



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 5, 2026

**COMMUNITY INVITATION AND NOTICE OF POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD
MEMORANDUM TO THE BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL ON PUBLIC SAFETY TECHNOLOGY**

BERKELEY, CA – On Thursday, May 7, 2026, the Berkeley City Council will continue its discussion on the item “Public Safety Technology: Surveillance Technology Ordinance and Police Equipment Ordinance Approvals, Policy Updates, and Contract Authority,” which was continued from March 24, 2026, beginning at 5:00 pm.

In advance of the meeting, the Police Accountability Board (PAB) has shared a memorandum with the City Council to support the ongoing discussion and provide additional perspective on surveillance technology procurement and policy considerations. The memorandum highlights considerations related to the City’s current procurement approach, concludes that the City did not engage in a competitive bidding process for surveillance technology, and the consortium agreements to which the City has “piggybacked” do not contain an “identical scope of work” as required by the 2025 Berkeley Purchasing Manual, and offers recommendations for Council consideration in the current proposals. The memorandum is available on the PAB’s report page and can also be accessed at the following link:

[May 4, 2026 PAB Memorandum to City Council re: Surveillance Technology Procurement - Process Deficiencies, Vendor Dependence, and Availability of Competitive Alternatives](#)

The meeting will be held in a hybrid format, with options for both in-person and remote participation:

- **In Person:** School District Board Room, 1231 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA 94702
- **Online (Zoom):** Join remotely and use the “raise hand” function to request to speak

- **By Phone:** Dial 1-669-254-5252 or 1-833-568-8864 (Toll Free), enter Meeting ID: 161 674 7986, and press *9 to request to speak
- **Written Comment:** Submit comments to council@berkeleyca.gov

Meeting agendas, staff reports, and supporting materials, including the PAB memorandum, are available on the City of Berkeley website via the City Council agenda portal:

- [City Council Regular Meeting eAgenda March 24, 2026 | City of Berkeley](#)
- [City Council Special Meeting eAgenda May 7, 2026 | City of Berkeley](#)

Community members are encouraged to attend and participate in the discussion.

About the Police Accountability Board (PAB):

The purpose of the Police Accountability Board is to promote public trust through independent, objective, civilian oversight of the Berkeley Police Department, provide community participation in setting and reviewing Police Department policies, practices, and procedures, and provide a means for prompt, impartial and fair investigation of complaints brought by members of the public against sworn employees of the Berkeley Police Department.

About the Office of the Director of Police Accountability (ODPA):

The purpose of the Director of Police Accountability is to investigate complaints filed against sworn employees of the Berkeley Police Department, to reach an independent finding as to the facts, and to recommend corrective action where warranted. The Director of Police Accountability may also serve as the Secretary to the Police Accountability Board and assist the Board in carrying out the duties prescribed herein.

For further information or inquiries, please contact:

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