,500 square feet commercial space, and approximately 51 underground parking spaces.
- 2538 Durant Ave
A Density Bonus project that would demolish: a four-story (52 feet), 14,780 square foot residential building that includes 12 dwelling units; five residential off-street parking spaces; and a surface parking lot with 30 vehicle parking spaces to construct an eight-story (88 feet and 8 inches), 80,829 -square-foot mixed-use building with 83 units (including six Very Low-Income units) and 1,460 square feet of ground floor commercial space.
- 2650 Telegraph Ave
Demolish one existing commercial building; and construct one, five-story, mixed-use building with 45 units (including 4 Very Low-Income units), 1,290 square feet of commercial space, 4,051 square feet of usable open space, as well as 50 long-term bicycle parking spaces and 20 vehicular parking spaces at the ground level.
- 2712 Telegraph Ave
Demolish two non-residential structures and construct a 41,065 square-foot, six-story (70 feet) mixed-use residential building containing 40 dwelling units (4 Very Low-Income) and 590 square foot commercial space, with two automobile parking spaces and 46 bicycle parking spaces, utilizing State Density Bonus.
- 2800 Telegraph Ave
Demolish a one-story (18 feet), 3,290 square foot non-residential building and construct a six-story (70 feet and 5 inches), 19,936 square-foot residential building containing 16 dwelling units (1 Very Low-Income unit), utilizing State Density Bonus.
- 3000 San Pablo Ave
Demolish an existing two-story commercial building; and 2) construct a six-story, mixed-use building with 78 dwelling units (including seven Very Low-Income units), 1,248 square feet of commercial space, 2,320 square feet of usable open space, 50 bicycle parking spaces and 43 vehicular parking spaces.
- 3030 Telegraph Ave
Demolish a one-story medical office building and two duplexes containing four units (2330 Webster Street and 2334-2336 Webster Street), and construct a five-story (63-foot) mixed-use building with 1,550 square feet of commercial area and 144 dwelling units, including eight Below Market Rate units (seven Very Low-Income units and one Low-Income unit), utilizing a State Density Bonus.

- 3031 Telegraph Ave
Modify the project originally approved under #ZP2020-0069 to construct a six-story (70 feet and 6 inches), 100,992 square-foot mixed-use building with 127 dwelling units (including nine Very Low-Income units) where 110 units were originally proposed. The project also includes 1,921 square feet of commercial space, 7,622 square feet of usable open space, 64 bicycle parking spaces and 19 vehicular parking spaces at the ground level.
- 3000 Shattuck
Demolish the existing gas station, and construct a 10-story (114 feet) mixed-use building utilizing a Density Bonus, with 166 dwellings, including 17 Very Low-Income units, and 1,043 square feet of commercial space.
- 1708 Harmon
SB 35 Application proposing 79 below market rate and one non-below market rate, manager's unit. The project has designated 58 Very Low Income (73%), and 21 Extremely Low Income units (27%).
- 1701 San Pablo; 1700-01 San Pablo, 1150 Francisco
SB 35 Application proposing 110 dwelling units – 80 below market rate and 30 market rate. The project has designated 12 Extremely Low Income units (11%), 20 Very Low Income units (18%), and 48 Low Income units (44%).
- 1740 San Pablo
SB 35 Modification for a 54 unit, 100% affordable housing project.
- 3120-30 Shattuck
SB 35 application for a mixed-used development (Limited Equity Housing Cooperative and Limited Equity Housing Condominium, plus non-profit office and other commercial).
The application includes 65 dwelling units (24 Limited Equity Housing Cooperative units and 41 Limited Equity Housing Condominium units).
- 2555 College Ave
Demolish two single-story (11 feet, 9 inches) commercial structures with a combined size of 834 square feet and construct a, four-story (47 feet, 3 inches), 10,024 square-foot multifamily residential building with 11 units (one Very-Low Income), utilizing State Density Bonus.
- 2590 Bancroft Way
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.

- 2352 Shattuck Ave
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 Ave – Building Permit Issued
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 2023 reporting period, the City issued building permits for 95 ADUs and issued certificates of occupancy for 91 ADUs.

TRANSPORTATION

AMENDMENTS

The Transportation Element was not amended during CY 2023.

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

- **Citywide Demand-Responsive Parking Meter Pricing and SmartSpace Parking Program:** By the end of 2023, all of the City's parking meters were transitioned to the goBerkeley program, which uses demand-responsive pricing and longer time limits to create more parking options and availability. In summer 2023, the City also made the SmartSpace pilot program permanent, which is a program 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 parking permits for employees of local neighborhood businesses in the Elmwood neighborhood.
- **Addison Bike Boulevard:** 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. Public Works staff initiated preliminary work on this project at the San Pablo Avenue/Addison Street intersection in 2023 as part of the Alameda County Transportation Commission San Pablo Avenue Corridor projects, and initiated work on funding allocation for the next phase of project design to begin in 2025.
- **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. Project was on hold during 2023 but will be restarted in 2024 with the goal of completing conceptual design, public engagement, environmental clearance, and City Council approval by end of 2025.

- **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 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 and requested allocation of construction funds to be able to begin construction of transportation improvements in 2023. Construction funds were allocated, a contractor was selected, and construction was initiated in mid-December 2023. Construction is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2024.
- **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 Ashby Avenue, alongside the Ashby BART station, and down 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 whom to negotiate scope, schedule, and budget. The project was on hold in 2023 but will be restarted in 2024 with anticipated City Council award of contract in the first half of 2024 and completion of conceptual design, public engagement, environmental clearance, and City Council approval by end of 2026.
- **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, improved connection at pathway gap on Peralta Avenue, enhanced pathway lighting to improve safety and security, and landscaping work to improve lighting and safety. The project completed conceptual design and public engagement in 2023 and will complete detailed engineering design in 2024, with construction anticipated in 2025.
- **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 2020 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 in late 2022, started construction in July 2023, and is anticipated to be complete in mid-2024.

- **Sacramento Street Vision Zero Quick Build:** This project implements elements of one of the high-priority pedestrian crossing safety corridors from the 2020 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 reached 95% completion of detailed engineering design in late 2023. Detailed engineering design should be completed in early 2024, with construction occurring in 2024/2025.
- **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 2023 the program continued work on major grant-funded capital Vision Zero and Complete Streets projects listed above. Other Vision Zero program activities were largely on hold during 2023, but anticipate being restarted in 2024, including the Vision Zero Coordinating Committee and continuing work on developing Rapid Response communications and Quick Build traffic safety implementation programs.
- **Transit-First Policy Implementation Plan:** The City of Berkeley General Plan has a Transit-First Policy (Berkeley General Plan Policy T-4), which gives “priority to alternative transportation and transit over single occupant vehicles on transit routes identified on the [General Plan] Transit Network map.” The Berkeley Transit-First Policy Implementation Plan is intended to create a set of policies and design guidelines that provide procedures for the implementation of the Transit-First Policy and for future planning for the City’s existing transit primary routes. The Berkeley City Council approved the Berkeley Transit-First Policy Implementation Plan in March, 2023.

HOUSING

AMENDMENTS

The Berkeley Housing Element was updated and certified by HCD on February 28, 2023, for the 2023-2031 planning period.

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 2023 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 8,934 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 2023-2031

2023-2031	Income Category
2,446	Very Low Income
1,408	Low Income
1,416	Moderate Income
3,664	Above Moderate Income
8,934	Total

In 2023, the City issued building permits for 431 dwelling units, including 313 above moderate-income units, 29 moderate income, 32 low-income deed restricted units, and 57 very low-income deed-restricted units. Table 2 below shows the City’s progress in working towards the 6th Cycle RHNA allocation.

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

Income Level	RHNA Allocation	Projection Period (June 30-2022-1/30/23)¹	2023 Permitted Units	Total Units to Date
Very Low	2,446	25	57	82
Low	1,408	25	32	57
Moderate	1,416	0	29	29
Above Moderate	3,664	442	313	755
Total	8,934	492	431	923

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 2023, the City completed the following notable objectives from the 6th Cycle Housing Element:

Program 3 - Citywide Affordable Housing Requirements

- Amended Berkeley Municipal Code (BMC) Chapter 23.38, updating the Citywide Affordable Housing Requirements (AHR) in the Zoning Ordinance on February 28, 2022 (Ordinance 7,853-N.S.)
- Adopted a Resolution addressing regulations for a voucher program and establishing an in-lieu fee pursuant to BMC Section 23.328.020(A)(2) on February 14, 2022 (Resolution No. 70,698-N.S.)

Program 4 - Housing Trust Fund

- City Council approved a total of \$2M in predevelopment funds for the North Berkeley BART affordable housing developers at their December 13, 2022 meeting (with Resolution 70,643-N.S.) and at their July 25, 2023 meeting (with Resolution 70,991-N.S.).

¹ Units permitted since the start of the 6th cycle RHNA projection period (June 30, 2022) is also displayed on Table B, and is auto-filled in the APR form by HCD.

Program 8 - Rental Housing Safety

- Completed the Housing Inspector Manual in March 2022, and reissued it in June 2023.
- Rewrote and adopted the Berkeley Housing Code in January 2023.

Program 9 - Tenant Survey

- Conducted a Tenant Survey in 2023 and presented final results to the Rent Board on September 21, 2023.

Program 12 - Workforce Housing

- The BUSD Workforce Housing project received its planning approvals in March 2023.

Program 20 - Livable Neighborhoods

- Worked collaboratively with BUSD to authorize joint registration for scholarships to City Recreation Programs (completed in 2024).
- Developed and provided 6 Low SES 11th grade Berkeley students with the opportunity to learn career skills through project-based internships. The effort includes development of outreach network, communication with BUSD, and training opportunities (Completed in 2023).
- Returned to Council for review and adoption of the 5-Year Street Maintenance and Rehabilitation Plan, which was adopted by City Council in November 2023.

Program 24 - Berkeley Existing Building Electrification Strategy

- Complete Energy Equity for Renters Technical Assistance program with ACEEE in 2022 and receive its research results. This is one implementation of BEBES that is tied to housing preservation.
- Within two years of receiving research results, develop programs and policies that promote energy efficiency while protecting tenants from displacement. The City continues to look for opportunities to develop programs and policies that provide meaningful renter protections, and is coordinating with other jurisdictions and regional organizations to find potential opportunities.

Program 27 - Priority Development Areas (PDAs), Commercial and Transit Corridors

- In December 2023, the City Council adopted zoning changes that increase residential development potential in the Southside Plan Area.

Program 30 - Accessory Dwelling Units

- The City's local ADU ordinance was amended to comply with state law and took effect on November 9, 2023.

Program 36 - Adequate Sites for RHNA and Monitoring

- Within 3 months of a certified Housing Element, the City published an inventory of the available sites for residential development and provide it to prospective residential

developers on the Community GIS Portal.² The City also published an accompanying Sites Inventory guide on their Housing Element webpage.³

For a comprehensive list of Housing Element Implementation, please refer to Table D of the Housing Element APR, which was submitted separately to OPR (found in Exhibit A).

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & SAFETY

AMENDMENTS

The Disaster Preparedness and Safety Element was not amended during CY 2023.

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. 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 2023:
 - **Severe Storms:** Starting December 26 2022 and again in March 2023, a parade of storms impacted the Bay Area. Berkeley experienced flooding, downed trees, and power outages. In addition, a mudslide occurred that displaced multiple households for multiple weeks. 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:**
Staff continued work on 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, the 1923 Fire Centennial Commemoration, and the Harvest Festival, at smaller recreation events, in neighborhoods and at places of worship. In June staff gathered with representatives of Community Resilience Centers, planning for extreme heat events and

²<https://berkeley.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=2c7dfafbb1f64e159f4fdf28a52f51c6&showLayers=Berkeley%20Parcels;Base%20Data;Planning%20and%20Building>

³https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/HEU_Sites%20Inventory_Tables-webpage.pdf

assessing program needs, as well as receiving feedback about program structure and potential improvements.

- **Outdoor Warning System Coordination:**

In 2023, the City coordinated with the Outdoor Warning System vendor and community partners to install sirens for broad coverage citywide. At the 1923 Fire Centennial Commemoration, installed sirens were activated for the first time. Installation of remaining sirens will continue into 2024.

- **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan:**

In 2023, staff began development of the 2024 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan addresses natural hazards in Berkeley and their potential impacts, as well as a strategic plan to mitigate those impacts.

- **Evacuation Time Study:**

Staff began collaboration with a consulting firm to begin studies to comply with State evacuation planning requirements, including SB99, AB747, and AB1409. These require identification residential developments that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes, assessment of the safety, capacity, and viability of evacuation routes under a range of emergency scenarios, and identification of evacuation locations.

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION

AMENDMENTS

The Parks and Open Space Element was not amended during CY 2023.

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

- **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 grants and insurance. 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. In CY23 the Parks Tax contributed \$1,065,000 to projects like the Ohlone 2-5, 5-12 and Mural Garden, Grove Park 2-5 and 5-12 play structure replacement and the Grove Park sports field renovation. Additionally, Measure F provides a yearly \$450,000 for minor maintenance projects. CY23 maintenance projects included a variety of improvements

including the resurfacing of numerous basketball and tennis court surfaces and the replacement of play structure elements and improvements to Greg Brown, Charlie Dorr, Berkeley Way, Solano-Peralta, Grizzly Peak, and Remillard parks.

- 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 in 2021, and is now implementing Phase 2 of the bond program in city wide improvements. Approximately half of this funding is going towards improvements in city parks, camps and waterfront. Phase 2 projects are largely focused in South and West Berkeley facility and restroom improvements and include parks projects such as the replacement of the Willard Clubhouse and the renovation of the Martin Luther King Youth Service Center.
 - Grants: In 2023, PRW applied for 20 grants and was awarded 10 of those, totaling \$18.889M. These included five State Coastal Conservancy grants totaling \$15M for the Berkeley Waterfront for pier-ferry planning, main harbor dredging, dock replacement, trail improvements, and parking lot improvements; a \$1M tree planting grant; and a \$750K grant for the renovation of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Young Adult Program community center.
- **Recently Completed Capital Improvements/Major Maintenance Park Projects (last 2 years)**

2023

- Camps: Echo Lake Tree Removal (General Fund)
- Camps: Cazadero Riverbed Erosion – Phase 1 (Camps Fund)
- Parks: Grove Park Play Structures (Parks Tax, Grants, T1)
- Parks: Ohlone 2-5, 5-12 Play Structures and Mural Garden (Parks Tax, T1)
- Parks: Solano-Peralta Play Structure – Phase 1 (Parks Tax)
- Parks: John Hinkel Park Hut- Design Only (Parks Tax)
- Parks: 63rd Mini- Park Community Garden (Parks Tax)
- Parks: James Kenney Skate Spot – Design Only (Parks Tax)
- Pools: King Pool Painting, Floors, Mechanical and Electrical Improvements (General Fund)
- Waterfront: Bike Park - Design only (Parks Tax)
- Waterfront: Misc. Piling Replacement (CIP, GF, Marina Fund, T1)
- Waterfront: Finger Dock Replacement Phases 3 and 4 (Marina Fund)

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)

- **Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Major Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)**

The PRW Department has over 50 projects on its CIP list. The following 8 projects represent its largest projects:

- Construction Projects
 - Aquatic Park East Streetscape and Landscape, Completion June 2024
 - Marina Main Channel Dredging, Completion December 2024
 - Willard Clubhouse and Restroom Replacement, Completion April 2025
 - D and E Dock Replacement, Completion December 2025
 - Martin Luther King Jr, Youth Service Center Replacement, Completion May 2026
 - Tom Bates Sports Complex Restroom/Community Space, Completion December 2026
- Planning Projects
 - Waterfront Specific Plan, 2025
 - Pier and Water Transportation Plan and Design, December 2026

- **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 2023, the City worked with volunteer groups to install new pollinator gardens in 2 City parks and expanded pollinator gardens in 2 additional parks, with an effort to create a pollinator corridor with our 13 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.
- Tree Planting: The City hosted tree planting events at James Kenney Park, Ohlone Park, and Aquatic Park. At Aquatic Park, more than 150 trees were planted along the highway as part of an effort to create a nature-based separation between Interstate 80 and Aquatic Park,

beautifying the Park with new tree canopy, and helping to increase the absorption of greenhouse gases.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

AMENDMENTS

The Environmental Management Element was not amended during CY 2023.

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

Environmental Management Programs

- **Regional Networks**

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

- Bay Area Climate Adaptation Network (BayCAN)
- Bay Area Electric Vehicle Coordinating Council and Steering Committee
- Bay Area Regional Climate Action Planning Initiative (BARCAPI)
- Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN)
- California Building Decarbonization Coalition
- California Climate and Energy Collaborative (CCEC)
- Green Cities California (GCC)
- Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition (LGSEC)
- Resilient Cities Network (R-Cities)
- Ride and Drive Clean
- StopWaste Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- The Berkeley Lab Community Advisory Group (CAG)
- Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN)
- Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Indoor Appliance Implementation Working Group

- **Grants/In-Kind Services**

- **Building Electrification Institute (BEI):** The City is receiving technical assistance from BEI, to support building electrification efforts. In 2023 BEI supported efforts to advance amendments to the Building Emissions Saving, including the development of time of sale upgrade requirements for small residential buildings. 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.

- **CA Governor’s Office of Planning and Research Adaptation Planning Grant Program (OPR APGP):** In 2023, The City of Berkeley in partnership with the Ecology Center and the Berkeley Climate Equity Collaborative, was awarded a grant of \$497,042 from the OPR APGP. The project includes co-creating with community an update to Berkeley’s General Plan Safety Element, development of a new General Plan Environmental Justice Element, and creation of an Equitable Climate and Resilience Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy and Dashboard. As part of this work, the team will conduct additional technical analyses which will guide strategies, goals and policies of the Safety and Environmental Justice Elements, as well as future General Plan Element updates.
- **Home Equity Electrification Project (HEEP):** Through a \$1M grant award from ICLEI and Google.org, Habitat for Humanity is helping develop data-driven targeting to serve low-income homeowners with holistic electrification, while supporting energy resilience in Berkeley, Fremont, Hayward, and Oakland. Grants will make holistic electrification upgrades and key repairs – preserving our affordable housing stock, and strengthening both our neighborhoods and our energy infrastructure. Other partners include Rebuilding Together East Bay North, GRID Alternatives, and Cal State University East Bay. In 2023 the team worked to refine the scope of work, define guidelines for participation, and develop a pipeline of income-qualified homes eligible for participation.
- **Grants Received towards Climate Equity Fund Pilot Projects:** In 2023, several grants were successfully awarded to Climate Equity Fund Programs:
 - \$53,000 through RCIFunds towards one of the Resilient Home Retrofit projects
 - \$25,000 through the UC Berkeley Chancellor’s grant towards the Berkeley Equity E-Bike Project (BEEP)
 - \$25,000 through the UC Berkeley Chancellor’s grant towards the Climate Equity Collaborative
- **Climate Equity Fund Pilot Program**

In 2021, Berkeley City Council established a two-year Pilot Climate Equity Fund, with an initial budget of \$600,000, to promote building and transportation electrification for low-income residents. There are three program areas, and all were being implemented in 2023:

 - **Program Area 1: Resilient Home Retrofits** (\$250,000) – In 2023, three contractors worked to develop processes, applications, and scopes of work for approximately 30 income-qualified units. Implementation is in progress with anticipated completion by 2025.
 - **Program Area 2: Berkeley Equity E-Bike Program (BEEP)** (\$250,000) –Community outreach for the project commenced in October 2022, and over 600 applications for

the project were received in February and March 2023. Using a lottery process, 56 income-qualified Berkeley residents were selected to participate. Distribution of e-bikes occurred in the spring and summer of 2023. Participants are submitting quarterly odometer readings and surveys about their e-bike riding habits, helping to inform future climate equity actions. In the first three months of the program, riders traveled a total of 6,504 miles, and 76% of participants reported spending less on transportation.

- **Program Area 3: Climate Equity Collaborative** (\$100,000) – In 2023 the Ecology Center, who leads the Climate Equity Collaborative, built relationships with local community organizations representing disadvantaged communities, hosted four group convenings (virtual and in-person), co-developed a list of resilience metrics that are of interest to communities, attended several community events, and developed applications, processes, and an MOU for various types of participants.
- **Kala Artist in Residence:** The Planning Department is participating in Kala Art Institute’s Print Public Municipal Artist in Residence Program, an arts-integrated approach to urban planning and community activation. The goal of the program is for artists to work with city departments as cultural strategists to help approach challenges in new ways, and lift up voices that are less often heard. The Pilot Climate Equity Fund is participating in this program, and staff is partnering with the artist Cheryl Derricotte through Fall 2024. In 2023 the artist hosted two events – one event with the BEEP program participants, and one with the Climate Equity Collaborative.
- **Just Transition Pilot Program**

On June 14, 2022, City Council approved a resolution to develop a Just Transition Pilot Program, with a budget of \$1,500,000. This two-year pilot program aims to aggregate multiple direct install projects of electrification measures in existing affordable housing buildings and/or for low-to-moderate income households (at or below 120% of the Area Median Income). Electrification measures include replacing gas water heating, HVAC, electrical upgrades and cooking equipment with efficient electric systems. The program requires that upgrades be completed by pre-qualified contractors who meet minimum labor standards, to ensure that residential electrification construction work also provides equitable benefits to workers. The objective of labor standards is to advance high-road, family-sustaining jobs that pay living wages, with comprehensive benefits and opportunities for career advancement for a diverse workforce. In 2023 the City released an RFP for a partner to implement this program, and selected a contractor. Implementation is beginning in 2024.
- **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. BCAC provides a vehicle for climate engagement where members can share resources, events and advocacy opportunities that support climate action plan implementation in Berkeley and beyond.
- **Community Webinars:** The City collaborated with governmental and community organizations, and municipalities in both Alameda and Contra Costa counties to host or promote webinars on a variety of topics such as building electrification, induction cooking, climate justice, residential energy efficiency, electric cars and bikes, and solar and storage.
- **Resources & Incentives:** The City promoted various incentive programs for residents to access discounted solar and storage through the annual *Bay Area SunShares* program, and electric bike and vehicles through *Ride & Drive Clean* seasonal discount campaigns. All of these programs provide time-limited group discounts, vetted providers, community workshops, and a streamlined process to remove barriers to solar and electric transportation adoption. The City also promoted 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.
- **East Bay Green Home Tour:** The City hosted its third annual virtual *East Bay Green Home Tour* showcasing various efforts of local residents to save water and energy, increase resilience to drought and heat, electrify their appliances, and reduce the carbon footprint of their homes. Hundreds of people attended the event, and the videos that are available online afterwards continue to receive thousands of views.
- **Ride Electric:** The City hosted its 6th *Annual Ride Electric* in conjunction with the City Harvest Festival. This event offered electric bike and scooter test rides through the City's shared electric mobility providers and local bicycle retailers, and a municipal fleet electric vehicle showcase. The City offered multiple resources to income-qualified residents to help electrify their ride. Additionally, the City invited multiple community partners such as Ava Community Energy, the Ecology Center, the Climate Reality Project, and Citizens' Climate Lobby to host interactive information tables on home electrification and recycling.
- **Conference/Workshop presentations:** In addition to community-facing outreach, the staff from Berkeley's Office of Energy and Sustainable Development spoke at virtual and in-person conferences and workshops in 2023. These speaking engagements included the Annual California Climate and Energy Collaborative Forum, Annual Urban Sustainability Directors' Network Conference, State and Local Energy and Climate

Coordination Forum, a Department of Energy webinar, and a City of Oakland Electrification Forum, among others.

- **Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory**

In 2023, the City reported to City Council that based on the best currently available data total community-wide GHG emissions in 2021 decreased 25% from the 2000 baseline, and increased 9% from 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 was a historically low year of emissions.

- **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 CO₂e by committing to reduce emissions 60.5% from 2018 levels by 2030.

- **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

- **Global Covenant of Mayors**

The City of Berkeley in maintained compliance in the Global Covenant of Mayors in 2023.

- **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)**

The LHMP is the main document that houses the City's climate adaptation work, and in 2023 was in the process of being updated. A public draft will be released in early 2024, and the final plan is anticipated to be completed and adopted in 2024.

- **Extreme Heat Planning**

In 2023, the City worked to develop extreme heat protocols for City operations. This work evaluates city infrastructure and community needs, and is integrating best practices from other jurisdictions. The City is also participating in a regional group coordinated with UC Berkeley, the Berkeley Lab, and several Bay Area jurisdictions, to share and plan around extreme heat.

Solid and Hazardous Waste and Regulations

- **Landfill Solid Waste Emissions**

Total community-wide landfill solid waste and overall emissions from the waste sector decreased by 3% in 2021 compared to 2020, placing current waste sector emissions 49% below the 2000 baseline.

Air Quality

- **Indoor Appliances Implementation Working Group**

Berkeley city staff were invited (along with only two other municipalities) to participate in the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Indoor Appliances Working Group (IWG). The BAAQMD adopted amendments to Rule 9-4 and Rule 9-6 in March 2023 which establish zero-nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions standards for gas furnaces and water heaters. These rules phase in requirements, beginning in 2027, that will ultimately only allow heat pumps (zero NOx appliances) to be sold and installed in the Bay Area for new water heaters and furnaces. The IWG is assisting the BAAQMD in identifying and addressing implementation issues including technical and workforce readiness of the market and equitable transition to compliant appliances.

- **Wildfire Smoke**

The Bay Area has experienced multiple days and periods of unhealthy air quality due to wildfire smoke in recent years. These events can coincide with heat waves, high fire risks, and/or Public Safety Power Shutoffs. To better address the threat of wildfire smoke, in 2019 the City of Berkeley participated in a grant led by Alameda County to create a communications protocol for responding to wildfire smoke and other air quality conditions. In addition, in 2023 the Office of Emergency Services secured 28 air cleaners from a Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) grant. These air cleaners were distributed to public facing sites including libraries and community centers for use during poor air quality events. The City is also working to advance emergency and resilience planning for extreme heat and high air quality index (AQI) events, including coordination with cities around North America, and local collaboration outreach with community partners serving disadvantaged communities.

Water Quality and Creeks

- **Water consumption** in Berkeley declined by 31% between 2000-2021, and declined by 3% between 2020-2021 as reported in 2023.

- **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 square ft or more) or rehabilitated (2,500 square ft or more) landscapes in projects applying for zoning or buildings permits. In 2023, 12 projects, with a total of 13,114 square ft of landscaping, were completed in Berkeley that were subject to WELO.

- **Sea Level Rise**

In 2019, the City initiated the Waterfront Specific Plan project to develop a long-term vision for achieving a financially self-sustainable publicly-owned Waterfront. The team conducted an extensive community outreach process and a draft Sea Level Rise Study for the Berkeley Waterfront. Preliminary findings indicate that three locations at the Berkeley Waterfront may experience periodic flooding by 2050 during a 100-year storm and King tide:

- The shoreline at the north segment of Marina Blvd between the Virginia Street Extension and the entrance to Cesar Chavez Park

- Staff is in partnership with East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) as part of their North Basin Strip planning and design project (funding provided to EBRPD by Measure AA - San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority) to conduct a feasibility study with collaborative input from City.
 - The shoreline to the south of University Avenue between West Frontage Road and Marina Blvd
 - In 2023 staff submitted a grant application to the US Department of Transportation for the Berkeley Waterfront University Ave Shoreline and Habitat Resiliency Project for consideration. The funder plans to notify selected awardees in early 2024.
 - Various spots in the northeast corner of the inner harbor of the Marina.
- **Groundwater Rise**

Shallow groundwater in coastal communities will rise as sea levels rise, increasing the risk of flooding communities from below. Through funding from the California Resilience Challenge grant, a project led by the San Francisco Estuary Institute Aquatic Science Center, in collaboration with Pathways Climate Institute, UC Berkeley, and Bay Area cities and counties, explored the links between sea level rise, precipitation, and the elevation of shallow groundwater in the Bay Area. The City of Berkeley was a joint proposer and participated in the Project Management Taskforce.

The final 2022 report provides existing conditions groundwater mapping and future condition projections, suggestions on how to use this dataset for planning purposes, recommendations for additional modeling and assessments, and potential next steps. The City plans to take this study to the next step by evaluating the impact of shallow groundwater rise and sea level rise on toxic materials stored underground. This work is being funded through a grant received in 2023 from the CA OPR APGP grant (described above), and will take place from 2024-2026.

Habitat and the Urban Forest

- **Urban Forest Tree Planting Program**

The City of Berkeley currently has a vibrant urban forest made up of approximately 38,000 street, park and median trees. These trees are managed and maintained by the Urban Forestry Unit of the Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Department. However, while dense and vibrant in areas, this urban forest is not equitably distributed throughout the City. Current tree inventories and overall canopy coverage data illustrates fewer trees located in the West and South Berkeley neighborhoods, which also have a higher population of lower-income and historically disadvantaged communities. The City plans to plant 1,000 new trees in West and South Berkeley neighborhoods over the next two years. Funds have been secured to cover most costs through an Urban Greening Grant of \$726,000 and an Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant of \$576,000. Both grants are sponsored by the California Natural Resources Agency. In addition, the City was awarded a federal Urban and Community Forestry grant from the Inflation Reduction Act for \$1,000,000 to hire staff and continue tree planting work over the next three years.

This project aims to eliminate the past barriers to growing new street trees by first promoting tree planting opportunities, engaging with communities and gathering specific tree planting requests in areas with low tree counts. Next, funding will cover all costs of the tree growing process, which include site planning and species selection, creating new sidewalk growing spaces, purchasing and planting trees, and providing the three years of watering investment needed to establish these drought tolerant trees.

These new trees will help to provide shade, cooling, storm water benefits, and beautification in neighborhoods that have been historically underserved. Additionally, this project offers an opportunity to grow tree species which are resilient and climate change ready, and to utilize modern urban forestry methods to create sustainable sites and reduce future infrastructure conflicts.

- **Pollinator Gardens**

Bees and other insects are responsible for the pollination of much of the world's crops and flowering plants. The ecological service they provide is essential for a healthy environment. While numbers of many species have declined, several Berkeley Parks have been renovated to create space for native pollinator gardens and corridors. The pollinator garden partnership and collaboration began in 2020. In 2023, 6 gardens were constructed at the following locations:

- A new community garden at Sixty-Third St Mini-Park
- A new pollinator garden at Charlie Dorr Mini Park
- A large new 5,000 square foot native garden on the west side of the roundabout at University Ave. and Marina Blvd.
- 4 renovated native planters at the Berkeley Marina Sportsman Center Bait Shop at 225 University Ave.
- Pollinator garden at Monterey Ave. and Posen Ave.
- Native garden Rowing Club parking lot at Aquatic Park

Local Food Systems

- **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.

Energy and Lighting

- **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.

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

Municipal buildings use 100% renewable electricity from Ava Community Energy as of 2021.

- **Building Energy Usage Reductions**

As reported in a 2023 report to Council, Berkeley's 2021 overall greenhouse gas emissions from the building sector were 34% below the 2000 baseline. Total community-wide electricity usage decreased 14% between 2020 to 2021. Total community-wide natural gas usage increased by 1% from 2020 to 2021, but has decreased by 22% since 2000.

- **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, 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 2023.

- **Municipal Building Upgrades in 2023 included:**

- **Building Lighting Upgrades to LED:** Fire Station #4 and #7 and the Emergency Services Warehouse building lighting, including lighting controls, were upgraded to LEDs in 2023. The Fire Stations and Public Garages upgrades are saving \$37,000 annually and 94,000+ kWh. Additional municipal building upgrades are in process.
- **Electricity Rate Reassignments:** The electric rate assignments of ten municipal sites, including sports fields and garages, were changed in 2023, saving \$44,000 annually in energy costs.
- **Kitchen Electrification:** The North & South Berkeley Senior Centers received electric cooking equipment (stovetops and drywells) in 2023.
- **Heat Pump Water Heaters:** The Main Library, North & South Library Branches, Corporation Yard Green Room & Ratcliff Building (Admin), Fire Stations 3 & 6, and Marina Admin/Restroom had natural gas hot water heaters replaced by efficient electric heat pump water heaters in 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. In 2023, 383 buildings completed a BESO assessment. In addition, in early 2023, staff assembled a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of building decarbonization experts from local, state, and federal organizations, including PG&E, Ava, California Energy Commission, the Berkeley Lab, Building Decarbonization Coalition, contractors and architects, to advise on potential requirements at time of sale. Over the last year, staff worked with the TAC, Bridge Association of Realtors, the Berkeley Rent Board,

and the Environment and Climate Commission to develop a policy proposal. Staff plans to bring an amendment to BESO to Council in 2024, which will include energy upgrade requirements for small residential buildings.

- **Ava Community Energy (Ava)**

The City participates on the Joint Powers Agency Board of Directors for the community choice aggregation (CCA) program in Alameda County called Ava Community Energy (Ava). 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. Ava 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.

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

The City is working with Ava Community Energy on a procurement for resilient solar + storage systems at critical municipal facilities. 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. Ava conducted a full technical analysis of locations and sizing potential for installing solar + storage at critical municipal facility sites. Ava will lead the procurement on behalf of eight cities including Berkeley in order to reduce the cost and complexity of potential system deployment. In 2023, Ava re-released a full Request for Offers for vendors to bid on the various projects.

- **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, applies to new building applications for land use permits or zoning certificates, and was enforced throughout 2023. New buildings use highly efficient heat pumps, for water heating and for heat and air conditioning, and electrical appliances such as induction ranges.

- **Electric Mobility Roadmap**

Implementation of Berkeley's first Electric Mobility Roadmap (Roadmap), adopted in July 2020, continued in 2023, including the formation of an Electric Mobility Working Group in March 2023 that meets on a biweekly basis. 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, Improve Alternatives to Driving, Achieve Zero Net Carbon Emissions, and Demonstrate City Leadership.

The City continues to promote the use of electric vehicles (EVs) and facilitate the installation of EV charging stations by offering streamlined permitting, educating property owners about EV charging and grant opportunities, and providing EV charging on municipal property. Based on field verification, in October 2023 there were currently 129 publicly available EV charging ports in Berkeley (Level 2 and Direct Current Fast Chargers, or DCFC) in addition to at least 75 EV charging ports installed by businesses for their employees, or in multifamily apartment buildings for residents and visitors. The City is currently partnering with Ava to develop public DCFC Hubs at two locations in Berkeley. Local amendments to the 2022 California Green Building Standards Code, that became effective in January 2023, require levels of EV charging in new buildings in Berkeley which exceed state requirements.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & EMPLOYMENT

AMENDMENTS

The Economic Development and Employment Element was not amended during CY 2023.

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

- **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 (6 active loans) have resumed payments (a pause was offered during the pandemic) and the Loan Administration Board toured the establishments of all borrowers in the fall of 2023.
- **COVID-19 Resiliency Loan Program (RLP)**
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, 18 loans have been executed (totaling \$793,000) and the program is now serviced by Working Solutions, a certified Community Development Financial Institution.
- **Grants for artists and cultural practitioners**
In 2023 the City of Berkeley Civic Arts program provided grants to support a vibrant arts ecosystem, strengthen diverse cultural expressions, and ensure equitable access to arts and culture throughout Berkeley. Civic Arts Grants Awarded in 2023 included: 11 individual arts project grants (\$44,000), 31 community festivals (\$199,983) and 55 arts organizations

(\$454,799). The City also leveraged a matching grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to create a new Civic Arts grant program with \$60,000 to distribute in grants (up to \$5,000 each) for: Berkeley nonprofit (not-art specific) organizations producing arts and cultural programming in partnership with an arts organization or teaching artist; or Greater Bay Area arts nonprofit organizations producing arts and cultural programming in Berkeley. A new program, the *Capital Projects Grants*, was funded with \$300,000 in December of 2023 and established to retain and sustain the vitality of Berkeley's arts sector through real estate and capital project support. In 2024 grants of up to \$150,000 each will be awarded to Berkeley-based nonprofit arts and cultural organizations to help them stay in Berkeley.

- **Business Outreach and Technical Assistance**

In calendar year 2023, 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 ongoing commercial district management and special events.

- **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. Berkeley Ventures Berkeley Values programming includes activities that engage Berkeley startup founders, funders, and STEM industry professionals to build a local economy that benefits our entire community. Programs 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. In 2023, dozens of Berkeley High School students saw how their science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills apply in Berkeley's workplaces during the 8 STEM CareerX Tours that took place at a total of 11 companies in 2023.

- **Business succession 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. Special funds (ARPA dollars) were leveraged to support a multi-year engagement with Project Equity. The funds 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 also implements strategies to measure business retention risk in Berkeley on an ongoing basis.

- **National League of Cities (NLC) Cities for Inclusive Entrepreneurship (CIE) Program** Starting in 2022, the City of Berkeley was awarded a grant to join a cohort led by the National League of

Cities' Cities for Inclusive Entrepreneurship program to explore ways to work with local business network partners to strengthen relationships with Berkeley's Latinx and Black-owned businesses and support their scale-up, expansion, and continuity. Outreach conducted in 2023 to black and brown businesses uncovered that many of their challenges are the same as those facing other small businesses citywide; and provided the opportunity for OED to deliver technical assistance to Berkeley's businesses wishing to access city services in a more streamlined and accessible manner.

- **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 2023, there are **40** installations of outdoor commerce in Berkeley. In 2024, 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 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 local shopping during the holiday season and featured an in-person holiday fair in Downtown Berkeley in December of 2023.

- **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 2023, 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 funds were spent in 2023 on events, social media, and additional media channels that will increase local businesses' sales, visibility in the region, reputation, and community pride including the marquee event "Berkeley Today and Tomorrow" which featured all of the businesses highlighted in the campaign at the local Ciel Event Space. In 2023, 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 for 2024, and an expansion of the Elmwood BID will become operational in 2025.

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 2023, one property was designated as City Landmarks and added to the local register: 60 Panoramic Way.
- The Landmarks Preservation Ordinance (LPO) was maintained in 2023 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. Through a public review process, the City received and then considered but finally declined to grant designation status to a residential property at 910 Indian Rock Avenue.
- The existing referral process prior to demolition continues with 14 referrals in 2023; no ordinance changes occurred in 2023.

- The City of Berkeley continues to serve as a Certified Local Government (CLG); no CLG grant applications were submitted in 2023. The City continues to maintain a formal partnership with SHPO. Other organizations, such as BAHA, communicated regularly with the City in 2023 through correspondence and presentations to LPC.
- A Notice of Violation for un-permitted exterior alterations and signage installation was issued for a commercial Landmark property in 2023.
- In 2023, the City’s GIS mapping system includes the inventory of City Landmark and Structures of Merit sites.
- In 2023, a seismic retrofit program continued to provide incentives for the owners of “soft-story” properties, including several historically significant properties, to complete seismic upgrades.
- Design Review Staff has been assisting with this effort to review projects for FEMA funds and encourages preservation-sensitive measures.
- The City maintains a relationship with the school district on matters of cultural resource management. In 2023, consultants for the district provided an advisory presentation to the Landmarks Preservation Commission describing a planned improvements project for a district-owned City Landmark site.
- The City received one request for a Mills Act contract in 2023.

Urban Design

- There were no new ordinance changes for design review in 2023. Both Staff and the Design Review Committee (DRC) continued the General Plan Policies already set in place.
- In-person meetings started once more this past March 2023.
- The DRC was able to forward a favorable recommendation to the Zoning Adjustments Board (ZAB) on sixteen (16) residential projects in 2023. Please see the list of project addresses below:
 1. 3031 Adeline Street
 2. 2480 Bancroft Way
 3. 2538 Durant Avenue
 4. 2127 Dwight Way
 5. 2147 San Pablo Avenue
 6. 2427 San Pablo Avenue
 7. 2190 Shattuck Avenue
 8. 2420 Shattuck Avenue
 9. 2920 Shattuck Avenue
 10. 3000 Shattuck Avenue

11. 2587 Telegraph Avenue
12. 2800 Telegraph Avenue
13. 3030 Telegraph Avenue
14. 3031 Telegraph Avenue
15. 1598 University Avenue
16. 1652 University Avenue

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

AMENDMENTS

The Citizen Participation Element was not amended during CY 2023.

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. 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