

**Notes of 2 x 2 Council Committee Meeting
June 13, 2019**

Present:

City of Berkeley (COB)

Councilmember Sophie Hahn
Councilmember Lori Droste

Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD)

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Vice President
Julie Sinai, Board Member

Others present:

Mayor Jesse Arreguin, COB
Gaetano Trachtenberg, Legislative Aide, Mayor's Office, COB
Dee Williams Ridley, City Manager
Paul Buddenhagen, Deputy City Manager, COB
David White, Deputy City Manager, COB
Nina Goldman, 2020 Vision Manager, COB
Scott Ferris, Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Director, COB
Yvette Gan, Secretary to the City Manager, COB
Dr. Donald Evans, Superintendent, BUSD
John Calise, Executive Director of Facilities, BUSD
Charles Burress, Public Information Officer, BUSD
Natasha Beery, Director of BSEP and Community Relations, BUSD

The meeting started at 8:40 am.

1. Comments from the Public

Councilmember Droste said she wished to speak as a parent, not as a Councilmember, as her child attends elementary school in Berkeley. She thanked the School Board for last night's meeting about the issue of lunch times being made long enough to allow the children to eat their food without rushing or going hungry. She also asked about a PTA refund of \$1000. At some point in the future, she would like to have a conversation with the new Superintendent.

Attendees were asked to introduce themselves. Dr. Evans was congratulated on his upcoming retirement and thanked for his work for the District for the past six years. Board Member Sinai announced that his retirement celebration would take place on Monday, June 17th, at NeyBorly Poets Corner.

City Manager Williams-Ridley noted that Deputy City Manager David White would be the City's staff lead on the 2x2 committee from now on.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved (Sinai / Hahn).

3. Approval of Notes – June 28, 2018

The notes of the last meeting held on June 28, 2018, were approved (Droste / Hahn).

4. Joint Properties MOU (Memorandum Of Understanding) Update

Scott Ferris, Director of Parks, Recreation and Waterfront, updated the Committee on the status of the joint properties MOU that he has been working on with the BUSD Facilities Director. Among the properties are the following (not all are listed below):

- King Pool and building
- King School Park
- Willard Pool and its building
- West Campus Pool
- Thousand Oaks – Play Area and ball field
- Measure Y parks

In the 80s and 90s, the City made improvements to the Measure Y parks, which are required to be open to the community after school hours and on weekends. The City leases those facilities and maintains them. The MOU expires in December 2020. The City Attorney has advised that it cannot be held over, and a new MOU issued.

John Calise, Executive Director of Facilities at BUSD, added that the BUSD is in the midst of a Facilities Master Plan. It's about 80-85% done and he expects to complete it in a few months. Vice President Leyva-Cutler asked for minutes of the meetings on the MOU so that the new Superintendent can be informed. She also asked about the details of the MOU. Mr. Ferris noted that the MOU is 30 years old, and that the City has, over time, taken on all of the improvements of these facilities. The City is constrained from using grant monies and Measure T1 funding for these facilities.

Dr. Evans inquired about the one-year pilot program at Emerson Elementary School which allowed public usage of the school park during non-school hours. Mr. Ferris responded that the pilot had been in place for two years and had ended; however, BUSD staff continue to keep the school park open for the public. Councilmember Droste mentioned that the pilot at Emerson had been well received and it is a high priority for her. City Manager Williams-Ridley asked that this topic be placed on the next agenda.

Councilmember Droste is also interested in Willard Pool being re-opened as she has received many queries from her constituents, especially in this recent heat wave. Mr. Ferris noted that this is particularly difficult, especially given the amount of money it would take to repair the facilities. The pool infrastructure failed completely 9 or 10 years

ago. The only piece of equipment that is still tenable is the vessel that holds the swimming pool. It would actually be less expensive to build a new pool in a different location. Willard Pool was filled in and is currently being used as a community garden by the Middle School. The City's Recreation staff use the building as an administrative site. City staff also run a shower program there 7 days a week. It would cost \$7 million to repair both Willard and King Pools.

Board member Sinai was hoping that rather than wait till the Master Plan is done, that staff could start a dialog, identify contentious areas, etc. Mr. Calise said this topic will be brought back to this committee.

Councilmember Hahn seconded the City Manager's request for a copy of the MOU. She would also like a short statement of the scope of work and a timeline; these would be helpful since an agreement needs to be completed by 2020. She also seconded Droste's comments for supporting the re-opening of Willard Pool. She would like King Pool to be upgraded to be more like pools in other cities.

Mayor Arreguin noted that since this meeting is also noticed as a Special Meeting of the City Council, he wished to address this issue. He understood that BUSD has had some turnover in the Facilities Department, and that BUSD would probably be putting a bond on the ballot for 2020. City Council will be considering a proposal to extend the operation of the West Campus Pool so that it is open year-round. He hoped that Willard Pool funding could be included in Measure T1 projects.

Mr. Ferris said that the three pools were all built in the 1960s. In the last few years, the boilers and filters were repaired, and the cost was close to \$700,000. In King School Park, a tree fell down recently and damaged the play area for 2-5 year-olds. It's currently fenced off and will remain so as the repairs need to be approved by the Division of State Architects (DSA) as this is on school property.

Ms. Leyva-Cutler said that BUSD was looking at putting portables on the fields at Thousand Oaks School, which needs additional classrooms. Mr. Calise noted that these conversations have been held up due to the need to have a Facilities Master Plan. Ms. Sinai said the BUSD needs to come up with a list of priorities by July for the School Board to review and determine the most critical.

5. 2020 Vision Annual Update
 - a. BUSD 2020 Vision Staffing Update
 - b. COB and BUSD Joint Programs

Ms. Goldman introduced herself as the manager of the 2020 Vision project and provided the project's history and background. She has been at the City for just over a year. She wished to thank Dr. Evans for his work in racial equity.

Board member Sinai noted that in 2008, Mayor Bates and his staff had come up with the 2020 Vision project, which had begun with the City and BUSD working in partnership to close the opportunity gap for African American and LatinX students. That partnership now includes City College and the University of California at Berkeley.

She highlighted a few programs, including:

- a. RISE and Berkeley High bridge
- b. Math games pilot – for African-American and LatinX students with extremely low math proficiency. It's integrated into the BUSD summer school curriculum for 2nd and 3rd grade students.

2020 Vision staff are helping to secure \$150,000 in funding for BUSD's African-American Success Project. If the funding comes through, they will be able to hire a teacher / counselor. 2020 Vision staff also helped structure a new position shared between UC Berkeley Public Service Center and Berkeley City College (BCC): 0.4 FTE will focus on middle school math improvement and 0.6 FTE will support students in Berkeley high schools to earn early college credit by enrolling in classes at BCC.

Last week 2020 Vision staff held a retreat for the 2020 Vision Alignment and Coordination Team, with 15 participants from 6 agencies: BUSD, UCB, COB, BCC, Berkeley Community Fund and the Schools Fund. These cross-agency partnerships have sowed seeds for great programs.

Mayor Arreguin thanked Ms. Goldman for her report and for her leadership for the 2020 Vision Project. He asked that this topic be a standing agenda item for the 2x2 committee. Vice-President Leyva-Cutler noted that the agencies should put out media releases so that the community can be kept informed of the status of the 2020 Vision project: what improvements have taken place, and what challenges are facing us.

Board member Sinai said it would be helpful for her to know who is on the 2020 Vision Alignment and Coordination Team – how often do they meet? What are their roles? Is there a charter? She asked that City staff allow the new Superintendent time to figure out what he would like to do with this project. She felt that the project has not had the impact originally envisioned and would like to collectively think about how to evaluate the results. She also stated that the City's last Community Agency Funding round had gone very well, and thanked City staff for using mental health funds to help students.

6. BUSD Update on Workforce Housing

Board member Sinai thanked the City Council for their vote on Measure O affordable housing bonds at their meeting on June 11, 2019. She appreciated that the guidelines for BUSD-sponsored educator housing will be limited to households earning up to 120% of the Area Median Income.

She has connected with Berkeley Adult School members and Councilmember Rashi Kesarwani to make sure community members are engaged in the process. The goal is to have project defined by fall and to determine if BUSD could apply for Measure O funds.

Mr. Calise mentioned that of the four sites that the BUSD is interested in, two were deemed most viable for the first stage. The BUSD's consultant will be determining the funding mechanism. During the summer, BUSD will undertake pre-development planning for housing that will be available to educators and education staff working for BUSD. City Manager Williams-Ridley noted that at its June 25th meeting, the City Council will vote on providing \$150,000 to the BUSD for predevelopment planning.

Deputy City Manager Buddenhagen shared that the Measure O Bond Oversight Committee met on the previous night. The City project was awarded \$19,000 but other funding needs to be lined up first. The RFP for the balance of the Measure O and HTF Program funds could go out in September so that the agencies can submit their application to the State, which could be due in January (as it was the last time).

7. Discuss Schedule and Topics for Future Meetings

Next meeting will be on Monday, November 4th, 8:30 am, at 2020 Bonar Street. The 2020 Vision Leadership Team meeting will be on July 2nd at 3:00 pm and the new Superintendent will attend.

Items for next agenda:

- a. 2020 Vision Update
- b. MOU for Joint Properties
- c. Affordable Housing Update

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 am.