



Community Health Commission
Sara Webber, Chair
Kellie Knox, Staff Secretary

Community Health Commission

Thursday, March 28, 2024, 6:30 – 9:00pm

Meeting Location:

Judge Henry Ramsey Jr. South Berkeley Senior Center
2939 Ellis Street, Berkeley, CA 94703
Phone: 510-981-5170

AGENDA

Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order by Chair
2. Roll Call by Secretary
3. Land Acknowledgement – Attachment 6
4. Announcements & Introductions
5. Confirm note taker – if needed
6. Public Comment

The public may comment virtually about any item **not** on the agenda. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker.

Discussion and Action Items

Public comments regarding agenda items will be heard while the Commission is discussing the item. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker.

1. Approval of Draft Minutes from 2/22/2024 Regular Meeting - Attachment 1
2. Public Health Officer's Report
3. Commission Chair's Report
4. Subcommittee Reports
5. Response to Resolution # 69,980 – N.S. "To Accelerate the City of Berkeley's transition to Plant-Based Foods) – Attachment 7 and Attachment 8
6. Add/Remove Subcommittees/ Members

Future Agenda items

Adjournment

Attachments

1. Draft minutes from 2/22/24 CHC Regular meeting
2. CHC 2023 Work Plan
3. CHC Subcommittee Roster 2024
4. CHC Meeting Calendar 2024
5. City Council and Community Health Commission Timeline 2024
6. Land Acknowledgement
7. Resolution 69,986 – N.S.
8. Draft Letter to Council related to Resolution 69,986 – N.S.

A Vibrant and Healthy Berkeley for All

The *next meeting* of the Community Health Commission is scheduled to be held on Thursday, April 25, 2024 with a *deadline of Tuesday, April 16, 2024 for the public's submission of agenda items and materials for the agenda packet*. **Dates are subject to change.** Please contact the Commission Secretary to confirm.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at Health, Housing & Community Services Department located at 2180 Milvia Street, 2nd floor, Berkeley, CA 94704 during regular business hours. The Commission Agenda and Minutes may be viewed on the City of Berkeley website: [Boards & Commissions | City of Berkeley \(berkeleyca.gov\)](#) (SB 343)

CONFLICT OF INTEREST INFORMATION: City commissioners, pursuant to Government Code section 1090, are responsible for recusing themselves from all commission discussions and actions in which they may have a conflict of interest. If your affiliation, paid or unpaid, with other agencies has changed since the last meeting of this commission, your ability to participate in commission activities may have changed. Individual guidance is available from the City Attorney's Office (CAO). Commissioners are encouraged to consult with the CAO if they have questions, concerns, or would like clarification about matters related to potential conflicts of interest.

The CAO may be reached at:

Email: attorney@cityofberkeley.info
TEL: (510) 981-6950 TDD: (510) 981-6903, FAX: (510) 981-6960
2180 Milvia Street 4th Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704 - Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm

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

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

Secretary:

Kellie Knox
Health, Housing & Community Services Department
2180 Milvia Street, 2nd Floor
Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 981-5301
kknox@berkeleyca.gov



Community Health Commission

Community Health Commission

DRAFT MINUTES

Regular Meeting, Thursday, February 22, 2024

The meeting convened at 6:39 p.m. with Commission Chair Katz presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Webber, Bechtolsheim, Smart, Spigner, Lee, Katz.

Absent: None

Excused: None

Staff present: Kellie Knox

Community Members: Two.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

ACTION ITEM

1. M/S/C (Smart/Spigner): Motion to adopt minutes from the January 25, 2024 meeting.

Ayes: Commissioners Smart, Spigner, Lee, Katz.

Noes: None.

Abstain: Commissioners Webber, Bechtolsheim.

Absent from vote: None

Excused: None

Motion Passed.

ACTION ITEM

6. M/S/C (Smart/Spigner): Motion to nominate and elect Commissioner Webber for office of Chair.

A Vibrant and Healthy Berkeley for All

Ayes: Commissioners Webber, Bechtolsheim, Smart, Spigner, Lee, Katz.
Noes: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent from vote: None

Excused: None .

Motion Passed.

ACTION ITEM

6. M/S/C (Spigner/Smart): Motion to nominate and elect Commissioner Lee for office of Vice Chair.:

Ayes: Commissioners Webber, Bechtolsheim, Smart, Spigner, Lee, Katz

Noes: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent from vote: None

Excused: None .

Motion Passed.

ACTION ITEM

8.M/S/C (Lee/Bechtolsheim): Motion to eliminate the Entheogenic Subcommittee.

Ayes: Commissioners Webber, Bechtolsheim, Smart, Spigner, Lee, Katz

Noes: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent from vote: None

Excused: None.

Motion Passed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

2. Public Health Officer's Report – *Review of submitted report and Discussion*
3. Commission Chair's Report by Chair Katz - *Discussion*
4. Subcommittee Reports - none
5. Plant-Based Food Public Health Promotion – Discussion
6. Election of Officers – Chair and Vice-Chair – Discussion and Motions
7. Review 2024 Workplan – Discussion and moved to future agenda
8. Add/Remove Subcommittees/Members – Discussion and Motion

Future Agenda Items

- Letter to City Manager concerning Res. #69,980 – N.S. (To Accelerate the City of Berkeley's Transition to Plant-Based Foods)
- Review Workplan – May Regular meeting
- Review frequency of contact with the Public Health Division

This meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

These minutes will be reviewed and approved on Thursday March 28, 2024

Minutes approved on: _____

Respectfully submitted,

Kellie Knox, Commission Secretary _____

Community Health Commission 2023 Work Plan

Guiding Philosophy: To look at health through the lens of equity, and to address, ameliorate, and abolish health inequities in Berkeley through our work while advancing other public health efforts.

Mission/Purpose:

1. Collaborate with the community and the Berkeley Health Officer Unit and Public Health Division, and City of Berkeley to eliminate health inequity by:
 - a. Advocating for good policy to council that has the potential to improve the health of Berkeley residents that can be implemented, monitored, and evaluated.
 - b. Representing the community through the diversity of this commission
 - c. Increasing the public education/social marketing efforts, understanding, and awareness of issues.
 - d. Advocating together with the residents of Berkeley most affected by institutional, social, organizational inequities/disparities.
 - e. Providing a public forum for all community members to share concerns, ideas
2. Achieve general public health progress by being responsive to community needs and facilitating general health and safety.

Overall goals, issues & priorities: All issues can be addressed through a health equity lens.

- Include a focus on the impact of COVID-19 and the city's response to it
- Increase healthy food security
- Advocate for the expansion of affordable housing
- Continue to urge that Alta Bates Berkeley Medical Campus remain open while also helping to suggest actions to address consequences of planned closure
- Be responsive in potential recommendations to help Berkeley residents, and care providers and clinics cope with potential federal disruption in healthcare policy and federal spending cuts
- Further address more social determinants of health
- Continue to be a community advocate to City Council to address structural, institutional, and health inequities impacting all underserved populations
- Work to have community health data measures documented in a timely manner and to promptly evaluate and act on novel data such as the Health Status Report
- Work to support policies and initiatives that advance UHC such as Medicare for all
- Advise the City Council as HHCS and Public Health Division develop their

strategic plans, community health assessment and community health improvement plan.

General steps and actions needed to meet priorities:

1. Conduct outreach to encourage Berkeley community members to engage with the CHC
2. Collaborate with other commissions to share resources and support recommendations
3. Focused/specialized ad-hoc subcommittees, as needed
4. Keep track of local, state, and federal policy and data flow

Specific steps and actions needed to meet priorities:

➤ Basic Needs Security

Focus on healthy food security and affordable/accessible housing

- In terms of healthy food security:
 - Advocate for policies to mitigate unhealthy food consumption
 - Advocate for affordability and accessibility of healthy foods in supporting programs like the Berkeley Food Institute, etc.,
- In terms of accessible/affordable housing:
 - Advocate for affordable housing
 - Advocate for increased rent control
- Connect with the community based organizations and appropriate city of Berkeley departments to acquire information about available resources for Berkeley residents.

➤ Chronic Disease Prevention

- Recommend interventions to address diabetes, obesity, heart diseases, and other chronic conditions highlighted by the Berkeley health status report.
- Recommend interventions to respond to deferred preventative care due to COVID-19

➤ Health Equity

- Review the Health Status Report- dialogues with staff and community to investigate the data and identify populations experiencing inequities, and recommend program interventions for the City Public Health Division
 - Engage Stakeholders on LGBT health equity issues to help complement findings of the Health Status Report
 - Investigate and implement efforts to improve immigrant access to health care
- Advocate for the implementation of strategies that will reduce health inequities:
 - Investigate community access to telehealth and other technologies to improve healthcare equity
 - Work on cultural competency for health care providers
 - Continue to support the development of the African American Holistic Resource Center

➤ Health Facilities

- Continue to recommend actions to keep Alta Bates open
- Consider ways to increase emergency care access in Berkeley
- Respond to City Council referral regarding Long Term Care Facilities

➤ Policy tracking

- Track City Council minutes, state, and national legislative actions
- Bring policy updated to the Commission as appropriate.

District	Last	First	Community Health Commission Subcommittees 2024			
			Health Facilities	Health Equity	Basic Needs Security	Chronic Disease Prevention
1	Webber	Sara		x	X	
2	Bechtolsheim	Benjamin	X			X
3						
4	Smart	Karma		X	X	
5	Spigner	Tora		X		x
6						
7	Lee	Eric	X			
8						
M	Katz	Andy	X			
			3	3	2	2

updated 2/22/24

2024 Commission Meeting Schedule

Name of Commission: Community Health

Commission Secretary: Kellie Knox

Example

Month	Meeting Day and Date	Time		Month	Meeting Day and Date	Time
February 2024	Wednesday 2/10/2024	7:00 pm		July 2024	No Meeting	

Month	Meeting Day	Meeting Date	Time
January 2024	Thursday	1/25/2024	6:30 pm
February 2024	Thursday	2/22/2024	6:30 pm
March 2024	Thursday	3/28/2024	6:30 pm
April 2024	Thursday	4/25/2024	6:30 pm
May 2024	Thursday	5/16/2024	6:30 pm
June 2024	Thursday	6/27/2024	6:30 pm
July 2024	Thursday	7/25/2024	6:30 pm
August 2024	No Meeting		
September 2024	Thursday	9/26/2024	6:30 pm
October 2024	Thursday	10/17/2024	6:30 pm
November 2024	Thursday	11/21/2024	6:30 pm
December 2024	No Meeting		

2024				Thursday 12:00 PM	Thursday 12:00 PM	Monday 2:30 PM	Wednesday 11:00 AM	Thursday 5:00 PM
COUNCIL MEETING DATE	Commission needs to take action by	Reports Due to Dept. Director	Reports Due to CAO	Dept. Reports Due to Clerk Day 33	Agenda Committee Packet to Print Day 19	Agenda Committee Meeting Day 15	Final Agenda Meeting - (Print Agenda on wed.) Day 13	Council Agenda Delivery Day 12
Winter Recess [December 13, 2023 through January 15, 2024]								
Jan 16	11/23	11/30	11/30	12/14	1/2 - Tue	1/4 - Thur	1/4 - Thur	1/5 - Fri
Jan 30	12/7	12/14	12/14	12/28	1/11	1/16 - Tue	1/17	1/18
Feb 13	12/21	12/28	12/28	1/11	1/25	1/29	1/31	2/1
Feb 27	1/4	1/11	1/11	1/25	2/8	2/13 - Tue	2/14	2/15
Mar 12	1/18	1/25	1/25	2/8	2/22	2/26	2/28	2/29
Mar 19	1/25	2/1	2/1	2/15	2/29	3/4	3/6	3/7
Spring Recess [March 20 through April 15, 2024]								
Apr 16	2/22	2/29	2/29	3/14	3/28	4/1	4/3	4/4
May 7	3/14	3/21	3/21	4/4	4/18	4/25 - Thr	4/25 - Thr	4/26 - Fri
May 14	3/21	3/28	3/28	4/11	4/25	5/1 - Wed	5/1	5/2
May 21	3/28	4/4	4/4	4/18	5/2	5/7 - Tue	5/8	5/9
Jun 4	4/11	4/18	4/18	5/2	5/16	5/21 - Tue	5/22	5/23
Jun 25	5/2	5/9	5/9	5/23	6/6	6/10	6/12	6/13
Jul 9	5/16	5/23	5/23	6/6	6/20	6/24	6/26	6/27
Jul 23	5/30	6/6	6/6	6/20	7/3 - Wed	7/8	7/10	7/11
Jul 30	6/6	6/13	6/13	6/27	7/11	7/15	7/17	7/18
Summer Recess [July 31 through September 9, 2024]								
Sep 10	7/18	7/25	7/25	8/8	8/22	8/26	8/28	8/29
Sep 24	8/1	8/8	8/8	8/22	9/5	9/9	9/11	9/12
Oct 1	8/8	8/15	8/15	8/29	9/12	9/16	9/18	9/19
Oct 15	8/22	8/29	8/29	9/12	9/26	9/30	10/2	10/3
Oct 29	9/5	9/12	9/12	9/26	10/10	10/15 - Tue	10/16	10/17
Nov 12	9/19	9/26	9/26	10/10	10/24	10/28	10/30	10/31
Nov 19	9/26	10/3	10/3	10/17	10/31	11/4	11/6	11/7
Dec 3	10/10	10/17	10/17	10/31	11/14	11/18	11/20	11/21
Dec 10	10/20	10/27	10/27	11/7	11/21	11/25	11/27	11/27 - Wed
Winter Recess [December 11, 2024 through January 14, 2025]								

VTO Affected Dates

Holiday Affected Dates

Religious Holiday Affected Date

Updated 11/30/2023

Reports not submitted by the deadlines listed will not be included on the agenda.

Worksession	Thursday 12:00 PM	Thursday 5:00 PM
	Day 26 Dept. Reports Due to Clerk	Day 5 Council Agenda Delivery
Jan 23	12/28	1/18
Feb 6	1/11	2/1
Sep 17	8/22	9/12
Oct 8	9/12	10/3

Land Acknowledgement Statement

The City of Berkeley recognizes that the community we live in was built on the territory of xučyun (Huchiun (Hooch-yoon)), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (Cho-chen-yo)-speaking Ohlone (Oh-low-nee) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County.

This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band.

As we begin our meeting tonight, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay.

We recognize that Berkeley's residents have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley's incorporation in 1878.

As stewards of the laws regulating the City of Berkeley, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land, but also recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today.

RESOLUTION NO. 69,986-N.S.

TO ACCELERATE THE CITY OF BERKELEY'S TRANSITION TO PLANT-BASED
FOODS

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has a Strategic Plan Priority of being a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental justice, and protecting the environment; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley's Climate Action Plan includes the goal that a majority of food consumed in Berkeley be produced locally (i.e; within a few hundred miles); and

WHEREAS, scientific analyses have shown that one of the most effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is to transition to plant-forward or plant-based diets to reduce or eliminate the consumption of animal-based foods; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has previously adopted policies in support of reducing our carbon footprint by decreasing consumption of animal-based foods including resolutions in support of Green Monday USA, the Good Food Purchasing Policy, the Milan Urban Food Pact, and Friends of the Earth's Climate Friendly Food Purchasing Policy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley establishes an official goal to accelerate the City's transition to plant-based diets by implementing a 50% decrease in animal-based food served by the City of Berkeley by 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley refers to the City Manager to report to the Council on progress towards reaching this goal by January 31, 2022; and

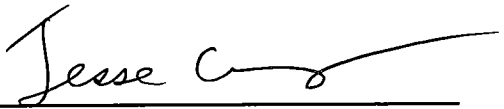
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley adopts an eventual goal of a 100% shift to plant-based food products served by the City of Berkeley and refers to the City Manager to report to the City Council by June 30, 2022 on potential feasibility and timelines to transition to 100% plant-based foods.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Berkeley City Council on July 27, 2021 by the following vote:

Ayes: Bartlett, Hahn, Harrison, Kesarwani, Robinson, Taplin, Wengraf, and Arreguin.

Noes: None.

Absent: Droste.



Jesse Arreguin, Mayor

Attest: 
Mark Numainville, City Clerk

DRAFT LETTER TO CITY MANAGER ABOUT RESOLUTION 69,986

Dear City Manager,

Resolution No 69,986-N.S. seeks to accelerate the City's transition to plant-based foods. Specifically, the resolution establishes a goal of reducing the amount of animal-based foods consumed at City functions by 50% and further that a report shall be provided to the City Council about progress towards this goal by the City Manager.

The Community Health Commission is aware that this Resolution has not be implemented, and this memo seeks to provide some practical ways that steps may be taken to achieve the core goals of the Resolution.

We recognize that some concepts within the memo (e.g., specifically measuring the quantity of plant- vs. animal-based foods consumed at City functions) are difficult to implement, but we are supportive of the spirit of this resolution given the health and wellness benefits of encouraging a plant-based diet.

Thus, we would like to offer the following specific suggestions for how this Resolution could be implemented in order to achieve the goals of promoting plant-based food consumption within City of Berkeley functions:

- Create a vendor list for City functions where food is served that focuses on caterers, restaurants, and food service providers that offer plant-based meals. Conduct outreach to possible vendors or consider an RFI that would include potential vendors providing plant-based meal menus that are available for City functions. Make the vendor list available to all City departments so that anyone planning an event can use this list.
- Identify the City departments with the highest volume of food purchases and conduct specific outreach to support them to transition to plant-based meals. We do not have data on this, but we hypothesize that the Berkeley Senior Centers is one of the highest volume purchasers of meals for the subsidized meals for the elderly program. The City Manager's office could reach out to inform them about the Resolution and ask for them to prepare a plan for transitioning to plant-based meals to the maximum extent feasible.
- Provide public information for City employees about the health, wellness, and environmental benefits of plant-based meals, including with flyers and email blasts
- Work with the City's Office of Budget and Fiscal Management to identify the Departments with the most specific spend on meals and food service and ask for all Departments with spend over a specific threshold (e.g., \$10,000 per year), develop a specific action plan for their transition to plant-based meals

Our Commission is excited about this Resolution and would like to see it enacted. We hope that these suggestions are helpful in support a shift from policy to action.

Thank you,