

**BEN BARTLETT**

VICE MAYOR

CONSENT CALENDAR  
FEBRUARY 13, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Bartlett (Author), Councilmember Taplin (Co-Sponsor), Councilmember Hahn (Co-Sponsor)

Subject: Establishing a Black Arts and Culture District in the Adeline Corridor

### RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution designating the Adeline Corridor as the Black Arts and Culture District. Include members of Healthy Black Families and Equitable Black Berkeley in the Planning Committee to emphasize community involvement and focus on arts, culture, and well-being for South Berkeley residents. Establish a Black Arts and Culture Center.

### CURRENT SITUATION

Meetings with Healthy Black Families and Equitable Black Berkeley representatives are ongoing to help with the vision of what the Black Arts and Culture District will be.

### BACKGROUND

The Adeline Corridor's development has been in the making for years to increase affordable housing, preserve historic structures, and increase economic growth. This area is located between Dwight Way to 62nd street with a focus on improvement while keeping its charm and legacy. By 2024, Healthy Black Families will have established their headquarters at 2001 Ashby Street, which will be a space for community members to receive health care with a focus on community programming with this larger facility.

### REVIEW OF EXISTING PLANS, PROGRAMS, POLICIES, AND LAWS

- [City of Berkeley Arts and Culture Plan, 2018-2027](#)
- [EIFD](#) - Proposal of creating Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts (EIFD) to assist with funding elements of the Adeline Corridor Plan and future projects. (2021)

### CONSULTATION/OUTREACH OVERVIEW AND RESULTS

Reached out to Healthy Black Families and Equitable Black Berkeley.

### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Establishing this district would uplift members of the South Berkeley community with the development of affordable housing, thriving new businesses, and encouraging learning through the arts. Having a Black Arts and Culture Center creates a safe place and gathering area with a focus on encouraging young artists and bringing economic prosperity. This district will draw more Black families to Berkeley and encourage Cal alumni to stay after graduation with home-buying opportunities.

## IMPLEMENTATION, ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

- Look for funding support from The Civic Arts Grant program.
- Work with Berkeley Cultural Trust to help engage community support for this new district.

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Studies have yet to be conducted.

## FISCAL IMPACTS

There are no direct fiscal impacts to the City of Berkeley related to the adoption of the Black Arts and Culture District.

## OUTCOMES AND EVALUATION

Establishing a Black Arts and Culture District in South Berkeley will create a vibrant community for citizens and visitors. The arts encourage civic participation, give a voice to diverse perspectives, promote intercultural communication, and enhance Berkeley's economy and physical environment. Berkeley's rich history of supporting the arts and social justice activism will flourish in a Black Arts and Culture District.

## CONTACT PERSON

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## ATTACHMENTS AND MATERIALS